VISAKHAPATNAM • SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 12 • LATE CITY EDITION



THOUSANDS OF TRUCKS STRANDED **ALONG J'KHAND-BENGAL BORDER**

The vehicles are stuck along NH-2 and NH-4 at the inter-state border after the West Bengal government blocked trucks from Jharkhand

MOVE IN PROTEST AGAINST BENGAL FLOODING

According to reports, the Mamata Banerjee-led government in West Bengal restricted the entry of heavy vehicles from the neighbouring state in protest against the continuous release of water from Maithon and Panchet dams operated by the Damodar Valley Corporation, a central government entity, which resulted in flooding of Paschim Bardhaman and Medinipur districts



NEGOTIATIONS ON TO SORT OUT THE MATTER

■ Due to heavy rainfall in Jharkhand, 58,451 acre-feet of water was released from Maithon Dam and 220,640 acre-feet from Panchet Dam

"Senior officials and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren have been informed about it. Negotiations at the government level are underway," Dhanbad deputy commissioner Madhvi Mishra told media persons | P8



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SAYS THE WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT WAS KEPT IN THE LOOP ABOUT WATER RELEASE

CHENNAI = MADURAI = VIJAYAWADA = BENGALURU = KOCHI = HYDERABAD = VISAKHAPATNAM = COIMBATORE = KOZHIKODE = THRUVANANTHAPURAM = BELAGAVI = BHUBANESWAR = SHIVAMOGGA = MANGALURU = TIRUPATI = TIRUCHY = TIRUPATI = TIRUCHY = TIRUPATI = TIRUCHY = TIRUPATI = TIRUCHY = TIRUPATI = TIR

HC strikes down govt rules to set up fact checker

Says they are unconstitutional and can have a chilling effect on freedom of expression



Petitioners

Stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra, **Editors Guild of** India, News Broadcast and Digital Association, and Association of Indian Magazines had filed petitions in the HC opposing the Centre's move to set up Fact

Govt's view

Checking Units

The Centre told the Bombay High Court on July 24 that the right to know factually correct information and the right to not be misled were equally important as the right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a)

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

THE Bombay High Court on Friday struck down the amended Information Technology Rules, specifically Rule 3, which empowered the Central government to form fact checking units (FCUs) to deal with "fake, false, or misleading" content about the government on social media and online platforms.

The 'tiebreaker' verdict was delivered by Justice A S Chandurkar. The amended rules violated several constitutional provisions, including Article 14 (right to equality), Article 19 (freedom of speech and expression), and Article 19(1)(g) (freedom to practice any profession), Justice A S Chandurkar held. Rule 3(1)(b)(5)—the provision dealing with the establishment of FCUs—was ultra vires to the Constitution, he judge added.

Terming the amended provision 'vague and overbroad', the judge held that it could have a 'chilling effect' not only on individuals but also social media intermediaries and platforms.

Justice Chandurkar held that the expressions 'fake, false or misleading' are vague and that the test of proportionality is not satisfied. "Impugned Rule as amended be struck down. All the petitions will be placed before the division bench to be decided," the judge held. Justice Chandurkar's opinion will now be placed before a division bench, which will formally announce the 2:1 majority against the impugned rules.

The case was referred to Justice Chandurkar following a split verdict in the matter by a bench of Justices G S Patel and Neela Gokhale in January this year. While Justice Patel struck down Rule 3 citing concerns about the potential for censorship of user content, Justice Gokhale took the view that the amended rules did not impact free speech significantly.

The division bench also differed on whether a stay should be granted to the setting up of the FCU pending the hearing by a third judge. Justice Patel said the FCU should not be notified until the matter was heard by a third judge, while Justice Gokhale said it could be notified.

Following this, High Court Chief Justice D K Upadhyay appointed Justice Chandurkar to provide a tie-breaking opinion on the case.

Maha BJP will hit a century, says Fadnavis

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

MAHARASHTRA Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday expressed confidence in the BJP winning 100 seats on its own in the forthcoming assembly elections in November. He attributed his confidence to the slew of development projects his government initiated across the state.

Fadnavis was speaking at the first edition of The New Indian Express' Mumbai Dialogues — a platform for exchange of ideas on politics, economy and other social issues in Mumbai.

However, Opposition leaders did not share Fadnavis' optimism. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aditya Thackeray Ramesh Chennithala, Rajya from Milind Deora who said



From left: Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Maharashtra Congress in-charge Ramesh Chennithala, and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aditya Thackeray participating in the first edition of The New Indian Express' Mumbai Dialogues

shared his concern over Maharashtra los-Dial O gues ing several development and job-generating projects to Gujarat during the current

> The event was also attended by Congress MLA and Maharashtra Congress in-charge

regime.

Sabha member of Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) Milind Deora and film director Kiran Rao.

ures of the Maharashtra government and expressed confidence that the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) would come to power in the state. The counterpoint came

Chennithala listed the fail-

during the MVA's rule, infrastructure development of Mumbai city came to a standstill due to internal politics. In contrast, under the leadership of Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, infrastructure projects like coastal road, Atal Setu and airport at Navi Mumbai came

up and got completed, he said. Two sessions on economy,

banking and equity markets discussed the challenges ahead, particularly those on job creation. "Creating jobs is the most critical aspect to sustain the current growth rate, which will lead to the country becoming a middle income economy," said banker Keki M Mistry. The former Vice Chairman and Chief Executive of HDFC said while the economy is on a solid footing growing at over 7%, to sustain this level of growth "we need to create more jobs".

To a question on the controversies around the Sebi chairman, he said the country's regulatory framework is extremely strong and robust.

Devina Mehra, founder of First Global, said though share prices are at a record high, they are frothy only in certain pockets; so new inves-

Har Pal Aapke Saath

Nadda speaks to Naidu, seeks report on Laddu row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

ASSERTING that the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) will examine the issue regarding the purported use of animal fat for preparing Srivari Laddus and

take suitable action, Union Health Minister JP Nadda on Friday said he had spoken to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and sought a report on the matter.

Speaking to mediapersons on the achievements in the health sector during the first 100 days of the Modi government's third term, Nadda said, "I have learnt about the issue through social media. I spoke to Chandrababu Naidu today and asked him to share the available report so that I

can examine it. I will also

speak to the State regulators

and take their views."

Further, he added the report will be examined and suitable action taken within the legal framework and regulations under the FSSAI. "The FSSAI will examine it, give a report and then we will take action," he explained.



Reports about defilement of Prasad at Sri Venkateshwara temple in Tirupati are disturb ing. Lord Balaji is a revered deity for millions of devotees in India and across the world. This issue will hurt every devotee & needs to be thoroughly looked into. Authorities across India have to protect the sanctity of our religious spaces

EXPRESS READ

Actress case: Vidyasagar arrested

Vijayawada: In a major development in the alleged harassment case involving Bollywood actress Kadambari Jethwani, NTR district police arrested one of the accused, YSRC leader Kukkala Vidyasagar, from a private resort in Dehradun | P3

64 dead turtles found in ASR district

Visakhaptanam: In another case of wildlife poaching, officials from the Folkspeta forest division discovered 64 dead turtles and managed to rescue seven live ones on the outskirts of Gangavaram in Alluri Sitarama Raju district on Thursday | P2

Tirumala Laddu row snowballs

TN-BASED DAIRY

TTD EO Shyamala Rao said four tankers of ghee supplied by Tamil Nadu-based AR Dairy Food was found to be of substandard quality. Following tests at an NDDB lab, overall purity of ghee was found to be abnormally low. Subsequently, supplies were stopped & blacklisting procedure was initiated. Rao claimed that suppliers took advantage of the lack of an in-house

lab to test quality of ingredients.

TTD TO BLACKLIST

AR DAIRY REFUTES CHARGE

AR Dairy Food Private Limited in Dindigul, one of the ghee suppliers, denied the allegations, asserting that they had supplied high-

quality ghee to the

TTD and are ready to

face any legal action.

EX-TTD CHIEF MOVES HIGH COURT

TTD former chairman and YSRC Rajya Sabha MP YV Subba Reddy on Friday approached the High Court, seeking inquiry by a sitting judge on the alleged adulteration of

ghee used in the preparation of Tirumala Srivari Laddu Prasadam.

The court made it clear that it will accept PILs only on Wednesday and directed the advocate to file the plea before that | P3

Laddu politics to divert public attention: Jagan

KALYAN THOLETI @ Vijayawada

STRONGLY refuting charges of diluting the sanctity of Tirumala Srivari prasadam, former chief minister and YSRC president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on Friday accused TDP supremo and Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu of playing with God and sentiments of devotees for diverting public attention from his failure to implement election promises even after completing 100 days in office.

Addressing a press conference at the party office in Tadepalli, Jagan questioned, "Is it fair for a man in the Chief Minister's position to allege that adulterated ghee and animal fat were used in preparing Srivari Laddus? He's not even leaving God for his politics as he's afraid that people may pull him up for failing to implement his Super Six guarantees."



Jagan said he will send letters to the Prime Minister and Chief Justice of India seeking action against Naidu for seeking to tarnish the image of the State and Srivari temple for his political purposes.

Explaining that there was no scope for using animal fats or adulterated ghee in Tirumala, the former chief minister said procurement of ghee is a routine process that is being followed for decades. **P3**

Naidu finds fault with procurement of ghee at ₹320/kg

S VISWANATH @ Vijayawada

ALLEGING that neither Prasadams nor Darshanams was of satisfactory level during the previous YSRC dispensation, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said, "Adulterated ghee bought at ₹320 was used in preparation of Tirumala Laddu and Naivedyam to the God."

Lashing out at the YSRC leaders for claiming that they did not commit any mistake, Naidu found fault with ghee being procured at ₹320 per kg. Speaking during 'Idi Manchi Prabhutvam' (This is a good government) programme at Maddiralapadu in Prakasam district on Friday, the Chief Minister said, "One should think twice when the ghee, which normally costs at least ₹500 a kg, is being offered at ₹320."

Accusing the previous YSRC government of desecrating the sanctity of Tirumala, Naidu said he appointed a new Executive Officer for TTD (Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams) soon after forming government in the State and commenced cleansing of the whole system, besides improving the quality of Laddus.

Without naming former TTD chairman and YSRC Rajya Sabha MP YV Subba Reddy, the Chief Minister accused him of committing several blunders and now feigning innocence. **P3**

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Thunderstorm

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Poaching attempt thwarted, 64 turtles dead

A van evaded checkpoint during vehicle check; poachers dumped turtles on Gangavaram outskirts and escaped

USHA PERI @ Visakhaptanam

IN yet another tragic wildlife poaching incident, officials from the Folkspeta forest division discovered 64 dead turtles and managed to rescue seven live ones on the outskirts of Gangavaram in the Alluri Sitarama Raju district agency area on Thursday. Acting on a tipoff, the forest department carried out the operation in the area, which has seen frequent wildlife trafficking in recent forts, the poachers managed to

Forest Range Officer (FRO) M Karunakar and his team til the next morning (Thurswere conducting vehicle checks when they noticed a suspicious van attempting to evade the checkpoint. Despite their ef-



ASR district forest officials buried the dead turtles in Gangavaram I express

flee, taking advantage of the thick forest cover. It wasn't unday) that the officials discovered the abandoned turtles near the village outskirts. According to officials, the poach-

ers had attempted to transport the turtles towards Odisha, where turtle meat is in high

Speaking to TNIE, FRO Karunakar said, "The poachers were headed to Odisha. As part of a 100-day action plan, ganga

check posts had been set up across various locations in the region. We received a tip-off and went to the Gangavaram check post. On seeing us, the poachers turned back but encountered another checkpost on the same route. They then drove into the forest near a water stream, abandoning the turtles," he explained.

The next morning, local villagers reported seeing turtles on the road. When the forest officials reached the spot, they found gunny bags containing turtles, many of which had escaped into the nearby water stream. "Around 200 returned to the water, while 64 were found dead. Fortunately, seven were alive, and we released

them back into the stream," Karunakar added.

"This is an ongoing issue.

There is a regular demand for turtle meat in Odisha, and poachers take advantage of the dense forests and water bodies to carry out their illegal activities. More anti-poaching squads are needed in vulnerable regions, including ASR, East Godavari, West Godavari, Konaseema, Rajamahendravaram districts," he stated. The department identified major hotspots for turtle poaching, including Tanuku, Ramachandrapuram, Penugonda, Ethakota, and Akividu. Efforts are underway to strengthen surveillance and prevent further incidents.

Dr Rajasekhar to take part in **UNESCO** meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Visakhapatnam

GEOHERITAGE cell advisor, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, Vizag Chapter of INTACH convenor Dr D Rajasekhar Reddy has been invited to take part in the 'First Capacity Building Training cum Workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks' organised by UNESCO and the Geological Survey of India.

It will be held from September 23 to 26, with the first two days at UNESCO House, Delhi, followed by a field trip in Rajastan. He will deliver a talk on 'Grassroot Geopark Initiatives in India'.



Lack of bridge across Champavati causes hardship to tribals

The construction of

the bridge has been

a decade-long

dream for us. The

river swells

whenever there is

heavy rain. I appeal

to the government

to complete the

bridge at the

earliest

Ramana, a villager

SREENU BABU PATIVADA @ Vizianagaram

AT least 12 tribal villages have been cut off from the mandal headquarters, Gajapathinagaram, as the Champavathi River is in spate due to incessant

rains over the past 24 hours. The primary cause of the hardship is the delayed construction of a promised bridge. The river has been receiving heavy inflows from the Andra Reservoir.

Villages such as Marrivalasa, Sidagamvalasa, Malleduvalasa, Saradavalasa, and Ravivalasa have been completely cut off. Residents are forced to wade

through neck-deep water to cross the river, with some even using a rope tied between the two banks for safety.

Earlier, a video of a 21-yearold woman, Taddi Kalavathi, crossing the river in neck-deep water with the help of her

brothers to reach Visakhapatnam on September 9, 2023, went viral. Following this, the then district collector, A Suryakumari, sanctioned ₹5 crore for the construction of a bridge under Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) funds,

> but there has been no progress.

> Speaking to TNIE, Sravani, a Class IX student, said, "We are forced to cross the river in neck-deep water due to the absence of a bridge. It is becoming very difficult to attend school." Ramana of Marrivalasa added, "We are facing difficulties reaching our mandal headquarters, Gajapathinagaram, be-

cause there is no bridge across the Champavathi. The construction of the bridge has been a decade-long dream for us. The river swells whenever there is heavy rain. I appeal to the government to complete the bridge as soon as possible.'

panel member

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Visakhapatnam

visits VPA

National SC

NATIONAL Commission for Scheduled Castes member Vaddepalli Ramchander visited the Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) on Friday. Ramchander met the SC Employees' & Officers Association to address their grievances. He chaired a review meeting with the port management and focused on implementing reservation policies for the SCs. Port officials presented a detailed presentation on VPA's infrastructure, import-export facilities, business opportunities, green initiatives, and ongoing projects.

Officers briefed Ramchander on the effective utilisation of CSR funds for the welfare of the SC community at VPA. Ramchander expressed satisfaction with the utilisation of these funds.

He planted a sapling at the administrative office premises. Director of AP State Commission G Sunil Kumar Babu, VPA deputy chairperson Durgesh Kumar Dubey, SC Association representatives, Heads of Departments from VPA, and senior officers were present.

Collective efforts vital to curb child marriages: UNICEF representatives

USHA PERI @ Visakhapatnam

REPRESENTATIVES from UNICEF and the Women and Child Welfare Department stressed the need for a collaborative approach, involving parents, social activists, and officials, to curb child marriages.

During a regional workshop on adolescent development held in Visakhapatnam on Friday, they expressed concern over the high prevalence of child marriages in the State.

Held at the District Parishad Conference Hall on Friday, the workshop brought together key officials and experts to address the challenges facing adolescents. Murali Krishna,

SREENU BABU PATIVADA

THE renowned Sri Pydithalli

Ammavaru festival, one of

North Andhra's largest folk cel-

ebrations, began on Friday

with the Pandiri Rata and Man-

dali Deeksha rituals. Viziana-

garam MLA Pusapati Aditi Vi-

jayalaxmi Raju performed a

special puja at the Chaduru

Gudi temple, followed by the

the 41-day Deeksha at the Sri

Several devotees also took

Pandiri Rata Utsavam.

@ Vizianagaram

Sri Pydithalli Ammavaru

festival begins in V'nagaram



langana, was joined by representatives Kasinath and Mary Jones, along with Regional Joint Director of the Women and Child Welfare Department, G Chinnayi Devi.

Discussions on policy recommendations and future actions to curb child marriages were held. Officials highlighted the importance of educating girls

Venkateswara Swamy temple.

Temple chief priest Bantupalli

Venkatarao led the Pandiri

Rata Mahotsavam, which drew

ing with Chandi Homam, spans

41 days, with the highlight Sir-

imanostavam procession sched-

MLA Aditi Vijayalaxmi Raju

mentioned that the government

is preparing for over two lakh

devotees, ensuring smooth ar-

rangements for hassle-free

This annual festival, conclud-

a large crowd.

darshan.

EXPRESS READ

Essay writing & elocution contest on Bhagat Singh

Visakhapatnam: Disha Students' Organisation and Naujawan Bharat

Sabha are jointly conducting essay-writing and elocution competitions

across Visakhapatnam from September 16 to 28 to mark the 117th birth

anniversary of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh. The topic for the essay-

writing contest is Bhagat Singh's Sacrifice: Youth and Social Change in

India." For more data, contact Avinash (90522 44546) or 7085755584

uled for October 15.

about life challenges and the risks of early marriage. Revealing concerning statistics, the officials noted that 10% of children in the State fall within the 15-18 age group with 5% of girls in this category dropping out of school. The workshop featured dis-

cussions on topics affecting adolescents, including the role of joint family systems, the influence of mobile phones, teenage pregnancies, relationships, mental health, and school dropout rates. Participants shared suggestions and recommendations to tackle these issues.

The event was organised by the Women and Child Welfare Department.



ROAD SAFETY

Traffic police enforcing helmet rule at Jagadamba Junction in Visakhapatnam on Friday | G SATYANARAYANA

MVGR NSS unit conducts plastic collection drive

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Visakhapatnam

AS part of the two-week Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) Campaign, the NSS Unit of MVGR College in Vizianagaram on Friday conducted a plastic collection drive in and around the campus, as well as in nearby villages. The drive will be conducted from September 17 to October 1, under the theme 'Swabha Swachhata-Sanskar Swachhata'.

The NSS unit Volunteers carried out a rally in Chintalavalasa village to raise awareness about the harmful effects of single-use plastic and encouraged villagers to reduce its usage. Each volunteer pledged to collect 3 kgs of single-use plastic to support the success of the campaign. College principal R Ramesh, and others present.

Daily Starscope PETER VIDAL

21st September: With increasing numbers of people going into space, astrologers will soon have a problem casting horoscopes on other planets. Actually, we first did this at the first Moon landing many decades ago. I suspect that future astrologers will guess that Earth's location in the horoscope of someone born on other planets will represent their home!

(Mar 21 - Apr. 20)

Uranus are just for drastic change, so you and insist that whatever happens suits your interests. You may have to cope with circumstances which are none of your

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)

There doesn't seem to be any way that financial complications can be avoided. However, you can minimise the possible risks by steering clear of speculative offers and adopting an attitude that is both ethical and idealistic. Your selfless actions will attract great no idea that you had it in you! **GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21)

The weekend is here and, with the Moon still endowing you with its emotional power, you are in your moods may be subject to sudden swings. Don't blame family members for problems which are not their fault, and which may be due to your own concerns about the future.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

increase its role shortly, but not just yet. This is why this is such a private time. You do not want to be forced out of your Cancerian shell just you have completed your plans, and anyone who risk the consequences.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Social stars are powerful and you should attempt to get out and mix. The chances of a nil while the prospects for pleasure and enjoyment are excellent. You pay your money and you take your choice - and hopefully you'll choose

what is best for everyone.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

outburst you should have a pleasant day. If you have any say in the matter, do try and make sure that partners put their work to one side and relax for a people you're close to is that they have over-committed

to do anything about it.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

The time has come for a great deal of plain speaking, whether your current complaints or deeply personal. The present moment being so utterly auspicious, gives you the opportunity to deal

sooner rather than later.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

take a great convincing, but then you wouldn't be a true Scorpio if you weren't suspicious and sceptical of other people's only learn from your feelings and new desires. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

planet, is still so strongly placed that by rights you ought to be celebrating your good fortune. low-ever, there is still some way further to go before you - or anyone else - can fully

of your achievements.

(Dec. 23 - Jan. 20) Capricorns are people, often with good reason. However you won't get very far that other people also have their needs and wants, and

that these must be

satisfied. The way to get

ahead in love is to shell out

the bill and pick up the tab!

CAPRICORN

Lunar alignments make for an enjoyable day if you keep other, more se-rious issues, to a opportunity to create a oleasurable atmosphere, partners' secret lives. They won't appreciate it

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

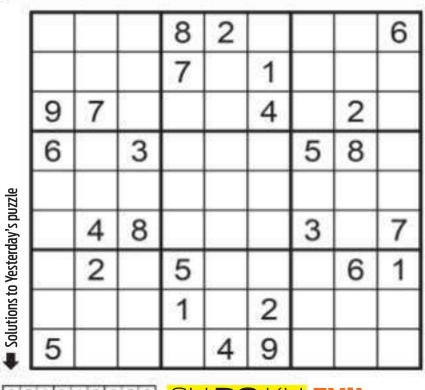
but don't start prying into

favour discretion if not outright secrecy. This is definitely a time for cosy gatherings rather than noisy groups. Your major costs may result from social commitments but, then. can you really put a price on fun with friends?

