



JACQUELINE REMEMBERS SSR

Actor Jacqueline Fernandez remembers Sushant Singh Rajput, as their movie *Drive* completes one year of release

LEISURE P2



'ALLIANCE OF DYNASTY'

PM Modi blazed through Bihar mocking RJD's Tejashwi Yadav and Congress' Rahul Gandhi as allies of dynasts

TWO STATES P7



TRUMP'S PREDICTION

Donald Trump predicts a massive win for the Republicans in the November 3 elections

INTERNATIONAL P10

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



I'll vote for the biggest criminal from our area. That's the only way we can get rid of him!

SHORT TAKES

Hizbul Mujahideen chief shot dead

Srinagar: The chief of the terrorist group Hizbul Mujahideen was killed in an encounter on the outskirts of Srinagar Sunday, the police said, calling it "a major success against militancy". Saifullah, who had taken command of the outfit after the killing of Riyaz Naikoo in May this year, was one of the most wanted terrorists in the Jammu and Kashmir and was involved in several attacks on the security forces, an official said. P8

Johnson locks down England

London: Prime Minister Boris Johnson ordered England back into a national lockdown after the United Kingdom passed the milestone of one million Covid-19 cases and a second wave of infections threatened to overwhelm the health service. Johnson, at a hastily convened news conference in Downing Street after news of a lockdown leaked to local media, said that the one-month lockdown across England would kick in at a minute past midnight Thursday morning and last until December 2. P10

Covid patient ends life in Dhenkanal

Dhenkanal: An elderly woman infected with Covid-19 ended her life at a Covid hospital in Dhenkanal district Sunday. The deceased woman has been identified as Basanti Nayak of Biradia village under Sadar Block in the district. According to reports, Basanti was undergoing treatment at the COVID Hospital in Dhenkanal after being tested positive for Covid-19 October 29. She was under treatment in a room where five others were also admitted. P3

WEATHER		BHUB	CTK
TEMP	MAX	33.0°C	33.0°C
	MIN	21.2°C	21.2°C
Humidity		78%	76%
Rainfall		Nil	Nil
Forecast		Dry weather likely	

Now, pay for deposits & withdrawals

SOME BANKS WILL CHARGE A CONVENIENCE FEE FOR CASH DEPOSITS BY CUSTOMERS IN CASH RECYCLERS DURING NON-BUSINESS HOURS AND BANK HOLIDAYS

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 1: A number of banking rules have come in force from Sunday, which will directly affect consumer's pocket. For instance, customers in some lenders have to pay fees for deposit and withdrawal of money from banks.

According to reports, private sector lenders, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank in addition to Bank of India, Bank of Baroda (BoB), Bank of India, PNB and Central Bank have started charging its customers for transactions beyond the prescribed limits from Sunday, i.e. November 1.

The ICICI Bank is charging a convenience fee for cash deposits by customers in cash recyclers during non-business hours and bank holidays. A fixed amount of ₹50 is being levied for each transaction on the bank holidays and between 6:00 pm and 8:00 am on working days, starting from Sunday. "Effective November 1, 2020, a convenience fee of ₹50 per transaction, will be levied on cash deposited in the cash acceptor or recycler machines on bank holidays and between 6:00 pm



A fixed amount of ₹50 is being levied for each transaction on the bank holidays and between 6:00 pm and 8:00 am on working days

The fee will not be applicable to senior citizens, basic savings bank account, Jan Dhan accounts, accounts held by differently-abled and visually impaired persons, student accounts

Modi Sarkar ka naya kamar tod tohfa. Ab khud ka paisa bank mein jama karwane aur nikalwane par bhi bank kareng vasooli (now one's own money will be charged for deposits and withdrawals by banks)

RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA | CONG GENERAL SECRETARY

and 8:00 am on working days," ICICI Bank said.

In addition, the bank will levy a convenience fee if the cash deposit in the cash acceptor/recycler machines exceeds ₹10,000 per month either as a single transaction or multiple transactions.

However, the fee will not be applicable to senior citizens, basic savings bank account, Jan Dhan accounts, accounts held by differently-abled and visually impaired persons, student accounts or any other accounts identified by ICICI Bank, the lender mentioned.

Meanwhile, Axis Bank had already started levying the charge earlier this year. It levies convenience fee on cash deposit transaction done at the rate of ₹50 per transaction after banking hours (or between 5:00 pm to 9:30 am) and on national and state bank holidays. The bank's convenience fee was effective from August 1.

Bank of Baroda (BoB) has set separate fees for current account, cash credit limit and deposit withdrawal from overdraft account and deposit withdrawal from savings account.

The bank said that withdrawals three times in a month will be free but after that, a withdrawal transaction charge will be levied at a flat fee of ₹150 for a loan account.

Similarly, for savings account, deposits three times in a month will be free but thereafter if customers deposit money for the fourth time, then ₹40 will be levied on each transaction.

However, Jan Dhan account holders have some relief in this. They will not have to pay any fee on deposit but will have to pay ₹100 only for withdrawal. Banks have not given any relief to senior citizens.

52 MCC violations reported from Tirtol, Balasore: EC

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: The office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Sunday said that a total of 11,205 litres of liquor have been seized by the Excise enforcement squad during the campaigning phase for Tirtol and Balasore by-polls.

CEO Sushil Kumar Lohani Sunday held a press conference to inform the media about the results of its enforcement and vigilance drive before the by-polls.

The officer said that the seized liquor was worth ₹17.29 lakh. He added that a total of 52 cases of violations of Model Code of Conduct (MCC) were reported during the campaigning by different political parties.

"During the period, 52 violations of MCC by the political parties/candidates, mostly related to non-compliance to Covid-19 guidelines and conducting meetings without prior permission, were reported. Accordingly 52 cases have been registered at different police stations," a statement issued by the CEO said.

The CEO further said that a total of 329 licensed arms have been either deposited, impounded or cancelled during the period, while a total of 3,668 persons have been charged under preventive Sections of Section 107 (security for maintaining the peace in other cases) and Section 116 (inquiry as to truth of information) of the CrPC. The authorities have also executed 410 non-bailable warrants against the errant while three cases were also registered during the period. P3

Govt apathy to blame for soaring vegetable prices

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: As the soaring prices of kitchen essentials continue to burn a hole in common man's pocket, traders attribute the crisis to the failure of the state government in providing adequate cold storage facilities and monitoring market rates thereby making Odisha increasingly dependent on other states for its vegetable needs.

Vegetable prices, which had started to show a gradual increase during late September this year, entered the fifth week of inflation, Sunday. While okra was being sold at ₹50 per kg at the beginning of October, it is now available for ₹70 per kg, registering about 40% rise in price.



Similarly the price of tomatoes rose from ₹45 to ₹60 in a span of a month. Amongst these, the price of onion rose sharply by 165% from ₹30 per kg to ₹180 per kg.

"The increase in price is usually seen during this time of year as people observe the Karthik month by abstaining from non-vegetarian food. However, the yearly rise could be controlled if the government provides enough storage facility within the state. This could reduce our dependence on other states," Sudhakar Panda, secretary of Odisha Traders Association.

As per sources, the state presently has 40 cold storages. While 140 cold storages had been constructed, only 30 are operational now. Even the operating cold storages have been working only at 25-40% of capacity and have been heavily underutilised leading to increasing dependency on other states for vegetables.

"Take the example of potatoes. Each storage facility

has a capacity of 500 metric tonnes, 1.5 lakh Mt in total. While the state's demand for potato is around 14 lakh tone, the production is about 20,000 tonnes. Some districts that are rich in potato production, such as Koraput, don't even have any cold storage facility," explained Odisha Cold Storage Association secretary Suwendu Sahoo.

Furthermore, traders mentioned unseasonal rains and poor monitoring which have led to an incredible jump in vegetable prices recently. With Odisha's dependency on three states vis-à-vis Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, Covid-19 and unseasonal rains have hindered supply from those regions.

VOTE RUSH



In this combo image, Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L) leaves via chopper after addressing an election rally in Samastipur and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav (R) arrives via chopper during an election rally in Patna, Sunday

GST collections cross ₹1 trillion in Oct

AGENCIES

New Delhi, Nov 1: Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections crossed ₹1 trillion-mark for the first time in eight months in October, indicating the economy picked from September after India eased a lockdown to contain the spread of the coronavirus. The October collections are for transactions in September. At ₹1.05 trillion, collections were not only ten per cent higher than ₹95,379 crore a year ago, but were almost equal to collections in February before the lockdown was announced.

GST Revenue Collection for October 2020 (in ₹ Crores)	
Total Collection	1,05,155
IGST Revenue	52,540
SGST Revenue	25,411
CGST Revenue	19,193
Compensation Cess	8,011
Returns filed	up to 31st Oct 2020
GSTR 3B	80 lakhs

The exact figure for October stood at ₹105,155 crore, while it was just ₹211 crore more at ₹105,366 crore in February. All collections – central GST (CGST), or state GST (SGST) or integrated GST (IGST) or compensation cess – were higher in October than in September. For instance, CGST yielded ₹19,193 crore in October against ₹17,741 crore in September; SGST delivered ₹25,411 crore against 23,131 crore. IGST collections stood at ₹52,540 crore against 47,484 crore. Of this ₹23,375 crore was collected through import of goods against ₹22,442 crore in September.

Over 30K Covid cases, 700 deaths likely due to Trump rallies: Study

COMMUNITIES WHERE THE US PRESIDENT'S RALLIES TOOK PLACE 'PAID A HIGH PRICE' IN TERMS OF DISEASE AND DEATH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New York, Nov 1: About 18 election rallies by Donald Trump are estimated to have led to more than 30,000 confirmed cases of coronavirus and likely claimed over 700 lives, a new study by Stanford University researchers said, stressing that the communities where the US President's rallies took place "paid a high price in terms of disease and death."

In the study titled "The Effects of Large Group Meetings on the Spread of Covid-19: The Case of Trump Rallies", researchers concluded 18 rallies by Trump held between June 20 and September 22 "ultimately resulted in more than 30,000 incre-

mental confirmed cases of Covid-19" and "likely led to more than 700 deaths", which may not necessarily have been among attendees.

"Our analysis strongly supports the warnings and recommendations of public health officials concerning the risk of Covid-19 transmission at large group gatherings, particularly when the degree of compliance with guidelines concerning the use of masks and social distancing is low. The communities in which Trump rallies took place paid a high price in terms of disease and death," the researchers said.

Reacting to a Twitter post on the study, Democratic Presidential nominee Joe Biden said "President Trump doesn't care about you. He



doesn't even care about his own supporters." The study, released Friday, noted that more than 8.7 million Americans have contracted Covid-19, resulting in more than 225,000 deaths. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised that large in-person events, particularly in settings where participants do not wear masks or practice social distancing, pose a substantial risk of further contagion. "There is reason to fear that such gatherings can serve as 'su-

perspreader events', severely undermining efforts to control the pandemic," it said.

Researchers said the purpose of the study was to shed light on these issues by studying the impact of election rallies held by Trump's campaign between June 20 and September 30.

The researchers said Trump rallies have several "distinguishing features" that lent themselves to this inquiry, adding that attendees at Trump rallies numbered in the thousands and sometimes in tens of thousands.

They noted that the rallies were not geographically ubiquitous and the degree of compliance with guidelines concerning the use of masks

and social distancing was low "in part because the Trump campaign downplayed the risk of infection."

This feature heightens the risk that a rally could become a "super-spreader event."

The researchers said that to capture the effects of subsequent contagion within the pertinent communities, their analysis encompasses up to 10 post-rally weeks for each event.

"Our method is based on a collection of regression models, one for each event, that capture the relationships between post-event outcomes and pre-event characteristics, including demographics and the trajectory of Covid-19 cases, in similar counties," it said.

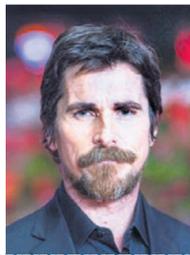


SOPHIE TURNER SET FOR ROYAL OUTING WITH NEXT

Actress Sophie Turner will be lending her voice for the character of Princess Charlotte in upcoming animated series, *The Prince*. Turner has officially joined the cast of animated series *The Prince*, created and executive produced by *Family Guy* fame Gary Janetti.

CHRISTIAN CALLS HIMSELF AN ENTHUSIASTIC DRIVER

Actor Christian Bale says he is an enthusiastic driver. "They might call me crazy. I say I'm enthusiastic," said Bale, who played race car driver Ken Miles in the 2019 film *Ford v Ferrari*. He got all the driving that he ever wanted to do for the film.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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accuracy • reliability • trust
FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181

ARIES
Today the stars advocate that you concentrate on money matters and how to save some, and in this purpose you will remain engrossed. However, Ganesha advises you not to neglect domestic duties lest you encounter a morose spouse.

TAURUS
You are likely to turn excessively self centred today, says Ganesha. This could cause you to be very insecure. You will have a tendency to control and dominate others. There is a likelihood that you may, thereby, jeopardize important relationships.

GEMINI
Ganesha opines that today you might feel a little blue and under the weather. You may harbour feelings of loneliness today. Your repressed emotions and yearnings as well as your intellectual leanings will likely come to the fore today, says Ganesha.

CANCER
Your ideas today are source of your energy. A situation may arise, which will force you to take hard decisions later. A new business or venture may prove beneficial.

LEO
There are chances of conflict on the home front today. However you will be able to solve these problems owing to your understanding nature. However, these conflicts would likely not have cropped up if you would have paid more attention to your family.

VIRGO
Keep an open mind and give vent to your imagination. You will feel very creative today, and will pursue your innovative ideas. Luck will favour you, and some things on which you took some risk will bear fruits.

LIBRA
Ganesha says that your social status will increase now. Today is an auspicious day for venturing in new business or changing your profession. For those involved in the fields of interior designing, or running beauty parlours, now is an especially bountiful time for making progress in your business.

SCORPIO
A cheerful day lies ahead of you especially for the business community. It's a clincher, as good deals not only come to your door step, but yield good business. Feel, that you are the king of the world; bring out the best in you and you are bound to succeed.

SAGITTARIUS
You are in a dilemma today. You may find yourself standing at crossroads, and your decision power does not seem to help you much, says Ganesha. You are likely to become controversy's favourite child; this may add fuel to the fire. Be wise, and take guidance of experienced people.

CAPRICORN
Though less, you will get money from your investments and other resources. Don't ignore pending projects; complete them at the earliest so that you will have clear picture about your requirements and responsibilities, advises Ganesha.

AQUARIUS
You always see the larger picture, and desire to channelise all your energies towards making things better. Such positive approach makes you an excellent team player, and enables you to bring novel ideas and effective solutions to the table, says Ganesha.

PISCES
This day promises to be filled with much romance, laughter, and fine dining, says Ganesha. You will seem irresistible to the opposite sex. You might also find yourself falling for someone. A breathe of fresh air could waft into old relationships, or new ones could be formed.

Kangana longs for love in new poem Aasman



Mumbai: Actress Kangana Ranaut has revealed her inner poet yet again and penned a poem about love and longing for summer.

The actress shared the poem, titled *Aasman*, along with a soothing video, which has been shot at her place in Manali. The poem is about love and longing for summer.

"Poem I wrote and shot this summer, as winter approaches reminiscing *Aasman*," she wrote as she shared the video on Twitter. The video had a voiceover from Kangana, as she recited her poem. It also talked about doubting a lover's affection, using the vastness of the sky as an allegory. The clip showed Kangana enjoying summer in the mountains, and Kangana lying in the grass. She can also be seen enjoying her time in the hills and warming herself in front of a fireplace.

She also posted snaps of her home in Manali, while talking about the changing season.

"In spring this garden was at its full a glory, honey bees, butterflies sucking the nectar of life, in rains it gave shelter to insects/reptiles, in autumn its withering away, bone chilling snow will cover it soon but beneath that it will continue to long n spring will happen again," she wrote with a picture of her garden.

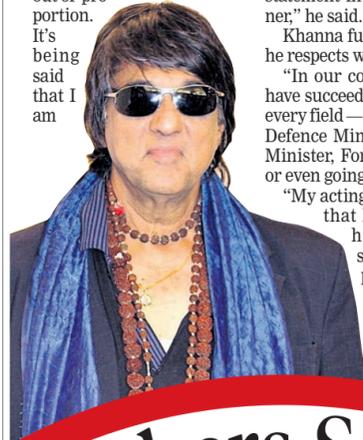
"Picture of the same section of the garden from last winter, only the skeletons of these trees/plants will remain they will die n will be born again, no season is permanent, if death is inevitable so is life, be this garden it will be ruined every time yet it will rise every time," she wrote with another photograph of the garden. IANS

Mukesh defends himself after being slammed for his remarks

Mumbai: After facing backlash for reportedly saying that the MeToo movement began after women started stepping out for work, veteran actor Mukesh Khanna has issued a statement in his defense.

According to him, his words were 'perceived in extremely wrong way'.

"I am surprised that my statement has been perceived in an extremely wrong way, and is being looked at in a totally flawed context. The whole thing has been blown out of proportion. It's being said that I am



against women. But I can say with confidence that not many have as much respect for women as I do. I never said that women shouldn't work," he said.

Khanna denied making misogynist remarks.

"A year back, I had made a video for my YouTube channel. In that video too, I never mentioned that women shouldn't go out and work. How can I say or imply something like that now? I just want to request all my friends not to twist or present my statement in a wrong manner," he said.

Khanna further said that he respects women a lot. "In our country, women have succeeded in each and every field — be it becoming Defence Minister, Finance Minister, Foreign Minister or even going to space.

"My acting career proves that I have always had great respect for people in general and women in particular," he concluded. IANS



Ayushmann wants to grow old with Tahira

Mumbai: Actor Ayushmann Khurrana Sunday took to social media to pour his heart out for his wife, Tahira Kashyap Khurrana, on their wedding anniversary.

Calling Tahira his best friend, Ayushmann wrote: "Celebrating 125 years of togetherness. May be more. Because I know that I know you from centuries and time immemorial. This bond can't be limited to this lifetime.

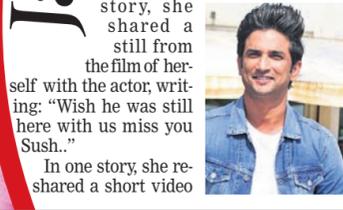
"You're my companion, lover, personal stand up comedian, life coach and above all my best friend. I want to grow old with you. I know it'll be a lot of fun. Sigh. Happy anniversary."

Along with it, he posted a photograph of him giving Tahira a piggyback ride.

Sharing the same picture on her Instagram account, Tahira cracked a joke about their wedding night. "And I don't lie. That's the only way he picks me up! Gunny bag *aaloo ki bori* style! But this is the love I love, perhaps picking on your brains @ayushmannk is easier this way than being cradled and carried in your lap (a failed suhaag raat moment for us) To more ingenuity to many more such rides ... umm #happyanniversary," she added.

