





- Highlighting India's unique position, the external affairs minister said there are not many countries that have the ability or the willingness to engage both Moscow and Kyiv at the same time
- India has not taken sides in the war. Instead, it has been engaging both countries, urging them to end the conflict through negotiations



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SAYS HE HAS ALREADY INVITED INDIA TO THE SECOND PEACE SUMMIT

CHENNAL = MADURAL = VIJAYAWADA = BENGALURU = KOCHI = HYDERABAD = VISAKHAPATNAM = COIMBATORE = KOZHIKODE = THIRUVANANTHAPURAM = BELAGAVI = BHUBANESWAR = SHIVAMOGGA = MANGALURU = TIRUPATI = TIRUPATI

Rourkela shocker: Minor girl gangraped twice within hours

PRASANJEET SARKAR @ Rourkela

ROURKELA was rocked by vet another case of sexual assault as an adolescent girl was allegedly gangraped by five miscreants at two separate places on the night of September 22 (Sunday) in what is a grim pointer to the deteriorating law and order.

The victim had been to a bar and restaurant at Civil Township within RN Pali police lim-

its where two miscreants raped her. Another miscreant later joined the two in the heinous crime, police said.

INDIA ENGAGING RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

TO HELP END WAR, SAYS JAISHANKAR

India has been holding talks with both countries

to see if there is something it can do to initiate

negotiations between them, the minister said

However, the girl's ordeal did not end there as she was dumped on the road when two other miscreants picked her up in a motorcycle and raped her near the library and defunct millet cafe along ring road opposite the administrative building of RSP within Plant Site



TALKS EXPLORATORY, NO PEACE PLAN

Jaishankar said India does not have a peace plan or any suggestions on

how to end the conflict. Rather, it is having conversations about ending

serious negotiations between the two, and these talks aim to initiate that

the conflict with each of the two sides and keeping each apprised of

what the other side is saying. He said to end the war there must be

A scientifi team and dog squad at the crime scene in Rourkela on Wednesday

The second crime spot was developed under the city beautification project two years back and is hardly 50 metre from the busy ring road.

Three persons have been detained by Rourkela and are currently being

interrogated. Victim's father in the complaint stated that the girl had left home on Sunday

evening saying she was going to a shopping mall, said Wednesday.

DIG Brijesh Kumar Rai who officiates as Rourkela SP.

The incident occurred within 24 hours of the gangrape of two minors in the steel city on Friday.

prits and multiple raids were conducted on Tuesday night to The case came to light nab them," Rai said. SDPO of Panposh has been entrusted after the victim's father lodged a complaint on monitoring of the case and the Tuesday and police statement of the victim was

along with a scientific recorded. team and dog squad in-On the day, a scientific team spected the crime spots on and dog squad visited the crime spots. The investigation is in

under an additional SP to as-

certain the identity of the cul-

"After receiving the comprimary stages and steps are being taken to avail technical plaint, four teams were formed

inputs and more information. "Police are committed to ensure speedy justice to the victim," he said.

On September 21 evening two adolescent girls aged 14 and 15 were forcibly taken from Bisra Chowk and gangraped at a secluded spot just a few metres away from the ring road.

The same day, a school girl was molested by a PET teacher at Guru Nanak Khalsa School along Gurudwara road.

Lokayukta police to probe MUDA dirt against Siddu

police limits.

Special court directs the SP to register a case under land grab law

Phase II done, heartening to see Kashmiris casting their votes, say foreign diplomats

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

22- LAL CHOWK ASSEMBLY SEGMENT

gion did well. "The Shri Mata

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

A day after the Karnataka High Court allowed investigation against Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the alleged Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam case, a special court directed the Lokayukta police to probe the allotment of 14 compensatory sites to his wife Parvathy B M. The Lokayukta police has been asked to submit its report within three months.

The special court in Bengaluru, which exclusively deals with criminal cases against sitting and former MPs and MLAs, also directed the Superintendent of Police, Mysuru Division of Karnataka Lokayukta, to register a case under the provisions of the Prohibition of **Benami Property Transactions** Act and the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act.

This is in addition to provisions under Indian Penal Code sections 120B (conspiracy), 166 (disobeying law), 403 (misap-



Siddaramaiah

'Not scared of probe'

Siddaramaiah said he is ready to face any probe and will continue the legal fight. "We are not scared of investigation and are prepared for the legal fight. I said it yesterday and am reiterating it today," he said

propriation), 406 (breach of trust), 420 (cheating), 426 (mischief), 465 (forgery), 468 (forgery of an electronic record), 340 (wrongful confinement), 351 (use of criminal force) and oth-

er relevant sections of the IPC, under Section 9 (bribing public servant) and 13 (criminal misconduct) of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

In his order, Special Court Judge Santhosh Gajanan Bhat ordered registration of a private complaint against Siddaramaiah, his wife, brother-inlaw Mallikarjuna Swamy, and one Davaraju J, among others, in connection with the MUD's illegal allotment of the compensatory sites.

The case pertains to 14 sites worth ₹56 crore being allotted illegally in an upscale Vijayanagar 3rd Stage for the land acquired at Kesare village, a down market area on the outskirts of Mysuru, due to alleged undue advantage taken by Siddaramaiah when in power.

High Court had upheld Governor Thawarchand Gehlot's approval to conduct a probe into the MUDA case and the allegedly illegal allotment of 14 sites to the CM's wife.

On Tuesday, the Karnataka

THE second phase of polling for 26 assembly seats in J&K on Wednesday recorded a healthy 56.05% turnout, which could go up further.

While brisk polling took place in five districts, there were no long queues in Srinagar, where the poll percentage for eight seats stood at 29.24%. However, 4.41% more voters turned up to vote in Srinagar as compared to the Lok Sabha polls in April-May when the percentage was 24.83%.

A team of foreign diplomats visited a few polling stations and found it "heartening" to see Kashmiris casting their votes after 10 years.

US Deputy chief of Mission Jorgan K Andrews, who was among the visiting diplomats



Foreign diplomats after visiting a polling booth in Srinagar, for a first-hand assessment of the Assembly elections in J&K on Wednesday | ZAHOOR PUNJABI

said, "It has been excellent and fascinating to see how India organises its elections and how thorough the preparations are. It has been very inspiring." It looks very healthy and democratic, he added.

The turnout was good in the three violence-hit districts in the Jammu region Reasi (74.14%), Poonch (73.78%) and Rajouri (69.84%) Even Ganderbal (62.63%) and Budgam (61.31%) in the Kashmir re-

Vaishno Devi seat in Reasi district recorded the highest voter turnout of 79.95%," informed J&K Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) P K Pole.

In Srinagar, which has remained a hot bed of separatist politics, people came out to vote for first Assembly polls without any poll boycott or militant threat.

"It is first time that I am casting a vote. There are no jobs, power bills are very high and youth are falling to drugs. We hope that the elected government will provide some relief to the population," said Javed Ahmed, a resident of Nowhatta area of Srinagar.

Nowhatta was once a stronghold of militants and separatists where stone pelting used to take place every Friday.



remarks must be avoided: SC SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on

Bharatpur IIC to undergo narco and polygraph tests at Gandhinagar SFSL

ASISH MEHTA @ Bhubaneswar

AMIDST nation-wide outrage, the former inspector-in-charge (IIC) of the police station, where the army officer and his fiancée were allegedly assaulted and humiliated in Bhubaneswar, gave his consent before a court to undergo narco analysis, brain mapping and polygraph tests on Wednesday.

The tests will be conducted at the State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL) in Gujarat's Gandhinagar.

Police, investigating into the earth the truth," sources

dhinagar SFSL.

While the army officer's fiancée has levelled serious allegations against Mishra, the accused officer reportedly denied the accusations during his questioning by CB officers. With no CCTV cameras in

the police station or any eyewitness, CB decided to go in for legally admissible evidences.

"As the incident took place inside the police station and there were no eye-witnesses, scientific methodology may give a proper direction to the The Crime Branch of Odisha investigating agency to un-



50 DRUGS

INCLUDING PARACETAMOL **TABLETS AND** PAN D FAIL REGULATOR'S **QUALITY TEST**

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation issued a 'Not of Standard Quality' alert for over 50 medicines. Telma H, Glimepiride and Shelcal C are among them | P7

HARPREET BAJWA & PREETHA NAIR @ Chandigarh/ New Delhi

A day after BJP member of Parliament Kangana Ranaut's statement that the three controversial farm sector reform laws repealed in 2021 should be reinstated, made her party squirm and the Opposition go ballistic, the actor and newbie neta was

forced to to eat her words.

"I withdraw my remarks. I have to keep in mind that I am not just an artist, but a party worker of the BJP. My opinion should not be personal and my actions should align with the party's stand. I regret and take my words back," she said.

Kangana emphasised the importance of respecting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to repeal the laws that were intended to benefit farmers but faced intense opposition.



Amid Rahul poser, Kangana

eats her words on farm laws

Rahul Gandhi Kangana Ranaut

Earlier in the day, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi sought to put the government on the mat, demanding an explanation from Modi whether he was opposed to the comments or is he "up to some mischief".

"BJP people keep testing ideas. They ask someone to voice an idea among the people and wait for the reaction... Modi ji you must clarify, whether you are against this or you are again up to some mischief," he asked. "Who is deciding the

across the country.

blooded murder.

Mukti's exact address

but quietly fanned out

to two northern dis-

tricts of Balasore and

Bhadrak on Wednesday

in an attempt to ensure

government's policy? A BJP MP or Prime Minister Modi?" he poked. Rahul said the Opposition

INDIA bloc will oppose any move to bring back the black farm laws. "Will the three farm laws be revived or not? If you do so, I guarantee you that the INDIA bloc will together stand against it," he warned.

The extent of damage Kangana's loose talk could cause in poll-bound Haryana is unclear, but farmers form a sizeable section of the voters in the state.

BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia distanced the party from Kangana's statement, saying it was her personal comment. "She is not authorised to make such a statement on behalf of the BJP, and it does not depict the party's view on the farm bills. We disapprove of this statement," he said.

sensitive case, approached the SDJM court in Bhubaneswar seeking permission to carry out all three tests of Dinakrushna Mishra, the former IIC of Bharatpur police station in the state capital.

Mishra appeared before the court where he was explained the purpose of the proceedings and its legal consequences. He told the court that he was innocent and not involved in the offences as alleged against him. "I do not have any objection to undergo narco analysis, polygraph and brain fingerprinting tests. I am giving consent on my own accord and free will," he told the court.

The SDJM court said it was satisfied Mishra gave his consent for the tests on his own volition and allowed the prayer of the investigating officer (IO) to conduct the tests at the Gan-

added.

Sources said the court directed the IO to conduct the tests as per the standard operating procedure and without any delay. It also asked for submission of the medical report of the accused officer after the completion of the tests.

"The CB prayed before the court to carry out the tests in Gujarat as it has one of the best forensic science laboratories in the country. The agency also wants to maintain transparency in its investigation. It will request Gandhinagar

SFSL to give a date to conduct the tests soon," said sources. The SDJM court observed that it was relying on the Supreme Court suggestions that the investigating agency should

the right conclusion.

adopt latest and advanced scisources said. entific technologies to arrive at

The maggot-infested body parts of Mahalakshmi, a sales-

Prime accused in Mahalakshmi murder ends life

ASISH MEHTA @ Bhubaneswar

IN a bizarre turn of events, Mukti Ray, the prime suspect in the sensational Mahalakshmi murder case of Bengaluru, allegedly died by suicide outside his house in Bhadrak district on Wednesday even as a police team from Karnataka into 59 pieces. was out looking for him in the state's northern parts bordering West Bengal.

Mukti's body was found hanging from a tree. He is believed to have used a rope to end his life. Later in the evening, police recovered a note from his house in which he had reportedly confessed to killing the woman, police

woman by profession, were found stashed in the refrigera-

tor at her one-bedroom apartment in Bengaluru's Malleshwaram area on September 21 after neighbours complained of stench emanating from the flat. She had ap-

parently been chopped

Karnataka Home minister G Parameshwara had recently confirmed that main

suspect Mukti was from Odisha but had fled Ben-

....

galuru after the gruesome that he did not get a whiff murder that sent shockwaves about the manhunt launched

Preliminary investigation suggests Mukti died by suicide. However, investigation is underway from all angles, including probabilities of foul play. Required assistance is also being provided to Bengaluru police – Varun Guntupalli, Bhadrak SP

to nab him.

Sources said a five-member On Wednesday morning, team of Bengaluru police ar-Dhusuri police found Mukti rived in Odisha on Tuesday hanging from a tree near his house and a case of unnatural and informed their counterparts here about the main susdeath (UD) was registered in pect's involvement in the coldthis connection. Postmortem was conducted and his body The police team had no was handed over to the family

> information about members later in the day. When Bengaluru police shared the details of Mukti with Bhadrak police, it turned out that he was the same person who had ended his life outside his house.

> > Police sources said Mukti had likely got wind of the fact that Bengaluru police were zeroing in on him. Realising that he could not escape the repercussions, he may have ended his life, said the **CONTINUED ON P5** sources.

Wednesday warned courts across India against making remarks that could be construed as "misogynistic" or directed towards a certain "gender or community".

"Courts, therefore, have to be careful not to make comments in the course of judicial proceedings which may be construed as being misogynistic or for that matter prejudicial to any segment of our society," a five-judge bench of the court said while closing the suo motu proceedings over Karnataka High Court judge Justice V Srishananda's alleged objectionable comments during his one of his court hearings.

The bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandarchud advised judges to conduct proceedings conscious of the wider impact of casual observations on the community at large. **CONTINUED ON P5**













BHUBANESWAR



Thursday: 26/09/2024 • Year: Soumya Samvatsar Month:Kanya Ashwina: Krishna Paksha

🐱 Tithi: Dwadashi till 11:51 AM 🖲 Nakshatra: Purva Phalguni till 08:41 PM 🛛 WEATHER

Moon in Singha Rashi Rahukala: 11:32 AM to 01:00 PM

MIN | MAX Sunrise 05:36 am 3200 24°C 17:40 pm Sunset Moonrise 23:50 pm FORECAST

Cloudy sky with possibility of rain Moonset 12:55 am

SAMBALPUR

THURSDAY 26.09.2024

newindianexpress

Food inspector to check Mahaprasad quality in Puri temple

SOP on appointment of the food inspector to be issued by temple administration soon



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

A dedicated food inspector will be appointed at Shree Jagannath temple, Puri, to check the quality of 'Mahaprasad' and 'Sukhili bhoga' cooked in the

shrine's kitchen and raw material used for the purpose including ghee.

We have decided This was informed to appoint a food by Law Minister inspector who will Prithiviraj Harichanbe stationed at dan on Wednesday. An the temple round-SOP will be issued by the-clock to the Shree Jagannath ensure quality of Temple Administrathe Mahaprasad tion (SJTA) soon. and drv prasad Speaking to media-Prithiviraj persons, Harichandan Harichandan. said a dedicated food Law Minister inspector will be appointed for Srimandir who will look into the quality of each and every food product that is being used for cooking 'Mahaprasad' in the temple. "In wake of the Tirupati controversy, we have decided to ap-

point a food inspector who will be stationed at the temple round-the-clock to ensure quality of the Mahaprasad and dry prasad. He/she will also ensure use of good quality ghee for lighting of lamps within the temple premises," he said.

Following the Tirupati laddu controversy, the SJTA on Tuesday issued an advisory to the Suara and Mahasuara Nijog of the shrine asking it to check the quality of ingredients used in preparation of Mahaprasad and other 'bhogas'. The Suara and Mahasuara Nijog looks into the cooking and sale of Mahaprasad and different kinds of dry 'bhoga'.

> At present, although OMFED ghee is used in Srimandir to cook food, the supply is not regular which forces the servitors to often use other brands. On an average, 400 to 500 tins of ghee, each weighing 15 kg, are used in the temple kitchen to cook food

Rice millers seek minister help over gunny bag supply

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

WITH the state government forcing rice millers to accept gunny bags supplied by Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation (OSCSC) for procurement of kharif paddy, the All Odisha Rice Millers' Association on Wednesday sought the intervention of Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Krushna Chandra Patra with a request to direct the OSCSC to

follow its operational guidelines issued for kharif marketing season 2023-24.

A delegation of the association submitted a memorandum to the minister expressing their inability to keep the gunny bags in absence of any official communication from the OSCSC.

The corporation has neither communicated the purpose for which the gunny bags will be used nor mentioned as to who will bear the storage, handling and insurance charges of the

Instead of understanding our problems, the corporation is forcibly unloading the gunny bags at millers' points without any office order

Deepak Das, association secy

consignment, said general secretary of the rice millers' association Laxminarayan Deepak Ranjan Das.

He said the gunny bags are costly, vulnerable and highly in-

flammable. "In case of any mishap like fire, flood or cyclone, who will bear the cost of it? The millers, being the custodian of the gunny bags, are likely to be asked to pay the cost of the bags if something happens when they are in no way liable for the same," he said. Das further said, "We have al-

ready communicated our concern to the principal secretary of the department and the managing director of OSCSC. Instead of understanding our

WATCH

problems, the corporation is forcibly unloading the gunny bags at millers' points without any office order."

It has been reported that two truckloads of gunny bags have been unloaded at miller godowns of Kalahandi and Sambalpur despite objections from the mill owners.

The association urged the minister to direct the authority concerned to issue a clear-cut SOP to rice millers before deliverv of gunny bags.

AIIMS centre to aid tobacco addicts opens **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

AIIMS-Bhubaneswar on Wednesday opened a tobacco cessation centre (TCC) to provide specialised care to those who are habituated or addicted to smoking and smokeless tobacco.

Union minister for Health and Family Welfare JP Nadda inaugurated it in virtual mode as part of the Tobacco Free Youth Campaign 2.0. Through evidence-based behavioral intervention, the TCC will assist addicts visiting the hospital to quit tobacco and provide effective counselling to them. The TCC

Navchetana to prevent substance abuse among students in five districts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

THE state government is set to launch the second and third phases of the Navchetana programme under National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduc-

tion (NAPDDR) in public schools. The programme will be implemented in Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Angul and Khurda districts to reduce adverse consequences of drug abuse.

As part of the programme, 10 schools in each of the identified districts will be taken up with a focus on providing

terms of difficulty in studies, personal or family issues or any other factor which would make the child inclined towards use of drugs, teachers will single out the positive aspects of such students and engage them in sports, hobbies and physical activities in order to divert their attention as well as to engage them in meaningful activities.

With students and youths being particularly vulnerable to the menace of substance use, the state government has been implementing various measures to

create awareness among them. This year, the government made it mandatory for students to sign anti-drug declaration forms during admission to higher educational institutions (HEIs) - public universities, government and non-government aided colleges (both technical and general). The declaration prohibits the students from carrying, selling and consuming not just drugs but also tobacco products and alcohol on campuses. Besides, students are expected to report to the HEI authorities instances of drug/alcohol/tobacco consumption and sale by any student or staff on the premises or nearby. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing NAPDDR for 2018-2025 with an aim to reduce consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy.



NEW COAT Workers paint the new Judicial Court Complex in Bhubaneswar | SHAMIM QURESHY

ple everyday.

devotees and sold through Ananda Bazaar which has around 120 shops - 70 selling Mahaprasad and nearly 50 selling 'khaja'. During off-season, the number of shops comes down to between 50 and 30.

EXPRESS READ

Name change row: Ravenshaw forum seeks CM help

35

Bhubaneswar: Members of Ravenshaw Heritage Forum, which was formed to debate Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's suggestion on renaming Ravenshaw University, have urged Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi to do away with the name change idea. At a meeting on Wednesday, they said ever since the Union minister suggested changing the name of the 156-year-old university, reputed alumni members and present students have written to the CMO opposing any move to rename the institution. "It is now clear that no Odia will accept the idea of changing the name of Ravenshaw University which is an integral part of Odisha's history, heritage and identity," said AB Tripathy, former DGP and member of the forum.

for 50,000 to 60,000 peo-Utkal varsity inks pact for On festivals, food is entrepreneurship training cooked for lakhs of

> **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ Bhubaneswar

> > UTKAL University has recently signed an MoU with North Eastern University, Boston for collaboration in training the state's students in entrepreneurship and innovation.

Under the agreement, Utkal University will provide a certificate course in entrepreneurship and innovation. The students taking up the course will be trained online by the North Eastern University. The course will be offered to UG and PG students of both Utkal University and its affiliated colleges

as an allied elective course with two credits. Five faculty members of the university will also be trained in entrepreneurship

and innovation teaching. Around 3,000 students can enrol for the course per academic year. The North Eastern University will also conduct an examination and based on the performance, 10 students will get an opportunity to go on an educational tour to Boston.

The course, which is likely to start towards the end of the year, will be taken up under the 'Internationalisation of Higher Education' component of RUSA 2.0.

will be managed by psychiatrists and offer specialised treatments for both smoked and chewable forms of tobacco through medications and counselling.

Executive director of AIIMS Dr Ashutosh Biswas said, "Our services will involve follow-ups to examine the changes in the behaviour which will not only help tobacco users quit or reduce their addictions effectively but also maintain long-term and even permanent abstinence."

Oral cancers are the commonest among men in Odisha and tobacco is attributed as one of the major reasons behind the high prevalence.

Minister of state for Health and Family Welfare Prataprao Jadhav, dean Dr PR Mohapatra, medical superintendent Dr DK Parida and Head of Psychiatry department Dr Biswa Ranjan Mishra were present.

education and awareness on drug abuse among school-going children in the age group of 11-18 years. The department of Social Security & Empowerment of Per-

sons with Disabilities has directed the district education officers to identify the schools. This time, the government

will rope in NGOs to identify students who are already using substances or showing inclination towards it. Such students will be provided referral linkages for counselling and treatment facilities. Community centres near the schools will be used to conduct outreach activities for the students to prevent drug abuse.

Officials of the department said a database of counsellors and treatment facilities will be maintained by the schools. On identification of vulnerability in

HC seeks fresh affidavit from Board of Revenue Member

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Cuttack

EXPRESSING dissatisfaction over an affidavit filed by Member, Board of Revenue CJ Venugopal regarding disposal of cases by different revisional courts, the Orissa High Court sought a fresh affidavit on Wednesday.

The high court had directed the Member, Board of Revenue to file an affidavit indicating the reason for not taking up of matters filed in 2022 for admission as yet, in various revisional courts in the matter of Orissa

Survey & Settlement Act, 1958 and Orissa Consolidation of Holdings & Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, 1972, for land disputes in the state.