PISCES

(Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

Romantic and

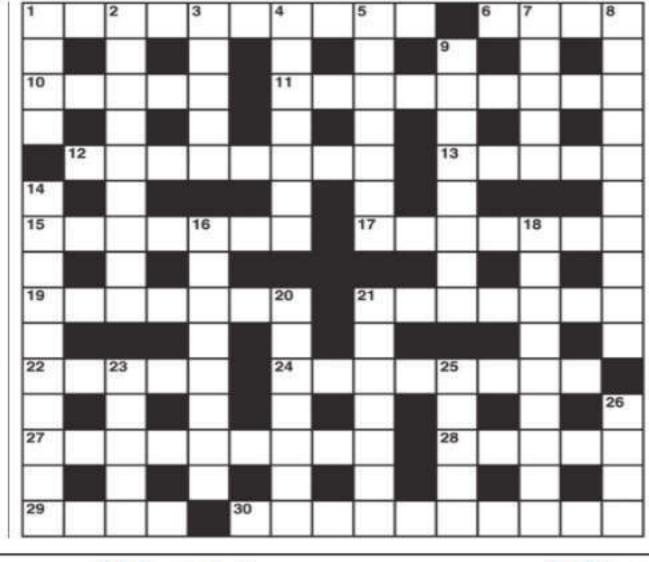


SU DO KU EVIL 3 1 2 6 8 7 4 5 9 8 7 6 4 9 5 1 3 2 **TEST YOUR NUMBER** 5 2 9 7 6 1 3 8 4 **CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR** 6 4 8 5 2 3 9 1 UNIQUE PUZZLE 1 3 7 9 4 8 6 2 7 6 1 2 3 9 5 4 8

4 8 5 1 7 6 2 9 3

2 9 3 8 5 4 7 6 1

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS Like an astronaut returning -

or failing to get lift-off (10) 6 Cuff, sock or belt (4)

10 Be in suspense (5)

11 Lulu's getting back into a bother - woeful sound results (9)

12 Flourish a cereal bowl (8) 13 Bird but not birdie (5)

15 Insect swallows fruit for nourishment (7)

17 Place is made over in particular style (7)

19 Warm garment for one

working in the heat (7) 21 Stops bringing leaves off (7)

22 Dressin' the bird (5) 24 Introduction before a stroll? (8)

27 Reveals that the record fails (9) 28 Walked out after initial clash and split (5)

29 A form of need where here was none (4)

30 Service chief? (4,6)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Omnibus, 5 Lasso, 8 Androcles, 9 Ibo, 10 Sock, 12 Achilles, 14 Frappe, 15 Egoism, 17 Articles, 18 Weep, 21 Gem, 22 Reminisce, 24 Danes, 25 Notepad.

DOWN

Male chorus gives an encore (4) 2 Location for a

bank holiday? (9) 3 Long-legged bird

or hen perhaps (5) 4 He makes a practice

of seeing complaints (7) 5 They count for nothing (7)

Prone to being deceitful (5) 8 New dawn over Ulster

let loose urge to go places (10) 9 Undistinguished collection of salesmen (8)

14 It's played with variations on strings (4,6) 16 Snare ten squirming fish (8)

18 Broke nine volts circuit (9) 20 Sally rips toe badly (7)

21 Got into gear? (7) 23 Cook beats a mixture (5)

25 Doctor has endless discussion after coffee (5) 26 Uproar in prison (4)

Down: 1 Ovals, 2 Nod, 3 Boom, 4 Select, 5 Lashings, 6 Still life, 7 Opossum. 11 Craftsman, 13 Epicures, 14 Flanged, 16 Key man, 19 Plead, 20 Unit, 23 Sop.

JUMBLE BY DAVID L. HOYT

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO **EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.**



(Answers Monday) Jumbles: WEDGE GIANT ARMORY FONDUE Answer: In 1988, construction on a tunnel connecting England and France finally - GOT UNDERWAY

epaper.newindianexpress.com

TTD initiates action against TN-based dairy

EO says ghee suppliers took advantage of the fact that there was no in-house adulteration testing lab for TTD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tirumala

CONFIRMING that adulterated ghee was indeed supplied by one of the suppliers, the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Executive Officer J Shyamala Rao on Friday announced that action had been initiated against AR Dairy Food Pvt Ltd, a Tamil Nadubased firm, to blacklist it.

Addressing a press conference at the meeting hall in Annamaiah Bhavan in Tirumala on Friday, he explained in detail how the TTD was improving the quality of the ghee used in preparing Srivari Laddus.

"When I assumed charge (on June 16 this year), Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu told me about complaints he had received of poor ghee and Laddu quality in Tirumala and also about complaints of the usage of animal fats. He asked me to focus on improving the quality of the Prasadam and protect the sanctity of the temple," he

Revealing that the TTD has no lab of its own to test ingredients for adulteration, the EO recalled that soon after assuming office, he received feedback from people and experts about the poor quality of ghee.

"Officers noticed that some samples were so poor that they couldn't understand if it was ghee or oil. The suppliers were warned that if quality was not improved, they would be blacklisted," he said.

Commenting further on the reasons for the poor quality, he cited unviable rates at which TTD was procuring ghee.

Stating that five suppliers were found to be offering cow ghee for anything between ₹320 and ₹411 which on the face of it is not believable, he explained, "After our warning, supplies from all except one were found to be good. Tenders were invited on March 12 this year and finalised on May 8. The date of supply order was May 15. The rate finalised was ₹320 per kg. We found four tankers of ghee, supplied by AR Dairy Food Pvt



The acceptable S-value range for pure milk fat is between 98.05 and 104.32, but the tested sample showed values ranging from 23.22 and 116, reflecting major deviations

J Shyamala Rao, TTD Executive Officer

Ltd, to be of substandard quality. Samples from the four tankers were sent to NDDB accredited lab CALF, a highly-reputed government lab," he explained.

Elaborating on the reports received from the lab, he said the overall purity was found to be abnormally low, which means it was highly adulterat-

ed. The S-value analysis carried out on the sample sent to NDDB, fell outside the standard limits, suggesting the presence of foreign fats such as soya bean, sunflower, palm kernel fat or even lard and beef

"The acceptable S-value range for pure milk fat is between 98.05 and 104.32, but the tested sample showed values ranging from 23.22 and 116, reflecting significant deviations. These samples also indicated presence of vegetable oil. All the samples yielded the same results. Supplies were stopped and blacklisting procedure was initiated. Penalty and legal process will also be taken up,"

he said. Rao also disclosed that this was the first time that the TTD had sent samples for testing possible adulteration to an outside lab. "It was essential that we send the samples for testing as it was not possible for pure ghee to be supplied at the rate quoted," he said, adding that the samples were sent in two phases -- on July 6 and another on July 12.

Stating that suppliers took advantage of the fact that there was no in-house adulteration testing lab, the EO said the NDDB has come forward to donate ghee adulteration testing equipment worth ₹75 lakh. The lab is likely to come up by December or January next year," he said. "Internally, a sensory lab must be set up so that trained personnel can taste and smell the ghee. CFTRI Mysore had come up with a standardised procedure," Rao added.

TTD temporarily stalls cowbased products used for making Srivari Prasadams The EO also stated that complaints are pouring in from the devotees over the taste and quality of Anna Prasadams. Therefore, the TTD has formed a committee of experts and found that there are deficiencies in quality. Supplies were temporarily suspended after a thorough examination with experts. A decision will be taken whether to restore the same or not.

AR Dairy denies charge, ready to face legal battle

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Dindigul

AMID the controversy over the alleged use of adulterated ghee by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams in the preparation of Laddu Prasadam, AR Dairy Food Private Limited in Dindigul, one of the ghee suppliers, on Friday denied the allegations, asserting that they had supplied quality ghee to the TTD and are ready to face any legal action.

It may be noted that the company was blacklisted after TTD officials said that foreign (animal) fat was found in the ghee samples sent to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for lab test, as per the directive of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu. Following the NDDB report, the ghee stocks supplied by AR Dairy Food were returned.

In connection with the development, the company's **Quality Control Managers** Leni and Kannan said that AR

Dairy Food has been running business for over 20 years. Terming the allegations as false charges, they said, "Our company supplied ghee to the TTD in June and July. Of our total ghee production, only 0.5% was supplied to the TTD, and the supply was sent after testing its quality."

They further said that a copy of the test report was attached with the ghee stocks sent to the TTD. "The ghee we supplied was only for manufacturing laddus, and not for other purposes. We are one among many other ghee manufacturing companies that supply ghee to the TTD," they added.

Speaking to *TNIE*, AR Dairy Managing Director R Rajasekar stated that blacklisting of the company was a normal procedure. "We sent all the necessary documents as per legal norms in response following the blacklisting. Inquiry is on, and we are ready to face a legal battle to prove our innocence." he added.

NDA govt will bring back State's past glory, says CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Ongole

CHIEF Minister N Chandrababu Naidu launched the Idi Manchi Prabhutvam programme at Maddiralapadu village in Naguluppalapadu mandal of Prakasam district on Friday to highlight the achievements of the NDA government in its first 100 days. It is aimed at creating an awareness among the people about the good governance.

Increase of social security pensions to ₹4,000, repealing of the AP Land Titling Act, announcement of mega DSC, revival of Anna Canteens, clearance of pending ₹1,674 crore paddy procurement dues to farmers, rescue and relief operations during Vijayawada floods and others, are being highlighted during the week-

long programme. Addressing the people at an interactive meeting, the Chief Minister said, "During the past five years, the YSRC government has put the clock of development backwards due to lack of administrative skills. The NDA government, I assure you,

will bring back the past glory." In his nearly 50-55 minute speech, Naidu touched many issues related to the State, including three boats hitting the Prakasam Barrage, Budameru floods, negligence in getting



Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu interacts with a family during his visit to Maddiralapadu village in Prakasam district on Friday I **express**

Central funds through the Finance Commission, abnormal hike of liquor prices, the Land Titling Act and Bollywood actress Kadambari Jethwani

The Chief Minister unveiled the plaque of ₹124 crore worth of development works sanctioned for Prakasam district under MGNREGA. Further, he sanctioned a development package for Maddiralapadu, which includes drainage/sanitation and CC roads, power supply and tap connections. He sanctioned two battery cycles to two

differently abled persons on the spot, and promised maximum possible support to two families of the village, whom he interacted earlier and knew their financial position. Further, the Chief Minister also laid emphasis on the population management concept, which stresses the need to have two or more children to keep the State and nation young.

Ministers Dola Sree Bala Veeranjaneya Swamy and Gottipati Ravi Kumar and district officials welcomed the Chief Minister at the helipad.

TEMPLE SANCTITY

Pawan Kalyan moots national board to protect sanatana dharma

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

DEPUTY Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan on Friday said the finding of animal fat in the Tirumala temple Prasadam deeply disturbed all, and the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Trust Board constituted by the previous YSRC regime should answer several questions pertaining to the use of adulterated ghee in preparing Prasadam.

"The time has come to constitute a 'Sanatana Dharma Rakshana Board' at a National level to look into all the issues related to temples in the entire Bharath. A debate has to happen at the national level by all the policy makers, religious heads, judiciary, citizens, media and all others in their respective domains. I think we all should come together to put an end to the desecration of 'Sanathana Dharma' in any form," Pawan Kalyan posted on the social media platform 'X'.

He asserted that the coalition government is committed to taking stringent action possible on the adulteration of ghee used for making the Tirumala Prasadam.

YV files petition in HC against Vigilance probe into 'misappropriation' of funds

TTD former chairman and YSRC MP YV Subba Reddy on Friday filed a petition in the Andhra Pradesh High Court, seeking a directive to quash the Vigilance and Enforcement Department probe against him for alleged irregularities committed during his stint as the head of the TTD Trust Board.

He submitted that the department SP had sought an explanation from him without sharing relevant documents needed to answer the allegations

to issue interim orders staying the probe and argued that the department had no jurisdiction over the affairs of TTD. Justice B Krishna Mo-

han will take up the pe-

tition for hearing on Monday. In his plea, Subba Reddy informed the court that an officer of the SP rank from the regional Vigilance and Enforcement Department launched a probe against him for alleged misappropriation of funds on the directions of the

Department's Director Gener-

against him. He urged the court al. He further said he had written to the SP to share documents that are needed for him to answer the allegations levelled against him. However, he

did not receive any documents till date.

He explained that the TTD is an autonomous body and takes decisions collectively. Any probe by the Vigilance department amounts to

compromising the TTD's autonomy, he added.

The Vigilance Department can probe only government departments, he pointed out.

YV seeks inquiry by sitting HC judge into laddu issue

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Vijayawada

TTD former chairman and YSRC Rajya Sabha MP YV Subba Reddy on Friday approached the Andhra Pradesh High Court, seeking inquiry by a sitting High Court judge on the alleged adulteration of ghee used in the preparation of Tirumala Laddu Prasadam.

Senior advocate P Sudhakar, representing Subba Reddy, requested the court to form a committee to conduct the probe

if it was not possible to spare a sitting judge.

Mentioning the controversy over the Tirumala Laddus before a bench, comprising Chief Justice Dheeraj Singh Thakur and Justice C Ravi, he submitted that Subba Reddy will file a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) and asked for an investigation. He informed the court that people were making comments without knowing the facts.

However, the court made it clear that it will accept PILs only on Wednesday.

Sharmila writes to Amit Shah for CBI probe into laddu row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

REITERATING her demand for a CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation) probe into the alleged adulteration of ghee used for making Srivari Laddu Prasadam, Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president YS Sharmila Reddy shot off a letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah stating that Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu's claims that animal fat was used for preparing the Laddu Prasadam has raised seri-

ous concerns. Naidu cited a report from NDDB (National Dairy Development Board), which purportedly detected beef tallow and other animal fats in the ghee samples.

"This statement has sparked significant anxiety among millions of devotees, as the Laddu Prasadam is a revered offering and has deep religious signifi-

cance," she noted. The Congress leader urged the Union Home Minister to initiate a CBI investigation, asserting that accountability is paramount, regardless of political affiliations. "Tirumala is one of the most sacred places in our country, and it is impera-

stated. Emphasising on the seriousness of the findings, Sharmila sought to know why the TDPled NDA government or the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) did not launch a formal investigation into the matter although the report was

submitted on July 23 this year.

Naidu directs TTD to submit report on ghee

Continued from page 1

"Should we let go of those who have hurt the sentiments of the people and damaged the sanctity of Tirumala with adulterated ghee. Will the people believe if they (YSRC leaders) pretend to be innocent," Naidu asked the gathering.

Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister conducted a high-level review meeting with Ministers and officials on the usage of substandard ghee in preparation of Tirumala Laddus. He directed the TTD Executive Officer to submit a report by Friday evening on all details regarding the ghee being used for

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

dun, where the police obtained

@ Vijayawada

the preparation of Prasadams at the Tirumala temple.

Further, Naidu said steps will be taken to safeguard the sanctity of Tirumala after consultation with Agam, Vydic and Dharmic Parishads. He asserted that the faith of pilgrims will be protected and temple traditions will be preserved. Ministers Anam Ramanaray-

ana Reddy (Endowments), Nimmala Rama Naidu (Irrigation), Anagani Satya Prasad (Revenue), Kollu Ravindra (Excise) and Kolusu Parthasarathy (Housing), Chief Secretary Neerabh Kumar Prasad and other officials attended the meeting.

Actress case accused held at Dehradun

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the Ibrahimpatnam police sta-

"The prime accused, Vid-

bring him to Vijayawada.

Food Minister calls for probe

Continued from page 1

The FSSAI is a statutory body under the administration of the Union Ministry of Health

and Family Welfare. Responding to the matter, Union Food Minister Pralhad Joshi also called for an investigation into the allegation, which has sparked concern among devotees.

"Whatever the Andhra Chief Minister has said is a matter of serious concern. A detailed inquiry is required and the culprit should be punished," the Union Food Minister told reporters on the sidelines of a global food regulators' summit in Delhi.

tion on September 13, alleging

that Vidyasagar had filed false

land-grabbing cases against

added to the FIR.

'I urge everyone to verify for yourself whether what I have said is the truth'

Continued from page 1

"Tenders are invited every six months. Whoever wins the bid, the TTD Trust Board gives approval. No changes were made in the process during the YSRC regime from 2019 to 2024. The TTD has a robust process in place. Whoever is the supplier, they need to produce quality certificate from a lab accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Laboratories (NABL)," he said, adding that three samples are taken from the tankers and three tests are conducted to test the quality.

The ghee is used only after this process and if, the quality was found to be sub-standard, the tanker will be sent back, he explained.

"When this is the process, is it just or fair to claim that adulterated ghee or poor quality ingredients were used? Is it not a lie? During Naidu's government from 2014 to 2019, ghee the NDDB report in circula-



has no devotion towards God. He is the worst kind of man who can use even God for politics. He has neither Bhakti nor fear

YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, YSRC president

tion, Jagan pointed out that samples were taken for testing on July 12, almost a month after Naidu assumed office.

"The samples were sent to NDDB after the three tests in Tirumala. The NDDB report came on July 23. What has Naidu been doing since then? Why was the report hidden till now? No officer had spoken

nards that adulterated ghee

was used, and such Laddus were distributed to devotees." "They are actually demean-

ing the Lord. Can there be anything worse than this? People should think for themselves. Further, they claim that YSRC government did not award the contract to Nandini of the Karnataka Milk Producers' Federation, he said and asked, why was the same Nandini not given the contract from 2015 to 2018 October when the TDP was

Jagan went on to stress that his government during its tenure had done much work through the TTD. "We modernised the lab in TTD with the help of Central Food Technology and Research Institute. Cabinet formation is easier than constituting the TTD board. There will be recommendations from chief ministers of neighbouring States and Central Ministers. Trust board always has people whose sole mud at even the TTD and politicise the divine.

her to benefit others. yasagar, will be pre-IN a major development in the tive that it remains free from She also accused the Vijob is to serve the Lord. They alleged harassment case involvsented in the local and other components were reabout it. The report was dispolitical interference," she ing Bollywood actress Kadcourt as soon as the jayawada police of jected about 15 times and under closed at TDP office," he said. approve contracts. YSRC MP ambari Jethwani, NTR district causing mental and team arrives in Vijaya-YSRC regime, tankers were Further elaborating on the YV Subba Reddy, who served as police arrested the accused, physical trauma to her sent back 18 times because the report, he pointed at the excep-TTD chairman, undertook wada," stated NTR Dis-Kukkala Vidyasagar, from a trict Commissioner of quality was poor," he pointed Ayyappa Deeksha 45 times. Will and her family. Sources tions cited in the same. "A false Police (CP), SV Rajaspositive could come if cows are private resort in Dehradun on suggest that Vidyasaout. Terming it unfortunate, he there be a better person than Friday. Vidyasagar was subsehekhar Babu. gar may be taken into not fed properly or overly fed him to be on the Trust board?" observed that it was outrageous Speaking to TNIE, quently produced before the custody, and additional to blatantly lie instead of pubon certain produce." Jagan he asked. Jagan said it was pos-Third Additional Chief Judithe CP explained that actress names, including those of IPS licising the great systems in blasted the TDP and the Chief sible only for Naidu to sling had lodged a complaint with place at Tirumala. Referring to cial Magistrate Court in Dehraand police officers, could be Minister for "spreading ca-

epaper.newindianexpress.com



VISAKHAPATNAM SATURDAY 7]. (19.70)



Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh and Vietnamese Ambassador to India Nguyen Thanh Hai took part in the Andhra Pradesh - Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024 in Vijayawada on Friday | EXPRESS

Vietjet mulls flights from AP to Vietnam

Tourism Min says emphasis will be laid on cultural exchanges with Vietnam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

"THE collaboration between nations marks a new chapter in the growth of our tourism sectors, fostering greater economic and cultural exchanges," said Kandula Durgesh, Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Cinematography.

He took part at the Andhra Pradesh-Vietnam Tourism Conclave 2024, held in Vijayawada on Friday. The event marked a significant step toward strengthening tourism and cultural ties between Andhra Pradesh and Vietnam. Organised by Aieraa Overseas Studies founder and CEO Deepa Ranganatham, the conclave brought together over 200 key stakeholders from the tourism industry. Ambassador of Vietnam to India, HE Nguyen Thanh Hai at-

The Andhra **Pradesh-Vietnam Tourism Conclave** 2024 signals the beginning of a flourishing partnership that will enhance tourism, cultural exchanges, and economic growth Kandula Durgesh,

Tourism Minister

tended as the chief guest. A major highlight of the event was the announcement of direct flights between the State and Vietnam by Vietjet Airlines, opening new opportunities for tourism between the two regions.

Durgesh stressed the State's efforts to expand international tourism connections, especially with Vietnam.

The Ambassador praised the strong engagement from both Indian and Vietnamese participants. He emphasised that promoting tourism is a priority for Vietnam's diplomatic outreach in India. "Vietnam, with its UNESCOlisted sites and cultural heritage that aligns with ancient Indian traditions, is an attractive destination for Indian

tourists," he said. He highlighted Vietnam's e-visa system and the upcoming direct flights, expressing optimism that these developments would help Indian tourist

numbers reach 1 million mark. A Vietjet Airlines representative shared plans to connect Andhra Pradesh directly to major Vietnamese cities, enhancing accessibility for both tourists and business travellers. AP Chamber of Commerce President Bhaskara Rao Potluri underscored the economic benefits of international tourism partnerships and called for strategic marketing efforts and reciprocal events to promote the unique offerings of both regions. Delegates discussed joint ventures, sustainable tourism development, and improving travel experiences through cultural exchanges and easier visa processes.

EXPRESS READ

Workshop on green housing technology

Vijayawada: A workshop on 'Green Housing Technology in Affordable Housing' was held at the AP State Housing Corporation headquarters. Special Chief Secretary (Housing) Ajay Jain inaugurated the workshop held by Habitat for Humanity India, New Delhi, and IFC, World Bank. Workshop focused on utilisation of eco-friendly construction materials

Villages will soon get better roads: Dy CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

DEPUTY Chief Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, K Pawan Kalyan, announced that villages would soon benefit from improved road infrastructure, supported by funds from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). On Friday, the Deputy Chief Minister held a review meeting with AIIB representatives and officials from Panchayat Raj and Rural Development at his camp office, focusing on providing durable roads to villages with population over 250.

