BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY AUGUST 7, 2024

Call for acceptance Actor Sunny Leone reflects on being judged for her past in adult film industry, urging people to move forward after 13 years

VOLUMÉ 14, ISSUE 128 | www.orissapost.com

LEISURE | P2



Harris' running mate

Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris selects Minnesota Governor Tim Walz to be her running mate

INTERNATIONAL P9



NHAI to monetise assets

NHAI plans to monetise up to \$2.4 billion worth of road projects in the current fiscal through an infrastructure investment trust route

BUSINESS | P10



Sable's feat

Avinash Sable becomes 1st Indian runner to reach the final of the 3000m steeplechase event at the Olympics

SPORTS | P12

BANGLA UNREST TOLL 440

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dhaka, August 6: On the first day after the fall of Sheikh Hasina's government, a tense atmosphere prevailed across Bangladesh with police and army patrolling the major streets, according to a report published by BDNews24.com, a news por-

Late Monday night, President Mohammed Shahabuddin asked all the political parties to normalise the law and order situation in the country and directed the armed forces to take stern measures to protect the lives and properties of the people and state assets.

Tuesday, the President dissolved the Parliament to make way for the formation of an interim administration.

'The decision to dissolve the Parliament was taken following the President's discussions with chiefs of three staff of armed forces, leaders of different political parties, representatives of civil society and leaders of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement," said a statement is-

sued by the President's office. The leaders of movement ear-



Awami League's central office at Dhaka set on fire after the Prime Minister's resignation

lier set a deadline for dissolving the 12th Parliament which was formed after the January 7 elections installing Hasina as the premier for the fourth straight term.

In a video posted on social media early Tuesday, Nahid Islam, one of the key coordinators of the movement, proposed Nobel laureate Mohammad Yunus as the head of interim government.

Meanwhile, the death toll in the anti-government protests

Tuesday climbed to 440, with 100 more deaths reported after Hasina's departure, according to local media, even as efforts were on by the army to bring the situation under control in

YUNUS TO HEAD INTERIM GOVT

Dhaka: Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus has been appointed as head of Bangladesh's interim government, says President's Press Secretary, Yunus, 83, is a well-known critic and opponent of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. He called her resignation the country's 'second liberation day.' An economist and banker by profession, Yunus was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for pioneering the use of microcredit to help impoverished people, particularly women. His anti-poverty campaign through the Grameen Bank, a mode, was replicated across continents.

LORD JAGANNATH IDOL BURNT

Dhaka: Amid ongoing political unrest in Bangladesh, 'radicals' reportedly destroyed the idols of Lord Jagannath and sibling deities at an ISKCON temple in Meherpur. Three devotees who lived on the premises somehow managed to escape, said Yudhisthir Govinda Das, a spokesperson of the organisation. A number of Hindu temples, households and businesses were vandalised, women assaulted and at least two Hindu leaders affiliated with the Awami League party killed in violence following the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, community leaders claimed Tuesday.

from service pistol

Two killed in firing

POST NEWS NETWORK

Binka/Sonepur, August 6: Two persons were killed in an alleged firing from the service revolver of a police personnel following an alleged heated altercation at Chulmal village of Bhandar panchavat under Binka police limits in Subarnapur district, Tuesday.

The deceased, both cousins, were identified as Shesadev Jhankar, 30, and Manoj Jhankar, 28, of Chulmal village.

They died on the spot after the bullets pierced through their heads. Manoj was posted as a police constable at the district police headquarters in Sonepur and working as a personal security officer (PSO) of former Cabinet Minister Niranjan Pujari, the sitting MLA from Sonepur. The incident has sent shockwaves in the area.

The incident is stated to have occurred after the two had a heated altercation over some issues in a field adjacent to the village. They had attended a feast

hosted by some of their friends. Family members rushed them in an ambulance to the district headquarters hospital where doctors pronounced them dead on arrival.

Police later recovered the bodies and sent those to a hospital for post mortem. However, it is yet to be ascertained as to who fired the bullets and the reason behind it. Meanwhile, Subarnapur SP Yashpratap Shrimal and IGP Northern range, Himashu Lal along with other police personnel rushed to the spot and directed an investigation into the incident.

MARKET WATCH VARIATION SENSEX **78,593.07** • 166.33

23992.55 63.05 DOLLAR **83.95 1** ₹0.10 EURO GOLD SILVER ₹175 ₹79,423

WEATHER

CTC 30.2°C **Max Temp Min Temp Humidity**

4.7mm

Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain

Rainfall

NEET SCAM: YOUTH ARRESTED IN CITY

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 6: The CBI has arrested one more person here for his alleged involvement in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG) paper leak case. The accused has been identified as

Susanta Samanta, 34. The probe agency arrested Samanta from Bhubaneswar Saturday and produced him before the court of executive magistrate of CBI in Patna Monday. The matter came to light Tuesday.

The CBI urged the court to take amanta on 10-day remand. However. the court allowed the probing agency to take Samanta on a five-day remand for further investigation into the case, sources informed. CBI, so far, has taken custody of five persons in connection with the case and it is interrogating them to extract more information about the scam.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, August 6: She grappled on the streets with an 'unjust system' without a care in the world and Tuesday Vinesh Phogat brought a lot of that panache to the mat as well, taking down one big name after another to become India's first woman wrestler to enter the finals of the Olympic Games.

The 29-year-old from Haryana defeated Yusneylis Guzman Lopez of Cuba 5-0 in the semifinals where she used brain and brawn in equal measure to be assured of at least a silver in her third Olympic outing.

This was after she was stretchered off on her debut in Rio 2016 and had a forgettable outing in Tokyo four years later.

'Tomorrow is an important day, will talk then," she told the waiting media before vanishing



from the sight to prepare for her summit battle against American Sarah Ann Hildebrandt.

India to play for bronze

Paris: India lost 2-3 to Germany in the semifinal of the men's hockey of the Paris Olympics here Tuesday. It was a dream chance for India to enter the final of the Olympics after 44 years but Germany played spoilsport to that. Skipper Harmanpreet Singh (7th) and Sukhjeet Singh (36th) scored for India, while Gonzalo Peillat (18th), Christopher Ruhr (27th) and Marco Miltkau (54th) were the scorers for Germany. India will now take on Spain in the bronze medal match. while Germany will be up against Netherlands in the final.

On the day, she beat world No. 1 and reigning Olympic champion Yui Sasaki during the dying moments of their pre-quarterfinal fight, handing the legendary Japanese her first defeat in 83

If the first six minutes were a

the next six minutes against 2018 European champion Oksana Livach of Ukraine were an assurance of her class where she made a mockery of her opponent just when she needed to. The last six minutes on the

shocker for the wrestling world,

day against Lopez were another masterclass in tactical acumen where she was a tigress on the prowl waiting for that one mistake where she could get the single-leg hold of her opponent. It was a very lonely battle as

it wasn't just about winning against the opponent on the mat but also about fighting a way more bitter battle off it

Her character and credibility came in for questioning, and then there was a knee surgery less than a year before Olympics which had the Doubting Thomases wanting her to fail.

But for 18 minutes Tuesday,

Vinesh didn't have the option of failing. After all, she came here as a representative of all those women who have been severely wronged by the wrestling establishment. **MORE P12**

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Defeating an unbeatable Olympic champion is easier than seeking justice in India

SHORT TAKES

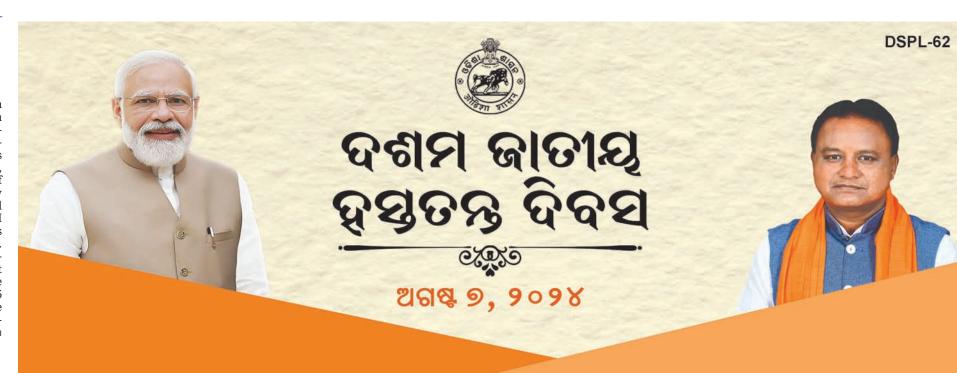
2.8mm

CBI books Hindalco for fraud in green grant

NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has booked the country's leading aluminium producer Hindalco of the Aditya Birla Group for alleged corruption in getting environmental clearances for coal mining between 2011 and 2013, officials said Tuesday. The agency has also named T Chandini, the then director in the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests, for favouring the company as member secretary of the Expert Appraisal Committee in allowing mining in the Talabira-I mine in the critically polluted area of state's Jharsuguda in violation of guidelines, they said. Chandini, by misusing her official position, communicated to Hindalco that their proposal for grant environmental clearance would be considered in the next meeting of the EAC to be held February 25 and 25, 2010, the agency alleged. The Central probe agency has registered the FIR after a nearly eightyear-long preliminary inquiry.

Not UP but Punjab: Minister

BHUBANESWAR: The state government may procure potatoes from Punjab to improve supplies and reduce prices of the tuber, a minister said. The price of potatoes continued to remain high at ₹45 a kg even after procurement from Uttar Pradesh, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister Krushna Chandra Patra told reporters. The price of the tuber has increased in the state due to "inadequate" supply from neighbouring West Bengal. "We are now procuring potatoes from Uttar Pradesh. If needed, we will import from Punjab," Patra said. The minister denied the allegation that the potatoes from UP are not as good as West Bengal. "It is not true that the potatoes from Uttar Pradesh are not of good quality. The UP potatoes are much better than that of Bengal and the price difference due to transportation costs is also Re 1. Odisha can procure the tuber from any other state, including Punjab, to meet its demand," the minister said Tuesday.





ହୟତନ୍ତ, ବୟନ ଓ ହୟଶିଳ୍ପ ବିଭାଗ,**ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର**

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leisure

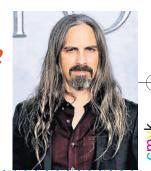


LILY ALLEN CONSIDERED QUITTING MUSIC AFTER HAVING DAUGHTERS

Singer Lily Allen shared that she thought about quitting music and studying to become a lawyer after having her daughters Ethel and Marnie. The Smile singer said that she felt ashamed to have not left school with any qualifications and had considered dropping her career at different times.

BEAR McCREARY COMPOSES FOR THE LORD OF THE RINGS SEASON 2

Emmy Award-winner Bear McCreary has composed tracks for *The Lord of the Rings:* The Rings of Power season 2, which also includes two new tracks featuring renowned singers Rufus Wainwright and Jens Kidman, will be released worldwide on August 23.





You will focus your attention today on your beloved. You will feel very energetic, but your commitment to work will falter. So don't be surprised if your superiors are annoyed. However, Ganesha says today is a day for romantic pursuits

TAURUS

Today, you will be as creative and competent as you can get. Your work style, the deft way you handle things will awe and amaze your colleagues and superiors. Your subordinates will be highly impressed and motivated. They will be and assist you to the utmost.

You will try to think up creative ways to perform your daily routine to get a break from the boredom and the rut of your daily schedule. You need to minale more with people and practice some humility. Guests will come visiting at your home, says Ganesha.

CANCER The day looks set to be so good that you may end up inviting jealousy and envy from people around you. The stars are favourable for matters pertaining to heart. In short, a great day for boosting nities may come your way.

LEO

It is an important day for you. Everyone in the office will accept your capabilities and will praise you. You may incur Your financial difficulties will now be solved. It is better to have an eye on long term gains. A progressive day on the whole, says Ganesha.

VIRGO

An unusual dose of creativity will motivate you to make a trip to some exotic place and mingle with new people. You will have some experiences that will enrich you mentally and emotionally. But don't unpack yet, there may be another adven ture on the cards. Ganesha says you will be very flexible and adaptable today

Ganesha says you will be broad, wnich will make you happy. Those of you who are searching for jobs will get good news coming your way. Ganesha says that you should not expect too much or you would feel dejected and disappointed when it is not met.

SCORPIO

You are one social butterfly today. However, shunning the gossips, you spread groups. People will look up to you today for this reason. What goes around, comes around; spread joy and you are sure to receive joy, says Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS

Suddenly, you become ambidextrous and plan to multi task today, says Ganesha. Your instincts will guide you today; trust them and move ahead. You may come across few challenges. But, anyway, who wants an easy way

CAPRICORN

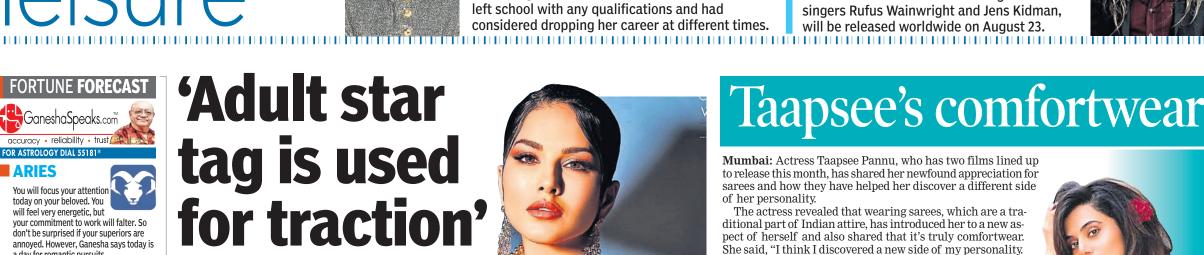
You firmly believe in the concept of 'health is wealth'. You have maintained a very good health so far and it will not be an issue today, also. Successful completion of current projects seem to be a distant target, however, you will finish them off.

AQUARIUS

You wish to have more than twenty-four hours in a day! You are determined to finish off your pending work but somehow you will find it extremely difficult to get the load off your shoulders. You will try everything; from canceling your vacations to postponing your dates, but nothing will seem enough, feels Ganesha.

PISCES

Ganesha asks you not to undertake any new project of business venture due to the alignment of the planets being unfavorable. You will do well in tasks that do not require too much creativity and innovation Do not take sides when you are not required to and it make have heavy conse quences in future



Mumbai: Actress Sunny Leone, in a recent inter view, reflected on being judged for her adult film

Sunny, when asked about her initial strug-

gle in Bollywood when she was judged over her previous career in the adult film industry. She said, "I think that in my initial time being here in India, it is expected of the certian words or tag people use for you. That is completely normal. I think it's more bothersome now that we are still talking about it. Come on! It's been 13 years now since I have been here. If you don't let it go, how do we all move forward? So, it is high time. It is not a conversation piece which is interesting anymore. It's something you know has happened in my life. We all have done a lot of work and grown in our own ways. I think it's odd now that a publication uses it for traction.'

Sunny shot to fame in Indian entertainment industry with Bigg Boss and made her debut with Pooja Bhatt's erotic-thriller Jism 2 and later featured in popular Hindi films like - Shootout at Wadala, Ragini MMS 2, Hate Story 2 and more.

On the work front, Sunny will be next seen in Anurag Kahsyap's neo-noir-thriller Kennedy.

Golmaal's Lucky

is my good luck

charm: Tusshar

Mumbai:

Actor Tusshar Kapoor, who will be seen in his latest project, the web series Dus June Kii Raat-Chapter 1, said 'Lucky,' his popular character from the superhit comedy film franchise Golmaal, is like one of his best friends who tags along with him wherever he

"There are some things that walk with you all the time, and it's okay. I find that character is like one of my best friends. He's always hovering behind me in one way or another. 'Lucky' is like my good luck charm... I have a lot of gratitude for that character (Lucky), for the franchise, and for the entire team of Golmaal. The character worked because of them. It was not because of me, but because of the hard work of the entire team. When your character is liked, especially by families and kids, it never goes out of fashion," Kapoor told *PTI* in an interview here. Dus June Kii Raat is produced by Sachin Mohite and co-produced by Ektaa

> Kapoor and features Priyanka Chahar Choudhary.

> > THEY HAVE

CADDIES WHO TAKE

THE FLAG OUT OF

THE HOLE.

Taapsee's comfortwear

Mumbai: Actress Taapsee Pannu, who has two films lined up to release this month, has shared her newfound appreciation for sarees and how they have helped her discover a different side The actress revealed that wearing sarees, which are a traditional part of Indian attire, has introduced her to a new aspect of herself and also shared that it's truly comfortwear.

She said, "I think I discovered a new side of my personality. When I embraced wearing sarees, and by sarees, I don't mean the ones that people generally wear on red carpets or special occasions or festivals. I'm talking about the daily wear sarees.

The Pink actress, who is currently in Paris enjoying the Summer

around in her avant-garde sarees. Taapsee has collaborated with the fashion label Suta and is embracing the vibrant colours of France while donning stunning sarees. The actress noted, "I realised a different side of my personality started showing when I wore these sarees. Over time, as I liked what I saw in the mirror, I be-

wearing them. On the professional front, Taapsee will next be seen in Phir Aavi Hasseen Dillruba and KhelKhel

Mumbai: Sanaya Irani,

pleasant

FUN

a well-known televi-

sion actress, has re-

vealed the un-

Olympics, has been seen strolling came more and more comfortable

experiences she encountered while trying to enter the Hindi and South Indian film industries. In a recent interview, Irani disclosed that many industry professionals meet new actresses to determine if they are willing to compromise their values.

When asked about her experiences with the casting couch, Irani recounted an incident from her early career. A South Indian filmmaker insisted on meeting her despite her disinterest in films at that time. During the meeting, he bluntly told her she wasn't "fuller" enough for the role. which she interpreted as an attempt to assess her willingness to compromise.

Irani also shared an experience in Bollywood, where she was asked to contact a director for an audition. Initially told it was for a music video, she later discovered it was for a film. When she finally spoke with the director, he was dismissive and focused on whether she was comfortable wear-

CROSSWORD

Sanaya Irani shares her casting couch

experience highlight the darker aspects of the film industry and the challenges actresses face beyond their talent and

dedication. Irani's experiences shed light on the industry's underlying issues and the pressure on actresses to compromise their integrity. On the work front, Sanaya was last seen in Iss Pyaar

Naam Doon opposite Barun Sobti.

need to wear a bikini, leading Irani to

ing a bikini rather than discussing

her character. Irani, unimpressed

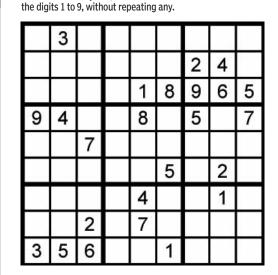
by his attitude, asked directly

about the role's nature. The director responded rudely, emphasizing the

Kya

SUDOKU

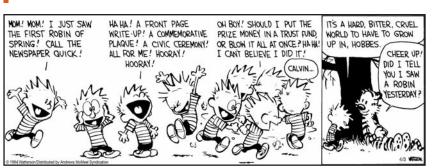
To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains



LEHAVRE

CALVIN AND HOBBES

PEANUTS



MY CADDY FALLS

IN THE HOLE!

BREVITY



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22 Set securely

24 Concert venue

25 Fancy desk (4-

23 Apiary

<u>Down</u>

Across 1 Ottoman

5 Recipe direction

8 Competition

between foes

9 Slow mover

10 Elbow

11 Soft-finned fish

12 Drives back

14 Fervent

19 Subject

17 Covered porch

3 Wildcatter's

2 Socked away

concern (3,4)

1 Graceful bird

4 Data input device

15 Breakfast 16 Thief

> 18 Neighbor of Pakistan 20 Direct

21 Sneak around

5 Fundamental

13 One of Aesop's

fables, e.g.

staple

6 Captivate

7 Late

12 Copy

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWOR

2 8 6 9 4 8 7

AEONTOL

SUDOKU

7 6 1 1 3 8 2 6 9 4 9 4 8 1 7 5 2 6

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

SUVA (FIJI): President Droupadi Murmu was Tuesday conferred the Companion of the Order of Fiji, the country's highest civilian award as she hailed the ties between the two countries and said India stands ready to partner with Fiji to build a stronger, resilient, and more prosperous nation. "President Ratu Wiliame Maivalili Katonivere of Fiji conferred the Companion of the Order of Fiji upon President Droupadi Murmu. This is the highest civilian award of Fiji," the President's Office said in a post on X. Murmu, who is on a two-day visit to Fiji, described the honour as 'a reflection of the deep ties of friendship' between India and Fiji.