Ayushmann and Tahira got married in November 2008. The couple have a son, Virajveer, and a daughter, Varushka. IANS

Jacqueline remembers Sushant Singh Rajput



Mumbai:

As her movie *Drive* completed one year of its release, actress Jacqueline Fernandez fondly remembered her late co-star Sushant Singh Rajput, and hoped he was still with her to celebrate the milestone.

The actress re-shared a post of the film director, Tarun Mansukhani on her Instagram Story, writing: "1 year of *Drive*".

In another story, she shared a still from the film of herself with the actor, writing: "Wish he was still here with us miss you Sush.."

In one story, she re-shared a short video

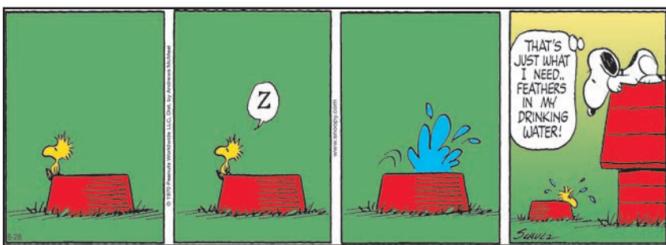
from the movie's song *Makha* shared by a fan account.

Meanwhile, Tarun's post read: "It's been a year since we released #drive. And it just doesn't feel celebratory without Sushant. *Drive* was filled with some amazing memories and overflowed with unforgettable experiences. There are so many people to Thank for this. Some for all the hard work they put into making this film and some others for teaching me about things. Happy anniversary to my *Drive* family!"

To this, the actress commented: "Tarun this film will be always special for me ... Some memories we have for *Eva With Sush*."

Drive was a story of a thief uniting with a street racer for a grand heist involving an elaborate game of deceit with authorities. IANS

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

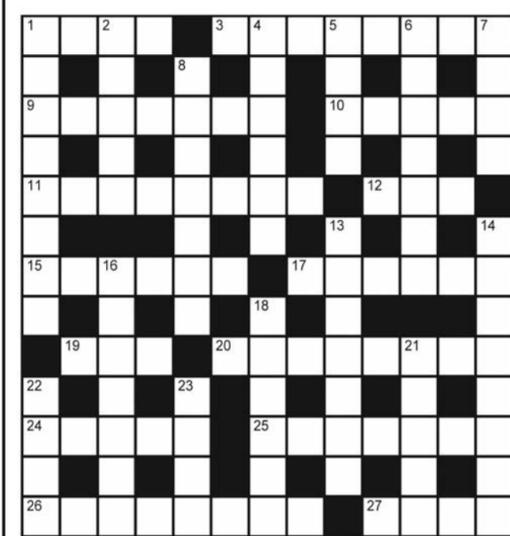


BREVITY



FUN post

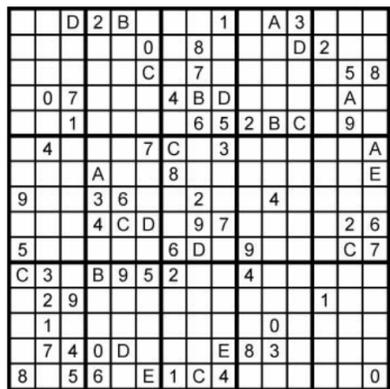
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 1 Pincer
 - 3 Antiquated
 - 9 Big shots (3,4)
 - 10 Elliptical path
 - 11 Benevolent
 - 12 French vineyard
 - 15 Wavelet
 - 17 Sampan, e.g.
 - 19 Safari sight
 - 20 Move
 - 24 Highly skilled
 - 25 Japanese city
 - 26 Get the most out of something
 - 27 Terrarium plant
- Down**
- 1 Genre
 - 2 Poplar variety
 - 4 Thick cream soup
 - 5 Cousin of a bassoon
 - 6 Sets out
 - 7 Small amphibians
 - 8 Cattle pens
 - 13 Gets what one deserves?
 - 14 Rarity (4,4)
 - 16 Biting
 - 18 Ribs
 - 21 Domicile
 - 22 Ocean menace
 - 23 Energy source

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, each row, column and box must contain the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.

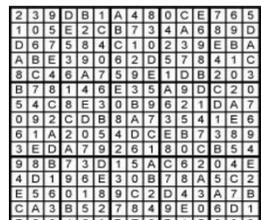


SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD



SUDOKU

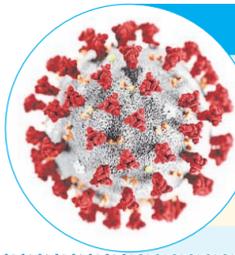


CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



FOR A BIG CATCH

Fishermen trying their luck in Mahanadi river near Tulsipur Mathasahi in Cuttack, Sunday



COVID-19 TRACKER

	INFECTED	RECOVERED	DEAD
World	4,65,90,951	3,36,01,859	12,02,818
India	80,89,593	73,71,898	1,21,144
Odisha	2,91,825	2,77,564	1,331

Fiery by-poll campaigns end

Chief Electoral Officer asks the district Collectors to ensure no outsiders stay in the by-poll areas during the polls

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: The last day for campaigning for Balasore Sadar and Tirtol Assembly segments by-polls ended Sunday.

The countdown for the much anticipated by-polls has now started with the end of the campaigning. Several heavyweights of all major political parties in the last one month have toiled hard and put their best foot forward to woo the voters and ensure victory for their respective candidates.

On the last day of the campaigning, almost all parties and candidates went for door to door campaign, padayatra, bike and cycle rallies, in an attempt to strike a chord with the voters.



CEO holds a press meet on the by-polls, Sunday
OP PHOTO

Union MSME Minister Pratap Sarangi was seen participating in a cycle rally in Balasore to campaign for his party while several legislators and ministers of the BJD tried their best to conduct rallies in the two constituencies.

Congress leaders like Taraprasad Bahinipati also took the plunge and toured the areas seeking votes for the party candidates.

The BJD had deployed more than 12 ministers and three dozen MLAs in the two seats to bolster the party campaigning in the areas.

With the end of the campaigning, most of the outsider campaigners are bound to return as per the Election Commission of India (ECI) norms for conduct of a fair and free election. The office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Sunday said that it has asked the district Collectors to ensure no outsiders stay in the areas during the polls and asked to take steps accordingly.

While the BJD has tried its best to woo the electorate by roping in

their heavy weight ministers and MLAs like Debi Prasad Mishra, Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi, Sameer Dash, Pratap Jena and others, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik too conducted virtual rallies to attract voters.

The BJP has tried hands with Union Ministers Pratap Sarangi, Dharmendra Pradhan and other party leaders like Pradipta Naik, Baijayant Panda and others.

The Congress party, besides their candidates, had roped in Taraprasad Bahinipati, Suresh Routray, Abhijit Mukherjee, Satya Prakash Nayak and others to expand their campaigning. Now the eyes are on the polling dates which will decide who would take the reins of power from the two seats.

POLITICKLE BY MANJUL



IN MEMORIAM



Artisans at Kathagada Sahi in Cuttack, Sunday, shaping a sculpture depicting the first visit of Mahatma Gandhi to Odisha
OP PHOTO

BJD using govt machinery for campaign: BJP

THE SAFFRON PARTY REITERATES ITS ALLEGATIONS AND APPROACHES THE ECI

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Sunday alleged that the ruling BJD government in the state has been blatantly using the government machineries for its poll-related works. The Saffron party accused the BJD of deploying several government officials for poll works.

National spokesperson of the BJP, Sambit Patra, Sunday said that the party had communication with the Election Commission of India (ECI) which is said to have assured the Saffron party of timely action and intervention in response to the charges leveled against the ruling government of the state.

“Our party conducted a virtual meeting with the Election Commission. By-polls are scheduled in Tirtol and Balasore. Massive misuse of power and irregularities are reported from the area. We informed the ECI about the same Sunday,” he said.



BJP leaders submit their complaint to the CEO, Sunday

Patra also said, “Mainly there are two issues in Tirtol. The former Collector of Jagatsinghpur district hails from Tirtol and was transferred after we made the request. However, he is still working from Tirtol and interfering in the elections and trying to ensure the victory of the ruling party in the state. He is extending his whole hearted support to the BJD.” The BJP leader added

that its party workers informed the CEO on the issue but the office has presented half-baked information before the ECI and it is said that the ECI has assured them that they would look into the matter and take adequate steps accordingly. “Secondly, we complained today

that hundreds of ministers and MLAs are campaigning and residing in the two Assembly constituencies. They are using the government machineries there to manipulate the elections. The ECI has assured us that before 48 hours to the polls they would be vacated. What the government is doing through its MLAs, the whole Odisha is watching,” he said.

The by-elections to both the seats are scheduled November 3. It may be mentioned here that campaigning for both the seats have ended. While the BJD is eyeing to retain the seats, the BJP has been working to increase its share in the Assembly through the by-polls.

Mainly there are two issues in Tirtol. The former Collector of Jagatsinghpur hails from Tirtol and was transferred after we made the request. However, he is still working from Tirtol and interfering in the elections to benefit the BJD

SAMBIT PATRA | NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON, BJP

OTV CFO arrested over ‘fraudulent’ land deal

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the state Crime Branch Sunday arrested the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of OTV, a media organisation, on charges of purchasing land belonging to Scheduled Caste people at Sarua village in Begunia of Khurda district by fraudulent means. The accused person identified as Manoranjan Sarangi is one of the directors of Odisha InfraTech Pvt Ltd, the firm accused of fraudulently purchasing a plot of an SC individual.

In a press note, the EOW revealed that the state government asked the Crime Branch to probe the matter after some scheduled caste persons from Sarua village along with an ex-employee of the Ortel communication alleged that the accused firm had purchased

the land flouting the prescribed norms. The investigative wing of the state police claimed about finding prima facie evidence in connection with the company’s involvement in cheating, forgery and intimidation.

“During enquiry prima facie it was revealed that one company namely Odisha InfraTech Pvt Ltd purchased land belonging to scheduled caste persons circumventing rules/laws using forgery/cheating/intimidation and other dubious methods with an intention to cause losses to SC people,” claimed the EOW. EOW arrested Sarangi by registering a case (08/20) under various sections of IPC and Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

Meanwhile, the OSCPCR will seek a report from the CB on ‘tardy probe’ into the ‘gangrape’ of a minor girl involving a few OTV employees.

MISCREANTS DECAMP WITH MO CYCLE AS RIDER LEAVES AFTER FAILED QR CODE SCAN

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: A person landed in trouble as some miscreants decamped with a bicycle which the former had rented through the ‘Mo Cycle’ application. The ‘victim’ claims that the cycle got unlocked after a failed QR scan and the miscreants banked on it.

The victim, Chittaranjan Sahoo, works as a domestic help at the residence of a judge here under Capital police limits.

According to sources, Sahoo has been using the ‘Mo Cycle’ app registered with the phone number of the house owner’s son. Sahoo



who was asked to bring some grocery items from market went to the nearby ‘Mo Cycle’ stand to get a bicycle, last Monday.

He tried to open the locked cycle by scanning the QR code. However, the scanning failed due to some network problem and Sahoo left the place after a few failed attempts.

Few days later, the house owner’s son received a phone call from the executive of the ‘Yana customer care’. He was informed that some miscreants have decamped with the cycle that got unlocked after Sahoo left the ‘Mo Cycle’ stand.

The Yana customer care service’s authorities also tried to track the bicycle but failed to get any success. Police have been investigating into the matter after registering a case in this regard.

Habisyalis deprived of Lord’s Darshan

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Nov 1: Only a handful of Habisyalis Sunday offered puja in front of Srimandir here on the first day of holy month of Kartika.

However, the elderly women did not have the opportunity to offer prayers before Lord Jagannath as the 12th century shrine has been shut for devotees due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

“The district administration had earlier urged the Habisyalis not to throng Puri city to observe Kartika Brata in the wake of the pandemic. Only a few elderly women from nearby places have gathered in the city to observe the month-long ritual,” said a local.

The Habisyalis took dips in the holy ponds of Puri in the wee hours and performed ‘Sankalpa Puja’ in front of the Lions Gate of Srimandir. They also travelled around the shrine, added the local.

“I used to stay in Puri for a month to observe Kartika Brata. This year, we have been deprived of the opportunity to visit Srimandir and have a Darshan of Lord Jagannath



Not allowed inside the Srimandir, Habisyalis perform the rituals outside the shrine, Sunday

due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I am returning home after offering prayers in front of the temple,” said Savitri Sahu, a Habisyali from Sakhigopal. Meanwhile, Srimandir authorities claimed that adequate steps have been taken to sell Mahaprasad to people in the holy month of Kartika.

According to the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA), two temporary counters have been opened at the South and North gates of Srimandir to sell Mahaprasad to devotees.

“Hundreds of people thronged the temporary counters to buy the temple delicacies on the first day of Kartika,” said a servitor.

Campaign launched to make Puri the cleanest city

The dist admin aims to secure the top position in the 2021 Swachh Survekshan, a countrywide cleanliness survey for cities

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, Nov 1: The Puri district administration Sunday launched the ‘Mo Dham Mo Garba’ (My Shrine My Pride) campaign to make the Holy City the cleanest urban settlement in the country’.

The administration has launched the cleanliness drive to secure the number one place in the 2021 Swachh Survekshan, a countrywide cleanliness survey for cities, said an official of the district administration.

Gobardhan Peeth Shankaracharya Nischalananda Saraswati Sunday unveiled the logo and tagline for the ‘Mo Dham Mo Garba’ campaign at a special event here. The seer also felicitated the winners of the best logo and tagline competitions for the cleanliness campaign.

As many as 13,000 competitors from the Puri city participated in the online competitions for best logo and tagline for the campaign. Shriyansh Panda, a Class-V stu-



Gobardhan Peeth Shankaracharya Nischalananda Saraswati (R) unveils the logo and tagline for the ‘Mo Dham Mo Garba’ campaign at a special event in Puri, Sunday

dent, was felicitated for the best logo while Pramod Chandra Swain got the award for best tagline. The duo was provided with Rs 10,000 each as award money, said the official.

According to the official, the image of a broom has been placed in the logo of the cleanliness campaign while ‘Pabitra Puri Garba Amari’ (Pride in Purity) has been selected as the tagline.

Puri city should be a model for others with regard to the cleanliness aspect. The city can secure the top place in the Swachh Survekshan-2021 with cooperation from its residents

BALWANT SINGH | COLLECTOR, PURI

“Puri is one of the Char Dhams, four holy shrines, in the country. This is the abode of Lord Jagannath. Puri city should be a model for others with regard to the cleanliness aspect. The city can secure the top place in the Swachh Survekshan-2021 with cooperation from its residents,” said Collector Balwant Singh.

According to Singh, the cleanliness campaign would be undertaken in each and every ward of the Holy City. As part of the campaign, residents of the city would be urged to segregate the garbage in separate trash bins. “Our vehicles will collect the segregated

garbage from each and every household. The residents of the city will take a pledge November 6 and 7 to keep Puri clean. They would also put their signatures on the banners pasted on the garbage-carrying vehicles. The signatures would be displayed on the city beach November 8,” said the Collector.

The Collector further revealed that the administration would deploy special vehicles to carry dried up flowers, basil leaves and unsold Mahaprasad to a compost site.

According to Singh, the administration will take steps to remove silt and garbage from the city drains at least four times in a year. Earlier, the drains were being cleaned once in a year. “Steps will be taken to remove garbage from the streets at night. The people of Puri should pay respect to our sanitary staffers for keeping the city free from garbage. The municipal body of the city would soon launch a helpline to accept complaints with regard to the garbage management,” Singh said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that Kalpana Sahoo, S/o Ranjan Sahoo, Village/PO- Pithagola, PS- Harichandanpur, District-Keonjhar has sworn an affidavit on 22.10.2020 before the Executive Magistrate and has reported to IIC, Ghatgaon Police Station regarding loss of Original Regd. Sale Deed No.11051600243 dtd. 27.08.2016 (relating to sale of Plot No.848/1994) executed by Binod Kumar Patnaik in favour of Santilata Rout and Original ROR No.193/477 in the name of Santilata Rout.

Kalpana Sahoo has applied for a housing loan to the LIC Housing Finance Ltd., Cuttack by offering mortgage of the said property document.

All concerned therefore having any claim over the property purchased under the said document, i.e. Original Regd. Sale Deed No. 11051600243 dtd. 27.08.2016 and Original ROR No.193/477 are required to file their claim with the undersigned within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it will be presumed that the property having link with the said document is free from encumbrances and any claim in respect thereof against the applicant as a mortgagor and the Company as the mortgagee shall be void and ineffective after the lapse of 15 (fifteen) days of publication of this notice.

(U. K. MISHRA)
Advocate
LIC Housing Finance Ltd.
Cuttack Area Office, Link Road, Cuttack

State loses 11 more lives to Covid

ODISHA REPORTS 1,709 NEW CORONAVIRUS CASES, TAKING THE CASELOAD TO 2,91,825

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: At least 1,709 people tested positive for novel coronavirus disease (Covid-19) in the state Sunday, taking the caseload to 2,91,825, while 11 fresh fatalities pushed the death toll in Odisha to 1,331, an official of Health and Family Welfare (H&FW) department said.

Of the 1,709 cases, 985 were reported from various quarantine centres, and the remaining detected during contact tracing, said the official. Khurda district, of which Bhubaneswar is a part, reported the maximum number of new cases at 221, followed by Mayurbhanj at 121 and Cuttack at 115.

Taking to Twitter, the H&FW department said, "Regret to inform the demise of eleven Covid positive patients while under treatment in hospitals."

Sundargarh recorded three fatalities, and one each succumbed to the infection in Angul, Cuttack, Deogarh, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, Khurda, Malkangiri and Nuapada.

Of the 1,331 fatalities reported so far, both Ganjam and Khurda districts accounted for 230 deaths each followed by Cuttack at 111.

As many as 53 Covid-19 patients have died in Odisha due to other ailments. The positivity rate in the coastal state stands at 6.34.

Over 46 lakh sample tests have been conducted in the coastal state so far, including 46,045 Saturday,



A health professional collects swab samples for Covid test in Bhubaneswar, Sunday

IN NUMBERS

■ Khurda reported the maximum number of new cases at 221, followed by Mayurbhanj at 121 and Cuttack at 115

■ Sundargarh recorded three fatalities, and one each succumbed to the infection in Angul, Cuttack, Deogarh, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, Khurda, Malkangiri and Nuapada

■ Of the total fatalities reported so far, both Ganjam and Khurda districts accounted for 230 deaths each followed by Cuttack at 111

■ Over 46 lakh sample tests have been conducted in the coastal state so far, including 46,045 Saturday

the official added. City sees 83 fresh cases, 201 recoveries

With detection of 83 fresh Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, the coronavirus tally in the Capital city rose to 29,236, the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) said Sunday.

Of the new cases, 63 were local contact cases, while the remaining 20 were from quarantine, the civic body said in a tweet.