The affidavit should also indicate number of such courts functioning in the state and the status of cases pending as on date, Justice BP Satapathy had specified in the

order on September 11. The order was issued while considering a petition filed by Guruprasad Mohapatra, a resident of Odagaon in Navagarh

district. Complying with the order, the Member, Board of Revenue filed

an affidavit before the single judge bench on Wednesday. In the affidavit, Venugopal stated that 40 revisional courts are functioning in the state and a total 1,31,532 cases are pending before them. At least 91,946 pending cas-

es are in the matter of Orissa Survey & Settlement Act, 1958 and 39,586 of Orissa Consolidation of Holdings & Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, 1972. Of these, 7,787 cases are pending for admission.

However, Justice Satapathy said the court finds that no specific guideline has been indicated as to how such vast number of pending cases will be taken up by the revisional courts functioning in the state. This court also finds that the revisional courts are not functioning on regular basis and there is no prescribed guideline being followed for listing of the matter at the stage of admission and hearing. Justice Satapathy posted the matter to October 7.

BJD meet tomorrow for poll postmortem

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

THE Opposition BJD has intensified efforts to keep its organisation united and instill confidence among party workers in view of the growing differences among party leaders after the electoral debacle in the state.

A crucial meeting of senior leaders has been convened by the party on September 27 to discuss the issue, chairman of the BJD steering committee Debi Prasad Mishra told media-

persons here on Wednesday. BJD supremo and Leader of **Opposition Naveen Patnaik** will preside over the meeting which will also be attended by the party's district presidents.

Mishra said the focus of the meeting will be on selecting members for formation of the committee for postmortem of the election result of the party. Besides, the meeting will also hold detailed discussion on the strategies and future course of action to strengthen the party.

He said the party's upcoming

padayatra, formation of new committees and other organisational issues will also be discussed at the meeting. The party president will undertake a statewide tour from November to meet people and party workers.

Besides, Naveen is also holding meetings with party workers and leaders from different parts of the state on the steps required to further strengthen the organisation. Leaders from 20 districts have already met the party president.

1000 HE (CT10255) 6												
Daily Starscope	ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)	TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)	GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)	CANCER (June 22 - July 23)	LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)	VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)	LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)	SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)	SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)	(Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)	AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)	PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Duly Starscope	Events that	It is for you	What appears	Steering others	You must collect	Now that the	You may have	Life is too	Developments	It's in taking	Your life over	You probably
PETER VIDAL	take place very	to gauge the	to be	through a	your thoughts	planetary	come to	precious to	which are now	responsibility	the past couple	don't realise
26 [™] September : I have been re-	soon will provide you with an	close compa-nions and	arrogance and intransigence is really	difficult patch will both lift your own	and fight for what you know to be right.	formation is changing, your willingness	suspect that you are unlikely to get a	waste by dwelling on past	imminent are likely to have a dramatic	for your own needs and desires that	of years has often resembled a seesaw,	just how much has been accomplished
reading the works of a venerable	opportunity to rebuild	associates. However,	the belligerent planet	morale and foster	Justice means not only	to co-operate and try out	fair deal whatever the	problems, so forget about	impact on your working	you assume control over	swinging one way, then	through your own
astrologer from the last century	bridges and find permanent solutions to	at least one person is making it particularly	Mars urging you to stand up for yourself whatever	happiness among close friends and relatives.	securing your own interests against others'	a new format will make the coming months that	circums-tances. However, events that take place	recent trials and tribulations, and	life and may disrupt your routine in a number of	your personal affairs. Right now, only you can	the other. You're going through another change	efforts, because other people are likely to hog
who argued that astrology doesn't	seemingly intractable	difficult for you to	the opposition. Face	Everyone will benefit from	interference, but	much more agreeable.	soon will strengthen	concentrate on creating a	areas. A shake-out could	decide whether one	now, as issues which are	the limelight. You don't
tell is about the way the world is, but the way the world can be. And	partnership problems. Some difficulties may be	fathom what their long-term plans are,	obstacles with courage and determination, and	a dose of your famous compassion. I know you'll	protecting those who are weaker than you. You have	Happiness depends on harmonious relationships,	your hand and increase your bargaining power.	lighter atmosphere. It is up to you to restore good	prove useful though, even profitable. In the	particular relationship or association ought to	fundamental to your entire existence re-assert	need public acclaim to know that you have
that goes for us as well: astrology	solved with a little extra	let alone why they	throw money at any	be under pressure, but	probably figured out by	and right now you could	You will have to lay	feeling. Once you have	short-run, you may have	become a permanent	themselves. All the	done well. You just need
reveals who we can become.	spending, but mainly with more emotional grit.	should be acting so incredibly strangely.	problems which can be bought off.	you'll feel better if you take care of others.	now that you are here to help friends and strangers.	do with a little extra passion and enthusiasm.	down the law at home - or lose a struggle.	done that, you will be able to make your mind up!	to spend a little money in order to make more.	and ongoing feature of your life.	important issues, though, seem to be hidden.	to realise that other people really like you!

3							9			1 2	3	4		5	6		CROSS WORD		JUMBLE BY DAVID L. HOYT
4	2						1	6								7	ACROSS	DOWN 2 The cow's outside (7)	AND JEFF KNUREK
			7		6			2	8			9				1	is kept up (3,3,4) 8 Expect a hold-up (5)	3 It comes up to beat a giant (5)4 Got out of doing	SIABS
		3	6	8													9 It unfolds and gives way (7)10 Raise two points	something (6) 5 Unofficial news	the tip?
			5		1				10				1	11			he can change (7) 11 One taking part (5)	of an escape (7) 6 Complete set of notes (5)	MHOCP
				3	4	6											12 A selfish characteristic; no argument about it (6)	7 Held by FlorenceNightingale's ghost? (6,4)8 Man with an unusually	
2			4		5				12		13		14		15		 14 A matter of some gravity (6) 17 One who leads a large number to sin (5) 	arid place in Egypt (10) 13 Add to the general confusion (7)	GENGTU
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	3 4 6	9 5				MBEF (ILL V			21					22			suitable gear to use (5,5)	20 I sell new thread (5)	All Rights Reserved. suggested by the above ca
53	9 6 2 8 2 1	4 8		UEP				UUR				2					YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS	Bournel Counde 2 Harris 2 Volume	(Answers ton
and the second diversion of the second diversion of the second diversion of the second diversion of the second	2 3 4 1 7 8 6 8 5	6 9		y row, eve	ery colum	s in such a n and ever to 9. withc	ry 3X3 bo	Х		23							Across: 1 Scurvy, 4 Tennis, 9 Couplet, 10 Cutie, 11 Delta, 12 Ill fame, 13 Got out of bed, 18 Pitcher, 20 Emmet, 22 Grown, 23 Enthuse, 24 Tender, 25 Extend.	Down: 1 Secede, 2 Usual, 3 Volcano, 5 Excel, 6 Nitrate, 7 Skewer, 8 Strict order, 14 Outworn, 15 Fuel tax, 16 Spigot, 17 Attend, 19 Hinge, 21 Mouse.	Yesterday's Jumbles: TWINE PHOTO SOFTLY B/ Answer: The Olympic sculler had to turn around to good view from his - FRONT ROW SEA

epaper.newindianexpress.com



BHUBANESWAR THURSDAY 26.09.2024

New park in Upadhyaya's name Bhubaneswar: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Wednesday announced that the state government will set up a park in the city named after Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

newindianexpress



Nurses staging dharna in front of Old OPD building of SCB MCH | **EXPRESS**

NURSES' STRIKE HITS **PATIENT CARE IN SCB**

R

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Cuttack

PATIENT care services were affected at SCB Medical College and Hospital here as around 1,100 nurses went on an indefinite strike from Wednesday over 10-point charter of demands of the Odisha Nursing Employees' Association (ONEA).

services including casualty, intensive care unit (ICU), labour room and operation theatres (OTs), the nurses stopped providing services in various wards of different departments.

Barring emergency

President of ONEA, Cuttack branch Jhar-Abinash Rout, registrar of SCB na Jena said, "The (administration) state government had taken one-month time to resolve our issues. But as the government neither found a way nor convened a meeting to solve our problems, we have launched the indefinite strike for fulfilment of our 10-pointcharter of demands." The demands include promotion after taking into account six years of contractual service period of nurses appointed before November 2013, fixation of

cadre on the basis of seniority, change in dress code, stopping contractual appointment through outsourcing agency and bringing nurses from community health officer (CHO) posts of Ayusman Arogya centres back to government hospitals among others, Jena added.

SCB registrar (administration) Abinash Rout, however, claimed patient care was not affected due to the strike by nurses. To ensure delivery

"A day back, the of care, we engaged around nursing association 500 students had submitted a mempursuing BSc orandum to go on Nursing course to strike from Wedneslook after patients day. To ensure delivin different wards ery of care, we engaged around 500

agitation to continue

Talks fail,

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

ODISHA Nursing Employees' Union (ONEA) will continue its agitation and resort to ceasework from Friday to press for their demands as its discussion with the Health and Family Welfare department on Wednesday remained inconclusive.

Services in non-emergency departments, including general wards/OPDs and routine OT in all government-run hospitals in the state have been affected as thousands of nursing officers are on a two-day strike with their 10-point charter of demands, including regularisation of left-out contractual nursing officers, pay parity, promotion and other benefits on par with other state government employees.

Secretary of ONEA Ashwini Das said they will continue their



able decision to fulfil the demands. "Secretary of the Health department held dis-

cussion with us and assured to look into our issues. But the Finance department is not accept-

Nadda arrives today, to bolster membership drive

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

TO give further impetus to the ongoing mega membership drive launched in the state from September 3, BJP national president Jagat Prakash Nadda will arrive on a day's visit to the state on Thursday. Nadda will attend a series of

events organised by the party during the day. He will first pay homage to the statute of Dr BR Ambedkar at AG Square and then attend a meeting of intel-

lectuals. Representatives of

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE BJD on Wednesday lashed

out at the BJP government in

the state for discontinuing sev-

eral schemes launched by the

previous Naveen Patnaik-led

government for welfare of

Addressing a media confer-

ence here, BJD MPs Niranjan

Bisi and Sasmit Patra and me-

dia coordinator Priyabrata Ma-

jhi described the BJP govern-

ment as anti-tribal for

dissolving all the 23 special de-

@ Bhubaneswar

tribals.

different organisations will at- into the party fold, Nadda is tend the meeting, said party's likely to discuss strategies with state general secre-

tary Jatin Mohanty. After interacting with intellectuals and discussing the party's membership drive, he is slated to meet ministers, MPs, MLAs, and state office bearers at the state party office here.

With the state unit of the well as government pro-BJP setting an ambitious tar- grammes. Nadda's visit will get to enrol one crore members energise party cadres and

BJD and BJP engage in war of words over tribal welfare

state leaders to in-

crease party membership and further expansion of its base in Odisha. Mohanty said

membership drive is the backbone of party's growth and selection of active members will carry forward the party as

'Though we demanded exemption of GST on kendu leaves, the BJP government at the

Centre ignored it." The BJD leaders alleged that several communities are still awaiting tribal status. Countering the allegations,

BJP spokesperson Anil Biswal said in the past, the BJD government had tried to seize tribal land which was retracted following opposition from the saffron party. "The then Naveen Patnaik government was forced to withdraw an or-

dinance in this regard

boost party morale to help achieve the goals.

This is the first visit of Nadda to the state after the BJP government came to power. The last orgnisational election was held in January 2019 when the state unit had crossed its target by enrolling around 46 lakh members.

The next national president of the BJP is likely to be elected in January 2025 before which election of state party presidents of more than 50 per cent of the states are to be completed.

EXPRESS READ

Bharatpur PS gets 2 female officers

Bhubaneswar: Two female officers have been posted in Bharatpur police station which was facing difficulty in handling cases related to crime against women after five police personnel including three women cops were suspended for allegedly assaulting an army officer and his fiancee. "One SI and an ASI-ranked officer have been posted in Bharatpur police station," said DCP Prateek Singh. In another development, the Crime Branch recreated the sequence of the alleged assault, which took place on September 15, in Bharatpur police station.

25 Tribal communities are living with uncertainty and in fear as development work has come to a standstill. Tribal development has

under the BJP dispensation **BJD** leaders

become a distant dream

ernment in January, 2024.They said tribal

students pursuing BSc after patients in different wards," he said.

But with less nursing students to provide care, patients experienced delay in receiving treatment.

"We are not able to receive the level of care we need as the nursing students lack adequate skills and experience," said some patients undergoing treatment in different clinical departments.

Nursing course to look ing our demands. That's why we want a high-power committee to intervene," he said.

> In a statement, the Health department said, "After detailed discussion, the nursing officers were assured that there will be continuous engagement with them in future and their issues will be considered sympathetically at appropriate times. They have been requested to withdraw their strike and resume duty immediately."

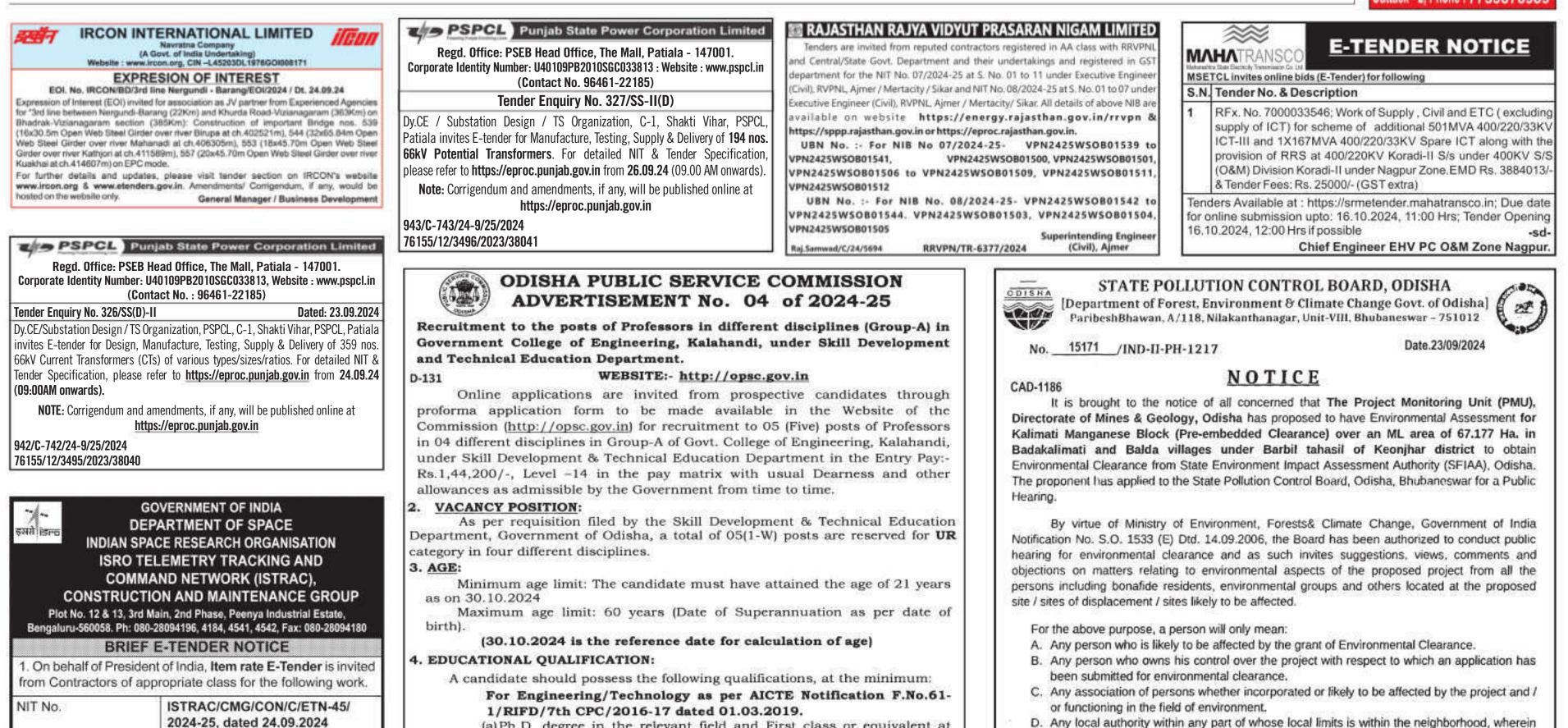
velopment councils (SDCs) created by the previous governcommunities are livment. The tribal people benefitted under the SDCs, but the BJP government stopped it, they said.

The BJD leaders also came down heavily on the BJP government for stopping LABHA (Laghu Bana Jata Drabya Kraya) Yojana, a fully statefunded initiative to provide minimum support price for minor forest produce, which was launched by the previous gov-

ing with uncertainty and in fear as development work has come to a standstill. Tribal development has become a distant dream under the BJP dispensation. Criticising the BJP governments at the Centre and in state for the 18 per cent GST imposed on kendu leaves which are collected by approximately eight lakh tribals in western and central Odisha. they said.

0r following opposition by the BJP," he said. Biswal also referred to the violent incidents involving tribal communities during land acquisition in Kalinga Nagar. He said the BJD's defeat in scheduled areas during the 2024 elections indicates rejection by tribal voters. "All the BJD leaders lost elections in the scheduled areas in the elections. This indicates that the tribal people rejected the BJD," he added.





D. Any local authority within any part of whose local limits is within the neighborhood, wherein the project is proposed to be located.

Name of work	Proposed VIP accommadation at Jalahalli, ISRO Housing Colony, Bengaluru (Civil and PH works) - Main Building					
Estimated Cost put to tender	Rs. 252.53 Lakhs					
Tender document details	E-tender					
Period of completion	11 (Eleven) months					
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 14.30 hrs. on 26.09.2024 to 16.30 hrs. on 18.10.2024					
Bid clarification	From 15.30 hrs. on 26.09.2024 to 16.30 hrs. on 21.10.2024					
Last date and time of reply to bid clarification	Up to 16.30 hrs. on 22.10.2024					
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	Up to 14.30 hrs. on 23.10.2024					
Due date and time of opening of tenders	24.10.2024 after 11.30 hrs.					
EMD	Rs. 5,05,060/-					
Inviting Tender (NIT) for in website www.isro.	s may please refer Detailed Notice or eligibility criteria and other details gov.in and download the tender enderwizard.com/ISRO Sd/- Group Head, CMG					

(a) Ph.D. degree in the relevant field and First class or equivalent at either Bachelor's or Master's level in the relevant branch. AND (b) Minimum of 10 years of experience in teaching/ research/ industry out of which at least 3 years shall be at a post equivalent to that of an Associate Professor (level-13A1, Entry pay-131400). AND (c) At least 6 research publications at the level of Associate Professor in SCI journals /UGC/AICTE approved list of journals and at least 2 successful Ph.D. guided as Supervisor/ Co-supervisor. OR At least 10 research publications at the level of Associate Professor in SCI journals /UGC /AICTE approved list of journals. AND (d) At least a total research score of 120 (one hundred twenty) on the last date of the application (as per the criteria given in Appendix-II, Table-2 of UGC Regulations vide notification no.F.1-2/2017(EC/PS) dated 18.07.2018). 5. METHOD Of SELECTION:

The recruitment to the post of Professors shall consist of (i) Document Verification for shortlisting of candidates (ii) Interview.

6. EXAMINATION FEES:

CUTTACK

DT -24.09.2024

OIPR-12002/11/0075/2425

The candidates are exempted for payment of examination fees as per G.A. Deptt. Letter No.9897/Gen., dated 11.04.2022.

The link for online application and submission shall be available from 01.10.2024 to 30.10.2024 [Note- 30.10.2024 is the last date for submission of Registered Online Application]

The candidates are advised to visit the Website of the Commission at http://opsc.gov.in for detailed information while applying for the above post.

> SECRETARY(I/C) ODISHA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, CUTTACK.

Persons as above who desire to submit their views, comments, objections etc. relevant to the project, may do so in writing within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice addressing the same to the Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha through Registered Post. Besides this, persons interested to submit their views relevant to the proposed mining project in writing or orally may also do so during the public hearing to be conducted on 29-10-2024 at 11.00 A.M at Mouza: Badakalimati (Khata No.29 (Rakhita), Plot No.148/193, Proposed Area : Ac 1.600 Dec, Kissam: Bastijogya) under Barbil tahasil of Keonjhar district.

Persons desirous of participating in the public hearing may go through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) /Environmental Management Plan (EMP) of the said project which will be available at the following offices. Copy of the Executive Summary both in English & Odia is also available in the following offices & the same can also be downloaded from the https://ospcboard.odisha.gov.in/ free of cost.

- 1. District Collector's Office, Keonjhar.
- 2. District Industries Center, Keonihar

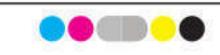
OIPR-08012/11/0080/2425

- In the office of the Chief Executive Officer, ZillaParishad, Keonjhar
- 4. In the Head office of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilakanthanagar, Unit - VIII, Bhubaneswar -12.
- 5. Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha. Keonjhar
- 6. Department of Forest & Environment (Environment). Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar

For any further clarification in the matter, the Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Keonjhar or the Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha at Bhubaneswar may be contacted.

By Order of the Member Secretary

Sd/-Chief Env. Engineer











25

The miscreants

chased the two

youths who ran for

life towards the

forested road connecting the

Kalpataru

Ashram. However,

the miscreants

reached them and

hacked one of

them to death

Sources

Former municipality chairman dies Bhawanipatna: Former chairman of Bhawanipatna municipality Niranjan Pradhan died while undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Visakhapatnam. He was 68. Pradhan led the Gandhamardhan and Niyamgiri movements and was popularly known as Niranjan Bidrohi.

newindianexpress

for 18 lakh people. Similarly,

there are no teachers in 19 pri-

mary schools. At least 380 pri-

mary schools are being run by

said people of the district have

a right to know about the

projects on which ₹1,600 crore

DMF funds collected from the

The former OPCC president

single teacher, he alleged.

district were spent.

Miscreants kill one, injure another near police station

The injured youth is critical and battling for his life at the RGH

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Rourkela

IN what can be termed as a complete collapse of law and order, a group of miscreants on Wednesday evening chased and hacked to death a youth and critically injured another in broad daylight near the Bhagwati fuel filling station opposite Chhend Colony within Sector-7 police limits here.

Reports said the incident occurred between 5 pm and 5.30 pm on the forested road on the Durgapur hill alongside the fuel filling station and the ring road. Incidentally, the Chhend police station is located on the other side of the Ring Road which is less than 100 metres from the crime scene.

