



Fangirl Sharvari
Actor Sharvari Wagh shares that working alongside Alia Bhatt in upcoming movie *Alpha* feels like an ongoing masterclass

LEISURE | P2



SCO summit in Pak
Islamabad is under strict security lockdown ahead of a heads-of-govt gathering of the Shanghai Cooperation

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Car sales drop
Indian carmakers' sales to dealers mark the first decline in 10 quarters in the July to September period

BUSINESS | P11



Women's HIL auction
More than 350 hockey players, including 70 foreigners, will go under the hammer Tuesday for the historic women's HIL auction

SPORTS | P12

SHORT TAKES

No longer with BJD, says Amar Satpathy

Bhubaneswar: Former minister Amar Prasad Satpathy, a six-time MLA, Monday said he is no longer associated with BJD as he did not renew his membership. "I am no longer associated with the BJD. I have not renewed the membership of the party during the drive undertaken by it recently. I felt suffocated in the organisation because of the prevailing atmosphere," said Satpathy in his reply to criticism by BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty who said it would be better if he left the party. He drew the ire of BJD after he said that Naveen should take responsibility for the party's debacle in the Assembly polls, and that VK Pandian should not be blamed for it as he was not the leader of the party. **P3**

Siddique killing: Cops hunt for 3rd shooter

Mumbai: Police scoured places of worship in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain and Khandwa districts in their hunt for the third shooter wanted for NCP leader Baba Siddique's killing, while different teams looked for conspirators of the murder that has rocked Maharashtra ahead of polls. The Mumbai police's search for the suspected shooter, Shivkumar Gautam, continued for the second day Monday in Madhya Pradesh with joint teams focusing on places of worship in Ujjain and Khandwa districts, officials said. **P8**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



The line wasn't clear. I couldn't understand whether the CM wants us to stop or to instigate the riots

MARKET WATCH

INDEX	VAIATION
SENSEX	81973.05 ↑ 591.69
NIFTY	25127.95 ↑ 163.70
DOLLAR	84.06 ↓ ₹0.06
EURO	91.72 ↓ ₹0.25
GOLD	₹76,035 ↓ ₹272
SILVER	₹90,630 ↓ ₹1,060

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	34.7°C	33.6°C
Min Temp	25.2°C	24.5°C
Humidity	78%	81%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain



ADIEU: An idol of Goddess Durga being immersed in a temporary pond on the banks of Kuakhai river, on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar, Monday

PIC: BIKASH NAYAK

Odisha wins top spot for water conservation efforts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: Odisha has been recognised as the top winner in the 5th National Water Awards 2023, with Uttar Pradesh securing the second spot, the Ministry of Jal Shakti said Monday. Gujarat and Puducherry jointly secured the third spot in the awards, which cover nine categories, honour outstanding contributions to water conservation and management across India. Jal Shakti Minister CR Paatil announced the results. The award ceremony will be held October 22. Odisha's remarkable achievements in water conservation include the construction of over 53,000 water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures and the renovation of 11,000 traditional water bodies, a senior official said. Additionally, 21,000 wastewater treatment plants were set up, irrigating over 90,900 hectares of transformed land to micro-irrigation systems, benefiting 87,000 farmers. The state has also made significant strides in afforestation, completing the plantation of 9 crore saplings, the official said. **P3**



Odisha Khehiba Duniya Dekhiba

DELHI SHOCKER
Odia woman gangraped

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: A 34-year-old woman, reportedly from Puri district, was found in a semi-conscious state in Sarai Kale Khan locality of New Delhi in the early hours of October 11 after she was allegedly gangraped by some unknown people. The incident has triggered an outrage in the state, with Opposition BJD Monday slamming the 'silence' of the BJP-led Odisha government over the issue.

A senior officer from Southeast district of Delhi Police told Orissa POST Monday that some passersby found the survivor and alerted the police who admitted her to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) where she is currently recuperating at the Trauma Centre. He said during tests, it was found that she had been sexually assaulted. An FIR under Sections 70(1) [gangrape] and 115(2) [voluntarily causing hurt] of the BNS has been lodged against unknown miscreants at the Sunlight Colony police station, he said.

Asked about the circumstances under which the woman reached the national capital, the officer said, "We are inquiring into it. Though the survivor is presently stable health-wise, she is not in a proper mental frame. We have learnt that her parents had lodged a complaint at a police station



back home after she went missing recently."

About the identification of the miscreants, the official said, "We are working on certain leads. This is a sensitive case. We can't disclose much." According to the survivor, she is a nursing graduate. "We are checking its veracity," the officer added.

Meanwhile, late Monday night, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi directed IG, Crime Against Women & Children Wing (CAW & CW) Shyni S to visit Delhi to help expedite the investigation into the incident. "She will also meet the victim there and take stock of her health. Apart from this, the CM directed the state police to extend all cooperation to and coordination with its Delhi counterpart in order to take the probe ahead," a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office said.

Odisha Police Monday said it has been following the case with all "seriousness and sensitivity".

In a statement, the police said it was in touch with the family

members of the survivor and is also following up on the progress of the investigation with Delhi Police.

"Arrangement has been made to facilitate movement of family members from Bhubaneswar to Delhi. All necessary steps are being taken," the statement said. Significantly, the statement was issued following an outrage in the state with Opposition BJD strongly criticising the state's BJP government.

Taking to X, BJD Rajya Sabha member Manas Mangaraj said, "Shocking brutality in Delhi! An Odia woman gang-raped in the National Capital 3 days ago on the eve of Dussehra, stranded on the streets; and later admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre."

"Call it negligence or apathy, the Odisha government has turned a blind eye to the plight of distressed woman and seems to be busy in holidays. The CM is visiting puja pandals but has no time to make a statement on the streets; and later admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre." "Call it negligence or apathy, the Odisha government has turned a blind eye to the plight of distressed woman and seems to be busy in holidays. The CM is visiting puja pandals but has no time to make a statement on the streets; and later admitted to AIIMS Trauma Centre."

Two separate cases have been filed with the NHRC seeking its intervention into the case.

Tit-for-tat move: India, Canada expel diplomats

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Oct 14: India Monday expelled six Canadian diplomats and announced withdrawing its High Commissioner and other "targeted" officials from Canada after strongly dismissing Ottawa's allegations linking the envoy to a probe into the killing of Sikh extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

In a tit-for-tat move, Canada too has asked six Indian diplomats to leave the country after its police collected evidence they were part of an Indian government "campaign of violence".

India's decision to recall High Commissioner Sanjay Verma and some other diplomats came shortly after the Canadian Charge d'Affaires Stewart Wheelers was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Wheelers was bluntly told that baseless "targeting" of the Indian envoy and other officials was "completely unacceptable". The Washington Post, quoting unnamed Canadian officials, reported that Canada Monday ordered six Indian diplomats to leave the country, including Verma and the top consular official in Toronto.

In a late evening statement, the MEA said India has asked six Canadian diplomats including Wheelers and Deputy High Commissioner Patrick Hebert to leave India by or before 11:59 pm

NIJJAR ROW



October 19. The other diplomats expelled are Marie Catherine Joly, Ian Ross David Trites, Adam James Chuiipka and Paula Orjuela (all first secretaries).

In its reaction to Canada's charges against Verma, New Delhi described them as "concocted" and "preposterous imputations" and ascribed the allegations to the "political agenda of the Trudeau government that is centred around vote bank politics".

Meanwhile, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Monday made serious allegations against India. "They use organised crime elements. It has been publically attributed and claimed by one organised crime group in particular - Bishnoi Group. We believe the group is connected to the agents of the Government of India," said Brigitte Gauvin, Assistant Commissioner, Federal Policing, National Security, RCMP.

Task force to check distress migration

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The state government has set up a high-level task force under Deputy Chief Minister KV Singh Deo to recommend comprehensive measures to address the issue of distress migration in the state.

Other members of the task force include another Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida, Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Minister Rabi Narayan Naik, Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner, and secretaries from relevant departments, the state government said Monday.

The task force may also co-opt experts of national or international repute, as well as academics, development practitioners, and representatives from UN agencies, who will be invited to attend meetings as needed. This task force will thoroughly examine the challenges faced by migrant workers, aiming to prevent distress migration and determine actionable solutions. It will recommend steps for various government agencies to address and alleviate the difficulties experienced by state's migrant labourers, it said.

The Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water department will serve as the headquarters for the task force, which will convene at least once every six months. It will analyse the nature of migration by region and propose specific interventions as required.

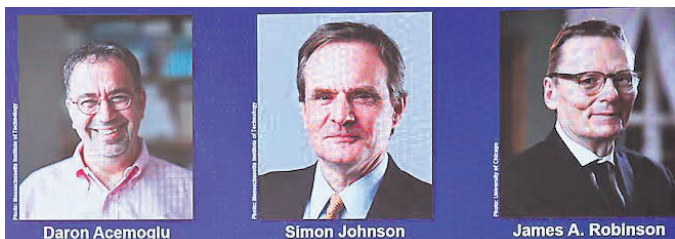
Trio of professors win Economics Nobel

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stockholm, Oct 14: The Nobel memorial prize in economics was awarded Monday to Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson for research that explains why societies with poor rule of law and exploitative institutions do not generate sustainable growth.

The three economists "have demonstrated the importance of societal institutions for a country's prosperity," the Nobel committee of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said at the announcement in Stockholm.

Acemoglu and Johnson work at the Massachusetts Institute of



Technology and Robinson conducts his research at the University of Chicago.

"Reducing the vast differences in income between countries is one of our time's greatest challenges. The laureates have demonstrated the importance of societal institutions for achieving this," Jakob Svensson, Chair

of the Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences, said.

He said their research has provided "a much deeper understanding of the root causes of why countries fail or succeed."

Reached by the academy in Athens, Greece, where he is due to speak at a conference, the

Turkish-born Acemoglu, 57, said he was surprised and shocked by the award.

"You never expect something like this," he said.

Acemoglu said the research honoured by the prize underscores the value of democratic institutions.

"I think broadly speaking the work that we have done favours democracy," he said in a telephone call with the Nobel committee and reporters in Stockholm.

But he added that "democracy is not a panacea. Introducing democracy is very hard. When you introduce elections, that sometimes creates conflict."

Retail inflation hits 9-month high

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: Soaring vegetable prices pushed the retail inflation rate to a nine-month high of 5.49 per cent in September, according to government data released Monday.

The consumer price index (CPI)-based retail inflation rate was 3.65 per cent in August and 5.02 per cent in September 2023. The previous high inflation rate was witnessed in December 2023 at 5.69 per cent.

As per data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO), the inflation rate in the food basket rose to 9.24 per cent in September compared to 5.66 per cent in August and 6.62 per cent

KITCHEN ON FIRE



in the year-ago month.

"It is likely that the increase in inflation rate for the month of September 2024 is due to high base effect and weather conditions," NSO said.

According to another data released Monday, the wholesale

price inflation (WPI) rose to 1.84 per cent in September as food items, especially vegetables, turned costlier.

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation was 1.31 per cent in August. It was (-) 0.07 per cent in September last year.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which kept the key short-term lending rate unchanged earlier this month, has been asked by the government to ensure the CPI inflation rate remains at 4 per cent with a margin of 2 per cent on either side.

The annual inflation rate in the vegetable basket in September was nearly 36 per cent and in 'pulses and products' it was 9.81 per cent. Fruits, too, were dearer.

leisure



GARFIELD, TOMAS BREAK UP AFTER MONTHS OF DATING

Andrew Garfield and Kate Tomas have broken up after dating for several months. Tomas revealed the news recently, in the comments of an Instagram post. Responding to a fan who asked if she was still dating the We Live in Time actor, Tomas confirmed that their relationship had ended some time ago.

ANGELINA JOLIE WITHDRAWS LAWSUIT AGAINST BRAD PITT

Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie withdrew her case against her ex-husband Brad Pitt. Legal combat ensued between Jolie and Pitt after a flight from France to Los Angeles in 2016, when Jolie claimed Pitt had physically and verbally assaulted them.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
Today, you may look around and feel grateful for the wonderful blessings bestowed on you – your family, home, job, friends. This may prompt you to organise a little thanksgiving kind of get-together with your family and friends. Ganesh gives a thumbs up.

TAURUS
As an administrator, you will command with an iron fist today, predicts Ganesh. In the afternoon, you may find change slowly creeping in; you may discover a more harmonious approach to managing people as compared to a dictatorial style. You will come out with flying colours from any adverse situations.

GEMINI
You will desire to go on a short trip to escape the drudgery of your daily routine. You will successfully schedule and execute your plans for a fun-filled and relaxing journey. In the evening you will take up some pending work projects, says Ganesh.

CANCER
As a leader, you may deal with others with an iron hand masked under a velvet glove. You may come across as lenient and considerate on the face of it, but you will not spare anyone who crosses you. This may change as the day passes, but your colleagues and subordinates will be wary of you for the remainder of the day.

LEO
Today is not a very productive day for traders and businessmen, says Ganesh. Some competitors may try to slander your reputation. You need to be a little more sly in your dealings and work your way around these obstacles cleverly. If you ignore these matters now, they may become major headaches later on.

VIRGO
Today, you shall be in a receptive frame of mind, open to all ideas; yet the stubborn will rule when decision-making matters, predicts Ganesh. Organise and sort out things at work today. But in the evening, enjoy a fine meal and then, maybe, summon the courage to pop the question, says Ganesh.

LIBRA
Think long and hard about all things past, present and future, says Ganesh, since there are chances that you may be in a pensive mood today. Try your best to step out of your brooding frame of mind. You might have to manage balancing your personal and professional life.

SCORPIO
Your entrepreneurship today will reflect a lot of your creativity and artistic sense. Romantic diversions will bring you immense pleasure in the afternoon. Have your close friends over in the evening and spend some quality time, says Ganesh.

SAGITTARIUS
A poignant and disturbing day is in the offing. At work, Lady Luck will be on your team. Don't let your sentiments cloud your logic though, says Ganesh. In relationship matters, don't keep high expectation, as they may put you under tremendous pressure.

CAPRICORN
It takes years of hard work, optimism and unceasing support of loved ones to reach the pinnacle of success. But you will only have to be tactful, says Ganesh. You will take matters more seriously today and will treat your subordinates as equals for achieving your targets. At home, you will spend some quality time with family members and realise that they need you more than anything else.

AQUARIUS
You often live in illusion and lose track of reality. Don't make unrealistic wishes otherwise you will badly get disappointed when you realise how the things are. Be happy with what you have, advises Ganesh.

PISCES
A conflict-ridden day awaits you. Avoid openly confronting people today, for petty issues could blow up into major disasters. Legal disputes may also hassle you. Meditative techniques will bring you peace of mind. Delay the start of important activities for a more opportune time, says Ganesh.



RAJKUMMAR GOES CANDID

Mumbai: Rajkummar Rao may have scored the only Hindi movie to cross Rs 600 crore club in India with *Stree 2*, but that hasn't turned him into a billionaire. On the YouTube channel *Unflitered with Samdish*, Rajkummar clarified he isn't as rich as people assume him to be. "I don't have that much money. People would assume I have Rs 100 crore. I don't have that much. I've been paying a hefty EMI for a house I bought. It's not like if I feel, I can visit a showroom and purchase a car worth Rs 6 crore," the *Roohi* actor said.

When asked if not Rs 6 crore, but if he can buy a car worth Rs 50 lakh, Rajkummar replied, "I would be slightly stressed about buying a car worth Rs 50 lakh. But I can conveniently buy one worth Rs 20 lakh currently."

The actor also agreed that it doesn't feel right when actors get too much money overnight because it messes with their psyche.

