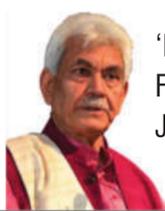




'EVEN POLITICAL NEWBIES WANT DMK TO BE OBLITERATED'

P4



'EFFORTS WILL BE MADE FOR RESTORATION OF J&K'S STATEHOOD'

P5



QUINCY JONES DIES AT 91

P10

'WILL BE FASCINATING TO SEE HOW INDIA REBOUNDS'

P14



SENSEX 78,782.24

NIFTY 23,995.35

₹ vs \$ 84.11

GOLD 80,945.00

SILVER 97,000

BRENT CRUDE (IN \$) 75.24

WEATHER

Partly cloudy sky. Mist in the morning. Maximum and Minimum Temperature most likely to be around 31°C and 24°C respectively.

RAINFALL: 0.0 mm

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

Max. 93% Min. 58%

TEMPERATURE

Max: 31.2°C (+0.1) Min: 24.8°C (+2.6)

SUN RISES

05:43 hrs 16:58 hrs

MOON RISES

08:05 hrs 18:48 hrs

Full Moon on 16 November

THUMBNAILS



Devotees perform dance during the immersion procession of Goddess Kallidol, in Prayagraj on Monday. ■ ANI

IAF MIG-29 Fighter jet crashes near Agra: A MIG-29 fighter jet of the Indian Air Force crashed into open fields near Agra on Monday during a routine training mission. Luckily, no casualties were reported and the pilot of the fighter aircraft successfully ejected to safety before the aircraft hit the ground and caught fire. As the aircraft fell on the ground it turned into a ball of fire in the blink of an eye with explosions heard far and wide at around 4 pm. Soon after the crash, a huge crowd of villagers gathered at the spot along with police personnel, IAF officers, and fire brigade. According to the sources, there were two pilots on board the aircraft at the time of the accident who jumped out of the plane with the help of a parachute seconds before the fire broke out. The IAF has initiated an inquiry to determine the cause of the incident.

PM condemns 'deliberate attack' on Hindu temple

The Indian govt condemns violence, demands prosecution of perpetrators

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday strongly condemned the attack on a Hindu temple by pro-'Khalistan' elements at Brampton in Canada and said India expects the Canadian government to ensure justice and uphold the rule of law.

"I strongly condemn the deliberate attack on a Hindu temple in Canada. Equally appalling are the cowardly attempts to intimidate our diplomats. Such acts of violence will never weaken India's resolve. We expect the Canadian government to ensure justice and uphold the rule of law," he said in a social media post on X following reports that 'anti-India' elements violently disrupted a consular camp organised on Sunday by the Indian High Commission in Canada in collaboration with the Hindu Sabha Mandir at Brampton.

"We condemn the acts of violence perpetrated by extremists and separatists at the Hindu Sabha Temple in Brampton, Ontario yesterday," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in response to questions. Amid severe strain in bilateral ties, India asked Canada to ensure that all places of worship are protected from attacks and prosecute those indulging in violence. "We remain deeply concerned about the safety and security of Indian nationals in Canada," the MEA spokesperson said.



Screengrab of viral video of violence outside Hindu Temple in Canada. ■ Agencies

He made it clear that the outreach of Indian Consular officers to provide services to Indians and Canadian citizens alike will not be deterred by intimidation, harassment and violence.

As videos of a 'Khalistani' mob attacking devotees in the temple went viral on Monday, the Indian High Commission in Ottawa, in a statement, said that any further such events will be organised "contingent on security arrangements" made by the local authorities. "We have seen violent disruption today (November 3) orchestrated by anti-India elements outside the consular camp co-organised with the Hindu Sabha Mandir, Brampton, near Toronto," it said.