As per preliminary information, the miscreants chased the two youths who

ran for life towards the forested road connecting the Kalpataru Ashram. However, the miscreants reached them and hacked one of them to death while the other youth with fatal injuries managed to run back towards the ring road.

Police immediately rushed him to the Rour-

Criminals rule in steel city, cops silent **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ Rourkela

CRIMINALS have a free run when police fails in its duty. The steel city is a victim of police's failure on several fronts. Areas within Plant Site police limits including Gurudwara Road, Mahtab Road and Railway Colony have become a safe haven for anti-social elements of all hues including sex offenders and drug peddlers.

The rape of three minor girls in two separate incidents alongside the busy ring road have raised questions on the efficiency and ground intelligence network of the police. Sources said multiple slum pockets on the stretch of Mahatab Road from Traffic Gate to Nala Road point continue to remain safe haven for criminals of all hues including drug peddlers. While the slum dwellers of Mahtab Road have adapted to the circumstances, women from other localities rarely use the densely populated area after sunset.

A slum dweller requesting anonymity said Mahtab Road is the most unsafe for women. He claimed minor girls and women from other localities were sexually assaulted by one or more antisocial elements at secluded spots in the area. He said the victims are mostly tribal girls and women from nearby rural areas who come to Traffic Gate to sell vegetables.

Sources said several criminals left the area around Gurudwara Road and the connecting New Bus Stand road and Bisra Chowk locality after a major eviction drive for construction of the new bus stand around three decades back. Yet the remaining slums around the New Bus Stand and the newly-constructed Birsa Munda Multi-Purpose Stadium near Bisra Chowk continue to house criminals. DIG of Police Brijesh Kumar Rai acting as Rourkela SP said several steps are being taken to strengthen policing at the vulnerable locations with round-the-clock presence of static points and increased patrolling of PCR vans at night.

Jena targets CM for 'forgetting' Keonjhar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

SENIOR Congress leader from Keonjhar and former president of Odisha Pradesh

Congress Committee (OPCC) Jayadev Jena on Wednesday came down heavily on the BJP for forgetting promises it made for development of the district after coming to power.

Addressing a media conference here, Jena criticised the

state government over a recent incident involving a 70-year-old woman of Raisuan village of Keonjhar who crawled more two km to the panchayat office to collect old-age

pension. Such an incident in

the home district of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi is unfortunate, he said.

"The chief minister had promised to bring mega industries to the

district during campaign in 2024 election. However, there

was no allocation for completion of the Kanpur irrigation project located at Champua in the 2024-25 state budget though Majhi holds the irrigation portfolio," he said.

Jena further said Keonjhar has been neglected by successive governments over the years. There are only 141 government doctors in the district



The CM had promised to bring mega industries to the district during campaign in 2024 election. However, there was no allocation for completion of the Kanpur irrigation project located at Champua

Jayadev Jena, senior Congress leader



Nuakhai Mahotsav in Bengaluru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Sambalpur

JUHAR Parivar, Bengaluru marked the silver jubilee of its annual Nuakhai Mahotsav in an extraordinary celebration at KTPO, Whitefield in the Karnataka capital.

The event held on September 22 was attended by Central Bengaluru MP PC Mohan, Odisha Health minister Mukesh Mahaling and Jharsuguda MLA Tankadhar Tripathi.

More than 70 talented artists from across western Odisha showcased their performances at the event. Popular regional singers including Ruku Suna, Archana Padhi, Harry and Jayshree along with comedian Jogesh JoJo were the major attractions. Similarly, Sambalpuri dance performed by Kala Parisad - Sambalpur was also one of the highlights of the evening,. The Folkal Team, spearheaded by actor and dance guru Bharat Gaurav Dash, left a lasting impression on the audience. A fashion show was organised by Sambalpuri Hub showcasing the traditional Sambalpuri weaves in contemporary designs. On the occasion, the prestigious Juhar Samman was awarded to Dr Byomkesh Dixit, one of India's top cardiologists, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to society. Ramdas Panda, founder of Sambal, renowned social activist Bhola Mahattam, and acclaimed actress Tapaswini Guru, were also felicitated during the ceremony. As part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations, traditional Odia food was served to over 5,000 attendees and performers. The festival ground also featured a flea market, food stalls and sponsor counters.

kela Government Hospital (RGH) where his condition is stated to be critical.

DIG Police Brijesh Kumar Rai officiating as Rourkela SP rushed to the spot and took stock of the situation. Circumstances of the attack and identity of the attackers were not clear immediately. Zone II DSP Pushpanjali Ningi identified the deceased person as Md.Sakir Hussain and the injured as Md.Amir. She said investigation is underway to identify the attackers and reason behind the attack.

DOOR TO DOOR A vendor selling household goods at a locality in Puri I RANJAN GANGULY

CHHATUA TO BE TESTED ON **23RD OF EVERY MONTH**



Jackal attacks 15, panic in Polasara

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Berhampur

PANIC gripped the Polasara area in Ganjam district after a wild jackal attacked over 15 people, including seven women, in the past 12 hours. The attacks occurred in Hatioata, Jemadipur, and Pranapuradeipura villages under Polasara police limits.

All victims are undergoing treatment at Polosara hospital. The jackal reportedly attacked villagers on Tuesday evening and again on Wednesday morning as they were heading to their farmlands. Fearful of further attacks, villagers are avoiding venturing out alone.

A team of forest officials has arrived in the area to capture the animal.

Meanwhile, in the Athagadapatana area of Kabisuryanagar block, an unidentified wild animal has killed over 15 goats recently. Though villagers suspected it to be a leopard, there

MSME Council suggests plan to revive ailing units

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IN its study titled 'Revival & Development of MSMEs in Odisha', the MSME Export Promotion Council (MSME EPC) has suggested a five-point strategy to boost and help nearly 25 per cent of the 5.36 lakh ailing micro, small and medium enterprises in the state.

MSME EPC chairman, DS Rawat said, "The five-point strategy has been recommended un-

aligning factors in the R development targeting systemic reorientation to ensure coverage of a **Business is a sum** of many parts. The diverse pool of MSstate's MSME dept MEs. At present there

should look at are over 5,35,910 estabtargeted, sectoral lishments in Odisha interventions in (59.48 per cent in rural which specific and 40.52 per cent in sectoral plans are urban areas) with inmade to train vestment of ₹25,655 entrepreneurs crore providing jobs to based on their needs skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled persons. DS Rawat, Therefore, there is an MSME EPC chairman urgent need to help

nearly 25 per cent enterprises which are struggling for survival.

The suggested strategy includes customised interventions specific schemes for new age companies, manufacturing, services, formalisation through Udhyam registration, financing, risk mitigation, and micro cluster scheme. Moreover, it has also suggested introduction of single window payment system, self certification, delegation of powers downward, setting up of

specialized start-up centres housing product testing facilities, fab labs, maker labs, assembly facilities, etc on a priority

basis. The council has recommended innovation funding schemes, equity for start-ups, equitable financing to MSMEs through NBFCs and banks with support from tin-tech, and direct lending to MSMEs through state sponsored institutions. The state government should create a platform that helps aggregate

raw materials and experts; help micro, small and medium units connect with large buyers, public and private, vendors

for shared services and provide access to space capacity available with MSMEs. The state should support this by creating an improved mechanism to monitor the adherence to the purchase preference policy of the government, and develop a

mechanism to capture data on both demand and supply of labour, said the

study. Rawat said "A typical entrepreneur, particularly in the micro and small category is best equipped to operate the business. However, business is a sum of many parts and, therefore, the state's MSME department should look at targeted, sectoral interventions in which specific sectoral plans are made to train entrepreneurs based on their needs."

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Jagatsinghpur

COLLECTOR J Sonal has directed the district social welfare officer (DSWO) to test the quality of 'chhatua' being given to children and pregnant women under the Special Nutrition Programme, on the 23rd of every month.

The officer has been advised to conduct the test under the supervision of zilla parishad members concerned to prevent distribution of sub-standard and low-quality products. Sources said around 10 selfhelp groups are engaged in production of 'chhatua,' which is supplied to children and pregnant women in 1,815 anganwadi centres.

At a meeting of the zilla parishad on Wednesday, Erasama block chairman Laxmipriya Mohapatra, zilla parishad member of Tirtol Ranjita Singh, and others raised con-

60-year-old axed to death in Rairakhol **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

A 60-year-old man was allegedly axed to death at Loisng village under Kesinga police station in Rairakhol area here on Tuesday night.

In the past, insects and worms were found in packaged 'chhatua' at different anganwadi centers in Tirtol and other blocks

cerns over supply of sub-standard and low-quality 'chhatua' to children and pregnant women in anganwadi centres across the district.

Sources

They alleged the SHGs responsible for manufacturing the 'chhatua' did not get it tested by the block level coordination committee. In the past, insects and worms were found in packaged 'chhatua' at different anganwadi centers in Tirtol and other blocks, but no corrective measures were taken, posing a threat to the health of children and pregnant women.

Acknowledging such concerns, Sonal directed the DSWO to test the quality of 'chhatua' on the 23rd of every month. This apart, the zilla parishad members raised other issues such as the shortage of teachers in schools, lack of infrastructure in various schools, and irregularities in supply of mid-day meals (MDM). In response, the collector directed the district education officer (DEO) to ensure proper supervision and monitoring of MDM in schools. Meanwhile, it was decided to appoint nearly 88 junior teachers in the district. Minister of Industries, Skill

Development and Technical Education, Sampad Chandra Swain, MP Bibhu Prasad Tarai and local MLAs Amrendra Das, Sarda Jena, and Ramakant Bhoi also highlighted various issues at the meeting which was presided over by zilla parishad president Manoj Kumar Bhoi.

@ Sambalpur

Durga Puja of Biraja temple begins

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Jajpur

THE Sharadiya Durga Puja of Goddess Biraja began here on Wednesday night. The festival begins on the night of Krishna Paksha Ashtami, also known as Mulastami every year.

The festival, also known as Shodasha Dinatmika puja, lasts for 16 days. From Mulastami till Mahastami, servitors will performe the Shodsha Upachar



MUNDBASA RITUAL PERFORMED

Bhawanipatna: The 'Mundbasa' ritual of Goddess Manikeswari was performed here on Mulastami. As part of the ritual, a clay head is made for the deity at Beheraguda village. After the head is decorated with gold ornaments, it is placed over the idol. It is believed the ritual is performed to pacify the deity. The new head will remain in its place till Dussehra when it will be replaced by the original. The clay head will then be immersed in a water body. The 16-day long Saradiya Utsav and other rituals of the Goddess have also started at the shrine. On the night of Mulastami, Junagarh, the old capital of Kalahandi district wore a festive look. As per tradition. after the ceremonial purification of the two swords of the deity, secret tantric rituals were performed in the temple.



derlining the need for

has been no official confirmation yet.

Forest officials, led by Purusottampur forester Pradeep Panda, have collected pug marks and assured compensation to the affected goat owners.

The deceased was identified as Laba Munda. Laba lived alone after allegedly being abandoned by his wife and had a history of conflicts with his son-in-law Amit Munda (38) over a piece of

land. While the accused is yet to be apprehended, police suspects the involvement of a kin on the basis of preliminary investigation.

On Tuesday, Amit had visited Laba's place and had an argument, which the neighbours heard. After he left, Laba went to sleep. The next morning, the neighbours found Laba's body in a pool of blood under his cot. Subsequently, they informed police which rushed to the spot and seized the body and recovered the axe used in the murder. Rairakhol SDPO Prasanta Meher said, preliminary investigation suggests family conflict to be the cause of the murder. "Both Laba and Amit were intoxicated. Further interrogation is on," he added.

puja of the deity.

Some special rituals of Maa Biraja are performed during the festival every year. The best part of Durga Puja of Goddess Biraja is the nin-day car festival during which the deity is taken on a tour in a beautifully decorated chariot.

As per locals, Biraja Kshetra is the only Shakti Peeth in India where the presiding deity is moved in a chariot for nine days.

Senior priest of Biraja temple Gyana Ranjan Pati said, "In India, no car festival is held in any Shakti Peeth. It is the only place in the country where the car festival is held during Navratri." During the festival, the chariot of Goddess Biraja moves around the temple compound continuously for ninedays. The idol is known as 'Chalanti Pratima'.

EXPRESS READ

Contractor attacks mining officer after illegal sand seizure

Jeypore: A contractor allegedly attacked an assistant mining officer in Koraput after six of his trucks and a tractor carrying sand illegally were seized on Wednesday. The sand-laden vehicles en route from Borigumma to Semiliguda on NH 26 were intercepted by a mining team near Koraput Sadar Police Station. During inspection, the vehicles were found to be transporting sand without valid documentation.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Sambalpur

THE Odisha Transformer Manufacturers Association (OTMA) has opposed Tata Power's bid to set up transformer repair workshops across the state.

Addressing mediapersons here, the members of the association said there are 60-70 transformer repair units in operation in the state. The MSMEs repair over 16,000 to 18,000



OTMA opposes Tata Power's plans

However, Tata Power's move could uproot the existing ecosystem and pose a risk of liveliof all Discoms.

hood loss of these unit owners as well as the thousands of employees dependent on them. Citing the decision of the previous government to hand over the four Discoms in the state to Tata Power as a blunder, the association members alleged the power supply company is callous towards their plight. They said the association will soon submit a memorandum in this regard to the CMO, MSME minister, Energy minister, OERCC chairperson, DIC besides CEOs

Jeypore police impose ₹2.13 lakh fine on traffic violators

Jeypore: Jeypore Town police have begun imposing fines on bikers based on CCTV footages. The move comes after 120 new CCTV cameras were installed three days ago to enhance surveillance and law enforcement in the town. Over the past three days, police have collected ₹2.13 lakh as fine from bikers for violations, including using mobile phones while driving.





ODISHA/SOUTH

Dy CM hands out hearing aids Nimapara: Deputy chief minister Pravati Parida on Wednesday distributed hearing and speech aid instruments and old age pension among 286 beneficiaries at the block office here.

SAMBALPUR

THURSDAY $26_{0}9_{2}2024$

newindianexpress

Mahalakshmi

murder: Prime

outside home

FROM P1...

accused ends life

TTD files police complaint against **AR Dairy Foods over ghee quality**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE ^(a) Vijayawada

TIRUMALA Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), the custodian of the hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara Swamy in Tirumala, lodged a complaint with the police against Tamil Nadubased AR Dairy Foods Private Limited for allegedly supplying adulterated ghee.

TTD's marketing and procurement wing general manager Murali Krishna gave a written complaint to the Tirupati East Police station on Wednesday. Stating that AR Dairy had violated the tender agreement, the complaint noted that the company supplied adulterated ghee even though

Amid row, Jagan to visit Srivari temple on Sept 28

Vijayawada: YSRC president and former Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is set to visit Tirumala on September 27 and offer prayers at the Lord Venkateswara Swamy Temple on September 28 (Saturday). His visit to Tirumala is a significant development amid the snowballing Laddu controversy.

higher officials of the TTD had fat was found in the ghee supflagged the low quality of the essential ingredient.

Speaking to TNIE, police officials said according to the agreement, the stock (Ghee) receiver (TTD) can file a criminal case against the supplier when there is any violation of the agreement between both parties.

It may be recalled that Chief denied the allegations and Minister N Chandrababu said its product samples had

been duly cleared by authori ties, certifying the quality.

Stating that the TTD purchases ghee for preparation of Swamivari Laddu and other Prasadams as per Dittam, the complaint read, "We expect values, quality, and authenticity. We were disheartened to discover that the ghee supplied by AR Dairy Food Private Limited, Dindigul, recently did not meet the expected standards. Ghee is an essential part of the preparation of Swamivari Laddu and other Prasadams as per Dittam and its quality directly affects both health, religious sentiments, and beliefs of crores of devotees of Lord Sri

HC slaps ₹50,000 fine on firm for suppressing fact

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Cuttack ran Singh and Justice Savitri

posed a ₹50,000 fine on a security service firm for filing a petition seeking intervention against Pattamundai Municipality's order terminating contract for

tion in different wards without mentioning an earlier petition wherein, he had obtained an interim order.

The petition filed by

Chandan Security Services represented by Paresh Nath Das sought quashing of the termination order on the ground that it was done without giving it an opportunity of hearing.

While dismissing the two petitions, the division bench of Chief Justice Chakradhari Sha-

Ratho directed the petitioner to deposit ₹50,000 in the High Court's Bar Association Welfare Fund within three months. "What has truly disturbed us that unfortunately both the writ applications were filed by the

same counsel. While filing the second writ application, counsel for the petitioner was aware of the averments made in the first writ application. The minimum,

what was expected from counsel for the petitioner was that he ought to have ensured that the facts regarding the filing of the first writ application were disclosed in the second writ application," the bench observed in the order released on Monday.

R

"Preliminary investigation suggests Mukti died by suicide. However, investigation is underway from all angles, including probabilities of foul play. Our investigation is continuing and required assistance is also being provided to Bengaluru police," Bhadrak SP Varun Guntupalli told The New Indian Express.

Initial investigation had revealed Mukti and Mahalakshmi were colleagues and working together in Bengaluru. Police are verifying when he returned to his native village in Bhadrak district.

PH Circle, Kannur

Avoid misogynistic remarks, says SC FROM P1...

In video clips that went viral on social media, Justice Srishananda was seen making some objectionable comments against a woman lawyer when she intervened in an ongoing hearing. The bench said it refrained from any further proceedings against Justice Srishananda considering that he had apologised, and to maintain the dignity of the judicial system. Regarding Justice Srishananda's remarks calling an area in Bengaluru as 'Pakistan', the bench said, "No one can call any part of India as Pakistan. It is fundamentally against the territorial integrity of the nation." The bench also rejected demands by various sections of the Bar to halt the live streaming of Karnataka High Court proceedings. The demands were raised citing misuse of court videos on social media. "The answer to sunlight is more sunlight, not to suppress what happens in the courts," the Chief Justice said.

Krishna Vikash Group takes over AIPH, to roll out courses next yr

Naidu's allegation that animal

plied for making Tirumala Lad-

du kicked up a nationwide de-

bate. Subsequently, TTD

Executive Officer J Shyamala

Rao had said that samples of

ghee supplied by AR Dairy

were sent to a lab and the re-

sults revealed the presence of

animal fat. However, AR Dairy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

KRISHNA Vikash Group which has taken over the Asian Institute of Public Health (AIPH) in Bhubaneswar will start offering under graduate, post graduate and PhD courses in various subjects, said the group's chairman D Murali Krishna here on Wednesday.

but admission process could not kick off due to Covid-19 pandemic. Krishna Vikash Group has taken over the university and it will be open for the students by next year," said Murali.

Venkateswara."

Murali, who was the founder chairman of Vikash Group, along with three other promoters had first started a residential school in Bargarh in 2002. Over the years, Vikash Group made significant strides in the fields of education, health and tourism.

City Homes association of allottees registered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

THE Association of Allottees of City Homes real estate project in Ghatikia Mouza was registered officially under Odisha Apartment Ownership and Management Act 2023 recently.

Formation of the association will help in better governance of the housing project and community development for its residents, said president of the association Ekta Acharya. Ballava Kumar Biswal is the secretary of the association, while Iswar Chandra Swain is the treasurer. Real estate company Evos Buildcon facilitated formation of the association of allottees for the City Homes project. The process was initiated by key members of Evos Buildcon including its CRM Sujata Pattnaik and director of operations Prafulla Mohanty. "Evos believes in empowering its residents to take ownership of their future, and the formation of the City Homes Association is a testament to that vision," said Evos Buildcon managing director Kalinga Keshari Rath.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-TENDER NOTICE Tender No : 27/2024-25/PHC/KNR (Re-Tender)

KIIFB-WRD-025-23-Water Supply Project - Peravoor, Muzhakkunnu and Ayyankunnu in Kannur District - Package II - General Civil Work - Construction of Intake well, Water Treatment Plant. EMD: Rs. 5,00,000/-; Tender fee: Rs 19518/-; Last Date for submitting Tender: 10-10-2024, 03:00:pm; Phone 04972705902; Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in Superintending Engineer

KWA-JB-GL-6-633-2024-25

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. 0/o CE (TD), Vth Floor, Dreamax Plaza, Sahakar Marg, Jaipur, Email: ce.tddDrrvun.com E-Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited for TN-27 (RVU2425GLOB01160) Supply of ERW pipes IS 3589 and TN-28 (RVU2425GLOB01163) Supply of ERW pipes IS 1239, for various power plants of RVUN. Tender details are available on websites www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. Raj.Samwad/C/24/5651 RVUN/PR-4061 Superintending Engineer (TD)

THE Orissa High Court has im-

providing service of sanita-

The courses will be rolled out by october

2025. AIPH is the first allied health science university of eastern Odisha and was established by Dr Pinaki Panigrahi.

Addressing mediapersons here, Murali said the university will be opened for students by October 2025 and will offer UG, PG and PhD courses in subjects like biological sciences, public health, physiotherapy, nursing, optometry, clinical psychology, yoga and health management.

"AIPH is a unitary private university recognised by Odisha government in 2018. The university was recognised by UGC

After Vikash Group's success in the last two decades, the four promoters including Murali parted ways and manage their businesses under different names and logos now.

Murali went on to establish Krishna Vikash Group which operates hospitals, schools, colleges and universities in Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh. Murali's son Vivek Dasari is the managing director of the group.



On behalf of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Sr. Regional Engineer, Karwar has invited following open tender on ireps.gov.in system. Name of the Work: Manual Complete Track Renewal (P) work at balance location (isolated patches) for around 13.5 TKM (Track KM) including replacement /insertion of 13 set of points and crossing between Km 693/000 to Km 739/ 800 of UDUPI-THOKUR section. (Tender No: KR/KW/OL/W/2024/58-CB). Cost of the Work In Lakhs : ₹ 594.99 Excluding GST. Closing Date & Time: 17/10/2024 at 15.00 Hrs. For further details, contact Office of Sr. Regional Engineer, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. Karwar. For more details visit (https://www.ireps.gov.in)



26.09.2024. 2.