After *Stree 2*, Rajkummar's latest release is Raaj Shaandilyaa's sex comedy *Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video*, which revolves around a newly married couple's stolen honeymoon tape. He's cast opposite Triptii Dimri in the film which also stars Vijay Raaz and Mallika Sherawat. AGENCIES

Sharvari's master class

Mumbai: Actress Sharvari, who is all set to share screen space with Alia Bhatt in the upcoming spy film *Alpha*, said that she has been a big fan of the star ever since she has watched her movies. "That was a dream come true. Because I've been such a big fan of Alia's ever since I've watched her movies. She's incredible," Sharvari said during the IFP Festival, one of the world's leading festivals for all things Creativity X Culture.

The actress, who is currently riding high on the success of *Munjya*, *Vedaa*, and *Maharaj*, shared that working alongside Alia feels like an ongoing master class. "I get to learn from her every single day and it's like a master class. I'm always observing her, always trying to learn more from her. I think, the journey has just started for us and it's going to be incredible," said Sharvari.

Amidst her growing success, Sharvari made her runway debut for designers Pankaj and Nidhi at the recently concluded Lakme Fashion Week and said that it was a "dream come true" for her.

In the film, directed by Shiv Rawail, Alia and Sharvari both play super agents. IANS

I'm the real Singham: Kajol

Mumbai: Star couple Ajay Devgn and Kajol's fans are in a treat for sure as both husband-wife will be seen in cop avatars in their respective projects *Singham Again* and *Do Patti*. Kajol was seen in a fun mood Monday at the trailer launch of *Do Patti* in Mumbai as she called herself Asli

Singham. "I have shared this earlier in every stage that I am the real Singham... also I did not take any tips from him [Ajay]," she quipped. Kajol also shared her experience donning a cop uniform. "I think when you wear a uniform on screen, there's a certain, I don't know how to explain it, but there's a certain stature. You feel that. You feel that even as an actor in a shot. Even though you know that you're giving a shot, you know that you're an actor and you don't have the actual style. But still, you have, I don't know, a passion ... There's a certain 'kadakness' that comes in your posture that just comes there naturally. So, yes, I really, really enjoyed playing it and I would love to play it again," Kajol opened up.



Directed by Shashanka Chaturvedi, the film, which also stars Kriti Sanon and Shaheer Sheikh, will be released on Netflix October 25. AGENCIES



Shraddha trolls herself

Mumbai: Shraddha Kapoor enjoys immense love and adoration from fans, who often shower her with affection on social media. Her fans always look forward to her social media posts, and once again, she has delighted them with a Sunday post with a fun and savage caption.

She had written, "Attitude toh aise dikha rahi hai jaise Shraddha Kapoor hai" (She is showing off her attitude like she is Shraddha Kapoor)". Her savage response to trolls as the uninhibited actress decided to troll herself met with much love from fans. One of them said, "You are showing off like you are Shakti Kapoor's daughter", to which the actress replied,

"@dearvibhor I am proud to be his daughter". Yet another one wrote, "Shraddha doesn't show attitude ever" and responding to this, she reacted with laughing emojis. Other fans also dropped comments like "All time my fav", "Love you shraddha di" and "Only Shraddha can post most gorgeous pics with most hilarious caption". Yet another fan also shared a quirky response to this post as they said, "No, you cannot match Shraddha because she is different".

Moreover, Shraddha is currently basking in the success of *Stree 2*, which is not only winning over the masses but also breaking records at the box office. AGENCIES



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

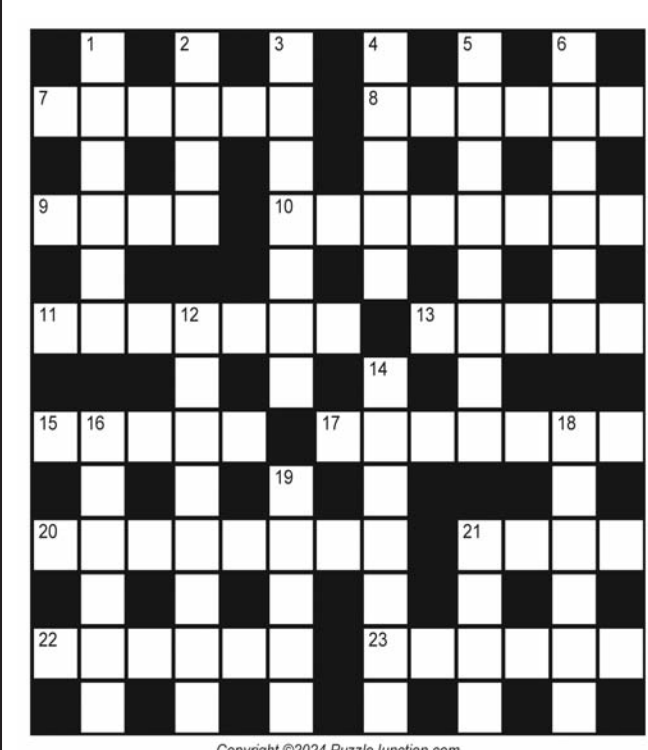


BREVITY



FUN post

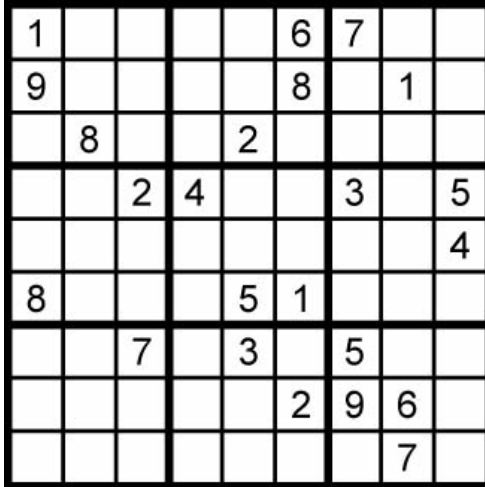
CROSSWORD



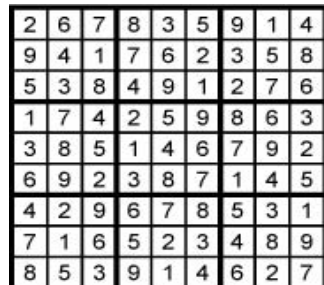
- Across**
- 7 UMBER, e.g.
 - 8 Rococo
 - 9 Windmill part
 - 10 Tactful
 - 11 Stays behind
 - 13 Severe
 - 15 Metal bar
 - 17 Ennui
 - 20 Snails served in garlic and butter
 - 21 Religious offshoot
 - 22 Overnight bag
 - 23 Bad-tempered
 - Down**
 - 1 Succour
 - 2 Volcano
 - 3 Lance
 - 4 Aplomb
 - 5 Heighten
 - 6 Tension
 - 12 Fragrant
 - 14 Type of negotiator
 - 16 Bahamas capital
 - 18 Inhabit
 - 19 Fairy tale villains
 - 21 Bisque, e.g.

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

TWIN CITY BIDS ADIEU TO MAA DURGA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cuttack/Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: As the five-day Durga Puja festivities wrapped up peacefully across Odisha, idol immersion was held amidst tight security in the twin cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar Monday.

Cuttack, a major centre of attraction during Durga Puja, saw all roads leading to Devi Gada on the left embankment of Kathajodi river for the immersion, which proceeded smoothly without any untoward incidents. This year, Bhubaneswar hosted 187 puja pandals while Cuttack featured 170.

The clay idols of Maa Durga, accompanied by beautifully decorated tableaux, were taken in majestic processions to makeshift ponds for immersion, supported by a significant police presence.

Notably, procession parties in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar refrained from using vehicles for manual music or DJs. Puja committees had agreed with district administrations to adhere to the slogan 'No Liquor and No DJ' during the immersion processions.

"The two-day-long immersion festival will continue throughout Monday



BHUBANESWAR



CUTTACK

night and conclude by Tuesday morning," Police Commissioner Suresh Dev Datta Singh said.

Singh, along with Cuttack DCP Jagmohan Meena and other senior officers, is overseeing the processions from a temporary CCTV control room set up at Dargha Bazaar police station. Approximately 444 CCTV cameras have been installed along the procession routes in Cuttack, with footage being monitored round-the-clock by police.

Earlier, the puja rituals wrapped up Sunday evening with Bijaya Dashami celebrations, which included the burning of Ravana effigies at several locations.



BHUBANESWAR



BHUBANESWAR

Conclave on regional media in City Oct 26

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The Editors Guild of India, in association with Press Club of Odisha, will organise a conclave on 'Opportunities and Challenges in Regional Media' at Press Club of Odisha here October 26.

Several eminent journalists will join the conclave as speakers in different sessions. N Ram, former Editor-in-Chief of *The Hindu*, will deliver the keynote address, followed by a 'Question and Answer' session that would be moderated by Tathagata Satpathy, Editor of *OrissaPOST*. There will be other crucial sessions such as 'Challenges for Journalists in a State' which will have Jagi Panda (*Odisha TV*), Gopal Mohapatra (*Prameya*), Tapan Mishra (*Samaja*) and Tanaya Patnaik (*Sambad*) as panelists and speakers which will be moderated by Ruben Banerjee (Editors Guild of India).

Navin Das (*Nirbhaya*), Jajati Karan (*Ommcom News*) and Manoranjan Mishra (*Newsroom*) will be panelists in a session on 'Journalism in the Digital Era' that will be moderated by senior journalist Sandeep Sahu.

A session on 'Media Studies and Journalism in Indian Education' will be joined by KIIT University and KISS founder Achyuta Samanta.

Justice Ananga Patnaik (former Supreme Court judge), Sanjay Hegde (advocate, Supreme Court) and Paranjay Guha Thakurta (senior journalist and writer) will join another session on 'Media Law, New Criminal Laws and the Challenges for Independent Journalists' that will be moderated by Anant Nath, Editor, *The Caravan*.

Southwest monsoon withdraws from 20 dists

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from 20 of the 30 districts of the state so far, the Meteorological Centre here said.

It is expected to withdraw from the remaining districts over the next two days, weather scientist Umashankar Das of the Centre said.

"The southwest monsoon has completely withdrawn from Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Balasore, Bhadrak, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Khurda, Jajpur, Nayagarh, Boudh, Angul, Dhenkanal, Deogarh, Subarnapur, Bargarh, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda and Sundargarh districts," the Centre said in a statement.

It has also withdrawn from many parts of Bolangir, Kandhamal and Ganjam districts and some parts of Nuapada and Kalahandi districts, the statement said.

Odisha tops in water conservation efforts

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Oct 14: Odisha has been recognised as the top winner in the 5th National Water Awards 2023, with Uttar Pradesh securing the second spot. This was revealed by Union Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil, who announced the list of winners, at Shram Shakti Bhawan in New Delhi, Monday.

The award ceremony, set to be held October 22, will be presided over by President Droupadi Murmu, said the ministry sources.

Odisha's remarkable achievements in water conservation include the construction of over 53,000 water conservation and rainwater harvesting structures and the renovation of 11,000 traditional water bodies, a senior official said. Additionally, 21,000 wastewater treatment plants were set up, transforming over 90,900 hectares of irrigated land to micro-irrigation systems, benefiting 87,000 farmers. The state has also made significant strides in afforestation, completing the plantation of nine crore saplings, the official said.

Mukhya Mantri Adibandha Tiari Yojana has been implemented for development of check



dams and minor irrigation in Odisha. Major strides have been made by the state particularly in 2023. Bolangir emerged as the best district for its major achievement in the field of water conservation including creation of 167 river embankments and 241 ha of plantation with soil and moisture conservation under Green Mahanadi Mission. Further, construction of around 260 farm ponds, 170 check dams, 160 diversion weirs, 1,320 water harvesting structures, 460 percolation tanks and 670 ground water recharge structures have also been undertaken.

Puri Municipality, which bagged the second spot in Urban Local Body category, achieved

100 per cent metered water connection and 24x7 water supply to the entire population with water quality conformance of 100 per cent.

Likewise, Uttar Pradesh, ranked second, was praised for its efforts under Jal Jeevan Mission, where more than 17,900 villages were provided tap water connections, benefitting over 1.91 crore households, the ministry said.

The state has also made strides in wastewater management, constructing 133 sewage treatment plants (STPs) with a combined capacity of 4,100 MLD to reduce pollution in the Ganga River, it said.

Furthermore, UP has built or

rejuvenated 14,679 'Amrit Sarovars' and undertaken extensive rainwater harvesting initiatives in recent years.

Gujarat and Puducherry jointly secured the third spot in the awards, which cover nine categories, honour outstanding contributions to water conservation and management across India. Gujarat, sharing the third spot, was acknowledged for achieving 100 per cent tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission, covering 25 lakh households. The state also expanded micro-irrigation coverage, benefitting over 14 lakh farmers.

Additionally, Gujarat's innovative intra-basin water transfer projects and active participation of village 'Pani Samitis' have contributed to its success in water conservation.

Puducherry, a joint third prize winner, was recognised for renovating 84 tanks, increasing water storage capacity, and desilting 190 village ponds.

In 2023, the Union Territory also provided 1,14,900 households with tap connections and built 850 rooftop rainwater harvesting structures in industries and educational institutions, according to the ministry.

Ratna Bhandar technical survey report soon: Min

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The technical survey report of Srimandir Ratna Bhandar is likely to be released soon, according to Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan.

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) had conducted the exercise, including the Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of the Ratna Bhandar (Lord Jagannath's treasury), in September this year.

"The state government will get the GPR survey report in the next three to four days. If any hidden storage of some valuable is found, we will take necessary action. Otherwise, the ASI will start the repair and restoration work of the Ratna Bhandar," Harichandan told reporters here Sunday. Ratna Bhandar was reopened after a gap of 46 years in July for repair of the structure and inventorisation of valuables in it.

Ornaments and other valuables from the inner and outer chambers of the treasury have been stored in a temporary strongroom on the premises of the 12th century shrine for the repair work.

Harichandan said the valu-

Free Mahaprasad likely after Kartik

The state government is planning to distribute Mahaprasad at Puri Srimandir to devotees free of cost, Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan said. The planned move could materialise soon, Harichandan told reporters here Sunday. Harichandan said the free distribution of the Mahaprasad will entail an additional expenditure of Rs 14-15 crore per year for the government. "We are trying to involve a few devotees, who are financially sound, to come forward and join hands in this initiative. Some of them have already agreed to support the move," the Law Minister said. The implementation process is likely to start after the holy Kartik month, the minister said. Similarly, special arrangements have been made for 'Habisyalis', the women who perform specific rituals during the 'Kartik' month, he said. "We have started preparing a design to streamline the public darshan at Srimandir. A dedicated system will be put in place so that devotees do not face any issue while visiting the 12th century shrine," Harichandan added.

ables will be moved back to the Ratna Bhandar after the restoration and inventorisation exercise is completed.

No longer with BJD, says Amar Satpathy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Former minister Amar Prasad Satpathy, a six-time MLA, Monday said he was no longer associated with the BJD as he did not renew his membership.

Satpathy, who was unhappy after not getting nominated in this year's Assembly polls, made the comment in reply to criticism by BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty who said it would be better if he left the party.

He drew the ire of the BJD after he said that former CM Naveen Patnaik should take responsibility for the party's debacle in the Assembly polls, and that VK Pandian should not be blamed for it as he was not the leader of the party.

"I am no longer associated with the BJD. I have not renewed the membership of the party during the drive undertaken by it recently. I felt suffocated in the organisation because of the prevailing atmosphere," he said.

Reiterating his earlier statement, Satpathy said, "We made Naveen Patnaik the leader. He had been credited for the victory of the party in the past and now, he

should take responsibility for the defeat. He (Pandian) was not our leader though he came to the party through Patnaik. Why should we blame Pandian whom we had not made leader?"

Satpathy, a founding member of the party, was elected to the Assembly in 1990, 1995, 2000, 2009, 2014 and 2019. This time, he was replaced by Odia film star Varsha Priyadarshini, who lost to BJP's Amar Kumar Naik.