The Temple City also registered 201 recoveries in the last 24 hours,

taking the total recoveries to 27,744. Sero survey in Cuttack begins today

The Cuttack Municipal Corporation will conduct a four-day-long serological survey to detect the prevalence of antibodies against Covid-19 among the citizens beginning Monday, an official said Sunday.

The assessment will be conducted in a phase-wise manner. CMC has formed a dedicated team that in-

cludes the ward officer, health workers, NSS volunteers, Anganwadi workers and sanitary inspector. The survey samples will be collected from one member of a family above 18-years of age. Jointly carried in cooperation with the Indian Council of Medical Research, the survey will be carried out between 9am and 5pm. The serological survey will start in the city from November 2 and continue till November 5.

Engineer fined ₹1L for violating Covid norms in Deogarh

While the govt has permitted gathering of 100 persons for a marriage, the engineer had invited 500 guests

POST NEWS NETWORK

Deogarh, Nov 1: An engineer had to cough up Rs 1 lakh as fine for violating Covid guidelines while throwing a marriage feast for people in Deogarh district Saturday. Reports said the administration raided Bagicha village while Kulan Patra, an engineer of the Lift Irrigation department was arranging a feast to celebrate his son's marriage Saturday afternoon. Over 500 people reportedly attended the marriage feast.

After receiving information from sources, Deogarh tehsildar Pallabi Nayak and Deogarh IIC Prashant Kumar Patra, sub-inspector Pradip Ranjan Patra raided the marriage feast venue. For violating the Covid guidelines, the officials imposed the fine of Rs 1 lakh on Kulan. It may be mentioned here that the government has allowed a gathering of 100 persons for a marriage function in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

IIC hurt in attack by locals while carrying out raid

POST NEWS NETWORK

Daringbadi/Brahmanigaon, Nov 1: A senior police official of Brahmanigaon police station in Kandhamal district was critically injured when villagers of Meramaha attacked the cops carrying out a raid on gambling den late Saturday night.

Reports said a police team of Brahmanigaon police station led by IIC Ranjit Kumar Muni was patrolling the area. The team raided the village as gambling was underway in the locality on the occasion of Kumar Purnima. The

gamblers launched an attack on the cops and ransacked the police vehicle. Some of them even did blank fire from country gun.

As many as six villagers, including four women, have been arrested while many locals have fled the village in fear of being arrested. The village has reportedly been deserted. IIC Muni has been hospitalised for treatment, said Baliguda SDPO Manas Ranjan Barik.

Police led by the SDP conducted a flag march in the area Sunday.

Police have registered a case. They said that all the accused will be arrested soon.

WOMAN FOUND DEAD NEAR CANAL

POST NEWS NETWORK

Boudh, Nov 1: The body of a woman was found in mysterious circumstance near a canal at Biramchandrapur village under Harbhanga block in Boudh district Sunday morning.

The deceased was identified as Santoshini Jena (35), wife of Astami Jena. Family members alleged that she was murdered.

According to reports, she went out of her house to attend nature's call in the morning. However, she did not return home. Later, some villagers found her dead near the canal.

Though the reason behind her death was yet to be ascertained, it is being suspected that she was murdered as the body bore grievous injury marks and wounds.

Following information from locals, police rushed to the village and recovered the body which was sent for post-mortem.

3 poachers held, 55 kg wild boar flesh seized

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 1: Forest officials Sunday arrested three poachers from Samakoi reserve forest in the district here and seized 55 kg wild boar flesh from them.

On a tip-off, the officials conducted a raid at the reserve forest and arrested poachers Jitu Mukhi, Purna Munda and Budhu Munda, sources said.

During interrogation, all the three poachers confessed to have killed

the wild boars by electrocuting them. The poachers have been booked for violating Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. Forest department officials said. "We have seized GI wires, glass bottles, nylon ropes from the poachers," they added.

Poachers often trap wild boars and spotted deer by spreading galvanized iron (GI) wires and nylon ropes in the forest and its nearby areas. Some poachers also use trained dogs to kill the animals.

CALL FOR STRIKE



Leaders of various trade unions participate in a state-level convention for a countrywide general strike November 26 at the AITUC office in Bhubaneswar, Sunday

This Kartik, will Jagannath Sagar receive a makeover, devotees ask

THE PLACE WAS SO SCENIC THAT THE EAST INDIA COMPANY HAD ACCORDED IT WITH TOURISM STATUS IN 1719

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jeyapore, Nov 1: The holy month of Kartik has started. Jagannath Sagar, the biggest manmade pond in the state located at Jeyapore in Koraput assumes much importance for thousands of locals in this month. They take a holy dip in the pond, with a belief that they will earn virtues this month. But it is a pity that the sprawling pond is still choked with weeds and hyacinths and stinks due to pollution.

The administration has not yet removed the weeds. Devotees are worried about how their holy dip will be conducted this year. They have expressed their displeasure over such sorry state of the holy pond. People from Bihar living in the area also observe Chhat puja on its bank. People hold Boita bandana Utsav on Panchuka.

Old timers say, decades ago, the pond was offering a scenic panoramic view to the visitors with its blue water while Nakatidangar hill forms its backdrop. The place was so scenic that the East India Company had accorded it with tourism status tag in 1719. In winter, the pond resembled famous Dal Lake of Kashmir, they added.

According to historians, the then King Ramchandra Dev-II had excavated the pond on 300 acres of land with 1 mile in length and a half mile in width. The British



East India Company accorded tourist destination tag to the pond three years later. From 300 acres, the pond has now shrunk to just 100 acres due to rampant encroachment. The pond was created with an aim to maintain environmental balance and meeting the water requirements of people of both Koraput and Nabarangpur districts. Its scenic beauty drew a large number of tourists till a few years back. The Tourism department had developed parks and garden on both sides of the pond. However, these facilities are badly maintained. Even though the pond is choked with weeds, 15,000 to 20,000 people take a bath in the pond every day, a report said.

They lamented that unclean water and weeds are a problem for them. The pond is said to be keeping the ground water recharged. That's why, tube wells in the area do not have shortage of water; they

noted. However, hope for revival of Jagannath Sagar had brightened when a fact-finding team of the district administration assessed its condition before executing plans for its restoration toward the last part of January, 2020.

Several months ago, Jagannath Sagar Development Committee had approached the National Green Tribunal seeking its intervention to check dumping of waste into the pond and removing encroachments. The NGT had directed the district administration to find the extent of pollution and take steps for its cleaning.

The team led by OSPCB Regional Officer found out that unchecked release of municipality sewage has severely polluted the pond. Further, a large part of the water body is used for dumping garbage, which has not only affected the water quality but also threatened its aquatic species.

Will the withering flower biz bloom

Florists hope that with the ease in Covid restrictions, they may see a revival in the business

AVIRAL MISHRA, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: With the pandemic posing a threat to their livelihood and heavy losses incurred due to Covid-induced lockdowns, florists of the temple city are finally breathing a sigh of relief. The festive season has brought back smiles to their faces and with the New Year around, they hope to compensate their losses.

As the state government earlier ordered restrictions regarding visit to religious places to contain Covid spread, business for florists in the city took a nosedive. Moreover, restrictions on intra and inter-state vehicle movements also narrowed down options for those involved in sale and supply of flowers.

"During these last two weeks only, my business has returned to normalcy. At present, I am doing 45 per cent of daily turnover compared to pre-Covid days. The business sees momentum especially during annual Rath Yatra, Raja festival, Ganesh puja and Dola purnima," said Sandeep Sahu, a florist at Unit-II market here.

"However, since most of these fell during lockdown periods there was almost no business."



PIC: BIKASH NAYAK

Mentioning the drop in prices, Sandeep said that since demand has been less compared to previous years, the prices took a hit. "Marigold, which sees the highest demand during the festive season, usually shoots up to Rs 80 per kg. However, this year it touched Rs 45 at max," he added.

Furthermore, with the state government still putting restrictions on religious places and public gatherings, traders complained that demand from large temples and other institutions remain by and large nil.

Pradeep Bhuyan, who purveys to organisations such as Iskon and temples as Lingaraj, said that this year the demand for flowers has remained relatively low with temples not focusing much on decoration. "Since the lockdown remained in

place for more than three months, most of the flower growers were forced to sell their products at throwaway prices. While uncertainty remained during that time, many farmers did not reap their produce for the festive season and as a result while supply remained less, demand was even lesser," Pradeep mentioned.

However, with the marriage season ahead and New Year around the corner, the florists are hopeful of a turnaround in the business. Although dearth in supply of exotic flowers still persists in the market, the traders are hopeful of better prospects ahead.

"Tulip and Lilly which are usually most in demand for marriage decorations are supplied from states as Himanchal Pradesh and

During these last two weeks only, my business has been gathering steam. At present, I am doing 45 per cent of daily turnover compared to pre-Covid days

SANDEEP SAHU | FLORIST, UNIT-II MARKET

Since the lockdown remained in place for more than three months, most of the flower growers were forced to sell their products at throwaway prices. While uncertainty remained during that time, many farmers didn't even reap their produce

PRADEEP BHUYAN | FLORIST

Uttarakhand. However, it is unlikely that the demand for these will be same as earlier. While buyers are still unwilling to pay, sellers also have been prudent. Hopefully, things will change next year," said Rakesh Mohanty, a florist here.

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Fate of Satkosia tiger project uncertain as NTCA cuts funds

BALASORE BY-POLL

85 sensitive booths kept under scanner

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, Nov 1: The administration and the police have made all necessary arrangements for the by-poll to the Balasore Assembly seat. Keeping the Covid safety guidelines in mind, the administration has taken up measures for smooth conduct of the election.

Voters will exercise their franchise in 346 polling booths, while 85 booths have been identified as sensitive. Adequate police deployment has been made at these booths. Central forces will look after the security of the strong room.

Central forces were seen conducting flag marches at different places of the constituency ahead of the by-poll so as to ensure law and order. A total of 35 platoons of police forces are being deployed. Ten platoons of police have already been



deployed while 10 more platoons are being deployed gradually. Six platoons of police belong to the district while 20 platoons are from other districts. Nine platoons of central forces were also deployed. Besides, five additional SPs, 8 DSPs, 22 inspectors, 152 ASIs and 9 havildars and 163 APR were entrusted with security monitoring. In sensitive booths, central and state forces have been deployed. Meanwhile, political observers pointed out that the seat will mainly have a bipolar contest between the BJD and the BJP.



Retrenched watchers outside forest range office

OP PHOTO

against poachers and the timber mafia. The NTCA had trained them under its supervision. These watchers used to walk for 10 km daily and keep a track of the movement of elephants and tigers as well as the poachers straying into the project area.

Reports said that over 207 casual watchers have been dismissed. It is apprehended that the dismissal of the watchers might endanger the security of the tiger project.

The Satkosia tiger project is spread over a large area cutting across Satkosia Wildlife Division, Mahanadi Wildlife Division and Baispalli Wildlife Division. It is headed by the Regional Chief Conservator of forest (RCCF), Angul Circle. The project area is now spread over 1136.70 sq.km after the Centre published a notification directing to include some reserve forests of Angul, Dhenkanal, Athamallik, Athagarh

To meet the expenses of the tiger project for the 2019-20 fiscal, the RCCF, Angul circle, had submitted a proposal of ₹26.78 crore to NTCA. However, NTCA sanctioned only ₹15.96 crore

The project authorities have sacked 10 temporary watchers in the project area coming Dhenkanal wildlife division, 30 each in Athamallik and Athagarh forest divisions, 59 in Satkosia forest division, 25 in Angul forest division

and Boudh forest division. The tiger project is managed with the funds sanctioned by the NTCA every year. This apart, the state government also sanctions 40 per cent of the funds sanctioned by the NTCA to the tiger project.

To meet the expenses of the tiger project for the 2019-20 fiscal, the RCCF, Angul circle, had submitted a proposal of ₹26.78 crore to NTCA. However, NTCA sanctioned only ₹15.96 crore. Similarly, the project authorities demanded ₹15.96 crore for the 2020-21 fiscal but were

sanctioned only ₹3.82 crore.

The project authorities have sacked 10 temporary watchers from the project area coming Dhenkanal wildlife division, 30 from Athamallik forest division, 30 from Athagarh forest division, 59 from Satkosia forest division, 25 from Angul forest division and 53 from Mahanadi wildlife division.

The presence of poachers and timber mafia in the project area makes it all the more insecure given the absence of watchers. It is alleged Mahaveer was killed by poachers.

When contacted, Pradeep Raj Karate, field director Satkosia tiger project and RCCF, Angul circle, said the problem has arisen due to reduction in grant by the NTCA. As a result, the DFOs have been constrained to dismiss the watchers in their respective jurisdictions. A proposal for more funds has been given to the NTCA which if sanctioned will result in re-appointment of the watchers.

Looters have a field day in Silk City, cops clueless



FILE PHOTO

the shop owner, the police along with a forensic team reached the spot and launched an investigation. Police also examined the footage of CCTV cameras installed at the showroom.

A case has been registered at Bada Bazaar police station. Miscreants had also looted 120 gm of gold jewellery and ₹1 lakh in cash from the house of a retired teacher at Nimakhandi Mohanty Sahi September 29.

Thieves had looted gold and silver jewellery at the Kali temple on the premises of the Chandrachudswar temple near National Highway-16 at Khajuria bypass October 1. Miscreants had also burgled the house of a doctor couple at Banchhmidhinagar under Baidyanathpur police station area a few days ago.

In yet another incident, thieves stole 120 gm of gold jewellery and ₹90,000 in cash from the house of Kalim Shariff at Somnathnagar.

In all these cases, police investigations are underway, but no breakthrough has been achieved. Now, betting and gambling activities have gone up in the area.

Baidyanathpur police arrested six gamblers and seized ₹13,000 from them Sunday.

gold jewellery weighing around 2.8 kg from a shop in Bada Bazaar area here late Saturday night after breaking open the asbestos roof of the stairwell.

The police have not yet got any breakthrough in this incident. The jewellery shop owner J. Ravi Kumar found the iron chest in the store room broken when he opened the store in the morning. The door of the first floor and asbestos roof of the staircase of the shop were broken. Based on a complaint filed by

Miscreants reportedly looted

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, Nov 1: Amid the ease in Covid restrictions, miscreants are back on a looting spree, particularly in jewellery shops, temples and closed houses in this city and other areas of Ganjam district, a report said.

Cases of theft, burglary and loot have been taking place one after another, while the police seem clueless.

Miscreants reportedly looted



SECURITY REVIEW

DGP Abhay, who is on a three-day visit to Kandhamal, is at Khamalkhol CRPF camp under Baliguda block to review anti-Maoist operations with SOG and CRPF jawans

OP PHOTO

Counterfeit currency racket busted in Bhadrak, 2 arrested

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhadrak, Nov 1: In a major breakthrough, Bhadrak police Sunday arrested two persons for printing and circulating fake currency notes.

The accused were identified as Priya Ranjan Nayak and Bijay Kumar Das. They were operating at Nalanga area here close to the national highway.

According to a source, the accused men had called a youth from Basudevpur area and made him an offer to take ₹2 lakh fake currency notes in exchange of ₹1 lakh real ones.

When the youth asked them about their address, they gave him the address of the fake currency manufacturing unit. The youth subsequently approached Basudevpur police and informed them about the same.

The police formed a team and busted the racket Sunday. According to the plan, some police officials followed the youth in civil dress and caught the accused duo during the transaction.

Police seized ₹41,200 in counterfeit currency notes, ₹72,000 in original ones, a car, three vehicle number plates and three mobile phones from the possession of the accused.

Similipal park reopens for tourists after seven months

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Baripada, Nov 1: The Similipal National Park was thrown open to visitors Sunday after remaining closed for more than seven months in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, officials said.

Amid strict adherence to the guidelines, 258 tourists entered the picturesque national park in 40 vehicles from two entry points on the first day, said AK Biswal, assistant conservator of forest of the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR).

While 175 tourists went inside the reserve in 25 vehicles through Pithabata, 83 visitors entered in 15 vehicles through the Kaliyani entry point, said Biswal, who along with STR staff greeted the visitors with roses at the entry gates.

"The visitors were enthusiastic. The vehicles, passengers and their belongings were scanned at the entry and exit points. The footfall is likely to increase," he said.

Long queues of visitors were seen both at Pithabata near Baripada and Kaliyani near Jashipur since morning for obtaining permission to enter the reserve.

The permit to enter the park through these two points were issued from 6-9 am. Each vehicle was required to have a tour guide.

175 tourists went inside the reserve in 25 vehicles through Pithabata, 83 visitors entered at Kaliyani entry point

All the visitors were asked to wear face masks, use sanitisers and strictly adhere to COVID-19 protocols, including social distance during their visit, Biswal added.

The Similipal National Park, a top tiger reserve in the country, attracts thousands of tourists each year.

The authorities have made additional arrangements for the night stay of the visitors with prior booking at Barehipani, Kumari, Gudugudia, Ramatirtha, and Januani inside the sanctuary area.

The visiting day tourists are directed to come out of the Barehipani and Joranda waterfall sights by 3 pm and Chahala by 4 pm. All day tourists are required to leave the sanctuary area by 5 pm, the official said.

The visitors who intend to stay overnight can make their reservations at www.ecotouridisha.com, the official said.



CURBING CHILD MARRIAGES



Koraput district administration has successfully conducted Aparajita, an awareness drive against child marriages. The Women and Child Development department honours Collector Madhusudan Mishra and CDPO Sushama Mohapatra through videoconferencing Sunday

OP PHOTO

Olive ridley conservation: State imposes 7-month fishing ban

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kendrapara, Nov 1: To ensure the safety of Olive Ridley turtles during their breeding and mating season, the state government Sunday clamped a seven-month prohibition on sea fishing activity within 20 km of the coast at the river mouths of Dhamara, Devi and Rusikulya.

A blanket ban on sea-fishing remains enforced round-the-year in Gahirmatha coast, which is acclaimed as the largest habitation corridors of these endangered marine species. Besides, it has been conferred the status of marine sanctuary in view of turtles congregation.

The sole objective of annual measures, that would remain effective till May 31, is to ensure the safety of marine animals during their breeding and mating season, said forest officials, adding that the ban has been clamped in ac-

cordance with Sections 2, 7 and 4 of Orissa Marine Fishing Regulation Act (OMFRA), 1982 and provisions of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

The fishing ban has been imposed along a specified coast of the sea comprising sea turtle congregation area and their buffer zones at the river mouths of Dhamara, Devi and Rusikulya.

The prohibition of this nature has been clamped as the turtles perish in larger numbers either by getting entangled in fishing nets or hit by fishing trawler 'proppers'. It will be a multi-layered patrolling exercise involving the forest, fisheries and marine police besides the coast guard personnel. To ensure effective patrolling, 61 on-shore camps and five off-shore camps have been set up. The armed police constabulary force will flank the forest and fisheries patrolling teams.