Bids must be accompanied with E.M.D. in shape of N.S.C./P.O.T.D/ Post Office Savings Pass Book

- / Deposit receipt of any Scheduled Bank (Valid minimum one year from the date of receipt) duly pledged in favour of **Block Development Officer**, Nuapada.
- N.B:- E.M.D. in shape of Cash / Pay Orders or Bankers Cheques / Bank Draft is not acceptable. The sale of the Bid document shall start from Dt 27.09.2024 and close on Dt 15.10.2024 at 5.30
- 3. P.M. in the office of the undersigned. Bids shall be received by this office up to 5.00 PM on date 15.10.2024 through Registered Post / Speed Post only. The authority will not be held responsible for any Postal delay in delivering of the Bid documents or non-receipt of the same.
- 4. The Bid will be opened on Dt.17.10.2024 at 11.30 A.M. in the office of the undersigned in presence of the bidders or their authorized representative.
- Bid documents can be purchased from this office on payment of the tender cost in shape of cash or 5. DD drawn in favour of Block Development Officer, Nuapada payable at SBI Nuapada. This is nonrefundable.
- Bidders shall submit original affidavit regarding authenticity of their documents and E.M.D along with 6. their bids. Bids shall be accompanied with attested true copy of valid registration certificate, valid GST/VAT clearance certificate and PAN card.
- 7. The affidavit should clearly speak regarding the name of work for which the tender is submitted. One should mention clearly in the affidavit to avail price preference in case of SC/ST category if any.
- Engineer Contractor seeking exemption of E.M.D. is required to submit an affidavit to the effect that 8. he has not yet availed the facility for more than two works during the current financial year.
- Additional performance security shall be deposited by the bidder when the bid amount is less than the 9. estimated cost put to tender. In such an event, only the successful bidders who have quoted less bid price/rates than the estimated cost put to tender shall have to furnish the exact amount of differential cost i.e. estimated cost put to tender minus the quoted amount as APS in shape of Demand Draft / Term Deposit Receipt pledged in favour of Block Development Officer, Nuapada.
- 10. Other details can be seen from DTCN.
- 11. If stipulation arises, tender will be decided through a transparent lottery system on 18.10.2024 at 11.00 A.M.
- 12. The authority reserves right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Block Development Officer Nuapada

	INVI	TATION	FOR TE	NDER	(Only through	KPP portal)
11. and						

BWSSB invites TENDERS in Two Stage Tender System from registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-09

SI.		Amount put to Tender		
No.	Name of the Works	EMD Amount		
IFT	No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/4742/2024-25	Date: 25.09.2024		
	Providing and laying 100 and 200mm K9 DI water lines to provide water supply facilities to Phase II Rajiv Gandhi NTI Layout coming under Vidyaranyapura	1 604.00 100.00		
5 9 5	Service station of AEE N-2-2 Sub-division.	₹ 3.82 lakhs		

Last date and time for receipt of completed tenders will be on 12.10.2024 upto 16:00 hrs. The bids opening is on 14.10.2024 after 16:00 hrs.

IFT	No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/4743/2024-25	Date: 25.09.2024
	Providing, Laying and Linking of feeder main of 250mm dia DI pipe at 14th main and 100mm dia DI line at 1st main, 1st cross to 14th main, 14th cross Judicial Layout, 16th main Judicial Layout, Narayanappa Layout, GKVK Layout, –	₹ 385.29 lakhs
2	Yelahanka coming under Yelahanka Newtown Service station of AEE N-2-1 Sub-division.	₹ 5.78 lakhs

Last date and time for receipt of completed tenders will be on 12.10.2024 upto 16:00 hrs. The bids opening is on 14.10.2024 after 17:00 hrs. Sd/-

Chief Engineer (North)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-Procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours. DIPR/CP/YC/2168/2024-25 Phone No. - (0674) - 2571075, Fax No. - (0674) - 2571075, E-mail IV - secz.dag@gov.in

CENTRAL ZONE, BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA

"e" -Procurement Notice No- 1250 /Agril, Dated- 24.09.2024 Bid Identification No. : S .E. (A), C/Z,BBSR - 02/2024-25 L-68: The Superintending Engineer (Agril,), Central Zone, Satya Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites percentage rate bids in double cover system from the eligible class of contractors through e-procurement in ONLINE MODE only in the website "www.tendersodisha.gov.in", for the work as detailed below (Composite Tender) 1. Nature /Type of the work: 2nos.Precast RCC Boundary Wall works 2. Estimated Cost put to Tender- Varies from Rs . 52.00Lakhs to Rs. 226.50Lakhs

3. EMD Amount: Varies from Rs . 52554 .00 to Rs .226012.00 4. Bid Cost : Rs. 10,000/- as Mentioned in Column - 04 5. Period of completion : 04 (Four) to 06 (Six) Calendar Months Mentioned in Column - 07 6. No. of work (Tender) : 02 no. 7. Class of Contractor : 'B' & "A" class with valid License as Mentioned in Column - 06 8. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal : 27.09 .2024 at 10 .AM. to Dt.15.10. 2024 at 5.00 P.M. 9. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal : Dt.15.10.2024 at 5.00 P.M 10. Date of submission of original documents in the tender box:: Dt. 30.09.2024 at 10.AM . to Dt.17.10.2024 at 5.00 P.M. (Working days) only. 11. Date & time of opening of online bids : Dt.18.10.2024 at 11.00 AM & onwards 12. Name and address of the officer inviting Bid : Superintending Engineer (Agril.),

Central Zone, Satya Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

0IPR-01486/11/0001/2425

NB. The Bidders have to participate In ONLINE bidding only in the e- Procurement website : https://tendersodisha.gov.in with matching class DSC. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender /other details of the DTCN can also be seen in the said website. Authority reserve the right to reject/accept any or all of the tenders, increase/decrease the quantities of works without assigning any reasons thereof.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Agril.) **Central Zone, Bhubaneswar**



Though wise men at their end know dark is right, Because their words had forked no lightning they Do not go gentle into that good night

Dylan Thomas

newindianexpress • com

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SAMBALPUR

06

- Ramnath Goenka

USE JOB MAPPING INDEX TO ENSURE SAFETY OF MIGRANTS

REATION of jobs is a priority for the government. To plan for it more scientifically, the Union ministry of labour and employment is developing an Occupational Shortage Index (OSI) to track demand and supply of both white- and blue-collar workers in each state. The parameters will include the different categories of employment available, broken down by region. The index will also track changes in wage levels and highlight the shortage or excess of labour supply. Giving weights to various variables, a high OSI rank would indicate labour shortage. A low rank, on the other hand, would indicate a labour surplus and poorer wages.

If the experiment takes off, this mapping of labour demand for particular occupations and regions will benefit all stakeholders. Entrepreneurs can use the data to set up units where talent is available; workers looking for jobs can take an informed decision based on where wages are on the rise. Governments, too, can improve decision-making and develop information channels to guide workers, so that they get the best deal. The new initiative has to be seen in the context of rising youth unemployment. In the latest Periodic Labour Force survey, for the July 2023-June 2024 period, the unemployment rate for those aged 15 to 29 rose to 10.2 percent from 10 percent in 2022-23.

Even without a scientific guide, India has always had robust labour migration loosely regulated by demand and supply. For instance, Punjab has faced a shortage of farm hands for years and has been served by steady migration from Jharkhand and Odisha. Some older surveys indicate inter-state migration was 9-10 million a year. The 2011 Census pegs the total number of internal migrants in the country at a staggering 139 million. Though necessary to turn the wheels of the local economy, migrant workers face discrimination, wage exploitation and lack of welfare support. They often become targets of sons-of-thesoil agitations. Some 50,000-80,000 migrant workers fled Gujarat in 2018 after they were relentlessly attacked following the arrest of a migrant worker for allegedly raping a 14-year old girl. Considering the size of the shifting populations and the problems they face, the government must also track these migratory groups to ensure welfare support and keep them from becoming victims of human trafficking. The laws on the subject are well spelt out. Close monitoring is what is needed.

HE recent extension of the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme to include coverage for the elderly marks a significant step in India's efforts to address the needs of its ageing population. However, we must view this as just the beginning of a larger conversation about achieving the 'silver dividend'-the potential opportunities and challenges associated with an ageing society. As India's demographic profile shifts, the policies and frameworks must evolve to ensure the elderly are not only cared for but also empowered to contribute to society. If we plan well, we can convert a potential dis-

THURSDAY 26.09.2024

EDITORIAL

aster into a significant opportunity. India's population is set to age rapidly in the coming decades, with the proportion of those over 60 expected to double by 2050, according to the UN Population Fund. This is not unique to India. Many countries in the west and Asia, like Japan, are facing the implications of a rapidly ageing population. The silver dividend refers to the potential economic and social benefits of an ageing society, particularly if elderly individuals can remain active and engaged in economic, social and familial roles.

It is important to realise that reaping the silver dividend requires a robust policy framework that extends beyond healthcare. Over 40 percent of the elderly in India are in the poorest wealth quintile. Such levels of poverty are likely to affect their quality of life. As people live longer, their healthcare needs become more complex. The need for comprehensive geriatric care, including specialised treatments for chronic diseases, mental health support and facilities for palliative care is likely to grow. India currently faces a shortage of trained professionals across the health system—a gap that needs to be addressed urgently.

The Centre first came out with a National Policy for Older Persons in 1999. One of its main components is to promote familybased care. The policy also seeks to engage voluntary organisations in complementing family care and extending support to vulnerable elderly individuals. However, its implementation, particularly in rural regions, has been limited if not missing, underscoring the need for broader initiatives to meet the diverse physical, psychological and social needs of elderly people, especially from marginalised communities. In addition to expanding healthcare services, improving the accessibility and quality of existing infrastructure is critical. Many elderly people, especially in rural areas, struggle to access healthcare due to poor transportation and inadequate facilities. Enhancing the reach of services such as

Our ageing population is a resource and a responsibility. Apart from strengthening elders' care infrastructure, we must innovate to engage them economically and socially

PREPARING TO REAP INDIA'S SILVER DIVIDEND



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Executive Director, Population Foundation of India



telemedicine, mobile clinics and communiity health programmes will be key. It is also important to adopt a holistic approach that includes social security, economic engagement, and support for family structures. Economic insecurity remains one of the most pressing concerns. The lack of appropriate pension schemes and adequate savings forces many to rely on their families, which may not always be viable. Approximately 90 percent of workers are in the informal sector, which offers no social protection for older persons. Policymakers should consider expanding pension schemes, especially for those in the unorganised sector,

include accessible public spaces, pedestrianfriendly roads and public transportation systems that cater to the needs of older adults. Housing policies that support the development of senior-friendly communities and public buildings equipped with ramps, elevators and seating areas are vital. One way to harness the silver dividend is to enable the elderly to remain economically active. Policies that promote flexible work arrangements, part-time jobs and community-based work can provide avenues for older adults to contribute their skills and experience. This not only supplements their income but also fosters a sense of purpose and community involvement. In India, family members, particularly women, often bear the primary responsibility of caring for the elderly, impeding their

workforce participation. To support caregivers, policymakers need to introduce measures such as caregiver allowances, training programmes, and respite care services. Providing financial incentives and mental health support for caregivers can help mitigate strain.

India's demographic transition is not uniform. States like Kerala and Tamil Nadu are further along than states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This means policies must be tailored to the specific needs of each region. In states with a more advanced ageing population, there is an immediate need to develop comprehensive elderly care services, strengthen social security mechanisms and create job opportunities suitable for older adults. Kerala's government has been aware of this and programmes for the elderly have made a welcome beginning.

Conversely, in states where the population is younger, policymakers should start investing in education and health infrastructure that will support their population in the future.

Countries like Japan offer valuable lessons. With one of the most rapidly ageing populations in the world, Japan has implemented extensive measures to address its population's needs. The country has a comprehensive health insurance system that covers most medical expenses for the elderly. It also promotes active ageing by encouraging older adults to engage in community activities and part-time work.

Similarly, several Western nations have developed robust social security systems, public pensions and community-based care models. These systems include initiatives like elder-friendly housing, accessible transportation and financial support for caregivers. India can draw on these experiences to inform its policies and create a more caring and supportive environment.

The joint family has been the traditional system of elderly care in India. But migration and a shift to nuclear families, has slowly shaken it up.

Recognising the diverse needs of India's

CIVIC AUTHORITIES MUST BE SUED FOR NEGLIGENCE

OUNG Niranjan paid with his life when the gate of a public playground in Bengaluru collapsed on him as he attempted to open it and wheel in his bicycle. The 11-year-old lay bleeding under the high wrought-iron gate and later succumbed to head injuries. The government rushed in with band-aid measures like promising a thorough investigation, ₹10 lakh in compensation for the family, and support for his sister's fees. Investigation showed that the gate, installed four years ago, had heavily rusted. The tragedy raises a few questions: why are gates to parks and playgrounds closed during the day and why are periodic infrastructure checks not undertaken? The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has suspended the engineers in charge of the playground, a committee of engineers has been constituted to investigate negligence in work, and a report is expected in a week. Yet, not much systemic change can be expected if we are to go by earlier tragedies.

This was not a first for Bengaluru. Citizens, especially children, have become victims of faulty infrastructure like lowhanging power cables, shaky walls, falling rods and open drains. Vikram, a 7-year-old, was crushed under a stone bird bath in Lalbagh in 2016; 17-year-old Sanjana was buried alive when a college wall collapsed in Hebbal in 2010. Years have passed, but no one has been held responsible for these tragedies. Munirathna, the contractor responsible for building the wall that killed Sanjana, is now an MLA. The Lokayukta report held the contractor and officers responsible, but no action was taken.

It's deplorable that once such incidents fade from public memory, no action is taken against the corrupt officials, contractors and politicians involved. The malaise of 'percentage commission' is the bane of public projects—the 'cuts' that line pockets leave meagre funds for quality work. Last year, contractors exposed the '40 percent commission' culture of the previous BJP government, though it is well-known that corruption is part of every dispensation. How will the government provide a safe civic environment for its citizens, especially in places frequented by children? If the Niranjans and Sanjanas are to get justice and such accidents are to be prevented, we need a strong citizenfriendly legal system that encourages affected citizens to sue the civic authorities and not wait for the government to act. to provide a steady retirement income. Creating age-friendly cities is essential to ensuring the elderly can live independent and dignified lives. Urban planning must elderly population is vital. Tailored, regionspecific policies that address these varied needs will be key. The ageing report highlights the lack of credible data on various issues. More could be done by including questions on emerging issues related to older people in upcoming data collection exercises of the National Sample Survey, National Family Health Survey and Census.

While India has been known as a culture that supports the elderly, this should not mean the government can abdicate its responsibility to ensure healthy and dignified lives, especially for its senior citizens. *(Views are personal)*

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Old-age homes

Ref: More for elder care beyond health cover (Sep 25). Beyond healthcare, elders need support, men more than women. Women can get the support of her children in the evening of their life. Less said about the agony of a widower at the hands of daughters-in-law, the better. The government should open old-age homes in all the districts to help the aged. **N R Ramachandran, Chennai**

Taxing pensioners

The editorial has rightly spoken of emulating innovations from the Netherlands and Japan. Geriatric care includes both medical and nonmedical care. For India to have more for elder care beyond health cover, a step in the right direction would be to take pensioners out of the direct income tax basket. **Katragadda Sarveswara Rao, Bhubaneswar**

Election costs

Ref: The difficult questions one election plan raises (Sep 25). 'One nation, one election' has raised questions on the disbalancing federal structure of the nation. The 2024 polls cost nearly ₹1.34 lakh crore. Universal adult franchise is the spirit of democracy, but citing taxpayer's money, the government may devise mechanisms of cost-reduction, beginning with minimising re-polls due to fallacies. **Aparna Vats, Bengaluru**

Diverting attention

There are more questions not answered by the Ramnath Kovind-led Committee, the Election Commission, or the government, which is possibly aware of the impossibility of the proposal. It is, after all, an effort to keep the nation diverted from burning issues like

A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH MIDDLE EARTH

s many as 28 nations bordering the Mediterranean Sea were recently represented in a new partnership between India and the region. Businesses from both sides explored potential cooperation in defence production, maritime and manufacturing, among others.

Ancient synergies have marked the tra-

ditional relationship between India and countries on the Mediterranean rim. The Mediterranean is a historically significant region that has facilitated land and maritime trade between the East and West for millenniums. A diverse region spread across the three continents of Europe, Asia and Africa, the 28 countries stand at different levels of economic development.

Together, they comprise a critical group facilitating approximately 25 percent of global maritime trade. The sea economies have a collective GDP of approximately \$10.5 trillion. India's total trade with the region was about \$76.2 billion in 2023-24 across three major sub-regions of Mediterranean Europe, West Asia and North Africa.

Similarly, India has also played a crucial role in facilitating global trade with its central location in the Indo-Pacific. As India becomes a \$5 trillion economy in the coming years and a leading global growth engine, it seeks to build new relationships in the world. It is in this context that India emerges as a crucial partner and friend of the Mediterranean nations. A continuation of India and the Mediterranean's historic bilateral trade ties would be a fruitful partnership for both regions. This is set to emerge as a multidimensional cooperation agenda, embracing various sectors. To begin with, one key initiative to facilitate the partnership is the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). Announced during the 2023 G20 Summit held in New Delhi, IMEC is envisaged as a dedicated trade corridor linking India and the Mediterranean economies through a combination of land and sea routes. Converging technology and sustainability-led practices, it promises to significantly improve the connectivity and commerce between India and the Mediterranean, and will increase prosperity in both regions. The IMEC is expected to build multimodal transport infrastructure, including ports and railways, to enhance trade. Alongside, the region would also create industrial infrastructure to attract global value chains. Such proposed construction activity will benefit businesses of both sides.

Second, as two economic regions with significant presence in maritime trade, the blue economy emerges as a vital cooperation sector between India and the Mediterranean nations. The strategic location of Indian and Mediterranean ports makes them key facilitators of global commerce. Joint development of maritime infrastructure along the coasts of both the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean could deepen ties, cultivate value chains for manufac-

CHANDRAJIT

BANERJEE



Mediterranean ports like Alexandria have facilitated trade between the East and West for millenniums. The 28 countries on the Mediterranean rim account for a quarter of global maritime trade today. India's synergies with the region include infrastructure, energy and tech

n munications connectivity.

of Indian Industry

Fourth, India and the Mediterranean nations must converge collaborations on energy security and sustainable energy. Under the National Green Hydrogen Mission and Production Linked Incentive Scheme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules, India and the Mediterranean can work together on manufacturing and introducing clean energy into their energy mixes.

Director General, Confederation

Fifth, with geopolitical instability as a global challenge to commerce, multilateral industrial defence partnerships could be catalysed. India and the Mediterranean should pursue joint manufacturing and tech transfer agreements under the Make in India initiative to diversify industrial defence supply chains and improve security.

Sixth, Mediterranean companies have significant opportunities to invest in India and use it as a manufacturing hub for not only the Indian market but also markets in the Indo-Pacific region, and, potentially, the world. Similarly, Indian companies can form joint ventures with Mediterranean businesses to integrate themselves into supply chains and access their markets.

Seventh, both regions enjoy immense potential for tourism linkages. Their historical connection can attract tourists in both directions. Along with this, tourist infrastructure, skill development, and cruise tourism can be areas of engagement. Eighth, with India and the Mediterranean having significant urban populations, urban infrastructure and circular economy practices emerge as a mutual need to meet sustainability goals and combat climate change. Programmes such as India's Smart Cities mission offer significant opportunities for Indian and Mediterranean businesses to invest and develop technologies to promote sustainable urban development. India and the Mediterranean are two regions that historically exchanged technology, currency and culture and, within the recent geopolitical shifts, the revitalisation and renewal of this relationship can offer a significant platform for stability and greater prosperity of the world. (Views are personal) (cb@cii.in)

QUICK TAKE

CONSERVATIVE AND LIBERAL BRAINS

A S social scientists keep scratching their heads about what pushes people to the political right or left, biologists have teased out a relevant insight. Researchers the Netherlands and Greece, who examined MRI scans from nearly 1,000 people who had answered questionnaires on their political leanings, say it is reflected in the size of the amygdala, a part of the brain linked to threat perception, with conservatives showing slightly larger dimensions. It broadly agreed with a 2011 study that, interestingly, actor Colin Firth had commissioned in the UK. Sociobiology is a fascinating frontier of human understanding, but scientists warn against misconceptions and stereotypes while drawing conclusions from such findings. tured goods and improve the efficiency of the IMEC. The two sides can also work together in shipping and ship construction. Fisheries, marine biology and research, and sustainability of coastal regions are other areas where the two can collaborate. Third, as digitalisation and industry 4.0 technologies emerge as key components of global information, partnerships between Indian and Mediterranean countries can be envisaged. India and the Mediterranean could jointly cooperate on introducing and developing a payment interface like UPI, leveraging the strength of the India stack for sectors such as e-commerce and fintech. Similarly, India and the Mediterranean could collaborate on an integrated digital corridor and increase undersea telecom-

A G Rajmohan, Anantapur

Logistical hurdles

Implementing "One Nation, One Election" in India is a complex challenge due to the country's vast population and logistical hurdles. Elections involve significant state resources, especially in areas affected by naxalism and regions like Jammu & Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, and West Bengal. Ensuring security and managing distorted logistics at polling stations will be critical for success. **Kajal Kanhaua, Cuttack**

Ukraine peace

Ref: Modi meets Zelenskyy in New York, offers India's support for peace bid (Sep 25). The successive meeting between PM Narendra Modi and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during a tumultuous time is commendable. This reflects India's willingness to put an end to the prolonged war. **M Rishidev, Dindigul**

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India invited to

peace summit,

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam Ramesh So the non-biological PM is going to embark on yet another high-profile global visit in between. But why does he adamantly refuse to go to Manipur



Priyanka Chaturvedi @priyankac19 The Mindhe government and Adani Dharavi redevelopment is nothing but a land grab scheme. Must hear Aditva Thackerav at the India Summit

EAM says relationship between two Asian nations has considerable impact on the world

THURSDAY 26.09.2024

India-China ties key to future of Asia: Jaishankar

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

THE relationship between India and China is crucial for the future of Asia, said S Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister. He emphasized that the relationship between the nations will impact not only Asia but perhaps the future of the world.

Jaishankar was speaking at the Asia Society Policy Institute in New York on Tuesday. India has long pursued the 'Act East' policy with ASEAN at its centre. But during the last decade, it has matured into something bevond the ASEAN.

"The arrival of Indo-Pacific as a strategic concept is actually the success of the 'Act East' policy and the extension of India's interests today all the way to Australia, which is for us today a very crucial Quad partner," the minister added.