The BJD failed to open its account in the Lok Sabha and secured 51 seats in the 147-member Assembly, losing to the BJP. Stating that he was independent of any political party for now, Satpathy said, "Though many parties, including the BJP, are in touch with me, I have not taken any decision." Mohanty said the BJD will not be affected if Satpathy quits and joins another political outfit. After the party's electoral loss, many leaders have been public about their resentment.

Former MP Pradeep Majhi has been critical of the alliance talks ahead of the polls, while ex-minister Badri Narayan Patra claimed that the results would have been better if Patnaik toured the state.

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Govt to promote Odia on digital platforms



the correct representation of Odia on digital platforms, translating information accurately from English to Odia, standardising the Odia script font and promoting the use of precise Odia for self-expression on social media.

Additionally, efforts to make all necessary information available in Odia on digital platforms were also discussed to facilitate easy access for all users.

The meeting also touched on the development of Odia language capabilities in artificial intelligence models, ensuring that information can be effectively accessed in Odia.

The meeting was attended by department director Bijay Ketan Upadhyaya, joint secretary Debaprasad Dash, and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, GOI joint secretary Laxminarayan Mishra.

Fanindra Nanda and Premananda Mohapatra from the Odia Bhasa Pratisthan and Harsh Dhand and Amrita Kamat from Google India were present on the occasion.

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: To ensure the availability of accurate and error-free information in Odia language on various search engines and digital platforms, the Odia Language, Literature and Culture department Monday held a virtual meeting with team Google India.

The meeting focused on how Odia users around the world can seamlessly access information in their native language and express themselves clearly on social media platforms.

Participating in the meeting, department principal secretary Bishnupada Sethi discussed with the team about the ways to pro-

mote accurate Odia on digital platforms.

"In today's era of internet, digital platforms and social media have become integral to daily life, serving as key mediums for communication and information exchange," he said.

It is therefore necessary to ensure that precise and error-free Odia is used that will help connect the speakers of the language worldwide.

He also highlighted the benefits of making diverse information available in Odia, which would greatly assist the general public, students, intellectuals, and research scholars.

During the meeting, discussions revolved around ensuring



CHARMING POSE: Artistes perform during a cultural programme organised by Sarva Dharma Sanskrutik Parisad on the occasion of Vijayadashami at Lower Balyatra ground in Cuttack, Monday

'Informed citizenry key to developed India'

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: A democratic nation requires an informed citizenry and transparency in information that are essential for building a developed nation and making the administration accountable to the people, experts said at an event to mark the Right to Information (RTI) Day celebration here, Saturday.

A city-based forum RTI Clinic celebrated the day at Ekamra Haat here by organising an informal meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, lawyer and RTI activist

Manoranjan Jena said that all kinds of information in the possession of government agencies are collected and compiled for the purpose of using them for welfare of the citizens. Since these facts are meant for public interest, there is no reason to hide them from the beneficiaries and citizens. But for a long time the information available to the government was not made public to the citizens. He emphasised that information is the source of power, so everyone should exercise the RTI.

It is not possible to build a developed India (Viksit Bharat)



unless an informed and conscious citizenry is created. Citizens are central to a country's development and a country cannot move forward if its citizens are held back, said the experts attending the event.

Associate Professor of social work Raghunath Mandal said,

"Right to Information Act has been in force in India since October 12, 2005. It has completed 19 years. The Act plays an important role in making the administrative system of the country transparent and accountable by providing information to the public.

On this occasion, founder of RTI Clinic Manoranjan Panda called upon the participants to file RTI for larger interest of their area and keep alive the transparency law in the country. Students and people from different sections of the society participated in the programme.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By Virtue of an affidavit sworn before Sri M.D.Sahu Notary Public, Bhubaneswar ON 14th Day of October, 2024, I, Kabita Nayak, aged about 48 years, wife of Surendra Nayak, Resident of At-Paniora, Palashpur, PO - Palashpur, Jatni, PS - Chandaka, Dist - Khordha, Odisha - 752054, I declare that I have changed my name from Gitanjali Nayak to Kabita Nayak, henceforth, I shall be known as Kabita Nayak for all purpose. Kabita Nayak Applicant.

I, Sanjaya Ku. Sahoo, S/o Mahabir Prasad Sahoo, resident of P.O./PS.-Thuamul Rampur, Dist.-Kalahandi, PIN-766037, Odisha declared by this affidavit dated 07.10.2024. That now onwards I shall be known as Sanjay Ku. Sahoo for all future purpose.

I, Falguni Das, S/o Nirmal Kumar Das, resident of Plot No- M1 & M2, Madhusudan Nagar, Unit-4, Near Parthasarathi Complex, PO- Bhubaneswar G.P.O., Dist- Khorda, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751001 declare by this Affidavit No. 909 (Vol-2) dtd. 11/10/2024 that my father's name is NIRMAL KUMAR DAS, as reflected in my Aadhaar and it shall be used for all future purposes.

I, Falguni Das, S/o Nirmal Kumar Das, resident of Plot No- M1 & M2, Madhusudan Nagar, Unit-4, Near Parthasarathi Complex, PO- Bhubaneswar G.P.O., Dist- Khorda, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751001 declare by this Affidavit No. 913 (Vol-2) dtd. 14/10/2024 that my spouse shall be known as MONALISA DAS for all future purposes.

ISA training on deep sea minerals at CSIR-IMMT



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The International Seabed Authority (ISA) training programme on deep sea minerals commenced at SS Bhatnagar Hall of CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (CSIR-IMMT) here, Monday.

The two-week programme, from October 13 to 26, was inaugurated by CSIR-IMMT director Ramanuj Narayan, in presence of Hydro and Electrometallurgy department head Kali Sanjay, and Administrative Officer PK Dash, along with distinguished participants and guests.

Narayan highlighted the significance of seabed resources, stating, "The minerals are critical for industries, especially in the clean energy sector, as they contain essential elements like nickel, cobalt, and tellurium."

He underscored CSIR-IMMT's

role in advancing extraction technologies in collaboration with the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). "India, through MoES, holds exploration contracts with the ISA for over 75,000 sq km of polymetallic nodules and 10,000 sq km of polymetallic sulphides in the Indian Ocean. The development of advanced extraction technologies is crucial to meet future demands," Narayan said.

He also expressed pride in CSIR-IMMT's contributions, stating, "Our institute has made significant advancements across various fields, and the potential for science is limitless."

The programme includes 15 international participants from countries such as Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, and Jamaica. Experts from CSIR-IMMT, Geological Survey of India (GSI), Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) are the part of session.

Mathematics problem solving camp by Bhub IIT

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Logical thinking and open-mindedness not only help students solve problems in mathematics but in real life as well, said the dignitaries during the inaugural ceremony of the three-day mathematics problem solving camp held at IIT Bhubaneswar Monday. More than 40 selected students from 18 districts of the state are participating in the camp.

The camp was inaugurated by Law, Works and Excise Minister Prithviraj Harichandan, and Health and Family Welfare, Parliamentary Affairs, and Electronic and Information Technology Minister Mukesh Mahaling, in presence of IIT Bhubaneswar director Shreepad Karmalkar.

Speaking on the occasion, Harichandan stressed on the im-



portance of logical analysis and open-mindedness in solving the problems of life as they do in case of solving problems of mathematics.

He also appreciated the initiative to provide a platform for young mathematicians to harness their knowledge and skill under the guidance of experts. Mahaling, in his address, lauded the efforts of organisers for holding the programme for students from rural Odisha.

He also urged institutes like IIT, NISER and Institute of Mathematics and Applications

to conduct such programmes for school students. Karmalkar held a session on 'Problem solving' wherein he showed with examples how general discipline and independent strategies help solve a variety of real-life problems.

A team of enthusiastic professors from NISER, IIT Bhubaneswar and various colleges of the state, under Math-Odisha100 initiative, have been working to improve Mathematics education at the undergraduate level.

The camp is being organised by the institute for undergraduate students in association with Madhava Mathematics Competition, Dhuriapada Anka Foundation (Bhubaneswar), Institute of Mathematics and Applications (Bhubaneswar), Indian National Young Academy of Science (New Delhi) and IIT Bhubaneswar Research and Entrepreneurship Park.

Kashmiri Youth Exchange Programme inaugurated

Bhubaneswar: The Kashmiri Youth Exchange Programme, aimed at fostering unity and cultural exchange, was inaugurated at KIIT Campus here Monday. The programme was organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Khurda under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs. Assistant Commandant of CRPF, Bhubaneswar Rupesh Kumar graced the event as the chief guest. Other notable attendees included Ajit Kushwaha, Youth Officer, National Service Scheme; Tapan Kumar Samal, Sub-Regional Employment Officer, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Shakti Swarup Singh, Assistant Director, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan Odisha and Vipin Kumar, District Youth Officer, Nehru Yuva Kendra Khurda.

Discovering traditions of Puri's unique 'Goshani Jatra'

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The essence of Jagannath Culture lies in a beautiful collage of philosophies under Vaishnavism, Shaivism, Shakti Upasana, Buddhism, Tantricism, and Sikhism while its beautiful reflection is seen in the 'Goshani Jatra' which is celebrated during Durga Puja.

In order to be part of this beautiful socio-religious-cultural tradition of the Holy City, the Puri Heritage Walks (PHW) group organised a 'Goshani Walk' Sunday with participation of more than 30 heritage enthusiasts from various parts of the state.

According to religious texts, the origin of 'Goshani Jatra' dates back to around 12th Century AD, almost when the Srimandir was built.

The chief 'Goshani' 'Kakudikhai' is a representative of Goddess Bimala. However,

while the immersion of all the 'Goshani' deities are made on 'Ekadashi' day, only the idol of Kakudikhai is immersed on 'Dashami' as it is done for Goddess Durga. The biggest 'Goshani', however, is Barabati and she is regarded as the elder sister of 'Kakudikhai'.

Mythology experts opine that 'Goshani' is a unified goddess of goddess Lakshmi, Saraswati and Kali. However, idols of Ganesha, Kartik, Ganga and Yamuna are also seen near the deity. The unique 'Goshani' culture is indigenous to Puri and the tradition is nowhere seen in any part of Odisha or India.

The statues are also made out of clay and decorated with Kalingan style ornaments and the look of the goddess and the demon king Mahisurasa is also unique to the Puri 'Goshani' style and the images radiate an aura



of war-based body language and postures.

At the end of the heritage walk, senior priest of Puri Srimandir Sidheswar Mohapatra, also the author of 'Puri Boli' narrated how 'Goshani Jatra' has originated and become an annual celebration and ritual of the present status. He added that the word 'Goswami' in Sanskrit or Odia has later been converted to 'Goshamani' and then to

before their immersion.

While the annual Durga Puja brings the celebration of the rituals and worship of Maa Durga, in the Holy City of Puri, the 'Goshanis' take the centre stage and are called with loving local names as they have such an ancient origin and socio-cultural genesis. According to the Hindu tradition, starting from Ashwina Krushna Paksha Mulastami' upto 'Shukla Paksha Navami'



the beautiful, vibrant and traditional rituals continue for 16 long days. The devotees and worshippers have the opportunity of viewing 'Goshani' idols representing various forms of 'Maa Kakudikhai', 'Barabati', 'Janhikhai', 'Sunya Goshani', 'Belabai', 'Gelabai', and several others. The festival also features the display of other significant idols such as 'Nagas', 'Sampati Chadhei', 'Budha-Budhi', 'Dasamundia Ravana', and many more.

Interestingly, 'Nagas' involved in the traditional safety and security of the Srimandir through the learning of martial art practices at the 'Jaga Ghara' had their origin from Khalsa sect under Sikhism as the Puri Shree Jagannath Temple and their presence at the 'Goshani Jatra' represent the pan-Indian and rather a universal acceptance and association of the Jagannath culture and tradition.

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Aruha hill turns mound of misdeeds

With illegal mining, smuggling of minor minerals yet to see a let-up and a crusher unit coming up close to a school with dubious clearances...



POST NEWS NETWORK

Jajpur, Oct 14: Despite many efforts taken by the state government to contain rampant plunder of minor minerals...

route lies at a distance of 200 metres from the under-construction crusher unit.

Reports said that there are five black stone mines on the Aruha hill and the state government has prepared a cluster mining plan for the area.

This has left the local residents surprised as they questioned the wisdom of the district administration in giving permission for establishment of a crusher unit...

Apprehending severe sound and air pollution, over 100 students and their guardians have sought the intervention of the district Collector...

Peeved over the development, locals have written to the district Collector demanding closure of the illegal black stone quarry and crusher unit...

According to the complaints, the district administration is yet to collect the penalty which was levied on the concerned leaseholders following satellite mapping held earlier.

However, surprisingly, the district administration has registered a certified case against one of the three leaseholders while the names of two of them have been excluded by allegedly showing them undue favour.

Residents Nirmal Nayak, Harihar Sahu, Pratap Rana, Anand Behera, Pramod Behera, Anam Behera, Sahadev Rana, Mohan Nayak, Chittarnjan Jena and over 100 others have demanded a proper probe into these irregularities and sought stringent action against the wrongdoers.

two of the quarries BSQ-2 quarry no-1/16-17 and 34/21-22 are situated at a distance of about 300 metres from the primary school.

This apart, four stone crusher units are in operation near these quarries on plot number-2733, 2594, 2704 and 2705 for which the students have been seriously affected by the deafening sound and air pollution emanating from the units.

According to the complaints, the district administration is yet to collect the penalty which was levied on the concerned leaseholders following satellite mapping held earlier.

Chh'garh Kabaddi player dies during match in Nuapada

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nuapada, Oct 14: In a tragic incident, a Kabaddi player collapsed on the court and died just a few minutes before the end of the final match at Tarbod village under Komna block and police limits in Nuapada district, Monday.

The deceased was identified as Khageshwar Rathia, 26, a native of Dumdumchuan village under Sareipali police limits of Mahasamund district in neighbouring Chhattisgarh.

He had arrived here to participate in an inter-state Kabaddi tournament representing Potapara Kabaddi team under Pitroha police limits in Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh.

The tournament was organised on the occasion Durga Puja festival at the weekly market ground in Tarbod village. As many as 24 teams from Nuapada, Bargarh, Bolangir and Chhattisgarh were participating in the tournament.

The incident occurred when Khageshwar was returning to his side after a raid.

He was nearing the midline when he suddenly collapsed on the field and failed to get up. Co-players and members of the organising committee rescued him and rushed him to the Tarbod primary health centre and later shifted him to the district headquarters hospital after his condition deteriorated.

Doctors pronounced him dead at the district headquarters hospital. Police handed over the body to his family members after conducting a post-mortem. Tarbod outpost police registered a case and launched an investigation, OIC Gouri Shankar Das said.

4 killed, 2 injured in 3 separate road mishaps



A passenger bus went up in flames after hitting a bike on NH-16 at Bhatia Square near Chhatia in Jajpur district, Monday.

PNN & AGENCIES

Jajpur/Sonepur, Oct 14: At least four persons were killed and two others injured in three separate road accidents in state, police said Monday.

According to police, two persons riding a motorcycle were killed when a bus travelling to Bhubaneswar from Balasore hit their two-wheeler near Chhatia on NH-16 in Jajpur district and dragged it for some distance Monday.

The bus caught fire after the mishap, however, all the passengers aboard the bus managed to escape unharmed, as they quickly evacuated the vehicle before the fire could spread, a police officer said.

Police have sent the bodies to the Barchana Community Health Centre for post-mortem. Police have also seized the bus and the bike after registering a case and further investigation is underway.

Barchana police station Inspector-in-Charge (IC) Srikant Barik said efforts are on to ascertain the identity of the deceased.

In another incident, two persons were injured in Chandbali area of Bhadrak district when a speeding SUV hit two vehicles and a bicycle.

The SUV first hit an autorickshaw, then a parked scooter and a bicycle. The auto driver and cyclist were injured in the mishap, the police said.