The group, seen holding 'Khalistani' flags, barged into the temple premises and attacked the devotees also in the temple.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau condemned the incident, saying the acts of violence at the Hindu

Sabha Mandir in Brampton today are unacceptable. Every Canadian has the right to practice their faith freely and safely. "Thank you to the Peel Regional Police for swiftly responding to protect the community and investigate this incident," he said on X. He, however, avoided making any reference to 'Khalistani' elements.

Canadian Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre also condemned the attack and said all Canadians should be able to practice their faith in peace. The Indian high commission's statement also highlighted other incidents of disruption during consular camps held in Vancouver and Surrey on November 2 and 3. The Indian mission said it is "deeply disappointing" that such disruptions "are allowed" for routine consular work. "It is deeply disappointing to see such disruptions being allowed for routine consular work being organised by our consulates with the fullest

The group, seen holding 'Khalistani' flags, barged into the temple premises and attacked the devotees also in the temple. Amid severe strain in bilateral ties, India asked Canada to ensure that all places of worship are protected from attacks and prosecute those indulging in violence.

cooperation of the local co-organizers. We also remain very concerned for the safety of applicants, including Indian nationals, on whose demand such events are organized in the first place," the statement added.

It confirmed that despite the disruption, more than a 1000 life certifications were issued to Indian and Canadian applicants. "In light of these incidents and with the continued threats posed to the Indian diplomats and officials, local venue organisers as well as local attendees, organization of further scheduled consular camps will be contingent on security arrangements made for them by local authorities," the statement read.

Following the attacks, the Hindu Canadian Foundation, a non-profit organisation working for the Hindu community in Canada shared a video of the attack on the temple and said that the 'Khalistani' elements attacked kids and women.

36 die as bus falls into deep trench in Almora



PR SINGH
DEHRADUN, 4 NOVEMBER

Overcrowding and poor maintenance of an ill-fated bus resulted in a mishap that killed more than 36 persons on Monday morning near Marchula in Almora, more than 250 kilometres from Dehradun.

The 33-seater bus carrying 63 passengers broke its axle at a sharp turn, Kupi Band, and skidded into 150 meters 150-meter-deep gorge. The Uttarakhand government confirmed the 36 deaths after the bus fell into the gorge along river Geet Jagir near Marchula in the district Almora, more than 250 kilometers from Dehradun, the state capital. Among the deceased, 28 died on the spot while eight others succumbed to their injuries in the hospital during treatment.

Most of the passengers were part of a marriage party from the Naini Danda area. Officials said the overcrowded bus UK-12PA0061 belonging to the state's one of the oldest transport associations Garhwal Motor Owners Union (GMOU) Ltd.

Officials said the ill-fated 33-seater private bus was carrying 63 passengers when the accident occurred early Monday morning. The over 15-year-old bus of 'Users Group' plunged into the gorge as the driver lost control of the vehicle while taking a turn at a steeply sharp 'Kupi Band' at Marchula as the axle broke down.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami ordered a magisterial probe into the incident. The bus was going from Naini Danda in Pauri to Ramnagar via Almora carrying mostly members of marriage party. According to the Almora district administration, the death of the 36 passengers was confirmed but the toll might go up as 27 of the injured admitted to the nearby Dewalay and Ramnagar government hospitals are in critical condition. Three passengers with severe skull injuries were airlifted to the AIIMS Rishikesh.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the Almora road accident and said, "My condolences to those who have lost their loved ones in the road accident and wish speedy recovery for the injured. Local administration is making all efforts for relief and rescue of the victims under the supervision of the state government."

Jharkhand: PM accuses JMM-RJD-Cong alliance of 'supporting infiltrators'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a blistering attack on the JMM-RJD-Congress alliance government in Jharkhand accusing it of supporting infiltrators and thereby jeopardising the security and development of the state.

Addressing a public rally in the Garhwa district of poll-bound Jharkhand, Modi said, "These three political parties (the JMM, RJD, and Congress) support infiltrators."

"They are making them settle in entire Jharkhand, he added.