Meanwhile, the EAM also spoke about the importance of India's ties with the Gulfwhich has again dramatically changed in the last decade. "I would particularly point to some interesting connectivity proposals and initiatives which are on the table, most notably the IMEC, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor. And I point to it because what it does is, in a way it connects the Atlantic to India, Europe through the Arabian Peninsula to India," he added.

India is also notwithstanding many challenges, trying to build the connectivity to the Pacific through Myanmar. which is called

E.

The arrival of Indo-Pacific as a strategic concept is the success of the 'Act East' policy and the extension of India's interests to Australia

> S Jaishankar, EAM

Importance **Gulf ties**

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke about the importance of India's

relations with the Gulf—which has again changed in

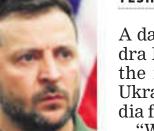


the second peace summit to end the war. I invite all Charter

President

While meeting Zelenskky, he

reaffirmed



We have to prepare nations to join us in the process—those who respect the UN

Volodymyr Zelenskky, President of Ukraine

'Peace process'

PM Modi, while in Kyiv, emphasised the peace process.

support for an early resolution of

the conflict.

says Zelenskyy YESHI SELI @ New Delh A day after meeting Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi in New York and deliberating on the resolution of conflict in Russia and Ukraine, President Zelenskky has invited India for the second peace summit.

"We have to prepare the second peace summit to end the war, and I invite all nations to join us in the process—those who respect the UN Charter. I have already invited India." said Zelenskky while addressing the United Nations Security Council in New York on Tuesday. Zelenskky invited China, Brazil, African nations, Latin America, the West Asia, Europe, and the Americas. "All are equally important without exceptions," he said.

"We want a peace that will last, and these nations know how to achieve it," he stated. PM Modi, while in Kyiv, also emphasised the peace process, and while meeting President Zelenskky, he reaffirmed support for an early resolution of the conflict.

"We are committed to implementing the outcomes of my visit to Ukraine last month to strengthen bilateral relations. We have reiterated support for early resolution of the conflict in Ukraine and restore peace and stability," PM Modi said after meeting President Zelenskky. The two leaders met for the third time in three months.

India is actively developing its relations and working to strengthen cooperation across various fields. It is also helping

Ukraine rebuild its infrastructure.

Bharat is unstoppable, says PM on Make-in-India anniv

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said India's flagship initiative 'Make in India' illustrates the "collective resolve" of Indians towards making the country a powerhouse of manufacturing. On the completion of 10 years of 'Make in India', Modi said the impact of the initiative shows that "Bharat is unstoppable.'

"I compliment all those who are tirelessly working to make this movement a success over the last decade. 'Make In India' illustrates the collective resolve of 140 crore Indians to make our nation a powerhouse of manufacturing and innovation," the PM said in a post on X.

Modi had conceptualised the initiative soon after coming into power in 2014 to promote India's manufacturing power in all sectors with an aim to reduce dependency on other countries. "It's noteworthy how exports have risen in various sectors, capacities have been built, and thus, the economy has been strengthened," he said. "The government of India is committed to encouraging 'Make in India' through all possible ways. India's growth in steel industry, semistrides in reforms will also conductors and other sectors.



build an Atmanirbhar'and Viksit Bharat!"

In another post on LinkedIn. the PM said, "It is the collective drive, relentless in nature, which has transformed a dream into a powerful movement. The impact of 'Make in India' shows that Bharat is unstoppable." Highlighting how 'Make in India' has boosted development, he said the number of mobile manufacturing units in the country has risen from

two to over 200. "Our mobile exports have skyrocketed from a mere ₹1,556 crore to an astounding ₹1.2 lakh crore... Today, 99% of mobile phones used in India are made in India. We've become the second-largest mobile manufacturer globally," he said.

The PM also cited India's

turing sector has attracted investments worth over ₹1.5 lakh crore, with five plants approved that will have a combined capacity of more than 7 crore chips per day," he said, adding that defence production exports have soared from ₹1,000 crore to ₹21,000 crore.

Modi highlighted that India has become a net exporter of finished steel. "Inrenewable energy, we are the 4th largest producer globally, with capacity increasing by 400% in just a decade. Our electric vehicle industry, practically non-existent in 2014, is now worth \$3 billion," the PM wrote.

He further highlighted the growth of niche sectors, such as the toy industry, which has seen exports increase by 239% while imports have been halved, benefitting local manufacturers.

According to Modi, the 'Make in India' initiative has played a key role in empowering ordinary citizens, particularly in the MSME sector. "It has given the poor the wings to dream big and aspire – it has given them the confidence that they can be wealth creators," he said.

The PM credited government measures like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for driving thousands of crores in investment and creating mil-

the Trilateral Highway.

the last decade

Plans afoot to improve livelihood prospects of informal sector workers

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

THE Centre is set to introduce a programme — aiming at 'appreciable improvement' in the livelihoods of vulnerable groups within the informal sector such as construction workers, gig workers, waste workers, care workers, domestic workers, and transportation workers — on the lines of National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM).

According to the officials, the workers engaged in precarious jobs with low wages, hazardous conditions, and limited access to so-

cial protection will be the primary beneficiaries of the new scheme. A pilot spanning over three months to ensure effective implementation will be launched on October 1 in 25 cities; industrial hubs, migrant centres, aspirational districts, and port towns.

The pilot aims to break the cycle of poverty by providing financial assistance, social protection such as health and in-

surance cover. access to credit for micro-enterprises and fostering innovation and collaborations, said officials.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) recently organised a workshop during which deliberations were held on the contours of pilot implementation of a proposed new programme; various aspects of poverty in urban areas, methods that can be adopted to address the same and

to sensitize the states or urban local bodies.

Speaking at the workshop, secretary, Mo-HUA Srinivas Katikithala said, "Urbanisation

provides various opportunities and there is a need to harness these opportunities through innovative thinking so that the urban poor, particularly the vulnerable groups, including youths can get access to better opportunities.'

The directors of state missions, Municipal Commissioners and city representatives of 25 cities with senior officials attended the workshop.

Dubey seeks probe into 1.25 crore feedbacks given to JPC on Waqf Bill

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

RAISING concern over the staggering 1.25 crore submissions received by the Joint Parliamentary Committee reviewing the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, also a member of the JPC, has called for a home ministry probe, including into possible role of Pakistan's ISI and China. In a letter to committee chair-

person Jagdambika Pal, he said the investigation must also cover the possible roles of fundamentalist organizations and individuals like radical Islamic preacher Zakir Naik.

Expressing alarm at the sheer volume of responses, Dubey said the geographicalorigins of these submissions need immediate attention, claiming that it is statistically improbable that such an overwhelming volume response could emerge organically from within India alone. Pointing out probable risks to

national sovereignty, he cautioned in the letter that coordinated foreign interventions suspiciously seem posing a serious challenge to India's parliamen-

tary democracy. "I believe it is vital that the committee addresses these concerns head-on to ensure the integrity and independence of our legislative

process," the MP said. Dubey further pointed out the potential involvement of individuals like Zakir Naik, a fugitive known for fanning "extremist views", and also doubted that Naik's network might be leveraging the Waqf Bill discussions to further destabilize Indian society. Dubey said, "I believe it is vital the committee addresses these concerns head-on to ensure integrity and independence of our legislative process."

JPC will submit report on time, says Rijiju

Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Wednesday expressed confidence that the JPC on the Waqf Bill will submit its report in the stipulated time. He said panel would fulfil the mandate of submitting its report before the last day of first week of winter session. "I feel the speed at which joint panel is functioning, the report will be tabled as stipulated" he said.

Noting that Article 105 of the Constitution guarantees the free and fair functioning of Parliament, including the operations of its committees, he said any attempt by external forces to manipulate the legislative process will be an attack on the very foundations of parliamentary system.

He said an investigation by the MHA is critical to preserving the fairness, integrity, and independence of the Waqf Bill deliberations. He emphasised the deliberations must proceed without the interference of outside influences that aim to destabilise, delay, and disrupt.

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

THE global overseas Indian community, 32 million strong, is reeling from what feels like a seismic shift. New rules introduced by the government have stripped OCIs of many of their privileges. Once enjoying near-equal status with Indian citizens, they now find themselves reclassified as "foreign nationals."

Outrage has erupted across the NRI diaspora, with many feeling blindsided by the changes to the OCI rules. While some argue that the restrictions aim to control security threats, any believe they are excessive.

Aditya Arora, an NRI in Germany, is grappling with the fallout. His wife and children recently became foreign nationals, but he now finds himself stuck. "I had to renounce my Indian citizenship, but with the changes, I'm in limbo."

classifying us as foreign nation-

The OCI community feels betrayed. From business investments to personal ties, NRIs and OCIs have long been a bridge between India and the world. As they face hurdles, they're left wonderinghas India turned its back on them?

Community feeling

als has created endless bureaucratic hurdles. Simple things like travel, business, or religious activities now require permits. Real estate transactions are restricted. It feels like the government is pushing us away when they should be welcoming our investments."

Subhas Balappanavar, coordinator of the NRI Grievances Forum in Arizona, called for legal safeguards to protect NRI investments in India.

Sandeep S, an NRI in California, said that OCIs are major contributors to India's FDI. "We send billions in white money back home. This isn't just about security, it's about trust. If the government keeps changing rules, investors will be driven away," he said.

Antacid Pan D, Paracetamol, Shelcal among over 50 drugs fail quality test

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

OVER 50 medicines, including diabetes, hypertension, vitamins, calcium D3 supplements, bacterial infections, and acid reflux tablets, failed the quality tests by the drug regulator. According to the Drugs Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO), which issued a 'Not of Standard Quality (NSQ)' alert for August, some of the top selling medicines manufactured by top pharma firms. The medicines that were flagged as NSQ were paracetamol tablets 1p500 mg, anti-diabetic drug Glimepiride, blood pressure medicine Telma H (Telmisartan 40 mg), acid reflux medicine Pan D, and Calcium C and D3 tablets Shelcal, bacterial infections medication Cefixime Oral Suspension IP. Among the 53 medicines that failed the quality check also includes Metronidazole, the widely used drug for treating stomach infections. It was produced by PSU Hindustan Antibiotic Limited. Shelcal, distributed by Torrent Pharmaceuticals and manufactured by Uttarakhandbased Pure & Cure Healthcare, also failed the test. Alkem

53 MEDICINES

TOP SELLING DRUGS MANUFACTURED BY SOME LEADING PHARMA FIRMS FAIL QUALITY TESTS

 Paracetamol • Acid reflux medicine **Pan D**

25% drop in out-of-pocket health expense in 10 yrs

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

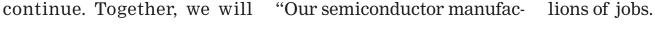
THE total health expenditure in India has risen to 3.8% of the GDP, still lower than the tenyear peak of 4%. Notably, outof-pocket expenditure, which refers to payments made by individuals and families, has decreased from 64.2% in 2013-14 to 39.4% in 2021-22. The National Health Accounts Estimates for 2020-21 and 2021-22 was released on Wednesday by the Union Health Ministry, which claim to be based on an enhanced methodology that provides a more comprehensive and precise account of the government's health expenditures. Over the years, the government's contribution to health expenditures has increased significantly. Specifically, the government's share in health expenditures has risen from 1.13 per cent of the GDP in 2014-15 to 1.84 per cent in 2021-22. Additionally, the share of government health expenditures in total health expenditures has also shown a significant increase, climbing from 29.0 per cent in 2014-15 to 48.0 per cent in 2021-22.



growth, rising from 5.7 per cent in 2014-15 to 8.7 per cent in 2021-22. This increase reflects a substantial shift in funding towards social health insurance initiatives over the past few years.

Dr Paul also highlighted that "more than Rs 1 lakh crore savings have accrued from the Ayushman Bharat PMJAY" and "this has had a positive impact on the recent NHA estimates." He also stated that other schemes like the Free Dialvsis scheme, launched in 2015-16 has benefited 25 lakh people. Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra said that a substantial increase has been noticed in the health expenditure of the government while the out-of-pocket expenditure has come down which is a good sign.

Sudhir J, an OCI holder who lived in the US and has now returned to Bangalore, said, "Re-



OCIs see red as new rules strip several privileges, call them foreign nationals



1p500 mg	• Calcium C and D3 tak	olets Shelcal
 Anti-diabetic drug Glimepiride 	 Bacterial infections n Cefixime Oral Suspen 	
 Blood pressure medicine Telma H (Telmisartan 40 mg) 	 Widely used drug for treating stomach infections Metronidazole 	Cepodem XP 50 dry suspension prescribed for children with severe bacterial infections

Note: Drugs Standards Control Organisation issues a 'Not of Standard Ouality' alert for August

Health Science's antibiotics Clavam 625 and Pan D were also found to be spurious by a staterun laboratory. The Kolkata lab found Hyderabad-based Hetero's Cepodem XP 50 dry suspension substandard. It is prescribed for children with severe bacterial infections.

Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd Paracetamol tablets were flagged for quality concerns. Sun Pharma Laboratories Ltd, whose Ursocol 300, which dissolves certain gallstones and prevents them from forming, was also found to be spurious. Multiple batch-

es of Telmisartan, which were manufactured by Haridwarbased Life Max Cancer Lab, failed the quality test.

CDSCO issued two lists of drugs that failed quality tests. One contains 48 popular drugs, and the second has replies from the pharma firms whose medicines failed these tests. CDSCO in August banned over 156 fixed-dose drug combinations that are "likely to involve risk to humans". These medicines included popular fever drugs, painkillers and allergy tablets. Since 2014, it has banned 499 FDCs.

The component of private health insurance expenditure as a percentage of total spend-

ing has been going up consistently from 3.4 per cent in 2013-14 to 7.4 per cent in 2021-22.

The ministry said that the reduction in out-of-pocket expenses was partially due to an increase in social security spending on healthcare.

(Health), NITI Aayog, said that "the methodology taken for these NHA estimates has improved over the last nine years and has resulted in a more robust and accurate account of the government's expenditure on Health."

"The decline in Out-of-Pocket expenditure out of Total Health Expenditure from 64.2% in 2013-14 to 39.4% in 2021-22 reflects a very positive indicator," he said.

"A robust social security mechanism ensures that individuals will not face financial hardship and the risk of poverty as a consequence of ac-Dr V K Paul, Member cessing essential healthcare services. The share of social security expenditure includes government-funded health insurance and medical reimbursement to government employees," said a health ministry statement.

> The proportion of total health expenditure allocated to social health insurance programs has shown significant

He highlighted that the total health expenditure has also made a significant increase which reflects the emphasis of the government towards health.

The report provides a systematic description of the financial flows in India's health system by different sources, how the money is spent, how healthcare is provided, and the nature of healthcare services that are used.



PANCHAYAT POLLS Elections to over 13,000 gram panchayats in Punjab will be held on October 15, the State Election Commission (SEC) said on Wednesday as it released the poll schedule



INDIA Ahmedabad	Max 42	Min 27	Mumbai	Max 35	Min 29
Bhopal	43	28	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	41	30	Patna	41	27
Amritsar	40	23	Lucknow	42	27
 Chennai	39	30	Port Blair	34	28
Kolkata	36	26	Imphal	23	18
Srinagar	18	08	Chandigarh	42	23

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In J&K, LoP vows to raise the matter in Parliament
In Haryana, PM says Cong means putting development at stake

Rahul: Will take to streets Modi: If voted to power, Cong will bring instability if statehood not restored

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

TAKING a tough stance on the statehood issue, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday asserted that if the BJP government does not restore statehood in Jammu and Kashmir, the opposition INDIA alliance would use all available means in Parliament and even take to the streets to push for the restoration of statehood.

Rahul addressed the poll rallies in Jammu and Sopore in north Kashmir in favour of party candidates, contesting the third and final phase of Assembly polls in J&K on October 1. The focus of Rahul's campaigning remained the restoration of statehood.

"It was for the first time in India's history that a state (J&K) was converted into a Union Territory. Earlier, UTs were converted into states, and were divided into more states. In Indian history, this happened for the first time state's rights were snatched. It should not have happened," the Congress leader stated.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre scrapped J&K's special status and bifurcated it into two Union Territories – Jammu and Kashmir (with legislature) and Ladakh (without legislature). Rahul said the people of J&K were told that "you were not a



It was for the first time in India's history that a state (J&K) was converted into a Union Territory. Earlier, UTs were converted into states, and were divided into more states. - Rahul Gandhi, Cong leader

state but a UT. The government will not be run by the CM and MLAs but by the L-G and the outside bureaucrats. We had thought that statehood would be restored before elections. It was the right option. Now that the elections are being held, we want that J&K's statehood to be

restored as soon as possible."

is certain, the first thing it will do is restore statehood.

For the first time, Rahul has taken a tough stance during his election campaign for the J&K polls and warned of street agitation if statehood was



As poll approaches, the Congress is losing hope, while the support for the BJP is increasing. Voting for the Congress is equivalent to jeopardizing state's stability and development -Narendra Modi, PM

HARPREET BAJWA@ Chandigarh

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday

not restored to it. PM and Home Minister during their poll rallies in J&K, have said statehood would be restored only by the BJP government.

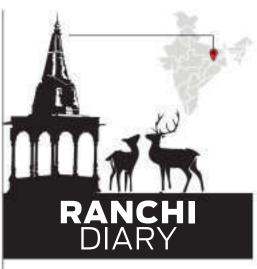
However, the BJP is gaining a significant ground in the state, he added.

Addressing a rally at Gohana, Sonepat, Modi stated, "As launched a blistering attack on the Congress, the election approaches, the warning that if the par-Congress is losing hope, while ty comes to power, it the support for the BJP is incould lead to the de- creasing by the day. Voting for youngsters on the basis ofrecstruction of the state. As the Congress is equivalent to ommendation or money. Cor-

ah's alleged role in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam and his fight with his deputy for power, Modi said, "Similar situations have arisen in Congress-ruled states of Telangana and Himachal Pradesh. The party cannot carry out development works in Haryana. It can only halt development. They do not want peace but want to bring back terrorism and infiltration by revoking Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir."

PM Modi said under the BJP government, Haryana has made place among top states in industry and agriculture sectors. "Today, the world's biggest companies are interested in setting up factories in India. When industrialization increases, its biggest benefit goes to poor, farmers and SCs," he said, adding that BR Ambedkar believed that in empowerment of SCs, industry plays a big role.

Taking a sideswipe at the Gandhi family, Modi said the Congress has handed over Haryana to middlemen (dalals) and son-in-laws (damads). It cannot protect the rights of SCs. "The Congress had given jobs to



MUKESH RANJAN Our correspondent in Jharkhand mukesh.r@newindianexpress.com

Modi to address Parivartan Yatra rally

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address a rally on the conclusion of BJP's 'Parivartan Yatra' in Jharkhand. According to state BJP functionaries, the party has sent a proposal for it and will start preparations for the same as soon as it gets approval from the center. Notably, to expose the failures of ruling JMM-led alliance in the state, Union Home Minister Amit had launched 'Parivartan Yatra' on September 20, which is being led by the top party leaders, both from inside and outside Jharkhand. Starting on September 20, Parivartan Yatra is to cover all six organizational divisions in Jharkhand, travelling 5,400 kms.



If the BJP does not restore statehood for some reason, then when the INDIA alliance comes to power in Delhi, which

the October 5 Assembly polls draw near, the erosion of people's trust in the Congress is becoming more evident.

Panchayat polls in Punjab to be

held on Oct 15

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

A total of 13,327 panchayats will

go to polls in Punjab on October

15, State Election Commission-

er Raj Kamal Chaudhary said

on Wednesday, adding that nom-

inations can be filed from Sep-

Total voters are 1,33,97,932 and

the polls will be held through

ballot boxes and that their will

be option for NOTA. Counting

be deputed on election duty and

23 IAS/PCS officers would be

appointed as observers in the

districts to ensure smooth con-

duct of polls.

jeopardizing the state's stability and development." Referring to Karnataka

ruption was evident in tender allotment during the Congress regime. I urge you to stop Con-Chief Minister Siddaramaigress from coming to power."

CBI to court: Got enough

evidence of tampering in

RG Kar rape-murder case

Voters aged 85 plus may also vote from home

For the first time in Jharkhand Assembly polls, voters aged 85 and above, as well as persons with disabilities (PwDs) with a 40% benchmark disability, will be given the option to vote from home. The home-voting facility is optional, and voters who wish to cast their ballot in person will receive necessary assistance at polling stations. A delegation of ECI led by Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar, which was on a two day visit to Jharkhand to review poll preparedness, also made it clear to central and state agencies that it is firmly committed for "zero tolerance towards use of money power".

Rao takes oath as CJ of Jharkhand High Court

Justice MS Ramachandra Rao on Wednesday took oath as the new Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court. Governor Santosh Gangwar administered him oath of office at the Raj Bhawan in Ranchi. Chief Minister Hemant Soren and acting Chief Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad were also present along with other judges and top bureaucrats of the state. Born on August 7, 1966 in Hyderabad, Justice Rao studied B.Sc. (Hons) (Mathematics) from Bhavans New Science College, Osmania University. He passed LLB from the University College of Law, Osmania University in Hyderabad in 1989. He was awarded the CVSS Acharyulu Gold Medal for securing the highest marks in final year LL.B.

Bombay HC questions cops on Badlapur assault accused death

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

PULLING up the Thane police, the Bombay High Court on Wednesday expressed concerns regarding the shooting of Akshay Shinde, the accused in the Badlapur school sexual assault case, stating that the incident could have been avoided, and emphasised the necessity for a fair and impartial probe.

Hearing the plea moved by Akshay Shinde's father, a division bench comprising Justices Revati Mohite Dere and Prithviraj Chavan also raised questions over the manner in which the shooting was executed.

The judges raised questions about the circumstances of the shooting, suggesting that it may have been preventable if police had attempted to subdue Shinde before the incident escalated. The bench said while it was not raising any suspicion at this stage, it was very hard to believe that Shinde managed to seize a pistol from a police officer and opened fire.