In the third accident, two friends travelling on a bike were killed after being hit by another motorcycle Sunday night in Binika police station area in Subarnapur district. The Binika police have registered a case and started an investigation into the matter.

TRIBAL WOMAN RAPED IN MALKANGIRI

MALKANGIRI: A 19-year-old tribal woman was allegedly raped in Malkangiri district, police said Monday. The incident happened in Motu police station area Saturday when people of her village were busy with Durga Puja celebrations.

RSP trade unions call for October 28 strike

ROURKELA: All the major trade unions and other minor unions active in labour politics in Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) Monday demonstrated near Bisra Chowk demanding implementation of their long-standing demands, and called



for a strike October 28, if those are not fulfilled. The members and office bearers of Rourkela Shramik Sangh (RSS), affiliated to INTUC, Rourkela Isapt Karakhana Karmachari Sangha (RIKKS), affiliated to BMS, Rourkela Mazdoor Sangh (RMS), of HMS, CITU and others participated in the demonstration Monday morning which continued for more than five hours.

Speaking about the reason of demonstration, national vice president of CITU Bishnu Mohanty said, "We are demanding the payment of the 39 months arrears and implementation of the National Joint Committee for Steel (NJCS) agreement. The injustices being meted to the contract labourers should be stopped immediately. Else, there will be a strike October 28."

Thieves decamp with Goddess Durga's ornaments worth over ₹10 lakh in Jajpur

JAJPUR: Gold and silver ornaments worth around ₹10 lakh were stolen by thieves from a Durga Puja pandal in Jajpur district, police said Saturday. The incident took place at Barundi temple under Korei police station area in the early hours of Saturday. When priests and members of the puja committee arrived at the temple around 3am, they discovered the ornaments missing and the main gate of the temple left open, police added. According to the complaint filed at Korei police station, the theft was committed at around 2am. The stolen items included various gold and silver ornaments, such as a crown, necklace, trident, earrings, and nose rings belonging to Goddess Durga and other deities.

AM/NS India revamps 25 AWCs



Bhutmundai gram panchayats in Paradip block. The initiative is set to benefit over 1,000 children and support the staff at these centres. The launch event was attended by key officials, including District Social Welfare Officer Bishnupriya Seth; Kujang CDPO Rajashree Sahoo; Humana's Kusum Gaur; Nuagarh Sarpanch Debendra Rout, and AM/NS India's Head of CSR, Vikas Yadavendu. The project aims to improve the infrastructure of Anganwadi centres in villages surrounding AM/NS India's Paradip operations.

PARADIP: ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) under its CSR initiative has launched project 'Padhaga Bharat' to revamp 25 Anganwadi centres in Nuagarh, Paradipgarh, and

for environmental clearance. According to the complaints, the district administration is yet to collect the penalty which was levied on the concerned leaseholders following satellite mapping held earlier.

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Registered Office : 19-A Dhuleswar Garden, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, 302001. www.aubank.in. LOAN AGAINST GOLD - AUCTION NOTICE ON "AS IS WHERE IS" BASIS. The below mentioned borrower/s have been issued notices to pay their outstanding amounts towards the loan against gold facilities availed from AU Small Finance Bank Limited ("Bank").

Union Bank of India. STATION ROAD BRANCH (BARGARH 2) Gurudwar Chowk, Station Road, Bargarh, Dist.: Bargarh, Odisha-768028. POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) [RULE 8(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES - 2002] Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India, Station Road Branch (Bargarh 2) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 (Act. No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower/Co-Applicant/Mortgagor/Guarantor in loan A/C mentioned below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice plus interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Bank of India. Zonal Office : Star House, 1/1D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015. POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule-8(1)] of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002. Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules. The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Branch for an amount mentioned below with interest & expenses thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

FOCUS TRADE POLICY

ENRICH-THY-NEIGHBOUR



When industrial policies appropriately target externalities and market failures – as in the case of green subsidies – they are not something to worry about

case of green subsidies – they are not something to worry about. Moreover, while we can raise legitimate concerns about cases where these conditions are not met, the fact remains that the costs of inefficient industrial policies are borne primarily at home. It is domestic taxpayers and consumers who pay in the form of higher taxes and prices. Bad industrial policies are less beggar-thy-neighbour than beggar thyself.

Of course, other countries may face costs as well. But that doesn't mean it is desirable for trade partners to have a say. It is neither realistic nor reasonable to expect governments to be more responsive to other countries' arguments about what is good for them than to their own convictions. Trade partners are always free to impose their own safeguards, even when the policies they are responding to are not beggar-thy-neighbour.

For example, if a government is worried about national security or adverse consequences for local labour markets, it should have the freedom to introduce export restrictions or tariffs to address these concerns. Ideally, such responses will be well-calibrated and targeted narrowly at the stated domestic goal, rather than being designed to punish countries that are not engaged in beggar-thy-neighbour policies.

Distinguishing the small number of beggar-thy-neighbour actions from the vast array of other policies with cross-border spillovers is an important first step to easing trade tensions. Doing so would allow international negotiations to focus on the real problems, leaving governments free to pursue legitimate policy goals at home. Working toward a world of self-help is largely good economics and good politics.

The writer is Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard Kennedy School.

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With all major trading countries increasingly resorting to unilateral action to advance their own social, economic, environmental, and security goals, the world economy desperately needs a clear normative framework to determine the rules of the road. A useful starting point is for everyone to agree, in principle, not to deploy beggar-thy-neighbour policies. This may sound reasonable, but is it feasible? Aren't countries relying on such policies too often to be dissuaded from changing their ways?

Actually, no, they are not. The perception that they are rooted in a conceptual confusion between policies with adverse cross-border spillovers and policies that truly are beggar-thy-neighbour. It would indeed be hopeless – and counterproductive – to try to discipline all policies of the former type. Fortunately, beggar-thy-neighbour actions constitute only a small subset of such policies.

Hyper-globalisation flourished largely because of its ambition to overregulate policies with international spillovers. By focusing on genuinely beggar-thy-neighbour policies, we can target the real source of the problem and make more headway in international negotiations.

To understand the significance of this distinction, consider the classic case in which one country's policy produces harms abroad, specifically by weakening another country's terms of trade (prices of exports relative to imports). Initially formalized by Jagdish Bhagwati, this "immiserizing-trade" scenario was later used by Paul Samuelson to argue that China's economic growth could hurt the United States.

Consider two policies in particular. First, when the Chinese government subsidises research and development that enhances the country's competitiveness in high-tech products and lowers their prices on global markets, the US and other advanced

economies are hurt, because these are the areas of their comparative advantage. Despite the harm, however, we would not consider it proper to ask China to remove such subsidies, because our intuition tells us that supporting R&D is a legitimate tool to promote economic growth, even if others incur losses.

The second policy is an export ban on rare earths or other critical minerals for which China is the principal global supplier. China benefits by increasing prices on world markets and making its exporters more competitive, owing to their access to cheaper inputs. But this is a clear instance of a beggar-thy-neighbour policy. China's gains are the result of an exercise of global monopoly power that forces losses onto foreign producers.

A policy is beggar-thy-neighbour when the benefit provided to the domestic economy is made possible only by the harm that it generates for others. Joan Robinson coined the term in the 1930s to describe policies such as competitive devaluation, which, in a situation of generalised unemployment, shifts employment from foreign countries to the domestic economy. Beggar-thy-neighbour policies are generally negative-sum for the world overall.

Distinguishing beggar-thy-

neighbour policies may be difficult in practice, because no country is likely to own up to them. But clarifying the kinds of actions that are truly objectionable, and narrowing the scope of disputes accordingly, would likely lead to better economic outcomes. It also would make for better politics, because governments would be encouraged to engage in a more productive discussion about what they are doing, why they are doing it, and the likely consequences. Applying this perspective to the real world, one finds that the bulk of industrial policies in China and the US today are not beggar-thy-neighbour. In fact, many should be considered enrich-thy-neighbour.

The clearest example is the broad range of green industrial policies that China has deployed over the last couple of decades to bring down the price of solar and wind power, batteries, and electric vehicles. These policies have been doubly beneficial to the world economy. They generate innovation spillovers, reducing costs for the world's producers and lowering prices for consumers. And they accelerate the transition from fossil fuels to renewables, partly compensating for the absence of carbon pricing.

When industrial policies appropriately target externalities and market failures – as in the



Dani Rodrik

WORKING TOWARD A WORLD OF SELF-HELP IS LARGELY GOOD ECONOMICS AND GOOD POLITICS



Aakar Patel

Along with free elections and a partial return to self-government, the claim has also been made that Kashmir is now safer than before

New Hope

He who chooses the infinite has been chosen by the infinite.

SRI AUROBINDO



A new government has come to Jammu and Kashmir after its first election in 10 years, shifting some powers from the Union's nominee, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, to the Cabinet. This is good news. Much has been made of the fact that this was the fairest election in decades. This is also a positive development but it should be expected that democracies progress rather than regress electorally over time.

Along with free elections and a partial return to self-government, the claim has also been made that Kashmir is now safer than before. This is a complex issue and we need to examine the data here.

Militancy began in Kashmir in the late 1980s. The South Asia Terrorism Portal maintains data on violence across the region. In 1989, a total of 92 people were killed in Kashmir. The next year, violence exploded and took 1,177 lives, of whom 862 were civilians, 132 security forces personnel and 183 militants.

The number increased in 1991 (to 1393) and 1992 (1909) and, in 1993, 2,567 people were killed. Of these, the number of civilians (1,023) and security forces personnel (216) remained about the same as before, but the number of militants killed shot up to 1,328. This remained the case for the next few years, though there was also a gradual increase in the number of deaths in the security forces, which reached 441 in the year 2000 when almost 3,000 people were killed in Kashmir.

This was staggering levels of violence because the population of Kashmir without Jammu is only that of an Indian metropolis (about 5 million, smaller than Bangalore). Fatalities peaked in Kashmir in 2001, when a total of 4,011 people were killed. Of these, 628 were in security forces, 1,024 civilians and 2,345 militants. The next year, 2002, the number dipped for the first time by 1,000 to end at 3,098 dead, and the year after that, meaning 2003, further to 2,507. What explains the dip in fatalities after what was a long-term escalation?

The two events of significance are the 11 September attacks in the US, following which Pakistan said it had become a partner in the "war on terror;" and the attack on the Indian Parliament three months later in December 2001, in which nine Indians and five attackers died.

After the second event, India mobilised for war on the Pakistan front and pressurised Pakistan to act against those sending terrorists over. On 13 January 2002, Pakistan said it had banned Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM), the two most active and lethal groups in Pakistan. Prime Minister Vajpayee demobilised after the ban. India has long said since that the ban was a fraud and that Pakistan was not serious about clamping down on terror. It is certainly true that the Pakistan army and its wings have nurtured these groups and used them over time. It is difficult to say, given the opacity with which the Pakistan military establishment functions, whether this has changed. We can however look at the data.

In Kashmir, from over 4,000 fatalities in 2001, the number went to 3,000 in 2002 and 2,000 in 2003. The number fell again in 2004 to 1,788 and to 1,125 the next year. In 2007, the number fell to under 1,000 (744 killed) for the first time since 1990. It fell further to 548 in 2008, then 373 in 2009, then 181 in 2011. It did not go above 200 in any year till Manmohan Singh left office in 2014.

This appears to have shifted somewhat since with fatalities going above 200 in four years, above 300 in two years and above 400 in one year. Last year, 2023, they fell to below 200 again for the first time since 2015, but it would not be wise to see a single data point as a long term indicator.

Consider what has happened in Pakistan in the same period. Though Pakistan had seen extreme levels of violence in Karachi in the 1980s and 1990s, this was violence that was not sectarian but political (between, for instance, the migrants from India, the so-called Muhajirs, and the Pashtuns). In 2000, 2001 and 2002, while Kashmir was burning, Pakistan fatalities from terrorism were 166, then 295 and then 257. In 2003, the year after then president Gen (ret'd) Pervez Musharraf banned the JeM and the LeT, an assassination attempt was made on him twice. In the first, a bomb was set off as his convoy crossed a bridge, and on Christmas Day 2003, two suicide bombers tried to ram their cars into his convoy. Sixteen people were killed but Musharraf escaped.

The next year, fatalities rose sharply to 925, of whom 208 were security forces personnel and 302 militants. In 2006, they reached 1,466. In 2007, another attempt was made on Musharraf's life when his plane was attacked as it was taking off. A total of 3,594 people died that year. This doubled to 6,683 in 2008. In 2009, the most violent year in the history of Pakistan, 11,317 people were killed, including 1,012 security forces personnel and 7,884 militants. In India, in the same period, 373 people were killed in Kashmir as we have seen. In 2010, the Pakistan army began to smother the violence and fatalities fell to 7,342 and then again to 6,050 the following year. In 2013 and 2014, deaths were at 5,000, falling to 3,685 in 2015 and then 1,797 and 1,269 in 2016 and 2017. In 2019, the number went below 400. However, it has since risen to about 1500 a year for each of the last two years.

The long term trends on violence in Kashmir on the other hand are positive and India must secure these gains further. Free elections are a democracy's best response.

WISDOM CORNER

- There is frequently more to be learned from the unexpected questions of a child than the discourses of men. **JOHN LOCKE**
- Never let your sense of morals get in the way of doing what's right. **ISAAC ASIMOV**
- However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at. **STEPHEN HAWKING**

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1844:** Classical scholar and philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, one of the most influential of all modern thinkers, was born in Prussia.
- 1934:** Chinese communists began the Long March, the 6,000-mile (10,000-km) trek that resulted in the relocation of the communist revolutionary base from southeast China to northwest China and the emergence of Mao Zedong as the undisputed leader of the Chinese Communist Party.
- 1940:** The comedy classic *The Great Dictator* premiered in New York City; Charlie Chaplin's biggest box-office success, it satirized Adolf Hitler and Nazism and condemned anti-Semitism.
- 1966:** Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panther Party, the mission of which was to protect African Americans from police brutality; it later developed into a Marxist revolutionary group that, among other things, called for the arming of all African Americans and the release of Blacks from jail.

SPECTRUM SOCIETY

Han Kang & the triumph of idealism



Bhabani Shankar Nayak

A WRITER IS DEFINED NOT MERELY BY THE ACT OF WRITING, BUT BY THE IDEALISM OF PROMOTING SOCIAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND SOLIDARITY

South Korean Nobel laureate Han Kang has declined to celebrate and refused to address a press conference after winning the 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature, citing the deaths, destitution, pain, and suffering of people affected by wars in Ukraine and Gaza. As reported by the Korea Times, Han Kang's father Han Seung, a renowned Korean writer, conveyed his daughter's message that "with the war intensifying and people being carried out dead every day, how can we have a celebration or a press conference?" Her father has further added that he was planning for a party, but his daughter did not allow to celebrate her accomplishment. She said "please don't celebrate while witnessing these tragic events (referring to the two wars). The Swedish Academy didn't give me this award for us to enjoy, but to stay more clear-headed." Her refusal to celebrate personal accomplishments reflects the idealism and conviction of a writer who wishes to emphasise the collective suffering of humanity over individual achievements.

Han Kang received the Nobel Prize "for her intense poetic prose that confronts historical

traumas and exposes the fragility of human life" in her writings. What are the social, economic, political, religious and cultural conditions that breed trauma and make human life fragile? Imperialist wars, colonial resource conflicts, capitalist exploitation, feudal culture, and the spiritual imprisonment of individuals through religion and its violent fundamentalisms all contribute to trauma in human life, making it fragile. Additionally, cultural repression, political dominance of majoritarianism, all forms of exploitation and inequalities, the marginalisation of working people, exploitative and dictatorial regimes, and deprivation based on gender, race, caste, class, and sexuality, as well as natural disasters, further aggravate human alienation and fragility.