"To ensure the safety of turtles,



The fishing ban has been imposed along a specified coast of the sea comprising sea turtle congregation area and their buffer zones at the river mouths of Dhamara, Devi and Rusikulya

the prohibitory orders are being strictly enforced. The trawler operators have been cautioned not

to venture into prohibited water zones. Any act of trespass would invite punitive measures," said

Divisional Forest Officer, Rajnagar Mangrove (wildlife) Forest Division, Bikash Ranjan Dash.

Around 10,666 fishermen families will be affected following the fishing ban. Therefore, to compensate for the loss of income avenues, the state government has decided to extend one-time livelihood assistance of ₹7,500 to the affected fishermen families.

Around 7.30 lakh Olive Ridley turtles had turned up for their annual sojourn for mass nesting in the 2019-20 nesting season. The female turtles had emerged from the sea to crawl on to the serene beach, dig pits to lay millions of eggs.

The female turtles virtually invade the nesting beaches usually at the dead of the night for laying eggs, the phenomenon otherwise described as 'arribada'. After indulgence in instinctive egg-laying, the turtles leave the nesting ground to stride into the deep sea water. Hatchlings emerge from these eggs after 45-60 days. It is a rare natural phenomenon where the babies grow without their mother.

Five arrested for IPL betting in Sambalpur

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Nov 1: Police arrested five persons from different places in Sambalpur district for their involvement in betting on IPL matches Saturday night.

The police also seized five mobile phones and ₹15,150 from the accused.

The arrested men were identified as Somnath Ghosh (38) of Durgapali, Rakesh Nakhatia (28) of Mungapada, Binod Soren (32) of Sakhapada, Vikash Rout (25) of Sunapali, and Babul Pradhan (30) of Tanlapada.

The accused were luring people into betting game. A case was registered against them.

Locals said, as betting cases are on the rise during the ongoing IPL season, police need to intensify raids in the areas to put curbs on such illegal activities that are financially bleeding people.



Forward, forever forward! at the end of the tunnel is the light...at the end of the fight is the victory.

THE MOTHER



Educate before testing

As coronavirus wreaked havoc across Europe early this year, two French doctors' suggestion that Africans could be used as human guinea pigs for testing vaccine against COVID-19 drew widespread condemnation.

The 'deeply racist' comments produced angry reactions not only from the World Health Organization (WHO) but also from two legendary African footballers Didier Drogba and Samuel Eto'o. One of the doctors later issued an apology.

Since the WHO declared the virus a global health emergency and rated COVID-19's global risk of spread and impact as very high, the race to find a safe and effective vaccine has been unprecedented.

As the pressing need for mass vaccination assumed the centre-stage, India emerged as a frontrunner in its pursuit. A number of vaccines are at various stages of human trial in the country.

While it's important to find a vaccine for the deadly disease which has cost more than 1,200,000 lives so far, question may arise whether Indians could be used as guinea pigs in testing of the vaccine against the virus.

If the past experiences of similar clinical trials are anything to go by, this cannot be ruled out.

Since India relaxed its laws governing drug trials in 2005, foreign drug companies have been taking advantage of the country's pool of educated, English-speaking doctors and the huge population from which to choose trial subjects.

More often than not giant multinational pharmaceutical companies enrol an Indian partner for the production of the vaccine to take advantage of the Indian firm's abilities to produce these doses on a mass scale. This production of vaccines in India is found to be inexpensive and competitive. But several research organisations that these Indian firms commission for the purpose often involve the unscrupulous practice of choosing the poor, illiterate people who do not understand the meaning of clinical drug trials. It's one thing to administer the vaccine on a volunteer but it's an entirely different thing to do it on a person who is completely ignorant of the consequences. The basic premise of a clinical trial is that a subject should participate voluntarily and since this is not done with the largely poor people on whom the trials are conducted, they are continuing to be done unethically.

The contract research organisations which conduct most of the trials also take advantage of the weak regulation by not doing trials properly, saving time and money for the pharma companies, often leading to adverse effects on those undergoing the trials.

Since companies worldwide are rushing through clinical studies to deliver the inoculation, vaccine development that normally takes as long as a decade to complete is now being compressed to less than a year by drug makers.

Russia, for instance, has approved its coronavirus vaccine, dubbed Sputnik V, before the final stage of human testing is completed, raising safety concerns. Interestingly, the government of India has expressed its desire to use this Russian vaccine on its citizens.

Though no serious malpractice has been detected in the vaccine trial in India so far, if past experiences of conducting such clinical trials are any indication, India must not risk the lives of its people and it should not rule out any wrongdoings. Admittedly, it is impossible to check the efficacy of a vaccine without potential trial participants but subjecting unsuspecting Indians to a trial without full knowledge and consent is illegal and inhuman.

WISDOM CORNER

- In individuals, insanity is rare; but in groups, parties, nations and epochs, it is the rule. **FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE**
- All differences in this world are of degree, and not of kind, because oneness is the secret of everything. **SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**
- People sacrifice the present for the future. But life is available only in the present. That is why we should walk in such a way that every step can bring us to the here and the now. **THICH NHAT HANH**

WORDSWORTH

Upsidaisy

There are lots of forms of this expression: upsidaisy, upsa-daisy, upsy-daisy, and oops-a-daisy, variously hyphenated on the rare occasions they turn up in print. These days, it's just a nonsense word. It's said to a child as encouragement to get up again after falling over, or when somebody is picking it up. Though the one thing most versions have in common is a reference to a daisy, a flower is not involved. The common origin of all of these is up-a-daisy, dating from the early eighteenth-century. An even earlier version is the English dialect up-a-day. This is just as nonsensical a phrase, but it does show that the final part of the modern expression is actually a corruption of day. Its history is closely bound up with lackadaisical, which started out as the cry alack-a-day!, "shame or reproach to the day!" (that it should have brought this upon me), but which by the eighteenth century had turned into lackadaisy. Alack-a-day! was once a passionate and heartfelt cry, but it degenerated over time into a flabby exclamation of unease over some minor upset. It seems to have provided the model for up-a-day, originally a dialect term that eventually made it back into mainstream English, albeit in modulated and variable form.

Upsizing

This word has turned up on occasion in recent years in the computing field, where it is used as the opposite of the much more common downsizing with the sense: "(the action of) replacing a smaller system with a larger one, especially one with networking capabilities" (or, as some wags have put it: "bringing the mainframe back from the dead"). It may be about to become a fashionable word in business, if we are to judge from an article in the Economist, which asked "Will upsizing be the next management fad?" and answered its own question with a qualified "yes". The word's root sense in this context is "increasing the size of an organisation (by hiring staff)", but — like downsizing — it has undertones of a formal policy forcefully pursued, perhaps for doctrinaire reasons. The management gurus argue that upsizing is the natural consequence of downsizing: companies which have shed surplus staff and returned to their core competencies are now beginning to recruit staff better suited to their new needs. Opponents of downsizing — and they are now many — say that upsizing is needed because businesses have reduced in size too vigorously and find they can't even carry out their core functions properly. The agent noun upsizer and the verb upsize are also used.

LOL

Accountant in Heaven

An accountant dies and goes to heaven (no, that's not the joke). St. Peter, of course, is there, looking through the files and asking a few quick questions. "What sort of accountant were you?" "Oh, I was a CPA," was the reply. "Name?" asks St. Peter. The accountant gives his name and St. Peter finds his file. "Oh yes, we've been expecting you. You've



reached your allotted time span."

The accountant says, "I don't get it. How can that be? I'm only 48 years old." St. Peter looks again at the file and says, "Well, that's impossible." "Why do you say that?" asks the accountant. "Well," says St. Peter, "we've been looking over your time sheets and the hours you've charged your clients. By our reckoning, you must be at least 93 years old!"

FOCUS GLOBALISATION

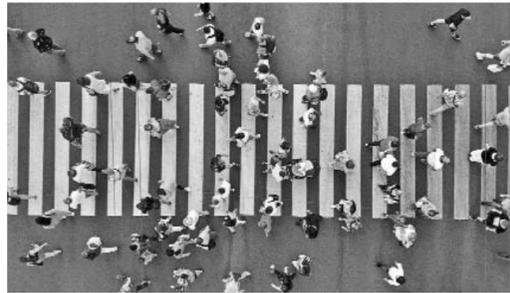
CAN HUMANITY GROW UP?

The COVID-19 pandemic underscores just how tightly interwoven humanity has become. A single infected animal somewhere in China set in motion a chain reaction with effects that, nearly a year later, are still reverberating in every corner of the planet.

This should not be particularly surprising. The history of pandemics tracks our unification as a species. The Black Death traveled on new trade routes forged between Europe and Asia in the Middle Ages. Smallpox crossed the Atlantic Ocean with the Europeans, devastating the Americas. And the 1918 influenza pandemic reached six continents in just months, owing to technological advances in moving goods and people. Each time humanity takes bold steps toward deeper integration, disease follows.

This has yielded profound benefits. We pool our knowledge, innovation, and technology. We share in the rich traditions of each other's cultures. We cooperate across vast distances, working together on projects too great for any individual, or country, to complete on their own — such as eradicating smallpox from the face of the Earth. But our interconnectedness also brings profound costs. We share not only our greatest knowledge and culture, but our greatest risks. We may go decades without seeing it, but our activities have a shadow-cost in risk that eventually comes due. And it is not limited to pandemics. Our newfound ability to share information across the world allows dangerous ideas — misinformation, warped ideologies, and hatred — to spread faster than any disease.

These challenges of an interconnected world require new approaches to ethics — new ways of understanding our plight and coordinating our response. Ethics is normally viewed from the perspective of the individual: what should I do? But sometimes we step back to take in a broader perspective, and think in terms of the obligations borne by societies or countries. And in recent centuries, we have begun to adopt a global perspective, asking how the world ought to respond to a pressing concern.



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These new perspectives are demanded by a changing world. Before we had civilization, it would rarely have made sense to think of responsibilities beyond our immediate ties. Only when we became more unified and started encountering truly global problems did we begin to consider our collective obligations to our planet and ourselves.

But now we need to go one step further. Alongside our deepening interconnections, there has also been a profound change in the sheer reach of our actions. With the advent of nuclear weapons, humanity's ever-increasing power over the world around us finally reached a point where we could destroy ourselves. We entered a world where we could threaten not only everyone alive today, but everyone who could follow, and everything they could achieve; where we could betray not only the trust of everyone alive today, but of the ten thousand generations who preceded us.

As our power continues to grow, so do the risks: from extreme climate change, to the coming biotechnologies that will allow for engineered pandemics with a lethality

and transmissibility beyond what nature has produced. Such threats to our entire future, whether via our extinction or an irrevocable collapse of civilization, are known as existential risks. How we address them will determine the fate of our species.

Meeting this challenge will require a radical reorientation in our thinking — seeing our generation as a small part of a much greater whole; a story that spans the eons. We will thus need to adopt not merely a global perspective, of everyone alive today, but the perspective of humanity itself — the hundred billion people who came before us, the nearly eight billion alive today, and the countless generations yet to be born. By adopting this ethical lens, we will have a better view of our crucial role in the larger story of our species.

Thinking in these terms can sometimes feel unnatural, because humanity is not a coherent agent. We have deep disagreements about what we ought to do, and we are constantly competing with one another. We struggle to act in concert even when it is obvious that we must. But this is true of all

collective agents, and it doesn't stop us from referring to a company's interests or a country's priorities. The point is not to deny the differences and sources of friction between human agents; it is to ask what we could accomplish if we act together, or what responsibilities we collectively bear.

Consider the whole of humanity in the terms of a single human life. The typical species survives for around one million years, and humanity is just 200,000 years old, putting us in our adolescence. This seems an especially apt comparison, for like the adolescent, we are seeing rapid developments in our strength, and in our ability to get ourselves in trouble. We are almost ready for the world, ready to explore the dizzying potential the future holds. Yet when it comes to risks, we can be impulsive and careless, seizing the short-term benefits but neglecting the long-term costs.

Within individual societies, we resolve these tensions by giving the young enough space to grow and flourish, while at the same time steering them away from dangers that they do not yet understand. Only gradually do we grant them the freedoms of adulthood, hoping that we've given them enough time and guidance to make wise and prudent choices — and to recognise that with freedom comes responsibility. Unfortunately, humanity does not have the luxury of a caring guardian. We are alone and will have to grow up fast.

Whether humanity survives this critical period is ultimately up to us. Because the greatest risks are not from nature, but from our own action, we can pull back from the brink if we choose. We can take a more mature attitude to our increasing interconnection and technological progress, setting aside some fraction of the benefits they bring to guard against the associated risks. Occasionally stepping back to adopt the perspective of humanity will let us see our predicament more clearly, providing the vision we need to guide us through.

The writer is a senior research fellow in philosophy at the University of Oxford.

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SPECTRUM LITERATURE

The lessons of Sun Tzu endure

The pandemic, no respecter of individuals or identities has laid low the human hubris. One way of reconciling to the situation of isolation and living in and out of lockdowns is to turn to books, because books are friends, books are community that see us through all vicissitudes of life. This is the time to look at the bookshelf, long ignored, with renewed interest and read the most unlikely of books we had passed over in busy circumscribed lives. One such book is the 'Art of War' written by Sun Tzu, the Chinese General, in 5th century BC. The book is revered today as a valuable treatise on military strategy and an important meditative commentary on war and peace. As relevant as when it was written it is studied as a compulsory text in major military schools. One of the earliest translations of the book is by Lionel Giles in the year 1910. His was the second translation of the book and a definitive one which includes a biography of Sun Tzu and the history of the text of 'The Art of War'. Sun Tzu was a native of Ch'i State and came to the notice of Ho Lu, King of Wu who had carefully perused the 13 chapters of his book,

was impressed with his strategy and appointed him his General.

There is much speculation on the actual existence of Sun Tzu and a biography of his life, as gathered from the various texts of Chinese scholars is wholly on conjecture and his text like our Upanishads, crowd sourced over the centuries. It is a composite text rather than the work of a single author. Sun Tzu can boast of an exceptionally long distinguished roll of commentators which would do honour to any classic. The legendary General may not have existed. But the lessons of Sun Tzu endure. The thirteen chapters in the book treat extensively the art of war through laying of plans for the campaigns of war to actual waging of the war through difficult conditions to securing victory through clever strategies and tactical decisions. Sun Tzu's precepts are clear: 'In Peace Prepare for War', 'In War Prepare for Peace'. 'The best strategy is one that delivers victory without fighting.' 'Winning a hundred wars in a hundred battles is not the best outcome. Best is to subdue the enemy's troops without ever engaging them on the battlefield.' Sun Tzu goes on to say

there should be no total preoccupation with war or peace but normally, to keep peace and not take to war unless driven by necessity. His sage advice to the conquerors is to treat the captured with kindness to augment their own strength.

One must understand the enemy, their plans, strengths, weaknesses, dispositions before leading the attack. Protracted wars drain resources and demoralise the forces. The physical terrain like deserts, rivers, hills, villages must be taken into careful account and the battlefield is a constant learning ground for refinements to campaigns, policies and procedures. While the Sovereign's function is to give broad instructions, the wartime commander is the important person to take crucial decisions in any war. He should be inspiring enough to secure the loyalty of his soldiers, have a keen understanding of the strategic placement of his personnel, and know whether to take the offensive or the defensive to gain victory. War is about concealment and deception. 'Let your plans be dark and impenetrable and when you move fall like a thunderbolt. Let your rapidity that of the wind, your compactness that of

the forest.' The services of spies are to be utilised to acquire foreknowledge of the foe because 'an army without spies is like a man without ears or eyes.' It is observed great generals like Alexander and Napoleon have achieved success in wars by largely adhering to similar principles as also in the more recent wars in Afghanistan and Middle East.

Nor is 'The Art of War' a dull account of mere warfare, it is a fascinating mixture of the poetic and the pragmatic. We can marvel at the language and image employed. 'The onrush of a conquering force is like the bursting of pent up waters into a chasm a thousand fathoms deep' or regarding the tactics of war he says they are 'inexhaustible as Heaven and Earth, unending as the flow of rivers and streams, like the sun and the moon they end but to begin anew; like the four seasons they pass away but to return soon.' Nor are Sun Tzu's strategies confined to the battlefield but can be equally applied to matters of business and governance and even the travails of daily living. Leadership lessons are many for those on whom it is incumbent upon to lead for greater results in every sphere.



Sudha Devi Nayak

NOR IS 'THE ART OF WAR' A DULL ACCOUNT OF MERE WARFARE, IT IS A FASCINATING MIXTURE OF THE POETIC AND THE PRAGMATIC

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

OrissaPOST

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Hail Sean Connery

Sir, The death of Sir Sean Connery at the ripe old age of 90 brings the curtains down on the best James Bond ever. The charismatic Scottish actor starred in seven Bond films, beginning with 'Dr No' (1962) and ending with 'Diamonds are Forever'. He was adept at comedy, adventure and drama and featured in many acclaimed films including 'The Hunt for Red October', 'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade', 'Murder on the Orient Express', 'The Wind and the Lion', 'The Man Who Would Be King' and 'The Rock'. Knighted in 2000 for his services to film and drama, Connery also bagged two Bafta awards and three Golden Globes. His death leaves English cinema much poorer.

NJ Ravi Chander, BANGALORE

Wedding bells ring again

Sir, Seven months after silence, the Kalyan Mandaps (marriage halls) in Orissa would come alive with the sounds of wedding bells. The sounds of traditional band and chanting of hymns would also reverberate in marriage halls. Guests in colourful attire add festive look to these mandaps that wore a desolated look since March third week due to the Covid lockdown. It took almost seven months for the Central government to relax rules especially for marriage halls as they were identified as a possible spreader of the virus. However, all marriages must be held as per SOPs issued by the Union Health Ministry. As per the guidelines, the manager of the mandap must ensure the strict implementation of safety norms like thermal scanning, providing hand sanitiser and maintaining physical distance, failing which case will be filed for negligence. Entry should be denied to those who fail to wear face masks. Even the bride and groom have to wear face masks no matter whether it suited their wedding attire. In the dining hall, only two chairs to be put instead of usual four chairs per table to maintain social distance. Buffets should only be held to prevent the people from sitting in close rows. Orchestra should not be allowed as precaution. Even guests are to be allowed to the dining hall in batches to avoid large congregation. It is learnt that some owners are offering discount ranging from 10 per cent to 30 per cent to woo people to book marriage halls following heavy losses suffered by them in the last seven months. They are optimistic of the business to pick up once the situation returns to normal.

K. Ravi, BHUBANESWAR



PM slams 'alliance of dynasts'

On the final day of campaigning, Modi dwelt at length on economic progress made in Bihar, and drew the contrast with the 'lantern age'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bagaha, Nov 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday blazed through the electoral battleground in Bihar mocking RJD's Tejashwi Yadav and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as "double yuvraj" (two crown princes) who stood for "jungle raj" and were pitted against the NDA's "double engine" growth which has pulled the state out of lantern age.