After discussing the project with AIIB and Panchayat Raj engineering officials, he emphasised the need for roads that can withstand heavy

rains and floods. He stressed that modern construction practices should be used to ensure longlasting roads and instructed officials to prioritise quality.

Contractors must adhere to strict guidelines to ensure the roads remain intact for

94 Chikkaballapura

95 | Chikkaballapura

an extended period.

Pawan Kalyan also called for constant supervision of the project to ensure every village gets proper road connectivity. AIIB representatives expressed satisfaction with their collaboration on the project, highlighting the state government's strong support in facilitating its implementation. They also pledged continued assistance for the swift development of Amaravati.

Additionally, Pawan Kalyan decided to present guests with Lepakshi artwork and kalamkari textiles. He decided to use 40% of the government budget for such gifts, with the remaining 60% funded personally.



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, REVENUE DEPARTMENT, BENGALURU DIVISION AND NODAL OFFICER, EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY (ECONOMIC OFFENCES) BENGALURU

2nd Floor, BMTC Building, Shanti Nagar, K.H Road, Bengaluru - 560027

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

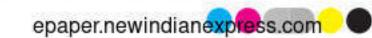
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Chikkaballapura Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere

Chikkaballapura Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere

TELANGANA/SOUTH

SATURDAY 2].09.2024

Two-day Odisha Literary Festival to commence today

Political and literary heavyweights to share the stage in Bhubaneswar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

THE Odisha Literary Festival (OLF) 2024, organised by *The New Indian Express*, will commence in Bhubaneswar on Saturday, featuring 34 speakers and 23 sessions over two days. The 12th edition of the festival is themed 'So Many Indias,' celebrating the nation's diversity in identities, cultures, art, and literature.

The festival will be inaugurated by Koshali poet and Padma Shri awardee Haldhar Nag, who will share insights on his life and recite poems. Diplomat and writer Vikas Swarup, known for his novel 'Q & A,' which inspired the film 'Slumdog Millionaire,' will discuss 'From Words to Pictures: The Alchemy of Adaptations,' offering guidance to budding writers and creators.

Former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik will reflect on his literary journey in a session titled 'Life in Letters.' Deputy CM KV Singh Deo will speak on 'Legacy and Literature,' shedding light on the literary traditions of Odisha's royals. Mythologist and author Devdutt Pattanaik will explore 'The Myths of India Between Memory and History.'

Odia literature will be a kev fo- of the classic Odia film 'Maya Mi-

TENDER ENQUIRY No.: QQ-253/PO-C

from 24.09.2024 from 12:30 PM onwards.

918/C-719/24-9/20/2024

76155/12/3476/2023/37890

in the website only.

KSIEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD. E-TENDER NOTICE O/o the Deputy Chief Engineer, Electrical Circle, Ernakulam

E-tender ID: 2024 KSEB 690799 1 PAC: Rs. 1,64,34,470/-

Last Date -: 28.09.2024 05.00 pm

ദർഘാസ് പ്രമാണങ്ങൾക്ക് www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

വിശദ വിവരങ്ങൾക്ക് www.kseb.in

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001

Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813

Website: www.pspcl.in; e-tendering portal: https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

Contact No.: 96461-19383, 96461-11036

Chief Purchase Officer / MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd Floor Multistory

Building, The Mall Road, Patiala, invites E-Tender for procurement of 20 MT ISI Marked Polypropylene yellow coloured rope, 3 strand, Hawser Laid, conforming to IS: 5175-1992

(with latest amendments) and PSPCL Specification QQ-253 for 10mm, 16mm & 20mm sizes.

For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at

https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

NIT NO: e-PT-21/W/EE/RDAD/2024-25

Dt.19/09/2024

The Executive Engineer, R D Agartala Division, R D Department,

Agartala, West Tripura invites percentage rate e-tender

(two bid) in Tripura PWD Form No.7 from eligible bidders up

to 3.00 P.M. of 04/10/2024 for 1 (one) no work of 'Construction

of Sadar Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) office building at

Agartala under R.D. Agartala Division, West Tripura during

the F.Y. 2024-25' worth Rs.15.87 Crore (2nd Call). For details,

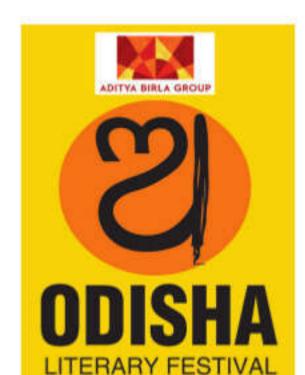
visit website https://tripuratenders.gov.in and contact at

0381 2325988. Any subsequent corrigendum will be available

ICA/C/1717/24 RD Agartala Division, Gurkhbasti, Agartala

Sd/-

Executive Engineer



cus, with discussions centering on 'Odia Asmita' (Odia pride). Sahitya Akademi awardee Gourahari Das, Odia University Vice-Chancellor Sabita Pradhan, and writer Basanta Kumar Panda will deliberate on the importance of the Odia language in a session titled 'Bhasa Nahi Ta Asmita Nahi' (No Language, No Pride).

Day 2 will address the scarcity of translations in Odia literature, with a panel including Sahitya Akademi awardees Asit Mohanty and Sangram Jena, and translator Snehaprabha Das. The restoration

PR/MC1/E517/ E-Tender /2024

Date: 20.09.2024

riga' will be discussed by filmmaker Shivendra Singh Dungarpur and Sabita Mohanty, wife of the late director Nirad Mohapatra.

Award-winning journalist Sohini Chattopadhyay will speak on women and sports in 'Running for My Life.' Historian Swapna Liddle and novelist Madhulika Liddle will present 'The Sisterhood of Words: History and Mystery.' Poet Megha Rao will discuss her work in 'Poetry and Prose: It's in the Bones,' while author Peggy Mohan will speak on 'English and its Accents.'

For those interested in writing on music, scholar Yatindra Mishra will explore 'Writing on Music: From Begum Akhtar to Gulzar.' Historian Hindol Sengupta will lead a session on 'The Art of Biography: Knowing the Limits.' Storyteller Divya Prakash Dubey will present 'Chote Shehar, Badi Kahaniyan' on small-town stories.

Actors Faisal Malik and Durgesh Kumar of the web series 'Panchayat' will discuss rural India as a cinematic muse in 'Postcards from Phulera,' while theatre actor MK Raina will explore 'Theatre and Therapy.'

The festival will conclude with classical dancer Manjari Chaturvedi speaking on 'Tawaifs and Other Truths: In Their Own Tongue.'

DESCRIPTION OF e-TENDER

Last date for submission of tender

above website periodically.

DIPR/3815/TENDER/2024

Date of opening

Engaging of Drivers and Conductors

for regular bus operations in MTC (Chennai) Ltd

Jani Master remanded for 14 days

NATIONAL award-winning Tollywood choreographer Shaik Jani Basha, popularly known as Jani Master, was remanded to 14 days judicial custody by the Upparpally court on Friday in connection with a case involving alleged repeated rape, harassment, assault and intimidation of a 21-year-old former colleague, which reportedly began when she was a minor.

He has been lodged in Chanchalguda Central jail. On Wednesday, the Narsingi



police added relevant sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act to the case already registered against him.

According to the remand diary, the accused, Shaik Jani Basha, initially raped the complainant in January, 2020 in Mumbai, when she was 16-years-old. After the sexual assault in his hotel room, Jani Master allegedly threatended the complainant with losing her position as an assistant and further job opportunities in the film industry, the report stated that he had the similar attitude whenever she refused to entertain his desires.

E.M.D. AMOUNT

Rs.15,00,000/-

MANAGING DIRECTOR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

IF YOU'RE GOING
THROUGH HELL, KEEP
GOING > WINSTON CHURCHILL

25000.00

TASMAC: TAMIL NADU STATE MARKETING CORPORATION LIMITED

E-TENDER NOTICE

Insurance Companies with experience in the field of insurance,

for taking Insurance Policies like Marine, Fire, Burglary, Money in Transit, Money in Safe, etc. of TASMAC Depots, Senior Regional Manager Offices throughout the State and Corporate Office, for a

period of one year from 01.11.2024 to 31.10.2025 (midnight).

E-Tenders are invited from the IRDA registered Nationalised

The value of IMFS and BEER stock estimated to be transported

The Tender documents (not transferable) to be downloaded

The filled in E-Tender documents will be opened in the presence

from the Government of Tamil Nadu website https://tntenders.gov.in/

from Manufacturers' factories to TASMAC Depots throughout the

State to be insured will be around Rs.30,400/- crores. Fire and

Burglary Insurance Policies are to cover the stock worth Rs.742/crores (approx.) at any point of time in TASMAC Depots throughout the State. Money in safe, Money in transit and Fidelity Guarantee Policy in respect of Corporate Office, 5 Senior Regional Manager

CMDA TOWER II, IV FLOOR, GANDHI IRWIN BRIDGE ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI-600 008. Phone: 28521970, Fax: 28524634

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/71-2024-25 MAHATRANSC The due Date and Time of submission and opening of following SRM e-tender is extended as follows: Tender No. & Description of Material Estimated Amount Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for (in Rs. Lakhs) Submission & Opening of Tender Tender Fee (in Rs. SP/T-0642/0924[3rd Call] [RFX No.7000033471] (Two Bid System) 6619.28 Lakhs SITC of capacitor banks with GIS bays of

of authorized tenderers on 21.10.2024 at 04.00 p.m.

Offices and 43 IMFS Depots are also to be covered.

substations under Pune & Vashi Zone. Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C)

voltage ratings of 22kV, 33kV & 220kV-270

MVAr in Phase-VI [6.7] at various EHV

No.022-69852711/ Cell No.8329909813

nicgep/app

DIPR/3806/Tender/2024

Email: eegrp6@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in

For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in

Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website

Executive Engineer (P&C)

04.10.2024 04.10.2024

Up to 17:00 Hrs. at 17:15Hrs

MANAGING DIRECTOR

 \approx MAHATRANSC

follows:

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/70 -2024-25

The due Date and Time of submission and opening of following SRM e-tender is extended as

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs. Lakhs) Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender		
SP/T-0640/0924 [3 rd Call] [RFX No.7000033320] (Two Bid System) SITC of capacitor banks of voltage ratings of	2589.42 Lakhs	27.09.2024 27.09.2024		
11kV, 22kV & 33kv - 350 MVAR in Phase-VI [6.3] at various EHV substations under Pune zone.	# 12/10/05/05/14/05/05/05/05	Up to 17:00 Hrs. at 17:15 Hrs.		

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C)

No.022-69852711/ Cell No.8329909813 Email: eegrp6@mahatransco.in, eepc@mahatransco.in

For further details visit our website http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in

Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.

Executive Engineer (P&C)

/thenewindianxpress

INDIAN EXPRESS

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196 AT-CHANDIKHOL, PO- SUNGUDA, JAJPUR -754296, Email-serw_kpd@yahoo.com No. Tender Online RCK - 21 / 24

www.newindianexpress.com In just a click. All the news. Log to

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR.

Letter No.2895 Date:-19.09.2024

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION (CHENNAI) LIMITED

e-Tender are invited for the Engaging of Drivers and Conductors to operate regular bus operations

in MTC (Chennai) Ltd from the eligible tenderers who shall submit documentary evidence on

EMD Details and other Tender related details is available in Government websit

https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app). Any modification (if any) in tender terms and tender

invitation period will be uploaded in the website and the tenderers are requested to go through th

Government e-procurement web portal https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.

PALLAVAN ILLAM, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI - 600 002. RE-TENDER NOTICE

upto 14.30 Hrs on 21.10.2024

At 15.00 Hrs on 21.10.2024

O-293 e-Procurement NOTICE : Repair/Maintenance of Rural Roads Constructed under PMGSY works in the 1. Name of the work

. Total No. of Package : 4 (Four) nos. of Road Packages 3. Estimated cost : 3.40 Crores for 4 (Four) nos. of Road Packages. 4. Other Details

Dist. of Kendrapara-Jajpur.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identifica-	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seek-	Date & Time of opening of tender	
rioculement officer	tion No.	From	То	ing tender clarification	Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engi- neer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur		21.09.2024 At 11.00 A.M	05.10.2024	04.10.2024 up to 2.00 P.M	07.10.2024 At 11.00 A.M	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website www.pmgsytenders.gov.in Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer,

Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur

OIPR-25129/11/0013/2425

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विमाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई-निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई-निविदा सूचना सं. / e- Tender Notice No: CMG/C/CON/248721, 248722, 248723

तिथि/ Date. 18.09.2024

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर सें. "पैकेंज (14) एसएसएलवी प्रमोचन परिसर (एसएलसी), तिरुचेंदूर एवं सर्तकुलम तालुक, थुथुकुडी जिले में एलसीसी / एमसीसी सुविधा, तकनीकी सेवा मवन, बेस अग्निशमन केंद्र एवं 50 सीयुएम जीएलआर का निर्माण (सिविल, पीएच विद्युत एवं एसी कार्य (र2029 लाख)", "पैकेज (10) एसएसएलवी प्रमोचन परिसर, (एसएलसी), तिरुवेंद्र एवं सतनकुलम तालुक, थुथुकुडी जिले में उपग्रह तैयारी सुविधा (एसपीएफ) का निर्माण (सिविल, जन स्वास्थ्य विद्युतीय, यांत्रिक एवं एसी कार्य) (रॅ2592 लाख)", "पैकेंज (9) एसएसएलवी प्रमोचन परिसर, (एसएलसी), तिरुचेंदूर एवं सतनकुलम तालुक, थुथुकुडी जिले में उच्च स्तरीय समुच्चयन सुविधा (यूएएफ-। एवं यूएएफ-॥) तथा प्रमोचन सेवा भवन (एलएसबी) सुविधा का निर्माण (सिविल, जन स्वास्थ्य विद्युतीय, यांत्रिक एवं एसी कार्य) (र1552 लाख)" के लिए ई--निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज 14.10.2024 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना के लिए इच्छूक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO देखें।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for "(Package 14) Construction of LCC / MCC facility, Technical Service Building, Base fire station & 50 Cum GLR at SSLV Launch complex, (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluk, Tuticorin District (Civil, PH, Electrical & AC works)" (₹2029 Lakhs); "(Package 10) Construction of Satellite Preparation Facility (SPF) at SSLV Launch complex, (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluk, Tuticorin District (Civil, PH Electrical, Mechanical & AC works)" (₹2592 Lakhs), "(Package 9) Construction of Upper Stage Assembly Facility (UAF-I & UAF-II) and Launch Service Building (LSB) Facility at SSLV Launch complex, (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluk, Tuticorin District (Civil, PH Electrical, Mechanical & AC works)" (₹1552 Lakhs); Tender documents can be downloaded up to 14.10.2024, 14:30 hrs. Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.

KWA-JB-GL-6-619-2024-25

76155/12/3475/2023/37887

हस्ताक्षरित- समृह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY MINIMUM Bid Increase SI. EMD (Rs) Clear Title Extent Site No/ PRICE (Rs) Value (Rs) No. District Village Taluk Hobli Khata No. (Sqft) 96 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi 28/497 1200 1200000 24000 6000 Amanigopalakrishnakere Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakerel 43/456 1200000 6000 1200 24000 1200 Chikkaballapura Nandi 24000 6000 Chikkaballapura Amanigopalakrishnakere 85/554 1200000 99 1200 6000 Amanigopalakrishnakere 42/455 1200000 24000 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi 1200000 24000 Chikkaballapura | Chikkaballapura | Nandi 1200 6000 Amanigopalakrishnakere 8/421 Khata stands 24000 Amanigopalakrishnakere 1200 1200000 6000 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi 40/453 in the name 1200 33/446 Chikkaballapura | Chikkaballapura | Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere 1200000 24000 6000 of the Competent 1200 24000 6000 Chikkaballapura | Chikkaballapura | Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere 93/562 1200000 Authority Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura 73/542 1200 1200000 24000 6000 Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere and 105 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi 1200000 1200 24000 6000 86/555 Amanigopalakrishnakere Auctioning Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere 33/502 1290 1290000 25800 6500 Authority appointed Chikkaballapura Nandi 1200 1200000 Chikkaballapura Amanigopalakrishnakere 22/435 24000 6000 by the Chikkaballapura Nandi Chikkaballapura 1200 1200000 24000 Amanigopalakrishnakere 76/545 6000 Government. Nandi 29/498 1200000 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Amanigopalakrishnakere 1200 24000 6000 Chikkaballapura | Chikkaballapura | Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere 94/563 1200 1200000 6000 24000 Chikkaballapura | Chikkaballapura | Nandi 69/538 1500000 1500 30000 7500 Amanigopalakrishnakere Amanigopalakrishnakere 24000 1200 1200000 6000 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi 109/578 1200 1200000 6000 Chikkaballapura | Chikkaballapura | Nandi Amanigopalakrishnakere 102/571 24000

25th September 2024 11:00am to 5:00pm

Date of Inspection & time

114 Chikkaballapura Chikkaballapura Nandi

26th September 2024, 3 pm to 4 pm Place: Office of the Regional Commissioner, 2nd floor, BMTC Building, KH road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru-560027.

Date of Pre-bid meeting & time and Place

Amanigopalakrishnakere

10th October 2024 Until 5pm

1200000

Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission

15th October 2024 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Date & Time of E Auction

6000

For registration & Online Auction, you can login to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Helpdesk no: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Additional Regional Commissioner, Office of the Regional Commissioner, 2nd floor, BMTC Building, KH road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru-560027, e-mail id: arckauction@gmail.com or Contact No.: 7795256659(For spot queries), 8310421191(For KPPP portal queries).

8/477

1200

Place: Bengaluru Date: 21-09-2024

Additional Regional Commissioner And Competent Authority, DIPR/CP/2084/ZEN/2024-25 O/o The Regional Commissioner, Bengaluru division, Bengaluru.

Sd/-

24000

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice Tender No : Re / T No.121 to 125/2024-25/SE/Q RKI, AMRUT, JM, Stateplan-Neduvathoor, AMRUT - Anandawalleswaram, Panamkuttimala

Tender: 30-09-2024 02:00:pm, Phone: 0474 2745293 Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kollam

construction of OHSR, intake well cum pump house, transformer room, ramp, gravity

main supply erection testing and commissioning of CF pumpset and allied works EMD:

Rs. 100000, 50000, Tender fee: Rs. 8270+1489, 5515+993. Last Date for submitting

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001) Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813. Website: www.pspcl.in

(Contact Number 9646118774) Tender Enquiry No. MQP-241/2024-25/P0(M) Dated: 19.09.2024 CE/Metering, PSPCL, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala Invites E-tender for Supply

Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Reading, Analysis, Integration with billing system and 1 year 0&M of 1000 no. Power Quality Meters complying to IEC61000-4-30 class A. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 19.09.2024 (12.00 PM onwards).

NOTE: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in 917/C-718/24-9/20/2024

MAHARASHTRA HOUSING & AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



Tender Reference No.: ICT Cell/A/E-Tender/04/24

invited by Chief ICT Officer/ICT Cell/MHADA on behalf of Maharashtra Housing & Area Development Authority, Government of Maharashtra from bidders with proven experience. Tender Documents are available for online bid preparation & Submission on Mahatender portal (https://mahatenders.gov.in) from date 23/09/2024 to 14/10/2024. The time schedule for various bidding phases is given in the detailed tender notice, which is also available on Mahatender portal as a part of the

Online electronic bids in prescribed format for below mentioned work are

Tender documents. Name of Work: Selection of Service Provider (Cloud Hosting and Managed Service) to Setup, Migrate, and Manage Data Centre (DC) and Disaster Recovery (DR) site for MHADA on Cloud. (For Three Years) Tender Fee: ₹20,000/- (Rs. Twenty Thousand only) + 18% GST EMD Amount: ₹1,60,00,000/- (Rs. One Crore Sixty Lakh only)

Start Date & Time for Online Bid Downloading: 23.09.2024 at 11:00 A.M. End Date & Time for Online Bid Downloading: 14.10.2024 at 06:00 P.M. CPRO/A/710

Chief ICT Officer, ICT Cell/ MHADA



EDITORIAL

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

RBI SHOULD KEEP EYE **ON STABILITY AFTER** BIG CUT IN U.S. RATES

HE US Federal Reserve has reduced its policy rates by 50 basis points, the first cut in over four years. The bigger-than-expected reduction marks the beginning of a much-awaited pivot and eases the tight monetary conditions that were aimed at bringing inflation down from a 40-year high of 9.1 percent in 2022. Prices are steadily cooling down, and the latest rate cut is seen as the US central bank's victory over inflation. Lending rates had touched a two-decade high of 5.3 percent after July 2023. Now, borrowing will be more affordable, stimulating spending and investment. The Fed is likely to trim rates by another 50-75 bps by the end of the year; another percentage-point reduction is expected each in 2025 and 2026. It's not just the Fed—all major central banks are launching into a rate easing cycle. The European Central Bank has cut rates by 50 bps since June, while the Bank of England, which first cut rates in August, is expected to announce more cuts.

Though the Fed's rate changes are valid within US jurisdiction, but their impact is often felt globally, particularly in emerging markets like India. The immediate effect will be seen through more foreign investment flows into India as investors flee the US market in search of higher returns. While a higher foreign capital inflow is welcome, it will drive up demand for Indian equities and bonds, besides increasing the demand for the rupee, potentially leading to its appreciation against the US dollar. A stronger rupee, in turn, will lower the cost of imports; but it will also affect Indian exporters, which isn't desirable given India's ambitions to emerge as a global export hub. Rate cuts not only weaken the dollar but also firm up the prices of commodities like crude oil, which is a negative for oil-importing countries like India.