The bench also noted that the officer who shot at Shinde was a police inspector who has experience on how to react in such a situation. "Ordinarily, the retaliation would be on the leg or arm. Why directly on the head? Does he (police) not know



A forensic team examines the police van in which Akshay Shinde, the accused in the Badlapur sexual assault case, was killed in police firing on Tuesday | PTI

where the shot has to be fired? It may have been spontaneous. The first reaction should have been to disarm him," the bench said. The court said it is not very easy to unlock and open fire from a pistol. They questioned the rationale behind shooting him in the head rather than aiming for a less lethal area, such as the legs or arms. "It is difficult to believe that Shinde could have seized a pistol from a police officer and fired it," said Justice Chavan,

referencing his own experience with firearms. Shinde's father demanded the registration of a case against the policemen who killed his son and asked for pre-

serving CCTV footage as well. He requested the formation of a SIT to investigate the shooting, with oversight from the HC. The court said, "This can-

The court asked whether the scene where this incident occurred was sealed to prevent tial investigation into the cir-

tion is not conducted properly, we will be constrained to issue appropriate orders," the bench warned. The court scheduled the next hearing for October 3.

not be termed as an encounter. This is not the encounter."

tampering. It also stressed the necessity for a fair and imparcumstances surrounding the shooting.

of votes will be done on the same day," he said, adding that each panchayat will have one sarpanach and 5-13 panches. Chaudhary said that the poll panel has considered the harvesting season of paddy as it begins in October besides festival season while fixing the dates. He said the delay in hold-

ing panchayat polls was due to the lok sabha elections. The last panchayat elections were held on December 30, 2018. He said 96,000 personnel will "If we find that the investiga-

tember 27 to October 4, scrutiny suspended police officer Abhijit on October 5 and withdrawal of Mondal, both arrested in connominations on October 7. nection with the rape and mur-"There will be 19,110 polling der of a trainee doctor at the booths and the expenditure hospital, and sent them to judilimit for the sarpanches is cial custody till September 30. ₹40,000 and for panches ₹30,000.

Since Ghosh and Mondal, former OC of Tala police station, were not cooperating with CBI officers, an extension of their custody was required, the central probe agency urged the court. Sources in the CBI

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

A special court in Kolkata on

Wednesday denied bail to

former RG Kar Medical College

principal Sandip Ghosh and

said the agency has received enough evidence on how Mondal tampered with evidence on the rape and murder of the 31-year-old postgraduate trainee doctor. They also came to know that the entire process before the post-mortem was controlled by the police station and the CCTV footage inside the police station on that day was also tampered.

Some records pertaining to the rape-murder case were "falsely created" and "altered" at the Tala police station, the

CBI alleged. The central probe agency has told the special court that it has seized CCTV footage of the police station which has been sent to the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), Kolkata, for examination.

The CBI which interrogated Mondal and Ghosh in its custody informed the court that "new/additional" facts emerged in its probe showing that "some false records pertaining to the instant case were created/altered in Tala police station". A CBI officer said,

"Both the accused facilitated cremation (of the victim's body) in a hurried manner while the family members specifically demanded a second autopsy.

The central probe agency had arrested Mondal on September 14, while Ghosh, who was already in judicial custody in a corruption case, was taken into custody in the rape and murder case on September 15. The CBI had arrested prime suspect Sanjay Roy on August 10 on the next day of the gruesome incident after "his role in the commission of crime had already emerged".

Refusing to be bride at 14, J'khand girl Trams–Kolkata does away with slice of history gets hair chopped with friend's help SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

route from Esplanade to Maidan will be operational as a joyride to experience. The stretch is picturesque, with stunning views of Victoria Memorial and lush greenery. The scenery is beautiful with kids playing cricket and football in Maidan. The whiteblue colour trams has been a preferred mode of transport for a large number of people. On February 24, 2023, Kolkata's iconic tram service celebrated 150 years. The first tram, drawn by horses, ran on February 24, 1873. Sharply reacting to the state government's announcement, the Calcutta Tram Users Association (CUTA) said that it would hold demonstrations before five tram depots across the city in protest. Kaushik Das, an association member of CUTA. said, "If the government repairs and ensures regular upkeep of tramcars lying unused in several depots for several years, they can run the fleet in a smooth manner."

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

SHOWING courage to avert her marriage, a 14-year-old girl got her hair chopped and dulled her appearance, making every possible effort to look ugly after she discovered that her brother and sister-in-law were planning to get her married to a stranger.

According to the girl, with no one in the family to turn to, she decided to look as ugly she can in order to avert the child marriage and got her hair chopped after borrowing ₹200 from a friend.

After the death of her parents, Abhilasha lived with her brother and sister in law. She has two elder sisters, who have already been married.

Despite stiff resistance from her sister-in-law, Abhilasha convinced her brother and got herself admitted to a school in

Wanted to look ugly

After Abhilasha was asked to get married, she decided to take control of her life in order to avert the marriage. "I borrowed ₹200 from my friends and went directly to the saloon to get a new look and got my hair chopped to avert the marriage. My intention was to give myself as ugly look as I could so that nobody would like to marry me," said Abhilasha. After getting her hair chopped, she went to ASHA and sought help, and was given immediate refuge.

the village. But her happiness was extremely short-lived as she was made to drop out of the school by her Bhabhi (sister-inlaw) after two days as she had found a 'match' for her.

In between, she was told by her neighbours that her sister in law wants to marry her off and has also found a match for

her. This is when Abhilasha decided to take control of her life in order to avert the marriage. "I borrowed ₹200 from my

friends and went directly to the saloon to get a new look and got my hair chopped to avert the marriage. My intention was to give myself as ugly look as I could so that nobody would like to marry me," said Abhilasha. After getting her hair chopped, she went directly to Association for Social and Human Awareness (ASHA) and sought help, and was given immediate refuge and protection, she added. Abhilasha's brother and sister-in-law were informed about

the legal consequences of committing the crime of child marriage after which they pledged to not force her into marriage. Abhilasha presently is studying in Class 7 and is training to be part of the Jharkhand Under-17 Football team.

THE West Bengal government has decided to stop Kolkata's 150-year-old tram service in some parts of Kolkata due to vehicular traffic. Transport Minister Snehashish Chakraborty, however, said that no date has been fixed to discontinue the service.

"There is no date fixed to do so. We are not discontinuing tramways from today or tomorrow, we are aware of people's emotions. Moreover, the matter is also pending before the Calcutta High Court. We will abide by the court direction," Chakraborty said.

"As roads comprise only 6% of Kolkata's surface area and with increase in vehicular traffic, we have observed that trams cannot ply the roads along the same routes at the same time as it is leading to congestion," Chakraborty said.

"Tramways are leading to traffic jams and road accidents.



It is also not economically viable. Only a stretch at Maidan, Esplanade and Khidirpur will remain," he added.

The HC, while hearing a PIL, had on December 11 last year suggested that a public-private partnership model can be used to restore and rejuvenate tramcar services in Kolkata.

Responding to a query, the minister said that the state gov-

ernment allows only those commercial vehicles to ply the roads that conform to the pollution norms and encourages the usage of electric vehicles, "which is yielding results".

Meanwhile, the city residents say that they are going to miss the heritage service, the slow moving tram runs in the city. All the tram routes are being terminated, except for one. The

epaper.newindianexpress.com



WORLD







As per the information

published previously by the

Chinese military, the PLA

Rocket Force now has multi-

ple types of ballistic mis-

siles with intercontinental

ranges, including the DF-31-

Also, the People's Libera-

tion Army (PLA) Navy has

the JL-2 submarine-launched

AG, DF-5B and DF-41.

SNY 28 26 35 30 20 SNY New York 31 SNY Singapore 27 18 23 14 20 15 19 SNY SNY Toronto London Washington

SAMBALPUR

THURSDAY 26.09.2024

Israel hits 280 more Hezbollah targets, preps for grounds ops

At least 50 killed in latest attacks on Lebanon; Biden warns that an all-out war is possible

TEL AVIV

ISRAELI army chief Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi said Wednesday that the military is preparing for a possible ground operation in Lebanon as Hezbollah hurled dozens of projectiles into Israel, including a missile aimed at Tel Aviv that was the militant group's deepest strike yet.

Addressing troops on the northern border, Gen. Halevi said the latest Israeli airstrikes were designed to "prepare the ground for your possible entry and to continue degrading Hezbollah." In an apparent reference to the missile aimed at Tel Aviv, he said: "Today, Hezbollah expanded its range of fire, and later today, they will receive a very strong response. Prepare vourselves.'

To achieve the goal of returning the displaced citizens of northern Israel to their homes, "we are preparing the process of a maneuver," he said.

Besides, the Israeli military activated reserve troops in response to rising tensions with the Hezbollah.

US President Joe Biden warned on Wednesday of the possibility of an "all-out war".

"An all-out war is possible."





CHINA TESTS NEW **MISSILE THAT CAN REACH U.S. CITIES**

BEIJING

CHINA on Wednesday successfully test-fired an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) that could hit the US cities, in a rare publicised launch to display its strategic deterrence capability.

The launch tested weaponry performance and military training effectiveness and achieved desired goals, the Chinese Defence

Ministry said in a statement. China had notified relevant nations about the test in advance, according to the PLA **Rocket Force.**

This is the first time in

decades that China has made its flight test of an intercontinental ballistic missile public in an apparent show of strategic deterrence, China Daily reported.

Kong-based South China *Morning Post*, the new missile could reach the US mainland, though the Defence Ministry has not specified its range.

Oz voices concern

Wellington: New Zealand Sydney: Australia voiced

NZ calls it unwelcome

branded the Chinese ballistic

missile launch "an unwelcome

and concerning development".

Foreign ministry spokesman

Zealand strongly supports a

peaceful, stable, prosperous,

Winston Peters said, New

and secure region.

PTI

newindianexpressocom

Iran House blocks Sunni vice president appointment

TEHRAN

THE Iranian parliament on Wednesday blocked the appointment of a politician from the Sunni minority as vice president, media reported.

In August, President Masoud Pezeshkian had announced the appointment of Abdolkarim Hosseinzadeh as his vice president for rural development and disadvantaged areas, citing his "valuable experience".

But on Wednesday lawmakers voted against his resignation from parliament to take up the vice president post, the official *IRNA* news agency said.

"Parliament members voted 107 in favour, 129 against, and five abstentions out of the 247 representatives present," it added. Following the vote, parliament member Mehrdad Lahouti said the vote was meant to keep Hosseinzadeh in the legislature due to his "capabilities and experience".

"The MPs believe his presence in parliament would be more effective and useful," said Lahouti in remarks quoted by parliament news agency ICA-*NA*. He said the decision to bar Hosseinzadeh from resigning was "completely unrelated" to his being a Sunni.

Sunni Muslims account for

intercontinental ballistic missile, according to the China Daily report. The missile. launched into the Pacific Ocean, fell into expected sea areas, the defence ministry statement said, adding that "this test

launch is a routine arrangement in our annual training plan". "It is in line with international law and practice and is not directed against any country or target," the state-

According to the Hong ment said, without specifying the range of the missile. China's ICBM test comes as missile activities have been ratcheting up in the Asia-

Pacific region.

he told *ABC*. "What I think is, also, the opportunity is still in play to have a settlement that could fundamentally change the whole region.'

Israel said Wendesday its air force had struck some 280 Hezbollah targets across Lebanon by early afternoon, including launchers used to fire rockets on the northern Israeli cities of Safed and Nahariya.

Israeli military officials said they intercepted Hezbollah's surface-to-surface missile. which marked a further escalation after Israeli strikes on Leb-

An Israeli firefighters plane uses a fire retardant to extinguish a fire after a rocket fired from Lebanon hit an open area near the city of Safed, northern Israel, on Wednesday | AP

anon killed hundreds of people. The missile set off air-raid sirens in Tel Aviv and across central Israel. There were no reports of casualties or damage. The military said it struck the



site in southern Lebanon where the missile was launched.

Lebanese health minister said the Israeli strikes on Wednesday killed more than 50 people and left 220 others in-

country and the Lebanese group strikes back.

jured. That raised the death toll

from the past three days to 615.

er 1 ballistic missile targeting

the headquarters of Israel's

Mossad intelligence agency.

The Israeli military said it was

the first time a projectile fired

from Lebanon had reached cen-

The UN said some 90,000 peo-

ple had been displaced in Leba-

non this week, as Israel pound-

ed Hezbollah targets across the

tral Israel.

Hezbollah said it fired a Qad-

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Israel's killing of top Hezbollah commanders couldn't bring the Iran-backed Lebanese militant group to its knees.

"Some of the effective and valuable forces of Hezbollah were martyred, which undoubtedly caused damage to Hezbollah, but this was not the sort of damage that could bring the group to its knees," he said in meeting with military personnel and veterans of the 1980-88 AP/AFPIran-Iraq war.

concern at China's firing of an intercontinental ballistic missile signalling unease at the launch, which appeared to be linked to the modernisation of Beijing's nuclear triad of air. land and sea-based weapons.

Military chief backs US missile system in Manila

Manila: Philippine military chief General Romeo Brawner backed the permanent stationing of a US missile system in his country. "If I were given the choice, I would like to have the Typhons here in the Philippines forever because we need that for our defence," he said. US missile system on Philippine soil had angered Beijing.

DIPR/3919/TENDER/2024

around 10% of Iran's population, where the vast majority are Shiites and that branch of Islam is the official state religion. They have very rarely held key positions of power since the Islamic revolution in 1979. Iran has numerous vice presidents, who are tasked with leading organisations related to presidential affairs in the country.

A 44-year-old reformist, Hosseinzadeh has spoken out publicly on several occasions in defence of the rights of Iran's Sunnis. AFP

Chief Engineer,

Fishing Harbour Project Circle, Chennai-35

New France minister to tighten immigration law

PARIS FRANCE's conservative interior minister on Wednesday vowed consequences after a Moroccan man suspected of murdering a 19-year-old university student and leaving her body in a Paris forest was arrested in Switzerland.

A source close to the case immigration. identified the alleged attacker as a 22-year-old man of Moroccan nationality. Prosecu-

tors have said the suspect had been previously convicted of rape and had been the subject of an order to leave France. The killing of the student is expected to further inflame political tensions in France where the newly installed crimes.

right-wing government plans to crack down on the inevitable and to develop "This is an abominable our legal arsenal, to protect crime," said Interior Ministhe French," he added. ter Bruno Retailleau. "If we have to change the

Sd/ Executive Officer

rules, let's change them." Retailleau, who on Monday took over from his predecessor Gerald Darmanin, vowed to boost law and order, tighten immigration legislation and make it easier to deport foreigners convicted of "It is up to us, as public leaders, to refuse to accept

western Paris, not far from the Universite Paris-Dauphine she attended. A Moroccan national was arrested on Tuesday in the Swiss canton of Geneva and was identified as a suspect in a murder committed in Paris, a spokeswoman for the Swiss justice ministry said.

will be intimated to the gualified bidders

Sd/- Medical Superintendent,

SLN Medical College Hospital, Koraput

after Technical Evaluation

On Saturday, the body of a student was discovered in the Bois de Boulogne park in AFP



GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU FISHERIES AND FISHERMEN WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Fishing Harbour Project Circle, Chennai - 600035

E-TENDER FOR CONTRACT: RATE TENDER SYSTEM - LUMPSUM CONTRACT

(TWO COVER SYSTEM)

E -SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE NO: 05/DB/F.114N/2024, DATED : 25.09.2024

For and On behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, e-Tender is invited by the Chief Engineer, Fishing Harbour Project Circle, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, Chennai from the eligible Registered Contractors

1) Tender Documents available at website from 26.09.2024, 5.00 P.M onwards to 14.10.2024, 05.00 PM

The tender documents, Approximate value work, EMD details, Period of contract, Eligibility of contractor and other details will be available at through online in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in and it

can be downloaded free of cost & For further details and In case of any Changes / Corrections/Amendments/

of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, W.R.D & PWD., for the One work through online.

2) The Last date of submission of tender through online at 14.10.2024, 05.00 PM

Corrigendum in the tender/tender notice, It will be intimated in the above website only.

3) Date and Time of Opening of the E-Tender 15.10.2024, 05.00 PM

Recruitment to the posts of SDIPRO (OIS-II), Group-B of Odisha Information Service Cadre in Information and Public Relations Department WEBSITE http://opsc.gov.in D-130

Online Applications are invited from the prospective candidates through the Proforma Application to be made available on the Website of the Commission (http://opsc.gov.in). The link for registration and submission of online application shall be available from 30.09.2024 to 30.10.2024 (Note: 30.10.2024 is the last date for submission of Registered Online Application) for recruitment to 39 (Thirty nine) posts of SDIPRO (OIS- II), Group-B of Odisha Information Service Cadre under Information & Public Relations Department in the scale of pay of Rs.44,900/- to Rs.1,42,400/- in Level-10 in the Pay Matrix provided under Rule-3 of ORSP Rules, 2017 with usual Dearness and other Allowances as may be sanctioned by the Government of Odisha from time to time.

VACANCY POSITION: -

As per the requisition filed by the Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Odisha, out of a total of 39(13-W) vacancies, 21(07-W) vacancies are reserved for UR category, 03(01-w) vacancies are reserved for SEBC category, 06(02-W) vacancies are reserved for SC category, 09(03-w) vacancies are reserved for ST category. Also 02 posts are reserved for Ex-Servicemen and 03 (01-W) posts are reserved for Persons with Disabilities.

Flooding leads to culling of 125 crocodiles

THAILAND

A crocodile farm culled 125 of the reptiles because of fears they could escape during ongoing floods and endanger human lives, the owner said on Wednesday.

Days of heavy rain in the northern province of Lamphun damaged the enclosures at Natthapak Khumkad's farm, raising the risk that his herd of 10-foot Siamese crocodiles could escape and roam the countryside preying on villagers and livestock. "The rain was eroding the farm walls, so we sadly had to kill all 125 crocodiles," he said.

"We've had them for 17 years." Natthapak said he and his workers electro-

🍰 ପୌର ପରିଷଦ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ : ବ୍ରକରାଜନଗର 🍙		
OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL: BRAJRAJNAGAR At/Po- Lamtibahal Dist- Jharsuguda, Odisha Phone No- 8457812260 Mail- Mail-eobrjnmpl@gmail.com		
No. 3550/BM. Dt. 24.09.2024 NOTICE INVITING RFP		SLN MEDICAL CO
Sub: Submission of RFP and bidding document operation & maintenance of Sanitation of Brajrajnagar Municipality.		TENDER PAPER F
C-662: The Executive Officer, Brajrajnagar Municipality invites sealed RFP/bid- ding document from interested Agencies/Company to submit technical proposal for maintenance of day Sanitation of Brajrajnagar Municipality	E	Bid Reference No, 5542
Scope of Work: - Submission of bid for Daily maintenance of Sanitation as detailed in the RFP-Vol-I, II & Draft Agreement.	1	Period of Availability of Ten Documents
An amount of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) only (non-refundable) towards cost of RFP documents shall have to be deposited in the shape of	2	Pre Bid Meeting
" Demand Draft " drawn on any Bank Payable in favour of the Executive Officer, Brajrajnagar Municipality, Brajrajnagar. Pre bid conference will be held on dt.04.10.2024 at 11.30 A.M in the meet-	3	Last date and time for SubmissionTender (Through the Regd. / Speed P
ing hall of Brajrajnagar Municipality. The RFP bid document can be down- loaded from the Jharsuguda NIC Portal www.jharsuguda.odisha.gov.in from dt 25.09.2024 at 11.00 A.M upto 3.30 P.M of dt.21.10.2024. The technical bid will be opened on the 22.10.2024 at 11.30 A.M in presence of the bidder or their authorised agent. The bidder qualified in the technical bid will be considered for opening the financial bid. Submission of bid by hand will not be accepted. The agency shall bear any cost they may incur for site visit, transport, faxes, postage and telephonic etc. in the process of submission of proposal/bid the	4	Date,Time and place of open Tender
Brajrajnagar Municipality, Brajrajnagar Municipality deserves the right to reject any, all the bid without assigning any reason /reasons thereof.	0	IPR-10121/11/0010/2425

SUPERINTENDENT MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL, KORAPUT ENDER PAPER FOR PURCHASE OF LABORATORY REAGENTS /CHEMICALS/KITS/ GLASS WARE / PLASTIC WARE FROM NIDAN FUND Dated: 25/09/2024 erence No. 5542 of Availability of Tender From Dt. 25.09.2024to23.10.2024 (11.00AMto5.00PM) Download From Website: www.koraput.odisha.gov.in Date05.10.2024 Pre Bid Meeting Time 12 Noon Date25.10.2024 Time up to 5Pm st date and time for Address for Submission of Bid ubmissionTender the Regd. / Speed Post.) Modical Superintendent, SLN Medical College & Hospital, Koraput. Technical Bid (Cover-A) e and place of opening of Opening Date, 29.10.2024Time12.30PM Tender Financial Bid(Cover-B) The Date of opening of Financial Bid

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OIPR-13099/11/0009/2425

C-66	NATIONAL COM	E-mail - eeph	nchpr@g DDING Ti	mail.con HROUGH	n 1 e-Procu			OPPORTUNI
SI.No	Name of work	Bid Identification No		Period of completion	Availability of Bid Document for online bidding		Name & address of office inviting Bid	DOES NOT
	2	3	4	5	From	To 7	8	201010-010-0
1	Procurement, installation with testing and commissioning of 250 KVA DG set at Badagaon for intake well & WTP for Baliguda under State Plan BASUDHA for the year 2023-24	ement, installation with testing emmissioning of 250 KVA DG I Badagaon for Intake well & 54/03/SPH(C)/ for Baliguda under State Plan		2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14.10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P.H Division, Bhanjanagar at Chatrapur	KNOCK, IT PRESENTS
2	Procurement, installation with testing and commissioning of 100 KVA DG set at intake well and 150 KVA DG set for WTP of G.Udayagin under State Plan BASUDHA for the year 2023-24	Identification No 55/ 03 / SPH(C) / 2024-25 dt 24.09.2024	31.24	2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14.10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P.H Division, Bhanjanagar at Chatrapur	ITSELF When you
3	Procurement, installation with testing and commissioning of 125 KVA DG set al Malatitotasahi, Sorada NAC under State Plan BASUDHA for the year 2023-24	Identification No 56/ 03 / SPH(C) / 2024-25 dt 24.09 2024	13.26	2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14.10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P,H Division, Bhanjanagar at Chatrapur	BEAT DOW

C-4	65	Р.Н.	L COMPETITIVE	JPERINTER NJANAGA ephchpr@g	NDING ENG R AT CHAT mail.com HROUGH e	TRAPUR	nt	
SLN	o Nam	e of work	Bid Identification No	Estimated cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Period of completion	Availability of Bid Document for online bidding From To		Name & addres of office invitin Bid
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	and commission		Identification No 50/ 03 / SPH(C) / 2024-25 dt 24.09 2024	26.52	2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14.10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P.H Division, Bhanjanagar a Chatriapur
2	and commission set at Im	staliation with testing sing of 250 KVA DG ake well site, under State Plan re year 2023-24	Identification No 51/ 03 / SPH(C) / 2024-25 dt 24.09 2024	27.60	2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14.10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P H Division Bhanjanagar a Chatrapur
3	and commission set 3 nos at		Identification No 52/ 03 / SPH(C) / 2024-25 dL 24.09 2024	38.96	2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14,10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P.H Division, Bhanjanagar a Chatrapur
4	and commission set at intake	staliation with festing ing of 250 KVA DG well near Narayah mi under State Plan ie year 2023-24	Identification No 53/ 03 / SPH(C) / 2024-25 dl 24.09.2024	27.80	2 (Two) Months	11.00 Hrs of 27.09.2024	17.30 Hrs of 14.10.2024	Superintending Engineer, P.H Division, Bhanjanagar a Chatrapur
F		id shall be opened an be seen from t I/0008/2425		nt portal htt	Sd/- Su	perintend	ing Engir	ieer (PH) Chatrapur

epaper.newindianexpress.com

The details of vacancies and reservation status are shown in the long advertisement available at OPSC web portal www.opsc.gov.in.