Firing on all cylinders on a day when campaign for 94 assembly segments going to polls in the second phase came to an end, Modi also touched upon contentious issues like Balakot air strike, Ayodhya, Article 370, Citizenship Amendment Act and the alleged anti-national slogans raised at JNU by pro-Left activists.

"One of the double yuvraj had forged an alliance in Uttar Pradesh a few years ago. He cross-crossed through the state wearing a black jacket, waving at crowds. The alliance was drubbed," said Modi referring to Rahul Gandhi, whom he did not mention by name.

Gandhi had entered into a belated alliance with Akhilesh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party in 2017 and held a joint campaign marked by roadshows with the catchphrase "UP ko ye saath pasand hai (UP likes this coalition)".

The BJP went on to register an unprecedented victory in the state.

"Beware, that yuvraj is now in Bihar, lending his support to 'jungle raj ke yuva yuvraj'. On the one hand, there is development brought



in by the double engine government of the NDA which has pulled Bihar out of the darkness of the lantern age.

"On the other there are these double-double yuvraj with the sole agenda of saving their thrones," Modi said referring to RJD's chief ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav and Rahul Gandhi.

At his final rally in Bagaha, a remote part of West Champaran district, the prime minister also appealed to voters of all those places in other parts of the country where by-polls will be held on November 3 and for which campaign ended this evening to vote in large numbers and help the NDA achieve victory.

By-polls are scheduled in, among other places, 28 assembly seats of BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh where a victory is crucial for the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government which was installed recently after the one led by Congress' Kamal Nath fell following defections by supporters of Jyotiraditya Scindia.

The prime minister dwelt at length on economic progress made in the country and Bihar in particular, and drew the contrast with the "lantern age" that prevailed during "jungle raj" an allusion to the RJD rule which faced allegations of abysmal law and order situation and lack of basic infrastructure like roads and electricity.

The prime minister who shared the stage with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, urged the voters to support the NDA's "double engine" a term he has been using to denote the advantages of having the same coalition ruling the Centre as well as the state. He also asked the people to shun the five-party Grand Alliance, of which RJD and Congress are the two largest constituents, "like food that has caused indigestion, vomiting and loose motions".

Modi also made an indirect reference to the controversial remarks made by Pakistan minister Fawad Chaudhry on the floor of the national assembly.

Detecting COVID traces via sewage

AGENCIES

Panaji, Nov 1: While the government is focusing on contact tracing and testing to gain control of the Covid-19 pandemic, Goa-based tech company Transerve Technologies said that analysing waste water for the coronavirus could help give a better picture of the extent of the pandemic in a specific location.

Transerve, a geospatial software technology provider, said using location intelligence and by mapping sewerage nodes, policy makers can detect early traces of Covid-19 and effectively utilise health care resources. "This surveillance model can not only be useful as an early warning sign for Covid-19, but also for future outbreaks as well," said co-founder and director of Transerve Technologies. "This model has been successfully implemented in detecting illegal drug use in Australia,



NOVEL APPROACH

Using location intelligence by mapping sewerage nodes, policy makers can detect early traces of Covid-19 and effectively utilise health care resources

To implement this measure, no infrastructure changes are required as all that is required is the tech platform and biological testing labs, which already exist

to eradicate polio in Israel, track salmonella outbreaks in Hawaii, to name a few."

The Panaji-based company's proprietary geospatial platform is being used in Uttar Pradesh across three urban local bodies to assist in revenue enhancements for the city. The company's mobile-based

SaniTab solution helps with scheduled desludging in Wai and Sinnar in Maharashtra with similar sanitation solutions being rolled out in Tamil Nadu.

"This process involves configuring optimal sampling from waste water and faecal sludge management (FSM) nodal collection points,

community aggregation points, and truck routes. These samples can be further collected at predefined intervals and shared for appropriate testing. Post the testing phase if any Covid positive result is received, the potential cluster will be flagged for necessary action," said co-founder Ashwani Rawat.

Congress to oppose rail doubling

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, Nov 1: The Congress will start a campaign opposing rail doubling and highway expansion plans in Goa as these are aimed at converting the coastal state into a coal hub, the party's state unit chief Girish Chodankar said Sunday.

He told PTI the campaign will be carried out under the #OnlyGoalSayNoToCoal hashtag, and corner meetings would be held to create awareness in people about the environmental damage the two projects would cause.

Rail doubling and expansion of the highway connecting Goa to

Karnataka are to help companies offloading coal at Mormugao Port in Vasco. The Congress has opposed such plans earlier and will continue to do so through this campaign, he said.

The South Western Railway (SWR) says that the double tracking project will, besides helping transport of ore and coal, also improve tourism potential for Hospet and Goa. The project is expected to provide temporary employment to 1.46 lakh people.

"The project will boost economic development and provide gainful employment avenues to Goans," an SWR official said. As a part of the



SWR's double tracking project, several stations along the Goa stretch

of the route will be redeveloped to have more platforms and new station buildings.

The SWR is also considering redeveloping the Chandor railway station, taking into consideration the historic importance of the place, sources said. "All this will have a spill-over effect on the local as well as the state's economy," an SWR spokesperson said.

While nearly 80% of the double tracking work on the Margao-Sanvordem stretch has been complete, railway sources said it has been planned to complete the Sanvordem-Kalay stretch between June and December 2021.

Goa Oppn slams govt order on docs' lodging



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, Nov 1: The Opposition parties have slammed Goa Administration over its order withdrawing government paid accommodation to the doctors deputed in state run COVID-19 hospitals.

Goa Association of Resident Doctors (GARD) Saturday had threatened to withdraw services of their members from various COVID-19 treatment facilities after State Administration asked them to vacate the accommodations provided to them near the place of their work.

Independent MLA Rohan Khaunte blamed Chief Minister Pramod Sawant for failing to stand by the Covid warriors and claimed that the bureaucracy was running the affair of the state.

Khaunte tweeted "absolute failure of clueless @GoaCM who's failed to stand by our Covid Warriors. Bureaucracy is running the show and harassing Doctors to evict accommodation

provided by the Govt."

"Is this how a CM and Govt thanks the state's Covid Warriors?" he questioned in another tweet.

Goa Forward Party's Vice President Durgadas Kamat in a tweet has said "the junior resident doctors are working diligently and are available on call 24x7 throughout during #covidpandemic. Despite irregular salaries they are doing their duties to serve the people of Goa. Providing them with accommodation is the least thing @GovtGoa can offer to them."

"Is this the way to treat #CovidWarriors Mr @DrPramodPSawant? It looks like you have completely lost it. There is no point in telling you! @Visrane kindly look into this," he added.

The resident doctors had threatened to strike Saturday after which State Health Minister Vishwajit Rane had intervene assuring them to provide the solution. Rane had told reporters that he had spoken to Chief Minister over the issue.

Ahead of Diwali, curbs on Narakasura effigies eased

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, Nov 1: The Corporation of City of Panaji (CCP) on Sunday relaxed some restrictions related to the effigies of demon king Narakasura that are set afire on the eve of Diwali.

As per the tradition, giant-size effigies of Narakasura are paraded and later burnt to mark the victory of good over evil.

According to mythology, the demon was killed by Lord Krishna for rescuing 16,000 women, whom he had held captive.

CCP Mayor Uday Madkaikar said the civic body had earlier decided to impose several restrictions, including no use of firecrackers and hosting of 'best effigy' competitions in view of the pandemic. It had also decided not to allow groups to burn effigies on the streets. But now we have decided to relax the ban on the use of sound system as well as the height restriction for the effigies of Narakasura in order to allow the youth to enjoy the festival, he said.

He said the youths have not been able to celebrate any festival ever since the COVID-19 outbreak earlier this year.

According to Madkaikar, the Narakasura effigies were restricted only to eight feet as per the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) released by the CCP last month.

But there was a demand to relax

certain curbs, so we have decided to allow these relaxations, he said.

The mayor said that Goa is opening up for tourists and the burning of Narakasura effigies is one of the tourist attractions in the state.

Narakasur Vadh marks the day on which Krishna slew the Asura

king Narakasura, rescued 16,000 women captured in his eastern capital of Pragjyotisha or Pragjyotishpur, and restored their honour. Marking the legend, giant effigies of Narakasur are erected, stuffed with firecrackers, and burnt at dawn.



MODI LYING ON PACKAGE: RJD

According to a RTI reply, Resources Division's Chief Public Information Officer Jagat Hazarika didn't have any information regarding the ₹1.25L crore central assistance for Bihar

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Patna, Nov 1: The opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) Sunday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "lying to the people" over a central package of ₹1.25 lakh crore for Bihar, claiming that an RTI reply had revealed that no such financial package was sanctioned. "The people of Bihar do not expect the Prime Minister to lie. He does not have the dignity needed for the Prime Minister's post," RJD Vice-President Shivanand Tiwari said while referring to a Right to Information (RTI) query filed by one Mohamad Iqbal Ansari April 4, 2017.

He claimed that the Financial Resources Division's Chief Public Information Officer Jagat Hazarika had replied to the RTI plea that they don't have any information regarding the issue.

Ansari had filed the RTI application in relation to a PMO press release of August 18, 2015 regarding the Prime Minister's ₹1.25,000-crore Bihar package sanctioned for the state that year.

"Following this, Ansari filed another RTI plea on May 29, 2019

with the state Finance Department, with its Joint Secretary-cum Public Information Officer maintained that there was no such plan related to the Prime Minister's Bihar package of 2015. The Finance Department has not received any such financial package sanctioned by the Centre," Tiwari said.

"Prime Minister Modi, BJP President JP Nadda and many other NDA leaders make claims about the Bihar package... if the Prime Minister's package sanctioned in 2015 did not reach Bihar till May 2019, how can they make claims about it. They are lying to the public, and making false promises to woo the voters. We have documents to prove that they are telling a lie. What more proof is needed now after the RTI?" the RJD leader contended.

"Modi addressed a public rally in Chhapra. He did not talk about the real issues of Bihar," Tiwari added.

He said that while Tejashwi Yadav had pointed out to massive unemployment in Bihar in the last 15 years, Modi did not utter a word on joblessness. "He had promised 2 crore jobs every year before the 2014 Lok Sabha elections but did not fulfil any promise."

The people of Bihar do not expect the PM to lie. He does not have the dignity needed for the post

SHIVANAND TIWARI | VICE-PRESIDENT, RJD

A subplot in fight for Parsa: Tej's troubled marriage

The marital dispute between Lalu Prasad's elder son and Aishwarya Rai, a daughter of Chandrika Roy, has its shadow in the poll battle

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Parsa (Bihar), Nov 1: More than the electoral battle, the Parsa assembly segment in Saran district is witnessing a fight playing out between the families of two Yadav giants of Bihar politics - Lalu Prasad and Chandrika Roy.

The marital dispute between Prasad's elder son Tej Pratap Yadav and Aishwarya Rai, a daughter of Chandrika Roy, has its shadow in the poll battle on this seat which votes November 3.

Located in the Saran district, Parsa assembly constituency forms a part of Chapra Lok Sabha seat, which the RJD supreme has represented four times.

Emerging motivated after the 1974 JP movement, Prasad had taken a plunge in the electoral politics in 1977, winning the Chapra Lok Sabha seat at the age of 29.

A Yadav-dominated constituency, the Parsa seat, besides the electoral fight, is also dominated by talks on the bad marriage between Tej Pratap and Aishwarya.

Within six months of tying the nuptial knot in May 2018, their conjugal relationship hit the bottleneck and the dispute is now pending with a Patna family court.

Roy and his family are canvassing against RJD candidate Chhote Lal Rai by telling the people in the constituency about the alleged "ill-treatment" meted out to Aishwarya by Prasad's family and asking voters to deliver "justice".

Tej Pratap himself is contesting from Hasanpur seat.

Chandrika Roy, who has represented Parsa six times as an RJD leader, bade goodbye to the party in the wake of the marital dispute and joined the Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's JD(U), which has fielded



him from the seat.

Chhote Lal himself was hoping a JD(U) ticket, but after the ruling party's snub, he crossed over to the RJD and is now challenging his old rival on the seat.

As a JD(U) nominee, Chhote Lal had defeated Chandrika Roy, the son of former chief minister Daroga Prasad Rai, in 2005 as well as in 2010. But in 2015, when the JD (U) and the RJD fought as allies, Parsa

was given to Lalu Prasad's party in the seat-sharing arrangement and its nominees Chandrika Roy emerged victorious.

Parsa is considered a bastion of Roy's family, whose father Daroga Prasad Rai represented it seven terms since the first assembly polls in Independent India in 1951. Chandrika Roy took over the seat after the death of his father and has won it six times since 1985.

The marital discord between the two families has been a raging topic in the constituency, though the RJD nominee is trying to underplay it.

Chandrika Roy and Aishwarya talked openly on the topic at a recent rally of Chief Minister Kumar in Parsa and sought "justice" from the people.

The chief minister also raked up the matter and attacked his bete noire Lalu Prasad for "mistreating a well-educated girl".





The condition of farmers in the country is known to everyone. We read news of farmer suicides every day. In a way, it is happening on such a scale that the country has accepted it

RAHUL GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

NEW CHALLENGE

One thousand volunteers have been invited to enrol at the Aligarh Muslim University medical college to participate in the clinical trials for Covaxine that will begin from November 14 and continue till the end of January



of the day quote

There will be problem in the society unless everyone is equal before the law. A fugitive of the law is also a fugitive of the society



JAGDEEP THAKUR | WEST BENGAL GOVERNOR

Any attempt to unilaterally change the status quo of the Line of Actual Control is unacceptable and that the agreements between two countries must be respected scrupulously in their entirety to restore normalcy in ties



S JAISHANKAR | EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

I have neither been parachuted nor have I come up through lift. I have come up the hard way. Those who were inducted into the party by me are now conspiring against me



SUVENDU ADHIKARI | WEST BENGAL MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Two FIRs lodged

Munger: Two separate FIRs were lodged in Bihar Sunday in connection with the violence that took place in Munger during immersion of a Durga idol which left one person dead and several injured, a police officer said. After the police lodged an FIR against law enforcers involved in an unwanted and unauthorised lathicharge on devotees, Amarnath Poddar filed an FIR in connection with the "killing" of his son during the violence, he said. The FIR by the police has been lodged with Kotwali police station on the basis of video showing policemen baton-charging devotees on Monday night, which has gone viral on social media, the officer said.

Body found

Kalyani: The body of a 34-year-old man was found hanging from a tree near his house in West Bengal's Nadia district Sunday, police said. The BJP claimed that Bijoy Sil, a resident of Gayeshpur, was their member and killed by goons owing allegiance to the Trinamool Congress, a charge dismissed by the state's ruling party.

Cannabis seized

Kolkata: Over 12 kg of cannabis was seized from a car at Regent Park area in the southern part of Kolkata, police said. Acting on a tip-off, policemen intercepted a car on Brickfield Road and recovered 12.5 kg of cannabis hidden below the seats.

Brothers end life

Raigarh: Two brothers allegedly committed suicide in Kelo Vihar colony in Chhattisgarh's Raigarh district, police said Sunday. Avinash Choudhary (32) and Harekrishna Choudhary (22) were found hanging from the ceiling of a room in their house on Saturday evening, an official said.

Narrow escape

Mumbai: Former Maharashtra minister and NCP leader Eknath Khadse had a close shave after one of the tyres of his vehicle burst Sunday evening in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra, a police official said. Nobody was injured in the incident, he said. "The incident happened when Khadse was on his way to Jalgaon from Amalner in the district after attending the inauguration of a newly-built quarter for police officials and a police station in Amalner at the hands of state Home Minister Anil Deshmukh," the official said. "A tyre of the car in which Khadse was travelling burst. But his driver controlled the vehicle well, due to which nobody was injured," he added.

'HUGE SUCCESS'

HIZBUL CHIEF SHOT DEAD

Saifullah, who had taken command of the outfit after the killing of Riyaz Naikoo in May this year, was one of the most wanted militants in the Kashmir Valley and involved in several attacks on the security forces, an official said



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 1: Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) chief Dr Saifullah was killed in an encounter on the outskirts of the city Sunday, police said, describing it as a huge success for the security forces.

Saifullah, who had taken command of the outfit after the killing of Riyaz Naikoo in May this year, was one of the most wanted militants in the Kashmir Valley and involved in several attacks on the security forces, an official said.

"This is a huge success for the police and security forces. This is not a small achievement," Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said at the encounter site.

Recounting the events of the morning, an official said security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Rangreth area near the old airfield following specific information about the presence of militants there. As the forces were conducting searches in the area, the militants fired. The forces retaliated,

resulting in the encounter. A militant was killed in the exchange of fire, the official said, identifying him as Saifullah.

Incriminating material, including arms and ammunition, were recovered from the encounter site, he added. Addressing reporters near the encounter site, IGP Kumar said they had received information that Saifullah had come here from south Kashmir and was hiding in a house.

"So the security forces cordoned off the area and an operation was launched. In the exchange of firing, one militant was killed. According to our source, we are 95 per cent sure he is Dr Saifullah. We are retrieving the body and it will be identified," Kumar added.

Kumar said the network of J-K Police has become stronger and police get information about any militant entering the city. Asked whether any other militant was apprehended alive from the encounter site, he said a suspect has been taken into custody and is being questioned.

UP DIST CONG CHIEF THRASHED

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Jalaun (Uttar Pradesh), Nov 1: The Congress district president in Jalaun was beaten up by two women who claimed that they were being stalked and harassed by the man.

Videos of the Congress leader being slapped and hit with slippers by the women went viral on the social media on Sunday, along with a photograph of the accused, Anuj Mishra, with Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

The incident took place on Saturday on Station Road in Oraon. The two women, Maya and Varsha, said that the Congress leader had been frequently calling them up and harassing them.

They said that they had contacted UPCC president Ajay Kumar Lallu but he did not take any action against his party leader. "We also informed the police but no action was taken. With no option left, we called Mishra here and publicly beat him up. What else could we do," the women said.

Woman found dead

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Palghar, Nov 1: A 26-year-old tribal woman, who went missing from a hospital on October 10 after delivering twin girls, has been found hanging in Maharashtra's Palghar district, police said Sunday.

The decomposed body of the woman was spotted hanging from a tree at a forest in Jawhar taluka by some locals on Friday and they alerted the police. Her relatives identified the skeletal remains through her 'mangalsutra' and saree, police inspector Appasabhe Langare said. Jaiashree Barkya Pawar disappeared from the government-run Patangshah Cottage Hospital in Jawhar on the night of October 10.

POLICE ACADEMY SYLLABUS MAY INCLUDE BIKRU CASE

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Lucknow, Nov 1: The Yogi Adityanath government is planning to include the much-publicised Bikru massacre in the syllabus of police academies in the state.

The massacre carried out by gangster Vikas Dubey and his men on July 3 in Kanpur will be taught as a lesson for policemen along with some other important criminal cases. According to a senior police official, a committee set up to improve the training and syllabus of IPS and PPS officers has suggested that the Vikas Dubey case be included in the curriculum.