NITI Aayog to help state prepare vision docus

ACHIEVE \$500 BILLION ECONOMY BY 2036 AND \$1.5 TRILLION BY 2047, SAYS CM

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 6: Under the direction of Prime Minister. NITI Aayog has come forward to support Odisha in preparing a vision document to realise its goal of a 'Bikasita Odisha'. NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer (CEO) BVR Subrahmanyam Tuesday met Chief Minister Mohan Charan Maihi at Lok Seva Bhawan here to discuss this grand strategy for the state.

During the discussion, Majhi said that Odisha has huge potential in different sectors and it needs to realise this potential to achieve the goal of 'Bikasita Odisha' by 2036 and 2047. He said



that Odisha desires to contribute significantly to the growth of the country and become a growth engine of India by 2047.

The Chief Minister further said that Odisha targets a 500 billion dollar economy by 2036 when the state will be celebrating the centenary of its formation. "We also desire to reach 1.5 trillion dollar economy by 2047," he added.

The NITI Aayog CEO said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has special focus on Odisha's development. Every state needs to grow exceptionally to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat.

"In case of Odisha, we will support for preparation of two and another for 2047, Subrahmanyam asserted.

During the discussion, it was de cided that a steering committee will be formed under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja. Roadmap for the vision will be prepared in three months. For this, massive public outreach programmes will be taken up for receiving opinions and suggestions to achieve the goal of 'Bikasita Odisha'. An action plan will also be ready to take up initiatives as per the vision.

Before the meeting with the CM, the NITI Aayog CEO and its officers had an extensive discussion with secretaries and senior officers of all the state departments.

Among others, Chief Secretary Ahuja, Development Commissioner Anu Garg and Additional Chief Secretary to CM Nikunja Bihari Dhal were

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



BJD TO INTENSIFY STIR AGAINST POLAVARAM

gion, he said.

Bhubaneswar, August 6: Opposition BJD formed a committee Tuesday to intensify its protest against Polavaram multipurpose project in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh that was being 'promoted' by the BJP-led gov ernment at the Centre.

The committee, headed by former minister Atanu Sabvasachi Nayak, has Debi Prasad Mishra, Pradeep Majhi and Bhrugu Baxipatra as its members.

"The members will visit Motu and Padia, and other likely-to-be affected areas in Malkangiri district. The BJP has dealt a blow to Odisha after coming to power at the Centre and the state by

granting funds for the completion of Polavaram project, besides according it the national project status," former MP Pradeep Maihi said. He said the Polavaram project is likely to inundate about 1.400-1.500 ha land in Padia and Motu tehsils in Malkangiri dis-

trict. The BJD is worried over the

safety of tribals living in the re-

Meanwhile, Congress said the BJD kept the issue pending while being in power for 24 years in the state. "Instead of visiting the spot, the BJD should work to stop the project. It kept the issue hanging while being in power for 24 years. The BJP's double engine government can also take steps in this direction by holding discussions with the TDP-led Andhra government if it wants," Congress

Meanwhile, the BJP said the BJDis trying to pull off a political stunt to mislead the people of the state. "The BJD was in power for 24 years and could have impressed upon the Centre to look into Odisha's concerns. However, the BJD then never raised issues of the state's interests," BJP MLA Babu Singh said.

MLA Sofia Firdous said.

The Polavaram project, being developed on the Godavari river in Polavaram mandalam of Andhra Pradesh, is aimed at irrigating over 4.3 lakh hectare of land and generating 960 mw of hydropower, along with the supply of drinking water to nearly 30 lakh people in 611 villages.

Vig arrests engineer with 50 plots of land

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 6: Vigilance sleuths Tuesday arrested Odisha Bridge and Construction Corporation (OBCC) Limited additional chief engineer Pradeep Kumar Rath on charges of amassing assets, including 50 plots of land, disproportionate to his known sources of income, official sources said.

Following allegations of amassing disproportionate assets (DA), teams comprising nine DSPs, 11 inspectors, and other supporting staff Monday conducted searches at 12 places in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Jajpur and Khurda related to Rath, posted at the office of the Chief Construction Engineer, R and B (Cuttack Circle).

During searches, the anti-corruption wing sleuths claimed to have found two three-storey buildings including one in Bhubaneswar, three luxurious flats in Capital City, a two-storey medicine store-cum-residential premises here, a crusher unit in Dhenkanal, two-earthmovers, one excavator and a rock breaker from the possession of Rath and his family members.

These apart, 50 plots in upscale areas like Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, around 1 kg gold and silver jewellery, postal and bank deposits of ₹2 crore, investment in business of ₹1 crore, two fourwheelers and as many two-wheelers were also found in their pos-

"Sri Pradeep Kumar Rath, Additional Chief Engineer, OBCC, office at Chief Construction Engineer, R&B Cuttack Circle was arrested by Odisha Vigilance and forwarded to the Hon'ble Court of Special Judge, Vigilance, Cuttack for possession of assets disproportionate to his known sources of income. In this connection, Cuttack Vigilance PS Case (20/24) was registered against him, his spouse and son under

Sections 13(2) r/w 13(1)(b)/12 of the PC (Amendment) Act, 2018," a Vigilance press statement read. Rath joined the government

service in 1991 as a stipendiary engineer with a monthly salary of ₹2,000. His service was regularised in 1999 when he was serving in the rural development division in Dhenkanal and he continued there as an assistant engineer till 2001, the Vigilance department said. He was posted in various offices of Keonjhar, Jajpur, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack under the Works department and in 2022, he was promoted to the rank of additional chief engineer of OBCC.

Two arrested for bizman murder

DEBADURLLAV HARICHANDAN, OP

Bhubaneswar, August 6: The Commissionerate Police blew the lid off the sensational murder of a businessman in the City last month with the arrest of two persons, including his business partner. Tuesday

Police Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda identified the arrested as Bunty Digal, 27, and his associate Bijay Kumar Nayak, 37. "A knife, blood-soaked clothes,

two four-wheelers and two mobile phones were seized from their possession," Panda said.

Bunty had come in contact with the victim—Nabaghana Patasani around four years ago

"He joined Nabaghana's business as a partner: However, things turned ugly after Nabaghana didn't clear Bunty's dues. Nabaghana also slapped Bunty in full public view when the latter asked for his money." Panda said.

Unable to bear the humiliation. Bunty asked Nabaghana to come to Sri Sai Lodge near Ghatikia, where he stabbed him to death. With the help of Bijay Bunty dumped Nabaghana's body at Kandala river.

ICG steps up vigil along WB, Odisha coastlines

Kolkata, August 6: Indian Coast Guard (ICG) units along Odisha and West Bengal coastlines have increased vigil after the toppling of the government in Bangladesh

BANGLADESH UNREST

Though no specific instructions have arrived as yet from the ICG headquarters in Delhi, all units under the Headquarters North East Region, based in Kolkata, are on standby to deal with any unauthorised movement from across the Maritime Boundary Line (MBL) between India and Bangladesh.

"Our assets at sea are maintaining constant vigil while aircraft from Kolkata and Bhubaneswar are also carrying out

sorties. This is essential to prevent any attempt to cross over into Indian territorial waters by unauthorised people," said a senior ICG official from New Delhi

Till a few days ago, there was bonhomie between the ICG and the have also participated in several tabletop and physical exercises to jointly tackle accidents at sea due to bad weather. piracy, smuggling, and pollution.

After the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government Monday and the subsequent takeover by the Army, communication lines have been severed.

There is a possibility that non-state actors would take advantage of the situation in Bangladesh to carry out a strike on assets along India's eastern seaboard. Apart from this, Bangladeshi nationals, fearing persecution in their own country, may also try to enter India by sea.

The ICG has ships based at Haldia in West Bengal and Paradip in Odisha. All the units have been directed to remain prepared for quick mobilisation.

ଡା.୭ ଅଗଷ୍ଟ ୨୦୨୪, ଜୟଦେବ ଭବନ, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର ଦଶମ ଳାତୀୟ ହଞ୍ଚତନ୍ତ ଦିବସ ପାଳନ ଅବସରରେ ଦେଶ ଓ ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମଞ୍ଚ ବୁଣାଳାର ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ହଞ୍ଚତ ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ଐତିହ୍ୟ, କଳା, ପରଣରା ଓ ସଂଷ୍କୃତିର ଏକ ଅବିଲେବ୍ୟ ଅଙ୍ଗ । ଆମ ରାଜ୍ୟର ହଞ୍ଚତନ୍ତ ଏକ ପୁମୁଖ ଗ୍ରାମୀଣ କୁଟୀର ଶିଳ୍ପର ଭୂମିକା ନିର୍ବାହ କରିବା ସଙ୍ଗେ ପ୍ରାମାଞ୍ଚଳରେ ବହୁଳ ଫଖ୍ୟାରେ କର୍ମ ନିୟୋଳନ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରୁଅଛି । ଏହି ସମନ୍ତ ହନ୍ତତନ୍ତ ଉତ୍ପାଦଗୁଡିକ ଅନନ୍ୟ ଏବଂ ଉଚ୍ଚି କୁଶଳୀ ବୁଶାଳାରମାନଙ୍କର ଅତୁଳନୀୟ କାରିଗରୀର ଅଭିବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ପ୍ରତିପାଦନ କରିବା ସହିତ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ହଞ୍ଚତନ୍ତ ବଞ୍ଚକୁ ବିଶ୍ୱପ୍ରସିଦ୍ଧ କରିପାରିଛି । ବୁଣାକାରମାନଙ୍କର ସାମାଜିକ ତଥା ଅଥିନୈତିକ ଉନ୍ନତି ନିମନ୍ତେ ରାଳ୍ୟ ସରକାର ବିଭିନ୍ନ କଲ୍ୟାଣମୂଳକ ଯୋଜନା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ କରୁଛଡି । ବିକାଶର ମୁଖ୍ୟସ୍ରୋତରେ ପ୍ରତ୍ୟେକଟି ବୁଣାକାର ପରିବାରକୁ ସାମିଲ କରିବା ସହ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ହ୍ରତତକୁ ଭକ୍ଷର ଶୀର୍ଷରେ ପହଞ୍ଚାଇବା ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ଓ ଫଳନ୍ଥ । ଜାତୀୟ ହଞ୍ଚତ୍ତ ଦିବସ ପାଳନ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଁ ବୁଣାକାର ଭାଇ ଓ ଭଭଣୀମାନଙ୍କର ଉଉରୋଉର ଉନ୍ନତି

> (ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ) ମାନ୍ୟବର ମଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତୀ

DRDO's bag decomposes in 3 months

team of scientists at the Defence Research and Development ▲ Organisation (DRDO) developed Polybutylene adipate terephthalate (PBAT)-based biodegradable packaging, revolutionising the market with eco-friendly alternatives that decompose within three months, leaving no harmful residue.

DRDO scientist K Veerabrahmam and his team at Advanced Systems Laboratory of DRDO at Hyderabad developed biodegradable packaging products using PBAT, a biodegradable polymer derived from petroleum products or plant oils.

This innovative technology has been shared with over 40 industries free of cost, aiming for widespread adoption across the country and the world, the team said Tuesday.

PBAT-based biodegradable packaging is set to transform the market with its remarkable strength and durability, comparable to conventional plastics. These products offer an eco-friendly alternative without compromising on quality.

Extensive environmental impact studies, including the IS 17088 test, have confirmed that these biodegradable bags decompose within three



months, leaving no harmful residue and ensuring they are compostable,

"Despite the slightly higher production cost of ₹160 to 180 per kg compared to traditional polyethene bags at ₹140 per kg, DRDO and its partners are committed to keeping these biodegradable bags cost-effective. By sharing the technology free of charge and fostering collaborations, we aim to scale up production and distribution efficiently. This approach ensures that the benefits of this eco-friendly solution reach a broad au-

dience," said Veerabrahmam. He mentioned that the success of this initiative is already evident at the Tirumala temple, where biodegradable bags are now used for distributing Tirupati Laddus.

This pilot project serves as a model for further implementation in tourist destinations, coastal areas, and other regions, promoting the widespread adoption of biodegradable packaging solutions.

The potential applications of this technology extend beyond carry bags. Biodegradable materials can be utilised for medical waste bags, aprons, garbage bags, nursery bags, shrink films, and packing films, showcasing their versatility and broad utility. This initiative marks a significant milestone in the journey towards sustainable living and environmental preservation, the team said.

"The patent of this technology is in progress. The extensive research conducted by the Advanced Systems Laboratory of DRDO in Hyderabad underscores their commitment to finding the best environment-friendly replacements for hazardous plastic. The collaboration with Ecolastic Private Limited and the involvement of multiple industries exemplify the collective effort required to combat the plastic pollution crisis,



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MATRIMONIAL

Looking for a BBSR based Bengali Brahmin smart boy for my daughter Devgon Tularashi 30Y, H-5'.1". She has done her MBA and currently running her own Company in **BBSR.** Interested person please contact-9776466119, 9438183096.

I Anima patel has lost my Sale Deed bearing No.-10861002445 at Railway Station Jharsuguda on dated 24.04.2024, I want to apply House Loan from Jharsuguda Branch (00238) against mortgage as per said land. If any body has got, kindly inform at +918895097086.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Abhijet Chakraaborti, resident of 260/1393, Cuttack Road, Bhubaneswar-751006, Odisha, hereby inform that my minor daughter, previously known as Monisha Chakraborti (Old Name), has changed her name and spelling to Monisa Chakrabortti (New Name) in all her documents, vide affidavit No. 75 dated 21.12.2022, sworn before the Executive Magistrate, for all future purposes.

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Nuapada, I, Sumit Kumar Kesharwani, R/o-Near Hanuman Mandir, Ward No.11, Main Road, At/P.O.- Khariar Road, Dist.- Nuapada, Odisha declare that I have changed my father's name in my Passport from Naval Kishor Kesharwani to Nawal Kishore Kesharwani. That both the names stands for same and one person. That my father's actual name shall be known as Nawal Kishore Kesharwani for all purposes.

I, Kalyani Das, W/o-Santosh Kumar Mohanty, Service No. 14590209H, Rank-Ex-NK, resident of Korania, PO - Rohia, PS-Naugaon, Dist-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha-754113 have changed my name from KALYANI MOHANTY to KALYANI DAS vide Affidavit No. 12187 dt. 31.07.2024 and my date of birth from 20.07.1969 to 11.08.1969 vide Affidavit No. 12186 dt.31.07.2024 before the Court of the Executive Magistrate, Jagatsinghpur.

By the virtue of an affidavit No-1003/6.8.2024 before the Executive Magistrate, Daspalla, I Dipti Ranjan Rath, S/o-Padmanav Rath, Village At/PO- Madhyakhanda, PS-Daspalla, Nayagarh do hereby my wife's actual name is Sanjulata Panda in Aadhaar but in my passport name is Sanjukta Rath. Henceforth Sanjulata Panda and Sanjukta Rath is one and same person for all purposes.

US Consul Gen meets Swain over industry-led development

Corporation (IDCO) managing di-

rector Bhupendra Singh Poonia

said, "We have created and de-

veloped skillful human resources

in Odisha in the framework of

Singapore. Skilled and disci-

plined manpower is our greatest

achievement. We are a leader in

electronics and semiconductor

industry in Malaysia, Vietnam

Larson also held discussions

with Deputy Chief Minister

Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo dur-

ing which the latter informed

the former about state's geo-

graphical location, mineral

wealth, fertile soil and exten-

of Odisha will attract tourists as

well as provide ample opportu-

nities for foreign investors to

He said that the natural wealth

sive beaches.

Exchange.

'The death rate in such cases

The risk factor involved in

is close to 90 per cent," Dey added.

such a complex procedure was

informed to the parents of the pa-

tients and they agreed to progress

further, associate consultant in

the Gastroenterology depart-

"After undergoing four dif-

ferent treatment processes with

the support from the medical

management team, the patient

regained her conscious. The pa-

tient was kept under observa-

tion and later was discharged

after her condition became sta-

several hospitals but she was

not provided the required treat-

ment. Her problem was prop-

erly diagnosed and treated at

SUMUM leading to her recov-

ery," Mohammed Nasim, father

"I took my ailing daughter to

ble. Panda said

ment. Sambit Bhuvan said.

9-yr-old recovers from

liver failure at SUMUM

with skilled manpower.

Larson meets Deputy CM



ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, August 6: US Consul General in Hyderabad Jennifer Larson Tuesday met Industries, Skill Development and Technical Education Minister Sampad Swain and discussed the possibilities of industries and employment opportunities in export-import of

During the discussion, industries Secretary Hemant Sharma said Paradip is the second best and largest port in India. Various mineral products, petrochemicals, chemicals, seafood, manganese and iron ore are being exported to other parts of the country and abroad such as China, Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia and Mongolia through this port. Logistic mining or mechanisation of mining and digitisation of mining programme is going on in Odisha, Sharma

On this occasion, Odisha Industrial Development

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 6: Astute

handling of a critical case of liver

failure using Plasma Exchange

helped a 9-year-old girl recover at

the SUM Ultimate Medicare

The girl was brought to the

hospital complaining of jaun-

dice and was admitted under

the supervision of senior con-

sultant and head of depart-

ment of Gastroenterology

Later, as her condition de-

teriorated, the patient was

shifted to the neonatal inten-

sive care unit by the advice of

head of the department of

Pediatrics and Neonatology

the leadership of associate con-

sultant in the department of

Gastroenterology Gadadhar

Panda, decided to go for Plasma

The team of doctors, under

(SUMUM) here, recently.

Ayaskanta Singh

Pradip Kumar Dey.

state's cultural, heritage and biodiversity-rich places," Singh "As the state has a long coast-

line, the government is committed to establishing the coast as a destination and transportation route. For this, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has allocated funds in this year's Budget. Accordingly, the government is giving more priority to the use of solar energy in the electricity and energy sector and promoting its use and generation," he further said.

the tourism potential of the

"Odisha has ample opportunities for investment in areas like food production and processing, exports, information technology and textiles. Industries can take this opportunity to invest," he added.

Singh Deo said continuous wetland development, creation of new tourist areas, investmentfriendly land survey, government's incentive policies and planned investment schemes will be provided to attract foreign tourists and investors.

The Deputy CM said that this will develop the sectors related to state's economic growth and create qualified human resources.

Notably, the US Consulate General in Hyderabad promotes US interests and US-India bilateral relationship in the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh

Heavy rain likely in 8 dists today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 6: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Tuesday issued a heavy rainfall warning for eight districts of the state Wednesday.

Forecasting heavy rainfall (7 to 11 cm), IMD's Bhubaneswar regional centre has issued a yellow warning for Malkangiri, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Sambalpur, and Deogarh. Similarly, a heavy rainfall warning has been issued for Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Mayurbhani, Keonjhar,

and Deogarh for Thursday. Apart from the above districts, light to moderate rainfall or thundershower is expected in the north and south Odisha districts, the weather office said.



received heavy rainfall from 8:30am to 5:30pm Tuesday. The highest rainfall of 92 mm was recorded at Bolangir while it was 61.2 mm at Paralakhemundi, 60 mm at Angul and 57 mm at POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 6: With the objective of promoting sign language across the state, the Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD) department signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD-D) Tuesday.

promote sign language

Welcome to SS&EPD Department

MoU Signing remony between

The MoU, aimed at preparing sign language interpreters, was signed in presence of SSEPD Minister Nityananda Gond and Principal Secretary Bishnupada

Speaking on the occasion. Minister Gond said, "There is a need for sign language interpreters in the state. This scarcity has posed substantial obstacles for individuals with hearing impairments, hindering their access to essential services, educational opportunities and equitable participation in societal activities."