That said, all eyes are now on the RBI, which has been maintaining that its policy decisions will not mirror those in the US, but will be purely driven by domestic factors. It had last cut the reporate by 40 bps to 4 percent in May 2020, and then increased it by a staggering 250 bps to 6.5 percent to tame inflation. As Governor Shaktikanta Das has noted, maintaining financial stability should be a top priority.

SPEED UP TRIAL IN **ACTOR ASSAULT CASE**

T has been more than seven years since a leading Malayalam actor was abducted and sexually assaulted, allegedly as part of a conspiracy hatched by a fellow actor. But despite reminders and deadlines from the Supreme Court, the trial in the case is yet to conclude. The long delay has raised concern over how the trial is being conducted. The top court shared the concern while recently granting bail to the alleged assaulter, Sunil N S alias Pulsar Suni. The slow progress was one of the reasons the court cited while releasing Suni, who has spent the last seven-and-a-half years in jail following the February 2017 assault. "Considering the long incarceration and the fact that the trial is not likely to conclude within a reasonable time, a case is made out for enlarging the appellant on bail," the court said.

That the case's investigating officer was grilled for 109 days highlights the unusually slow nature of the trial going on at the Ernakulam District Principal Sessions Court. While the special prosecutor examined the officer for 19 days, the lawyers of eight of the nine accused crossexamined him for one day. The counsel for actor Dileep, the alleged conspirator, cross-examined him for nearly 90 days. All of this resulting in a mammoth, 1,800-page deposition. The examination of all 261 prosecution witnesses is now complete. However, the examination of the accused by the court under Section 313 of CrPC, examination of defence witnesses, if any, and the arguments and final hearing are pending. It means this trial, that began on January 30, 2020, still has a long way to go.

It has run into several hurdles, including a break for further investigation and adjournments due to the pandemic. There have also been attempts to drag the legal process. On several occasions, the accused as well as the prosecution have approached the Kerala High Court and the Supreme Court. Two attempts were made to change the judge and two special prosecutors resigned during the trial. While some of the reasons are valid, attempts to deliberately stall the legal process should not be encouraged. There is a need to speed up the trial, as the victim has been waiting for justice for a long time. Justice has been certainly delayed; we hope it would not be denied.

QUICK TAKE

ENDURING BENEFITS OF MNREGA

World Bank working paper has put a smile on the face of welfare policy wonks by identifying an unintended ben-Tefit of one of India's biggest schemes. A Patrick Behrer and Hemant Pullabhotla's research shows that public works enabled by MNREGA have significantly recharged groundwater levels across regions. It helped that more than half the job scheme's initial funding through 2009 was for water-related projects. Digging ponds had become so common that several states requested the Centre to allow work on other projects like road-building, too. But now, with climate change upending agriculture and ecologies, we might want to consider going back to MNREGA's early focus.

HERE is a celebrated Sherlock Holmes quote: "It is a capital mistake to theorise before one has data. Insensibly one begins to twist facts to suit theories, instead of theories to suit facts." This is a more familiar version

of the adage from 'A Scandal in Bohemia'. A slightly different and less colourful version exists in 'A Study in Scarlet', conveying the same intent. Whether a capital mistake or not, it is a current mistake to theorise, and passionately assert, in the complete absence of data.

Witness the discourse and debate on inequality, which makes blood pressures shoot up. Inequality is defined with respect to a metric, a variable whose distribution is being mapped. Inequality in the distribution of wealth, which is a stock, is one measure. Inequality in the distribution of income, which is a flow variable, is another. One should rightly be sceptical of estimations of wealth, especially if imputation of the value of real estate or shares is involved.

Strangely, a lot of people who pontificate on policy do not seem to know that India, like many other countries, does not officially collect data on incomes. That's because data on income is believed to be unreliable. Instead, we collect data on consumption expenditure, an exercise the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) started in 1950,.

Inequality in the distribution of consumption expenditure will be lower than in income. Nevertheless, from the former, we can deduce something about the latter, at least as a trend. There is a difference between a census and a survey. A census is a complete enumeration of the population. A survey is based on a sample. If the sample is truly representative, the survey will tell us something about the characteristics of the population. For consumption expenditure, NSSO has surveys known as the household consumption expenditure survey (HCES).

The trouble is, the HCES isn't undertaken every year. Historically, HCES data is available once every five years. Until recently, it was available for 2011-12, not later. A lot of the stuff floating around on inequality was based on information for 2011-12 and we mechanically assumed it was equally true of today's India.

But now, HCES for 2022-23 has become available. Whenever there is a new survey, with improved and slightly different methodology, questions are raised about comparability with earlier surveys. This is a valid point, but we should not make a mountain out of a molehill. There are conResearchers are yet to mine all the information gathered by the latest consumption expenditure survey. It calls for hard work, rather than hastily-drawn opinions that could be erroneous

THE WEALTH OF DATA ON WHAT **INDIANS CONSUME**



Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister



SOURAV ROY

sistency checks that can be used. There are different measures of inequality.

One such aggregate and popular measure is the Gini coefficient. It ranges between 0 and 1. Between 2011-12 and 2022-23, the Gini coefficient shows a decline in inequality in India. Measured this way, there has been no increase in inequality. Those are the facts. Inequality is a relative concept, poverty is an absolute one. There is a poverty line and using something like the HCES, one computes the percentage of population below the poverty line, defined as a minimal consumption basket. Between 2011-12 and 2022-23, the percentage of population below the poverty line declined. That too is a fact.

The HCES has a wealth of data on consumption expenditure patterns of

households. Researchers have not yet begun to explore this in detail. Recently, the PM's Economic Advisory Council (EAC-PM) brought out a working paper on what HCES shows about changes in food consumption. The paper has been authored by Mudit Kapoor, Shamika Ravi, Sankar Rajan, Gaurav Dhamija and Neha Sareen, and it is available on the EAC-PM website.

What does the research show? One, monthly per capita consumption expenditure has increased throughout India, but it has increased more for rural India than urban India. There are variations across states. But overall, the message of rural prosperity is undeniable. Two, for the first time in independent India, the share of food in monthly consumption expenditure has declined below 50 percent. This is primarily driven by a decline in the importance of cereals, aided by free and subsidised wheat and rice provided under various government schemes. This decline is especially marked for the bottom 20 percent of households.

The result has been an increase in dietary diversity. Free food (roughly 800 million eligible people) meant expenditure on cereals was saved and money could now be spent on fresh fruits, milk and milk products, eggs, fish and meat. That switch is a known phenomenon, as there is improvement and development. But the trends in HCES 2022-23 are quite striking.

Three, seasonality in the consumption of such items has declined. This is not just demand, it is also supply. Think of the improvements in infrastructure, transport, storage and supply chains. Four, one of the most remarkable findings is the examination of micronutrient intake. Take for example iron. There are wide variations between states. Iron intake has improved in Bihar, but not much in Rajasthan.

Micro nutrients that depend on cereals, such as iron and zinc, have suffered because cereal intake has declined. The average iron intake is inversely related to the prevalence of anaemia. Despite attempts to increase iron intake, anaemia indicators have not improved fast enough. This means a programme like universal fortification of cereals is probably not the answer.

Instead, a policy designed to improve household dietary diversity might work better. Consider average iron intake. In Rajasthan, 84 percent of average daily iron intake is from cereals. It is 22 percent in Kerala. Fresh fruits contribute 40 percent of the average intake in Kerala. Vegetables and pulses are major contributors in the Northeast. My take from this analysis is that if we formulate policies on the basis of aggregate behaviours, we will make mistakes.

The final message I want to leave is broader, beyond food consumption patterns. HCES has a wealth of data. Researchers are yet to probe it in all its richness. Immediate and instantaneous reactions on consumption inequality and poverty numbers are fine. But there is a need to look beyond. The problem is this is boring and painstaking research. Not too many have a taste for it. Therefore, we act like in the Sherlock Holmes quote. And we will make errors.

(Views are personal) (bibek.debroy@gov.in)

NAME CHANGERS MAY NOT BE GAME CHANGERS



OLONIALISM is something we need to live with—at least in memory. And the memories might persist in bittersweet ways and spawn delicious ironies at times.

"What's in a name?" asked William Shakespeare. The Bard of Avon might have been surprised by Bollywood's response. Vishal Bhardwaj's trilogical tribute to the litterateur changed his plays' names to much acclaim. Othello was adapted as Omkara, Hamlet as Haider, and Macbeth became Maqbool. Each of these films manages to convey the essence of Shakespeare's deeply human perspectives to a distant, post-colonial audience in a language and ethos alien to the original playwright, precisely because the director manages to make viewers from another culture relate to the core of the works. Name changing was a part of the effort.

The politics of renaming re-emerged last week as the Union home minister announced that Port Blair would be renamed Sri Vijaya Puram, raising cheers in some islands of humanity and jeers elsewhere. The new name's signal of shedding the colonial baggage seems appropriate enough.

But name changes are not necessarily game changes.

The government renamed the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands because Tamil king Rajendra Chola had used the archipelago as a naval base to launch an attack on Sri Vijaya, as a part of modernday Indonesia was once called. It's ironic when a decolonisation effort takes a name from a campaign linked to what looks like a colonisation effort by an ancient ruler.

From all indications, residents of the Andamans who trace their ancestry to freedom fighters exiled to the islands or jailed by British rulers are wondering how they got left out in a name change that jumps back 1,000 years in preference to 100. It might have something to do with the assumption that renaming the place after its most Sangh-friendly inmate, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, would have been seen as an irony by those critical of him for writing an apology to British rulers in exchange for freedom.

It must be pointed out that Sri Vijaya Puram's airport was named after Savarkar in 2002 when the BJP was in power. Ross Island in the Andamans has now been named after Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, something that would be more acceptable to the ruling party's rivals.



REVERSE SWING

There are other ironies, too. It's fine to see Calcutta renamed Kolkata, and lovers of the erstwhile Bangalore may yet learn to live with Bengaluru. Tamilian locals always referred to Madras as Chennai when speaking their own tongue.

But it is rare to find a Dilliwala referring to Connaught Place as Rajiv Chowk,



Changing place names should be collaborative. New monikers may not stick if the locals don't like it. It's ironic that in its zeal to shed colonial baggage, the government has rechristened Port Blair, named after a British surveyor, as Sri Vijaya Puram after a Chola colonial expedition launched from the islands

and even rarer to see anyone referring to Connaught Circus as Indira Chowk. Congress leader Mani Shankar Aiyar worked hard to rename the landmarks after leaders he was loyal to. But he met with partial success. Thanks to the fact that the metro station there was also named Rajiv Chowk, the change earned some currency.

Some things sound cooler in their older references, at least to the locals. In Bengaluru, Frazer Town, where I used to live once, has been renamed Pulakeshi Nagar, but only the local police station bears that name. Everybody else prefers the old tag. Political pressures can go only so far. The locality was named after slightly-differently-spelt Stuart Mitford Fraser, a tutor and

guardian to a Mysore king. That is a mix of Hindu heritage with a colonial twist.

I can personally also relate to the fact that tongue twisters don't work. Kerala may be god's own country, but the tourists thronging the state are far more comfortable using the colonial Trivandrum than the mouthful of Thiruvananthapuram.

The jury is still out on whether one renames something to please oneself or others. Port Blair, named after British naval surveyor Archibald Blair, sounds much easier on the tongue than Sri Vijaya Puram. Reverse-swinging colonial names is a collaborative project. If the locals don't like it, it would be a tough call. Some names have positive memories or global reach not worth tampering with. Bombay has a fine ring of familiarity to it, at least to me. As has Bangalore.

Ironies abound in rebound, too. While Port Blair may have been renamed after an ancient Chola king's naval offensive, there is not one street in the national capital of Delhi named after any king from Tamil Nadu, though 20th century leaders such as K Kamaraj have their street tributes. Even Kargil War heroes of recent vintage have Delhi landmarks named after them, but not Tamil warriors or kings of yore.

Renaming of colonial symbols, much like colonialism itself, is an ad hoc, often arbitrary make-it-as-you-go project. The prime minister installed in the new parliament building a gifted symbol of Chola glory, the sceptre called Sengol, amid much fanfare. But one is tempted to ask why the party did not even mention anything like it in all these decades, whether in power or out of it.

A lot has to do with contemporary politics. The Mughals did it. The Dravida parties have done it. The Congress also indulged in it in a post-colonial zeal. But there is only so far that can take you. Changes can bring joy, but history cannot be just wished away. "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave."

(Views are personal) (On X @madversity)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

GST approach

Ref: Take regional parties on board, allay fears on simultaneous polls (Sep 20). The policy has raised questions on the disbalancing federal structure of the nation. 'One nation, one tax' stirred a similar uproar. However, the GST council practises deliberative federalism and controversies apart, the regime has worked in the taxpayer's favour. Possibly, a similar approach can be adopted. Aparna Vats, Bengaluru

Pluralistic nation

The meaning of 'one nation' is a nation not divided by social inequality. But India is divided in terms of injustice. Plus, it is a pluralistic nation that has unity in diversity. Therefore, it is impractical to have simultaneous polls. P Kiran Joseph, Dharmapuri

Government reassurance

The Union cabinet's greenlighting of the 'One nation, one election' report is a giant leap towards economic efficiency and political stability, but it's crucial to address the elephant in the room: regional parties' concerns about federalism and democratic diversity. After all, India's strength lies in its diversity, and local issues and cultural identities shouldn't get lost in the shuffle of national campaigns. Wider consultation and reassurance from the government are vital to get regional parties on board. Avinashiappan Mvilsami. Coimbatore

Vast universe

Ref: New keys to universe in galaxy-killing find (Sep 20). The author wonderfully explained all the aspects of the Pablo's galaxy. In 2019, Nasa took the first-ever photo of a black hole using the James Webb telescope. Humans are just a small particle that lives in this never-ending universe for milliseconds. Sujal Sharma, Delhi

Tax reboot

Ref: Why GST is no longer a good and simple tax (Sep 20). The GST has certainly moved the economy in the direction of establishing a more integrated national market. But it needs a reboot and new structure to make it friendlier. The government should take further steps to simplify the tax system. The goal of the GST should be to make doing business in India easy and convenient.

Aditya Kamble, Kalaburagi Allrounder Ashwin

Ref: A century to remember (Sep 20). All-rounder Ravichandran Ashwin's century against Bangladesh in the first test match is laudable. His performance of 102 in 112 balls is an inspiration. It was a good performance. Sravana Ramachandran, Chennai

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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■Seeks govt explanation over delay in judges' appointment ■ Questions Central probe agency on entire judiciary being under hostile environment

Collegium not a search committee, says SC

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre to explain why it had not considered the names put forward by the Collegium.

It cautioned the Centre against treating the collegium like a "search committee" and requested a list of candidates whose names have not been considered thus far.

A three-judge bench, led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud and comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said, "Mr Attornev General, vou please come out with a chart and tell us what is the status of each one of the recommendations, which have been reiterated by the collegium (of the apex court) and what is the difficulty, so far, in making those appointments because the collegium is not a search committee..."

Attorney General R Venkatramani, the top law officer representing the Central government, said that there is no doubt about it at all. "I do agree with the the lordship that the Supreme Court Collegium has definitely a status in terms of the Constitution," he said.

The court was hearing a PIL filed by advocate Harsh Vib-

SC bins plea against

anti-defection law The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain a petition

challenging the anti-defection law under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, noting that this was challenged and dismissed earlier too. The bench led by the CJI said that the Tenth Schedule has already been upheld by a

constitution bench in connection with the case of Kihoto Hollohan against Zachillhu and Others, and it cannot take a relook.

hore Singhal seeking direction

from the Centre to fix a dead-

line for appointing the recom-

It observed that ultimately

the idea is not to unearth skel-

etons in the cupboard but to

move forward, so that the busi-

ness of governance proceeds,

"that is all". "When the search

committee recommends ap-

pointing a judge at a place (Su-

preme Court or High Court),

then it is the Centre's discre-

tion whether to accept it or

mended judges.

not," the CJI said.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

"You come back to us and tell

us what is the status of those

that are pending," the court

said, and fixed the matter for

further hearing after four

weeks, without announcing

The bench also asked the At-

torney General to make a list of

the names reiterated by the

apex court's collegium and why

it is pending and at what level

it is pending, and also why it is

Lawyer Prashant Bhushan,

appearing for the petitioner, re-

any fixed date.

Supreme Court's YouTube channel hacked

The Supreme Court decided to take down its official YouTube channel after it was allegedly hacked in a potential security breach on Friday. An official statement said that the apex court would resume the channel after it reinstates full administrative control of it. After hacking the SC's channel on Friday morning. the hackers broadcasted unauthorised content promoting XRP, a cryptocurrency developed by US-based Ripple Labs.

Govt reply sought on changes to NEET-PG

The Supreme Court on Friday questioned the last-minute changes to the NEET-PG examination pattern by the National Board of Education (NBE), saying it was "very unusual" and students could have a "meltdown". The bench sought responses from the NBE and the Central government within a week on the students' pleas. The matter was listed for hearing next on September 27.

Maneka Gandhi's plea hearing deferred

The Supreme Court on Friday adjourned to September 20, hearing on a plea filed by former Union minister Maneka Gandhi challenging the election of Samajwadi Party's Ram Bhual Nishad from the Sultanpur Lok Sabha seat. Gandhi lost to Nishad by a margin of 43,174 votes in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The bench gave Gandhi's lawyer time to file a detailed submission analysing the provision of limitation in other special statutes.

As per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), on judges names, elevation and recommendations to various high courts, the Central government is obliged to accept the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation for appointment of judges if the decision has been reiterated by the top

The Supreme Court Collegium is a statutory body consisting of the five seniormost Supreme Court judges led by the Chief Justice.

CBI rapped for allegations against judges in Bengal post-poll violence case

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Friday pulled up the CBI for "casting aspersions" on the Bengal judiciary, after hearing the probe agency's petition seeking a direction to transfer cases related to the 2021 post-poll violence in Bengal to another state.

A two-judge bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih questioned the CBI over its claim that "the entire (state) judiciary is under a hostile environment".

"This is not correct. This is casting aspersions that the entire judiciary is under hostile environment," the bench questioned the Additional Solicitor General (ASG) SV Raju, representing the agency.

The CBI moved SC, seeking to transfer the cases to another state, citing concerns of witness intimidation, and threats

to the course of justice. During the hearing, the court said that it was unfortunate that the Central agency had

chosen to cast aspersions on

West Bengal courts.

tice Oka asserted.

Taking a strong exception to the CBI's plea, the court said, "...That all courts in West Bengal have hostile environment? The blanket averment is that courts are illegally granting bail. This is casting aspersions that the entire judiciary is under hostile environment," Jus-

ted that the petitions had some loose drafting. Although he wanted to withdraw the plea after the severe

At this point, the ASG admit-

rap, the SC refused to accept a simple withdrawal. It threatened to issue a contempt notice to the lawyer responsible for drafting the plea.

The court observed that there were serious and scandalous allegations being made against all the courts in West Bengal. Repeatedly averring that a hostile environment is prevailing in the state courts, the SC said that it is unfortunate that CBI chose to cast aspersions on them. It finally dismissed the CBI's plea and granted liberty to file a fresh petition.

Shah asks Maoists to lay down arms

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday appealed to the Left-Wing-Extremists (LWE) to abjure violence by laying down arms, surrender before law and join the mainstream like the insurgents in the northeastern region of the country.

The home minister, however. cautioned them that if not, an all-out operation will be car-

ried out against them. Shah on Friday morning addressed 55 victims of Naxal violence from Chhattisgarh at his residence in Delhi. He also asserted that those who indulge in left wing extremist activities will take their last breath by March 31, 2026, and will be

eliminated by then. The home minister said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided that Naxal violence and ideology will be wiped out from the country by then.

Shah said, "I appeal to Naxals to give up violence, lay down arms and surrender like the militants in the northeast have done. If you do not listen, then an all-out operation will be carried out soon to end the menace." He said Naxalism is a threat to both humanity and the

country's internal security. Shah noted that the security forces have achieved significant success in their operations against Maoists, as the problem



Home Minister Amit Shah talks to victims of Naxal violence in Chhattisgarh | PTI

is now confined to just a few districts in Chhattisgarh. "The Central government is committed to completely eliminating Naxalism by March 2026. Due to the policies of the Modi government, LWE has now been restricted to a few districts in Chhattisgarh," he said.

Shah said Maoists had once planned to establish a corridor from Pashupatinath (Nepal) to Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), but that was destroyed by the Modi government. He said those advocating the human rights of Naxalites should also consider the human rights of those who suffer at the hands of Naxals.

The home ministry will chalk out a comprehensive welfare scheme in the next three months for Naxal violence-affected people of Chhattisgarh, in close coordination with the state government. "We will help you in whatever way we can through our welfare measures in jobs, healthcare and other areas," Shah said.

HIGHEST NAXAL DEATHS THIS YEAR

The Maoist deaths this year are the highest since 2009, when 154 insurgents were killed. That was also the year when the Indian government banned the group and launched a military offensive codenamed 'Operation Green Hunt', involving the Central Reserve Police

Force's CoBRA force and the Chhattisgarh police.

The minister also interacted with the 55 victims of Naxal violence from Chhattisgarh. They came to meet him under the aegis of the Bastar Peace Committee.

ferred to the name of senior ad-

vocate Saurabh Kirpal, who

has not been appointed as a

high court judge despite reit-

eration by the apex court

In the similar case, a plea

was also filed before the Su-

preme Court by the Jharkhand

government, seeking contempt

of court action against the Cen-

tre for not clearing the Colle-

gium's recommendation made

to appoint Justice MS Ramach-

andra Rao as the Chief Justice

of the High Court.

collegium.