Individual experiences of trauma are not isolated or singular; rather, they are a collective experience shaped by life under capitalism. It promotes various interpersonal and systemic conditions that breed both human and environmental traumas, making the lives of both humans and animals fragile in the contemporary world under var-

ious forms of capitalism. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all working people including writers, intellectuals, teachers, journalists, lawyers, political activists, and leaders to generate mass consciousness for the struggle against capitalism and its systems, institutions, and processes in order to establish a peaceful and harmonious world free from war, exploitation, and inequality. Such a global consciousness underscores Han Kang's refusal to celebrate her personal accomplishments like the Nobel Prize.

A writer is defined not merely by the act of writing, but by the idealism of promoting social, political, economic, and cultural transformation for peaceful coexistence and solidarity. Han Kang is one such writer, whose idealism and compassion triumph over imperialist war machines. Her idealism offers hope to millions of idealists who face vilification campaigns aimed at undermining their principles. Reactionary elements with loud voices continue to spread rumours against idealists in society, seeking to erode all forms of idealism in order to thrive as social, political, cultural, and

economic parasites. These unproductive and lumen elements in society construct false narratives to justify their actions, defame idealism, and perpetuate their own self-serving agendas of everyday survival by lies.

As a public intellectual, Han Kang embodies hope for a new generation of thinkers, writers and idealists who will continue to fight for the people by opposing all forms of exploitation and inequalities that undermine human idealism based on reason, science, and the secular values of human life. Han Kang's refusal to celebrate her achievements as a literary and political act helps to revive the role of public intellectuals in standing with the people and rejecting all forms of power.

History is the witness to the triumphs of idealism against all odds in life. Han Kang's Nobel Prize is a collective celebration of idealism based on global consciousness against all forms of wars, conflicts, exploitations, inequalities and human sufferings.

The writer is a professor at London Metropolitan University, UK. Views are personal.

Another train mishap

Sir, The Kavaripettai train mishap near Chennai in Tamil Nadu where the Mysuru-Darbhanga express rammmed into a stationary goods train from the rear, is blamed on the now familiar signal overshooting. Worn-out signal operating panel and signal modification work are cited as the possible reasons for the accident. According to sources, the switch point system, that is essential for the smooth transmission of signals, was found tampered at Kavaripettai, pointing to the possibility of a sabotage. Additionally, a three-member technical team has reportedly found opening of the mechanical part of the interlocking system. These are matters of investigation but low speed of the train and Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches seem to have saved the day for thousands of passengers. The LHB coaches' anti-climbing properties help them remain scattered on the ground. Moreover, the stainless shells of the coaches make sure they do not tear or crumble easily.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

DSP Mohammed Siraj

Sir, It's delightful to know that star Indian pacer Mohammed Siraj has been appointed as Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) by the Telangana state. The post has been extended to him by the state government in appreciation of his exceptional and splendid achievement in international cricket. Siraj no doubt fought all odds to get into the national team and has carved a niche of his own with his superb performance since his entry. The state in its declaration cited that the young cricketer has made Telangana proud and brought honours to the nation and hence this great honour for him. It has to be noted that the state made amendments in its regulations of appointments to felicitate and honour sportspersons as heads of government departments. He now joins the likes of Joginder Sharma (cricketer), Akhil Kumar, Jitender and Vijender (boxers), Hima Das (athlete) to name a few who became police officers for their contributions to sports. This no doubt will attract more youngsters to sports and encourage them to showcase their best to bring laurels to the state and the nation.

M Pradyu, Kannur

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

Orissa POST
B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010



Mumbai goes toll-free for LMVs



Mumbai, Oct 14: The Maharashtra Government's decision to abolish toll tax on light motor vehicles at all the five Mumbai Entry Points (MEPs) from Monday-Tuesday midnight (October 15) evoked sharp reactions from the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi, while Maharashtra Navnirman Sena's chief Raj Thackeray rushed to grab credit for the move.

The decision with far-reaching implications was taken by the state cabinet presided over by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, unshackling LMVs from paying tolls at the MEPs -- Dahisar, Mulund, Thane, Airoli and Vashi toll plazas.

going, etc. Implying political intentions, Sawant said that the decision came just days before the Election Commission of India will implement the poll code of conduct. "The ruling MahaYuti is aware of the public angst and fears of losing power. So it is taking such 'feel-good' decisions. But why can't it be extended even for HMVs Why continue paying the contractors" said Sawant. Tiwari termed the move as 'elitist' and felt it may prove to be another instance of robbing Peter to pay Paul, and ultimately only the commoners would suffer, even the poor quality of roads despite shelling out exorbitant tolls.

Red circular graphic with text: "We demanded that all roads should be toll-free. We were criticised for vandalising the toll plazas, but extreme steps were necessary to draw the government's attention. At least, now the Mumbaikars shall be free of paying tolls and we are happy that our agitations were successful"

Maharashtra govt honours Ratan Tata

Mumbai, Oct 14: The Maharashtra Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde Monday gave nod for naming Maharashtra State Skills University after Ratan Tata, the former chairman emeritus of Tata Sons. This is one of the many decisions taken by the cabinet in its recent meetings, even as the state prepares for imminent assembly elections.



high-quality skill education, startups, incubation, employability, training, counselling, apprenticeship, on-job training, and placements in an integrated manner with industry partnership.

It is also meant to promote inclusive growth by facilitating employment and providing self-employment guidance for the youth to enhance their incomes, to support the economically backward communities in terms of providing skill development, employment, entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities and to provide a job-ready workforce to the industry.

AAP looks for a piece in J&K govt

New Delhi, Oct 14: The Aam Aadmi Party has asked the National Conference-Congress alliance for a cabinet birth for its lone MLA from Doda in the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir government, set to be led by Omar Abdullah. Mehraj Malik defeated BJP's Ganjay Singh Rana by more than 4,538 votes in the assembly election held in the Union Territory earlier in the month. "We have appealed to the alliance partners to ensure our MLA is given a space in the government that is soon to be formed," AAP leader Sanjay Singh



said in a press conference Monday. The request comes after AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal, who visited Doda Sunday, expressed gratitude to the people for electing Malik as AAP's first MLA in Jammu and

Kashmir. "AAP is formally supporting the Omar-led government, and I hope Mehraj Malik will be entrusted with the responsibility to not only serve Doda but the entire state of J&K," the former Delhi chief minister said during his visit. The NC-Congress alliance, which won a combined 48 seats out of the total 90 in the recent J&K elections, is set to form the new government, with Omar Abdullah already elected as the alliance's leader and future chief minister. The NC secured 42 seats, while Congress won six.

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS. It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders.

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national



Seat-sharing among NDA partners is almost final. As soon as the Election Commission declares the model code of conduct (MCC) we will issue the first list within 24 to 48 hours. We are waiting for the EC's announcement

HIMANTA BISWA SARMA | CM, ASSAM

INDIA CONDUCTS FIRST-EVER RIVERINE DOLPHIN POPULATION ESTIMATION EXERCISE

India has conducted its first population estimation of riverine dolphins in the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Indus river systems and its findings will be released soon, officials said Monday. The exercise Project Dolphin, led by the Wildlife Institute of India, covered two species -- the Ganges river dolphin and the Indus river dolphin



SIDDIQUE KILLING

Lawrence calling shots from prison

FORMER MAHARASHTRA MINISTER BABA SIDDIQUE SHOT DEAD IN MUMBAI, INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY, SUSPECTS APPREHENDED, POSSIBLE GANG INVOLVEMENT PROBED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: Incarcerated gangster Lawrence Bishnoi (31) alias Balkaran Barar was all of five when the infamous blackbuck poaching case involving Bollywood star Salman Khan took place in 1998 during the filming of "Hum Saath-Saath Hain" in Rajasthan, irking the Bishnoi community which reveres the animal.

Twenty-six years down the line, the notorious gangster's deep resentment against Salman even while in prison continues to make headlines, especially after the gunning down of former Maharashtra minister and NCP leader Baba Siddique (66), known to be close to the Bollywood actor, by three assailants in Mumbai last week.

The Mumbai Police suspects Siddique was killed at the behest of Bishnoi after a purported Facebook post surfaced claiming "Jo Salman Khan aur Dawood gang ki help karega apna hisab-kitab laga ke rakhta (whoever helps Salman Khan and the Dawood gang,



keep your accounts in order)".

The comments were posted by one Shubhu Lonkar, whom the police suspect to be Bishnoi gang aide Shubham Rameshwar Lonkar. A senior Delhi Police officer told PTI that the intent of the Bishnoi gang has now gone beyond taking revenge against Salman.

"The gang is now trying to penetrate Bollywood, an area once ruled by Dawood Ibrahim, and set up its own D-Company," the officer said.

Despite being lodged in prison,

Bishnoi has allegedly managed to execute murders of many high-profile people, including Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala in 2022, Karni Sena chief Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi in 2023, besides orchestrating firing outside the residences of singers AP Dhillon and Gippy Gawarel in Canada, the officer said.

In September 2023, the gang claimed responsibility for the killing of Khalistani sympathiser Sukha Duneke.

The terror-crime-extortion syndicate was also responsible for the RPG attack on Punjab State Intelligence headquarters in Mohali in May 2023, allegedly on the directions of Harwinder Singh alias Rinda, a member of the Pakistan-based pro-Khalistan terror outfit Babbar Khalsa International (BKI).

According to the police, the animosity between Bishnoi and Salman first became public in 2018 when Bishnoi said during a court appearance in Jodhpur, "We will kill Salman Khan. Everyone will know once we take action. I have not

done anything as of now, they are accusing me of crimes for no reason."

Since then, the popular actor has received multiple threats to his life, with the matter reaching a tipping point in April this year when gunshots were fired outside Salman's Bandra residence by two shooters reportedly belonging to the Bishnoi gang who were later arrested.

As per Delhi Police records, Bishnoi himself never killed anyone yet he has become one of the most dreaded gangsters, running the gang with "impunity" from a Gujarat prison with a modus operandi similar to that of fugitive underworld don Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar.

According to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), Bishnoi now enjoys a 700-member strong gang spread across the country, including sharpshooters, with the help of other notorious gangsters such as Goldy Brar, Sachin Thapan, Anmol Bishnoi, Vikramjit Singh, Kala Jatheri, and Kala Rana.

MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

ED raids IAS officer, minister's aides

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, Oct 14: The Enforcement Directorate Monday conducted searches against a senior IAS officer, persons linked to a cabinet minister and some others as part of a multi-crore money laundering probe into alleged irregularities in the Water and Sanitation department of poll-bound Jharkhand, official sources said.

The sources had earlier said that the raids were linked to the Jal Jeevan Mission, a scheme of the Central government.

They said alleged illegal commission payments at the rate of 10 per cent was prevalent in the works awarded by the Water and Sanitation department and these kickbacks were shared among politicians in power, bureaucrats and department officials.

A total of 23 premises in state capital Ranchi and Chaibasa in West Singhbhum district were searched by the officials of the federal agency. The ED team was provided security cover by the CRPF, the sources said.

Premises linked to secretary

rank IAS officer Manish Ranjan, Harendra Singh, a personal staffer of drinking water and sanitation minister Mithlesh Kumar Thakur, Thakur's brother Vinay Thakur, some government officials, contractors and businessmen were searched by the agency, the sources said.

Ranjan is the secretary of the Land, Road and Building department, and has been questioned by the ED earlier in a separate money laundering case in which it arrested former minister Alamgir Alam.

Meitei, Kuki, Naga MLAs of Manipur to meet in Delhi

IMPHAL: For the first time since the ethnic violence broke out in Manipur last year, a number of MLAs of Meitei, Kuki and Naga communities are set to hold a joint meeting in New Delhi Tuesday under the supervision of the home ministry, officials said. Three Naga MLAs will attend the meeting in the national capital, while the exact number of Meitei and Kuki legislators to participate is not yet clear, they said. "The talks are part of the Centre's efforts to facilitate a dialogue between the warring communities and seek a solution to the crisis," an official told PTI. Over 200 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence in Manipur since May 2023. "From the Naga side, three MLAs - Awangbou Newmai, L. Dikho and Ram Muivah - will be attending the meeting in New Delhi. Muivah is currently in the national capital over a personal issue," an official source said. All three MLAs are from the Naga People's Front (NPF), an ally of the ruling BJP in the state. Several BJP legislators also left for the national capital on different flights from Imphal.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments

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IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes details for Bolangir-Bansita Complex, Titilagarh-Titilagarh, and Tusura-Tusura.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes details for Chandikhol-Chandikhol, Jaipur-Jaipur Road, and Jaipur-Town.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes details for Balasore-Police Line Square, Balasore-Janugan, and Balasore-Police Line Square.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes details for Balasore-Police Line Square, Balasore-Police Line Square, and Balasore-Police Line Square.

national



As per the CCTV footage only person entered the temple. We got information that the idol was partially damaged after being lifted from its position in the temple. Some locals, who noticed this nabbed the person and handed him over to the police

G KISHAN REDDY | BJP PRESIDENT, TELANGANA

PM MODI TO INAUGURATE INT'L TELECOMMUNICATION EVENT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the International Telecommunication Union-World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly (WTSA) 2024 at the Bharat Mandapam here Tuesday. Modi will also inaugurate the eighth edition of the India Mobile Congress during the programme, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said



XPOST OF THE DAY

If reports of 'surge pricing' in hospitals (ET) are true, it is a practice that must be stopped immediately by the government. Reports say that hospitals charge more for 'priority access to operation theatres'. OT allocation must be based on need and urgency, not ability to pay. Hospitals are not aircraft. Surge pricing by airlines is bad enough; if hospitals adopt this practice, it will be anti-consumer and anti-poor

@PChidambaram_IN

SHORT TAKES

J&K LG invites Omar to take oath Oct 16

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday invited National Conference leader Omar Abdullah to take oath as first chief minister of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir October 16. This comes a day after the Centre revoked President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir. In a letter to Abdullah, Sinha said, "I have received a letter of 11th October, 2024 from Dr. Farooq Abdullah, President, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, wherein it has been informed that you have been unanimously elected as Leader of the Legislature Party." He said he has also received a letter from Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Tariq Hameed Karra, CPI(M) Secretary GN Malik, AAP national secretary Pankaj Kumar Gupta and Independent MLAs-elect Payare Lal Sharma, Satish Sharma, Mohammad Akram, Ram.

Dozens of houses gutted in J&K

Kishtwar/Jammu: More than three dozen houses were gutted in a massive fire in a remote village in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir Monday, officials said. No reports of any casualties have been received so far, they said. The fire started in a house in the densely populated Mulwarwan village around 2.45 pm and spread to adjoining houses, mostly made of wood.

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BAHRAICH VIOLENCE

Shops, vehicles torched; internet services suspended

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bahraich (UP), Oct 14: Scores of people, some armed with sticks, walked along the cortege of a youth killed during a Durga procession here amid cries for justice from his family and others Monday, a day of escalating tensions that saw shops being burnt and angry crowds walking the streets.

The last rites of 22-year-old Ram Gopal Mishra, who died during the communal violence that broke out in Maharajganj area near Rehua Mansoor village in Mahsi tehsil Sunday, were performed amid heavy police presence.

About half a dozen people were injured in stone pelting and firing that followed after Mishra died. Police officials said the internet services have been suspended in Bahraich district as a precautionary measure.

The sources confirmed three arrests in the case so far and added that a case has been registered against six identified and 24 unidentified persons for murder and other sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

About 30 people have been de-



tained in connection with the unrest. Police said raids were on to arrest Salman, who is among the named accused in the case.

There were protests at several places and slogans raised against police and administrative officials, even as police forces conducted flag marches in the area. Black smoke billowed into the sky from some shops, houses and vehicles set ablaze.

Munni Devi, mother of Mishra, told PTI Videos, "My son has died... We want justice."