The MoU aims to address this gap by enhancing communication, inclusivity and overall wellbeing of the hearing-impaired community in the state," he added.

SSEPD Principal Secretary Bishnupada Sethi, in his address, said, "This agreement will facilitate placement opportunities for trained interpreters in various sectors. The MoU will

create a cadre of over 100 proficient sign language interpreters who will provide training to almost 4,000 eneficiaries

The initiative aims to

identify potential employers and organise networking events to connect trained interpreters with job opportunities.

The initiative aims to create a cadre of over 100 proficient sign language interpreters, who will provide training to almost 4,000 beneficiaries across special schools for the hearing-impaired, officials said.

Notably, AYJNISHD-D, an autonomous organisation under the Central government's department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, was established August 9, 1983. The regional centres were established in Kolkata (1984), New Delhi (1986). Secunderabad (1986) and Bhubaneswar (1986)

Earlier, a MoU was signed between SSEPD department and IIT Bhubaneswar which envisages for providing comprehensive technological solutions for quality education for visually-im-

FEST AHEAD: An artisan gives finishing touches to an idol of Maa Mangala ahead of Khudurukuni Osha at Kumbhar SSEPD dept inks MoU to Ashok Bal joins as KLF CEÓ

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 6: Eminent writer Ashok Bal joined as Patron and CEO of Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF), announced KLF founder Rashmi Ranjan Parida recently.

Taking charge of the platform, Bal said, "We need to take KLF to greater heights, expanding its footprints, broadening its content and making it more contemporary and relevant to reach out to diverse audience groups.

Speaking on the occasion, Parida said, "We are honoured to welcome administrator and author Ashok Bal as KLF CEO. We believe, the platform, under his leadership, will achieve

greater heights in the field of art, culture and

ture. knowledge on ancient

Kalinga and India's rich his torical A 1983 batch **India Revenue** tives as well as Service officer. contem Bal rendered his porary society services in

drive the

wards

more

success

various capacities for over 27 years

added Parida. With an illustrious career in the corporate world and public service, Bal's leadership roles at several leading organisations have been exemplary. He is an alumnus of Delhi School of Economics.

A 1983 batch India Revenue Service (IRS) officer, Bal rendered his services in various capacities for over 27 years. He is also Visiting Faculty of Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.

Maintaining healthy gut helps in boosting skin appearance

here is a direct connection between the gut health and overall skin condition, said experts Tuesday.

To regulate increasing skin and gut problems, the experts underlined the importance of diet and lifestyle. Gut health is important for skin health because of the gut-skin axis. Imbalances in the gut microbiota can cause inflammation, which can appear on the skin as conditions like acne, eczema, or rosacea.

Maintaining a healthy gut helps regulate immune responses, which may reduce skin inflammation and improve overall skin condition. A balanced gut microbiome ensures proper digestion and nutrient absorption. supporting the skin's natural barrier function. Proper gut health can thus lead to improved skin health and appearance.

Dermatitis herpetiformis, associated with celiac disease (gluten sensitivity), is one example where gut health directly impacts the skin. Increased inflammation from an unhealthy gut can worsen skin problems, including psoriasis, rosacea, acne, and eczema.

"Gut health plays a crucial role in skin health due to the gut-skin axis. Imbalances in gut microbiota can lead to inflammation, which may manifest as skin issues. Maintaining a healthy gut helps regulate immune responses, potentially reducing skin inflammation and improving overall skin condition," Prasad Bhate, HOD and Consultant Medical Gastroenterology at Manipal

Hospital, Pune, told IANS. Diet plays a vital role in maintaining both gut and skin health. "Foods rich in fibre, probiotics, and antioxidants, such as voghurt, kefir, leafy greens, berries, nuts, and fatty fish, support both gut and skin health. These foods help maintain a balanced gut



microbiome and provide essential nutrients that promote skin hydration and repair," he further added.

Many gastrointestinal conditions, including inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), are connected to skin manifestations. Skin issues such as acne, rosacea, and psoriasis are linked to gut health. These conditions often correlate with gut dysbiosis, an imbalance in gut bacteria that can trigger systemic inflammation and immune responses, worsening skin problems.

The relationship between gut and skin health underscores the importance of maintaining a balanced gut microbiome to prevent or alleviate these skin conditions. By addressing gut health, it is possible to reduce inflammation and immune-related skin issues. highlighting the interconnectedness of the body's systems.

"Many gastrointestinal conditions, such as inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), are associated with skin manifestations. Skin conditions linked to gut health include acne, rosacea. and psoriasis. These conditions often correlate with gut dysbiosis, where an imbalance in gut bacteria can trigger systemic inflammation and immune responses, exacerbating skin issues," Naresh Jain, Senior Consultant - Dermatology at Fortis Memorial Research

While medications can assist in managing skin problems, addressing underlying gut health is crucial for long-term im-

Institute, Gurugram, told IANS.

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Black marketing of fertilizers hit farmers hard

Nayagarh, August 6: Alleged large-scale black-marketing of fertilisers in this district has left farmers impoverished and hit the agrarian economy hard.

According to reports, farmers here have to shell out anything between ₹330 to ₹450, or even more, to buy a 45-kg bag of fertilizer from the open market which they otherwise purchase at the government rate of ₹266.50 to ₹242 from cooperative stores. They alleged that the scarcity situation has happened due to the malafide callousness of the district administration and Agriculture department officials who are dragging their feet over streamlining the supply of subsidised fertilizers

According to rules, the stateowned Markfed should supply fertilizers to government cooperative stores for sale among the farmers. However, it is alleged that some of the fertiliser consignments dispatched from Markfed godown go missing during transportation to cooperative stores.

As a result, the farmers are forced to pay double the price (than the government rate) to

Teen dies after consuming

poison, family alleges

harassment by school

Jajpur, August 6: The death of

a 17-year-old boy, while under-

going treatment for consuming

poison, has triggered uproar

with his family alleging mental

harassment by his school, here.

XII student of a residential

school, allegedly consumed poi-

son in his home Monday evening.

He was accused of stealing a

mobile phone of a hostel inmate. He was first taken to a gov-

ernment hospital at Madhuban

and later to the SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack where he died late last night.

His father filed a complaint with the Dharmasala police in

connection with the incident

According to the teenager's

family, they received a call from

the Renaissance Higher

Secondary School August 4 morn-

ing and the authorities said that

Ashish had stolen a mobile phone

from a roommate of the hostel. 'We reached the school at

about 10 am and our son ap-

peared very stressed and pleaded

he was innocent. The school au-

thority directed us to take him

home. When we asked them to

show us the CCTV footage of

our son's misdeed, they could

not show it. We took him home

on Sunday," said Banka Behari

Panda, father of the deceased.

was mentally tortured by the

school authorities. "My son could

not bear the humiliation and

died by suicide," he said.

Panda alleged that his son

Ashish Kumar Panda, a Class

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

buy those from the open market. Farmers said, though they

have lodged a series of complaints in this regard at regular intervals, their plight is yet to be heard. They also alleged that the fertilizers supplied from Markfed godown to most of the societies in the district are available at only at a handful of societies.

Sources said that the district has a total of 157 cooperative societies. Of them, 142 are in seven blocks under the Nayagarh Central Cooperative Bank, while the rest 15 are in Ranpur block which function under the neighbouring Khurda Central Cooperative Bank. Reports stated

that only 45 per cent of the societies have received fertilizers from Markfed this season.

Sources said some societies are turning away farmers visiting there to buy fertilizsrs due to lack of adequate stock. It is even alleged that some societies are charging an extra ₹30-₹50 over and above the government price for a packet of fertilizer.

President of a cooperative society, who requested not to be named, said that fertilizers transported from Markfed godown are diverted elsewhere en route by some unscrupulous officials. Though the officials are involved

they are getting away with impunity. He also said though the society led by him has some stock of fertilizer, they are unable to sell those to the farmers as it is not adequate for their requirement.

That is the reason why they are refusing the farmers who are approaching them on a regular basis for fertilizers as they are unsure of whom to give and who to

Rama Chandra Sahu, a farmer in Nayagarh said there is good demand for IFFCO urea. The government price for a 45-kg packet of IFFCO urea is ₹242 while it is being sold for ₹380 to ₹400 in the black market. Similarly, the government price for 50-kg packet of IFFCO fertilizer is ₹262, but it is sold at anything between ₹ 400 to ₹ 450 in the black market. "No action has been taken despite repeated complaints in this regard." he said

Farmer Bhaskar Jena of Jagannathprasad said that his society is yet to receive fertilizer for which they are forced to buy it at ₹300 per packet in black market from the Manikagoda society in Khurda district. The same packet of fertiliser is also stores in black.

Another farmer, Jagu Mohapatra, of Malisahi village said agriculturists in his area are buying fertiliser at ₹360 to ₹400 as the society is yet to receive the

Farmer Abhimanyu Guman Singh of Chakradharprasad village said that the black marketing of fertilizer is a regular affair. And this year it is no exception. "We have to pay ₹100 to ₹150 more than the government rate to buy a packet of fertilizer," he said.

Farmer Gobind Sahu of Nuagaon said they started cultivation works following good rainfall this year. But the black marketing of fertilizers has hit them hard. He said though everybody is aware of their problems, no steps are being taken to address those. "We tried several times to inform the Agriculture official about our problem, but he is not responding to our calls," he alleged.

This correspondent tried to contact the chief district agriculture officer (CDAO) Sanjay Kumar Dalei and ARCS Prarthana Priyadarshini over phone. However, they did not respond to the calls.

Worms in halwa premix; ICDS runs into controversy

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jaipur. August 6: Odisha government's ambitious suji-halwa premix programme, for mental and physical development among the children, under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) ran into a controversy after worms were found in some packets in the district, recently.

The scheme, launched 10 years ago, is meant for children in the age group of six months to threevears. However, fingers were pointed at the hygiene standards of the food after family members of a beneficiary allegedly found worms crawling inside a packet at Prathamakhanda village under Rasulpur block of the district, recently.

Reports said that the packaged suji-halwa premix had been prepared by Sri Sri Rameswar women self-help group in the village. A social outfit in the village, United Forum, drew the attention of the district Collector towards the issue Monday. The forum alleged in its complaint that worms were found crawling inside the packet within two weeks of its manufacturing.

Earlier, similar allegations were made against a women self-help group at Alipur village under Bari block in the district. The district social welfare officer (DSWO) had then launched a probe, but later nothing came out.

Nevertheless, the discovery of worms from the children's food item has raised serious question marks on the implementation of the scheme.

Meanwhile, the district Collector has assured to conduct a probe and take necessary action in this regard.

Earlier, the scheme ran into another controversy after anomalies were found in the contents in violation of the prescribed



mix packet should be ideally of 1,500g. The content is prepared by mixing 760g of suji, 260g chickpea flour (besan), 400g sugar and 80g oil. However, the suji-halwa premix from Chitrakul Dalit Sahi in Damodarpur village under Rasulpur block was found to have only 50g sugar, while the oil content was nil. Moreover, the packet weighed 1,200g which was 300g less than the prescribed weight of a packet.

As per the instruction, the halwa is prepared by emptying the required quantity of premix in boiled water or milk. Additionally, there is no need to put additional oil or sugar in the halwa. Children are advised to consume 60g of the halwa per day. However, when consumed, the halwa was found lacking in taste due to the absence of sugar, gram flour and oil.

The office bearers of the forum have alleged that the fraud has happened due to the alleged nexus of the CDPO with the women self-help groups supplying the packets.

The forum has demanded that an investigation should unravel how the worm-infested sujihalwa premix packets were distributed among children and why it did not undergo quality check before distribution. It has also demanded a probe into and bonafides of the supplying agency, apart from stringent action against the government officials, and the persons, involved



RISKY PROPOSITION: Commuters negotiating a railway underpass overflowing with rainwater at Jujumura Road in Sambalpur, Tuesday

Worker dies, 5 critical as toxic gas leaks in factory

PNN & AGENCIES

Jharsuguda/Bhubaneswar, **August 6:** A worker died and five others were critically ill following a poisonous gas leak at a private factory in Jharsuguda district Tuesday, a police offi-

The deceased was identified as Barun Pradhan, 38, of Kechhobahal village in Brajarajnagar of the district. He was a contractual worker in the factory.

The injured have been admitted to a private healthcare facility in Jharsuguda town,



Umashankar Singh, Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Jharsuguda, said. "We have registered a case at Jharsuguda Sadar police station and the postmortem of the body has been conducted," he said.

The incident occurred when the labourers were working at the

gas plant zone of the factory, a steel plant of Odisha Metaliks Private Ltd. Pradhan died on the spot after inhaling the poisonous gas, reportedly carbon monoxide, and five others seriously took ill

Meanwhile, tension gripped the area as angry co-workers staged a sit-in outside the plant gate demanding compensation. On being informed, Badmal police reached the spot and pacified the agitating workers. They sent the body for post-mortem to Jharsuguda headquarters hospital and launched an investigation into the incident.

Teacher suspended

Kendrapara: An assistant teacher-cum-incharge headmaster of a Nodal High School in Rajnagar here was placed under suspension Tuesday for allegedly outraging the modesty of a sixth-grade girl student. Kendrapara District Education Officer (DEO) Pradeep Kumar Nag suspended Biswambar Parida on the basis of an inquiry report submitted by the Block Education Officer (BEO). According to sources, the errant headmaster sexually abused the student a few days ago. The victim narrated the incident before her parents who, in turn, informed the school management committee which decided to transfer him to another school. However, Parida refused. The teacher faced the wrath of the victim's family, the video of which later went viral. When the matter came to the notice of Rajnagar BEO, he directed a probe into the matter by the BEO.

Pnb punjabnational bank पंजाब नैशनल बैंक HRD Department, Circle Office, Berhampur, Shiv Arcade, 2nd Floor,

Tata Benz Square, Berhampur-760001, Mail ID: cobhmhrd@pnb.co.in

NOTICE

This has the reference to advertisement dated 20.05,2022 regarding recruitment of Peon and advertisement dated 06.12.2021 regarding recruitment of PTS in Berhampur Circle for FY: 2021-22. It is informed that the administrative decision has been taken that the pending process f the recruitment of Subordinate staff advertised on 06.12.2021 and 20.05.2022 for FY-2021-22 is scrapped. **CHIEF MANAGAR-HRD**

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक 💆 Р०७

HRD DEPARTMENT, CIRCLE OFFICE, BHUBANESWAR, PLOT NO.A/32

2ND FLOOR, KHARVEL NAGAR, UNIT-III, BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA-751001 This has reference to advertisement dated 13.05.2022 regarding

recruitment of Peons in Bhubaneswar Circle for F.Y.2021-22 the pending process of recruitment of Subordinate Staff advertised

It is informed that administrative decision has been taken that on 13.05.2022 for F.Y.2021 be scrapped.

Marigold cultivation augmenting livelihood of Sundargarh farmers



POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, August 6: Marigold farming In Sundargarh district is becoming an alternative source of livelihood for rural

Due to increasing demand for flowers, the government, through schemes like the MIDH (Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture) and Mission Flower, has provided financial incentives up to ₹2.62 lakh in the current financial year to support floriculturists. As a result, around 39 women's self-help groups (WSHGs), along with numerous small and medium-scale rural woman farmers in the Nuagaon, Bisra, Lathikata, and Kuarmunda blocks have taken up marigold cultivation.

In FY 2023-24, the Horticulture Department of Rourkela, under the MIDH scheme, aimed to cultivate marigolds on 12 hectares of land to benefit small and medium-scale horticulturists, including women and men, in these blocks. Projects for marigold cultivation were approved in specific villages across Nuagaon, Bisra, Lathikata, and Kuanrmunda blocks. Additionally, 10 hectares of land were allocated for marigold cultivation under the Mission Flower scheme, specifically for women's groups.

Under the MIDH scheme, grants of ₹10,000 per hectare are provided to other categories of farmers, while small and medium-scale horticulturists receive ₹16,000 per hectare. Similarly, women horticulturists and self-help groups receive financial incentives of ₹16,000, ₹10,000, and ₹4,000 per hectare, respectively, to support their marigold cultivation.

Due to the financial support and growing demand for flowers in urban markets, women and men horticulturists in these four blocks have increasingly taken up marigold cultivation. The Horticulture department is also drawing plans for expanding flower cultivation in the region for the FY 2024-25.

Dushmant Behera, the Director of the Rourkela Horticulture department, said marigold cultivation is profitable, especially since these blocks are located near the city where there is a constant demand for marigolds. He said plans are afoot to provide further government incentives to horticulturists.

भारत सरकार कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय त्वरित कॉपोरिट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंन्द्र (सी-पेस) आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंजिल, प्लाट P−6,7,8, से.-5, आई.एम्.टी. मानेसर, गुडगाँव, हरियाणा - 122050 Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

CBC 07123/11/0285/2425



Government of India Ministry of Corporate Affairs Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE), IICA Building, 7th Floor, Plot P- 6, 7, 8, Sector-5, **IMT Manesar,** Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050 Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

Form No. STK - 6

PUBLIC NOTICE

[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016] Date: 16/07/2024

Public Notice: ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/573

Reference:

(1) In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (3) companies in the state of Odisha under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S. No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name					
1	AA8686355	U49120OD2023PTC043687	INTEGRATED RAILTRANS MANAGEMENT PRIVATE LIMITED					
2	AA9178770	U28299OD2023PTC042810	PTMIN X TECH PRIVATE LIMITED					
3	AA8424028	U45400OR2021PTC036233	SAMIR TELECOM SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED					

(2) Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name(s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application(s) withir such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they have undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/ their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names fron the register of companies.

(3) Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above tioned companies from the Register of Companies.

(4) Any Person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Registrar

Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

invites applications for admission to

the Two-year Executive MBA (EMBA) Program, Batch of 2024-2026 Classes on Saturdays & Sundays The EMBA program offered by Vinod Gupta School of

Management, IIT Khargpur, is a two-year Master's degree program aimed at grooming professional for leadership and managerial roles. The program will be delivered at Kolkata and Jamshedpur centres on Saturdays and Sundays. Applicants must specify their choice of centre for the program. Course Delivery: In-person classes.

Mode of Admission: Written Test followed by Personal Interview. Admission of reserved-category candidates will be done as per Government of India notification.

Last Date for Submission of Online Applications : August 14, 2024 Details about eligibility criteria, application fee and mode of application are available at https://som.iitkgp.ac.in/executive-mba. php. Please follow this link for updates.

or any queries, please contact : executivemba@vgsom.iitkgp.ac.in. CBC-21255/12/0007/2425

Tel: 03222-282295/282297

EAST COAST RAILWAY

NOTIFICATION FOR ENGAGEMENT OF COMMISSION AGENT FOR BARITHENGARH (BRTG) & ATRI (ATRI) PASSENGER HALTS No. G.51/P.H/BRTG & ATRI

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED APPLICANTS FOR ENGAGEMENT AS COMMISSION AGENT TO SELL TICKETS AT (1). BARITHENGARH (BRTG) PASSENGER HALT IN BETWEEN BYREE (BYY) AND DHANMANDAL (DNM) (2). ATRI (ATRI) PASSENGER HALT IN BETWEEN KHURDA TOWN (KURT) AND BEGUNIA (BYZA) STATIONS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.

OMMISSION PAYABLE TO THE COMMISSION AGENT WILL BE AS UNDER:

Amount of Sale of tickets per month Commission payable ₹ 1/- to 15,000/ ₹ 15,001/- to 50,000/-₹ 50,001/- to 1,00,000/

₹ 2,00,001/- and above

Security Deposit for above halt is ₹ 2.000/- (Rupees Two Thousand) only Application duly filled in should reach this office by 1500 hrs. on or before 22.08.2024 (Thrusday). If the last day i.e. 22.08.2024 happens to be or is declared to be a holiday, applications will be received by the same time on the next working day. All the received applications will be opened at 1530 hrs. on 22.08.2024.