During the event, the committee also screened a documentary, highlighting the plight of the people affected by Naxals in Chhattisgarh. Some of the victims shared their stories with Shah.

Up to July 9 this year, 162 Maoist deaths were reported. Of these, 141 deaths were from Chhattisgarh alone. This is among the highest number of casualties suffered by the extremists in the largely tribal state since the formation of the Communist Party of India (Maoist) in 2004.

The Maoist deaths this year are the highest since 2009, when 154 insurgents were killed. That was also the year when the Indian government banned the group and launched a military offensive code-named 'Operation Green Hunt', involving the Central Reserve Police Force's CoBRA force and the Chhattisgarh police in "search and comb" operations.

The spike in the number of Naxal deaths has taken place after the BJP returned to power in the state in December 2023. Apart from 2009 and 2024, the Maoists also suffered high death tolls in 2016 and 2018.

Thaw in offing? India, China not competitors but cooperators: Envoy

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

IN line with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's recent statements in Geneva that nearly 75% issues between India and China have been resolved barring the border dispute, China's envoy to India said the two Asian giants are not competitors but coordinators.

"President Xi Jinping and PM Modi have reached consensus on many important points, which means that the two countries are not competitors but cooperators and are development partners, not threats,' said Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong on Thursday.

He recounted that China and India had close cooperation during the 1950s and China had put forth the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

"China and India are the two biggest and developing countries in the world. Both are responsible for developing the economy and improving people's livelihoods. China is determined to build itself into a great modern socialist country by the middle of this century and India has a vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047," he said.

The ambassador congratulated India on the achievements that India had made through re-



China is determined to build itself into a great modern socialist country by the middle of this century and India has a vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047

Xu Feihong, Chinese Ambassador to India

forms. "Only China and India can understand how many efforts should be made to promote reforms in a country with 1.4 billion population," he said.

Feihong also said that China would like to work with India to help each other succeed on the way to modernisation, achieve common development and revitalisation and join hands to build a community with a

shared future for mankind. "Modernisation is the common aspiration of China and India. China would like to work with India to achieve mutual accomplishment on the way to

modernisation and join hands to build a community with a shared future to mankind," said the Chinese envoy.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met Jaishankar twice in the past two months and also National Security Advisor Ajit Doval recently. "They had an in-depth conversation and reached an important consensus on the improvement of bilateral relations," he said.

India and China held the 31st meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs in Beijing on August 29.

Last week, Jaishankar said during his conversation with Ambassador Jean-David Levitte in Geneva that India did not have an easy relationship with China in the past. "What happened in 2020 was in violation of multiple agreements — the Chinese moved a large number of troops to the Line of Actual Control. We, in response, moved

"Some progress was made on border talks with China. We still have some things to do," Jaishankar said, "If there is a solution to disengagement and there is a return to peace and tranquillity, we can look at other possibilities. That is the immediate issue."

ours troops up," he said.

J&K POLLS

At Vaishno Devi, BJP battles multiple candidates, feud to avoid Ayodhya redux

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

AFTER a shock defeat from Ayodhva, the heart of Hindutva politics, in the parliamentary polls a few months back, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi (SMVD) Assembly seat in J&K's Reasi district has assumed additional significance for the BJP. A multi-cornered contest can unpredictably swing the result.

The Vaishno Devi constituency will go to the polls in the second phase of the Assembly polls on September 25.

The significance of the seat can be gauged from the fact that Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday held an election rally and a roadshow in the Katra, which is the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the Vaishno Devi shrine.

Seven candidates are in the fray from the seat, but the main contest is between BJP's Baldev Raj Sharma, Congress' Bhupinder Singh, former MLA Jugal Kishore and independent

candidate Sham Singh. twice in the last two elections

Infighting, resentment

The saffron camp in Jammu and Kashmir is beset with infighting, which surfaced when the party initially gave ticket to Reasi district president Rohit Dubey. Adding to the BJP's woes, is the resentment against the saffron party among Katra's Baridari community, the erstwhile caretakers of the Vaishno Devi shrine.

in erstwhile J&K state in 2008 and 2014 and also took the lead from the segment in the parlia-

mentary polls. However, the saffron camp is beset with infighting, which surfaced when the party initially gave a mandate for the seat to Rohit Dubey, the district president Reasi. However, a few hours later, the party withdrew his candidature and substituted Dubey with former MLA Baldev Raj Sharma.

This led to protests by party workers, who pledged to vote against the official candidate. The BJP won the SMVD seat Adding to this is the resentment against the party among Katra's Baridari community, the erstwhile caretakers of the Vaishno Devi shrine.

The community, which has about 15,000 voters in the constituency, has total electorate strength of about 57,000. The community has been demanding reservations in jobs in the shrine board and scholarships for their children in higher education, and fielded 52-year-old Sham Singh as its candidate.

Singh told this newspaper that the Baridari community looked after the affairs of the shrine until 1986 when the then J&K Governor gave the shrine management to the newly created Shri Vaishno Devi Shrine Board. "We have been overlooked by the board, and we have been fighting for our rights since 1986," Singh said.

An influential group, the Yuva Rajput Sabha, has also extended support to Sham Singh.

A BJP leader said the party is working hard to ensure that Ayodhya is not repeated in Vaishno Devi, and has pressed star campaigners, including the PM. to swing votes.

Lanka vote to elect prez among 38 contenders **DILRUKSHI HANDUNNETTI** Award-winning journalist

and lawyer, founder and

director of the Colombo-

pased Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR)

COLOMBO: In the first election to be held after the unprecedented economic collapse in 2022 and the people's protest movement, Aragalaya, Sri Lankans will on Saturday exercise their franchise to elect the island's ninth president.

Thirty-eight candidates are in the race for top job that has three frontrunners: incumbent president Ranil Wickremesinghe who is an independent candidate, opposition leader and leader of the Samagi Jan Balawegala (SJB) Sajith Premadasa and leader of the National People's Power (NPP), Anura Kumara Dissanayake. The 17 million registered voters include one million first time voters and 1.6 million migrant workers. Out of the total, 56% of the voters are women.

Namal Rajapaksa, former president Mahinda Rajapaksa's son is also a contender, representing the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP).

Voters can select up to three

epaper.newindianexpress.com



Election officials collect polling material from a distribution centre in Colombo | PTI

candidates from the ballot paper in the order of their preference. The first preferences will be counted first and the candidate who secures more than 50% of the valid votes will be declared winner. If there is no clear winner in the first round, the first two candidates will be retained for a second preference count. To win, a candidate needs 50% plus 1 vote.

Wickremesinghe took on presidency after president Gotabaya Rajapaksa was forced to resign by protesters, and is credited for taking emergency measures to address the shortage of essentials and restore a

form of normalcy. However, he is criticised for the manner of crushing political dissent through strong arm tactics and a spate of arrests. A six-time prime minister, he was criticised for guarding the interest of the Rajapaksas and for several arbitrary actions as president and abuse of state resources for campaign purposes. Wickremesinghe secured a bailout from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and slapped heavy taxes on people who were already reeling under the economic impasse.

Sajith Premadasa leads the SJB, a breakaway group of the

United National Party (UNP) and offers the electorate a liberal economy combined with social welfare measures. He contested for presidency in 2019 and lost to Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Through his manifesto, "A win for all,' Premadasa offers a social democratic economic agenda and leans heavily towards offering subsidies to the economically marginalised people. A key pledge is to renegotiate the IMF agreement to achieve greater protection for the poorer sections in society. As for NPP's Anura Kumara

Dissanayake, his popularity swelled following the 2022 people's movement. The NPP wishes to introduce a state-directed mixed economy model which focuses on industrialisation and domestic manufacturing for exports. The Marxist party has historically opposed multilateral loans in its manifesto. It has, however, accepted the need to honour the ongoing IMF programme but with renegotiation of terms. The NPP promises to increase public sector salaries, reduce the tax burden, and offer social welfare to the economically marginalised. One of the most attractive promises is to fight graft, recover stolen assets and to punish the wrongdoers.

INDIA bloc allies spar over flood

Trucks stranded as Didi seals border with J'khand, while JMM calls Mamata 'mentally unstable'

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

FLOODING in West Bengal has triggered a war of words between INDIA bloc allies Mamata Banerjee and the JMM-led government in Jharkhand.

Things came to a head on Friday when Mamata ordered sealing the state's border with Jharkhand. The JMM hit back saying the Bengal CM was "mentally unstable" and was making "weird decisions."

The West Bengal government's move to seal the Dibrugarh check-post led to the queuing up of thousands of commercial vehicles from Barakar bridge to Maithon along National Highway-19.

The JMM called the move "taken in haste". "As Mamata Banerjee has become mentally unstable due to various reasons, she has been making such allegations and taking weird decisions," said JMM general secretary and spokesperson Supriyo Bhattacharya.

The move may pose serious problems for the Bengal CM, he warned. "If Jharkhand seals its borders, West Bengal will be cut off from south, west and north India," he said.

Bhattacharya maintained that had the water not been released, it could have damaged the reservoir which could have ter from its dam to protect in both the states. He said wa- creating "man-made" floods,



Locals at a flood-affected area in Bengal's Paschim Medinipur district; (R) Trucks queue up along state border in Asansol | PTI

"Mamata Banerjee has been taking weird decisions... If Jharkhand

seals its borders, West Bengal will be cut off from south, west and **north India** — Supriyo Bhattacharya, JMM general secretary and spokesperson

tion with the water resources department of West Bengal and a technical export committee of Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC). He also refuted the allegations made by the BJP that the JMM has bowed to West Bengal.

On Thursday, Mamata slammed the Jharkhand government alleging the flood situation in the state worsened since DVC started releasing water was released after consulta- Mamata also threatened to sev-

er all ties with the corporation. She also accused the government of failing to conduct dredging at DVC dams, which led to the release of water and caused flooding in several districts of West Bengal.

In a four-page letter to the Prime Minister dated September 20, the West Bengal CM highlighted how the "unilateral" release of an enormous volume of water by the DVC devastated all districts in south Bengal, causing severe hardship to the people.

"I would like to draw your

kind attention to the fact that as a result of an unprecedented, unplanned, and unilateral release of nearly five lakh cusecs of water from the combined system of Maithon and Panchet dams, owned and maintained by the DVC, all districts of south Bengal have been plunged into devastating floods, causing severe miseries to the common people," Banerjee wrote.

"If this unilateral approach continues, bringing hardship to the people of my state, we will be left with no option but to disengage entirely from DVC and withdraw our participation. We cannot allow this ongoing injustice to affect our people year after year," she warned.

Citizens march in Kolkata ahead of docs joining work

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

JUNIOR doctors protesting the rape-murder of a colleague at RG Kar Hospital ended their 42day 'cease work' on Friday, announcing a partial resumption of duties in essential services after a march to the CBI office following a week-long demonstration outside the state health department's headquarters.

The procession, which covered around 4km from Swasthya Bhawan to the CGO Complex, aimed to urge a swift conclusion to the CBI probe into the case.

The doctors said that they would not work in the outpatient departments (OPDs) but partially function in emergency and essential services.

In yet another powerful show of solidarity, thousands of citizens gathered for a massive 42km torch rally demanding justice for the murdered young medic, coinciding with junior doctors' withdrawal of 'cease work' on Friday evening.

To commemorate their struggle, junior doctors also announced the establishment of Abhaya medical camps in flooddemonstrating their commit- for healthcare professionals.

CBI investigation

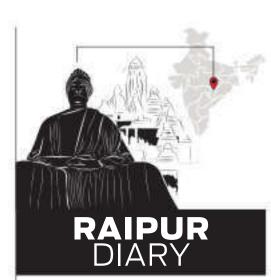
The CBI on Friday questioned more people in the rape-murder case. On Thursday, it had got a clue that a TMCP leader was involved in the incident and received CCTV footage of him staying in a Salt Lake hotel. CBI officials are verifying the call details of the people associated with the incident.

ment to public health even amidst ongoing protests.

"Given the flood situation in West Bengal and the government agreeing to some of our demands, we will be partially rejoining emergency and essential services from Sat-

> urday," a doctor said. "However, if the assurances and promises (by the government) are not fulfilled, we will again start our agitation," another protesting

doctor warned. The decision to call off the 'cease work' was announced on Thursday night, after Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, following up on issues discussed in Wednesday's meeting between the junior doctors and the state task force, issued a list of direchit regions of the state, further tives on the safety and security



EJAZ KAISER

Our correspondent in Chhattisgarh

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RMC aims to strength startup ecosystem

The Raipur Municipal Corporation's (RMC) co-working centre and its initiatives aiming to promote startups is supporting entrepreneurs with opportunities for the local youth and startups. Venkatesh Shukla, an entrepreneur who played a pivotal role in formulating the Startup India, appreciated the RMC's move to strengthen prospects of startups through support of mentors and advisors. The co-working centre that strives to integrate startups with incubators and system integrators has been hailed earlier as the unique initiative in the country by urban development ministry.



J&K

Gunfight breaks out ahead of Phase-II polls

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE gunfight erupted on Friday between terrorists and security forces in Reasi district of Jammu, which is going to vote in the second phase of Assembly polls on September 25.

ADGP Jammu Anand Jain said that based on specific intelligence about the presence of terrorists, a joint search operation was launched by security forces at Shikari area in Reasi on Friday. As the security men were conducting searches, they came under fire from terrorists hiding in the area.

The security men returned the fire and both sides exchanged gunfire. The terrorists managed to escape from the area after the gunfight.

Besides drones and other surveillance gadgets were being used to track down the movement of the terrorists. It is suspected that two-three terrorists are hiding in the area. "The search operation was on when reports last came in," a police official said.

The Reasi district is going to polls in the second phase of Assembly polls on September 25.

Mortar blast injures 4 BSF soldiers during exercise in Pokhran Firing Range

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

AN explosion of a mortar bomb during a war exercise at the Pokhran Field Firing Range in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan left four BSF soldiers injured on Friday. The soldiers, identified as Uday, Suvimal, Abhishek, and Rahul Kumar, were rushed to Pokhran Hospital, where the condition of Uday and Abhishek is reported to be critical. After the initial treatment at the

Pokhran Hospital, the jawans were referred to Jodhpur as a precautionary measure. Preliminary reports

suggest that the accident occurred due to a "shortfall" during the exercise. A 51 mm mortar reportedly misfired during a regular practice session around noon. Upon receiving news of the incident, BSF Commandant Ranveer Singh arrived at the scene, assessed the situation, and briefed sen-

ior officials. BSF officers are actively investigating the cause of the accident and have spoken with other soldiers present at the

scene to gather more information. In the wake of the incident, serious concerns have been raised about the safety protocols during such exercises. An official inquiry has been launched to determine the exact cause of the explosion.

Similar accidents occurred in 2016 and 2017 at the Kishangarh Field Firing Range, where multiple mortar explosions left soldiers injured. In 2017 alone, two explosions injured nine

soldiers, while in 2016, there were three separate incidents. Additionally, in 2012, four Army soldiers sustained injuries due to a mortar explosion.

The 51 mm mortar, involved in several of these incidents, was first introduced by the British Army in 1988. Due to its lightweight design and portability, it was adopted by several countries' armed forces. Weighing only 6.25 kg, with a barrel length of 28 inches, it was in service with the British Army until it was phased out in 2007. The mortar has a range of 750 meters and can fire up to eight bombs per minute.

Bangla infiltrators will be thrown out of J'khand if BJP wins: Shah

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

KICK-STARTING BJP's Parivartan Yatra on Friday, Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said that every Bangladesh infiltrator would be thrown out of Jharkhand if the BJP came to power in the state. While addressing a gathering at Sahibganj, he claimed that only PM Narendra Modi or the BJP can save the state from intrusions.

He said that the number of Bangladeshi infiltrators is increasing by the day compared to the tribals in Jharkhand.

"Only PM Narendra Modi or BJP can save Jharkhand from Bangladeshi intrusion," said Shah. He appealed to people to change the government in Jharkhand to enable the BJP to throw out every Bangladeshi infiltrator from the state.

The Parivartan Yatra will reach every village home and give them a message of change, he said. "Change of what, not of changing the Chief Minister in Jharkhand, not even bringing BJP in power... change has to be done to remove this corrupt government and bring in a government which can check corruption in the state," Shah said.



Amit Shah flags off 'Parivartan Yatra' in Jharkhand's Sahibganj district on Friday | PTI

A government has to be brought in which can throw out Bangladeshi infiltrators, who have been ruining the tribal culture and tribal girls in the state, he said. "Such a government has to be brought in Jharkhand to generate employment so that the tribals do not have to migrate to other states in search of livelihood. We don't want to change the CM here, but we want to change

Jharkhand," he added. Shah also accused the Hemant Soren government of adopting 'Ghuspaithia Kalyan'

(Welfare of infiltrators) in place of tribal welfare, due to which slogans like 'Hindus and tribals leave Jharkhand' are echoing in Sahibganj and Pakur. He also sought to know whether Soren or the Congress could save Jharkhand from infiltration. Since, Bangladeshi infiltrators are the vote bank of JMM, Congress and RJD, they don't want to stop them, he alleged.

Sensing the seriousness of the matter, the High Court has ordered to form a committee of state and central governments to investigate the matter.

meet at BMC Raipur Global cancer experts converge at

Global cancer experts

Balco Medical Centre (BMC) at Naya Raipur to demonstrate advanced treatment. There have been live surgical demonstrations for surgeons as part of the annual BMC Cancer Conclave. The event has created a platform for sharing insights on cutting-edge oncology practices. Leading oncologists from Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, highlighted the use of 'Augmented Reality' for performing complex surgeries. The 3D operative planning in surgeries enhances surgeons' understanding of the tumour and surrounding anatomy leading to greater accuracy in treatment.

Landscape restoration policy to be fast-tracked

In a significant move towards

landscape restoration, the panchayat & rural development department had an extensive deliberation on a policy dialogue session in which representatives from 10 departments and 11 social organisations participated. Principal secretary Niharika Barik stressed for more research to gather evidence for works on landscape restoration and sustainable development goals. Chhattisgarh ranks among the top three states for unlocking opportunities for landscape restoration. The state having 82 % small and marginal farmers will get livelihood opportunities with landscape restoration efforts.

Rahul keeps US promise, visits family Heavy rush of helicopters on Kedarnath route of injured youth in Haryana village

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday reached a village in Haryana's Karnal district to meet the family of a young man who was injured in an accident in the US. According to the family, Gandhi had met the injured youth, Amit, during his recent visit to the US.

Congress leaders in Karnal said that there was no prior intimation of Rahul's visit and that they came to know about it only after he reached Ghogripur village. Gandhi's sudden visit to meet the family comes at a time when the assembly polls are a fortnight away.

In the October 5 Haryana polls, the Congress, which is eyeing to wrest power from the ruling BJP, has made farmers and unemployment key poll issues. Speaking to the media in the village, Amit's brother Ajit said that Rahul reached their home around 6 am. A few families from the neighbourhood also joined, he said.

"My brother Amit went to the



accident in the US, in Ghogripur village in Karnal district on Friday | PTI

a year back and the family sold a piece of land and mortgaged their home to finance him. Rahul assured us of help in this difficult hour. Rahul also talked about agriculture and asked about unemployment. There were a few more families present with us," he said.

Bhimmati, Amit's mother, US in search of livelihood about said that Rahul was with them livelihood.

for about 90 minutes and they served him tea. "During our interaction, we also spoke to Amit over a video call," she said.

Sources said that Amit drove a truck in the US for a living and met with a major accident there. A few villagers said that many youngsters from the village have gone abroad for a

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

HELICOPTER services for Kedarnath pilgrimage, part of the world-famous Char Dham Yatra, have gained significant momentum, with over 250 daily flights to the sacred shrine.

"A total of nine private helicopter companies are operating more than 250 flights daily to Kedarnath, ferrying approximately 1,500 pilgrims daily to the holy shrine of Baba Kedar," a Tourism Department spokesperson stated.

Sources in the Uttarakhand Tourism Department's Yatra division said, "With favourable weather conditions, regular helicopter flights have facilitated the transportation of 76,210 pilgrims to the revered temple so far."

Approximately 1,500 devotees are now utilizing the helicopter service for Baba Kedar daily. The preferences of pilgrims have changed over the years. Earlier, they were forced to trek hundreds of kilometres on foot. The introduction of helicopter services for the yatra, initiated over a decade ago, has gained immense popularity.

"According to the state tour-

epaper.newindianexpress.com



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A chopper ferries pilgrims to Char Dham yatra | **EXPRESS**

ism department's Yatra wing, as of Friday, a total of 3,573,554 devotees have already visited the four dhams and Hemkund Sahib this year."

"While 1,149,662 devotees have visited Kedarnath, 9,95,930 have paid homage at Badrinath, 5,87,568 at Yamunotri, 6,73,179 at Gangotri, and 1,67,215 at Hemkund Sahib," said Pradeep Chauhan, spokesperson for the Char Dham Yatra wing.

Compared to last year's figures, the number of pilgrims

has decreased. In the same period the previous year, 39,43,615 devotees undertook the yatra, whereas this year, only 35,54,039 pilgrims reached the sacred

sites so far. A decline of 3,89,576 pilgrims is attributed to inclement weather and landslides, which disrupted the yatra for seven days. According to the Utta-

rakhand Tourism Department's Yatra Division, the nine operating airlines include Aryan, Trans Bharat, Pawan Hans, Thumby Aviation, Global Vec-

tra Trans Bharat, Himalayan, Crystal Aviation, and Aero. These airlines operate from four bases: Narayankoti, Phata, Shersi, and Sonprayag, ensuring access to Kedarnath for pilgrims undertaking the vatra.

The Badri Kedar Temple Committee has approved a budget of ₹116.24 crore to enhance facilities for Char Dham pilgrims this year," committee chairman Ajendra Ajay said.