The committee has suggested that the new batches of IPS and PPS officers should be taught the nuances of policing so that they do not repeat the mistakes made in the past.

"The raid on the house of Vikas Dubey has revealed certain weaknesses of the local police which led to the death of eight police per-

India slams Pak's Gilgit-Baltistan move

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi/Islamabad, Nov 1: The Centre has asked Pakistan to immediately vacate from the Indian territory of Gilgit-Baltistan which the Imran Khan government declared as its provisional fifth province Sunday.

Prime Minister Imran Khan Sunday announced that his government has decided to grant the "provisional-provincial status" to Gilgit-Baltistan, a part of the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, illegally occupied by Pakistan in 1947.

In a statement issued in New Delhi by the Ministry of External Affairs, spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said: "The Government of India firmly rejects the attempt by Pakistan to bring material changes to a part of Indian territory, under its illegal and forcible occupation."

The government reiterated that the Union Territories of Jammu



and Kashmir and Ladakh, including the area of so-called "Gilgit-Baltistan", are an integral part of India by virtue of the legal, complete and irrevocable accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Union of India in 1947.

Srivastava said that the Pakistan government has "no locus standi on territories illegally and forcibly occupied" by it. Such attempts by Pakistan, intended to camouflage its illegal occupation, cannot hide the grave human rights violations, exploitation and denial of freedom for over seven decades to

the people residing in these Pakistan occupied territories, he added.

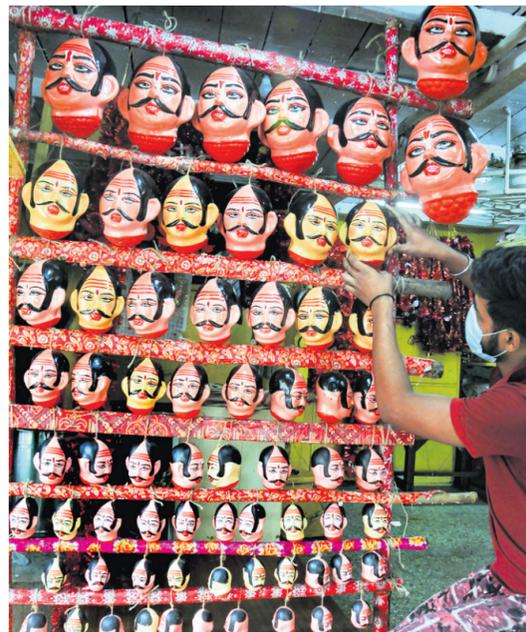
The spokesperson said that instead of seeking to alter the status of these Indian territories, Indian government calls upon Pakistan to immediately vacate all areas under its illegal occupation.

Earlier, Prime Minister Imran Khan during his visit to Gilgit-Baltistan on Sunday said that he had decided to give the provisional province status to the region "keeping in mind the UN Security Council's resolutions."

In a statement issued by the MEA, spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said: "The Government of India firmly rejects the attempt by Pakistan to bring material changes to a part of Indian territory, under its illegal and forcible occupation"

"The Khan government is also holding elections in the region, where many activists have called it a Pakistani Army's fraud to grab and further occupy Gilgit-Baltistan. Backed by the Pakistani Army, Prime Minister Khan on the occasion did not miss the opportunity to praise the military, which is facing stiff challenge from the political opposition headed by former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

GEARING UP



A shopkeeper arranges various items put up for sale ahead of Kali Puja, at Kumartuli in Kolkata, Sunday

Youth slits girl's throat

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Visakhapatnam, Nov 1: A 17-year-old girl was brutally killed by a youth who slit her throat with a knife on a crowded street in this coastal city on Saturday night.

The youth resorted to the attack following a heated argument with her. The accused was apparently angry over the girl rejecting his advances. Varalakshmi, a student of 12th standard, died of excessive bleeding, police said.

The police have arrested Akhil, a law student, who killed the girl after calling her near Saibaba temple at Sundarayya Colony in Gajuwaka area. The accused, who fled after the attack, was later arrested by the police.

The police are on lookout for another youth who allegedly helped Akhil in the attack.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Sunday announced ₹10 lakh ex-gratia to the family of the victim.

Taking a serious note of the incident, he directed the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police and the Intelligence chief to take serious action against the accused.

The youth resorted to the attack following a heated argument with her. The accused was apparently angry over the girl rejecting his advances

Reddy directed state home Minister Mekathoti Sucharita, Disha special officers Krutika Shukla and Deepika Patil to immediately visit the family of the victim to offer deep condolences.

The Chief Minister said that awareness should be created among women so that every woman download Disha app for their safety.

Especially, efforts should be made to educate school and college girls to compulsorily download the app, he said. Reddy directed the officials to take stern action against perpetrators of atrocities against women. He asked the officials to take immediate action as and when they get a distress call from any woman claiming threat to her life.

Amarinder sounds alarm

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Nov 1: Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh Sunday wrote to BJP president J P Nadda expressing concern over the continued suspension of goods trains by the railways and warned of its dangerous consequence on national security and on the armed forces.

He said the situation could become extremely dangerous for the country if the armed forces are deprived of critical supplies, amid increasingly aggressive overtures from both China and Pakistan.

Singh, in an open letter to Nadda, said that despite easing of the blockade by farmers agitating against the farm bills the suspension on goods train continued and he called for collective will and statesmanship to resolve the "festering imbroglio".

Singh warned that the armed forces were likely to be badly affected with the onset of winter, as they could run out of supplies and other requisites once the snowfall blocks the roads to Ladakh and the Valley.

"These are dangers that neither the central government nor any po-



litical party, including the BJP, can choose to ignore," he said, adding that "the onus lies on all of us... We need to all liaise together, with the common goal of solving the contentious issue, in the interest of the country."

Even Punjab could become more vulnerable to security threats from Pakistan, if the current crisis around farmers is not resolved at the earliest, he warned, noting that ISI-backed terror groups were perpetually looking at exploiting any unrest in the state.

The Chief Minister stressed

that this was neither the time nor the occasion to indulge in political confrontation or allegations and counter allegations. "What is needed at this critical moment is for all of us to put aside any temptations we may be harbouring to promote our political interests," he said, adding that it is "time for all of us to rise above political considerations and to respond as statesmen to a situation that threatens to spiral irrevocably out of control, if immediate steps are not taken to stem the tide".

Referring to the losses caused in Punjab due to the prolonged blockade, the chief minister said every day of suspension of goods trains meant critical losses to the industry, agriculture and overall economy, in view of critical shortages of power (coal), urea and DAP stocks.

The Chief Minister termed as distressing the recent remarks of some BJP leaders on the prevailing crisis situation, taking specific note of the statements of BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh and Punjab BJP president Ashwani Sharma.

'Vote for hand symbol': Jyotiraditya's faux pas at rally

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhopal, Nov 1: In a slip of the tongue, BJP Rajya Sabha member Jyotiraditya Scindia asked people to vote for his former party Congress during a campaign for the November 3 by-elections in Madhya Pradesh.

A video, in which Scindia is seen seeking votes for the Congress during a rally Saturday in favour of BJP candidate Imarti Devi from Dabra town in Gwalior, has gone viral on social media. In the video, Scindia is heard saying, "My people of Dabra, raise your hand and make your fist to convince (state chief minister) Shivraj Singh and me, make us believe that you will press



the 'hand' button on November 3." However, the BJP leader immediately amended his sentence and ap-

pealed to people to vote for the 'kamal' (lotus) symbol of the saffron party. Taking a dig at the goof-up, the

A video, in which Scindia is seen seeking votes for the Congress during a rally Saturday in favour of BJP candidate Imarti Devi from Dabra town in Gwalior, has gone viral on social media

(Congress's symbol) on November 3." When contacted, state BJP spokesman Pankaj Chaturvedi said that such a goof-up can happen by any person. "It was a simple slip of the tongue and this can happen with anybody. Scindia immediately rectified. Everybody knows that he is a BJP leader," he said.

Scindia, 49, had joined Congress in 2002. After 18 years, he quit the party in March this year. As many as 22 MP Congress MLAs loyal to him also resigned, which brought down the Kamal Nath-led state government. Later, Scindia and his loyalists joined the BJP. Bypolls to a total of 28 seats in the state will be held November 3.



Who said BJP cannot be defeated? Opposition parties must believe that they can defeat the BJP. I hope this will be proved in Bihar

WAR AGAINST VIRUS

As schools are poised to reopen in Andhra Pradesh from Monday, Education Minister Adimulapu Suresh said the state government has created an app to monitor that all schools are adhering to the Coronavirus Standard Operating Procedures



of the day quote

Owing to the aggressive campaign by the Delhi government this year, no dengue-related death has been reported in the national capital. Delhi has again defeated dengue this year

The government has been making policies and designing programmes to improve the quality of life of people and fast-track India's development

An appeal is to the voters to make the BSP candidates successful, so that the right political message goes to the rivals, and it would be better

Now, Haryana mulls law against 'love jihad'

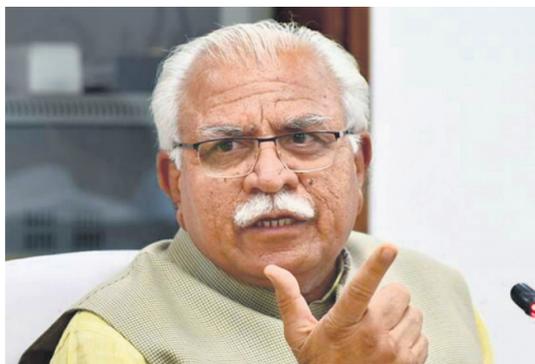
EARLIER IN THE DAY, HARYANA HOME MINISTER ANIL VIJ TWEETED THE STATE GOVERNMENT "IS CONTEMPLATING A LAW AGAINST LOVE JIHAD"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Nov 1: A day after Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced his government would bring a law against "love jihad", his Haryana counterpart M L Khattar said his government is also considering legal provisions against it to ensure "the guilty cannot escape".

Citing the recent murder of a student in Faridabad's Ballabgarh, Khattar said the incident is being linked to "love jihad", a derogatory coinage used by right-wing activists to refer to the alleged campaign of Muslims forcing Hindu girls to convert in the guise of love.

Earlier in the day Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij tweeted the state government "is contemplating a law against love jihad". Speaking to reporters in Karnal, Khattar said, "This (Ballabgarh) incident needs to be strongly condemned. This incident is being seen linked with the love jihad issue... both the Centre and the state government is taking the



love jihad issue very seriously." "The Centre and the state government are looking into this issue and legal advice is being taken so that such incidents are not repeated. Legal provisions are being contemplated so that the guilty cannot escape and no innocent person is punished," he said. Last week, a 21-year-old college

student, Nikita, was shot dead in Ballabgarh by a man. The victim's family has alleged that the man was pressuring her to convert to Islam in order to marry him. Some Hindu outfits have alleged that the woman's murder is a case of "love jihad".

On Saturday, Adityanath had said his government would come out

with a law to deal with "love jihad" and used the Hindu funeral chant 'Ram Naam Satya Hai' to threaten those who don't respect their daughters and sisters.

He said posters would be put up of those involved in "love jihad". Addressing election rallies in Uttar Pradesh's Jaunpur and Deoria, Adityanath also welcomed the Allahabad High Court ruling declaring that conversion for the sole purpose of marriage is not valid. Vij told reporters in Ambala what Adityanath said on "love jihad" was right.

"To save daughters, it is necessary to deal with love jihad. We need to take steps to deal with love jihad," he said on Sunday. A 'Mahapanchayat' was organised by various social organisations in Ballabgarh on Sunday to demand justice for Nikita. The Haryana government has set up a three-member Special Investigation Team to probe the case. The police have arrested three men in the case including the main accused, Tausif.

Man held for leaking Army's secret info

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Jaipur, Nov 1: Rajasthan police, based on intelligence inputs provided by the Military Intelligence (MI) Jaipur, have arrested a civil defence employee of the Military Engineering Services (MES) in Rajasthan's Niwaru on charges of working as an "espionage agent" for a Pakistani intelligence agency.

It was reported in September this year that the MI Jaipur learnt about an "espionage agent" in Niwaru, who was passing military-related information to his handlers in Pakistan. The individual was identified as Ramniwas Gaura, 28, a civil motor driver working with the MES.

It was learnt that Gaura was in contact with one Pakistan Intelligence Operator (PIO) namely Ekta @Jasmeet Kour through Facebook and WhatsApp. During his two years of contact with the PIO, he shared the information about units and formations at Niwaru and Jaipur as also information about various offices and personnel in these two places. The case details were shared



with the police headquarters in Jaipur, following which and a joint operation was planned to apprehend Gaura. A joint team of Jaipur Police Intelligence and MI Jaipur was formed, and all the findings were analysed again.

Further details were acquired and conclusive evidence was gathered. Gaura was eventually detained on Friday. During questioning, he reportedly confessed that he had received a friend request from the PIO's Facebook profile, "Ekta", in February/March 2020, and accepted it.

They soon became "very friendly", shared their WhatsApp numbers with each other and started chatting, apart from interacting over audio/video calls. The PIO used to use an Indian WhatsApp number.

SHORT TAKES

One dies in bridge collapse

Imphal: One person was killed after a bailey bridge over Barak river in Manipur's Tamenglong district collapsed Sunday when a sand-laden truck was passing through it, police said. The incident took place in Taobam village when the Irang bailey bridge caved in around 7 am, a senior officer said. "The bridge collapsed when a 10-wheeler truck carrying sand from Dimapur in Nagaland was passing through it. The vehicle, which was heading towards Imphal, fell into the river," he said.

196 arrested

Mumbai: Mumbai police arrested 196 people from a bar and a pub in suburban Andheri in the wee hours of Sunday for allegedly violating the lockdown guidelines, a police official said. Acting on information, the city police's social service branch raided the bar and the pub located in Sakinaka area of Andheri, he said. The police subsequently arrested 196 people, including 171 male and female customers, 19 workers, two owners of the facilities, three managers and a cashier, the official said.

Man held

Palghar: A 32-year-old man, who was on the run after allegedly cheating a Hyderabad-based jeweller of ₹39 lakh by supplying him fake gold, has been arrested in Maharashtra's Palghar district, police said on Sunday. Assistant police inspector Bhimesh Gaikwad said a four-member gang from neighbouring Mumbai had earlier befriended the jeweller and called him to the metropolis under the pretext of supply him one kg gold at cheaper rates. After gaining the jeweller's confidence, the gang allegedly took around ₹39 lakh from him and supplied him fake gold, he said.

Cop dies

Hyderabad: A 31-year-old Special Protection Force (SPF) constable on duty here died Sunday when his service weapon allegedly misfired, police said. The incident occurred at around 7 am when the constable was on sentry duty at a building housing the currency chest of a public sector bank in Ranigunj area, they said. The constable died on the spot when the Self Loading Rifle (SLR) allegedly went off accidentally and the bullet pierced his chin. Three other police personnel, who were inside the security post of the building, on hearing the gunshot came out and found him dead, they added.

TN agri minister succumbs to Covid

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Nov 1: Tamil Nadu Agriculture Minister R. Doraikkannu, a Covid-19 patient, has succumbed to Covid-19, said a senior official of Kauvery Hospital.

"With deep grief, we announce the sad demise of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, Thiru R. Doraikkannu on 31.10.2020 at 11.15 p.m.," said Aravindan Selvaraj, Executive Director in a statement issued here. Earlier on Saturday, Selvaraj had said Doraikkannu had suffered significant deterioration in vital functions and was extremely critical despite being on maximal life support.

The 72-year-old minister, elected from the Papanasam assembly constituency was admitted to the hospital on October 13 with seri-

ous breathlessness and tested Covid-19 positive.

"He has multiple comorbidities and the latest CT scan shows 90 per cent of lung involvement. He is currently on ECMO and Ventilator, receiving maximum support," Selvaraj had said on Saturday. On October 13 morning, Doraikkannu was taken to a hospital in Villupuram district after he complained of chest pain and breathing trouble. He complained of ill-health while he was travelling to Salem to pay homage to Chief Minister K. Palaniswami's mother who died on that day.

After his condition stabilised at the government hospital, Doraikkannu was sent to Kauvery Hospital here in an ambulance. Doraikkannu also held the post of Secretary, Thanjavur (North) District, AIADMK.

BIDDING ADIEU



A devotee immerses an idol of Goddess Laxmi in Ganga after offering prayers in Kolkata, Sunday

PTI PHOTO

27 NAXALS SURRENDER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Raipur, Nov 1: Twenty-seven Naxals, five of them carrying cash rewards on their heads, surrendered in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh Sunday, saying they were impressed by the police's rehabilitation drive and disappointed with the Maoist ideology, an official said.

The district police's campaign named 'Lon Varratu' (return to your home/village), launched in June this year for the rehabilitation of Naxals, is yielding positive results as 177 ultras have so far surrendered under it, he said.

"In the latest case, altogether 27 cadres, including six women, turned themselves in before senior police and CRPF officials at Barsoor police station in the district," Dantewada Superintendent of Police Abhishek Pallava said.

Of them, 11 cadres are natives of Gufa village, seven from Bedma, five from Mangnar, three from Hitawada and one from Handwada, he said without disclosing their identity citing security reasons.

These ultras were active as members of Dandakaranya Adivasi Kisan Mazdoor Sangthan (DAKMS), Krantikari Mahila Adivasi Sangthan (KAMS)- frontal wings of Maoists, Chetna Natya Mandli (CNM-cultural offshoot of Maoists) and jan- militia groups, Pallava said.

"All of them were allegedly involved in attacks on police teams, triggering IED blasts and putting up Maoist posters and banners. Five of them carried rewards of ₹1 lakh each on their heads," he said. In their statement they said, they were disappointed with the "hollow" Maoist ideology. They also said that the recent surrender by their colleagues as a part of 'Lon Varratu' campaign of local police also encouraged them to quit violence, he said.

Each of them was given immediate assistance of ₹10,000 and will be provided facilities further as per the government's surrender and rehabilitation policy, Pallava added.

Parents kill daughter in UP

The body of the unidentified young woman was found on the railway tracks near Alapur in Pratapgarh district October 25, said Nawabganj SHO Akhilesh Pratap Singh

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Pratapgarh (Uttar Pradesh), Nov 1: Parents of a 20-year-old woman in Uttar Pradesh axed her to death after they found her pregnant out of wedlock. Both have been arrested.

The body of the unidentified young woman was found on the railway tracks near Alapur in Pratapgarh district on October 25, said Nawabganj Station House Officer (SHO) Akhilesh Pratap Singh. The body was identified by the father of the deceased Kamlesh Kumar Yadav, a resident of



Kishundaspur village. He alleged that his daughter had been murdered and submitted a complaint to the police against an unidentified killer.

An FIR was registered at the Nawabganj police station. Investigations, however, revealed that the woman was pregnant at the time of her death.