The Railway reserves the right to reject any application without assigning any reason

For complete details, application format and other terms & conditions please vis

our website: www.eastcoastrail.indianrailways.gov.in PR-394/P/24-25

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager / Khurda Road











A hero fears nothing, complains of nothing and never gives away. **THE MOTHER**



Maduro In Trouble

utocratic rulers across the globe continue to stay in power in the teeth of widespread popular protests through manipulation lacktrians of the of the of the contraction of the original of the contraction of the original who was declared the winner recently and the Opposition, rejecting the claim, has now called on the military to enforce what it says is the will of the people. The situation in this South American country is almost akin to what has just happened in Bangladesh where the people took to the streets in thousands and now urge the military to help install a caretaker government after Prime Minister Sheikh

In the case of Bangladesh, many countries, including the UN, questioned the legitimacy of the election that declared Hasina the winner recently. But, the international community is divided over the victory claimed by President Nicolas Maduro over the Opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez. This is because there is overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Some countries, including the US, have recognised Gonzalez as the winner. Others, including Brazil, Colombia and Mexico, have withheld recognition of Maduro's claimed victory and are demanding that his government release a transparent accounting of the election

 $Gonzalez\ and\ the\ Opposition\ coalition, led\ by\ Maria\ Corina\ Machado,$ buttress their claim that the former has a landslide victory with the help of the printed paper trails produced by Venezuela's electronic voting machines. They are publishing that data online so the world knows that the results claimed by Maduro and the institutions he controls are "fake". This data has put Maduro in a spot and the charge that he has "stolen" the verdict appears tenable.

However, several of his autocratic allies have rallied behind Maduro and they are trying to protect him from the international pressure being mounted on him to bow down before the majority of his country who have "chosen" Gonzalez as their new President.

Within hours of the announcement by Venezuela's National Electoral Council dubiously proclaiming Maduro the winner, the governments of China, Cuba, Iran, Nicaragua and Russia sent congratulatory messages to him. The common thread that connects all these leaders is their authoritarian character.

Maduro has long relied on these allies for his survival. They helped him overcome protests in 2015 and 2017 and an Opposition push to topple his government in 2019 through a protest movement led by Juan Guaido that nearly succeeded.

Venezuela's economy is among the worst in the world due to intense international sanctions, the emigration of nearly a quarter of the country's population because of poverty and a decade-long economic collapse. But, Maduro is continuing to rule with the help of international partners who are providing support cushioning him against the effects of sanctions by the US. In return, Maduro is selling Venezuelan oil, reportedly pocketing most of the money, rather than channelling it back to the country's population.

Russia and Iran are also helping Venezuela maintain its aging oil infrastructure, while China has remained a key buyer of Venezuelan oil amid international sanctions. Chinese technology has helped manage the database behind the 'Fatherland Card' that the Maduro regime uses to track Venezuelan citizens and their voting patterns, which determines whether or not they can obtain subsidised food and household goods from the government. Cuba and Russia are believed to have provided covert support to Venezuela's intelligence agencies and security forces which have repressed Opposition politicians and prevented internal dissent within the government.

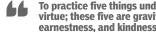
But, as things are increasingly spinning out of control, Maduro's friends and allies are reluctant to bail him out of the crisis. It is understandable that the US would recognise Gonzalez as the winner, but Maduro's allies in Latin America, including Colombia and Brazil, have called for full and transparent voting data. Maduro now has the support of the military. But the deepening divisions at home and isolation abroad would continue to pose questions of legitimacy to his presidency.

It seems like autocrats worldwide, elected through sham democratic means like Putin in Russia or Orban in Hungary, are unwilling to accept the fact that the process of voting is a safety valve which helps the citizens vent their ire against rulers. Tinkering with that exercise harms those very rulers who use it as a crutch to hold on to power.

WISDOM CORNER



Your entire life only happens in this moment. The present moment is life itself. Yet, people live as if the opposite were true and treat the present moment as a stepping stone to the next moment - a means



ECKHART TOLLE To practice five things under all circumstances constitutes perfect virtue; these five are gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity,

Peace in the world starts with peace in oneself. If everyone lives mindfully, everyone will be more healthy, feel more fulfilled in their daily lives and there will be more peace

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1782: George Washington ordered the creation of the first U.S. military decoration, the Badge of Military Merit (today called the Purple Heart), which was later awarded to three Revolutionary War soldiers for bravery in action.
- 1942: Japanese airfield on Guadalcanal seized by Allies. In the Allies' first major offensive in the Pacific theatre during World War II, U.S. Marines on this day in 1942 landed on Guadalcanal and captured the airfield from Japan, sparking a battle that lasted some six months.
- 1948: At the Olympics in London, track-and-field athlete Fanny Blankers-Koen, who was pregnant with her third child, helped the Dutch team win the 4×100 relay, becoming the first woman to capture four gold medals at a single Games; she earlier had won the 100 metres, the 200 metres, and the 80-metre hurdles.
- **1960:** Ivory Coast attains independence. The West African country known as Côte d'Ivoire gained its independence from France after being a member of the French Community for 2 years. Ivory Coast became a French Colony in 1893 under the leadership of explorer Louis Gustave Binger. Felix Houphouet-Boigny became the first president of the independent country and remained in office until his death in 1993.
- 1978: US President Jimmy Carter declared a federal health emergency in Love Canal, a neighbourhood in Niagara Falls, New York, following the leakage of toxic chemicals buried under the community; it was the worst environmental disaster involving chemical wastes in US history.

Calming the baby

n the supermarket was a man pushing a cart which contained a screaming, bellowing baby. The gentleman kept repeating softly. "Don't get excited, Albert; don't scream, Albert; don't yell, Albert;



next to him said, "You certainly are to be commended for trying to soothe your son, Albert.' The man looked at her and said. "Lady, I'm Albert."

FOCUS ECONOMIC POLICY

WHAT AILS NITI AAYOG



Arun Maira

THE ECONOMY IS ONLY A **COMPONENT OF A COMPLEX SYSTEM COMPOSED OF SOCIETY AND** THE NATURAL **ENVIRONMENT**

nist party in West Bengal joined the capitalist game and invited the Indonesian Salim Group to set up the Haldia SEZ and the Indian Tata Group to set up the Nano car plant in Singur, Mamata Banerjee took to the streets with peasants whose lands were taken. In May 2011, she ended the 34-year rule of the longest serving elected communist government in the world. She arrived in the Planning Commission and demanded special status for West Bengal which the Commission would not give.

Other Chief Ministers were also dissatisfied with the Planning Commission. Jayalalitha, Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister, refused to come to the Planning Commission to get her plans approved. She objected to boffins in Delhi telling the State how to spend its own money for the welfare of its people. Narendra Modi of Gujarat also disliked economists in the Planning Commission who thought their statistics gave a more accurate picture of reality than he and his officers on the ground. Even business associations were unhappy with the Planning Commission. Too much planning, too little implementation, they said. Some recommended the Planning Commission should be replaced by an Implementation Commission. Civil society was dissatisfied too. The plans were focused only on GDP growth: the growth was not inclusive nor environmentally sustainable, they com-

Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister, and Chairman of the Commission, called for a review. Government officials, business leaders, and civil society were consulted. The Prime Minister summarised the diagnosis. The Planning Commission must become a systems reforms commission, not a maker of economic plans; and must become a force for persuasion of change, not an allocator of money. Narendra Modi, who rose on the wave of dissatisfaction with the UPA government, abolished the Planning Commission and replaced it with NITI Aayog. Mamata



Replacing Niti Aayog with the Planning Commission is not the solution for India's unsustainable growth. It will only put the stale medicine back into the old bottle

Banerjee is unhappy with NITI Aayog; she wants the Planning

Commission back Those who forget history will repeat it. NITI Aayog is the same medicine for the economy, only in a new bottle and with a new brand. When the UPA returned for its second term in 2009, deep cracks in India's growth story were already showing. Growth, though fast, was not inclusive, and the environment was degrading rapidly. The goal of the 12th Five Year Plan, which was abandoned along with the Planning Commission, was 'Faster, More Sustainable, and More Inclusive Growth." In ten years, NITI Aayog has been unable to alter the shape of India's growth. Inequalities between have nots and having mores at the top have widened further. Incomes are not rising at the bottom to keep up with inflation while the number of millionaires is increasing faster. Decent jobs with adequate incomes are not available even for educated youth. The demographic dividend is turning into a disaster. Drinking water is becoming scarce even in metros. Hillsides are collapsing, beaches are being eroded, river waters becoming toxic, and Indian cities have become the most polluted in the world.

The Indian government is confused. It has accepted that it must grow jobs and industry within the country. At the same time, it is being pressed by economists and large corporations to open its borders further to flows of trade and integrate faster with international supply chains. These economists say India must not go backwards to the pre-1991 socialist era. But they have no concrete solutions for increas-

ing the pace of job creation. India is suffering from the same disease of inequitable and unsustainable economic growth that the whole world is. Insufficiently regulated financial flows across borders created a global financial crisis in 2008. Economists promised they would change their theories to create a "new normal." They did not; they only pressed harder on the accelerator to get economic growth out of the slump. Global economic growth reversed again when the COVID pandemic froze global supply chains in 2020. Glaring inequities between the rich and poor were starkly revealed. Policymakers vowed "never again." They would change the economic model fundamentally. They have not. They are pressing even harder to grow the size of the economy. They do not know how to alter its shape. The country needs a new model of the economy and a new way of shaping public policies that is not dominated by pro-market economists wedded to economic theories that are failing all around the world.

The global economy is a large machine in economics theory that extracts energy and resources for its consumption from the natural world and from

human beings. Global supply chains carry food, materials, and energy within the machine. Multi-national corporations, and economists wedded to the borderless trade and free markets ideology, want to increase the efficiency of the economic machine, and reduce frictions in flows across national borders, because this can increase global GDP with the same resources. There is no place in their model for equity within countries and amongst countries, in the use of resources or distribution of the surpluses produced from the machine's efficiency.

The time has come to change the paradigm of economic progress. New ideas are required which economics science does not have. The economy is only a component of a complex system composed of society and the natural environment. Growth policies derived from this limited and faulty model are harming society and the natural environment; they are not economically sustainable either. India needs a new model of economic governance. Banerjee wants the Planning Commission back. Replacing Niti Aayog with the Planning Commission is not the solution for India's unsustainable growth. It will only put the stale medicine back into the old bottle.

A new model of growth is required. As well as a new, participative approach to planning. Chief Ministers should not have their voices shut off after a few minutes—as they were in the meetings of the Planning Commission, and again in the Niti Aayog meeting Banerjee attended. Most of all, the views of common people must be heard, and not only the ideas of experts who have statistics which, as it is turning out, are wrong (like employment), or even if right, like the size of the GDP, are not measuring what really matters to the people on the ground.

The writer is a former Member of the Planning Commission and author of several books, the latest is "Shaping the Future: A Guide for System Leaders."

IN JEST THIS

Fame & fortune follow a medal



Melvin Durai

WAS IT REALLY FAIR THAT SO MANY NEERAJS GOT TO ENJOY A FREE MEAL BASED ON THE **ACCOMPLISHMENT**

OF ONE NEERAJ?

medal can transform an athlete's life, especially if the athlete comes from a country that does not win many medals. Just ask Carlos Yulo, who won two gold medals in gymnastics at the Paris Olympics, becoming the first male Olympic gold medalist in the history of the Philippines, and the country's second Olympic champion ever.

The Philippines government and various businesses immediately showered him with gifts. including loads of cash, a house. and free ramen for life.

Yes, he'll be able to eat ramen noodles for breakfast, lunch and dinner! And that's not all the free food he's getting. Restaurants have offered him free macaroni and cheese for life, free grilled chicken for life, and free food at various buffets, ensuring that Carlos Yulo will never win another medal.

Well, hopefully he'll continue to be disciplined with his diet, waiting until retirement to con-

Tinning an Olympic sume all that food. He's only 24 after all, and has several more years of serious gymnastics left before he can dedicate himself to serious eating.

> His cash awards, mostly from government entities but also private companies, exceed 32 million Philippine pesos (about ₹4.6 crore)

> In addition to the house that he's receiving from the government, Yulo is getting a fully furnished three-bedroom condo from the real-estate corporation Megaworld. It comes with highend appliances, two balconies and a maid room. If he doesn't have a maid, he can easily convert this room into an Olympic medal display room or even a ramen storage room.

> $Among\,his\,many\,rewards\,from$ Filipino businesses, Yulo will be getting free colonoscopies for the rest of his life. The free colonoscopies begin at age 45, so he still has 21 more years of colonoscopy-free life.

As you can imagine, Yulo is now the most eligible bachelor

in the Philippines. He doesn't need to describe himself on dating apps -- he just needs to say, "We can go out for free ramen anytime.

Yulo is as much a hero in the Philippines as Neeraj Chopra is in India. Chopra won a gold medal in javelin at the Tokyo Olympics, becoming the first athlete from India to win an Olympic gold medal in a track and field event. He received cash awards of more than ₹3 crore, a Mahindra XUV700, and unlimited free travel on IndiGo for a year. But Chopra, surprisingly, did not get free biryani for life.

However, a restaurant in New Delhi called Sita Ram Diwan Chand did offer free "chole-bhature" to anyone named Neeraj. But that was only for a single

Was it really fair that so many Neerajs got to enjoy a free meal based on the accomplishment of one Neeraj? Some of these Neerajs couldn't even tell a javelin from an anvil.

It wasn't just food that the Neerajs got to enjoy. Two petrol pump operators, one in Gujarat and another in Tamil Nadu, offered a few litres of free petrol to anyone named Neeraj for a limited period.

The rewards that athletes receive vary considerably from one country to another. If you win a medal for an oil-rich country in the Middle East, you can give free petrol to your namesakes for an unlimited period.

In South Korea, a male athlete who wins a medal gets an exemption from the usual requirement of 18 months of military service by age 28.

In Poland, a gold medalist receives an apartment, a diamond, a painting and a holiday voucher.

Indonesia's Apriyani Rahayu won a gold medal in Tokyo for badminton (women's doubles) and received five cows, as well as a house and plot of land. It may not be as appealing as "free ramen for life," but I wouldn't complain about "free milk for life.

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

etters

rissaPOST B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Indo-US ties intact

Sir, Bilateral ties between Washington and New Delhi are stable notwithstanding the case of an Indian "agent" accused of hatching a conspiracy to kill Gurpatwant Singh Pannun in the US in the so-called "murder-for-hire" accusation. In another matter blown out of proportion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's June 8 and June 9 Moscow visit is said to have annoyed a section of the US bureaucracy because the NATO summit conference was being held at the same time at Washington. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's recent meeting with US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken during the Quad meeting at Tokyo should allay all apprehensions on any possible bilateral discord. Jaishankar was categorical in stating that India was on the same page with the US with regard to a host of issues. In the past, New Delhi and Washington have not encouraged short-sighted accusations to hamper mutual friendship, and there is no reason to believe on the contrary now.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA

Djokovic's Golden Slam

Sir, In the aftermath of the 2024 Wimbledon final defeat to Carlos Alcaraz, Novak Djokovic found it remarkably easy to come to terms and take revenge on the Spaniard in the Paris Olympics when he beat him in straight sets, though via tie-breakers. At Paris, Djokovic endured and remained solid in all aspects of the game, and delivered when the biggest moments arrived to claim a historic victory in one of the most memorable Olympic finals ever staged. With this triumph, the Serbian great joins an elite group of players who have won all four Grand Slam singles titles and an Olympic gold medal, thus completing the "Golden Slam," which includes Steffi Graf, Andre Agassi, Serena Williams, and Rafael Nadal. This historic win cements Djokovic's legacy as one of the greatest tennis players of all time, showcasing his relentless pursuit of excellence and his ability to triumph against the odds. The victory now solidifies Djokovic's domination in tennis as he added an Olympic gold to his illustrious tally of 24 Grand Slam titles

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI

national



Our government is committed to supporting journalists and has taken several initiatives to improve their working conditions and quality of life. I am dedicated to ensuring the well-being of journalists and suggested that the APC and **APUWJ could organize an annual conclave**

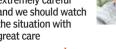
PEMA KHANDU | CM, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

ISRO LIKELY TO LAUNCH EARTH OBSERVATION SATELLITE-8 AUG 15

The Earth Observation Satellite-8 (EOS-8) is likely to be launched August 15, ISRO sources said Tuesday. The EOS-8 will be launched by the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)-D3, it said. "Most likely it will be launched August 15 (Independence Day) from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh," sources told PTI



eastern front has opened. We should be extremely careful and we should watch the situation with



FAROOQ ABDULLAH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

All the sectors should be developed simultaneously Development should not be only about economic prosperity but it should also aim at social, industrial and education

M K STALIN CM, TAMIL NADU

development

As there will always be a limit for expansion of even the Manohar International Airport the significance of Dabolim airport cannot be undermined and it shall always be a very needful facility for the development of tourism in Goa

PRAMOD SAWANT CM, GOA

SHORT **TAKES**

Woman killed after 2 houses collapse

Varanasi (UP): A 43-year-old woman was killed and nine people, including a woman police constable, were injured after two old houses in the Khoya Gali Chowk near the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi collapsed early Tuesday, officials said. Divisional commissioner Kaushal Raj Sharma said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who represents Varanasi in the Lok Sabha, was informed of the situation. Of the seven people brought out from the rubble, one woman died, he said. A woman police constable suffered injuries on her jaw, he added.

Fire in four tent godowns in Delhi

New Delhi: A massive fire broke out in four tent godowns in south Delhi's Jaunapur area in the early hours of Tuesday, destroying four vintage cars parked nearby and decorations worth crores of rupees. There were no casualties in the incident. they said. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained. Police sources said the vintage cars were used in weddings and other functions. Four vintage cars parked adjacent to the godowns and decoration items were gutted in the fire, he said.

SUPREME COURT SAYS

CONSTRUCTIONS AND

INCLUDING THE GANGA

WILL REMAIN 'ILLUSORY'

ANY ATTEMPTS TO

ADDRESS ILLEGAL

IMPROVE WATER

WITHOUT A

QUALITY IN RIVERS,

INDIA bloc parties protest against GST

READING 'TAX TERRORISM', THE **PROTESTING MPS RAISED SLOGANS DEMANDING THAT** THE GST ON LIFE AND **HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS BE ROLLED BACK**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 6: INDIA bloc parties staged a protest in Parliament premises Tuesday to press for the rollback of 18 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on life and health insurance premiums.

MPs from various parties such as TMC, Congress, AAP and NCP (SC), among others, participated in the protest on the steps leading to the Makar Dwar of Parliament.

Carrying placards reading 'Tax terrorism", the protesting MPs raised slogans demanding that the GST on life and health insurance premiums be rolled back.

Later, in a post in Hindi on X. Congress president Mallikarjun



Kharge said, "Today in the Parliament premises, INDIA parties demanded immediate removal of 18% GST on health and life insurance premiums as this extortion is a severe blow to our people, especially the middle class.

"The middle class is already struggling under the burden of the Modi government's tax collection policies. India's medical inflation rate is the highest in Asia in 2024 - at 14%! On top of that, this 'Gabbar Singh Tax' on life insurance and health insurance is inhuman, and another condemnable example of BJP's policy of plundering from 'opportunity in disaster'." Kharge said.

In a post in Hindi on X, Rahul Gandhi said, "The Modi government even collected ₹24,000 crore from millions of common Indians who pay health insurance premiums every year by saving every penny to ensure that they do not have to bow down to anyone in case of a 'health crisis' in life.

Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said the INDIA bloc parties' protest against the imposition of 18 per cent GST on life and medical insurance premiums is absolutely justified.

Union minister Nitin Gadkari wrote to Sitharaman and urged her to consider withdrawing the GST which, he said, amounted

Oppn members allege **Budget only for firms**

New Delhi: Opposition members Tuesday attacked the government in the Lok Sabha alleging that the Union Budget has nothing for the salaried and middle class and seems to favour the corporates. BJP members, however, described the Budget as "historic" claiming it was aimed to make India a developed nation. Initiating the debate on the Finance Bill, Congress MP Amar Singh said it appears in the Budget that the Union government was taxing the poor, while sparing the rich as it neither addresses the issue of unemployment nor takes any step to reduce out-of-pocket expenditure for households. "From what the government has proposed, it appears the Centre intends to take away every single rupee from the salaried class, the common man, while the rich are being spared," the Fatehgarh Sahib MP said. TMC MP Mahua Moitra hit out at Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman saying she has made a "mockery" of people of India in the Budget by doing "absolutely nothing" and whatever "little changes" are there, they are "regressive and ill thought of".

to taxing uncertainties of life and restricting industry's growth.