According to Ajay, the allocation aims to provide better amenities to the devotees. The committee has proposed a revenue of ₹54.44 crore for Badrinath Dham and ₹62.24 crore for Kedarnath Dham. "The budget will cater to needs of pilgrims, ensuring an enriching experience," Ajay said.

Underscoring the need for improved infrastructure, Sonprayag Vyapar Mandal president Ankur Gairola said, "Although the government's relief efforts have eased travel, more measures are necessary."

On the 22-km trek from Sonprayag to Kedarnath, he said pilgrims still undertake on foot. "Once the road network is streamlined, the business will flourish," he added.

Commander, 10 Hezbollah men killed in strike: Israel

Deadliest attack in years on Lebanon's capital leaves 66 injured

BEIRUT

ISRAEL launched a rare airstrike that killed a senior Hezbollah military official in a densely populated neighbourhood of southern Beirut on Friday, the Israeli army said. It was the deadliest such attack on Lebanon's capital in years. At least 12 others were reported killed in the attack.

The Israeli military's chief spokesman, Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, said the strike on Beirut's southern Dahiya district targeted and killed Ibrahim Akil, a commander of Hezbollah's elite Radwan Force, as well as 10 other Hezbollah operatives.

The Israeli military did not elaborate on the identities of the other commanders allegedly killed in the strike on the crowded urban neighborhood. Lebanese health officials said at least 12 people were killed and 66 others were wounded there. Nine of the wounded, they said, were in serious condition.

A Hezbollah official confirmed that Akil was supposed to be in the building that was hit but gave no further infor-



Rescuers carry a body at the scene of a missile strike in the southern suburbs of Beirut on Friday | AP

mation. Akil has served on Hezbollah's highest military body, the Jihad Council, and has been sanctioned by the United States for being involved in two terrorist attacks in 1983 that killed more than 300 people at the US Embassy in Beirut and the US Marine Corps barracks.

Lebanon's local networks

aired footage showing first responders combing through the rubble of two flattened apartment buildings in Jamous area, just kilometers from downtown Beirut where Hezbollah conducts many of its political and security operations. The strike hit during rush hour as people were leaving work and children heading home from school.



"The attack in Lebanon is to protect Israel," Hagari said at a news conference following the strike, describing Akil as one of Hezbollah militants responsible for the group's regular rocket fire into Israel.

Israel and Hezbollah have traded fire regularly since Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel.

Lebanon hits northern Israel with 140 rockets

BEIRUT

HEZBOLLAH pounded northern Israel with 140 rockets on Friday, a day after the militant group's leader Hassan Nasrallah vowed to retaliate against Israel for a mass bombing attack, the Israeli military and the militant group said.

Israel's military said the rockets came in three waves Friday afternoon targeting sites along the ravaged border with Lebanon. Following the attacks, the Israeli military said that it had struck areas across southern Lebanon targeting Hezbollah infrastructure, but didn't provide details of damage.

Hezbollah said that its attacks had targeted several sites along the border with Katyusha rockets, including multiple air defence bases as well as the headquarters of an Israeli armored brigade they said they'd struck for the first time.

The Israeli military said that 120 missiles were launched at areas of the Golan Heights,

Safed and the Upper Galilee, some of which were intercepted. Fire crews were working to extinguish blazes caused by pieces of debris that fell to the ground in several areas, the military said.

The military didn't say whether any missiles had hit targets or caused any casualties.

Another 20 missiles were shot at the areas of Meron and Netua, and most fell in open areas, the military said, adding that no injuries were reported.

Hezbollah said that the rockets were in retaliation for Israeli strikes on villages and homes in southern Lebanon, not two days of attacks widely blamed on Israel that set off explosives in thousands of Hezbollah pagers and walkie-talkies.

On Thursday, Israel said its military had struck 'hundreds of rocket launcher barrels" in southern Lebanon, saying that they "were ready to be used in the immediate future to fire toward Israeli territory'.

AFP

Ukraine bans Telegram app on govt devices

MOSCOW

UKRAINE government has banned government officials, military personnel and other defence and critical infrastructure workers from installing the popular Telegram messaging app on state-issued devices, describing the move as necessary for national security during the ongoing war with Russia.

Ukraine's National Cybersecurity Coordination Center said it issued the ban for the official devices of government employees, military personnel, security and defense workers, and critical infrastructure employees. The ban was announced Friday by Ukraine's Security and Defense Council in a statement on Facebook.

During a meeting on Thursday, the Security Service of Ukraine and the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine said Telegram is actively used by Russia for cyberattacks, phishing, spreading malware, establishing user locations and calibrating missile strikes.

Late Harrods owner accused of sexual assault

LONDON

DOZENS of women from across the world have accused late Harrods owner Mohamed Al-Fayed of sexual assault, lawyers said on Friday, likening the allegations to those against fallen figures such as Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein.

At least 37 women from Australia, Canada, Italy, Malaysia, Romania and the United States have so far come forward to allege abuse by the Egyptian billionaire, who died last year aged 94. One was just 16 when she was allegedly assaulted.

More women are expected to contact lawyers as a result of publicity surrounding a BBC investigation into the claims, including five who said they were raped.

Lawyers representing some of the women said they were victims of "systematic abuse" over 25 years "within the knowledge of Harrods", which Al-Fayed sold in 2010.

The new owners of the upmarket London department store said they were "utterly appalled" by the allegations.

But lawyer Dean Armstrong said there had been an "abject failure of corporate responsibility and a failure to provide a safe system at work".

Fayed is accused of having sexually assaulted, raped and attempted to rape multiple young women — including minors hired as his secretaries and personal assistants at the west London store. "He was a monster enabled by the system," Armstrong said.

Fayed's accusers say the assaults took place in his apartments in London and at his properties in Paris, including the Ritz hotel, which he also owned. Armstrong said the current claims were focused on Harrods because of "collective corporate responsibility" and "vicarious liability", the evidence showing that "clearly there was a pattern beyond peradventure (doubt)".

Vicarious liability is where the corporation is held responsible for the actions of employees, and Harrods has accepted this principle in settling some allegations about Fayed that came to light last year.

Kirtan part of UK's graded music exam

LONDON

FOR the first time in the United Kingdom, kirtan is recognised as part of the graded music examination system, with students able to access a formal curriculum and texts for 'Sikh Sacred Music' starting Friday.

Birmingham-based musician and academic Harjinder Lallie has devoted years towards kirtan taking its rightful place alongside Western classical music and ensuring the traditional musical skills are preserved for generations to come.

Kirtan, the singing of shabads or scriptures from the holy 'Guru Granth Sahib', is a fundamental method of devotion and

praise in the Sikh faith. London-based Music Teachers' Board (MTB) will now offer Sikh Sacred Music as part of its globally recognised eight-grade music exams, providing students the opportunity to earn Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) points for the higher Grades 6-8 which are then recognised for university admissions.

CHANGE OF NAME name) S/o GULLIPALLI APPA RAO (late) resident of 26-21-18, Velampeta, RRMR my name from GULIPILLI KISHORE KUMAR (old name) to GULLIPALLI KISHORE KUMAR (New name) henceforth I am being called as GULLIPALLI KISHORE KUMAR (New name) S/o GULLIPALLI APPA RAO (late), for all Purposes

CHANGE OF NAME

I, CHALAPAKA SWATHI is legally wedded spouse of Ex. No: 127852Z, POME, Chalapaka Srinivasa Rao presently residing at Door No. 2-5-371, Maddi Veedhi, Near Govt Hosp Jn. Balaga (Rural), Srikakulam, Srikakulam - Dist (AP), PIN - 532001 have changed my name from CHALAPAKA SWATHI to CHITRADA SWATHI vide Affidavit Notary, Srikakulam (AP).

L POTNURU YOGANANDHA SIO POTNURI PAPARAO R/at D.No.1-189, Chinanchala village Kedaripuram post, Palasa Mandalam, Srikakulam Dist.Pin - 532221, A.P. State. My father name is changed from POTNURU MAA LAXMAMMA (old name) to POTNURU PAPARAO (new name) in my passport. Shall henceforth be known as POTNURU PAPARAO for all practical purposes

CHANGE OF NAME

QuoteExpress

IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING

WINSTON CHURCHILL

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001. Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact Number 96461 47777) TENDER ENQUIRY No. TSQ-1157/TD-I

Dy.CE/TL(Design), PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for the procurement of ACSR Panther for the 66KV works to be carried out under RDSS in departmental mode, as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1157/TD-I. For detailed NIT and Bidding Document, please refer to https://gem.gov.in (GeM Portal) from 07.09.2024 from (11.00 AM onwards).

NOTE: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://gem.gov.in (GeM Portal).

920/C-721/24-9/20/2024 76155/12/3478/2023/37910

IN THE MATTER OF:

2024 at 10.30 am onwards.

Venue

any, before the Hon'ble Tribunal.

with Sub-Section (1) of Section 4 of the Act.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001. Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. : 96461-47777) Tender Enquiry No.: TSQ-1159 / TD-I

Dy.CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for carrying out survery, design, fabrication, testing, supply, laying of foundation, erection of 66 KV monopole structures along with cross arms on Turnkey basis. Stringing and sagging of conductor and Earthwire (Porcelain insulators, Conductor and Earthwire along with all accessories for conductor and Earthwire will be supplied by PSPCL at its own cost) and commissioning of 66 KV monopole line as per detailed scope mentioned in Part-6 of tender specification no. TSQ-1159. For detailed NIT &Tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 23.09.2024 from 11:00 AM

NOTE: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in 922/C-723/24-9/20/2024 76155/12/3480/2023/37913

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PUBLIC (S.C.) DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF TRIBUNAL UNDER

THE UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) ACT, 1967

DELHI HIGH COURT, NEW DELHI

Declaring Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) as Unlawful Association

Re: Notification No. S.O.1983(E), dated 14th May, 2024 issued by the Central

Government under Sub-Section (1) of Section 3 of the Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Act, 1967 declaring the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)

as an Unlawful Association and Gazette Notification No. S.O. 2196(E) dated

05.06.2024 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Section 3.

Sub-Section (II) in exercise of powers under Sub-Section (1) of Section 5 read

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the general public that the Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Tribunal presided over by Hon'ble Ms. Justice Manmeet Pritam

Singh Arora, Judge, Delhi High Court will hold sitting at the premises of

The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, P.G. and Research Block,

Poompozhil Valagam, No.5, Dr. D.G.S Dinakaran Salai, State Bank of India

Colony, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600 028 on 27th & 28th September,

All those, who are interested in giving evidence, may file their affidavits (in

duplicate) with the undersigned, copy to be sent by email also, and shall

remain present in person on the above dates for their cross examination, if

: Premises of The Tamil Nadu

State Bank of India Colony,

Dr. Ambedkar Law University,

No.5, Dr. D.G.S Dinakaran Salai,

P.G. and Research Block, Poompozhil Valagam,

Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600 028

E-mail ID: tribunalupa2024@gmail.com

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal,

Sher Shah Road, New Delhi-110 503

Room No. 504A, 'S' Block, Delhi High Court,

VINAL KAPOOR

Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal

Delhi High Court Building

REGISTRAR

@newindianxpress +The New Indian Expr

4 为表







Dated: 13.09.2024

Resident at Door No.13-1347/3, Vikalangula Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh - 530040. That my Name mentioned as ABDUL RAHMAN wrongly noted in the Passport No.L4032347 Have changed my Name to "ABDUL RAHAMAN". Therefore, here in afterwards my Name shall be known as "ABDUL RAHAMAN".

LOST , KATCHALA JAYADEV KUMAR, S/o. Lat Satyanarayana, Residing at D.No. 7-6-12 Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam-530012. 1 lost nisplaced the following my original Registere Sale Deed Vide Doc., No. 3748/1968, Dated 26-12-1967. While traveling from my House to Kotapadu Xerox Shop. Lost my origina Registered Sale Deed Vide Doc., No. 3748/1968, Dated: 26-12-1967. If any one found infor below: Cell: 63012 55467

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Smt DUKKA VENKATA LAXMI legally wedded spouse of Ex Army No 15614729L Rank RECRUIT Name DUVVU SURYANARAYANA residing at Edupuram - Village & Post, Ichapuram - Mandalam, Srikakulam - Dist (AP), Pin - 532312 have changed my name from DUKKA VENKATA LAXMI to DUVVU VENKATA LAXMI vide Affidavit Notary Srikakulam (AP).

CHANGE OF NAME & DATE OF BIRTH I. VARAHA NARASIMHA RAJU.K, S/o RAMA RAJU (Late), EX Army No.14812867F, Rank: NAIK (TS) residing at Plot No.A2, Pradeep Nagar, VT Agraharam, Vizianagaram Dist. 535004, AP., submit that my wife original Date of Birth according to her Aadhar Card No. 756325203207 is 20-08-1992 instead of the her Date of Birth was wrongly entered in m service records as 20-06-1990 by mistaki Similarly my daughter original name according to her Aadhar card No.538681441758 KUCHERLAPATI AKSHARA instead of the her name was also wrongly entered in m service records as K.AKSHARA without fu

sumame, Similarly my son original nami KUCHERLAPATI SADHAN VARMA instead of that his name also wrongly entered in my service records as KUTCHERLAPAT SADHANA VARMA by mistake. Hence, request our concerned Army authorities rectify the mistakes and correct them in my service records as my wife Date of Birth 20.06. 1992 and my daughter name as KUCHERLAPATI AKSHARA and my son name KUCHERLAPATI SADHAN VARMA vithout any delay for my future transactions an also declare that hereafter my daughter an son will be called and treated as KUCHERLAPATI AKSHARA and KUCHERLAPATI SADHAN VARMA for a cord and official purpose.
- VARAHA NARASIMHA RAJU.

OF SPICES RESEARCH (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)

Post Bag No: 1701, Marikunnu Post, Kozhikode -673 012 Ph: 0495 - 2731410 Vacancy for Project Associate-I under the Project "National network Project on Crop Bioinformatics: NNP of National Institute of Plant Genome Research" in ICAR-IISR, Kozhikode. Visit

www.spices.res.in/jobs for details Sd/- Senior Administrative Officer For Director

DOCUMENT MISSING I BUSAM DHANAKANAKA

LINGESWARARAO s/o Busam Siva Gangadhara Rao, Hindu aged 44 Years, Resident of D.No.28-45/6, Flat No: S-2 Sivalayam Road, Kurmanna palaem, Near Post Office Duvvada, Visakhapatnam. I have lost my Link Document No: 3392/2010 while i was travelling on 26-8-2024 from Kurmanna palem to Desapatrunipalem Anyone found my Link document Please contact 9866984979.

Armed Forces Tribunal Principal Bench, West Block-VIII Sector-1, R.K. Puram New Delhi -110 066

Applications are invited for 01 (One) post of Principal Registrar, Pay Matrix Level-14 (Rs 144200-218200) on deputation basis in the Armed Forces Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi.

For further details. kindly visit web site www.aftdelhi.nic.in

> (Alex PP) Admin-in-Charge

Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation ICOMC Tower at Satya Nagar, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar-751022, Odisha No: 38432 /BMC DT: 19.09.2024

XXXXX-II-SWMPMU-140/2024-25 NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) C-632: On behalf of the Commissioner Bhubaneswar Municipal Cor-

poration (BMC), Dy. Commissioner (Sanitation), BMC invites Request for Proposal (RFP) from the experienced and qualified interested company registered under Indian Companies act/Partnership firm/Limited Liability Partnership firm/Proprietorship Firm registered under the relevant Act for "Design, supply, installation and commissioning of Biomass briquettes processing plants with Operation and Maintenance for a period of two (2) years." The detail RFP document can be seen and downloaded from BMC website http://bmc.gov.in from 20.09.2024 (11.00 AM) onwards.

For queries, interested parties may contact the office of Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation), Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation at ICOMC Tower at Satya Nagar, Infront of Satya Nagar Kali Temple on Janpath, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar- 751022, Odisha, India.

1. Schedule of Events:

presentation

Period of availability of Tender Docu- ment in BMC website	From Dt.20.09.2024 to Dt.19.10.2024 (till 5:00 PM)
Pre-bid Meeting (Physical & Virtual)	On Dt. 26.09.2024 (Time 12.30 PM) (4th floor Conference Hall of ICOMO Tower)
Last date and time of receiving queries to be sent to email id: dc-sanitation@bmc.gov.in (Format for sending queries attached in Annexure-X)	Dt. (by 27.09.2024 (by 5:00 PM)
Last date and time for submission of bids	18.10.2024 (till 5:00 PM)
Date and time for technical bid opening	19.10.2024 (4:00 PM)
Date, time and venue for technical	Will be Communicated by BMC

Financial bid Opening Will be Communicated by BMC Address for submission of Bid The Dy. Commissioner (Sanitation) Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, 4th Floor, BMC-ICOMC Building, Satya Nagar, Opposite Satya Nagar Kali Temple, Bhubaneswar-751 022

All amendments, Clarifications, time extensions, etc. will be uploaded in the website only interested parties should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updated.

By Order of the Commissioner, BMC

Dy. Commissioner (Sanitation) **Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation**

Administrative Office: 1st Lane, Shahupuri, Kolhapur-416001, Controlling Office: One India Bulls Centre, Tower 2B, 6th Floor, 841, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai-400013, National Operation

Centre: Techniplex-1, 9th Floor, Off. Veer Savarkar Flyover, Goregaon (West), Mumbai-400062, Branch Office: RBL BANK LTD.,47-1,Bhuvaneshwari Plaza,1/4,Main Road,Diamond Park,Dwaraka Nagar,Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530016 Securitisation Notice under S. 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 We, RBL Bank Limited the secured creditor of Applicant & Co-Applicant mentioned in column no.2 below inform you all that your account has been classified as Non-performing Account in our accounts pursuant to your defaults in making payment/ repayment of principal and interest. An amount is now due and payable by you togeth-

In spite of our repeated demands you have not paid the amount(s) outstanding in your account(s) and you have not discharged your liabilities. We, therefore, issued notice under section 13(2) of Chapter III of the securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 demanding payment of the above mentioned amounts together with further interest applicable at the contracted rates, costs, charges, other moneys to discharge your liabilities in full within 60 days from the date of the notice Name of Borrower, Loan Amount and Loan Account No.

 M/s. Divya Paper Products, Rep by its Authorised Signatory, Mr. Garakapati Venkata Ratnam, D.No.37-10-178/1, Masjid Road, Murali Nagar /isakhapatnam-530007. (Borrower), 2) Mr. Garakapati Venkata Ratnam, Door No.39-9-99/88/14, 5-B, Flat No.502, 5th Floor, Dwaraka Mural Apartment, Tenneti Nagar, Near Skating Park, Visakapatnam-530007. Also At: Partner: M/s. Divya Paper Products, D.No.37-10-178/1, Masjid Road, Murali Nagar, Visakhapatnam-530007. (Co-Borrower), 3) Mr. Venkata Krishna Rao Boddu, Door No.39-5-15/11,9R Sector, Murali Nagar, Visakapatnam-530007. Also At: Partner: M/s. Divya Paper Products, D.No.37-10-178/1, Masjid Road, Murali Nagar, Visakhapatnam-530007 (Co-Borrower), 4) Mr. Srinivasa Charkravarthi Potluri, Door No.7-18-8, Plot No.39, Flat No.B-3, Vepaheights, Kirlampudi Layout, Waltaz Ward, LB Colony, Visakapatnam-530017. Also At: Partner: M/s. Divya Paper Products, D.No.37-10-178/1, Masjid Road, Murali Nagar, Visakhapatnam 530007. Also At: Door No.48-3-49, Flat No.1,2,3&4, Ground Floor, Ashiana Castle, Plot No.127, 132, Srinagar, Rama Talkies Road, Visakapatnam-530016. (Co-Borrower & Mortgagor), 5) Mrs.Garapati Bhavya Sri Latha, Door No.39-9-99/88/14, 5-B, Flat No.502, 5th Floor, Dwaraka Murali Apartment, Tenneti Nagar, Near Skating Park, Visakapatnam-530007. Also At: Partner: M/s. Divya Paper Products, D.No. 37.

10-178/1, Masjid Road, Murali Nagar, Visakhapatnam-530007. (Co-Borrower).

East: Open Space; South: Common Corridor & Flat No.2; West: Open Space; North: Open Space.