The prime minister promised to fill 3 lakh government posts transparently if the BJP was voted to power in the



upcoming assembly elections, countering what he described as the current administration's mismanagement and corruption. "After the BJP forms a government in Jharkhand, three lakh government posts will be filled in a transparent manner," he declared.

He condemned the misinformation campaign and rumours allegedly being spread by the ruling alliance.

"These days, there is a huge business of spreading

rumours, but you should not believe any such rumour," he warned.

The PM recalled how the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) discouraged farmers from subscribing to the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme with a misleading and false narrative that the funds provided to them under the scheme would eventually be taken back.

Referring to the unfulfilled promises of the current government, Modi questioned the status of the Abua Awas Yojana, a housing scheme for the poor in the state. Citing his promise during the Lok Sabha poll campaign of constructing three crore new homes across India, he reaffirmed the BJP's commitment to providing houses

to the poor.

"Now that the Jharkhand unit of the BJP has also resolved to build 21 lakh new houses every poor person should have a house, this is BJP's guarantee," he assured.

The prime minister acknowledged the prevailing challenges to the state, such as forced migration and the deteriorating law and order situation. He attributed them to the current administration's ties with criminal elements. "Jharkhand's government has been enslaved by the mafia," he charged, adding, "The people are being forced to migrate. Every vote of yours (cast in favour of the BJP) will dent the mafia that owes its allegiance to the JMM-RJD-Congress combine."

Bypolls in Kerala, Punjab, UP rescheduled to 20 Nov

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, 4 NOVEMBER

The Election Commission on Monday announced rescheduling of by-polls in 14 Assembly constituencies across Kerala, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh, postponing the date from November 13 to November 20.

The move comes in response to requests from major political parties, including the Congress, BJP, BSP, RLD, and others, who cited concerns over potential low voter turnout due to upcoming festive events.

The adjustment in by-poll dates aims to ensure higher participation and smoother conduct of the polls across the three states.

EC transfers Maharashtra DGP Rashmi Shukla ahead of polls

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

The Election Commission transferred Maharashtra Director General of Police (DGP) Rashmi Shukla ahead of the assembly polls following complaints against her by opposition parties. The poll panel issued the transfer order after taking note of complaints from political parties, including the Congress.

"Acting on the complaints from INC and other parties, the ECI ordered transfer of Rashmi Shukla, DGP Maharashtra with immediate effect with directions to Chief Secretary to hand over her charge to the next senior most IPS officer in the cadre," sources said on Monday. The Maharashtra Chief Secretary has also been directed to send a panel of three IPS officers by

1 pm on 5th November for appointment as DGP, added sources.

Earlier, CEC Rajiv Kumar had earlier during the review meetings and announcement of assembly elections in the state had warned officials to not only be impartial and fair but also perceived to be non-partisan in their conduct while carrying out their duties.

Notably, on 29 Oct, the CEC has expressed concern over "politically motivated" crimes in Maharashtra & asked the state DGP to ensure a strict clampdown against such crimes, which vitiates the electoral atmosphere and disturbs the level playing field. Elections to 288 Assembly seats in Maharashtra will be held in a single phase on 20th November. The counting of votes will take place on 23rd November along with Jharkhand.

Opp MPs write to LS Speaker, seek time to raise concerns on Waqf Bill

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Opposition MPs in the Joint Committee of Parliament (JCP) on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill have written to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla seeking time to raise their points.

Earlier on Monday Chairman of the JCP, Jagdambika Pal said that a series of meetings will take place on November 4 and 5 to gather input from a wide range of stakeholders on the issues related to the Waqf Board Amendment Bill.

"When the resolution for the Joint Parliamentary Committee was brought by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, he said that he wanted to refer it to the JPC so that we could call more and more stakeholders, intellectuals, Islamic scholars, former judges, lawyers of the Supreme Court and high court, minority organisations," Pal said while speaking to ANI.