3. AGE: -

A candidate must have attained the age of 21 (twenty one) years and must not be above the age of 38 (thirty eight) years as on the 1st day of January 2024 i.e. he/she must have been born not earlier than 2nd January, 1986 and not later than 1st January, 2003.

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION: 4.

A candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree with one year Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism/ Mass Communication or Degree in Journalism/ Mass Communication and must have adequate knowledge in Computer Application.

METHOD OF SELECTION: 5.

The selection of candidates for recruitment to the posts shall be made on the basis of Written Examination and Viva Voce test.

N.B:- The link for registration and submission of online application shall be available from 30.09.2024 to 30.10.2024 in the website of the Commission (Note: 30.10.2024 is the last date for submission of Registered **Online Application**].

The candidates are advised to visit the Website of the Commission at http://opsc.gov.in for detailed information for applying to the above post.

Sd/-

PLACE: CUTTACK DATE: 24.09.2024 OIPR-12002/11/0074/2425

Secretary (I/C) Odisha Public Service Commission











GST panel yet to decide insurance premium tax rate

Panel to meet on Oct 19, consensus on goods, services for gen public should have lower rates

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

THE Group of Ministers (GoM) on rate rationalisation in a meeting on Wednesday discussed rates of 85% of the items under GST, even though the talks on health and life insurance premiums remains unresolved. The general consensus of the meeting was that goods and services used by common people should have ΤΑΧ

lower GST rates. Speaking to TNIE, West Bengal finance minister Chandrima Bhattacharya, who is part of the GoM, said it is decided to cut the rate on education-related materials, including exercise books and pencils from 12% to 5%. The change is likely to provide relief to families and make educational resources more accessible. Bhattacharya stated, "We all agreed that the rate on education-related material should be brought down. This is a step towards ensuring that education remains affordable for every child."The meeting addressed a proposed raise in rate on apparel priced above ₹1,000 from 12% to 18%. She voiced opposition to this proposal, arguing that it would adversely impact common citizens and textile industry, which employs many

women in Bengal.

common people and the industry which employs many women," she said, reinforcing the state's position against the hike. She said the talks on health and life insurance premiums remains unresolved and the issue will be revisited in next GoM meeting scheduled for October

"The rate increase will affect

19, with an additional follow-up on October 20 for remaining items. Currently, 18% GST is charged on health and

life insurance premi-

ums. The GST is struc-

tured into 4 tiers, with

slabs set at 5%, 12%,

18%, and 28%. She said

collective sentiment of

the states, noting,

"All states agreed that

common people should

not suffer due to rate

increase. The states

were of the view that

Make in India fails to lift mfg share in GDP in 10 yrs

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE government has said it will take some time to build momentum in favour of manufacturing as the share of manufacturing in GDP remains below the 2013-14 levels even as the its Make in India programme completes 10 years.

The share of value addition by manufacturing sector is 15.9% in 2023-24 compared to 16.7% of GDP (in constant price) in 2013-14. The target of the government is to achieve 25% manufacturing share in GDP by 2030. It will take some time to build momentum, says DPIIT secretary Amardeep Singh Bhatia while addressing the media. "In many places, the bottle-

necks are not just of investment but also of technology. Investment should bring technology, build capacity and skills, and when all these come together the momentum is built," said Bhatia when asked about the failure of the Make in India to increase the share of manufacturing in GDP. The DPIIT secre-

tary said the focus of the gov-
ernment is to bring in technology
along with investments under
the Make in India programme.
The programme was launched
in 2014 to raise share of manu-

facturing in GDP. Various reform measures have been taken by the government under the programe. They include Semicon India programme with an outlay of ₹76,000 crore to give an impetus to semiconductor manufacturing; production-linked scheme for 14 manufacturing sectors; National Single Window Pro-

REPORT CARD			₹1.4L(R	₹∐
	2023-24	2014-15	investment	ехр
FDI	70.94	45.16	under the PLI cheme	due sch
Goods exports	437	311	8.5 LAKH JOB	1.200
Defence sector exports	2.36	0.16	BY PLI SE	CTORS
Toy exports	0.33	0.10	₹14LAKH(KUK
Mobile exports	14.50	0.25 Figs in Bn \$	worth of goods produced by PL	COS

gramme to integrate clearances from 32 ministries/departments and 29 states/UTs, facilitating rapid approvals; PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan to facilitate data-based decisions related to integrated planning of multimodal infrastructure, thereby reducing logistics cost; and National Industrial Corridor Development Programme.

On the question of the Indian manufacturing sector losing out to countries like Mexico, Vietnam and Bangladesh due to higher costs, Bhatia said that interaction with industry

₹4LCR exports due to PLI scheme JOBS CREATED SECTORS **ICRORE** bds

shows that cost at factory gate is same as these countries, however, India losses out to higher logistics cost. "The PM Gati Shakti scheme is aimed at bringing down the logistics cost," said the DPIIT Secretary. Speaking on the PLI schemes introduced in 2020, Bhatia said so far ₹1.4 lakh crore investments have been made, manufacturing output worth ₹12 lakh crore achieved and 8.5 lakh jobs have been created, thanks to the PLI scheme. Goods exports of ₹4 lakh crore have been made by companies availing the scheme.

'Make in India imprints visible across sectors'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has said the imprint of 'Make in India' has become visible across sectors, including areas where 'we never even dreamt of making an impact'.

In a blog post on Linkedin, the PM has highlighted the transformation of manufacturing of electronics, defence, steel and toys. He said how in 2014, India had only two mobile manufacturing units, but today that number has risen to over 200. "Mobile exports have skyrocketed from ₹1,556 crore to ₹1.2 lakh crore – a 7500% rise. Today, 99% of mobile phones used in India are Made in India," said the PM pointing out that India has become the second-largest mobile manufacturer globally.



RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi



Framework under the ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi **Telecommunications** Act 2023). It is being discussed separately. Right now, we must prioritize spectrum pricing,' said Lahoti.

44 We all agreed that rate on educationrelated material

should be brought down. This is a step towards ensuring that education remains affordable

their revenue should Chandrima not get affected." Bhattacharya, Other sources con-West Bengal FM firmed that the Centre

wants to bring several items from under 18% to 12%. However, non-BJP ruled states and some north-eastern states are reluctant as their revenues may suffer. "There was a discussion to bring air conditioners under 18% from 28%, but many states, mainly Opposition-led states were unwilling," a source said on condition of anonymity.

THE Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is set to release a consultation paper on pricing for satellite spectrum in the coming days, announced Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti. While addressing the press, Lahoti also mentioned that TRAI will explore the regulation of OTT apps under the Telecommunications Act 2023.

"Our team was focused on recommending a new framework, and now we'll work on spectrum pricing recommendations," said Lahoti.

When asked about the timeline, Lahoti confirmed that the consultation paper would be floated shortly. Regarding the licensing of OTT communication apps such as WhatsApp, Telegram, and Skype, Lahoti clarified that these apps are not included in this consultation paper. Last week, TRAI released recommendations on



the Framework for Service Authorisations under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, which excluded OTT communication apps from the new authorization regime.

The proposed framework introduces three categories of telecommunication service authorizations, aiming to achieve a 'One Nation - One Authorization' model through Unified Service Authorization.

"OTT was not part of this paper (Service Authorization

Concerns were raised by telecom service providers about the potential implications of these recommendations if accepted by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), particularly regarding the migration to a new licensing regime. Lahoti stated that there are currently no recommendations on a timeline for service providers to transition to the new framework.

TRAI's recommendation for a single authorization instead of multiple licenses aims to simplify service provisioning under the Telecommunications Act 2023.

"It is voluntary. They can continue to provide services under their existing licenses," Lahoti added.

THE illicit market in 5 key Indian industries -FMCG (packaged goods), FMGC (personal and household care), alcohol, tobacco, and textiles & apparel - was valued at ₹7,97,726 crore in the financial year 2022-23, as per FICCI CASCADE'S latest study which was released on Wednesday. Textiles and apparel with an illicit market size of ₹4,03,915 crore in 2022-23 accounts for over 50% of the total illicit market

The illicit market for FMCG (packaged foods) has grown from ₹1,12,474 crore in 2011-12 to ₹2,23,875 crore in 2022-23, marking a rise of 99%, said the report. The estimates for illicit market of FMCG (personal and household care goods) grew from ₹43,010 crore in 2017-18 to ₹73,813 crore in 2022-23 (71.6%).

The illicit market of alcoholic beverages saw He emphasized that a rise of 153.5% between 2017-18 and 2022-23. In current price value terms, the illicit market reached ₹66,106 crore for 2022-23, after 48,134 crore in 2021-22.

> For tobacco products, between 2018-19 and 2022-23, the illicit market grew by 17.7%, from ₹25,495 crore to ₹30,012 crore. The report said the illicit market in these five categories expanded faster in rural India, especially among the growing classes of middle- and lower-income groups.

Illicit mkt for FMCG rises 99% Illicit market for FMCG (packaged foods) has grown from ₹1,12,474 cr in 2011-12 to ₹2,23,875 cr in 2022-23, a rise of 99%, report said. Estimates for illicit market of FMCG (personal and household care goods) grew from ₹43,010 cr

in 2017-18 to

₹73,813 cr in

2022-23

COLLABORATION Infy, EV maker Polestar tie up to set up tech hub in B'luru

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

INFOSYS on Wednesday announced a strategic collaboration with Swedish electric performance car brand Polestar. The IT company will establish a global technology hub for Polestar at its development center in Bengaluru.

This hub aims to deliver electric vehicle (EV) software development and validation across many domains including infotainment, Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), and telematics.

Polestar will benefit from leveraging Infosys' strategic assets like engineering labs, design studio, and Infosys Living Labs to enhance innovation, the company said. Maria Lexe, Head of Digital at Polestar, said, "Polestar is excited to partner with Infosys to establish a tech hub in India. Infosys has a successful background with similar operations, and we are confident in their ability to lead this tech hub in order to generate IT efficiencies and empower innovation." Headquartered in Gothenburg, Sweden, Polestar cars are available online in 27 markets globally across North America, Europe and Asia Pacific. Sven Bauer, Head of Software at Polestar, said, "Polestar is starting a new chapter in the company's global setup with our partner Infosys in Bengaluru. We look forward to building automotive competence in the Polestar Tech Hub to support our growing vehicle portfolio and new model launches."

Semiconductor venture: Zoho CEO Adani meets Bombardier Vembu says application still pending chief to explore alliance

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

SAAS unicorn Zoho Corp's CEO and co-founder Sridhar Vembu on Wednesday said the company is not directly involved in the semiconductor venture and it is only an investor in Silectric Semiconductor Manufacturing, which is awaiting clearance from the government.

"Zoho has no expertise in the area (semiconductor). We know software, technology... We don't know about semiconductors, that's why we are only an investor and the application is still pending," he told TNIE. This clarification comes days after reports suggested Zoho's semiconductor venture will come up



in Odisha. "The government is evaluating the proposals critically in terms of what technologies are brought in, who is providing those technologies, long-term prospects of those companies...these questions must be asked and I am glad the government is asking these questions. We are not yet sure that we will be among the selected approved applicants and only

after that can we even comment on the location," he explained.

Once Silectric receives clearance it would build semiconductors for power electronics. Vembu's two classmates, and a couple of more people have been onboarded for this venture. Speaking about data cen-

tres, Vembu said they will cover every country and so far they have 18 data centres. Zoho, which has two data centres in India-Mumbai and Chennai, is also looking for additional locations, mostly rural locations closer to where its customers are. The Chennai-headquartered tech company on Wednesday announced its foray into the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) network.

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ADANI Group chairman Gautam Adani met aircraft manufacturing company Bombardier **CEO Eric Martel on Tuesday** and discussed partnership in aircraft services and the defence sector.

"Powering India's aviation growth! Had a great discussion with **@Bombardier** CEO Eric Martel on transformative partnerships in Aircraft Services, MRO and Defence. Together, we are harnessing synergies for a stronger, self-reliant India," Gautam

Adani said in a post on X. Adanis operate seven airports in the country, while Bombardier is a Canadian aircraft jet manufacturer. Adani Group has presence in the defence sector via a subsidiary Adani Defence & Aerospace. The meeting between Adani

and Bombardier chief comes

amid India's effort to set up local maintenance, repair, and operation (MRO) facilities. Civil aviation minister Rammohan Naidu last month had said the Indian government has intro-

duced new reforms to strengthen maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) sector, including a simplified GST Structure and support measures designed to integrate domestic facilities with global value chains.



EARNINGS

Zerodha's net

profit in FY24

turn profitable, stock broking platform Zerodha again stunned the market as it reported a staggering 62% rise in annual profit for the financial year 2023-24.

Zerodha's profit came in at 4,700 crore in the financial year 2023-24 as against ₹2,907 crore profit in FY23. The profits don't include the ₹1,000 crore of unrealised gain. The country's leading stock broker's revenue grew 21% to ₹8,320 crore as against ₹6,875 crore revenue in FY23.

"We continued our tremendous financial track record, and FY23/24 was a fabulous vear in terms of both revenues and profitability. The profits don't consider the ₹1,000 crore of unrealised gain, which will show in our financials," said founder and CEO Nithin Kamath in a blog post. The limited data highlights that Zerodha's operating margin, excluding the unrealised gain, may have come at about 57%. Kamath said Zerodha's customers hold over ₹5.66 lakh crore with them (in their demats) and are sitting on over ₹1 lakh crore of unrealised gains. The founder wrote about the risks the stock broking industry is facing. "...Many of the regulatory changes we were anticipating have come to pass. The True to Label circular, SEBI paper on index derivatives, STT going up, annual maintenance charges impacted due to increased BSDA limits, and hit to our partner/referral business."





Boiler India: Crafting the heat and steam industries' landscape

Boiler India 2024, slated to take place from September 25th to 27th in Mumbai, stands as a pivotal expo in the realm of heat and steam technology. This exhibition-seminar conclave converges prime manufacturing and user companies, industry leaders, innovators, and stakeholders to explore the latest advancements and solutions in boiler and ancillary equipment technology. The expo offers advantages for industry professionals and businesses alike. As the largest gathering dedicated to heat and steam technology, the event serves as a hub for knowledge exchange, networking, and business opportunities. Attendees gain insights into cutting-edge technologies, regulatory updates, and industry trends, empowering them to stay ahead in a competitive market. The significance of Boiler India extends beyond its borders, attracting visitors and exhibitors from across the globe.

Business

DVC enters into financial collaboration with State Bank of India

Damodar Valley Corporation has entered into a loan agreement amounting to ₹10,050.42 crore with State Bank of India on 11th September, 2024 for implementation of 2 X 800 MW Koderma Thermal Power Project (Phase-II) in Jharkhand. The total project cost of this 2x800 MW thermal power project stands at14357.74 crore. The agreement ceremony took place at SBI Corporate Office, Mumbai.





South Eastern Railway to observe swachhata Pakhwada

Kolkata: South Eastern Railway will observe Swachhata Pakhwada from 17th September, 2024 to 2nd October, 2024, with a view to culminate it with the celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's Jayanti. In connection with that, Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, South Eastern Railway, administered the Swachhata Pledge to officers and staff at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach on 17.09.2024. SER employees took oath to maintain cleanliness at workplace and keep India as a neat and clean country. SER officers and staff took pledge to remain committed towards cleanliness and devote time for this. Principal Head of the Departments, senior officers and staff of SER Headquarters were present at the pledge taking ceremony.



Tickets go on sale for T20WC, free entry for U18s

Tickets for the women's T20 World Cup in the UAE went on sale on Wednesday with the cheapest ones costing as little as five UAE dirham(approximately ₹114). The tickets were made available with just over a week left for the tournament-opener on October 3. Entry will be free for everyone under the age of 18.

SAMBALPUR

THURSDAY 26.09.2024

newindianexpress

INDIA'S PROBLEM OF LEFT

Bangladesh tweaker Islam may pose trouble if he gets in the playing XI for the Kanpur Test starting Friday

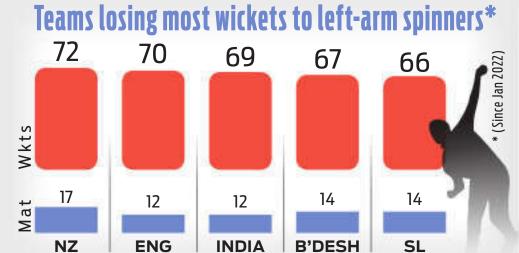
FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

INDIA didn't just win the first Test at Chennai against Bangladesh. In the process, they also stopped a long run of giving sometimes gifting — wickets to left-arm spinners. Over the last five or so years in India, the likes of Lasith Embuldeniya and Praveen Jayawickrama (Sri Lanka), Jack Leach and Tom Hartley (England), Ajaz Patel (New Zealand) and Matthew Kuhnemann (Australia) have either played their part in famous wins, taken loads of wickets or been lone reasons to cheer in otherwise dull campaigns for visiting teams. The last time the hosts didn't concede a single wicket to a left-arm spinner was also to Bangladesh at Indore in 2019. Taijul Islam toiled unsuccessfully as he gave away 120 runs in 28 overs.

Since then, Islam has improved a lot. In India's last tour to Bangladesh, Islam probed finished with eight wickets across two Tests. The 32-year-old, who sat out the first Test, is expected to feature in the Kanpur match starting Friday. With the Green Park surface expected to be on the slower side unlike the Chepauk wicket, both teams may opt for a third spinner. For Rohit Sharma and Co, either local boy Kuldeep Yadav or Axar Patel may replace a pacer in the playing XI. Similarly, the visitors might go with Islam at the cost of a fast bowler. If he does, the hosts will have the sizable challenge of facing up to him because they have had a weakness







ping 69 times in 12 Tests. They are third on the list with New Zealand (72 wickets in 17 matches) and England (70 wickets in 19 matches) looking most vulnerable against such bowlers and occupying the first and second spots respectively.

A close look into records of individual India batters against such bowlers doesn't paint a

enthusiasts. We will look to use

this momentum to encourage

next generation of chess play-

pest as both the men's and wom-

featuring D Gukesh, Arjun Eri-

displayed dominance through-

final round. Gukesh, the star

performer, won 10 of 11 rounds,

propelling India to the top with

21 out of a possible 22 points.

The women's team, led by D Ha-

rika, Tania Sachdev, and R

Vaishali, secured their gold by

defeating Azerbaijan in a tense

final. Prime Minister Narendra

Modi earlier on Wednesday per-

sonally congratulated the

KL Rahul, who has made his comeback to the Test side in the ongoing series, has also struggled against such bowlers — an average of 28.33 from 9 innings and he got out thrice. Opener Shubman Gill's average is 39.66 in 18 innings and has been removed six times.

Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja seem to be exceptions. In 10 innings, Pant, who played his first Test after more than two years in Chennai, averages 95.66 against the left-arm spinners. But the explosive batter was also sent back by them three times. Jaiswal's average is a staggering 109 in 10 innings while Jadeja averages 105.50 from 18 innings. such tweakers.

Given the recent records of Indian batters against them, entry of a slow left-arm spinner in the opponents' ranks could well be a big sub-plot in the second Test. What makes the matter more interesting is the upcoming three-Test series against New Zealand, which begins next month. Patel, who already had a successful India tour three years ago wherein he claimed a record 10 wickets in an innings in Mumbai, will lead the spin attack that also has left-arm tweak-



Shooter Arjun Babuta finished fourth in the men's 10m air rifle at Paris Games

Arjun's journey of self discovery post **Paris heartbreak**

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

Both of them got out twice to ARJUN Babuta is on a journey of self discovery at the moment. The pendulum has seemingly made a massive swing in his life. The shooter from Punjab had experienced pure agony not so long ago, having narrowly missed out on his life-long dream (an Olympic medal) during the Paris Games. It's been close to two months since that event unfolded and he's still dumbfounded, especially given that he had 'emptied his tank'. The level of impact that re-

looking to take things slow.

"I started shooting two days back and I'm training at the 50m range because I just don't want to do 10m at the moment. 50m is something I can explore and I'm working on it right now," Arjun, who is taking part in the All-Indian Railway Shooting meet in Jaipur, noted.

His outlook towards life and the sport might be evolving but his mantra remains the same. He's intent on enjoying the sport. "That day (Olympic final) doesn't define what kind of shooter I am. I have been good and I'm still good and there's much more to come in the future. I'll try to take a break after the World Cup final. Right now I just want to enjoy the process, the mantra that I have been following for the past few years. And that process helped me maintain my creativity." Fortunately, Arjun, who is supported by Olympic Gold Quest, has the ideal support system - his parents, coaches, sports science team - to navigate this tricky phase. They have constantly lent their ears in order to help him. Arjun, on his part, is mindful that he needs to maintain a certain level of discipline to remain in the game. As he grapples to get a better understanding of his recent past, music is something that has appealed to his senses. "I'm trying to learn harmonium and I also bought a tabla. I played it in Gurudwara for three years before shooting. I'm trying to learn new things and also stay connected with shooting. After the Railways meet, Arjun is set to take part in the upcoming ISSF World Cup Final, which is set to be held in New Delhi next month. With the never-ending backing of coach Deepali Deshpande, he's aiming for a stress-free experience then. "Deepali ma'am asked me to take a break from 10m and she told me 'if you don't want to do it (shoot 10m), don't do it'. After the World Cup final, I'll definitely take a break. Even right now, she asked me not to stress about the upcoming competition and just try and enjoy it. Recovery, especially the mental side, is much more important at the moment." This current phase might be a new territory for Arjun but he has had his share of challenges in the past. He'll be hoping to get clarity as soon as possible and return stronger.

against this particular bowling type (Patel, currently in Sri Lanka, will be a curious onlooker).