The SHO said that Kamlesh Kumar Yadav and his wife Anita Devi were called in for questioning on Friday. During interrogation, the two said that on October 24, they had taken their daughter, who was unwell, for an ultrasound test

on the advice of a doctor. The test revealed that the daughter was six-month pregnant. They tried to find a doctor for getting an abortion done but could not succeed.

They repeatedly asked the daughter about the man with whom she was in relationship but she refused to divulge his name. The parents then took her to the railway tracks in the night near Alapur and murdered her. They threw the body on the tracks to make it appear like an accident or suicide. The SHO said that the axe used has also been recovered and the couple were sent to jail on Saturday.

Over 1 cr passengers denied train travel in 2019-20: RTI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 1: More than one crore passengers could not travel by trains despite buying tickets in 2019-2020 because of being waitlisted, a query filed under the RTI has found, indicating a shortage of trains on busy routes in the country.

The RTI reply has said in 2019-2020, a total of 84,61,204 Passenger Name Record (PNR) numbers, against which 1.25 crore passengers were scheduled to travel, were automatically cancelled due to being waitlisted.

The Railway Ministry has for the first time taken measures to reduce waitlisting for train travel with the introduction of private trains. The Railways has also introduced special 'clone trains' on the routes which generally have high passenger traffic. These trains have limited stoppages/halts and faster transit



time. They primarily have 3-tier AC coaches and will run ahead of the already operating special trains on the same route. The Advance Reservation Period (ARP) of these 'clone trains' is 10 days.

The waitlisting of passengers and the automatic cancellation of tickets have been a problem for the Railways over the years with the national transporter unable to meet the demands of its growing customers. After cancellation of PNRs, the ticket fare is refunded to the passengers.



Probe ordered

Alarmed over the busting of fake farmer beneficiaries of the Prime Minister's much touted PM-KISAN scheme, the Centre has ordered a nation-wide probe into the massive leakage of funds. The Centre has released more than ₹1 lakh crore into 11.07 crores farmers' accounts under the scheme. The Centre has asked state governments to verify their

genuineness. The Centre transfers ₹2,000 every four months into all eligible farmers' accounts. The massive scam surfaced in Tamil Nadu. Top government officials in the Agriculture Ministry said that "some unscrupulous elements had misused the login-id and password credentials of district officials under the scheme for bulk booking of ineligible persons". The Union Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar admitted that large scale bungling had taken place in the PM-KISAN scheme in Tamil Nadu. The probe revealed that out of 5.95 lakh beneficiaries accounts verified till September 15, 2020, 5.38 lakh were ineligible. The services of 96 contractual staff were terminated, 52 persons including contractual staff were arrested and a large number of FIRs registered.

EC helpless

The Election Commission's latest directive asking political parties in Bihar to inform voters why it chose to field candidates with criminal background seems to have gone for a toss. Of the 100 political parties in fray in Bihar for 243 seats, only six have complied with the directive. Other parties have not informed the EC so far. However, most political parties have given strange explanations and competed with each other in fielding "Bahubalis" in poll fray. The EC is now contemplating to issue notice to those parties. The Election Commission had issued the directive in the wake of the Supreme Court order in February this year that parties must explain why they fielded criminals during elections.

Modi picks new CIC

After months of delay, the government finally chose new Chief Information Commissioner. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, a former officer of the Foreign Service, is set to be the new Chief Information Commissioner (CIC). A high-powered panel headed by the Prime Minister cleared Sinha's name for the top post. The panel also cleared the names of five other Information Commissioners. More than half of the vacancies had arisen in the CIC and there was a huge backlog.

2 BJP CMs under lens

At least two Chief Ministers of BJP-ruled states are in the eye of a storm, though for different reasons. The future of both the Chief Ministers has become

uncertain as party high command is flooded with a large number of adverse reports. If the Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa is facing all sorts of allegations from his own party men, Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani has come under criticism for his inapt handling of affairs. The fate of both the CMs will be decided after the by-elections in their respective states on November 3.

A new Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is known for talking straight. Lately, he was out of action for almost three months after being hit by Covid. His absence was felt by many because the Prime Minister is not known for opening up. Even the BJP Chief J P Nadda prefers to keep his counsel and shun the media. There is no one in the ruling

establishment who carries authority to speak on thorny issues. Rajnath Singh is coming out of his cocoon but confines himself to the task assigned and speaks on defence-related issues only. It was at this juncture that Amit Shah broke his silence and dwelt on many issues. But this was a different Amit Shah as he was not full of fire and fury. But he put the record straight and disapproved many a things that the hardliners in the Parivar were doing; be it Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari's letter to CM Uddhav Thackeray or linking of drug cartel probe to only Bollywood, media trial in the Sushant Singh Rajput case and what not. He was telling clearly that neither the Centre nor he perse, had any hand in all that had happened during the past three months.

international



We are trying to improve effectiveness by reconstructing antiviral measures in a tailored fashion
CHUNG SYE-KYUN | SOUTH KOREAN PRIME MINISTER

NEW ARRESTS OVER CHURCH ATTACK

French police have made two new arrests in the probe into an attack on a church in the southern city of Nice that left three dead, as authorities seek to understand the profile of the suspected killer, judicial sources said Sunday



of the day quote

When urban communities are engaged in policy and decision making, and empowered with financial resources, the results are more inclusive and durable



ANTONIO GUTERRES | UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL

President Trump is focused on feeding his ego, while the Democratic presidential candidate Biden focused on decency and empathy



BARACK OBAMA | EX US PRESIDENT

Millions of Americans have already voted. Millions more will vote in the days ahead. And my message to you is simple: The power to change this country is in your hands. I don't care how hard Donald Trump tries. There is nothing that is going to stop the people of this nation from voting



JOE BIDEN | DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

SHORT TAKES

Lanka faces tough times

Colombo: Sri Lanka is facing a challenging time due to the delay in receiving COVID-19 test results, following the breakdown of a key testing machine amid a surge in the coronavirus cases, officials said. The island nation has so far recorded 10,663 COVID-19 cases and 20 deaths due to the disease. Health Ministry spokesman Dr Jayaruwan Bandara on Saturday said the main PCR testing machine at the Base Hospital in Mulleriyawa that can test 500-1,000 samples daily broke down earlier this week.

Austria to impose second lockdown

Vienna: Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has announced that a second lockdown will come into force in the country starting from Tuesday until the end of this month, in an effort to contain the pandemic from further spreading.

Quake jolts Indonesia

Jakarta: An earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale struck Indonesia's Maluku province Sunday, but did not cause damages or casualties, officials said. The meteorology and geophysics agency did not issue a tsunami warning, as the quake did not potentially trigger giant waves, reports Xinhua news agency. The agency said.

Thousands protest in Jerusalem

Jerusalem: Thousands of Israelis protested in Jerusalem in the latest weekly demonstration against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, his handling of the coronavirus crisis and the corruption charges he faces.

Two killed in stabbing incident

Quebec: At least two people were killed and five others injured in a stabbing incident in the Canadian city of Quebec, police said, adding that a suspect has been arrested. The attack on took place Saturday near the Chateau Frontenac, on rue des Ramparts, CBC News quoted Quebec City police spokesperson Etienne Doyon as saying early Sunday morning.

England to enter into month-long lockdown



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

London, Nov 1: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that England will enter a month-long lockdown from Thursday. "Now is the time to take action because there is no alternative," Johnson said in a virtual press conference on Saturday at Downing Street, Xinhua news agency reported.

The Prime Minister's announcement came just hours after official figures showed that Britain's confirmed coronavirus cases surge past one million mark.

"From Thursday until the start of December you must stay at home, you may only leave home for specific reasons," he said in the live broadcasted news conference.

Under the new measures, which will be effective until December 2, people in England will only be allowed to leave their homes for specific reasons, such as education, work or food shopping, said Johnson. Pubs, bars and restaurants will close across the country except for takeaways. Non-essential shops, hairdressers and leisure and entertainment venues will also be shut, he said. Schools, colleges and universities will remain

open, the prime minister said, adding that those who cannot work from home, such as construction or manufacturing workers, will be encouraged to continue going to their workplaces.

Meanwhile, different households will be banned from mixing, although support bubbles and child-care bubbles will remain. Gyms will be shut but people can continue to exercise outdoors, at most with one person from another household, Johnson announced.

After December 2, the restrictions would be eased and regions would go back to the tiered system, the prime minister said.

"Christmas is going to be different this year, perhaps very different, but it's my sincere hope and belief that by taking tough action now we can allow families across the country to be together," Johnson said. The British government has previously pursued a localized approach to tackling the COVID-19 pandemic with a three-tier alert system according to local infection rates. Earlier Saturday, official figures showed that another 21,915 people in Britain have tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 1,011,660.

An Earth-sized rogue planet discovered in the Milky Way

However, the newly-detected planet, detailed in the *Astrophysical Journal Letters*, is the smallest rogue world ever found



Illustration by University of Warsaw

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

London, Nov 1: Scientists have discovered in the Milky Way an Earth-sized free-floating rogue planet which does not orbit any star.

Rogue planets are a bit uncommon as although many of the known exoplanets discovered so far do not resemble those in our solar system, they have one thing in common -- they all orbit a star.

However, theories of planet formation and evolution predict the existence of free-floating (rogue) planets, gravitationally unattached to any star. Polish astronomers from the Astronomical Observatory of the University of Warsaw provided the first evidence for the existence of such planets in the Milky Way a few years ago.

Exoplanets can be only rarely directly observed. Usually, astronomers find planets using observations of the light from the

planet's host star. For example, if a planet crosses in front of its parent star's disk, then the observed brightness of the star periodically drops by a small amount causing so called transits. Astronomers can also measure the motion of the star caused by the planet. Free-floating planets emit virtually no radiation and -- by definition -- they do not orbit any host star, so they cannot be discovered using traditional methods of astrophysical detection.

Nevertheless, rogue planets can be spotted using an astronomical phenomenon called gravitational microlensing. Modern surveys hunting for gravitational microlensing events are monitoring hundreds of millions of stars in the Milky Way centre, where the chances of microlensing are highest. Led by Warsaw University astronomers, the OGLE survey carries out one of such experiments

Trump predicts massive win for Republicans

AGENCIES

Butler (US), Nov 1: US President Donald Trump has predicted a massive win for the Republicans in the November 3 elections, saying the margin would be much bigger than what the party had received four years ago.

Speaking at four different rallies in the battleground State of Pennsylvania Saturday, Trump said his administration has made tremendous accomplishments in the last four years under his presidency.

"It's going to be a very interesting Tuesday. You have a big red wave that has formed. Nobody's ever seen anything like this," Trump told the cheering crowd. In almost identical speeches, Trump reflected upon the accomplishments of his administration in the first term, while made allegations of massive corruption by the family of his Democratic challenger Joe Biden.

The president also accused the Democrats of taking the country on a path of socialism and raising taxes if Biden wins the election. The president, who is trailing behind Biden in battleground States including Pennsylvania, said that he will win these States and his mar-

gin of victory would be greater than that in 2016.

A wave is forming, he said. "They see it forming on all sides and there's not a thing they can do about it. This is the state where the story of American independence began," Trump said at a place in Pennsylvania where the first president George Washington plotted his trip across the Delaware River during the American Revolution.

"It's the state where the American Constitution was signed. Three days from now, this is the state that will save the American Dream. On November 3, we're going to win Pennsylvania. We're going to win four more years in that very beautiful White House," he said. Trump, 74, said he did excellent job in the areas of defence.

"In 2016, Pennsylvania voted against this failed establishment. You voted for an outsider who is finally putting America first," he said as he listed some of his key achievements from military to jobs and peace in the Middle East.

TRUMP LEADS BIDEN IN IOWA
With just two days left for Tuesday's US presidential election, a new poll has placed President Donald Trump in a seven-point lead against his

US PREZ POLL



Democratic rival Joe Biden in the battleground state of Iowa.

PREZ WARNS OF VOTE COUNT DELAYS
US President Donald Trump has claimed that voters will have to wait for weeks after the election day to know who wins the hotly contested race to the White House.

OBAMA JOINS BIDEN AT RALLY
Former US President Barack Obama joined his former Vice President and the incumbent

Democratic presidential nominee, Joe Biden at a campaign rally for the latter in the state of Michigan.

2020 ELECTION SPENDING REACHES NEARLY \$14 BN

The total spending of the 2020 US election cycle, including presidential and congressional, has reached nearly \$14 billion, surpassing more than the combined figures of the amount spent during the last two election cycles, a study has found.

JOVIAL MOOD



Children wave flags of the monarchy and Thailand national near Grand Place in Bangkok

PTI PHOTO

7 DEAD AS TYPHOON BATTERS PHILIPPINES

AGENCIES

Manila, Nov 1: A powerful super typhoon slammed into the eastern Philippines with ferocious winds Sunday, killing at least seven people and causing volcanic mudflows to bury houses before weakening as it blew toward Manila, where the capital's main airport was shut down, officials said.

Typhoon Goni hit the island province of Catanduanes at dawn with sustained winds of 225 kilometers (140 miles) per hour and gusts of 280 kph (174 mph). It was barreling west toward densely populated regions, including Manila, and rain-soaked provinces still recovering from a typhoon that hit a week ago and left at least 22 people dead. Villagers fled to safety as the typhoon approached, but the two apparently stayed put, he said.

ETA FORMS IN CARIBBEAN: Tropical Storm Eta formed in the Caribbean, tying the record for most named storms in a single Atlantic hurricane season.

China plans to make PLA on par with US military

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 1: The just-concluded key conclave of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) has finalised plans to build a fully modern military on par with the US by 2027, media reports here said.

By the year 2027, which marks the centennial of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), China will build a fully modern military, a goal that is in alignment with the national strength and will fulfil the future national defence need, state-run Global Times quoted Chinese analysts as saying on Saturday.

The Plenary session of the ruling CPC headed by President Xi Jinping which held a four-day meeting adopted his proposals for the formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through



the Year 2035. While the 14th Five-Year plan envisages massive overhaul of the country's domestic market to boost consumption in order to reduce China's reliance on shrinking exports markets, the Vision 2035 visualises a long-term plan, reflecting the development vision of Xi including the military.

Politically, Xi's Vision 2035 plan sparked speculation that he could continue in power for the next 15 years. Xi, 67, has emerged as the CPC's most powerful leader after its founder Mao Zedong, holding the posts of CPC General Secretary,

head of the military besides the presidency with prospects of a life-long tenure. A constitutional amendment in 2018 has removed the two-five-year term limit for the President, which would enable Xi to continue in power for life. His second term as the president is due to end in 2022.

The meeting headed by Xi has set a new goal to turn the PLA into a modern military force by 2027, by which time, China aims to build an army on par with that of the US, the Hong Kong based South China Morning Post reported.

China begins 7th national population census

China currently has 250 million people above 60 years and 170 million above 65 years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 1: China Sunday started the world's biggest exercise of population count, conducted once in a decade, to document demographic changes in the most populous country. About seven million census takers began door-to-door survey for the sev-

enth census in the country to account for China's population stated to be 1.37 billion in the last census exercise ten years ago.

Carrying out the census is critical to understand the population size, structure and distribution, Ning Jizhe, deputy head of the National Development and Reform Commission, said during a video conference to promote the national census.

The census collects data, including name, ID number, gender, marital status, education, and profession of Chinese citizens, state-run Xinhua news



agency reported. China has been conducting a national population census every 10 years since

the 1990s. The exercise was expected to provide the size of its ageing population.

In March last year, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang told the media that China's population aged above 60 years increased to 420 million and that of children over six years to 100 million putting heavy pressure on nursing services and day care centres. After implementing the decades-old one child policy, China is facing a demographic crisis with a rapidly ageing population. China has permitted people to have second child since 2016. China currently has 250 million people above 60 years and 170 million above 65 years, Li said during his annual press conference last March.

70-yr-old pulled out alive as Turkey quake toll hits 53

AGENCIES

Izmir (Turkey), Nov 1: Rescue workers extricated a 70-year-old man from a collapsed building in western Turkey Sunday, some 34 hours after a strong earthquake in the Aegean Sea struck Turkey and Greece, killing at least 53 people and injuring more than 900.

It was the latest series of remarkable rescues after the Friday af-

ternoon earthquake, which was centered in the Aegean northeast of the Greek island of Samos.

Search-and-rescue teams were working in nine buildings Sunday in the Turkish city of Izmir as day broke. Turkish Vice President Fuat Oktay raised the death toll in Izmir, the country's third-largest city, to 51 as rescuers pulled more bodies out of toppled buildings.



Demand is coming back in the housing market. Enquiries from prospective home buyers are rising
ASHOK TYAGI | GROUP CFO, DLF

GOOGLE'S DIGITAL MEDIA SALES LOWEST IN 6 YEARS

Hit by pandemic-related cuts in ad spend, Google's digital media revenues fell by 7% in Q2 2020 to \$38.3 bn, causing its market share to fall from 29% in Q1 2020 to 26.3% in Q2 -- its lowest share of the global digital media market in the past six years



of the day quote

The demand for air purifiers in India is expected to grow rapidly due to continuous air quality deterioration, growing knowledge of air purifiers, coupled with rising health consciousness among consumers



MARZIN R SHROFF | MD AND CEO, EUREKA FORBES

We are focussed on gaining share irrespective of how the industry is doing, whether it is doing extremely well or it is going a little slowly, my expectation is that SKF will gain share significantly higher than that (industry's) growth rate



MANISH BHATNAGAR | MD, SKF INDIA

During the lockdown, we focused on re-imagining delivering safer and more hygienic services (amid the pandemic) and have made significant investments in technology, PPE and safety training



VARUN KHATNANI | CO-FOUNDER, URBAN COMPANY

SHORT TAKES

Royal Enfield sales dip 7%

New Delhi: Niche bike maker Royal Enfield Sunday reported a 7% decline in its total sales at 66,891 units in October. The company had sold a total of 71,964 units in the corresponding month last year, Royal Enfield said in a statement. Domestic sales were at 62,858 units last month as against 67,538 units in October 2019, a dip of 7%, it said. Exports were down 9% to 4,033 units as compared to 4,426 units in the year-ago month, the company added.

M&M tractor sales up 2%

New Delhi: Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) Sunday reported a 2% increase in its tractor sales at 46,558 units in October. The company had sold 45,433 units of tractors in October 2019, Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) said in a statement. Domestic sales grew 2% to 45,588 units in October this year compared to 44,646 units in the year-ago month, it added. Exports during the month stood at 970 units, as compared to 787 units in October last year, up 23%, the company said.

Choudhary becomes PGCIL Dir (Projects)

New Delhi: State-run Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL) Sunday said that Abhay Choudhary has assumed the charge as its Director (Projects). Prior to this assignment, he has been working as Executive Director (Commercial & Regulatory Cell) along with the charge of CMD (Chairman & Managing Director) Coordination Cell, a PGCIL statement said. He is an electrical engineering graduate from NIT Durgapur and holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from IMT Ghaziabad.