Mishra, a resident of the village, was part of the Durga idol immersion procession. After being hit by a bullet, he was rushed to a hospi-

tal where he died during treatment, his family rites.

"The last rites of Ram Gopal have been performed by his family members," BJP MLA from Mahsi Sureshwar Singh told PTI.

"He had got married barely four months ago. His family wants strict action against those responsible for his death," the MLA said.

He also said that the SHO of Hardi police station Suresh Kumar Verma and a police outpost-in-charge have been suspended.

The agitated crowd then decided to block the busy road in front of Mahsi tehsil and squatted on the road with the body. They refused to cremate the body until justice was done, and demanded "police encounter" for those responsible for the youth's death, demolition of their houses and adequate compensation for the kin of the deceased.

As tensions spiralled, the UP government rushed top officials, including Home Secretary Sanjeev Gupta and Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Amitabh Yash to Bahraich.

Later, the body was cremated, police said.

Oppn MPs boycott Waqf panel meeting

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: Several Opposition MPs Monday boycotted a meeting of the parliamentary committee examining the Waqf (Amendment) Bill alleging that the panel is not functioning in accordance with rules, after Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge was accused by a depositor of being involved in Waqf land scams.

The lengthy meetings of the Joint Committee of Parliament have been marked by the exchange of heated words between its BJP and Opposition members, and things turned especially stormy Monday as the latter questioned the rationale behind calling members of Hindu groups for deposition on a law concerning Muslims.

Opposition MPs walked out in protest against the submission of Anwar Manjipada, a former chairman of the Karnataka State Minorities Commission and the Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation. He is also a former Karnataka BJP vice-president.

Hope PM will take LoPs: Cong

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: The Congress Monday said it expects Prime Minister Narendra Modi will take the Leader of Opposition in both Houses of Parliament and the leaders of other parties into confidence on the "extremely sensitive and delicate issue" of worsening India-Canada relations.

The Opposition party's remarks came as India announced expelling six Canadian diplomats, hours after recalling the Indian high commissioner and some other officials from Canada.

The Canadian diplomats have been asked to leave India by or before 11:59 pm October 19.

India's decision came shortly after Canadian Charge d'Affaires Stewart Wheelers was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and was told bluntly that the baseless "targeting" of High Commissioner Sanjay Verma and other diplomats and linking them to an investigation into the killing of Sikh extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar was "completely unacceptable".

In a post on X, Congress general secretary (In-charge, Communications) Jaiaram Ramesh said, "The Indian National Congress certainly hopes and expects that Prime Minister @narendramodi will take the Leader of Opposition in both Houses of Parliament, and the leaders of other political parties into confidence immediately on the extremely sensitive and delicate issue of worsening India-Canada relations."

While Rahul Gandhi is the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge is the LoP in the Rajya Sabha.

New Delhi has described the charges against Verma as "concocted" and "preposterous imputations" and ascribes the allegations to the "political agenda of the Trudeau government that is centred around vote bank politics".

The MEA said India received a "diplomatic communication from Canada yesterday suggesting that the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats are 'persons of interest' in a matter related to an investigation in that country".

CANADA ROW

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes branch name: JHARSUGUDA-JHARSUGUDA GL and gold loan details.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes branch name: SAMBALPUR-GOLE BAZAR GL and gold loan details.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes branch name: BHADRAK-BASUDEVPUR GL and gold loan details.

IIFL FINANCE Public Notice of E-Auction of Gold Ornaments. Includes branch name: RAJGANGPUR-PADMVAITI COMPLEX SOHO GL and gold loan details.

international

of the day quote

We must seek to address the root causes of displacement (in Lebanon and Sudan), and work toward solutions. I beg you all that we continue to work, together and with humility, to seize every opportunity to find solutions for refugees

FILIPPO GRANDI
HEAD OF UN REFUGEE AGENCY

In the context of the war that is being waged against Russia with the indirect and even direct involvement of nuclear powers such as the United States, Great Britain and France, it is absolutely impossible to talk about this without linking the issue to all other aspects of security

DMITRY PESKOV
KREMLIN SPOKESMAN, RUSSIA

I deeply believe that Americans will vote responsibly. In my opinion, I am completely convinced that Trump's election would be a misfortune for the us and the world

LECH WALESA | FORMER PRESIDENT, POLAND

China holds military drills around Taiwan

Taipei: China deployed an aircraft carrier, other ships and warplanes in large-scale military exercises surrounding Taiwan and its outlying islands Monday, simulating the sealing off of key ports in a move that underscores the tense situation in the Taiwan Strait. China's Defence Ministry said the drills were a response to the Taiwanese President's refusal to accept Beijing's demand that self-governed Taiwan acknowledge itself as a part of the People's Republic of China under the rule of the Communist Party. The drills came four days after Taiwan celebrated the founding of its government on its National Day, when Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te said in a speech that China has no right to represent Taiwan and declared his commitment to "resist annexation or encroachment."

Israel kills 21 in north Lebanon



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beirut, Oct 14: An Israeli airstrike hit an apartment building in northern Lebanon Monday, killing at least 21 people, according to the Lebanese Red Cross. There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military and it was not clear what the target was. The strike hit a small apartment building in the village of Aito, which is part of the country's Christian heartland in the north and far from the Hezbollah militant group's main areas of influence in the south and east. Videos from Lebanese media showed a large plume of smoke rising from the hilly village, with several destroyed cars next to a severely damaged building, as people tried to remove bodies from beneath rubble and trees. The strike came a day after a Hezbollah drone attack on an army base in northern Israel killed four soldiers, all of them 19 years old, and severely wounded seven others in the deadliest strike by the militant group since Israel launched its ground invasion of Lebanon nearly two weeks ago. On Monday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the army base and soldiers injured in the attack, vowing that "we will continue to strike Hezbollah without compassion in every part of Lebanon, including in Beirut." Earlier Monday, an Israeli airstrike on a hospital courtyard in the Gaza Strip killed at least four people and triggered a fire that swept through a tent camp for people displaced by the war, leaving more than two dozen with severe burns. The Israeli military said the strike in Gaza targeted militants hiding out among civilians, without providing evidence. In recent months it has repeatedly struck crowded shelters and tent camps, alleging that Hamas fighters were using them as staging grounds for attacks.



India will be nearly 100 per cent bigger than China in terms of GDP per capita income growth. The standard of living and overall growth here will outpace any other country in the world during this period. In fact, India will be 33 per cent larger than the US

JOHN CHAMBERS | CHAIRMAN OF US-INDIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FORUM

LANDMARK DISCOVERY
In a village in central Denmark, archaeologists discover a burial ground, containing 50 'exceptionally well-preserved' skeletons



SpaceX catches giant Starship booster

The tall Super Heavy booster falls into the launch tower's enclosing arms, hooking itself in place by tiny, protruding bars

REUTERS
Texas, Oct 14: SpaceX in its fifth Starship test flight Sunday returned the rocket's towering first stage booster back to its Texas launch pad for the first time using giant mechanical arms, achieving another novel engineering feat in the company's push to build a reusable moon and Mars vehicle. The rocket's first stage "Super Heavy" booster lifted off at 7:25 am CT (1225 GMT) from SpaceX's Boca Chica, Texas launch facilities, sending the Starship second stage rocket toward space before separating at an altitude of roughly 70 km to begin its return to land, the most daring part of the test flight. The Super Heavy booster re-enters three of its 33 Raptor engines to slow its speedy descent back

to SpaceX's launch site, as it targeted the launch pad and tower it had blasted off from. The tower, taller than the Statue of Liberty at over 400 feet, is fitted with two large metal arms at the top. With its engines roaring, the 71 metres, tall Super Heavy booster fell into the launch tower's enclosing arms, hooking itself in place by tiny, protruding bars under the four forward grid fins it had used to steer itself through the air. "The tower has caught the rocket!" CEO Elon Musk wrote on X after the catch attempt. SpaceX engineers watching the company's live stream roared in applause. The novel catch-landing method marked the latest advance in SpaceX's test-to-failure development campaign for a fully reusable rocket designed to



loft more cargo into orbit, ferry humans to the moon for NASA and eventually reach Mars, the ultimate destination envisioned by Musk. Meanwhile Starship, the rocket system's second stage or top half, cruised at roughly 17,000 miles per hour 89 miles up in space, heading for the Indian Ocean near western Australia to demonstrate about 90 minutes into flight a controlled splashdown. As Starship reentered Earth's

atmosphere horizontally, on-board cameras showed a smooth, pinkish-purple hue of superhot plasma blanketing the ship's Earth-facing side and its two steering flaps, intense hypersonic friction displayed in a glowing aura. The ship's hot side is coated with 18,000 heat-shielding tiles that were improved since SpaceX's last test in June, when Starship completed its first full test flight to the Indian Ocean but suffered tile damage that made its reentry difficult. Starship this time appeared more intact upon re-igniting one of its six Raptor engines to position itself upright for the simulated ocean landing. The SpaceX live stream showed the rocket touching down in the nighttime waters far off Australia's coast, then toppling on its side, concluding its test mission.

WHO prequalifies first mpox vaccine

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
Geneva, Oct 14: The WHO said Friday it had for the first time pre-qualified a mpox vaccine, a move expected to speed up access to the jabs to fight an epidemic raging in Africa. The announcement came on the heels of the arrival of the first MVA-BN vaccines to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the epicentre of the epidemic. "This first prequalification of a vaccine against mpox is an important step in our fight against the disease, both in the context of the current outbreaks in Africa and in future," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a statement. "We now need urgent scale up in procurement, donations and rollout to ensure equitable access to vaccines where they are needed most to prevent infections, stop transmission and save lives." WHO's prequalification listing is used to evaluate the quality, safety and efficacy of medical



products like vaccines, paving the way for the United Nations and other international agencies to procure them. The list is also used by lower-income countries without the means to carry out their evaluations to fast-track procurement approvals. The WHO declared an international emergency over mpox last month, concerned by the surge in cases of the new Clade 1b strain in the DRC that spread to nearby countries. DRC has recorded nearly 22,000 cases and 716 deaths linked to the virus since January. So far, some 200,000 vaccine doses have been delivered to the DRC by the European Union, along with about 50,000 from the United States.

Islamabad goes under lockdown

The govt has announced a three-day public holiday in Islamabad with large contingents of police, para forces deployed

REUTERS

Islamabad, Oct 14: Pakistan's capital was under strict security lockdown as Chinese Premier Li Qiang landed in the city Monday ahead of a heads-of-government gathering of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation this week. Li's visit is the first by a Chinese premier to Pakistan in 11 years, Pakistan's Prime Minister's Office said. Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif received Li at the airport. The government has announced a three-day public holiday in Islamabad, with schools and businesses shut and large contingents of police and paramilitary forces deployed. Pakistan army troops will be responsible for the security of the capital's Red Zone, the location of the Parliament and a diplomatic enclave and where most of



the meetings will take place, according to the interior ministry. The threat alert has been high in the South Asian nation ahead of the SCO summit, especially after the killing of two Chinese engineers and shooting to death of 21 miners. Security for Chinese nationals has been enhanced, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar told a news conference Monday, saying the PM Sharif has taken a "deep, keen, personal focus" on their security. "I believe that (the) Chinese premier's visit will be a landmark visit," he said, terming it a "turning point in our relationship." He said a high-level investigation is taking place into the recent attacks on Chinese nationals and added that, "I think

coalition government, following violent clashes between his party loyalists and security forces. Islamabad has sought to curb all movement of Chinese nationals in the city, citing fears they could be targets for violence from separatist militants. The 23rd meeting of the SCO, which comprises nine full members including China, India, Iran and Russia, is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday in Islamabad. Li inaugurates the CPEC-funded Gwadar International Airport in restive southwestern Balochistan province, which borders Afghanistan and Iran, Pakistan's Prime Minister's office said.

Khan's party members arrested to thwart protest during summit

Lahore: Pakistan's law enforcement agencies have arrested more than 200 workers of Imran Khan's party in the Punjab province to thwart its planned protest in Islamabad during the SCO summit, police said Monday. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) had announced to hold a demonstration at the D-Chowk in the capital during the two-day Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit that is scheduled to begin Tuesday. "We have intensified the crackdown against active members of the PTI in different parts of the province and arrested over 200," a senior police officer told PTI. The officer said more arrests are likely by Monday night as there has been a strict order from the government to stop the PTI workers from reaching Islamabad from Punjab.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted online through Shriram Automall India Limited on their online auction platform <https://gold.samil.in> on 18.10.2024 between 02:00 PM to 05:00 PM. Change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the E-Auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date on the auction platform and/or auction center with same terms and conditions. The unauctioned gold ornaments shall be auctioned on subsequent working days after displaying the details on auction platform and/or auction center. In case the auction at Branch level fails, the same will be re-auctioned on 28.10.2024 at the specified district centre. If for any reason, the district level auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the district level auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

District Centre: BARGARH-GL - IIFL FINANCE LTD, 1ST FLOOR, KHAJUR TIKRA, WARD NO-8, INFRONT OF SWAYANSIDDHA BHAWAN, NH-6 BARGARH, ODISHA, PIN-768028

Branch Name: Bargarh-Gl, Taluka - Bargarh
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL23189769, GL23396443, GL23545611, GL23718921, GL23797528, GL27313242, GL27334755, GL28435535, GL28458955, GL29160149, GL29181137, GL29408202, GL29426516, GL29592033, GL29865120, GL29876518, GL30531361, GL30553732, GL30567283, GL30846771, GL30855662, GL31130187, GL31500476, GL31587060, GL31667285, GL31678463, GL31784630, GL31799577, GL31801591, GL31810370, GL31911405, GL32058130, GL32060612, GL32065424, GL32074566, GL32099556, GL32180792, GL32199547, GL32531843, GL32545331, GL32556179, GL32628581, GL32639830, GL32694774, GL32713455, GL32719379, GL32727054, GL32748799, GL32748815, GL32750913, GL32766469, GL32777895, GL32779430, GL32784241, GL32799882, GL32798481, GL32811893, GL32823494, GL32833595, GL32901216, GL32926072, GL32938977, GL32964355.

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For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 15.10.2024
Place: Bargarh

Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

IIFL FINANCE
CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
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District Centre: DHENKANAL-GANESH BAZAR GL - IIFL FINANCE LTD, PLOT NO.2903, 1ST FLOOR, GANESH BAZAR, DHENKANAL, ODISHA-759001.

Branch Name: DHENKANAL-GANESH BAZAR GL, Taluka - Dhenkanal Sadar
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL21803650, GL21965260, GL21976528, GL22262525, GL22355021, GL22635167, GL27148577, GL27164457, GL27401693, GL27444883, GL27476081, GL27617781, GL27638790, GL27971489, GL27994740, GL28110834, GL28124295, GL28131347, GL28155337, GL28365363, GL28590125, GL28611889, GL28873295, GL28897933, GL28944939, GL28960281, GL28964156, GL28977198, GL28981553, GL28993405, GL28995361, GL29000644, GL29004480, GL29008017, GL29112817, GL29116570, GL29129169, GL29158207, GL29163542, GL29165779, GL29178556, GL29180455, GL29272936, GL29785997, GL29796558, GL30032690, GL30054347, GL30226000, GL30564160, GL30699404, GL30750609, GL30755859, GL30761498, GL30763696, GL30788612, GL30797884, GL30826600, GL30830463, GL30843361, GL30855358, GL30871277, GL30917875, GL30997797, GL31001509, GL31003134, GL31025754, GL31027406, GL31209314, GL31046628, GL31059581, GL31085000, GL31139905, GL31477035, GL32353698.