AISSC welcomes proposal to amend Wakf Act

New Delhi, August 6: The All India Sufi Sajjadanashin Council (AISSC) Tuesday welcomed the government's decision to amend the law governing Waqf boards, saying it was long due.

The government is all set to bring a bill in Parliament to amend the 1995 law governing Wanf boards to ensure more accountability and transparency in their functioning and mandatory inclusion of women in these bodies, according to sources.

All India Sufi Sajjadanashin Council chairman Hazrat Syed Naseruddin Chishty demanded a separate Dargah Board under the amendments. "In the present Waqf Act, there is no mention of dargahs at all. The Waqf Boards do not recognise the traditions of the dargah as many of our traditions are not there in sharia, so we demand a separate Dargah Board," he said at a press conference. Chishty alleged the Waqf Boards work in a "dictatorial manner" in their present form and have no transparency at all.



ebsite:www.baripadamunicipality.in, e-mail:baripadam.hud@nic.in ପତ୍ର ସଂଖ୍ୟା ୪୭୧୮/ ତା.06.08.24 ରିଖ

ନିଲାମ ଇସ୍ତାହାର ଏତଦ୍ୱାରା ସର୍ବସାଧାରଣଙ୍କ ଅବଗତି ନିମରେ ଜଣାଇ ଦିଆଯାଉଅଛି କି ବାରିପଦା ପୌରପରିଷଦର ନିଷ୍ପରିମତେ ନିମ୍ନ ସଇରାତକୁ ନିଲାମ ସକାଶେ ଇଉମୁଦ ନିବିଦା (Sealed Quotation) ଆହାନ

କରାଯାଉଅଛି । ପୌର ପରିଷଦର ନିମ୍ବର୍ଭ ଅନ୍ଯାୟୀ ଇଚ୍ଚକ ବ୍ୟଲି ବିଶେଷ କିୟା ଅନ୍ୟାନମାନେ ତା.୦୮.୦୮.୨୦୨୪ ରିଖଠାରୁ ତା.୨୨.୦୮.୨୦୨୪ ରିଖରେ ୦୪ ଘ. ସୁଦ୍ଧା ଅଫିସ ଖୋଲାଥିବ ସମୟରେ (Quotation) ନିବିଦା କାଗଳ କିଣିପାରିବେ । ଏହି ନିବିଦାରେ ସଲରାତ ବାବଦକ ସର୍ବୋଚ୍ଚ ମୂଲ୍ୟ ଦର୍ଶୀଇ ପୌର ପରିଷଦର ନିର୍ବାହୀ ଅଧିକାରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟରେ ତା.୨୨.୦୮.୨୦୨୪ ରିଖ ୦୪ ଘ. ସୂଦ୍ଧା ଦାଖଲ କରିପାରିବେ । ଦାଖଲ ହୋଇଥିବା ନିବିଦାଗୁଡିକ ସେହିଦିନ ଅର୍ଥାତ୍ ତା.୨୨.୦୮.୨୦୨୪ ରିଖ ୦୫ ଘ. ସମୟରେ କର୍ଗୁ ପକ୍ଷଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ ପ୍ରକୋଷ୍ପରେ ନିବିଦାଦାତା ବା ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା କ୍ଷମତାପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ପ୍ରତିନିଧ୍ ଓ ଟେଷର କମିଟି ସଦସ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କ ଉପସ୍ଥିତିରେ ଖୋଲାଯିବ । ଯଦି ସର୍ବୋଚ୍ଚ ଦର ସରୋଷ୍ଟଳନକ ନହଏ ତାହାହେଲେ ସାନିନିବିଦା ଆହାନ କରାଯିତ । ସର୍ବୋଚ୍ଚ ଦରକୁ ପୌର ପରିଷଦ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିବାକୁ ବାଧ୍ୟ ନୁହଁତି । ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ସର୍ଭ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ ଖୋଲାଥିବା ଦିନ

ସଇରାତର ନାମ	ସମୟ	ସରକାରୀ ଦର	ଅମାନତ	ନିବିଦା କାଗଜ ଦର
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OIPR-13078/1	11/0004	/2425 କାର୍ଯ୍ୟନିତ	ସ୍ୱା./– ମଧୁସ୍ମିତା ସା ର୍ମାହୀ ଅଧକାରୀ, ବାରି	

RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY

Congress members protest against suspension of MLA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, August 6: Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani Tuesday debarred Congress MLA Mukesh Bhakar from the Assembly for six months following an overnight dharna in the Well of the House by his party legislators, who had prevented the marshals from evicting him after his first suspension a day earlier

As the MLA refused to leave the House even when the proceedings resumed Tuesday morning and continued shouting slogans, the speaker extended Bhakar's suspension to six months. Devnani then ad-

journed the House sine die. Bhakar's initial suspension over "indecent behavior" in the House was only for the current session

There was ruckus in the House again Tuesday morning with the Congress MLAs raising slogans in the Well of the House. The speaker asked them to return to their seats but in vain.

Devnani said that he would listen to the Congress members after the Question Hour and asked the protesting MLAs to

Plastic dumping causing serious

environment damage in riverbanks

send Bhakar out of the House. During the protest around 11.45 am,

Congress MLA Ramila Khadiya felt uneasy and the speaker adjourned the House for half an hour. Khadiya was examined by the doctors in the Assembly After the House reassembled and

Bhakar did not leave, the speaker suspended him for six months on a proposal moved by Chief Whip Jogeshwar Garg and adjourned the House sine die. Earlier, amid the din, Garg said that

Bhakar had not left the House despite being suspended Monday and the Opposition members were protecting him, which was unconstitutional. He claimed that when the

Congress MLA was being forcibly taken out of the House Monday, he bit two security staff members. including a woman.

During the discussion on issues of Disaster Management and Relief department, BJP MLA Gopal Sharma suddenly started commenting on Rahul Gandhi, saying the Congress leader was having a party in Gurugram when the terrorist attack happened in Mumbai.

He said all this has been published in news reports. To this, the Congress MLAs objected and trooped into the well.

Indian Bank

ZONAL OFFICE: SAMBALPUR 2ND FLOOR, SHYAM ARCADE, KHETRAJPUR, SAMBALPUR - 768003, e-mail: zosambalpur@indianbank.co.in

Sale of Immovable property/ies mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 54 of 2002)

Whereas, the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank had taken possession of the following property/ies pursuant to the notice issued under Sec 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the following oan accounts with right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS" for realization of Bank's dues plus interest as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said property/ies. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website https://www.ebkray.in.

1.	BRANCH/Name & Address of Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors	Description of the Immovable Properties	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession Notice/ Outstanding Dues	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increment Amount
	NUAPADA BRANCH, Mob No.: 9131584169 / Borrower & Mortgagor: Sri Ganesh Sharma, S/o: Sri Mulchand Sharma, At: Bazar Pada, Ward No.: 4, P.O: Khariar Road, Dist.: Nuapada, PIN - 766104	All that piece & parcel of Land & Building recorded in the name of Sri Ganesh Sharma , S/o: Sri Mulchand Sharma, Khata No.: 167/35, Plot No.: 233, Kisam: Gharabari, Area: Ac. 0.047 Dec., at Mouza: Khariar Road Unit No.: 5, P.S.: Jonk, Dist.: Nuapada. Bounded	₹ 21,75,265/- as on 05.08.2024 + further otherst,	₹41,00,000/- / ₹4,10,000/- / ₹ 10,000/-
	Nanda Kishor Soni	lot of Nanak Ram, East: Road, West: Plot of	expenses thereon	







ANGUL BRANCH, PH.: 9438253847 Borrower: M/s Swoyaam Trading Co.

(Proprietorship Firm), At/PO.: Pallahara, Dist.: Angul, Odisha, PIN-759119 Proprietor-cum-Mortgagor: Mrs. Snigdha Pattanaik, W/o: Mr. Prabhat Ranjan Mohanty, resides at: Sikhyakpada, Near Siridi Sai Temple, PO/PS.: Angul, Odisha, PIN-759122 / Guarantor: Mr. Chittaranjan Pradhan, S/o.: Mr. Govind Chandra West: Manorama Mohanty. Pradhan, resides at: Rajkishorpara, Angul, Odisha, PIN-759122

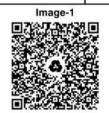
All that piece and parcel of Property recorder in the name of Mrs. Snigdha Pattanaik, W/o Mr. Prabhat Ranjan Mohanty, At Sikhyakpada, Near Siridi Sai Temple, PO/PS Angul, Odisha, PIN-759122 having Khata No.: 542/1429, Plot No.: 372/2550/3666, Area Ac.0.170 Dec, Mouza: Ranigoda Jungle, PS Tahasil: Angul, Dist.: Angul, Odisha, PIN 759122, Bounded by North: Road, Plot No.: 372, East: Manorama Mohanty

20.04.2024 20.06.2024 / ₹ 98,95,887/as on 05.08.2024 further interest costs, other

charges and

₹1,62,00,000/ ₹16,20,000/-₹ 10,000/expenses thereon





VSS MARG, SAMBALPUR-2 BRANCH PH.: 9778399766 Borrower/Mortgagor: Mr. Shambhunath

Shukla, S/o: Shri Ram Karan Shukla Co-Borrower: Mr. Sarvesh Shukla S/o: Shri Ram Karan Shukla, Both are At Tiwarigali, PO/PS.: Khetrajpur, Dist.

in the name of Mr. Shambhunath Shukla, S/o: Shri Ram Karan Shukla, Mouza Sambalpur Town No.: 09(Talbhata), Tahasil Sambalpur, Khata No.: 368/1173, Plot No. 647/3614, Area: Ac.0.012 Dec. and Plot No. 648/3613, with Area: Ac.0.026 Dec., Total Sambalpur, PIN-768003 Area: Ac.0.038 Dec., Kissam: Gharabari-1 PS/Tahasil/Dist.: Sambalpur, Bounded by North: Om Prakash Shukla, South: Plot No.

All that piece and parcel of Property recorder

16.03.2024 19.06.2024 / ₹ 10,51,654/as on 01.08.2024 costs, other charges and

Sd/-Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

₹38,35,000/-₹3,83,500/-₹ 10,000/-

Sambalpur, PIN-768003

1863, East: Common Road, West: Pashupat Tiwari. **E-auction Website**



DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 11.09.2024 from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM

with unlimited extension of 10 Minutes duration LAST DATE AND TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS ON OR BEFORE 10.09.2024 upto 05.30 PM by online Date & Time of Inspection of Properties: 12.08.2024 to 10.09.2024 between 11.00 AM to 5.00 PM and

(with prior appointment from bank) at their own expenses TERMS & CONDITIONS: 1) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link: https://www.ebkray.in. Prospective bidders may also contact the Authorised Officers / Branch as mentioned in above list., 2) This is a statutory 30 days sale notice to the above mentioned borrowers/guarantors under Rule 9(1)/8(6) of the SARFAESI Act. 2002, 3) This is a 15/30 days' notice to the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor of the above said loan about holding of this sale on the above mentioned date., 4) All expenses elating the stamp duty and registration of Sale Certificate/conveyance, if any, shall be borne by the successful bidder. 5) The Authorized Officer will not be held responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrance, property tax or any other dues to the Government or anybody in respect of the property under sale. 5) The Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale without assigning any reason thereof. It may be noted that nothing in this notice constitute o

deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the bank to sell the property STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors are hereby notified to pay the total dues along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of E-Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest & cost

Place: Sambalpur, Date: 06.08.2024

UNIFIED EFFORT PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 6: The Supreme Court has said dumping of plastic is causing serious environment degradation and also impacting aquatic life in the river banks and water bodies in the country.

A bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and SVN Bhatti said collective effort is required to be made by the responsible authorities with the cooperation of people.

"The dumping of plastic is causing serious environment degradation and also impacting aquatic life in the river banks and the water bodies in the country. Unless concerted effort is made by the responsible authorities with people's cooperation, irrespective of the efforts to target



illegal/unauthorized constructions, the desired improvement of the quality of the water in river Ganga/all other rivers and water bodies in the country will remain illusory," the bench said.

The top court directed Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati to file an affidavit within four weeks on the issue.

The bench also clarified its earlier order directing the Bihar government to ensure that no further illegal construction or unauthorised encroachment takes place adjacent to the river Ganga, particularly in and around Patna City.

The top court was hearing a plea filed by Patna resident Ashok Kumar Sinha against a June 30, 2020 order of NGT dismissing his plea against illegal constructions and perma-

nent encroachments on the eco-fragile floodplains. The plea contended that the tribunal passed the order without examining the detailed particulars of

the violators encroaching upon the

Ganga floodplains in Patna submitted by the appellant. "The illegal and unauthorized

constructions and permanent encroachments on the floodplain of Ganga are creating tremendous amounts of waste, noise and generating vast quantum of sewage. They are aggravating the risk to life and property of the dwellers occupying the surroundings since every year, the areas stated in preceding paras go down under flood waters. The illegal constructions were obstructing the natural course of the river," said

Vashishtha. The plea said they were causing deleterious environmental impact on the rich biodiversity, were destroying the habitat and, thereby, the very survival of Dolphins, a Schedule I species under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, on the stretch.

the plea filed through advocate Akash

The plea stated that the tribunal failed to note the fact that a clean Ganga river was vital and essential to meet the drinking and domestic water needs of 5.5 lakh population of the city as the groundwater in the district was contaminated with Arsenic.

"A massive 520 acres of ecologically sensitive Ganga floodplain, stretching from Nauzer Ghat to Nurpur Ghat, in Patna, have been usurped. This stretch is prone to recurrent floods every year.

national



We have no option but to enter politics and come to power if we want to get reservation for the **Maratha community**

MANOJ JARANGE

TOP COURT TO HEAR PLEA OF NCPCR ON CHILD MARRIAGE

The Supreme Court Tuesday agreed to list for hearing a plea of child rights body NCPCR seeking an authoritative pronouncement on a vexed legal question whether a secular law on prohibition of child marriage will prevail over the Muslim personal law





changing political situation in the neighbouring country Bangladesh, today's all-party

meeting is very important, in which the decision of all parties to stand by the decisions of the government is considered appropriate and necessary

MAYAWATI | BSP CHIEF

We are moving ahead in Amrit Kaal under the Modi government and our children will get to see a developed India by 2047

been breached at 29

places due to



landslides. Water and power supply lines have been hit, besides disruption to telecommunication lines

PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMI UTTARAKHAND CM





warrior who single handedly took on BJP and Briibhushan Singh, was abused by BJP IT cell and was literally made to cry on national TV.

Today, she shut everyone up by shocking the world and defeating the Tokyo Gold Medalist Vinesh Phogat, The warrior on and off the ring. Tough day for the BJP IT cell which tarnished her image and questioned her abilities.

SHORT **TAKES**

Woman attempts immolation in UP

Lucknow: A 30-year-old woman suffered 90 per cent hurn injuries after allegedly attempting to immolate Vikramaditya Marg area, claiming torture by her husband and in-laws. police said Tuesday. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yaday alleged in a post on X that the woman had arrived in Lucknow for Chief Minister Youi Adityanath's "janata darbar" but her failure to be heard forced her to take the step.

1 killed in J'khand iron plant blast

Hazaribag (Jharkhand): One person was killed and six others were injured in an explosion at a sponge iron plant in Jharkhand's Hazaribag district Tuesday, police said. The incident took place at Pawanputra Steel and Alloys plant in Barhi police station area, about 135 km from Ranchi. Barhi police station in-charge Chandra Sekhar Kumar said the deceased was identified as Jitendra Kumar (50). Police said out of six injured, four have been referred to Ranchi's Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS).

SC reserves order on Sisodia's bail plea

New Delhi: The Supreme Court which Tuesday reserved its order on pleas filed by AAP leader Manish Sisodia seeking bail, asked the CBI and ED where they see the "end of the tunnel" in corruption and money laundering cases linked to the alleged Delhi excise policy scam. The apex court said there are total 493 witnesses in both the cases and asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED) how long it will take to conclude the trial. The law officer said there were eight important witnesses each in the cases.



Monitoring status of minorities: India Wayanad landslides: Death toll rises to 402

TOP SOURCES SAID INDIA HAS ALREADY REACHED OUT TO THE NEW DISPENSATION IN DHAKA AND SOUGHT SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF OVER 10,000 INDIANS PRESENTLY RESIDING IN BANGLADESH

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 6: India is "deeply concerned" over the situation in Bangladesh, especially about the status of the minority communities, and is in regular touch with authorities in Dhaka, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said Tuesday, a day after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and landed at the Hindon airbase near Delhi.

In India's first reaction to the dramatic developments in Bangladesh, Jaishankar, in suomotu statements in both houses of Parliament, said Hasina decided to resign after a meeting with leaders of the security establishment and requested for approval "at very short notice" to come to India "for the moment".

"We welcome that, but will naturally remain deeply concerned till law and order is visibly restored. Our border guarding forces have also been instructed to be exceptionally alert in view of this complex situation," he added.

Top sources said India has already reached out to the new dispensation in Dhaka and sought safety and well-being of over 10,000 Indians presently residing in Bangladesh.

It is learnt that New Delhi has conveyed to 76-year-old Hasina that she can stay in India till



Hasina's India stay may be extended Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's plan to travel to London has hit a roadhlock over some "uncertainties" and she is

London has hit a roadblock over some "uncertainties" and she is unlikely to move out of India for the next couple of days, people familiar with the matter said Tuesday. Hasina, who landed at the Hindon airbase Monday in a C-130J military transport aircraft hours after resigning as the prime minister, has been shifted to an unspecified location under tight security, they said.

her travel plans for taking refuge in another country is finalised.

Though Hasina, who is accompanied by her sister Sheikh Rehana, wanted to travel to London, the UK is understood to have conveyed that it is unlikely to heed to her request for asylum. Following this, she is considering several options including the UAE. the US, Belarus, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Finland, said a source.

In his remarks in Parliament.

Jaishankar said India-Bangladesh relations have been "exceptionally close" for many decades over many governments, adding concern about recent violence and instability in that country is shared across the political spectrum.

Delving into the developments leading up to Hasina's resignation following weeks of students protests, he said New Delhi had repeatedly counselled restraint

and urged that the situation be diffused through dialogue".

The External Affairs Minister said the bulk of the students have already returned to India in the month of July, adding it is India's expectation that the host government will provide the required security protection to the Indian missions in Bangladesh.

Hasina, who ruled the South Asian country with an iron fist for 15 years, resigned as the prime minister Monday following massive protests that initially began as an agitation against a job quota scheme but weeks later morphed into a mass movement demanding her ouster from power.

Jaishankar said India is looking forward to the normal functioning of the Indian missions once the situation stabilizes. The external affairs minister also touched upon the dramatic developments in Bangladesh. Jaishankar said that August 5, demonstrators converged in Dhaka despite the curfew. Jaishankar described the situation in Bangladesh as "still evolving".

Talking about the genesis of the problem in the neighbouring country, he said there has been "considerable tensions, deep divides and growing polarisation" in Bangladesh politics since the January parliamentary polls.

institutions in and around the affected areas, over 10,300 people have been housed.