NPA Date: 05.09.2024 Total amount of Rs.1,88,64,883.33

OIPR- 13002/11/0072/2425

Out standing due as on 10.09.2024

11.09.2024

Residential Unit No.4, bearing 48-3-49/6, Asst No.100003/50739, measuring 1062 Sq.Ft (Including common areas and balconies) in First Floor and parking space for two cars total measuring 200 Sq.Ft in the stilt of ASHIANA CASTLE, in Plot Nos.127, 132, T.P.No.20/54, covered by T.S.No.688/A1 of Allipura Ward (NOC issued by Special Officer & Competent Authority, Urban land Ceiling, Visakapatnam Vide Endt Sl.No.277/2012/Endt/ Dt.15.02.2013), Ward No.15, Situated at Srinagar area within the limits of Greater Visakapatnam Municipal Corporation in the registration Sub-District of Jt. SRO, Dwarakanagar, Visakapatnam and bounded as follows: East: Burial ground of Gollalapalem Village; South: 40 Feet Wide Road; West: Plot Nos. 126 & 133 of T.P.No. 20/54; North: 40 Feet Wide Road. Measurements: East to West: 40 Feet or 12.19 Mts; North to South: 162'7 Feet or 49.55 Mts; Boundaries of Residential Unit No.4 in First Floor: East: Open Space; South: Open space facing to GVMC Road; West: Open Space; North: Common Corridor & Flat No.3. Boundaries of Residential Unit No.3 in First Floor; East: Common Corridor; South: Flat No.4; West: Open Space; North: Stair case. Item No:2; All that piece and parcel of site measuring 71.5 Sq.Yds or 59.78 Sq.Mtrs (30.5 Sq.Yds undivided share for residential Unit No.2 and 41 Sq.Yds undivided share for Residential Unit No.1) being undivided and unspecified share out of the total extent of 722.57 Sq.Yds or 604.16 Sq.Mts together with two residential units bearing Residential Unit No.2 bearing D.No.48-3-49/5, Asst No.100003/50738 measuring 1026 Sq.Ft (Including common areas and balconies) and Residential Unit No.1, bearing 48-3-49/4, Asst No.100003/50737, measuring 1332 Sq.Ft (Including common areas and balconies) in First Floor and parking space for two cars total measuring 200 Sq.Ft in the stilt of ASHI-ANA CASTLE, in Plot Nos.127, 132, T.P.No.20/54, covered by T.S.No.688/A1 of Allipura Ward (NOC issued by Special Officer & Competent Authority, Urban land Ceiling. Visakapatnam Vide Endt Sl.No.277/2012/Endt/Dt.15.02:2013), Ward No.15, Situated at Srinagar area within the limits of Greater Visakapatnam Municipal Corporation in the registration Sub-District of Jt. SRO, Dwarakanagar, Visakapatnam and bounded as follows: East: Burial ground of Gollalapalem Village; South: 40 Feet Wide Road; West: Plot Nos.126 & 133 of T.P.No.20/54; North: 40 Feet Wide Road; Measurements; East to West: 40 Feet or 12.19 Mts; North to South: 1627 Feet or 49.55 Mts; Boundaries of Residential Unit No.2 in First Floor: EastL: Common Comdor; South: Staircase; West: Open Space; North: Flat No.1. Boundaries of Residential Unit No.1 in First Floor:

two residential units bearing Residential Unit No.4 bearing D.No.48-3-49/7, Asst No.100003/50740 measuring 1305 Sq.Ft (Including common areas and balconies) and

Now the authorized officer of RBL Bank Ltd. do hereby publish the contents of the above demand notice as provided under the Rules for discharge your liabilities in full, failing which, we shall, without any further reference, be constrained to enforce the following security created by you in our favour by exercising any or all the rights given under the said Act. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to RBL Bank against the borrower and the guarantors of the said financial under law. You are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said Act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of above secured asset, without our prior written consent.

Authorised officer, RBL Bank Ltd.

Sher Shah Road, New Delhi DIPR/ 975 /Display/2024

Postal Address : Office of the Registrar,

epaper.newindianexpress.com

Place: Visakhapatnam, Date: 21-09-2024





Loan Account No.s: 809001368771 & 809002802595

Description of the property mortgaged: Item No:1: All that piece and parcel of site measuring 73 Sq.Yds or 61.03 Sq.Mtrs (40 Sq.Yds undivided share for residential Unit No.4 and 33 Sq.Yds undivided share for Residential Unit No.3) being undivided and unspecified share out of the total extent of 722.57 Sq.Yds or 604.16 Sq.Mts together with

Demand Notice Date:

Household spends

expected to grow

faster, says RBI

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

HOUSEHOLD consumption is

all set to grow faster in the sec-

ond quarter amid easing retail

inflation, and a revival in rural

demand, the RBI said on Friday

in its Monthly Bulletin for Sep-

tember. Retail inflation in July

and August remained below 4%

(3.6% in July and 3.65% in August), even if it showed slight

As per the RBI bulletin, the

demand for fast moving con-

sumer goods (FMCG) is also ac-

celerating as companies target

older customers with healthy

lifestyle products in response

to rising longevity and afflu-

ence and younger ones with

The central bank points to-

wards increased hiring activi-

ties across sectors ahead of

festive season. This, it says,

is also likely to push up con-

sumption. E-commerce majors

have ramped up hiring ahead

of the festival season, not just

in the metros but in tier 2 and

Logistics hiring is

also rising to support

increased transporta-

tion, warehousing and

delivery activities. Cit-

ing a Team Lease Serv-

ices report, RBI says 62%

companies across telecom, in-

ternet service providers and

allied industries intend to

expand their workforce in

al increase in inflation in Au-

gust to an unfavourable base

effect of around 5 bps while the

index remained unchanged at

the previous month's level

(zero momentum). However, it

The RBI blamed the margin-

premiumisation.

3 cities as well.

this year.

uptick in the latter month.

VISAKHAPATNAM

Market 1359.51 Sensex 84,544.31 ₹660 24 carat (10 gm) ₹75,260 Watch 375.15 Nifty 25,790.95 ₹600 **2**2 carat (10 gm) ₹69,000 newindianexpress com

Sensex hits 84K level, Nifty close to 26K

Markets rise on the back of Fed rate cut; broader markets also rally with BSE midcap and smallcap rising by 1%

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

DOMESTIC equity market on Friday joined the global rally prompted by the Federal Reserves rate cut and encouraging payroll data in the US. The benchmark indices hit record high levels on Friday with investors' wealth growing by a whopping Rs 6.24 lakh crore.

At close, the BSE Sensex was up 1,359.51 points or 1.63% at 84,544.31 while the NSE Nifty surged 375.20 points or 1.48% at 25,791. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms surged by ₹6,24,468.11 crore to ₹4,71,71,745.83 crore (\$5.65 trillion). The broader market joined the party with BSE midcap and BSE smallcap indices going up by 1% each. "The much-anticipated 50 bps Fed rate cut has materialised, with signals from the Federal Reserve indicating additional cuts

FUNDRAISING

PhysicsWallah

raises \$210 mn,

valuation jumps

2.5x to \$ 2.8 bn

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

EDTECH firm PhysicsWallah

said on Friday it has raised

\$210 million in a funding round

led by Hornbill Capital at a 2.5

times higher valuation of \$ 2.8

billion. Lightspeed Venture

Partners, along with existing

investors GSV and WestBridge,

also participated in the funding

round. The company at the end

of its previous funding was val-

round serves as a beacon of optimism amidst challenging

times for the edTech sector,

showcasing the unwavering confidence of both existing and

new investors in PhysicsWal-

lah's growth and its mission to

democratise education across

The funding is expected to

bolster PW cash reserves to

support its future growth plans,

it said. The company plans to

utilise the fresh funds to strate-

gically scale operations, with a

key focus on consolidation in

"Prateek and I are excited to

partner with Hornbill Capital

and Lightspeed Venture Part-

ners in this journey, and we

deeply appreciate the contin-

ued trust from WestBridge and

GSV," PhysicsWallah Founder

The funding for the company

comes at a time when it expects

to become absolutely profitable

will enable us to expand our

reach, enhance our technologi-

delivering unparalleled learn-

ing experiences," PhysicsWal-

lah, Co-founder, Prateek Ma-

heshwari said.

in the financial year 2025.

and CEO Alakh Pandey said.

the education market.

India," the company said.

"PhysicsWallah's funding

ued at \$1.1 billion.



in 2024, 2025, and 2026. Markets have responded positively, as this could prompt a shift from debt to equities, potentially leading to a melt-up scenario," said Sunil Damania, Chief Investment Officer at MojoPMS.

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities said, "Markets were on a roll on

the back of across-the-board buying as the US interest rate cut has triggered a downward spiral in both Indian and US bond yields, making India's financial assets more attractive." Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) bought shares (net figure) worth ₹14,000 crore on Friday, showed NSE data.

SENSEX	PEAKS		
DATE	MILESTONE		
Sep 20, 2024	84,000		
Sep 17, 2024	83,000		
Aug 29, 2024	82,000		
Aug 22, 2024	81,000		
July 3, 2024	80,000		
April 9, 2024	75,000		
Dec 12, 2023	70,000		

The rally in the Indian market came after the US equity benchmark S&P 500 reached a record high on Thursday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 42,000 for the first time and the tech-heavy Nasdaq surged 2.51%.

Coupled with the rate cut, investors welcomed US unem-

ployment claim data which dropped to their lowest level in four months at 219,000 for the week ending September 14. This raised confidence among investors that the Fed is engineering a soft landing for the economy and there is no nearterm danger of a recession.

Asian markets were also trading at higher levels. Japan's Nikkei was up around 2% and the Hang Seng climbed almost 1%. Ajit Mishra – SVP of Research, Religare Broking said that the market continues to closely follow global cues, especially from the US, whose recent strength enabled Nifty to break through the 25,550 resistance level. "Attention is now focused on the next milestone of 26,000. Sector-wise, we maintain our preference for banking, financials, auto, and realty, while advising a selective approach in other sectors.

Increased hiring activities across sectors

The central bank points towards increased hiring activities across sectors ahead of festive season. This, the Reserve Bank of India says, is also likely to push up consumption. E-commerce majors have ramped up hiring ahead of the festival season, not just in the metros but in tier 2 and 3 cities as well.

said that headline CPI inflation coming below the Reserve Bank's target for the second consecutive month in August is a positive

development. Though it sounded cautious as some vegetable price shocks have begun to reverse,

and an unfavourable base effect may haunt the September inflation number.

The RBI report attributes the robustness in private investment to capital investments made towards energy transition. "...energy transition has accelerated in recent years, with the pace of clean technology deployment and capital investment surging to record levels," says the report.

Jul-Sept housing sales dip 18% in top 9 cities

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IN a not so positive development for India's burgeoning real estate sector, new housing launches and sales in the third quarter (July-September) of Calendar Year 2024 in top 9 cities is seen falling 11% and 18% respectively, according to a data by real estate data analytics firm PropEquity.

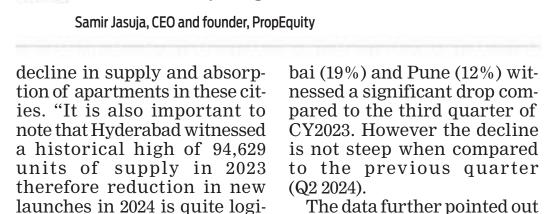
The data revealed that new launches in the July-September quarter of CY 2024 fell to 93,693 units from 1,05,655 units in the same period last year while sales fell to 1,04,393 units in Q3 CY2024 from 1,26,848 units in the same period last year.

PropEquity tracks housing supply and absorption data in NCR, Mumbai, Navi



Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata.

Samir Jasuja, chief executive officer and founder, PropEquity said said that in Hyderabad and Navi Mumbai, the majority of new real estate launches are in plots rather than apartments, indicating a



launches in 2024 is quite logical

cal," he added. According to the data, on Yo-Y basis, only NCR, Mumbai and Thane saw rise in new supply at 221%, 18% and 11% respectively in this quarter compared to the third quarter of 2023. Hyderabad (54%), Kolkata (48%), Chennai (23%), Bengaluru (19%), Navi Mum-

Vivad se Vishwas

effect from Oct 1

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Vivad se Vishwas scheme

will come into effect on October

1, 2024, finance ministry said in

2 to come into

CY2023. However the decline is not steep when compared to the previous quarter (Q2 2024).

It is also important to note that Hyderabad witnessed a historical

high of 94,629 units of supply in 2023 therefore reduction in new

The data further pointed out that, on year-on-year basis, sales rose only in Delhi-NCR (22%) and Navi Mumbai (4%) while falling in other seven cities with Hyderabad recording the highest fall at 42%, followed by Bengaluru (26%), Kolkata (23%), Pune (19%), Chennai (18%), Mumbai (17%) and Thane (10%).

JAPAN

YEN FALLS AS BOJ GOVERNOR SIGNALS RATE HIKE PAUSE

Japanese currency weakened on Friday as the Bank of Japan (BOJ) sig-

nalled that there was no rush to raise interest rates. The central bank kept the rates steady at 0.25% as widely expected. The dollar rose 1.2% to 144.32 yen, reaching its highest level in a little over two weeks, as Governor Kazuo Ueda said the BOJ could afford to spend time eyeing the fallout from global economic uncertainties. Markets were also digesting data on Japanese consumer prices, out on Friday, which showed core inflation ticked up to 2.8% in August, while overall inflation hit 3.0%. It has been a tough week for the Japanese currency, with the euro gaining 3.2% to 161.05 as speculators booked profits on recent long yen positions. The euro also firmed to \$1.1154, up 0.7% on the dollar for the week and within striking distance of the August peak of \$1.1201.

CHINA

LEAVES BENCHMARK LENDING RATES UNCHANGED

China on Friday kept its benchmark lending rates unchanged. Analysts had expected China to lower its domestic borrowing costs without prompting a sharp decline in yuan. The People's Bank of China said it would keep the one-year loan prime rate (LPR) at 3.35%, as well as the five-year LPR at 3.85%. The one-year LPR affects corporate and most household loans in China, while five-year LPR acts as a benchmark for mortgage rates. The rate cut had allowed more monetary flexibility for China to focus on easing debt burden on its consumers and businesses as it seeks to bolster investment and spending. China surprised the markets by shaving short and long term lending rates in July.

SRILANKA

REACHES DEBT RESTRUCTURING PACT WITH CREDITORS

Sri Lanka has announced that it has reached an in principle agreement with external commercial creditors for restructuring of nearly \$17.5 billion of external commercial debts. The agreements have been reached with holders of its International Sovereign Bonds, following negotiations with the Ad Hoc Group of Bondholders (AHGB), a representative group of international investors, and the Local Consortium of Sri Lanka (LCSL), a representative group of domestic financial institutions. A statement from the President's Media Division (PMD) said collectively

ever sovereign default in mid-April 2022.

SC asks SpiceJet to return three engines to lessors

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

IN a setback for SpiceJet, the Supreme Court on Friday in its order upheld the Delhi High Court's decision and directed SpiceJet to ground and return three aircraft engines to their lessors, following the airline's failure to comply with a previous order regarding payment.

SpiceJet is reported to owe about \$6.09 million to its lessors. Refusing to modify the HC's order, the apex court reiterated that the order explicitly outlines the consequences of non-payment, which includes grounding the aircraft. "We see no reason to interfere with the high court order," the Supreme Court's three-judge bench, led by CJI D Y Chandrachud, observed.

Earlier, the HC on September 11 held that the carrier had violated an agreed interim arrangement for payment of dues and upheld an order of a singlejudge bench asking the low-cost airline to ground the three engines for defaulting on the payments. A SpiceJet spokesman said it is in talks with the aircraft lessor to reach an amicable settlement. "2 of the 3 engines in question are already grounded, and our operations remain completely normal and unaffected," it said.

BSNL gains subscribers; Jio, Airtel, Vi lose users in July after tariff hike

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

IN a notable shift, three private telecom service providers — Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea — lost subscribers in July 2024, while stateowned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) gained in user base following a raise in tariff.

Telcos announced a tariff

hike of up to 25% in July 2024. Following the increase in tariffs, BSNL was the only telecom service provider to add 2.94 million new subscribers in July "This new round of funding 2024. As per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Airtel lost 1,694,300 subcal capabilities, and continue scribers. Vodafone Idea shed 1,413,910 subscribers, and Jio experienced a decline of 758,463 subscribers. BSNL's market share rose from 7.33% in June to 7.59% in July 2024. While Jio saw a slight decline in market share, dropping from 40.71% in June to 40.68% in July, Airtel and Vi experienced more significant decreases, falling from 33.23% to 33.12% and from 18.56% to 18.46%, respectively.

The number of wireless subscribers in India fell from end of July, reflecting a monthly



million requests in June.

This is not the first time customers have moved to BSNL following tariff hikes due to SIM consolidation. In November 2021, the three private companies also raised tariffs in a coordinated manner by up to 25% for prepaid users. Subsequently, in December 2021, BSNL gained 1.1 million new customers, while Bharti Airtel added 0.47 million, and Reliance Jio lost 12 million. Interestingly, Reliance Jio continued to lose subscribers for the next 1,170.53 million at the end of three months, while Airtel from both a cost-benefit stand-June to 1,169.61 million at the managed to weather the SIM point and a broader non-tax consolidation.



decline rate of 0.08%. Additionally, mobile number portability (MNP) requests rose by nearly 2 million in July 2024, totalling 13.68 million, compared to 11.84

a notification. The scheme will provide taxpayers with an opportunity to settle ongoing tax disputes. The new initiative follows the positive feedback received

from the first tranche of the scheme, which was launched in 2020. "The central government hereby appoints the 1st day of October 2024 as the date on which the Direct Tax

Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme 2024 shall come into force," the notification said.

The initial 'Vivad se Vishwas' scheme saw about 1 lakh taxpayers participating, resulting in the government collecting nearly ₹75,000 crore in taxes. As per Karishma R Phatarphekar, Partner, Deloitte India, with tax payment rates set to increase by 10% starting January 1, 2025, it is crucial for companies to evaluate their pending income tax litigations perspective.

Vi to go ahead with expansion, fundraising plan

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

VODAFONE Idea (Vi) on Friday announced that its equipment deals with vendors for the expansion of its 4G and 5G network infrastructure are in the final stages and go ahead with its plan to raise ₹45,000 crore from the market through equity and debt.

The statement comes in light of the Supreme Court's dismissal of the telcos' petitions seeking a re-computation of adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues. Following the court's decision, Vodafone Idea is now liable to pay nearly ₹70,000 crore in AGR to the Department of

Telecommunications (DoT).

Vodafone Idea will host a conference call with its senior management on Monday to provide updates on recent developments, the company stated. "The equipment deals with



vendors for the enhancement and rollout of 4G and 5G network infrastructure is now in the final stages of discussions and Vi will close the agreements soon," said a spokesperson of Vodafone Idea. Following the court's ruling, shares of Vi plummeted by 20% on Thurs-

day, reaching a 52-week low of

₹10.33. However, on Friday, the

shares closed on a positive note,

ending the day on the NSE at

₹10.52, up by 1.35%.

The telco on Friday said its next step is securing debt funding, and it is in active discussions with multiple banks. "We had shared a target of raising ₹45,000 crore via equity and debt. We have already raised ₹18,000 crore in India's largest FPO and preferential issuance of equity shares worth ₹2,080 crore to ABG entity (promoter group).."

Company says next step is securing debt funding

The telco on Friday said its next step is securing debt funding, and it is in active discussions with multiple banks. Vodafone Idea will host a conference call with its senior management on Monday to provide updates on recent developments, the company stated.

Anil Ambani invests ₹1,100 cr in Rel Infra

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAY @ New Delhi

PROMOTERS Anil Ambani and family have invested ₹1,104 crore in the ₹3,014 crore preferential share issue of Reliance Infrastructure. Ambani and his family, which holds 21.34% in the company has made the investment through Risee Infinity Private Limited. Risee will subscribe to 4.60 crore shares of Reliance Infrastructure.

Of the other major investors, which subscribed the preferential issue include Fortune Financial & Equities Services, which invested ₹1,058 crore by subscribing to 4.41 crore equity shares. Florintree Innovations will invest ₹852 crore for 3.55



crore shares.

The Board of Directors of Reliance Infrastructure on Thursday approved raising of ₹3,014 crore by preferential issue of up to 12.56 crore equity shares and /or warrants convertible into equity shares at a price of ₹240 per Share/warrant. The issue will enhance the promot-

proved seeking enabling authorisation from the shareholders to raise up to ₹3,000 crore by making a qualified institutional placement (QIP). The issue proceeds would be utilised for expansion of business operations and for general corporate purposes. In a statement, it said the issue will enhance the company's net worth from over ₹9,000 crore to over ₹12,000 crore. The company has near zero debt.

ers' equity stake. The board ap-

"The enhanced capital will support the company's participation in high growth sectors to aid the Government's vision of 'Make In India' and Viksit Bharat," says the company.



Graham Arnold has resigned as head coach of the Australian men's soccer team after six years in charge and following two recent poor performances by the Socceroos in 2026 World Cup qualifying. Soccer Australia said Friday that Arnold advised them earlier this week of his decision to resign.

newindianexpress com

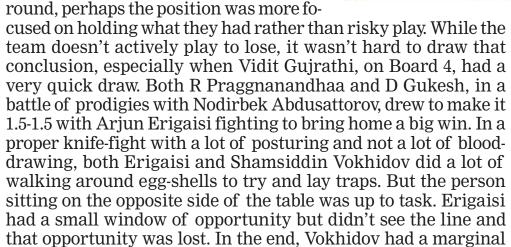
Oly: Vantika keeps India in contention

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

VANTIKA Agrawal pulled a colony of rabbits from her hat to keep the women's team withing handshaking distance of team gold at the ongoing Chess Olympiad in Budapest. Up against the US team, one of the front-runners behind the Indian side for a shot at gold, they were trailing 1-2 after R Vaishali resigned. But Agrawal, on the third board, found the winning combination against the more experienced Irina Krush, a GM, to finish the day 2-2. It means the two teams share the match points before

the final two rounds. India began the day on 14 points, level with Poland and Kazakhstan and a point ahead of US. With two more teams in the vicinity (Armenia & Ukraine), there's a lot to play for in the final two rounds.

The stakes, if anything, was even higher in the Open match where the team was involved in a long, gruelling fight against Uzbekistan, 2022 gold medallists. With the team in sole lead by two points in front of Uzbekistan coming into the



EXPRESS READ

advantage but couldn't convert so truce was signed.

RR appoint Rathour as batting coach JAIPUR: Rajasthan Royals

announced the appointment of former India opener Vikram Rathour as their batting coach ahead of the IPL 2025. Rathour is the second highprofile appointment by the franchise for the upcoming season after they roped in Rahul Dravid as their chief

coach. Rathour was India's

batting coach that won WC.

Malvika loses in China **Open quarters**

CHANGZHOU (CHINA): India shuttler Malvika Bansod could not stand up to the challenge of two-time world champion Akane Yamaguchi, going down to the fourth-seeded Japanese in straight games in the quarterfinals of the China Open. Malvika found the going tough against the world No.5 losing 10-21, 16-21 in just 35



Players in action during Duleep Trophy match at Anantapur on Friday | EXPRESS

Duleep Trophy: Samson, Easwaran smash centuries

BRIEF SCORES

India A 297 in 90.5 ovs (Rawat

124, Avesh 51 n.o.; Vyshak

4/51) vs India C 216/7 in 64

ovs (Porel 82, Pulkit Narang

35 n.o.; Aaqib 3/43), India D:

349 in 87.3 ovs (Samson 106,

Saini 5/74) vs India B 210/6 in

56 ovs (Easwaran 116,

Washington Sundar 39 n.o.,

AGENCIES @ Anantapur

SANJU Samson completed his 11th first-class hundred before Arshdeep Singh showed his wares with the semi-new ball as

India D held sway over India B. While pacer Avesh Khan sparkled with a gritty unbeaten half-century before taking the prized-scalp of Ishan Kishan as India A mounted a strong challenge

against India C on day two of the Duleep Trophy final round match here on Friday.