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Date: 15.10.2024
Place: DHENKANAL

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AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
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PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted online through Shriram Automall India Limited on their online auction platform <https://gold.samil.in> on 18.10.2024 between 02:00 PM to 05:00 PM. Change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the E-Auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date on the auction platform and/or auction center with same terms and conditions. The unauctioned gold ornaments shall be auctioned on subsequent working days after displaying the details on auction platform and/or auction center. In case the auction at Branch level fails, the same will be re-auctioned on 28.10.2024 at the specified district centre. If for any reason, the district level auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the district level auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

District Centre: JEYPORE-BELL ROAD GL - IIFL FINANCE LIMITED, PLOT NO-588, 1ST FLOOR BELL ROAD, JEYPORE, KORAPUT, NEAR BANDHAN BANK, ODISHA, PIN-764001

Branch Name: BORIGUMMA-BORIGUMMA SOHO GL, Taluka - Borigumma
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL28981505, GL29004168, GL29031529, GL29111770, GL29223817, GL29911622, GL30151762, GL31137696, GL32914662, GL32926208.

Branch Name: JEYPORE-BELL ROAD GL, Taluka - Jeyपुर
Gold Loan A/C No. : GL26059888, GL26072893, GL26251063, GL26281496, GL27029369, GL27047967, GL27698368, GL27720071, GL27790530, GL28173910, GL28183959, GL28443771, GL28696054, GL28716075, GL28728035, GL28741702, GL28847735, GL28963381, GL28979969, GL29007627, GL29011252, GL29021925, GL29022332, GL29082346, GL29335566, GL29370230, GL29383014, GL29433940, GL30200819, GL30213303, GL30227953, GL30816731, GL30824264, GL30838797, GL31007786, GL31008794, GL32244996, GL32258309, GL32561339, GL32586940, GL32628465, GL32639805, GL32685305, GL32694466, GL32730384, GL32812324, GL32831734, GL32837121, GL32858794.

The E-Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. The E-Auction process and the sale (if any) pursuant to such E-Auction shall be subject to terms and conditions as IIFL may at its sole discretion deem fit to impose. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s), pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Date: 15.10.2024
Place: KORAPUT

Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

business

of the day quote

The cargo volumes were relatively less impacted due to Covid in FY21, compared to passenger traffic

Remittances are the starting point for many emerging and developing economies, including India, to explore cross-border peer-to-peer (P2P) payments. We believe there is immense scope to significantly reduce the cost and time for such remittances

We must address concerns of privacy, of bias and of transparency, ensuring that these technologies (artificial intelligence) serve as a force for good

SHORT TAKES

HCL Tech profit up

New Delhi: IT services company HCL Technologies Monday reported a 10.51 per cent rise in consolidated net profit to ₹4,235 crore in the July-September quarter of the current fiscal. It had reported a net profit of ₹3,832 crore in the year-ago period. Revenue came in at ₹28,862 crore during the reporting quarter, 8.21 per cent higher than ₹26,672 crore in the year-ago period.

Reliance net drops

New Delhi: Reliance Industries Ltd Monday reported a 5 per cent fall in the net profit for the July-September quarter, as weak oil refining and petrochemical business hurt operational performance. Its consolidated net profit fell to ₹16,563 crore or ₹24.48 per share in July-September - the second quarter of the current fiscal - compared to ₹17,394 crore or ₹25.71 a share in the same period a year back, according to a company filing. The total income was marginally higher at ₹2.4 lakh crore from ₹2.38 lakh crore in July-September 2023.

RE output zooms

New Delhi: Led by solar and wind energy, India has crossed the 200 gigawatt (GW)-mark in renewable energy (RE) production in the month of September. As per latest data from the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the renewable energy-based electricity generation capacity (including small and large hydro, biomass and co-generation and waste-to-energy) crossed the 200 GW-mark in September. The total RE production reached 201,457.91 MW, driven by solar at 90,762 MW and wind energy production at 47,363 MW. The country's total non-fossil fuel-based power capacity now stands at 46.3 per cent of the total installed electricity generation capacity.

Realty deals shine

New Delhi: The Indian real estate sector saw 25 deals worth \$1.4 billion in September quarter, driven by Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) issues launched by developers, according to a report by Grant Thornton. Consulting firm Grant Thornton Bharat released the report 'Real Estate/ REITs Dealtracker -- Providing M&A and PE deal insights' Monday. "The quarter maintained strong deal volumes with 25 deals, marking an all-time high in terms of deal volumes and the second-highest values since Q2 2023," the report said.



Discussion on air pollution has begun. Looking at Air Quality Index on mobiles, people out of fear, go and buy air purifiers. Air purifiers make such false claims. We see air purifiers and so much is written but nothing is there in it. There is just a fan in it, yet claims are still made

PRALHAD JOSHI | CONSUMER AFFAIRS MINISTER

HYUNDAI IPO IN FULL SWING

Hyundai Motor India Ltd, the Indian arm of South Korean automaker Hyundai, Monday raised ₹8,315 crore from anchor investors, a day before its much-awaited initial share-sale opening for public subscription. This would be the largest IPO in India, surpassing LIC's initial share sale of ₹21,000 crore



FUEL INDEPENDENCE

India saved ₹1.06L-cr from biofuel blending

The country has over 750MT of available biomass, with about two-thirds being used for domestic purposes such as cattle feed and compost fertilizer



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: India, the world's third largest oil importing and consuming nation, saved ₹1.06 lakh crore in foreign exchange during the last decade by mixing biofuels in petrol, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said Monday.

Speaking at the CII Bioenergy Summit here, he said the percentage of ethanol, extracted from sugarcane and other biomass, blending in petrol has risen from 1.53 per cent in 2014 to 15 per cent.

Encouraged by these results, the government has advanced its target to 20 per cent blending for 2025, he said.

"From 2014 to August 2024, ethanol blending (in petrol) has generated foreign exchange savings of ₹1,06,072 crore, reduced CO2 emissions by 544 lakh tonnes, and achieved crude oil substitution of 181 lakh tonnes," he said.

Additionally, the government has set an ambitious target for Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), aiming for 1 per cent blending in 2027 and 2 per cent in 2028, positioning India as a leader in bio-mobility.

Emphasising on India's robust economic growth, he said

the country will drive 25 per cent of global energy demand over the next two decades.

Bioenergy will be crucial in meeting this demand while advancing climate goals and rural development.

Currently valued at \$44 billion (as per Wood Mckenzie), the minister said that the bioenergy market is projected to grow to \$125 billion by 2050. If global net-zero targets are achieved,

this figure could surge to \$500 billion, he added.

India has more than 750 million tonnes of available biomass, with about two-thirds being used for domestic purposes such as cattle feed and compost fertilizer.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) forecasts a growth potential of 3.5 to 5 times for biofuels by 2050 due to net zero targets, presenting a substantial opportunity for India.

Ethanol blending in diesel in advanced stages: Gadkari

Union minister Nitin Gadkari Monday said that the research around blending 15 per cent ethanol in diesel is in advanced stages, and the government is exploring ways to prioritise it based on sound evidence. Addressing the Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) Bio Energy Summit 2024, Gadkari further said according to government data, ethanol blending in India has surged from 1.53 per cent in 2014 to 15 per cent in 2024. Spurred by this progress, the government has set an ambitious target of reaching 20 per cent blending in petrol by 2025, the road transport and highways minister said. Gadkari said the progress on building an ethanol ecosystem - where ethanol pumps can complement ethanol production and launch of vehicles that can run on ethanol are on fast-track in four states - Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra. He pointed out that Indian Oil has decided to put 400 ethanol pump stations. "We are meeting automakers as well including Suzuki, Tata, and Toyota. These automakers have decided to launch flex-engine cars," he said.

38 companies commit ₹4,121cr investment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: As many as 38 companies, including Daikin, Voltas and Blue Star have filed applications with proposed investments of ₹4,121 crore to avail benefits under the production-linked incentive scheme for white goods in the third round, an official said Monday.

The government in July reopened the application window for its ₹6,238-crore production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for air-conditioners (ACs) and LED lights to accommodate more players as several firms expressed interest in the initiative.

Of the 38 companies, 21 applicants have applied for manufacturing of AC components with a committed investment of ₹3,679 crore and 18 applicants for components of LED Lights with a committed investment of ₹442 crore.

Joint Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Sanjiv said that the scheme is benefitting the sector as the value addition has increased from 25 per cent to about 50 per cent.

According to the industry, the value addition would increase to about 80 per cent in the coming years.

He said that over the next three years (till 2028-29), 38 companies are expected to achieve production of about ₹55,877 crore for AC components and LED Lights while generating direct employment for 47,851 people.

Investment footprint under the PLI for white goods scheme has increased from 16 to 18 states/UTs including Odisha and Jammu and Kashmir. In 2022-23, the government disbursed ₹80 crore to the beneficiary firms.

Car sales to dealers stall after 10-qtr rally



INDUSTRY PINS HOPES ON STRONG PERFORMANCE IN THE FESTIVE PERIOD AFTER WITNESSING A FLATTISH FIRST HALF

REUTERS

Mumbai, Oct 14: Indian car-makers' sales to dealers marked the first decline in 10 quarters in the July to September period, data from an industry body showed Monday, as the once red-hot consumer demand for big cars petered out.

Automakers' sales to dealers dropped in July, August and September for an aggregate 1.8% year-on-year decline to around 1.06 million in the second quarter, data from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers showed.

The sales growth had already slowed from a 4.7% rise in year-ago second quarter to 3% in the April-to-June quarter.

The drop in automakers' sales in the latest quarter compares to an even steeper 4.5% decline in

dealers' sales to consumers in the same period, per data from the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA).

Automakers and dealers have blamed the declines on heavier-than-usual rains in June and July. Meanwhile, the pre-festive season period, an inauspicious time for big-ticket purchases fell entirely in September this year vs October last year.

"Heavy rainfall in key states ... did impact the sales numbers of some of the segments," said Shailesh Chandra, SIAM's president.

Among segments, the increase in sales of utility vehicles, including sports utility vehicles (SUVs), slowed sharply to 9% in the quarter from 23.5% in the year-ago period.

SUV sales have powered the industry for three years and account for roughly two-thirds of total sales. That has helped the likes of Mahindra & Mahindra and Toyota.

The slowdown in SUV sales was compounded by a nearly 20% slide in sales of small cars, continuing their decline and hurting market leader Maruti Suzuki as well as Tata Motors and Hyundai India.

The slow decline in SUV sales was compounded by a nearly 20% slide in sales of small cars, continuing their decline and hurting market leader Maruti Suzuki as well as Tata Motors and Hyundai India.

Gold continues to glitter

The yellow metal revisits all-time high of ₹78,700 per 10 grams

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



New Delhi, Oct 14: Gold prices rose ₹200 to revisit the all-time high of ₹78,700 per 10 grams in the national capital Monday on persistent buying by stockists and traders even as the precious metal lost steam globally, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

The yellow metal had closed at ₹78,500 per 10 grams Friday.

Silver jumped ₹500 to ₹93,500 per kg on the back of fresh industrial demand. It had ended at ₹93,000 per kg in the previous close. Additionally, gold of 99.5 per cent purity climbed by ₹600 to reclaim its all-time high level of ₹78,300 per 10 grams.

The metal had finished at ₹78,100 per 10 grams.

Earlier, gold prices hit a record ₹78,700 per 10 grams October 7.

Despite a weak trend overseas, the precious metal gained in the domestic market, mainly due to an increase in demand from jewellers, traders said.

In futures trade on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold contracts for December delivery declined by ₹207 or 0.27 per cent to trade at ₹76,100 per 10 grams. Silver contracts for December delivery plummeted ₹929 or 1.01 per cent to ₹90,761 per kg on the MCX.

IT, banking shares boost stock market

SENSEX RISES 592 PTS, NIFTY SETTLES ABOVE 25K

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Oct 14: Benchmark BSE Sensex jumped nearly 592 points while Nifty reclaimed the 25,000 level Monday following gains in IT and banking shares amid a firm trend in global markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 591.69 points or 0.73 per cent to close at 81,973.05. During the day, it surged 690.81 points or 0.84 per cent to hit a high of 82,072.17.

The NSE Nifty rose 163.70 points or 0.66 per cent to settle at 25,127.95. In the intraday trade, the benchmark indices climbed 195.5 points or 0.78 per cent to 25,159.75.

From the Sensex pack, Tech Mahindra, HDFC Bank, Larsen & Toubro, ITC, Infosys, IndusInd



Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Titan and HCL Technologies were among the gainers.

Maruti Suzuki India, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finance, UltraTech Cement, Nestle India, Axis Bank and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) were among the laggards. Market capitalisation of BSE-

listed companies jumped by nearly ₹1.35 lakh crore to ₹4,63,62,781.71 (\$5.51 trillion).

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge rose 0.28 per cent and smallcap index by 0.06 per cent.

Sector-wise, Realty surged the most by 1.53 per cent. Bankex

The Indian market is demonstrating resilience, with subdued Q2 earnings expectations seemingly priced in and oil prices declining. The IT and financial sectors are attracting buying interest after recent corrections

VINOD NAIR | HEAD OF RESEARCH, GEOJIT FINANCIAL SERVICES

(1.03 per cent), IT (1.01 per cent), Financial Service and Teck by 0.88 per cent each, Consumer Durables (0.69 per cent) and Telecommunication (0.68 per cent) were among the gainers.

Commodities slipped by 0.31 per cent, followed by Metal (0.14 per cent), Oil & Gas (0.06 per cent) and Services (0.04 per cent).

India's space strategy: Harness data, tiny satellites to rule mkt

Indian space companies have already seen an influx of funding - \$126mn in 2023, a 7% increase from the \$118mn raised in 2022 and an increase of 235% from the \$37.6mn raised in 2021

REUTERS

Bangalore, Oct 14: India has a plan to carve out a beachhead in the battle for commercial space, officials say: crunching space data, building small satellites and launching them cheaply into orbit rather than challenging heavyweights such as SpaceX head-on.

In particular, it is taking aim at providing cost-effective services and hardware to sectors such as communications, agriculture and commodities, where high-quality data is a precious resource.

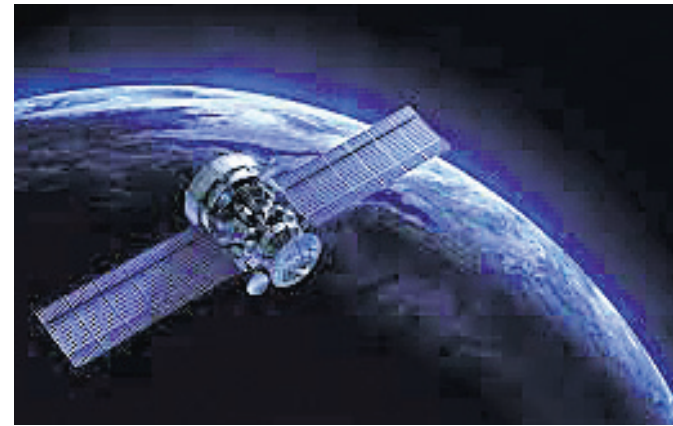
At stake is a launch market

worth \$14.54 billion by 2031, and a related data services market pegged at \$45 billion by 2030.

Since February, India has opened its space sector to private players and created ₹10 billion venture fund to support space startups. It has also unveiled plans for crewed space exploration and a mission to Venus, but the focus is on developing commercial ventures.

In many ways it will be an uphill fight. Other countries such as Japan and China have advanced space industries, and designs on cheap launches. Spaceflight itself is difficult, the startup landscape globally is littered with failed boosters and satellite designs.

For India, "the tech is there and the ability is there... but space is tricky and very competitive, and while private companies have shown that they can create a niche for themselves, we need more proof of concept," said Namrata Goswami, a space policy expert at Arizona State University.



The world has gone from satellites the size of a Boeing plane to the size of a laptop. This is a sector that India can win, instead of challenging heavy launches where Elon Musk has dominance. The country already has an historical advantage in data mining and interpretation

AK BHATT | DIRECTOR GENERAL, INDIAN SPACE ASSOCIATION

She added that the Indian government must be an "anchor customer" for private industry.