State Revenue Minister Tuesday said the Local Self Government (LSG) department has now been asked to give a list of buildings belonging to the government besides identifying homes that are presently locked and also information about the number of resorts in the locality

"The State Education Minister V Sivankutty is reaching here and we will soon decide on how the educational needs will go ahead. The standard operating procedures will be in place. At the moment most of these relief camps operate in educational institutions. Once we get the list from the LSG department, we will move the people to resorts, closed homes and such

places," said Rajan. "We assure that none of the people in the affected places will be left uncared. The weekly cabinet meeting will be held online Wednesday, where more decisions with regards to rehabilitation will be made and Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will announce it." added Rajan. Even as the rescue operations entered the eighth day, this will go on till the Army takes a final call. Meanwhile, help is pouring into the Chief Minister Distress Relief Fund and the decision has come that all state government employees will contribute their

affected four villages of Kerala's Wayanad entered the eighth day Tuesday with the death toll reaching 402 and around 170 still missing. The over 1,200-strong rescue team comprising personnel from all the Defence forces. NDRF.

Wayanad, August 6: The

rescue operations in landslide-

SDRF police fire services and volunteers began searches early in the morning in the four worst-affected areas in Churalmala, Velarimala, Mundakayil and Punchirimadom. Special teams have been searching in the Chaliyar River

from where several bodies and dismembered body parts were recovered in the past few days. DNA tests are being conducted on all such body parts.

In over 100 relief camps, mostly set up in various educational

250 students from 20 ashram schools fall ill after dinner

salaries of five days to it.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Palghar, August 6: Nearly 250 students from 20 ashram schools in Dahanu taluka of Maharashtra's Palghar district fell ill due to food poisoning and were rushed to nearby health facilities for treatment. a senior official said Tuesday.

These students at ashram schools (residential facilities for tribal pupils) complained of health complications like nausea, vomiting and giddiness within a couple of hours of having dinner sourced from a central kitchen at Kalamgaon on Monday, district collector Govind Bodke told the media. Nearly 250 students were rushed to nearby hospitals and health centres by their teachers, he said. As many as 150 of them were still undergoing treatment at primary health centres (PHCs) and rural hospitals at Kasa, Talasari, Wangaon, Palghar and Manor, where their condition was stated to be stable, while others were discharged, said the collector. A probe has been ordered, he maintained.

Bodke said after being informed about the incident, he, accompanied by senior officials

SNIPPETS

BSF asks locals to not venture near border

New Delhi/Kolkata: The Border Security Force (BSF) has asked locals residing along the 4,096 km-long India-Bangladesh international border to not undertake unnecessary movement in the frontier areas especially during the night in the wake of the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government in Dhaka, officials said Tuesday. BSF Director General (Acting) Daljit Singh Chawdhary continued his border tour for the second day as he visited integrated check post (ICP) Petrapole, the largest such facility in South Asia located at a distance of about 80 km from Kolkata, and a "highly sensitive" border post of the force in the North 24 Paraganas district along the front.

India alerts citizens about UK travel

London: The High Commission of India in London Tuesday issued a safety advisory for Indian nationals to "stay vigilant and exercise due caution" amid ongoing violent clashes which have targeted immigrants and asylum-seekers in parts of the UK since last week. The advisory posted on the social media channels of the Indian mission also provides emergency contact information for anyone in need of urgent assistance. It comes a week after the fatal stabbing of three young girls in Southport, north-west England, and incorrect social media claims over the UK-born suspect's asylum-seeker status.

Rekha Sharma's tenure as NCW chief ends

New Delhi: National Commission for Women (NCW) chairperson Rekha Sharma's tenure ended Tuesday. Sharma, 60, assumed the charge of NCW chairperson August 7, 2018. Reflecting on her time in the NCW, she said, "These nine years have been like a roller coaster ride for me. Coming from a humble background to finishing three terms in the NCW is a long way I have walked." Her association with the NCW began in August 2015 as a member. She was given additional charge as the NCW chairperson from September 29, 2017, before officially becoming its chief in 2018. In a post on X, Sharma said, "These nine years have been like a roller coaster ride for me. Coming from a humble background to finishing three terms in the NCW is a long way I have walked." Throughout her tenure, Sharma was a vocal advocate for gender sensitisation of police personnel, emphasising their role as the first point of contact for victims.



Students participate in a peace rally commemorating Hiroshima Day in Mumbai, Maharashtra

HP: Moderate flash flood risk in 7 districts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, August 6: The meteorological centre here Tuesday cautioned of moderate flash flood risk in isolated parts of Himachal Pradesh's seven out of 12 districts -- Kangra, Sirmaur, Chamba, Shimla, Kullu, Kinnaur and Mandi - in the next 24 hours.

The weather office issued an 'orange' alert of very heavy rain in parts of 10 districts of Bilaspur, Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla, Sirmaur, Solan and Una for the next 24 hours till Wednesday evening.

It also issued an 'orange' warning of heavy to very heavy rain. thunderstorms and lightning at isolated places in the state August 7 and 10.

Monsoon activity is likely to intensify from Tuesday evening and continue for the next five to six days, bringing fairly widespread rain across the state, the MeT said.

As intermittent rain continued to lash several parts of the state, 53 roads were closed, while 63 water supply schemes were affected, the state emergency operation centre said Tuesday evening. Sixteen people died in flash floods triggered by cloudbursts in Kullu, Mandi and Shimla districts July 31 and 40

are still missing.

of the district, visited health centres where students were admitted and also inspected the central kitchen from where food items were sourced.

Over 84% districts prone to extreme heatwaves: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 6: More than 84 per cent of the districts in India are prone to extreme heat waves and 70 per cent are experiencing a rise in the frequency and intensity of extreme rainfall events, according to a new analysis.

The report, "Managing Monsoons in a Warming Climate" by the independent developmental organisation IPE Global Limited and Esri India Technologies, said the country was experiencing extended summer-like conditions during the June-September monsoon.

Abinash Mohanty, head of Climate Change Sustainability Practice at IPE Global Limited and the author of the study, said, "Our analysis suggests that eight out of 10 Indians will be highly exposed

to extreme events by 2036. "Embracing hyper-granular

risk assessments and establishing climate-risk observatories should become a national imperative to safeguard Indian agriculture, industry and largescale infrastructural projects from the vagaries of climate change," he said.

The report said Uttar Pradesh. Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tripura were the top five heatwave hotspot states in the 2013-22 decade. It said 74 per cent of districts in the coastal regions, 71 per cent in the plains. and 65 per cent in the hills had 'high to very high' exposure to extreme heat waves.

Districts in the plains and hills experienced a 36 per cent increase in heatwave days during the 2013-22 decade while coastal districts recorded a 30 per cent rise, it added. "Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tripura were the top five heatwave hotspot states in this decade," the report stated.



It also noted that the decade recorded fewer cumulative heatwave days compared to the previous two decades. The decade's most impactful extreme heatwave event occurred in 2015, the second deadliest after the 1998 event.

The analysis suggested that during the March-May period and the subsequent June-September period, districts in the plains experienced the maximum number of heatwave days. Coastal districts saw a decline in the number of heatwave instances, both in frequency and intensity, in the past decade, which could be attributed to the increase in cyclonic activities in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea.

Government data shows ex-

Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, **Gujarat and Tripura were** the top five heatwave hotspot states in the 2013-22 decade

treme heat and sunstroke claimed 10,635 lives in India over the 10 years from 2013. Andhra Pradesh recorded 2.203 deaths during this period, the highest among all states, followed by Uttar Pradesh (1,485), Telangana (1,172), Punjab (1,030), Bihar (938), Maharashtra (867), Odisha (609), Jharkhand (517), Haryana (461), West Bengal (357), Rajasthan (345), Gujarat (263), and Madhya Pradesh (213).

Delhi recorded 13 such deaths. The maximum number of deaths (1,908) were recorded in 2015.

This summer, India experi-

highest in 14 years, with the northwestern region recording its warmest June since 1901, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The country recorded 181 heatwave days in June, the highest since 2010.

Official data shows that India recorded 41,789 suspected heat stroke cases and 143 heat-related deaths in 2024, during one of its

hottest and longest heat waves. The intense heat overwhelmed the water supply system and power grids, with Delhi grappling with a severe water crisis. Temperatures breached 50 degrees Celsius in parts of Rajasthan, with nighttime temperatures hovering around 35 degrees Celsius in many places.

In Delhi, which logged 40 consecutive days of temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius since May 13, there were around 60heat-related deaths this year, according to reports.

enced 536 heatwave days, the

international



The Kyiv regime's illusions that the Europeans will arrange another beautiful peace summit at which all their internal problems will be resolved by themselves, are costing the people of Ukraine dearly SERGEI SHOIGU SECRETARY OF SECURITY COUNCIL, RUSSIA

PAK NA PASSES BILL

Pakistan's National Assembly (NA) Tuesday passed a bill seeking to bar independent lawmakers from joining a party after a stipulated period





begun to establish a Chinese bank in the to it. the free trade agreement between

the Maldives and China would offer MOHAMED SAEED | MINISTER OF ECONOMIC







HIDEHIKO YUZAKI

SHORT **TAKES**

Mass rally demands jailed Khan's release

Peshawar: Thousands of supporters of Pakistan's imprisoned former Prime Minister rallied Monday in the country's volatile northwest to mark the first anniversary of his arrest and demand his immediate release, officials said. The protest is part of Imram Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf or PTI opposition party's campaign aimed at pressuring the current government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to free him without any further delay. The rally was held in Swabi, a city in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province where Khan's party rules.

Landslide kills seven in Nepal

Kathmandu: Seven people were killed in a landslide that hit a remote area in western Nepal Tuesday morning. according to the police. A team of Nepal Police and local representatives were involved in the rescue and rehabilitation operations, carried out soon after the landslide triggered by incessant rain in Badigad Rural Municipality of Baglung district. Seven people were killed when the landslide swept away two houses in the Badigad area Tuesday, according to the police.

Russia detains Italian man

Moscow: An Italian man has been detained in Moscow after flying a drone near the Kremlin, state news agency TASS reported Tuesday, citing law enforcement sources. TASS said Russian law enforcement agencies detained the man, a flight attendant, for operating the drone over Zaryadye Park which sits just beside the Kremlin in central Moscow. The Italian embassy in Moscow did not immediately respond to a request for

NKorea slams US

Seoul: North Korea said Germany's entry into a US-led UN border monitoring force on the Korean peninsula would raise tensions, accusing Washington of creating an Asian version of NATO, state news agency KCNA reported Tuesday Germany, a close US ally, Friday became the latest member of the United Nations Command, a group that helps police the heavily fortified border between South Korea and North Korea and has committed to defend the South in the event of a war.

Harris picks running mate

Tim Walz, a 60-year-old US Army National Guard veteran and former teacher, said he was honored to join Harris on the ticket

Washington, August 6: Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris selected Minnesota Governor Tim Walz to be her running mate Tuesday, choosing a progressive policy champion and a plain speaker from America's heartland to help win over rural, white voters.

Harris announced the selection in a text message to supporters.

"I'm pleased to share that I've made my decision. Minnesota Governor Tim Walz will join our campaign as my running mate," she said. "Tim is a battletested leader who has an incredible track record of getting things done for Minnesota families. I know that he will bring that same principled leadership to our campaign, and to the office of the vice president."

Walz, a 60-year-old US Army National Guard veteran and former teacher, said he was honored to join Harris on the ticket.

"I'm all in," Walz said on X, formerly Twitter. "Vice President Harris is showing us the politics of what's possible. It reminds me a bit of the first day of school.'

As governor, Walz has pushed a progressive agenda that includes free school meals, goals for tackling climate change, tax cuts for the middle class and expanded paid leave for Minnesota workers.

Walz has long advocated for women's reproductive rights but



Walz has served 12 years in Congress before he became Minnesota governor in 2018

also displayed a conservative bent while representing a rural district in the US House, defending agricultural interests and backing gun rights.

Harris, the daughter of immigrants from Jamaica and India, is adding a popular Midwestern politician whose home state votes reliably for Democrats in presidential elections but is close to Wisconsin and Michigan, two crucial battlegrounds.

Such states are seen as crucial in deciding this year's election, and Walz is widely seen as skilled at connecting with white, rural voters who in recent years have voted broadly for the Republican Donald Trump, Harris' rival for the White House.

The Harris campaign hopes Walz's extensive National Guard career, coupled with a successful run as a high school football coach, and his Dad joke videos will attract such voters who are not yet dedicated to a second

Trump term in the White House. Harris, 59, has revived the Democratic Party's hopes of an election victory since becoming its candidate after President Joe Biden, 81, ended his failing reelection bid under party pressure July 21.

Walz was a relative unknown nationally until the Harris "veepstakes" heated up, but his profile has since surged. A popular member of Congress, he reportedly had the backing of powerful former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who was instrumental in persuading Biden to leave the race

Harris and Walz will face Trump and his running mate JD Vance, also a military veteran from the Midwest, in a November 5 election.

A 'UNICORN'

Walz gave the nascent Harris campaign the new attack line in a late July interview "These are weird people on the other side. They want to take books away. They want to be in your exam room," referring to book bans and women's reproductive consultations with doctors.

Walz has also attacked the claims by Trump and Vance of having middle class credentials.

'They keep talking about the middle class. A robber baron real estate guy and a venture capitalist trying to tell us they understand who we are? They don't know who we are," Walz said in an MSNBC interview.

Walz is "somewhat of a unicorn," said Ryan Dawkins, a political science professor at Minnesota's Carleton College, a man born in a small town in rural Nebraska capable of conveying Harris' message to core Democratic voters, and those that the party has failed to reach in recent years.

Yahya Sinwar named

as new Hamas leader

REUTERS

Cairo, August 6: Hamas named its Gaza leader Yahya Sinwar as successor to former political chief Ismail Haniyeh, who was assassinated in Tehran last week, the group said Tuesday, in a move that reinforces the radical path pursued since the October 7 attack on Israel.

Sinwar, the architect of the most devastating attack on Israel in decades, has been in hiding in Gaza, defying Israeli attempts to kill him since the start of the war.

"The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas announces the selection of Commander Yahya Sinwar as the head of the political bureau of the movement, succeeding the martyr Commander Ismail Haniyeh, may Allah have mercy on him," the movement said in a brief statement

News of the appointment was greeted with a salvo of rockets from Gaza from the bands of militants still fighting Israeli troops in the besieged enclave. Sinwar, who spent half his

adult life in Israeli prisons, was the most powerful Hamas leader left alive following the assassination of Haniyeh, which has left the region on the brink of a wider regional conflict after Iran vowed harsh retaliation.

Israel has not claimed responsibility for the assassination but it has said it killed other senior leaders, including Hamas deputy leader Saleh al-Arouri, who was killed in Beirut, and Mohammed Deif, the movement's military commander.

Born in a refugee camp in the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis, Sinwar, 61, was elected as Hamas' leader in Gaza in 2017 after gaining a reputation as a ruthless enforcer and an implacable enemy of Israel.

He was formerly head of the Al-Majd security apparatus which tracked, killed and punished Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel's secret service before he was jailed.

UK EXPANDS JAIL CAPACITY

people

arrested

REUTERS

Liverpool, August 6: The British government has increased its prison capacity to help tackle violent, week-long anti-immigrant riots that have prompted a growing number of countries to warn their citizens about the dangers of travelling in Britain. Riots across a number of

towns and cities have erupted following the murder of three girls at a Taylor Swift-themed event in Southport, a seaside town in northern England. after false messaging on social media wrongly identified the suspected killer as an Islamist mi-

The Justice department, which is being forced to release some prisoners early as it battles a jail overcrowding crisis, said nearly 600 prison places had been secured to accommodate those engaged in violence.

About 400 people have been arrested so far."My message to anyone who chooses to take part in this violence and thuggery is simple, the police, courts and prisons stand ready and you will face the consequences of your appalling acts," Justice Secretary Shahana Mahmood said.

The unrest has prompted



India, Australia, Nigeria and other countries to warn their citizens to stay vigilant. About 400

Riva Peacock, a 22-vearold retail worker in Liverpool, where rioters clashed with police over the weekend, said the violence was shocking.

so far "There are a lot of people that blame immigrants for the state of this country," she told Reuters. "It's just a real shame that some of the most vulnerable people in our society have been used as a scapegoat for these issues." Prime Minister Keir Starmer has vowed a reckoning to those who have attacked Mosques and hotels holding migrants, hurled bricks at the police and counter protesters, and

> looted shops and burnt cars. Police Tuesday charged a 28year-old man with stirring up racial hatred over Facebook posts linked to the disorder. A 14year-old pleaded guilty to violent disorder.

Ukrainian sabotage group retreats to its territory

Moscow, August 6: The Russian defence ministry said Tuesday a Ukrainian "sabotage group" that tried to attack Russia's Kursk region has retreated in defeat.

Russia earlier accused Ukraine of mounting an attack on its southern border and said it had moved in reserves to help repel hundreds of fighters backed by tanks.

"After suffering losses, the Ukrainian sabotage group retreated to its territory, while some of the fighters tried to gain a foothold directly on the territory adjacent to the state border, where they were blocked by Russian army units, Moscow's defence ministry said in a statement.

"After suffering significant losses, the remnants of the sabotage group retreated to Ukrainian

It said Russia used artillery fire, warplanes and drones to beat back the attack.

Ukraine's general staff, in a regular update Tuesday, reported Russian strikes on border villages but did not mention any Ukrainian

offensive operation at the border. Russian regions near the border have come under frequent Ukrainian shelling in the course of the war in Ukraine.

UK calls for UN-led probe

ASYLUM FOR HASINA IN UK UNCLEAR



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, August 6: The British government has called for a United Nations led investigation into the violent incidents of the past few weeks in Bangladesh, which led to ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fleeing to India "for the moment" before reportedly seeking asylum in the UK.

Foreign Secretary David Lammy issued a statement Monday to condemn the "unprecedented levels of violence and tragic loss of life" over the last two weeks in Bangladesh and said the UK wanted to see action towards a democratic future for the country.

The government has made no official comment on reports of Hasina seeking political asylum in the UK, with Home Office sources only indicating that the country's immigration rules don't specifically allow individuals to travel to the UK to seek asylum.

The last two weeks in Bangladesh have seen unprecedented levels of violence and tragic loss of life. A transitional period has been announced by the Chief of the Army Staff," reads David Lammy's statement.

"All sides now need to work to-

gether to end the violence, restore calm, deescalate the situation and prevent any further loss of life. The people of Bangladesh deserve a full and independent UNled investigation into the events of the past few weeks," the foreign minister said.

The UK wants to see action taken to ensure Bangladesh a peaceful and democratic future. The UK and Bangladesh have deep people-to-people links and he added.

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar updated Parliament in New Delhi Tuesday to confirm that Hasina had arrived in the country after a forced resignation amid public agitation.

According to UK government sources, while the country has a "proud record" of providing protection for people who need it, there is no provision within the Immigration Rules for someone to be "allowed to travel to the UK to seek asylum or temporary refuge"

Those who need international protection should claim asylum in the first safe country they reach as the fastest route to safety, officials indicated with reference to the asylum procedures.

AMERICA UNPREPARED FOR WARS OF THE FUTURE

n the battlefields of Ukraine, the future of warfare is rapidly becoming a reality. The skies are filled with thousands of drones, operated by personnel using artificial intelligence systems to navigate obstacles and identify potential targets. These AI models are also aiding Ukraine in predicting optimal strike locations. As a result, Ukrainian forces are effectively destroying tanks and bringing down aircraft. Russian units are under constant surveillance, with their communication lines vulnerable to enemy interference, just as Ukraine's are. Both nations are competing to create more advanced technologies capable of countering ongoing assaults and breaching enemy defences. The conflict in Ukraine is not the only instance where new technology is reshaping warfare. In Myanmar and Sudan, both insurgents and government forces are employing unmanned vehicles and algorithms in their

battles. In 2020, an autonomous drone from Turkey, deployed by troops supporting the Libyan government, targeted retreating fighters, possibly marking the first drone strike carried out without human intervention. That same year, Azerbaijan's military used Turkish- and Israeli-made drones along with loitering munitions to capture the contested region of Nagorno-Karabakh. Meanwhile, in Gaza, Israel has deployed thousands of drones equipped with AI algorithms, assisting troops in manoeuvring through the urban landscape.