The Joint Committee of Parliament will meet on November 5. In this meeting committee will record views and suggestions Akhil Bhartiya Adhivakta Parishad led by Shreehari Borikar, Anveshak Gaurav Agarwal, Anjuman Shiateali Bohra led by Dawoodi Community Senior Counsel, Dr Mohammad Hanif Ahmad (Associate Professor, AMU, Aligarh) and Dr Imran Chudhary and Group Convener, Student and Madarsa Cell on Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

The JPC's efforts are part of a larger national initiative to reform the Waqf Act and ensure that waqf properties are used for the greater good of the community.

Hardly implemented firecrackers ban: SC pulls up Delhi govt, police

PARMOD KUMAR
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Taking a strong exception to the flouting of its order banning the bursting of firecrackers, contributing to high pollution levels in the national capital during Diwali celebrations, the Supreme Court on Monday sought to know from the Delhi government and the Delhi police Commissioner about the steps taken to enforce the ban on the sale, and bursting of the firecrackers.

Referring to the media reports on the violation of the top court's order banning the bursting of firecrackers during Diwali celebrations, a bench comprising Justice Abhay S. Oka and Justice Augustine George Masih

observed that there are widespread reports in newspapers that the ban on firecrackers was not implemented and said that it wanted Delhi government and the Delhi police as well to immediately respond as to why firecrackers ban was hardly implemented.

"We want the Delhi government to immediately respond as to why this has happened. We will simultaneously issue notice to the Delhi Police Commissioner as to why there is non-compliance. We have to hear this immediately. The real problem is that this is all under the Air Prevention Act, 1981, which after amendment this year, has only penalty provisions", the bench observed in the course of the hearing.

Din prevails in J-K Assembly as PDP MLA moves resolution against Art 370 abrogation

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 4 NOVEMBER

The first sitting of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly on Monday witnessed uproarious scenes after PDP MLA Waheed Parra moved a resolution opposing the abrogation of Article 370 and sought restoration of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

Parra moved the resolution soon after the election of the Speaker and as the members were waiting for Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to arrive and deliver his address.

He requested the newly elected Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather to fix the time for debate on his resolution that was not on the agenda of



the 5-day session.

This is the first session after six years following the collapse of the BJP-PDP coalition government in June 2018.

All 28 members of BJP were on their feet seeking suspension of Parra for bring-

ing the resolution in violation of the rules of the Assembly. Parra pleaded that although the agenda of the house has been finalised, the Speaker has the authority to allow a discussion on the resolution as it reflects the sentiments of the people of J&K.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have not approved the decision taken by the centre on 5 August 2019 when the Article 370 was abrogated but he slammed the PDP member and said the resolution has "no standing and it was only meant for cameras."

One member will not decide how the house will

reflect and discuss the issue. The issue would have been discussed first with us had the member been serious on it.

The Speaker repeatedly asked the BJP members to take their seats but they continued protesting. He said the resolution has not yet come before him and when it does he will examine it.

There was an angry exchange of words between the BJP and the ruling National Conference (NC) members who slammed the former for interrupting the proceedings of the house. NC MLA Shabir Kullay rushed towards the well of the house amidst the pandemonium. Meanwhile, PDP chief

Mehbooba Mufti appreciated Parra's move and wrote on X; "Proud of Waheed Parra for introducing resolution in JK Assembly opposing the revocation of Article 370 and resolve to restore the special status. God bless you."

Earlier in the morning, the NC leader and 7 time MLA, Rather was unanimously elected Speaker of the Assembly.

Agriculture minister Javed Ahmed Dar moved the resolution for electing Rather as the Speaker.

Before that all MLAs of the ruling alliance met under the leadership of CM Omar Abdullah to finalise their strategy.

Bonus row: Labour department calls for tripartite meeting

This meeting comes in response to growing unrest among tea workers, who have been protesting under the banner of over eight trade unions



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SILIGURI, 4 NOVEMBER

The labour department has scheduled a tripartite meeting on 6 November in Kolkata to address the ongoing dispute over bonus for tea garden workers in the Darjeeling Hills and areas under the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA).