Equity MFs log ₹7,200cr outflow

New Delhi: Investors pulled out over ₹7,200 crore from equity-oriented mutual funds during the July-September quarter this year as expensive valuation diverted them towards profit-booking. In comparison, such schemes had witnessed a hefty inflow of ₹23,874 crore in the same quarter last fiscal, data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India showed.

LOAN MORATORIUM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 1: Banks, financial and non-banking financial institutions have been asked to take "necessary actions" to credit into the accounts of eligible borrowers by November 5 the difference between compound and simple interest collected on loans of up to ₹2 crore during the moratorium scheme, RBI has told the Supreme Court (SC).

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in an affidavit filed through Assistant General Manager Prasanta Kumar Das, referred to the October 23 additional response of the Ministry of Finance and said the federal bank has also acted in pursuance of that by issuing a notification to banks and FIs recently on refund of extra

Banks told to credit 'interest on interest' to borrowers

money to the borrowers. The central government had earlier told the apex court that the lenders have been asked to credit into the accounts of eligible borrowers the difference between compound and simple interest collected on loans of up to ₹2 crore during the RBI's loan moratorium scheme by November 5.

"All Primary (Urban) Cooperative Banks/State Cooperative Banks/District Central Cooperative Banks, All All India Financial Institutions and All Non-Banking Financial Companies (including Housing Finance Companies) to be guided by the provisions of the scheme and take necessary actions within the stipulated timeline therein," the RBI said in its recent



affidavit.

The top court is scheduled to hear a batch of PILs including the one filed by Gajendra Sharma October 3 relating to charging of interest on interest by banks on EMIs which have not been paid by

borrowers after availing the loan moratorium scheme of RBI during March 1 to August 31.

"I say... Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services in view of the unprecedented and extreme COVID-19 situation vide

The Centre had earlier told SC that the lenders have been asked to credit into the accounts of eligible borrowers the difference between CI and SI collected on loans of up to ₹2 crore

its letter ... has approved a 'scheme for grant of ex-gratia payment of difference between compound interest and simple interest for six months to borrowers in specified loan accounts (01.03.2020 to 31.08.2020)' along with operational guidelines and mechanism for such grant,"

the RBI official said.

The affidavit, which also contained the decision of the government and the subsequent RBI's circular as annexures, said that all banks, FIs, and housing finance firms have been asked to pass on the benefits of the Centre's decision to eligible borrowers.

Earlier, the Centre has said that the eligible borrowers will be benefited by November 5 by the lenders after the apex court had come down heavily on it, saying that nothing has been done on ground to pass on the benefits.

The Ministry of Finance has said that after crediting this amount, the lending institutions would claim reimbursement from the central government.

State GST collection posts 21.79% growth in October

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the state witnessed a positive growth rate of Odisha GST collection during the current financial year in the month of October, 2020. The State Commissionerate of CT & GST department revealed that Odisha recorded a decent growth rate of 21.79% in gross GST collection in October, 2020 as compared to the same month in 2019.

This is the second successive month when the growth rate of gross GST collection has been positive & healthy. September also recorded a positive growth of 18.3% compared to same month a year ago. OGST component also recorded a positive growth rate of 5.16% in the second successive month. It had recorded a modest growth of 3.42% last month.

The settlement of IGST for Odisha during October is ₹480.83 crore against a receipt of ₹307.69 crore during last October recording a positive growth of 56.27%. Similarly, collection under cess also witnessed a healthy growth of 57.55% during this month.



However, owing to setback in the first quarter in view of the lockdown, progressive OGST Collection (April-October) continues to be negative at 8.48% as the total collection could be ₹4,309.29 crore as against ₹4,708.39 crore collected during the same period of the preceding year. Similarly, due to the same reasons the progressive gross GST collection during April-October, 2020 has been ₹14,701 crore compared to ₹17,020 crore during the corresponding period last year.

The VAT collection from non-GST goods has also been growing with reasonable consistency since last month

due to increase in consumption as well as the decision to shift to monthly returns for all petroleum dealers instead of quarterly return period prescribed previously.

The collections from petroleum dealers during September, 2020 and October, 2020 have been ₹464.25 crore and ₹514.29 crore respectively against ₹431.04 crore and ₹369.40 crore during September and October 2019, having a growth of 7.6% & 39% respectively.

Overall, the non-GST revenue has witnessed a healthy growth of 36.05% in October of current fiscal compared to same month last year.

Vedanta, Jindal to bid in coal block auctions from today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 1: Companies like Vedanta, Jindal Steel and Power, Adani Enterprises, Hindalco Industries and JSW Steel are in the race for the first-ever auction of 19 coal blocks for commercial mining, which will kick-start from Monday.

The auction under which 19 coal blocks would go under the hammer will continue for eight days, from November 29, according to the latest calendar for electronic auction of the coal ministry.

On Monday, the electronic auction would be held for five coal blocks - Chakla, Jharkhand; Marki Mangli-II, Maharashtra; Radhikapur



(West), Odisha; Takli-Jena-Bellora (North) & Takli-Jena-Bellora (South), Maharashtra; and Urtan, Madhya Pradesh. Companies like Hindalco Industries and Adani Enterprises will be vying for Chakla coal block in Jharkhand on Monday. In case of Radhikapur (West)

coal block in Odisha, companies like Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL) and Vedanta Ltd are in race.

With regard to Marki Mangli-II block in Maharashtra, Yazdani International Pvt Ltd, Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Ltd and Refex Industries Ltd will be competing against each other.

Aurobindo Realty and Infrastructure Pvt Ltd and Sunflag Iron and Steel Company Ltd are in the race for Takli-Jena-Bellora (North) and Takli-Jena-Bellora (South) coal block in Maharashtra.

JMS Mining Private Ltd and Stratatech Mineral Resources Pvt Ltd would be vying for Urtan block block in Madhya Pradesh.

'Economy set to bounce back, time for bold actions'

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 1: FICCI President Sangita Reddy Sunday said that India's strategy of dealing with the Covid crisis has paid off and the nation's economy is set to bounce back and emerge stronger.

"The speed, virality and impact of the Covid contagion is unprecedented. There was no standard playbook for pandemic management. The dilemma for governments across the world was creating a balance between protecting lives and livelihoods," a FICCI statement quoted Reddy as saying.

She observed that the PMI for manufacturing and services has recovered to 56.8 and 49.8 respectively in September 2020. There has been a pick-up in e-way bill volumes, improvement in revenue earning freight traffic of major commodities, positive growth in exports and most significantly increase in the September GST collections to almost pre-Covid-19 level.

These incremental trends are heartening and need to be sustained, and further initiatives like the consumption vouchers must continue to remain focused on de-



SANGITA REDDY | PRESIDENT, FICCI

Agriculture sector is our strength, which has performed well even during the pandemic. India can emerge as the food bowl for the world. By multiplying the farmer producer organisations and giving them adequate support, we can achieve good results both for farmers and consumers

"India took the path of a strict lockdown to ramp up health infrastructure and focused on human lives.

This strategy has paid off. Science evolved to give better cures, medical infrastructure was created, supplies like PPEs ramped up and our death rate has been contained," she said.

The industry body's President was of the view that it's time for bold actions on the livelihood front.

Noting that the recent monetary policy assures that the government and the regulator will do everything it takes to keep the economy afloat, Reddy said: "Let us start pushing our growth agenda vigorously.

The FICCI President was of the view that agriculture, advanced manufacturing and infrastructure sectors are among the major strengths of India.

"First is strength of our agriculture sector, which has performed well even in this difficult period. India can emerge as the food bowl for the world.

By multiplying the farmer producer organisations and giving them adequate support, we can achieve good results both for farmers and consumers," she said.

If the collective energies and talents are well channelised, according to Reddy: "The next decade will be India's decade."

'Amazon dispute order not binding on company'

AMAZON OCTOBER 25 WON AN INJUNCTION FROM THE ARBITRATOR TO HALT FRL'S DEAL TO SELL ITS RETAIL ASSETS TO RELIANCE INDUSTRIES FOR \$3.4 BILLION, ARGUING THE INDIAN RETAIL GROUP HAD VIOLATED CERTAIN PRE-EXISTING AGREEMENTS IT HAD WITH THE US E-COMMERCE GIANT

REUTERS

New Delhi, Nov 1: India's Future Retail Ltd (FRL) said Sunday that a Singapore arbitrator's order in its dispute with Amazon is not enforceable under Indian law and not binding on the company.

Amazon October 25 won an injunction from the arbitrator to halt FRL's deal to sell its retail assets to Reliance Industries for \$3.4 billion, arguing the Indian retail group had violated certain pre-existing agreements it had with the US e-commerce giant.

Both FRL and billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance said in news releases later they wanted to press on with the deal without delays, setting the stage for a

showdown between the Indian companies and Jeff Bezos-led Amazon.

Calling the proceedings before the so-called "emergency arbitrator" void, FRL told Indian exchanges that any attempt on the part of Amazon to enforce the order will be resisted.

"FRL is also in the process of taking appropriate legal action to protect its rights," the company's regulatory filing said on Sunday.

Amazon did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

FRL's filing comes after Reuters Saturday reported Amazon had separately complained to India's markets regulator alleging the Indian company had misled share-



holders by incorrectly saying it was complying with its contractual obligations, seeking suspension

of the deal's regulatory review. In its Sunday filing, FRL said it had complied with all regulatory

requirements and urged the market regulator and the Indian stock exchanges to continue to review its deal with Reliance for approval.

The dispute centres around FRL's decision in August to sell its retail, wholesale and some other businesses to Reliance for \$3.38 billion, including debt.

Amazon argues that a separate 2019 deal it had with a Future unit had clauses saying the Indian group couldn't sell its retail assets to anyone on a "restricted persons" list including any firms from Reliance chief Mukesh Ambani's group.

The deal specified any disputes would be arbitrated under Singapore International Arbitration Centre rules.

itel draws 6 crore customers in 4 years

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 1: Taking its success story forward, itel family becomes stronger with over 6 crore happy consumers in India, a resounding milestone for the smartphone brand within four years of its operations in India.

This important milestone reinstates itel's success story in India which has been driven by its customer-centric approach, innovative and affordable product portfolio, robust distribution network along with localised marketing communication approach.



This festive season, itel customers would be able to enjoy the magical product portfolio of itel with its flagship premium smartphone Vision 1 in less than ₹7,000, A48 in less than ₹6,000, A25Pro in less than ₹5,000 and A23 in less than ₹4,000 making it affordable, accessible across all segments of buyers.

itel Vision 1, itel A48, itel A25Pro and itel A23 are priced at ₹6,699, ₹5,999, ₹4,999 and ₹3,799 respectively.

SHORT TAKES

MSD not to hang up his IPL gloves
Abu Dhabi: Mahendra Singh Dhoni will be back in the IPL next year. The World Cup-winning captain confirmed it himself at the toss of Chennai Super Kings' (CSK) final game of the season here Sunday.

Unique feat
Rawalpindi: Aleem Dar broke Sunday the record for most ODIs as an on-field umpire when he stood for his 210th match in the series' second match between Pakistan and Zimbabwe here.

RUTURAJ GAIKWAD'S MATCH-WINNING KNOCK ENSURES OUSTER OF KXIP FROM IPL 2020

Chennai win battle of Kings



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Nov 1: Chennai Super Kings (CSK) crushed Kings XI Punjab (KXIP) by nine wickets to end their worst-ever IPL season here Sunday on a positive note. Ruturaj Gaikwad (62 n o, 49b, 6x4, 1x6) got his third successive half century as CSK ended KXIP's run in the ongoing edition of the IPL.

stand of 82 for the first wicket with Faf du Plessis (48, 34b, 4x4, 2x6) before finishing off the game with a second-wicket unbeaten stand of 72 with Amabati Rayudu (30, 30b, 2x4). Both CSK and KXIP finished the tournament with a 6-8 win-loss record. Earlier, Hooda's blitzkrieg helped KXIP going past the 150-run mark. Thanks to him, KXIP managed 40 runs in the last three overs after CSK, opting to field, choked their middle-order for runs. Pacer Lungi Ngidi (3/39) was the best bowler for CSK.

Returning to the side after an injury-forced break, Mayank Agarwal (26) got KXIP off to a breezy start, collecting two boundaries off Deepak Chahar's first over. In-form skipper KL Rahul (29) got into the act with the day's first six, over the third man region before scoring two boundaries off Shardul Thakur. In the next over, Agarwal welcomed Ngidi by driving him to the long-off boundary, but the South African had his revenge in the next delivery as the opener edged the ball into the middle stump. Thereafter the runs simply dried up for KXIP. Their hopes took a further jolt for KXIP with leg-spinner Imran Tahir (1/24) catching big-hitting Chris Gayle (12) plumb in front. With Nicholas Puri (two) also failing to fire KXIP were always fighting an uphill battle to put runs on board. Brief scores: KXIP 153 for 6 (Deepak Hooda 62 n o, Lungi Ngidi 3/39) lost to CSK 154 for 1 in 18.5 overs (Ruturaj Gaikwad 62 n o, Faf du Plessis 48, Amabati Rayudu 30 n o) by nine wickets.

FIGHT FOR PLAYOFF SPOT INTENSIFIES

Morgan, Cummins keep Knights in hunt

AGENCIES

Dubai, Nov 1: Both were fast and furious, Eoin Morgan (68 n o, 35b, 5x4, 6x6) with the bat and Pat Cummins (4/34) with the ball as Kolkata Knight Riders kept themselves in reckoning for the IPL-2020 playoffs here Sunday. In the process, KKR sent Rajasthan Royals (RR) packing out of the IPL, defeating them by 60 runs. KKR posted a fighting total of 191 for seven and then restricted RR 131 for nine in their 20 overs. They thus ended up on 14 points from an identical number of games. However, they will have to wait for the game between Mumbai Indians (MI) and Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH). If SRH win, they will also climb to 14 points and then the net run rate (NRR) will come into play. Morgan's blitzkrieg led KKR to a fighting total. He was well-supported by Rahul Tripathi (39, 34b, 4x4, 2x6) and opener Shubman Gill (36, 24b, 6x4). Andy Russell (25, 11b, 1x4, 3x6) promised much, but failed to progress. Even then KKR put up a challenging total. The Knights need not have worried. Cummins simply blew away the top half of the RR claiming the wickets of Robin Uthappa (6), Ben Stokes (18), Steve Smith (4) and Riyan Parag (0) to just put KKR's stamp firmly in the game. In between the spell of Cummins, Shivam Mavi had sent back the dangerous Sanju Samson (1) to dash whatever hopes the Royals had. Jos Buttler (35) and Rahul Tewatia (31) tried to make a game out of it, but by then the required run rate had climbed to more than 13 runs per over. Both fell to spinner Varun Chakravarty (2/20) and from then on RR batters were just going through the motions. Brief scores: KKR 191 for 7 (Eoin Morgan 68 n o, Rahul Tripathi 39, Rahul Tewatia 3/25) beat RR 131 for 9 (Jos Buttler 35, Pat Cummins 4/34, Varun Chakravarty 2/20) by runs.

Lot at stake for DC, RCB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Nov 1: Delhi Capitals (DC) and Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) are both expected to go all out against each other Monday to arrest their rapid slide in the IPL and, more importantly, secure a top-two finish in the points table. DC and RCB go into the virtual quarterfinal, having lost four

TODAY'S MATCH RCB vs DC AT 7:30 PM TELECAST: STAR SPORTS

and three games on the trot respectively, showing that things can change rather quickly in the highly-competitive IPL.



Shreyas Iyer (L) and Virat Kohli

At stake is a top-two finish which provides a couple of attempts to make it to the final. The loser of Monday's game could still end up making the play-offs but it will be then at the mercy of other teams. DC were bossing most teams in the first half of the tournament. However theirs have been a dramatic fall from

grace with their last win coming two weeks ago. Their problems have compounded by the sudden loss of form for opener Shikhar Dhawan. After back-to-back hundreds Dhawan's scores in the last three games have been 0, 0 and 6. After a nine-wicket hammering Saturday by MI, skipper Shreyas Iyer spoke on the need for a fearless approach. "We'll have to think about it (changes to the line-up) and be fearless in our approach. We'll keep things simple and will not try to think much," he said. RCB too are smarting from a string of three successive losses. They also suffered defeat Saturday against SRH. The losses have reignited the debate on the team's dependency on its star players - Virat Kohli and AB de Villiers.

Shastri tells injured Rohit to get fit first

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Nov 1: India head coach Ravi Shastri has revealed that Rohit Sharma's medical report stated that 'he could be in danger of injuring himself again' and advised him not to rush his comeback. Rohit is recovering from a hamstring injury he suffered in the ongoing IPL. Shastri said the call not to include Rohit in the squad was taken by selectors after going through his medical report. "It's being handled by the people in charge of the medical part of it. We don't get involved in that. They have submitted a report to the selectors and they have gone about their business," Shastri said. "It is always better not to rush comebacks. First Rohit should be fit," he added.

HAMILTON BLAZES TRACKS FOR 93RD FORMULA 1 WIN

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Imola (Italy), Nov 1: Lewis Hamilton overcame a sluggish start to win the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix here Sunday for a record-extending 93rd Formula One (F1) victory. Hamilton beat Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas by 5.7 seconds and rushed over to celebrate with the team's engineers and mechanics after the team clinched another Constructors' title. Renault driver Daniel Ricciardo was placed third for a second podium of an impressive season. Hamilton started from second on the grid and was overtaken by Max Verstappen, who span off track 11 laps from the end after his rear right tire blew, bringing out the



MAN OF THE MOMENT: Lewis Hamilton celebrates with the trophy Sunday

safety car and prompting drivers to change to quicker tires. Hamilton had missed the first pit window and came in after the other drivers, but his lead was sufficient enough and he came back out about two seconds ahead of Bottas.

The safety car remained on the track following another crash as George Russell lost control and slammed into the track barriers. He was unharmed but upset at his own error while behind a safety car, as he sat on the grass and slapped himself several times on the leg in frustration. This gave Bottas a chance to pressure Hamilton with six laps left, but Hamilton got away cleanly after the re-start and clocked fastest laps on his way to another comfortable win. F1 returned to Imola for the first time since 2006, when Michael Schumacher won at the Enzo and Dino Ferrari circuit situated in Italy's auto racing heartland and the site of Ayrton Senna's death from a high-speed crash in 1994.

Honda advertisement for Hornet 2.0 motorcycle. Features: FLY AGAINST THE WIND, THE NEW HORNET 2.0, MUSCULAR, SPORTY AND ADVANCED STREET FIGHTER WITH A FIERCE POWER DISPLACEMENT. Includes images of the motorcycle, rider Rajiv Sethu, and technical details like Golden Upside Down (USD) Front Fork, Aggressive Tank Design, LED All Around, Fully Digital Liquid Crystal Meter, and Key on Tank. Contact information for Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India Pvt. Ltd. is provided.