In a sense, there is nothing surprising about the pace of such developments. War has always spurred innovation. But today's shifts are unusually rapid, and they will have a far greater effect. Future wars will no longer be about who can mass the most people or field the best jets, ships, and tanks. Instead, they will be dominated by increasingly autonomous weapons systems and



powerful algorithms. Unfortunately, this is a future

for which the United States remains unprepared. Its troops are not fully ready to fight in an environment in which they rarely enjoy the element of surprise. Its jets, ships, and tanks are not equipped to defend against an onslaught of drones. The military has not yet embraced artificial intelligence.

The Pentagon does not have nearly enough initiatives aimed at rectifying these failures and its current efforts are moving too slowly. Meanwhile, the Russian military has fielded many AI-powered drones in Ukraine. And in April, China announced its largest military restructuring in almost a decade, with a new emphasis on building up technology-driven forces.

If it wants to remain the preeminent global power, the United States will have to quickly shift course. The country needs to reform the structure of its armed forces. The US military needs to reform its tactics and leadership development. It needs new ways to procure equipment. It needs to buy new types of gear. And it needs to better train soldiers to operate drones and use AI.

American policymakers, accustomed to governing the world's most powerful defence apparatus, may not like the idea of such a systemic overhaul. But robots and AI are here to stay. If the US fails to lead this revolution, malevolent actors equipped with new technologies will become more willing to attempt attacks on the US.

When they do, they might succeed. Even if Washington prevails, it will find itself increasingly surrounded by military systems designed to support autocracies and deployed with little respect for liberal values. The US must therefore transform its armed forces so it can maintain a decisive military advantage—and ensure that robots and AI are used in an ethical manner.

To avoid becoming obsolete, the American military needs to make major reforms. It can start by shaking up its processes for acquiring software and weapons. Its current purchasing process is too bureaucratic, risk-averse, and slow to adapt to the rapidly developing threats of the future.

War is nasty, brutish, and often much too long. It is an illusion to think that technology will change the underlying human nature of conflict. But the character of war is changing both rapidly and fundamentally. The United States must change and adapt, as well, and American officials must do so faster than their country's adversaries. Washington won't get it exactlyright—but it must get it less wrong than its enemies.

business



With a young, intelligent, thriving workforce the nation is well-positioned to leverage its advantages. I am also convinced that India can benefit from major shifts in the geopolitical, geo-economic, environmental and social landscape RALF SPETH | TVS MOTOR CHAIRMAN

VEG THALI COSTLIER BY 11% IN JULY

Vegetable thali's price increased 11 per cent in July compared to June this year due to higher prices of tomatoes on a monthly basis, according to a report. Non-veg thali also turned costlier by 6 per cent in July compared to June 2024, the Crisil Market Intelligence and Analysis' monthly 'Roti Rice Rate' report stated. The cost of veg thali was at ₹32.6 per plate in July 2024 against ₹29.4 per plate in June.



witnessed a significant shift renewable energy

Overall, the NPA on disbursement for Mudra loans has come down to 2.10



FINANCE MINISTER

We expect to sustain the improving trajectory in the core domestic business on the back of

consistent market share and penetration gains coupled with the ongoing initiatives to revive growth in traditional trade and expand direct reach under Project SETU

SAUGATA GUPTA MARICO LTD MD AND CEO

01 RESULTS CORNER

Tata Power net profit up 31%

New Delhi: Tata Power Tuesday said it has logged 31 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at ₹1,189 crore, compared to the year-ago period, on back of operational efficiency. "At ₹1,189 crore, growing 31 per cent YoY (year-on-year), the company reported its highest ever and 19th consecutive quarter of PAT growth on the back of strong operational performance and execution excellence across all its businesses of generation, transmission & distribution, and renewables," Tata Power said in a statement. According to the statement, these businesses contributed 84 per cent of the PAT (net profit) in O1FY25. compared to 72 per cent in the same period in FY24.

Vedanta profit surges 37%

New Delhi: Mining conglomerate Vedanta Ltd Tuesday reported a 36.5 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at ₹3,606 crore for June quarter FY25 due to improved margins and robust cost reduction across all operations. The company had posted a net profit of ₹2,640 crore in the year-ago period. Income rose to ₹36,698 crore over ₹34,279 crore in the year-ago period, according to an exchange filing. Vedanta said in a statement that the proposed demerger of its businesses is on track and it has already filed the demerger scheme with NCLT after getting a nod from secured creditors. The company said that its board has approved a capex investment of USD 270 million for its oil and gas business.

TVS Motor profit up 6%

New Delhi: TVS Motor Company Tuesday said its consolidated net profit increased 6 per cent to ₹461 crore for the first quarter ended June 30, 2024, riding on the back of robust sales. The company had reported a net profit of ₹434 crore in the April-June quarter of last fiscal. Total income rose to ₹10,448 crore for the period under review as compared to ₹9,142 crore in the year-ago period, TVS Motor Company said in a regulatory filing. On a standalone basis, the company posted a profit after tax of ₹577 crore for the first quarter as compared to ₹468 crore in the June quarter of the last fiscal, it added.

NHAI aims to monetise up to \$2.4bn of assets in FY25

AN INVIT IS A KIND OF **MUTUAL FUND THAT ENABLES DIRECT INVESTMENT OF MONEY FROM INDIVIDUAL AND** INSTITUTIONAL **INVESTORS IN INFRASTRUCTURE** PROJECTS TO EARN A **PORTION OF THE INCOME AS RETURNS**

REUTERS

New Delhi, August 6: India's highways authority said Tuesday it plans to monetise up to \$2.4 billion worth of road projects in the current fiscal year ending March through an infrastructure investment trust route as it looks for ways to reduce its massive debt.

The state-owned National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has an outstanding debt of 3.2 trillion rupees (\$38 billion) and is betting on leveraging assets through infrastructure investment trusts, or InvITs, to repay its loans.



ability of NHAI is expected to further reduce to around 3 trillion rupees at the end of fiscal 2025,' it said in a statement.

NHAI intends to monetise projects worth 150 billion to 200 billion rupees through an InvIT, the statement said, adding that the government had asked the authority to use the proceeds to retire its debts.

An InvIT is a kind of mutual fund that enables direct investment of money from individual and institutional investors in infrastructure projects to earn a portion of the income as returns. Infrastructure investment trusts have gained popularity in recent years amid India ramping up its infrastructure spending to bolster

economic growth.

The statement said that the company hoped to save about 10 billion rupees by retiring high-cost debt worth 157 billion rupees ahead of schedule. The highways authority had earlier raised about 160 billion rupees by monetising its assets of 889 kilometres of toll roads.

The authority, which handles 983 toll plazas, has set a target of building 10,421 kilometres of new national highways in the current fiscal year, Nitin Gadkari, Road Transport and Highways Minister told Parliament last week.

The authority plans to spend nearly 1.68 trillion rupees on road projects in the current fiscal year, largely funded through the federal budget, toll collections and monetisation of assets.

Banks write off ₹9.90L-cr loans in last 5 fiscals

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 6: Banks have written off loans worth ₹9.90 lakh crore in the last five financial years, Parliament was informed Tuesday.

During 2023-24, banks loan write off was at ₹1.70 lakh crore, as against ₹2.08 lakh crore in the previous fiscal, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

Write-off was highest at ₹2.34 lakh crore during 2019-20, which came down to ₹2.02 lakh crore in the following year and to ₹1.74 lakh crore in 2021-22.

As per the RBI guidelines and policy approved by banks' boards, NPAs, including those in respect of which full provisioning has been made on completion of four years, are removed from the balance-sheet of the bank concerned by way of write-off, he said.

'Banks evaluate/consider the impact of write-offs as part of their regular exercise to clean up their balance-sheet, avail tax benefit and optimise capital, in accordance with the said guidelines and policies of the respective boards," he said in a reply to a question asked by Congress member Randeep Singh Surjewala.

Such write-off does not result in waiver of liabilities of borrowers to repay and therefore, write-off does not benefit the borrowers, he said

Amazon India head Manish Tiwary resigns



AGENCIES

New Delhi, August 6: Amazon India head and country manager Manish Tiwary has resigned, the e-commerce giant said Tuesday.

Tiwary will continue with Amazon until October to help ensure a smooth transition.

"Manish Tiwary, Country Manager for Amazon India, has decided to pursue an opportunity outside of the company. Manish's leadership over the last eight years has been instrumental in delivering for customers and sellers, making Amazon.in the preferred marketplace in India,' Amazon India statement said.

It further said that Amit Agarwal, senior Vice President India and Emerging Markets, will remain closely involved with the Amazon.in team.

India is an important priority for the company, Amazon em-

"We are excited by the momentum and business results we have already achieved, and we are even more optimistic about the significant opportunities ahead to innovate on behalf of our customers and digitally transform lives and livelihoods. the statement said.

The company further added: "Amit Agarwal, SVP India and Emerging Markets, will remain closely involved with the Amazon.in team, guiding its strong bench of leaders to deliver on this opportunity."

The e-commerce giant is currently facing an antitrust investigation for favouring select sellers on its India website, an allegation it denies.

In 2021, Reuters reported that the company ran a systematic campaign of creating knockoff goods and manipulating search results to boost its own product lines in India - practices it has denied engaging in.

EV sales rise 55.2% in July, says FADA



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, August 6: Electric vehicle sales registered a 55.2 per cent on-year growth at 1,79,038 units in July driven by a massive 96 per cent jump in e-two-wheeler sales, automobile dealers' body FADA said Tuesday.

The total electric vehicles sales for July 2023 were at 1,16,221 units, according to the monthly sales data from Federation of Automobile Dealers' Association (FADA). The electric two-wheelers sales during the previous month stood at 1,07,016 units, up 95.94 per cent, from 54,616 units sold in July last year, while the electric three-wheeler sales grew 18.18 per cent at 63,667 units, from 58,873 units year earlier, as per FADA.

The commercial vehicle sales during the reporting month was also on an upward trajectory, growing two-fold on a year-on-year basis to 816 units,

from 364 commercial vehicles

Passenger vehicles, however, declined 2.92 per cent at 7,541 units in July, as against 7,768 units in the same month of last year, as per data. 'The rising market share in

the 2W and 3W EV segments for July 2024, with YoY growth rates of 95.94 per cent and 18.18 per cent respectively, and a market share of 7.4 per cent and 57.6 per cent, respectively for the month, is a clear indication of the growing acceptance and demand for electric vehicles in India," FADA President Manish Raj Singhania said. The PV segment, while showing a marginal year-on-year decline of 2.92 per cent, maintains a market share of 2.4 per cent, Singhania said, adding that the CV segment has shown remarkable growth with a yearon-vear increase of 124.2 per cent and a current (July) market share of 1.02 per cent

MOHANTY NOMINATED AS DIRECTOR ON BOARD OF UCO BANK

BHUBANESWAR: The government of India vide Gazette of India dated August 5, 2024 has nominated Dr Sarada Prasan Mohanty as Director on board of UCO Bank with immediate effect. Dr Mohanty currently holds the position of Regional Director of Reserve Bank India (RBI) for Odisha and Director of Enterprises Computing & Cybersecurity Training Institute of RBI. Dr Mohanty has 28 years of experience in banking sector inclusive of 25 years of service in RBI. During his tenure in RBI he has experience in the field of regulation, supervision,



information technology, payment system, currency management, financial inclusion & development, human resource management. In addition to that he has represented the bank at various international forums like Federal Reserve, Basel committee, international committee on credit reporting, BRICS cybersecurity conference, improvement in currency infrastructure in countries such as USA, Switzerland, Ukraine, Russia, Australia, New Zealand

Stocks stumble after early gains

SENSEX AND NIFTY DECLINE FOR THIRD STRAIGHT DAY AS WEAK JOBS DATA FAN FEARS OF POSSIBLE RECESSION IN THE US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, August 6: Stock markets surrendered early gains and settled lower in volatile trade Tuesday with Sensex losing 166 points and Nifty ending below the 24,000 level due to fag-end selling in banking and telecom stocks.

Falling for the third straight day, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled at 78,593.07, down 166.33 points or 0.21 per cent, as 17 of its constituents declined and 13 gained.

The index opened sharply higher and rallied further 1,092.68 points or 1.38 per cent to a high of 79,852.08 on value-buying by investors driven by a rebound in Japanese and other Asian stocks.

However, the barometer faltered later and hit a low of 78.496.57 as banking shares came under selling pressure ahead of the RBI policy decision Thursday.

Similarly, the NSE Nifty declined 63.05 points or 0.26 per cent to settle below the 24,000 level at 23,992.55. The index surged 327 points or 1.35 per cent to 24,382.60 in intra-day trade but failed to hold onto gains.

Sensex and Nifty declined for the third straight day, losing more than 4 per cent as weak iobs data fanned fears of possible recession in the US market.

'The domestic market tried to rebound mirroring the Asian markets. However, momentum was short-lived and closed below the threshold level of 24,000. Investors are watching the ap-



nomic data, and rising geopolitical tensions," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said

From the Sensex pack, State Bank of India, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bharti Airtel, Titan, HDFC Bank, IndusInd Bank, Axis Bank and Bajaj Finance were the biggest laggards.

JSW Steel, Tech Mahindra, Larsen & Toubro, Hindustan Unilever, HCL Technologies and Reliance Industries were among the gainers from the pack.

"Indian markets started the day on a positive note Tuesday, buoyed by a rebound in other Asian markets, notably Japan, which had experienced their worst downturn since 2008. However, the momentum faded, and about an hour and a half before the close, the markets gave up their gains," Avdhut Bagkar Technical and Derivatives Analyst, StoxBox, said.

In the broader market, the

per cent and smallcap index went lower by 0.57 per cent.

Among the indices, telecommunication dropped 1.15 per cent, financial services by 1.03 per cent, consumer durables by 0.92 per cent, bankex by 0.76 per cent and consumer discretionary by 0.48 per cent.

"When global markets correct due to the risk off trade, our markets fall in sympathy due to FPI selling. On a fundamental basis, the Yen Carry trade reversal will have a limited impact on India. The US recession has a direct impact on our IT / Pharma sectors and remittances. We expect markets to remain volatile due to global uncertainties," Nilesh Shah, Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Co Ltd, said.

Asian markets rebounded sharply, where Seoul, Tokyo, and Shanghai settled significantly higher. Hong Kong, however ended lower.

₹10,000cr of credit being disbursed via UPI per month

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, August 6: The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is witnessing a surge in the UPI platform's credit feature, with about ₹10,000 crore of transactions happening a month, a top official said Tuesday.

A bulk of the transactions is from credit cards feature, the body's chief executive and managing director Dilip Asbe told reporters here, adding the presanctioned credit lines on UPI are also gaining traction with up to ₹200 crore being disbursed through it every month.

The NPCI launched the credit card feature in November 2022, under which a user can link her credit card on the app and all the payments add up to the credit card bill for the month. A slew

of lenders are offering credit card facilities now.

Asbe said ICICI Bank is the leader when it comes to presanctioned credit limits facility on UPI and about half a dozen banks have started to offer the facility for their customers.

The development comes at a time when concerns are being raised over the high growth in unsecured loans including credit cards and personal loans. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a widely used platform which witnessed 466 million transactions in July.

Speaking with reporters on the sidelines of a conference to announce this year's edition of the Global Fintech Fest, Asbe said UPI is witnessing immense growth and ready for the next stage of growth.

He also said that the objective of the central bank digital currency (CBDC) is not to compete with the UPI, and added that there are a lot of features on the CBDC like programmability which will be of a lot of use for India.

Speaking at the same event, former RBI executive director G Padmanabhan said there is a 'trust deficit' between the fintech industry and the regulators, and added that the former will be keen to discuss ways of embracing the latter's requirements at the three-day event.

Meanwhile, a survey of fintechs done by a consultancy firm ahead of the event revealed that less than a third of the respondents feel they are in sync with the highly regulated entrenched players on the governance as-



pect, as compared to 27 per cent in last year's survey.

The organizers said that Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, Sebi chairnerson Madhabi Puri Buch and a slew of other dignitaries will be speaking at the event to be held in the Bandra Kurla Complex business district.

A few weeks ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said that he aims to make Mumbai the global fintech capital. The Maximum City has been the centre of finance for many decades, while the country's only International Financial Services Centre is in Gujarat.

Padmanabhan said the industry also plans discussion on the digital currencies front with a special focus on the CBDC but added that there will be no calls for a relook into the RBI stance on cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin.

The three-day event will see 350 sessions, 20 reports, 800 speakers including 150 women, and 80,000 footfalls, including representatives from over 25 cen-

tral banks across the world. Infosys co-founder Krish Gopalakrishnan, who is also associated with the event, said that networking and investor connect will also be a key focus area at the event andover 300 investors are expected to attend.







Neeraj cruises into final

DISAPPOINTING OLYMPIC DEBUT FOR KISHORE JENA AS HE FAILS TO FIND A PLACE AMONG THE TOP 12



IN FULL FLIGHT: Neeraj Chopra needed just one throw to qualify for the javelin throw final; a disappointed Kishore Jena gazes at the scoreboard

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, August 6: Defending champion Neeraj Chopra turned on the heat as he stormed into the men's javelin throw final of the Olympic Games with a season's best effort of 89.34m in his very first attempt in the qualification round here Tuesday.

The other Indian in fray, Kishore Jena, bowed out of contention to make the 12-man final Thursday after managing a poor throw of 80.73m.

Much like his performance in the Tokyo Olympics, the 26year-old Chopra crossed the automatic qualifying mark of 84m in his opening throw to occupy

the top spot in Group B. The tremendous effort, which is the second best of his career, also set aside concerns surrounding Chopra's fitness after he revealed that he had been battling an adductor niggle in the build-up to the Games. His personal best continues to be 89.94m achieved in 2022.

Earlier in the year, Chopra had thrown 88.36m in Doha and also won the Paavo Nurmi Games with a throw of 85.97m. As the defending champion, there will certainly be pressure on him, but Chopra showed that he is up to the task.

Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem, is the reigning Commonwealth Games champion, also qualified for the finals with a throw of 86.59m in Group B. From the same group,

Grenada veteran Anderson Peters too made the cut with a throw of 88.63m.

Chopra produced the most eye-catching performance of the day lasting just a few minutes quite literally a case of 'he came, he threw and he conquered'.

Earlier in the day, Jena finished ninth in Group A qualification round with an underwhelming throw of 80.73m, which pushed him out of contention for a slot in the finals. Jena's opening throw was correct and he fouled his second attempt before coming up with 80.21m in his last effort.

Julian Weber of Germany topped Group A with a first round throw of 87.76m while former World Champion Julius Yego (85.97m) of Kenya and Tokyo Olympics silver medallist Jakub Vadlejch (85.63m) of Czechia were second and third respectively.

All those who throw 84m or above, or at least 12 best performers from Group A and B combined will advance to the finals to be held Thursday.

Jena had booked an automatic Olympics berth with his 87.54m throw for a silver medal in the Asian Games in October last year. After that, he crossed the 80m mark in just one out of six competitions before Tuesday. During all the three throws that Jena attempted he did not look confident and the intent was lacking. However, the Olympic experience will certainly do him

ninth time – but the

first time on his sport's

sprint to the stands

His next move was a

grandest stage.

Resilient Mirabai eyes historic podium finish

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, August 6: Away from the spotlight owing to an injuryplagued buildup, Mirabai Chanu will be in focus Wednesday when she attempts to become India's first weightlifter to win two Olympic medals but a challenging field and lingering fitness concerns stand in the way.

The lifter, who opened India's tally on the first day of the competition at the Tokyo Olympics with a silver medal, has kept a low profile since suffering hip tendonitis during the Asian Games last October.

Chanu has endured a rather underwhelming Olympic cycle thanks to injury and workload management. Her best effort since Tokyo came at the 2022 Commonwealth Games where she lifted 201kg (88kg snatch+113kg clean & jerk). She had won the silver in Tokyo by lifting 202kg (87kg+115kg).

Competing in her pet 49kg weight category, Chanu is likely to be in the race for a silver or

We know that Mirabai will have to lift at least We are ready for the

VIJAY SHARMA COACH

bronze if she matches or betters her personal best in both sections. Reigning Olympic champion China's Hou Zhihui is the favourite to defend her title.