Indian companies such as Bellatrix Aerospace, Pixxel, Agnikul Cosmos, Dhruva Space

and others are already building or have launched small satellites or satellite components.

India's space agency, ISRO, last month completed the third and final developmental flight for

its Small Satellite Launch Vehicle. The design will then be handed to private companies.

Bangalore-based SatSure, for example, has been providing near real-time satellite data to the Airports Authority of India to enhance air traffic management and safety, helping airlines save fuel costs by improved flight planning. The project is expected to save ₹37.5 billion in fuel costs for airlines annually by 2025 and result in a roughly 70% reduction in airport process planning timelines, the authority said.

GOVERNMENT PUSH

Since the government opened up the market, companies big and small have jumped in, with legacy IT firms like Infosys investing in satellite imaging company GalaxEye Space Solutions, Google-backed Pixxel signing contracts with NASA, and Baring- and Promus-backed SatSure taking on clients such as HDFC Bank and global seed company Syngenta.

Dhruva Space became one of

the first to be handed a permit to operate satellite communication centres on earth - to date the dominion of ISRO.

"India is a software powerhouse and produces some of the best minds in the world in data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. The space downstream market is, at the end of the day a software play," said Aravind Ravichandran, founder of France-based advisory firm Terrawatch Space.

The consultancy Euroconsult forecasts that between 2023 and 2032, about 26,104 small satellites - weighing less than 500 kilogrammes (1,100 lb) - will be put in orbit, averaging 1.5 tons of daily launch mass. The firm expects the overall small satellite industry to be worth \$110.5 billion in the next decade.

But India has only about 2% of market share in commercial space activities, demand is still largely dependent on global clients, and well-established US, Russian and Chinese companies are formidable rivals.

Crucial gains for Kalinga Lancers 350 players up for grabs

Women's HIL auction Tuesday will certainly see some intense bidding

Harmanpreet Singh emerges most expensive player of HIL after 2 days of hectic bidding

New Delhi, Oct 14: Kalinga Lancers made some important gains on the second day of the Hockey India League (HIL) men's players auctions here Monday. The Lancers bought Indian forward Angad Bir Singh for ₹ 26 lakh, Moringthem Rabichandra for ₹32 lakh and

also recruited some



HARMANPREET SINGH

promising players including Roshan Minz (₹2 lakh), Sushil Dhanwar (₹2 lakh) and Pratap Lakra (₹2 lakh). Among the foreigners they picked up were Thierry

Brinkman of the Netherlands for ₹38 lakh, Arthur van Doren of Belgium for ₹32 lakh and Australia's Aran Zalewski for ₹27 lakh.

During the second day of the auction here there was a bidding war between Hyderabad Toofans, Bengal Tigers and UP Rudras for Indian midfielder Rajinder. Ultimately he went for ₹23 lakh to Hyderabad.

However, it was the foreign players who attracted the highest bids on the day. Viktor Wegnez of Belgium went to Soorma Hockey Club for ₹40 lakh while Blake

Govers went for ₹27 lakh to Tamil Nadu Dragons.

However, there were also a large number of players that re-

mained unsold.

No one however, could match the price tag of Indian captain Harmanpreet Singh who emerged as the most expensive player of this season's HIL with Soorma Hockey Club snapping the star drag-flicker for ₹78 lakh Sunday, the first day of the auctions.

Abhishek became the second-most expensive buy, acquired by Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers for ₹72 lakh, while Hardik Singh went to UP Rudras for ₹70 lakh.

Other notable buys from the first lot included Amit Rohidas, who went to Tamil Nadu Dragons for ₹48 lakh while Jugraj Singh was also purchased for the same amount by Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers. Hyderabad Toofans roped in Sumit for ₹46 lakh.

In all, 54 players, including 18 overseas players were sold Sunday. All eight franchises spent a total of ₹16 crore 88 lakh 50 thousand on Day 1.

Germany's Gonzalo Peillat was the most expensive overseas player as he was bought for ₹68 lakh by Tamil Nadu Dragons. Netherlands' Jip Janssen was also acquired by Tamil Nadu Dragons for ₹54 lakh.

Among the overseas goalkeepers, Ireland's David Harte was the top buy, with Tamil Nadu Dragons winning the bid for ₹32 lakh. Germany's Jean-Paul Danneberg (for ₹27 lakh to Hyderabad), the Netherlands' Pirmin Blaak (for ₹25 lakh to Bengal Tigers), and Belgium's Vincent Vanasch (for ₹23 lakh to Soorma) also went under the hammer.

Indian goalkeepers Suraj Karkera and Pawan were acquired by Team Gonasika and Delhi SG Pipers for ₹22 lakh and ₹15 lakh respectively.

Top Indian buys (in ₹)		Top foreign buys (in ₹)	
Harmanpreet Singh	78L	Gonzalo Peillat	68L
Abhishek	72L	Jip Jansen	54L
Hardik Singh	70L	Lars Balk	40L
Amit Rohidas	48L	Thierry Brinkman	38L
Jugraj Singh	48L	Tomas Domene	36L
Manpreet Singh	42L	Arthur Van Doren	32L



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: Over 350 players from around the world will go under the hammer in the inaugural women's Hockey India League (HIL) auctions here Tuesday. After a seven-year hiatus, the highly-anticipated HIL is making a grand return with an exclusive women's league for the first time.

The historic auction will witness over 280 domestic players and more than 70 overseas players vying for a spot in the inaugural season of the women's HIL.

India's top women players, including seasoned goalkeeper Savita, national team captain Salima Tete, rising drag-flicker Deepika, the most-capped women's player Vandana Kataria and forward Lalremsiami are some of the big names that will be up for grabs. Additionally, former Indian stalwarts such as Yogita Bali, Lilima Minz and Namita

- Each team will have 24 players, 16 Indian and 8 foreign
- Players categorised under 3 slabs - ₹10 lakh, ₹5 lakh, ₹2 lakh

Toppo have registered for the auction adding further excitement to the auction.

On the international front, renowned players such as Delfina Merino (Argentina), Charlotte Stapenhorst (Germany), Maria Granatto (Argentina), Rachael Lynch (Australia) and Nike Lorenz (Germany) are some of those that franchises will vie for.

The maiden season of the women's edition of the HIL will witness participation of four teams. The participating teams for this season include Soorma Hockey Club, Shrachi Rarh Bengal Tigers, Delhi SG Pipers and Odisha Warriors.

Each team will consist of 24 players, including 16 Indian players (with a mandatory in-

clusion of four junior players) and eight overseas players. Franchises will have a purse of ₹2 crore to select players, with athletes categorised under three base price slabs - ₹10 lakh, ₹5 lakhs and ₹2 lakh.

The historic women's auction marks a major milestone in the world of hockey, showcasing the sport's growth and the increasing prominence of the women's game.

"This is not just a revival of the HIL, but also a celebration of the growth of women's hockey in India. We are proud to host the first-ever women's auction, which is not just about building teams but also about building legacies," Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey said.

"We are excited to see our domestic talents go head-to-head with some of the best international players and create new heroes for the next generation. The women's HIL 2024-25 will be a watershed moment for Indian hockey," he added.

SHORT TAKES

Smith at No. 4 for India series

Melbourne: Veteran Australia batter Steve Smith will return to his favoured No. 4 four position after a short stint as an opener in the upcoming Test series against India, national selector George Bailey confirmed Monday. Earlier to accommodate Cameron Green at No. 4, Smith had been promoted up the order to replace retired opener David Warner. However, with Green ruled out of the India series with a back problem, the selectors have decided to bring back Smith to his original position to provide more depth to the batting.

Sinner too good for listless Djokovic

Shanghai: Top-ranked Jannik Sinner beat Novak Djokovic in straight sets to win the Shanghai Masters title Sunday, giving the Italian his tour-leading seventh title of the season. The Italian bettered the 24-time Grand Slam champion 7-6 (7-4), 6-3 in 97 minutes. He never faced a break point in the outdoor hard-court tournament. Sinner hit eight aces and 22 winners to four and 12 from Djokovic. The Serbian was aiming for his 100th tour-level title and his fifth here.

Fit-again Stokes back for England

Multan: Captain Ben Stokes made a return to the England Test team as he was Monday named in the playing XI for the second match against Pakistan beginning here Tuesday. Stokes had been out of the side since August with a hamstring problem. England made two changes to the side that beat Pakistan in the first Test by an innings and 47 runs. Stokes replaced Chris Woakes while fast bowler Matthew Potts was included in pace of Gus Atkinson

CR7 in fine nick

Barcelona: Cristiano Ronaldo scored his record-extending 133rd international goal to keep Portugal perfect in the Nations League with a 3-1 win over Poland, and Spain struck late to edge Denmark 1-0 in matches played Saturday. Bernardo Silva got the opener for Portugal in the game played at Warsaw.

Gambhir wants 'high risk' cricket

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Oct 14: India head coach Gautam Gambhir said Monday that he will not stop his batters from pursuing a 'high risk, high reward' approach in Test cricket even if it means that the side gets bundled out for 100 on some days. India dished out their own version of 'Bazball' while chasing victory in the recent Kanpur Test against Bangladesh where more than two days were lost to rain and won the game by seven wickets.

"Why do we need to hold on to people? If they can play the natural game, if they can get 400-500 runs in a day, why not? We will play it that way - high risk, high reward, high risk, high failure," Gambhir told reporters ahead of the three-match Test series against New Zealand that starts here Wednesday.

"There will be days when we'll get bundled out for 100 and we'll take it up then. But we'll continue to back our players to go out there and play high risk cricket. That's how we want to keep the



TWO TO TANGO: Head coach Gautam Gambhir and captain Rohit Sharma have lots to talk about during the training session Monday

game going forward and get the results in whatever situation we are in," Gambhir added.

However, Gambhir quickly dispelled the notion of playing the game with blinkers. He said 'adaptability' will also remain important for his side.

"I had said in Chennai that we want to be a team that can make 400 runs in a day and bat

for two days to draw. That's called growth. That's called adaptability and that," the Indian head coach explained. While admitting that the Kiwis have the ability to 'hurt' the hosts, Gambhir said his side will play 'hard cricket' to achieve the desired results.

"New Zealand are a completely different challenge. We know that they're a very, very

'Don't judge Kohli'

Bangalore: Gautam Gambhir is not too concerned about the recent lukewarm form of Virat Kohli. He insisted that the star batter remains as hungry as he was when he made his debut and should not be judged after every match. Kohli has made only one 50-plus score in his last eight innings. "See, my thoughts about Virat have always been very clear that he is a world-class cricketer. You don't keep judging people after every game. If you keep doing that it is not fair on them. It's a sport and people are bound to fail. His hunger for runs is always there," Gambhir stated.

good team and they've got some really high-quality players. They've got players who can hurt us. They keep fighting. So, the three Test matches are going to be a huge challenge," Gambhir opined. "So, we respect them, but we don't fear anyone," he added.

Indian eyes bow out after Kiwi win

AGENCIES

Sharjah, Oct 14: A The campaign for the Indian women's cricket team in the T20 World Cup ended Monday after New Zealand defeated Pakistan by 54 runs to take the second place in the group and qualify for the semifinals.

A disheartened India head coach Amol Muzumdar rued the missed opportunities that could have altered the game's outcome after India lost to Australia by nine runs in a game played Sunday.

"I think we were right in the game, right till the last over. Just that experience of Australia, saw them through," Muzumdar said at the post-match press conference.

I am just a little disappointed with the loss. And I feel we've fielded pretty well. But yeah, a couple of chances could have

been taken. Had we taken those chances the things could have been different. May be 10-15 runs less would have changed the complexion of the game," Muzumdar added.

India dropped three catches and also missed a stumping opportunity. To add to their woes, a close lbw call also went against them.

Australia posted a total of 151/8. In response, India fell short, finishing at 142/9 despite skipper Harmanpreet Kaur's unbeaten 54.

Kaur rued failing to capitalise on the loose deliveries during her 63-run stand with Deepthi Sharma for the fourth-wicket.

"The only thing is, when Deepthi and I were batting, that time we were not able to utilise a few loose deliveries. We could have controlled the boundaries," stated Kaur.

Saideep's ton puts Odisha in command

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Odisha gained a vital first innings lead of 222 runs against Uttarakhand in their under-23 BCCI game being played at Dehradun. In reply to Uttarakhand's score of 160 all out in the first innings, Odisha scored 382. On the second day of stumps Monday, hosts Uttarakhand were 10 without loss.

While Saideep Mohapatra (119, 167b, 10x4, 2x6) got a century, the Odisha total also got a huge boost as Om (66), Asutosh Marndi (59) and Biswa Bibhab Muduli (55) got half centuries to put the visitors in a commanding position. The Odisha batters had a number of fruitful partnerships during the innings and it helped Odisha go past the 375-run mark and take firm command of the game. Harsh Rana (3/30) and



Saideep Mohapatra

Shaswat Dngal (3/65) were the most successful bowlers for Uttarakhand, but they did not make any impact on Saideep who batted fluently.

Earlier on the first day Sunday, a deadly spell of bowling by Asutosh (5/42) hastened Uttarakhand's downfall. He was well-supported by Ashutosh Chhuria (3/34). Only Hitesh (83) put up some resistance for the hosts.

Sindhu, Sen in search of form

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Odense (Denmark), Oct 14: Indian badminton stars PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen will be eager to bounce back from a disappointing resumption to their season when they compete in the USD 850,000 Denmark Open Super 750 tournament, starting here Tuesday. Both players found the going tough in the Arctic Open in Vantaa, Finland last week where former World Champion Sindhu suffered a first-round exit, while 2021 Worlds bronze winner Sen bowed out in the second round.

The 23-year-old Sen, from Almore will face China's Lu Guang Zu in his opening match - an opponent he is yet to meet in professional badminton. Should he advance, Sen might face Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the second round, with reigning World Champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand will, in all



Lakshya Sen

likelihood, be waiting for him in the quarter-finals.

Sindhu will need to quickly address the issues affecting her performance after a disappointing first-round loss to Canada's Michelle Li, an opponent she had previously defeated 10 times. Under the guidance of new coaches Anup Sridhar and Korea's Lee Hyun-il, she will open against Chinese Taipei's Pai Yu Po and could potentially face China's Han Yue in the second round if she progresses.

"No match in any tournament is easy, be it even the first round,"

Sindhu stated here Monday. "I have decided to take it one match at a time and not think too far ahead," she added.

In addition to Sindhu, India will have several other competitors in women's singles, including the in-form Malvika Bansod, Aakarshi Kashyap and promising talent Unnati Hooda. Bansod, who had reached the quarter-finals of China Open, will go up against Vietnam's Nguyen Thuy Linh at first, while Kashyap faces Thailand's Supanida Katethong. Hooda, the 2022 Odisha Open winner, will compete against Lauren Lam from the USA.

While there will be no Indian representation in men's doubles, Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, who had missed the Paris Olympics, will compete in the women's doubles, taking on the fifth-seeded Malaysian duo of Pearly Tan and Thinnah Muralitharan.

Suman appointed T20 squad's coach

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Oct 14: The Odisha Cricket Association (OCA) named Suman Sharma as the head coach and Madhusmita Behera as the assistant coach Monday for the 17-member women's cricket team that will participate in the Senior BCCI T20 Trophy. The other members of the support staff are Madushmita Mohapatra (manager and observer), Pranjali Palkar (physio), Gomma Polama (S&C coach), Gayatree Behera (video analyst) and Jayashree Mahana (Masseur). All the Odisha matches will be played in Vadodara.

The Odisha team will be led by Madhuri Meheta and will begin their campaign Thursday with a game against hosts Gujarat. They will then face J&K (Oct 18), Tamil Nadu (Oct 20), Mizoram (Oct 22), Goa (Oct 24) and Mumbai (Oct 26) and Andhra (Oct 28).