India D scored 349 in 87.3 overs in their first innings while India B were not very Baba Indrajith. Porel's resistcomfortably placed at 210 for ance was cut short by Shams 6 when stumps were drawn Mulani (2/30).

despite skipper Abhimanyu Easwaran's (116) second hundred of the tournament. Samson, who smashed his way to an unbeaten 89 on the opening day, knocked off the required

> 11 runs as his 106 off 101 deliveries comprised 12 boundaries and three huge sixes. In the other fixture, Avesh hammered 51 not out propelling India A to 297. In response, India C faced a top-

Arshdeep Singh 3/30). order collapse as youngster Aaqib Khan (3/43) and Avesh (1/52) tore through their lineup. Abhishek Porel anchored the innings and added 51 crucial runs with

BUMRAH FAST-TRACKS B'DESH DEMISE

He along with Akash Deep and Siraj dictates play vs Bangladesh to help hosts take 300-plus lead



India are firmly in control of 1st Test at the end of Day 2 after leading by 308 runs with seven wickets still in hand | P RAVIKUMAR

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

CHEPAUK for long was a bastion of spinners and none expected fast bowlers to call shots. However, on Friday, India speedsters Jasprit Bumrah (4/50), Mohammed Siraj (2/30)and Akash Deep (2/19) bowled in tandem to torment the Bangladeshi batters and the visitors were bundled out for 149 in 47.1 overs on the second day of the Test at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Friday.

Thanks to their efforts, the hosts are now in firm control of the match. At the end of second day's play, India had a sizeable lead of 308 runs. Spinner Ravindra Jadeja also chipped in with two wickets on a wicket that has been favourable for pacers so far. Despite taking a lead of 227 runs, Rohit Sharma & Co did not enforce the follow on and opted to bat for the second time instead. The skipper himself didn't last long but India were placed at 81/3 when stumps were drawn.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, the man who had chipped in with a halfcentury in the first innings, was the other man to fall cheaply in the second innings. Virat Kohli hung around for 37 balls before being adjudged leg before wicket off the bowling of Mehidy Hasan Miraz. Kohli, who got beaten on the inside edge to be trapped low on the front pad, decided against taking the review but replays suggested that there was a spike on

Earlier, the trio of Bumrah, Siraj and Akash were unplayable and they made life difficult for the visiting batters with their probing line and length. It certainly caught the eye of former India bowling coach Paras Mhambrey. "Fantastic show by our team. They showed the ability to recover from a poor start and put runs on the

board. Ashwin (Ravichandran) and Jadeja were fabulous and their partnership was crucial for us," the former India player said.

Bumrah led from the front and was the one to give India the breakthrough when he castled Shadman Islam in the final delivery of the first over. Shadman misread an in-swinger and did not offer any stroke, only to witness the stumps being dismantled. "Brilliant show by our attack. Their work ethic is fabulous. I'm really happy with the pace attack that we have and the way they went about their task in getting Bangladesh all out under 150 runs. It speaks volumes about their hard work and dedication," said Mhambrey.

Akash Deep then entered the picture and reduced Bangladesh to 26/3, tightening India's grip on the game. Mhambrey credited Bumrah for being the guiding force for the youngsters in the team. "Bumrah is a thinking cricketer. He has the uncanny knack of exploiting the conditions. He knows the angles to bowl and modulate the speed variations to surprise the batsman. He is a class act,"

opined Mhambrey. "Akash Deep was also useful and handy today (Friday). That's how one works in an attack and shares the spoils. I have seen Bumrah interacting with Akash. The Bengal-based cricketer can learn a lot from Bumrah," added the former Mumbai player.

Earlier, riding on Ashwin's century (113) and his 199-run partnership with Jadeja for the seventh wicket, India had finished with a total of 376 runs in their first essay.

Resuming the day's play at 339/6, India lost four wickets for just 37 runs with Jadeja (86) being the first man to depart. Centurion Ashwin could just add 11 runs on the day. Bangladesh pacer Hasan Mahmud, who had done bulk of the damage on Day 1, picked up the wicket of Bumrah to finish with a five-wicket haul (5/83). Taskin Ahmed sent back Jadeja, Ashwin and Akash Deep to end up with figures of 3/55.

Bumrah told official broadcasters later that he had to try something new because the ball was not doing anything much. So he said he tried something that was effective in domestic cricket.

India 1st Innings (Overnight 339/6; 80 ovrs): Jadeja c Das b Taskin 86, Ashwin c Shanto b Taskin 113, Akash Deep c Shanto b Taskin 17, Bumrah c Hasan b Mahmud 7, Siraj not out 0; Extras (B-18, LB-7, NB-4, W-1) 30; Total (91.2 overs) 376; FoW: 7-343, 8-367, 9-374; **Bowling:** Taskin 21-4-55-3, Mahmud 22.2-4-83-5, Rana 18-2-82-1, Mehidy 21-2-77-1, Shakib 8-0-50-0, Haque 1-0-4-0. **Bangladesh 1st Innings:** Islam b Bumrah 2, Hasan b Akash Deep 3, Shanto c Kohli b Siraj 20,

Haque b Akash Deep O, Mushfigur c Rahul b Bumrah 8, Shakib c Pant b Jadeja 32, Das c sub b Jadeja 22, Mehidy not out 27, Mahmud c Kohli b Bumrah 9, Taskin b Bumrah 11, Rana b Siraj 11; **Extras** (LB-2, NB-2) 4; Total (47.1 ovrs) 149; **FoW:** 1-2, 2-22, 3-22, 4-36, 5-40, 6-91, 7-92, 8-112, 9-130; **Bowling:** Bumrah 11-1-50-4, Siraj 10.1-1-30-2, Akash Deep 5-0-19-2, Ashwin 13-4-29-0, Jadeja 8-2-19-2. **India 2nd Innings:** Jaiswal c Das b Rana 10, Rohit c Zakir b Taskin 5, Gill batting 33, Kohli lbw b Mehidy 17, Pant batting 12; **Extras:** (lb-4) 4; **Total:** (3 wkts, 23 ovrs) 81; **FoW:** 1-15, 2-28, 3-67; **Bowling:** Taskin 3-0-17-1, Mahmud 5-1-12-0, Rana 3-0-12-1, Shakib 6-0-20-0, Mehidy 6-0-16-1.



The ball had become wet because of sweat, and the seam was also wet. So, I had to use different options to get a wicket and make run-scoring difficult. These are things you learn as a lower-order batter too

Jasprit Bumrah while talking to host broadcaster

Not a typical Chepauk track as pacers thrive

GOMESH S @ Chennai

WHEN Bangladesh captain Naimul Hossain Shanto won the toss and opted to field against India on an unusually overcast day in Chennai on Friday, he was the only second captain to do so in Test cricket at the MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai. The only other was England captain Keith Fletcher in 1982, and the match ended in a draw after five days of run fest. Shanto's case, however, was different. For starters, the red soil pitch had a tinge of grass left on it and had been watered enough in the lead-up to the match to ensure that it stayed firm and had consistent bounce. Even more so with the rising temperature that was felt in the city last week. India also wanted such a surface because a spinning track might just end up favouring Bangladesh, who have three quality spinners in Shakib Al Hasan, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, and Taijul Islam. Add that to the fact that the city experienced cloudy weather on the first day, both Shanto and India captain Rohit Sharma wanted to bowl first, and with good reasons.

It all showed in the first two days of the match. Nine Indian wickets fell to pacers in the first innings with Hasan Mahmud taking a fifer — the last pacer to do so was James Pattinson in 2013. Mahmud hit the right lengths early on and made the ball move in both directions, troubling the star-studded Indian top-order. While there were a few bad shots, Mahmud rarely bowled bad deliveries in his first spell. Only R Ashwin, who read the pitch at his home ground better than most, managed to break the shackles. This is not a typical Chepauk pitch Test cricket has seen in the last 15-20 years. It had bounce, sideways movement and carry all through the first day. And Ashwin knew enough to trust the bounce and pick the lengths while staying in the crease for most of his century.

Even on day two, despite the sun coming out and beating down heavily, the pitch held its own. It did not take long for Jasprit Bumrah and Akash Deep to make the most of it. The duo ran through the Bangladesh top-order — some poor batting helped — and even after the ball got a little older and bounce became a little up and down, they had enough pace and carry on the surface. Mohammed Siraj even reversed the ball a little later on, finishing with two wickets. Bumrah took four and



Bangladesh pacers Taskin Ahmed (L) and Hasan Mahmud | P RAVIKUMAR

Bowlers' record at Chepauk							
SPAN	PA	CE	SPIN				
	WKTS	AVG	WKTS	AVG			
1934-1990	256	32.04	316	30.35			
1990-2022	125	38.39	268	33.02			
2024*	19	18.94	4	53.75			
* - till dav two of India vs Bangladesh							

Akash Deep accounted for two meant eight wickets were shared between the pacers as Bangladesh were dismissed for 149. The way Indian pacers, especially Bumrah, bowled, made one wonder how worse off Bangladesh would have been had Rohit won the toss.

With Taskin Ahmed and Nahid Rana taking a wicket each on Friday evening, 19 of the 23 wickets that fell on the first two days went to pacers. Fast bowlers, in this Test, average 18.94 so far while the spinners' were 53.75. It is the kind of stat that throws you off when you realise it's Chepauk — a venue where spinners have flourished historically. Numbers back it up too. From the first Test in 1934 till 1989, the pacers averaged 32.04 at the venue and spinners 30.8. In the 33 years since, pace average in Chennai has gone up to 38.39 with spinners operating at 33.02. To put this into context, the only time a pace attack took more than seven wickets in an innings this century here was when Australia accounted for eight in 2013.

Now, this is not to say it will not assist spinners. The pitch is expected to break down more as the game progresses and assist spinners in the last couple of days. Ashwin explained in the presser: "I think there is a bit more up-and-down bounce. The wicket is getting slower. I really do think as this game pans out, if at all it gets to the fifth day, it will turn for certain. I am more sure about that. The challenges going ahead in this pitch would be to negotiate spin, a little bit of slowness, not playing ahead."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

India could benefit due to similar conditions: Raj

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

FORMER captain Mithali Raj belives that India will enjoy a significant edge over other nine teams, as the conditions in the UAE resemble those found on home soil during the women's T20 World Cup. The marquee event is set to be played in the UAE -- Dubai and cal unrest in that nation following the resignation of former Prime Minister Sheikh

"The UAE is, again, in very similar conditions, so we can say that, you know, our WORLD CUP team has the advantage," Mithali told broadcasters Star Sports. Sharjah -- from October 3. The However, she warned against ICC moved the event from complacency, emphasising that Bangladesh owing to the politi- every team will equally pre-

pared for the event. "But again, the World Cup means every team comes well prepared," she added.

Despite reaching the finals of ICC events, including a couple of senior World Cups, like the final of the ODI World Cup in 2017 and the final of the T20I World Cup in

2020, the Indian women's team—about how you control yourself is yet to grab its maiden global during that time. Don't panic," title. "The Indian women's

team, so far, hasn't won, other than the Under-19 World Cup. I think I will definitely want the team to do well because, like everybody else, when we get into the World Cup, we want our team to win," she added.

Earlier, another former captain Diana Edulji advice the team not to panic when it comes to close moments. "It's just

save it," Raya told TNT Sports.

bound straight back to him but

"I was unlucky to give the re-

ISL: Punjab beat Odisha to secure 2nd win

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

DESPITE dealing with the withdrawal of one of their prominent players in Majcen, Punjab FC secured their second win of the season against Odisha FC at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi on Friday. Riding on goals from Nihal Sudeesh and Leon Augustine, Punjab FC beat Odisha FC 2-1 here on Friday to clinch the win. They are now unbeaten in their last eight games when they have taken the lead first, winning six and drawing two of them.

A 27th minute strike by the 23-year-old Nihal and a late goal by Leon proved sufficient for the home side to grab full three points as the Juggernauts have a lot of work to do to overcome the back-to-back defeats.

Punjab controlled the game, creating multiple opportunities courtesy of their frontline comprising Nihal, Filip Mrzljak, Mushaga Bakenga, and Ezequiel Vidal breaching the Odisha FC backline and interlinking flawlessly in the final third and continuing to pose a threat to goalkeeper Amrinder Singh.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

10-man Barcelona lose to Monaco; Atalanta held by Arsenal

AGENCIES @ Paris

FRENCH club Monaco upset 10-man Barcelona by grinding out a 2-1 victory on Thursday in the Champions League, while a stunning David Raya double-save ensured Arsenal a goalless draw away to Europa

League winners Atalanta. Barca have started the season with a perfect record after five La Liga matches but, hindered by a red card in the 11th minute for Eric Garcia, fell to defeat on the French Riviera. Maghnes Akliouche fired the French side into the lead five

RESULTS: Red Star Belgrade lost to Benfica 1-2; Feyenoord lost to Bayer Leverkusen 0-4; Atalanta dr Arsenal 0-0; Atletico Madrid RB Leipzig 2-1; Monaco bt Barcelona 2-1; Brest bt Sturm Graz 2-1

minutes after Garcia was dismissed for a last-man challenge on Takumi Minamino.

Teenage sensation Lamine Yamal equalised in the 28th minute with an arrowed shot after cutting in from the right onto his favoured left foot, but George Ilenikhena grabbed the winner for Monaco inside the final 20 minutes. In Italy, Arsenal goalkeeper Raya earned his



Monaco's George Ilenikhena scored his team's second goal to beat Barcelona at the Louis II Stadium during the UEFA Champions League round one fixture | AFP

side a point in a tough start to their campaign against Atalanta with a 0-0 draw. A tight match was lit up six minutes after the interval when Mateo Retegui saw Raya plunge down to his right to keep out his penalty, after a foul by Thomas Partey on Ederson.

The ball rebounded up in the air and Retegui looked set to casually nod the dropping ball into the gaping net but the Spaniard sprang to his feet and hurled himself back across the goal-line to claw the ball to safety. "It's just a penalty and I was lucky to go the right way and

I was quick enough to get up and save it." A 90th-minute header by Jose Maria Gimenez sent Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone scuttling down the touchline in delight as his side edged visi-

tors RB Leipzig 2-1.

Benjamin Sesko had put the German side in front just four minutes in, but Antoine Griezmann equalised just prior to the half-hour with a controlled finish from inside the penalty area.





S V KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Chennai

HE European Union's (EU) Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), which is set to roll out from 2026, will have farreaching implications for global trade. Particularly for developing countries, such as India, the CBAM poses both a challenge and an opportunity. While it aims to reduce global carbon emissions and prevent "carbon leakage"—the relocation of industries to countries with less stringent climate policies—it has triggered concerns over its impact on economies that are still industrialising.

CBAM is a key component of the EU's broader climate plan, known as the "Fit for 55" package, which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. This mechanism imposes carbon tariffs on imported goods, specifically high-carbon products such as steel, iron, cement, aluminum, fertilizers, and electricity. The goal is to align the carbon price of imports with that of domestically produced goods, ensuring a level playing field for European industries that are already subject to carbon taxes under the EU's Emissions Trading System (ETS).

However, as CBAM enters its transitional phase, developing countries like India and regions like Africa are raising concerns. The mechanism's potential to disrupt trade flows and impose significant costs on exporters has triggered debates on global trade fairness, climate justice, and the principle of "Common But Differentiated Responsibilities" (CBDR), which recognises that developed nations have greater responsibilities for addressing climate change due to their historical emissions.

What CBAM entails?

CBAM is designed to address carbon emissions by placing a tariff on imports based on their embedded carbon content. During the initial phase from October 2023 to December 2025, exporters to the EU will be required to report the carbon content of their products. However, no actual carbon tax will be levied during this transition period. From January 2026 onward, importers will begin paying the carbon tariffs, with the scheme gradually expanding until 2034.

For countries like India, where industries such as steel, aluminum, and cement play a crucial role in exports to the EU, CBAM poses a direct threat to competitiveness. These sectors are energy-inten-

sive, and India's reliance on coal-based energy makes its carbon footprint particularly high. As a result, Indian exporters will either have to absorb the cost of the carbon tax or invest in decarbonization technologies—both of which could erode profit margins and hinder growth.

India's vulnerability

India is one of the world's largest exporters of steel, iron, and aluminum to the EU. According to a recent report by the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), the implementation of the CBAM is expected to pose a significant challenge to India's metal sector. In 2022, 27% of India's exports of iron, steel, and aluminum products worth US\$8.2 billion went to the EU. Starting January 1, 2026, the EU will begin collecting carbon tax on each consignment of steel and aluminum, which will result in Indian firms paying an amount equivalent to 20-35% of tariffs.

The impact of CBAM on Indian exports could be severe, especially in industries where the carbon footprint is substantial," said a senior executive at JSW Steel. "We are expecting a significant loss of competitiveness in the European market."

A report by the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) estimates that CBAM could cost Indian exporters around \$1.2 billion annually by 2030.

This financial burden, coupled with the cost of investing in cleaner technologies, has raised alarms across India's industrial sector. During a webinar organised by Delhi-based think tank Climate Trends recently, Aruna Sharma, former Secretary at India's Ministry of Steel, while speaking acknowledged the challenge, saying, "CBAM is, no doubt, a laudable initiative from a global perspective. It accelerates efforts to mitigate carbon emissions. However, for developing countries like India, the resources to comply with CBAM are limited. The exporters will need to raise investments by themselves, without the financial support that European companies receive from their governments."

Sharma further pointed out that the burden of CBAM on developing nations violates the principle of CBDR, which was agreed upon in the Paris Agreement. "The assistance or hand-holding under CBAM will focus on the countries that are ahead in the game, those who can afford to invest. For India, the cost could be 7-15% higher for carbon-intensive products. This doesn't even account for potential future expansion of CBAM to cover value chain emissions."

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05th August 1978 instead of name:
DUDA ADILAKSHMI & D.O.B:
06th July, 1977. My wife correct
name: DUDA ADILAKSHMI &

D.O.B. 06th July, 1977.



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RO: N.G. 12 & 13 Ground Floor, North Block, Manipal Centre, Dickenson Road, Bangalore - 560 042. CIN No.U85110KA1995PLC018175

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by UNIMONI FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED on 24.09.2024 at 10:00 am at the respective centers given below. The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Loan Accounts of our various Customers who have failed to pay their dues. Our notices of auction have been duly issued to these borrowers. The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Overdue Loan Accounts of our various Customers mentioned below with branch name.

Auction Centre Address & Loan Nos: MACHILIPATNAM (MPM - H. No 18-10, First Floor, Tagore Road, Opp Rythu Bazaar Machilipatnam 521001, Contact No : 9949634820) 2054191, 2091037, 2090751, 2097558, 2098380, 2098417, 2055697. VISAKHAPATNAM (VIS - Dno 47-13-6/1 Ratna Sree Complex, Ground Floor, Near Diamond Park, Visakhapatnam - 530016, Contact No : 9849992603) 2091575, 2051604, 2054248, 2035211, 2114954.

(Reserves the right to alter the number of accounts to be auctioned &/ postpone / cancel the auction without any prior notice.)

GOLD AUCTION

The below mentioned borrowers availed loan from our bank by pledging gold ornaments. Despite several notices sent requesting to repayment of the loan dues, borrowers has not paid. As per Guidelines of our bank i.e. State Bank of India it is decided to conduct public auction at respective bank premises on 27.09.2024 Friday at 04.00 pm to 05.00 pm. For sale of the Gold Ornaments If liabilities of the bank are outstanding even after adjustment of the amount received through auction, necessary Legal action will be initiated against the corrower to recover the remaining dues. If the said customer is deceased ther this auction notice will be applicable to the legal heirs of the customers. If notice not received or rejected this publication will be treated as final notice to the borrowers Borrower Name & Address

39868693307 Bongu Varalamma, W/o Krishnamurthy China Borigivalasa Village, Narsannapeta (Post) (Mandal), Srikakulam Dist. AP-532421

TERMS & CONDITIONS: (1) The intrested persons in participating the auction shall deposit an amount of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) as E.M.D. (2) The successful bidder of the auction will have to pay the remaining bid amount exclusive of E.M.D immediately and the E.M.D. deposited by the unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded to them. (3) The decision of bank regarding acceptence of bid shall be final, binding and will not be open to question. (4) Bank has the right to change the rules & regulations of the Auction. Also bank has right to cancel the auction at any stage.

Date: 19-09-2024 Place: Narasannapeta

Sd/- Authorised Officer STATE BANK OF INDIA

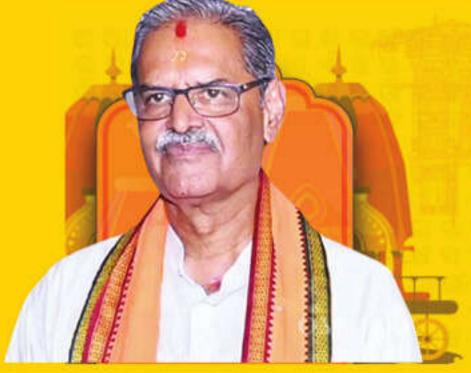




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HINDOL SENGUPTA Author



FAISAL MALIK





KUMAR Actor



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Poet





SEPTEMBER 21 & 22 | 2024







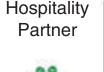




Outdoor





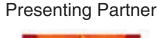


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