There are still murmurs surrounding Chanu's fitness after she returned from a five-month hiatus following the hip injury. However, both Chanu and chief national coach Vijay Sharma have claimed that the Manipuri has completely recovered.

"We know that Mirabai has to go well beyond the 200kg mark. This time 202kg will not matter, but somewhere around 205-206kg. We are prepared for the challenge," Sharma told this agency Tuesday.

However, this is easier said

than done, as the 29-year-old has struggled to surpass her personal best of 88kg in the snatch, set at the 2020 National Championships, and 119kg in clean and jerk, achieved at the 2021 Asian Championships, for quite a while.

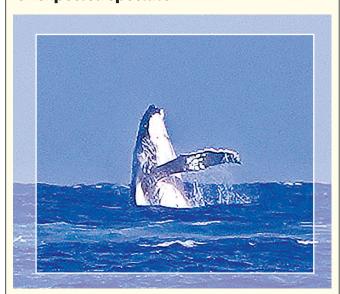
Chanu has been training in this city for a month. She got help from American Dr Aaron Horschig, a former weightlifterturned-physical therapist and strength and conditioning coach. He has been working with Chanu since 2020.

While Chanu, who turns 30 Thursday, will have one eye on her competitors' barbells, the Manipuri's main battle will be with herself at the South Paris Arena here. Chanu however, is known to be a fighter and one of the most tenacious athletes in India. Be it battling intense menstrual cramps to win a medal in Tokyo or attempting a 117kg clean and jerk lift despite injuring herself during the Asian Games, she has always shown her resolute side.



OLYMPIC TIDBITS

Unexpected spectator



Teahupo'o (Tahiti): With all eyes on the ocean during the final day of the Paris Olympics surfing competition here Tuesday afternoon, a surprise guest made an appearance: a whale. A safe distance from athletes Tatiana Weston-Webb from Brazil and Brisa Hennessy of Costa Rica - who were competing in a semifinal match-the whale breached and gave spectators and photographers the Olympic moment of a lifetime. Locals said that whales are frequently seen in Tahiti as they gather around the island during mating, giving birth and

Hotel apologises to Serena

Paris: A luxury Parisian hotel has apologised to tennis great Serena Williams after she complained, in a social media post seen by more than four million person, that she and her family were turned away from its restaurant Monday. "Yikes @peninsulaparis I've been denied access to rooftop to eat in an empty restaurant of nicer places but never with my kids. Always a first," Williams said on 'X'. Williams, a four-time Olympic gold medallist, was one of the flame's torchbearers during the Paris Games' opening ceremony. "The restaurant quickly replied to the multiple-time Grand Slam champion. Dear Mrs Williams, Please accept our deepest apologies for the disappointment you encountered tonight. Unfortunately, our rooftop bar was indeed fully booked," the management of the hotel said.

Seine problems persist

Paris: A test run meant to allow Olympic athletes to familiarise themselves with the marathon swimming course in the Seine river was canceled n Tuesday over concerns about water quality. Paris 2024 spokesperson Anne Descamps confirmed that World Aquatics made the decision to cancel the exercise. The cancellation comes a day after the triathlon mixed relay event was held in the river. World Triathlon released data Tuesday showing that when the triathletes swam Monday, the levels of fecal bacteria were high.

'MONDO' VAULTS INTO GREATNESS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saint-Denis (France), August 6: The pole vaulter they call 'Mondo' really can put on a show. And after Monday's show, discussions are bound to start as to who has been the greatest pole vaulter of all times - Sergei Bubka or Armand Duplantis

With the rest of the action at the Olympic track wrapped up for Monday evening and the crowd of 80,000 at the Stade de France still on their feet, Duplantis rested the pole on his right shoulder and took a deep breath. Then, he lifted up that long piece of carbon fibre and took off down the runway and into

the night sky. Another Olympic

gold medal already was his. When he came crashing down into the padding on the other side of that sky-high, pink-tinted bar, so was another world record. The ninth

time he has broken his own record. Duplantis, the Louisiana-born 24-year-old who competes for his mother's native Sweden, cleared 6.25 metres (20 feet, 6 inches) to break the world record for the to hug his girlfriend and celebrate his record and second Olympic gold with all those friends and family wearing yellow and blue. The country's FLYING HIGH: Armand Duplantis watches the world from above as he goes over the

king and queen were on hand, as well, to witness Sweden's latest history-making leap into the pole vault pit. "It's hard to understand, honestly," Duplantis said. "If I don't beat this moment in my career, then I'm

bar to create a new world recor

Monday at the Paris Olympics; (Inset)

'Mondo' poses with the scoreboard flashing the world record

pretty OK with that. I don't

half hour at the end of the night was worth the wait. Mondo's en-

think you can get much better than what just happened," the Swede added.

The drama played out over a

nary jumper because of four fac-American Sam Kendricks, who finished second. 'One, he's got a great coach for a

that it did and for

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long time. He's had a lot of time to develop his skills. He's got great equipment and understanding of the sport. He's a fan of sport, and he's got God's hand on his back." Kendricks couldn't have been closer to the truth.

China send Indian paddlers packing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Paris, August 6: Veteran Achanta Sharath Kamal showed resistance but India suffered a 0-3 loss to mighty China in the pre-quarterfinals, which also ended their campaign in the men's table tennis team event at the Paris Olympics here Tuesday. To put it simply, the Chinese gave a masterclass to the Indian paddlers and decimated them. Only Sharath Kamal managed to win a game. The others were no match for their respective opponents.

The Indian duo of Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar lost the opening doubles match 2-11. 3-11, 7-11 to the Chinese pair of the legendary Ma Long and Chuqin Wang.

Playing current World No. 2 Fan Zhendong in the first singles, Sharath took the first game 11-9 with a superlative display. But the Chinese regrouped to outwit the Indian 11-7, 11-7, 11-5 in the next three games as India fell 0-2 behind in the tie.

The 24-year-old Manay then played the second singles but found the going tough against Chuqin, losing 9-11, 6-11, 9-11. Even though he got to nine points in both the first and third games, it never appeared that Manav would win.

European football giants to clash in Olympics final

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lyon, August 6: Thierry Henry stood with his arms outstretched, facing the jubilant crowd and soaking up the atmosphere. The final of the men's soccer tournament at the Paris Olympics was in sight after France had been pushed to the limit by Egypt in Monday night's semi-

final at Stade de Lyon. Jean-Philippe Mateta, mean-

while, was being mobbed by his teammates after scoring his second goal in a 3-1 win that sets up

a final Friday against Spain at Parc des Princes. Spain had earlier defeated Morocco 2-1

"It was like, I don't know how to say – it was incredible," Mateta said. "Now we have to do better in the one game left. We won't be satisfied without the gold."

The host nation's place in the final looked in serious doubt as Egypt was closing in on an upset



after leading through Mahmoud Saber's 62nd-minute goal.

France had hit the frame of the goal on three occasions before Mateta equalised in the 83rd and sent the game into extra time. His second came in the 99th and Michael Olise added France's third in the 108th.

In the other semifinal at Marseille, Juanlu Sanchez came off the bench to fire Spain to a record-equalling fifth Olympic men's soccer final.

Perfect riposte for her critics Germany edge out India in 5-goal thriller

VINESH PHOGAT BECOMES 1ST INDIAN WOMAN WRESTLER TO REACH OLYMPIC FINAL, ENSURES SILVER

Men in Blue to fight again for bronze against Spain

Paris, August 6: It was not

India's day in hockey as they

went down 2-3 to Germany in

the semifinals of the Paris

Olympics here Tuesday, Had India utilised the chances that

came their way in the first

quarter only, India would have

been able to close out the game.

However, profligacy in front

of the opposition goal once

more cost them dearly. However,

there is still hope for a medal

in what will be PR Sreejesh's

farewell game for the country.

India will now vie for the

bronze against Spain, who had

lost in the first semifinal to

In breathtaking action where

the pendulum of fortune swung

from one end to the other, it was

the Germans who held their

nerves to make it to the summit

clash round. Harmanpreet Singh

and Sukhjeet Singh scored the

goals for India while Gonzalo

Peillat, Marco Miltkau and

the Netherlands.

AGENCIES Paris, August 6: She did not just have to battle on the blue wrestling mat, her fight started long before the Paris Olympics began, when she along with Sakshi Malik, Bajrang Punia and many more of her clan, protested against the misdeeds of Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the now-deposed former president of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). Every day was a challenge then, every bout was a challenge Tuesday for Vinesh Phogat in the 50kg category for women. She had proved her detractors wrong earlier, she did so again Tuesday.

Any wrestler would have lost the battle mentally if the first opponent would be an undefeated Olympic and four-time World Champion. When Vinesh took the mat against Yui Susaki of Japan, the odds were stacked against her. Her adversary had never lost an international bout in the 82 she had competed in. Yet Vinesh stuck to her guns and it paid off. And then there was no stopping

Months before her long-cherished dream of winning an Olympic medal turned into reality, Vinesh was furious, but unwavering in the face of intimidation, police detention, backlash from a protest she was spearheading, and a smear campaign that sought to portray her in a negative light.

Instead of sinking into a miasma of despair, she unloaded on her detractors a torrent of angry responses, something that proved to be a blessing in disguise as she became India's first woman wrestler to reach the finals of the Olympics after two failed attempts over 12 years.

Then, as she trained her sights on booking a ticket to the Paris



VICE-LIKE GRIP: Vinesh Phogat (in red) holds her opponent Yusneylis Guzman Lopez down with a powerful hold during the contest Tuesday

Olympics, a new set of challenges stared her in the eye, as if telling her to leave the scene

Vinesh had to drop down to 50kg after competing in 53kg for more than five years, there were multiple issues with her trial bouts ahead the Olympic qualifiers, and then there was also the small matter of going through a knee surgery, years after an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tear at the 2016 Rio Olympics nearly ended her career.

For the feisty wrestler from Haryana whose road to the French capital was always riddled with hurdles, a lot was at stake. Mere mortals would have caved in, but she didn't.

Instead, she switched to top gear. It was a reflection of all the things that went into the making of Vinesh Phogat. Finally, her extraordinary journey, from the street protests of Delhi to the podium in Paris, culminated in a historic medal. the colour of which will be known Wednesday. For now, she has guaranteed herself a silver.

It's a perfect riposte to her detractors in the national federation who criticised her for her leading role in the prolonged protest against Brij Bhushan, who is accused of intimidation and sexual harassment.

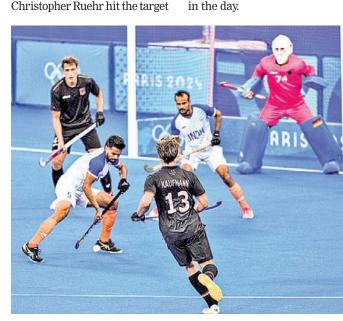
The police got involved, the courts got involved, and the government too stepped in as the residents of the national capital got impatient with the protests. However, Vinesh did not back down and continued the fight with steely resolve.

These attributes went a long way in helping her win a medal in the world's biggest sporting spectacle, which, in a way, completed her decorated career.

"Believe and you can fly," said wrestling's world body while congratulating her on for Germany. The winning goal for Germany by Miltkau in the 54th minute was a brilliant effort and came from open play which left the Indian defenders completely stranded.

Captain Harmanpreet Singh gave India the early lead via a penalty corner, but Germany came back from behind to score two goals. Sukhjeet Singh made it 2-2 for India in the 36th minute from a penalty corner. It was a dream chance for India to enter the final of the Olympics after 44 years but Germany played spoilsport to that. Had Abhishek converted the chance in the third quarter, it would have been a different story for India to tell. However, even then, if they retain the bronze, it would be a creditable effort.

With a gold or silver out of the equation now, India will be fighting for a second consecutive bronze in men's hockey when they face Spain, who had suffered a 0-4 thrashing at the hands of the Dutchmen earlier in the day.



SHORT TAKES

Equestrian gold for Germany's Kukuk

Versailles: Christian Kukuk had a faultless round to win the individual jumping title Tuesday at the Paris Olympics and increase Germany's equestrian medal haul. It was the first Olympic medal of the 34-year-old Kukuk's career. He was the first to go in the jump-off final and went all clear on 'Checker 47' in a time of 38.34 seconds. That put pressure on the next two riders. **Dutchman and Tokyo bronze** medalist Maikel van der Vleuten and the 2012 Olympic champion, Steve Guerdat of Switzerland. Guerdat took the silver on 'Dynamix De Belheme' in 38.38s and Van der Vleuten finished with the bronze again after clocking 39.12s on 'Beauville Z'.

Athlete expelled

Athens: A Greek athlete at the Paris Games has tested positive in a doping test and has been asked to leave the athletes' village, Greece's Olympic committee said in a statement. The Hellenic Olympic Committee (HOC) said it was informed of the positive result by Greece's anti-doping agency. The athlete was automatically given a temporary ban. The HOC did not identify the athlete or which sport they were competing in. It added that a proper investigation will be carried out when the athlete returns to the country.

Tour in jeopardy Karachi: Bangladesh senior men's

team two-Test away series against Pakistan starting August 21 in Rawalpindi looks doubtful due to the current civil unrest in the country after former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was forced to resign and flee the country. Bangladesh are supposed to play two Tests in Rawalpindi (August 21-25) and Karachi (Aug 30-Sep 3) but in the current scenario, it might be difficult for tihe national team to travel for a serious. Bangladesh have not toured Pakistan since 2019-20. A PCB source aware of the developments informed that it had even made an offer to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) to fly out their Test side to Rawalpind at the earliest in order to ensure that the series is on. A number of present-day Bangladeshi cricketers have been affected by the turmoil. The residents of Shakib Al Hasan and Litton Das have been set on fire. The players however, are safe. sources informed Tuesday.

Mixed fortunes for Indian runners

AGENCIES

Paris, August 6: It turned out to be a disappointing day for Indian quarter-miler Kiran Pahal as she finished sixth in heat 1 of the women's 400m repechage round at the Paris 2024 Olympics and failed to find a place in the semifinals Tuesday.

Pahal clocked 52.59s in the repechage round, a time slower than her 52.51s finish in the first round. The 24-year-old did not secure a semifinal as only the top athletes in each heat, along with the two best in repechage overall, advanced.

Earlier late Monday evening, Avinash Sable created history by becoming the first Indian to qualify for the men's 3000m steeplechase final at the Paris Olympics. Sable finished fifth in his heat with a timing of 8:15.43 seconds to qualify among the top 15 in the event. In steeplechase, there are three heats and the top five from each heat qualify for the final.

The Indian's heat was won by Moroccan Mohamed Tindouft



LEAP OF FAITH: Avinash Sable jumps over a hurdle during the 3,000m steeplechase event Monday

with his personal best timing of 8:10.62 seconds.

The Indian started off the heat leading the pack for exactly one lap, by the end of which Kenyan Abraham Kiriwot overtook the Indian with ease. Sable slowly steeped off down to a fifth, the last position for qualification, and kept his run efficient and consistent, never teetering any lower, and keeping his pace up with the rest of the top four.

With multiple lead changes,

by the end of the last lap, it was set in stone that the top five including Sable were above the rest of the crop, and the Indian comfortably sealed his spot in the final.

"Today (Monday), I took it a little easy in the last lap because I was saving myself for the final. There, I'll use every ounce of my energy to run faster. I don't think a podium finish is tough, mentally I am prepared to give it all," Sable said after his event.

I have achieved'

'Incredible what

Paris, August 6: The Redemption Tour' did not end with a golden encore for Simone Biles. By the time she entered Bercy Arena for the beam and floor exercise finals. she was drained. Mentally.

Physically. All of it.

It's what this event does. What his sport does. No one knows that better than the 27-year-old who has spent the last decade relentlessly propelling gymnastics — both competitively and culturally — forward.

So when Biles hopped off balance beam to miss out on one medal, then stepped out of bounds twice during her floor routine to finish second in her signature event for the first time in memory, she shrugged. It happens, even to the greats. Even to the GOAT.

The woman who didn't think she'd even be here a couple of years ago will leave Paris — and



perhaps her final Olympics with three golds and a silver and something perhaps even more valuable: Peace.

"I accomplished way more than my wildest dreams, not just at this Olympics, but in the sport," the 11-time Olympic medallist said Monday. "So I can't be mad at the performances. Competing, then walking away with four medals. I'm not mad about it.'

Biles certainly didn't look mad during the awards ceremony after the floor exercise - the first one of her career at a major competition that ended with her looking up at someone else.

OFC BEATEN BY BODOLAND

POST NEEWS NETWORK

Kokrajhar (Assam), August 6: After an impressive 5-0 victory in their Durand Cup 2024 opener, Odisha FC (OFC) faced a setback in their second game, losing 0-2 to Bodoland FC Tuesday_ at the SAI Stadium here. The local team capitalised on their home advantage. The goal-scorers for the winners were Dilliram (42nd) and Arjun (88th).

However, the OFC player have themselves only to blame for the loss. Before the hosts had taken the lead, OFC had a number of chances to score, but failed to capitalise on them. In the end they had to pay a heavy price.

Subham made a crucial interception in the 37th minute, driving forward before passing the ball to the right flank. However, a BFC defender cleared the low cross. The breakthrough came in the 42nd minute when after a series of quick passes from the midfield, the ball fell at the feet of Dilliram, who scored from inside the box.

Shreyashi shines in sub-ir category



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 6: On a day dominated by the Karnataka, Assam and Maharashtra swimmers, Odisha's Shreyashi Das came good in the 40th Sub-Junior and 50th Junior National Aquatic Championships here Tuesday. Shreyashi finished second in the girls' 100m metre backstroke in the sub-junior category. She tried her best to win the event. but lost out by a narrow mar-

gin to Assam's Sanvi Burgohain. Karnataka and Assam bagged three titles each in various categories while Maharashtra and Manipur emerged victorious in two categories. Overall tough

competition was noticed in all the segments as the juniors tried to make a mark for themselves.

Aditi N Mulay (1,500 freestyle), Naisha (100m backstroke) and Sharan S (boys' 400m freestyle) were the best swimmers on the day for Karnataka. The Karnataka swimmers finished second and third in a number of other categories and that certainly helped them to accumulate points and boost their medals tally.

Maharashtra's Pratishtha B Dangi won the junior national girls' 100m backstroke in dominant fashion while her compatriot Saanvi Deshwal created a new meet record (34.32 seconds) in the junior girls' 50m breaststroke event.

Indian batters eye redemption

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Colombo, August 6: The onus will be on Indian batters, particularly the talismanic Virat

Kohli, to follow the path laid down by skipper Rohit Sharma and tactfully counter the spin challenge in the third and final ODI here Wednesday to avoid their first series defeat to Sri Lanka in 27 years.

It's certainly not the start Gautam Gambhir, a stickler for victories, would want in his first ODI assignment as the team's head coach. India's previous bilateral ODI series defeat against the Islanders came in 1997. Since then, India and Sri Lanka have played 11 bilateral ODI rubbers home and away, with the 'Men in Blue' emerging on the right side

of the result in all of them. India will not be able to win the current three-match series after succumbing to the hosts by 32 runs in the second ODI, and con-

ceding a tie in the first game. This position of discomfort has



Rohit Sharma and Gautam Gambhir have something to smile about during India's training session Tuesday

been brought upon the team by the batsmen, who seemed to have been plagued by indecisiveness on a R Premadasa pitch which has offered plenty of turn to the spinners.

However, more than the craft of the Sri Lankan spinners, it is the indecisiveness of the Indian batters which have led to their downfall. Curiously, none reflected that brittleness more

than star batter Kohli. He has

made 38 runs in two matches, but more than the volume of runs, the manner of his dismissals evoked greater concern. He has looked a far cry from the dominant batsman he is.

However, Indian all-rounder Washington Sundar asserted Tuesday that the players will find a way to tackle the Sri

Lankan spinners. "It is an opportunity for us to go out there and put our hands up and win those critical situa-

tions," Sundar said. "We are quality players of spin, it is just a matter of finding a way. We've always played on these kinds of wickets, even at home, in Test matches, and in different formats. So it's just a matter of finding a way, on their own and trying to get the job done," Sundar added.