Since January 2022, Indian batters have lost their wickets to the left-arm spinners a whop-

pretty picture. Skipper Rohit Sharma averages 39.66 and got out 6 times in 18 innings. Star batter Virat Kohli's records too are dismal in that period against left-arm spinners. He averages 35.40 in 17 innings and has lost his wickets five times to them.

ers in the form of Mitchell Santner and Rachin Ravindra (batting all-rounder).

How Indian batters fare against Islam in Kanpur could well decide their fate going into their next assignment against the visiting Kiwis.

AICF announces ₹ 3.2 cr for Olympiad winners

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

THE All India Chess Federation announced a whopping ₹3.2 crore in rewards for the historic 45th Olympiad-winning Indian teams during a felicitation ceremony here on Wednesday. AICF president Nitin Narang made the announcement during the event.

Each player from the winning teams will receive ₹25 lakh, while the coaches of the men's and women's teams, Abhijeet Kunte and Srinath Narayanan, will be rewarded with ₹15 lakh each. Grandmaster Dibyendu Barua, head of the Indian delegation, will receive ₹10 lakh, and the assistant coaches will be rewarded ₹7.5 lakh. "The hunger for gold ended in Hungary, but the desire for success continues. In the open section we dominated and in women's

ers." India made history at the 45th Chess Olympiad in Budaen's teams clinched their maiden gold medals, marking a monumental achievement in Indian chess. The men's team, gaisi, and R Praggnanandhaa, out, defeating Slovenia in the

Indian open and women's chess team members who won gold medal at the Olympiad recently met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday | PTI

section we owned it," AICF president Narang said during the felicitation. "Our players are sharp shooters on the chessboard. The seeds planted by Vishwanathan Anand have grown into a forest."

A Patel said the historic twin gold medals will help in bring-

ing a chess revolution in the country. "In 97 years of Chess Olympiad, we won gold in both categories. It's a historic achievement," Patel said. "This AICF secretary general Dev will give a new spark to chess

EXPRESS READ

Jasmine takes 3-shot lead in Leg 13 of Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour

GURUGRAM: Jasmine Shekar tamed the Golden Greens Golf Club course with one of her best rounds in her short pro career as she took a three-shot lead after the first round of Leg 13 of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour. The 19-year-old fired seven birdies against one bogey for a round of 6-under 66 and was three shots clear of Ridhima Dilawari (69).

Macau Open: Srikanth leads Indian charge into second round

Macau: Star shuttler Kidambi Srikanth, along with compatriots Ayush Shetty and Tasnim Mir, advanced to the second round of the singles event at the Macau Open Super 300 badminton tournament on Wednesday. In his first competition since recovering from an injury sustained in May, Srikanth outclassed

Israel's Daniil Dubovenko 21-14, 21-15.

Days after tough Arsenal clash, Man City win in League Cup

champions.

MANCHESTER: Playing just two days after a feisty Premier League match against Arsenal, Manchester City fielded a heavily rotated team and still had too much for second-tier Watford in the English League Cup. City won 2-1 thanks to first-half goals by Jeremy Doku and Matheus Nunes at Etihad Stadium as the third round continued Tuesday.

NADA serves whereabouts failure notice to wrestler Vinesh

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

THE National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) on Wednesday served a notice to wrestler Vinesh Phogat for whereabouts failure and sought an explanation within 14 days.

All the athletes registered with NADA's Registered Testing Pool (RTP), of which Vinesh is a part, are required to provide details about their availability for dope tests. If they fill the details and are found not available on that location at that given time, it is considered a whereabouts failure. The NADA, in its notice, conveyed to the wrestler-turned-politician that she had apparently committed a whereabouts failure as she was not available for a dope test on September 9 at her house in Sonepat. Vinesh had announced her retirement from the sport after the Paris heartbreak, where she made the final but was disqualified ahead of her gold-medal bout for being overweight. Vinesh and fellow wrestler Bajrang Punia joined the Congress party and she is contesting the upcoming Haryana election.

IOA infighting puts its own election under the scanner

Having held the rifle for the first time since that outcome just a few days ago, he does not like the idea of shooting a 10m air rifle event for now. "What I have been able to process is that I gave my 100 per cent, my tanks were empty. I gave so much that I don't want to hold my rifle as of now. There are too many emotions at the moment. I'm either looking to shoot a crazy eight, nine hours a day or I don't want to do it at all," the 2022 Changwon World Cup gold winner said.

sult has had on him is notable.

"So I'm still just trying to process everything and get used to this change. There's definitely a change in me after the Olympics and I think I just need to get used to this new self and try to learn more about myself," the 25-year-old added.

Given that he had invested all his energy going into the Games and given the harsh outcome of finishing fourth, his predicament is understandable. He's just trying to make sense of his recent past before devising concrete plans for the future. "The last three, four months have been crazy and we were involved in a lot of travelling and I just want to find peace time, alone time to process everything, assess everything and see where life is heading," he said.

Arjun might be struggling to obtain answers but he's also mindful of the effort that he has put in from his side. "But overall, I'm proud of the way I played. I missed a medal by a whisker but fourth is also a thing to be proud of. And somebody had to finish fourth and it was me," the 2023 Asian Championships silver medallist assessed. Despite being unable to infiltrate the bottom of the matter, he's not looking to force the issue and with the guidance of the people around him, he's

Konark Suryas eyeing back-to-back wins at LLC

THE Indian Olympic Associa-



the selection process adopted for names can be incorporated in tainted Wrestling Federation of selecting Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and their participation in the election process of the IOA for elected post... (dated: 10.12.2022)". Usha is one of the eight SOMs who were selected by the IOA's Athletes Commission. There are at least four SOMs in the EC (that has a total of 15 members): PT Usha (athletics), Yogeshwar Dutt (wrestling), Rohit Rajpal (tennis) and Dola Banerjee (archery). Dutt, Rajpal and Banerjee are EC members and signatory to the 14-point agenda list sent to the IOA president for Thursday's meeting. MM Somaya (hockey), Suma Shirur (shooting), Aparna Popat (badminton) and Akhil Kumar (boxing) are the other members. The letter written by one of the contestants to Rajeev Mehta, the then secretary of the IOA, had questioned the validity of the process that went into selecting the eight names. It also alleged, since the general body has ratified the names, whether their

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

KONARK Suryas Odisha is eyeing back-to-back victories in the Legends League Cricket (LLC) 2024. The team led by Irfan Pathan in its second league round match is once again pitted against defending champion Manipal Tigers at Lalbhai Contractor Stadium in Surat on Friday.

In its inaugural match on September 20, Konark Suryas scripted a thrilling two run victory against Manipal Tigers at Barkatullah Stadium in Jodhpur. Batting first on a slow track, Konark Suryas managed to put up a modest total of 104 for nine in 20 overs. But the team's bowlers displayed a splendid performance and restricted Manipal Tigers to 102 for 8.

Konark Suryas Odisha is tional heroes."

now among the six teams of the league including India Capitals Delhi, Gujarat Gi-

ants, Manipal Tigers Bengaluru, Urbanrisers Hyderabad, Southern Superstars Chennai that will play 25 matches at four different venues in Jodhpur, Surat, Jammu and Kashmir. The top two teams will play the final on October 16.

Chairperson of Sanpriya Group Sanjeev Srivastva said "With the introduction of Legends League Cricket and Team Konark Suryas Odisha along with significant infrastructure investments in setting up a multi sports centre of excellence, we aim to provide newfound opportunity to the youth of Odisha and take sports culture to schools, scout talent and train them in the centres to make them na-

tion's (IOA) emergency meeting, called by the president, PT Usha, on Thursday is expected to be volatile.

The one-point agenda – the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – is expected to be converted into a multi-point agenda. The 12 members of the Executive Committee apparently have written to Usha to include 14 more points that need to be discussed during the emergency EC meeting. The tussle of power between the IOA president and the EC members has reached its tipping point. The IOA president had issued show cause notices to five members of the EC after receiving complaints from an undisclosed person. The complainant had raised concerns about the eligibility of the five EC members, including its senior vice president, Ajay Patel, and treasurer, Sahdev Yadav. The IOA president has asked them to clarify whether they are

in violation of sports code, especially when it comes to term and tenure. The allegations are that some of the EC members have already completed a maximum of 12 years (three fouryear terms) in office in a National Sports Federation as stipulated in the sports code. Following sports code has been made mandatory through various directives of the sports ministry and courts.

If the IOA president has sent show cause notices for flouting sports code guidelines, then the EC members have questioned the entire selection procedure for the posts of Sportspersons of Merit (SOMs). The first point the EC members want to discuss (on Thursday) is "the issue of

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the electoral college or make them eligible to contest elections. Interestingly, it is understood that the general body did not raise any objection to the ratification of the SOMs names in 2022. Whether or not they are eligible is a different question. But going through the List of Nominated Candidates (2022 IOA election; Form 3 dated 29.11.2022) for the election reveal an interesting story. There were not too many contestants but those who won were more or less proposed and seconded by the same set of people.

For example, the president, an SOM, was proposed by all powerful chief minister of Assam and Badminton Association of India chief Himanta Biswa Sarma and seconded by M Somaya, an SOM. Ajay Patel was proposed by former union minister Arjun Munda and seconded by an SOM, Dutt. Name of Gagan Narang, the vice president, was proposed by former

India president Brijbhushan Sharan Singh and an SOM, Usha. Sahdev Yadav's name was proposed by AITA president and former MP Anil Kumar Jain and seconded by Aparna Popat. Again Bhupinder Singh Bajwa, who completed his 12-year tenure in Wushu federation, was proposed by Amitabh Sharma and Dutt (SOM). Davis Cup captain Rajpal's name was proposed by Usha herself and Banerjee (both SOMs). Banerjee was proposed by Aparna and Narang, while that of Dutt was by Bijbhushan and Sahdev. The fight between the IOA president and the EC members is threatening the very existence of the IOA. The members are in fact questioning the very election through which they were elected.

Whatever the result of the meeting be on Thursday, one thing is sure. The very election through which they were elected is now under the scanner.



XPLORE Thavel THURSDAY 26.09.2024



Delhi Airport rolls out The Fast Track Immigration **Trusted Travellers Program** to reduce the wait period.

Stay at: Fraser Suits

Diplomatic Area, Manama Gulf Air offers direct flights to

Bahrain from Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kochi, Hvderabad, Thiruvananthapuram and

Mumbai.

Goa gets a new cruise terminal at Mormugao offering state-ofthe-art facilities like duty-free lounges, shops and food courts.

SAMBALPUR

Explore the fun side of 'Pearl of Gulf' with these six hand-picked activities that not only promise an adrenaline rush but a deeper understanding of this island nation...



SRUSHTI KULKARNI

HILE Bahrain is famed for its rich history of 4,000 years and modern marvels, adventure seekers are discovering a more thrilling side of this lesser-known Middle Eastern gem. Beyond the renowned karting circuits, jet ski rentals and horse riding tours at

Bahrain Fort, the ever-developing island nation offers an array of exhilarating activities that make this destination even more desirable. From diving deep into the past to soaring through the skies, Bahrain's adventure offerings are as diverse as they are exciting. The beauty of this itinerary lies in its convenience — all these locations are within an hour's drive from Manama (the capital city), allowing you to experience the entire adventure in just one day. Here's a peek at some unique experiences to enjoy on your visit.

illustrious past with a pearl diving expedition, a tribute to the nation's ancient pearl trade. This





For a leisurely yet distinctive experience, set sail from South Wharf aboard a quirky doughnutshaped boat for a one-hour scenic ride around Bahrain Bay. Perfect for small groups, these boats offer a relaxed atmosphere where you can indulge in onboard dining, featuring New York-style pizzas and ice-cream stuffed doughnuts. As you glide across the waters at your own pace, soak in the breathtaking views of Manama's iconic skyline shimmering in the sunset. With a licensed captain at the helm, you can sit back, unwind and fully immerse yourself in this unique, peaceful journey. ₹4,220 onwards. At Manama.

In partnership with YK Almoayyed and Sons, the Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) offers a dynamic off-road experience that lets you master the art of 4X4 driving. Behind the



Lost Paradise of Dilmun Water Park

For those who love a splash of fun, the Lost Paradise of Dilmun offers an exhilarating day out. This sprawling water park, inspired by Bahrain's ancient Dilmun civilisation, boasts thrilling slides, lazy rivers and wave pools. Whether you're after high-octane thrills or leisurely relaxation, the park provides a refreshing escape from the desert heat, catering to all ages with myriad water-based attractions. Popular rides include the Super Bowl, Family Raft Ride and Oasis Pool. *Entry fee:* ₹3,775 onwards. At Hawrat Ingah.

newindianexpress

Kayaking In Mangroves

Discover Bahrain's hidden ecological gem with a serene kayaking adventure through the mangroves at Tubli Bay. This one-of-a-kind eco-tour will leave you in awe of the lush green mangroves strangely flourishing in the midst of desert. Just a short 10-minute journey offshore, you'll paddle through calm waters amidst flocks of flamingos, fish, crabs, shellfish and even sea turtles. ₹1,776 onwards. At Tubli Bay.



CORRIGENDUM-01 to

Bhubaneswar

reason

Sd/-

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dubai to soon boast the world's first **Museum of Candy**

SRUSHTI KULKARNI

UBAI, renowned for its luxurious attractions and welcoming new landmarks every now and then, is set to welcome a delightful addition to its vibrant entertainment scene — the world's first-ever Museum of Candy. This immersive experience promises to captivate visitors of all ages with its unique blend of indulgence and interactive fun, right in the heart of the UAE.

Following the buzz around the Museum of Ice Cream in Singapore, Dubai's latest family-friendly attraction offers a sweet journey through over 15 uniquely themed rooms, each dedicated to a different type of confectionery. From candy canes and gummy bears to lollipops, cotton candy and macarons, the museum is set to cater to every sweet craving imaginable.

Visitors can look forward to an array of Instagram-



mable highlights, including a cotton candy bath, a gummy bear pool and an 'ice cream thrill and chill' room. Each space has been meticulously designed to ignite curiosity and bring joy, making it more than just a visual

feast but an all-encompassing sensory adventure. A standout feature of the Museum of Candy will be

its café, offering an array of unique treats such as candy milkshakes and ice creams, alongside a tempting selection of sweets to enjoy on the spot or take home.

शुद्रधपित्र CORRIGENDUM					
1	e-Tender Notice No.	HWPT/Civil/Plant/06/2024			
2	Name of work	Improvemental works in peripheral boundary at HWP(T).			
3	Dates for Download of Tender Document	Extended up to 03.10.2024 (15.30 Hrs.)			
4	Last Date and time of online submission	03.10.2024 (15.30 Hrs.)			
5	Date and time of online opening of Part A	05.10.2024 (15.30 Hrs.)			

angrotatan General Manager भारत में राष्ट्रपत के लींग पर्व उनकी और से For & on behalf of President of India

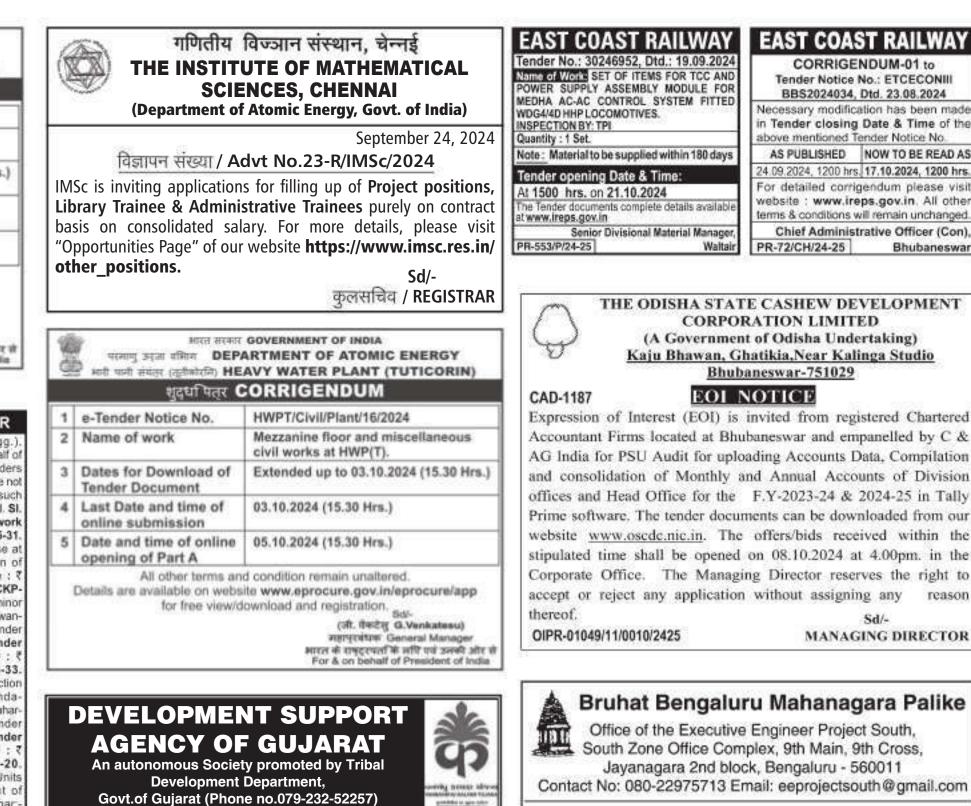
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS,

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS, CIVIL WING PRESS NOTICE INVITING COMPOSITE **PERCENTAGE RATE e-TENDER Executive Engineer(C)**, Postal Civil Division, Chennai, invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate composite tenders for the following work: N.I.T. No.: 47/PCD/C/2024-25 Name of Work: Construction of L2 parel hub at Tiruppur staff quarters

vacant site under Tiruppur Division Estimated Cost : Rs.2.09.36.976/-{Rs.20228184/- (Civil Portion) & Rs.7,08,792/- (Electrical Portion) Earnest Money: Rs.4, 18, 740/-Period of completion :Twelve months Last time and date of submission of bid : 09.10.24 upto 1500 Hrss.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://eprocure.gov.in

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER Divisional Railway Manager (Engg. Chakradharpur acting For & On behalf o The President of India invites E-Tenders against Open Tender. Manual offers are not llowed against this tender, and any such nanual offer received shall be ignored. SI. No., Tender Notice No. & Name of work are as follows : 1, CKP-SOUTH-24-25-31 construction of Officer's Rest House : Dangoaposi under the jurisdiction o DEN/SOUTH/CKP. Tender Value : 90,96,357.51. EMD : ₹ 1,81,900/-. 2. CKP SOUTH-24-25-32. Strengthening of mind bridges in between section Rajkharsawan-Padapahar-Under ADEN/Chaibasa unde urisdiction of DEN(south)/CKP. Tender Value : ₹ 1,62,39,881.21. EMD : 2.31.200/-. 3. CKP-SOUTH-24-25-33 Strengthening of minor bridges in sectio (Padapahar-Barajamda, Barajamda-Bolanikhadan, Baraiamda-GX, Padapaha laroli) under ADEN/Dangoaposi unde urisdiction of DEN(south)/CKP. Tender Value : ₹ 2.13,52,011.73. EMD : 2,56,800/-. 4. CKP-EAST-24-25-20. 1)Tatanagar:- Construction of 02 Units Type-IV quarters in replacement p ondemned quarters and (II)Tatanagar: Construction of 02 Units Typ -IV quarters. Tender Value : ₹ 1,60,93,777.06. EMD : ₹



No. EEP(S)/e-portal/kppp/7/2024-25/Call-2 Dated: 25.09.2024

For those looking to extend the experience, a gift shop will be on hand, filled with a wide range of confectionerv delights.

The museum is poised to open its doors in the coming weeks, although an official launch date has yet to be confirmed. Once open, it will operate from Monday to Friday, 10 am to 12 am, with the last entry an hour before closing time. Valet parking will also be available, adding to the convenience of the experience.

For those looking to make the most of their visit, the museum offers several ticket options. A General Admission ticket provides access to the vibrant world of sweets, while the VIP ticket includes priority entry, private assistance, exclusive gifts and a luxury candy experience like no other. Group tickets are also available, offering delicious surprises at a special rate — perfect for a fun-filled outing with friends, family or colleagues.





Development Support Agency of Gujarat (D-SAG) is developing the National Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum at Garudeshwar, Rajpipla in the Narmada District. D-SAG is looking for a Design and Project Management Consultant (DPMC) for the Museum, Curation and Allied Works for the Project for which D-SAG is giving an Open Call for Agencies involved in Architectural Design, Exhibit Design, Project Management, Civil and MEPF Construction works (especially EPC Works) to discuss the potential procurement strategies for the work. An Open meeting in both offline and online mode is arranged for interested parties for the discussion whose details are as below:

Date of the meeting	Dt. 30/09/2024			
Time of the meeting	11:00 AM			
Venue of the meeting				
Link for Online Meeting	https://meet.google.com/vgb-xyzu-viy			
Interested parties who are willing to attend are requested to RSVP via email to museum-dsag-gnr@gujarat.gov.in and inform your presence. More details can be obtained from the office of Chief Executive officer, Development Support Agency of Gujarat, 3rd Floor, Birsa Munda Bhavan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat-382010. Phone: (079) 23252257, Email: ceo-dsag@gujarat.gov.in				
	Chief Executive Offic			

Chief Executive Officer **Development Support Agency of Gujarat** Gandhinagar

Tender Corrigendum Notification

- Sub:- This office Corrigendum in the Invitation for Tenders called through KPPP e-Portal.
- Ref:- This Office Tender Corrigendum Notification No: EEP(S)/ kppp/e-portal/7/2024-25/Call-2, Date: 19-09-2024.

In the Invitation for Tenders for Providing Security Guards to BBMP Schools and Colleges of South and RR Nagar Zone on outsources basis (Call-2) issued by this office dated: 19-09-2024 vide No: EEP(S)/e-portal/kppp/7/2024-25/Call-2 invited through KPPP e-portal few changes have been made in the Tender as per the details given below due to various reasons. The Corrigendum details are as follows:

SI No	Particulars	Details as Published	Amended details
1	Tender Maintenance Period	12 Months	10 Months
2	Approx Amount as scheduled (in Rs.)	1,92,20,040/-	2,48,12,797/-
3	EMD Amount as scheduled (in Rs.)	2,88,300/-	3,72,200/-

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project South