This meeting comes in response to growing unrest among tea workers, who have been protesting under the banner of over eight trade unions.

Previously, the labour

department had advised tea garden owners to pay a 16 per cent bonus before Durga Puja, although workers and union leaders were demanding a 20 per cent bonus.

While several tea estates paid the 16 per cent bonus within the state-mandated deadline, workers continued agitating, insisting on the additional 4 per cent.

This led the state to convene the upcoming tripartite meeting, inviting both tea garden owners and union representatives.

In the midst of festival season, tea workers have intensified their campaign

through various actions, including a signature drive.

A group of workers at Long View Tea Estate has also staged a relay hunger strike that has lasted over 28 days, demanding the 20 per cent bonus after the estate's closure due to a suspension-of-work notice issued by its management. This year's movement stands out from previous years, as it has unified trade unions across political lines.

The joint platform includes unions backed by diverse parties, such as Anit Thapa's Bharatiya Gorkha Prajatantrik Morcha (HTDPLU), the Trinamul Congress (TMCBSU),



CPM (DDCKMU), CPRM (DTDCKMU), Bimal Gurung's faction (DTDPLU), GNL (HPWU), BJP-RSS-backed BCMS, and Ajay Edward's Hamro Party (HHTDCSS).

Notably, the newly registered Hill Plantations Employees Union (HPEU), which is active in the hills, has not joined the platform and has yet to be invited to the tripartite talks.

Samik Chakraborty, a senior leader associated with HPEU, explained the workers' demand for a 20 per cent bonus by breaking down their monthly earnings.

He noted that a worker, earning a daily wage of Rs 250, can make about Rs 6,500

a month by working 26 days. After deductions for provident fund and any "pro-rata" cuts for missed work or lower-than-target leaf collection, they often take home even less. Though workers can increase their earnings slightly through overtime during peak season or by picking extra leaves, even this comes at a reduced rate; while they're entitled to an extra leaf price of Rs 15 per kilogram, they typically receive only Rs 4-5.

Given these limitations, the annual bonus plays a crucial role in supplementing their income.

For many tea workers, who are predominantly Nepali along with some indigenous tribes, Rajbanshi, and a few Bengalis, the bonus is essential to celebrate festivals like Karam Puja, Dashain, and Tihar.

It was a season of family gatherings, decorating homes, buying clothes and gifts, and fulfilling other social obligations. The bonus was their key to making these aspirations a reality; receiving it in full was often the only way they can truly celebrate. If it's split, even their festive joy is rationed into installments.

Football clubs endorse candidate; Suwendu writes to Union minister

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

In a significant political development ahead of the Naihati Assembly by-election, Suwendu Adhikari, the Leader of Opposition, has raised serious concerns over what he termed as "unprecedented and unethical" political endorsements by high-ranking officials of prominent football clubs and governing bodies.

In a letter addressed to Union sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Adhikari alleged that officials from leading football and sporting institutions, including Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting Club, have openly endorsed Trinamul Congress (TMC) candidate Sanat Dey.

He expressed particular dismay at Anirban Dutta, secretary of the Indian Football Association (IFA), the governing body of football in West Bengal, who reportedly released a video on social media that appeared to support Dey.

Adhikari highlighted that such public endorsements by figures holding influential administrative positions in sports clubs and organisations are problematic.

"This kind of overt political support is an unfair tactic

The BJP leader urged the Union minister to take cognisance of the situation, conduct a thorough inquiry, and initiate appropriate action if the allegations are substantiated

that associates the names of esteemed sporting institutions with a political candidate, which is unparliamentary and breaches the code of conduct governing these bodies," he stated.

The BJP leader urged the Union minister to take cognisance of the situation, conduct a thorough inquiry, and initiate appropriate action if the allegations are substantiated.

Adhikari emphasised the importance of maintaining neutrality within sports administration to uphold public trust and ensure that sports bodies remain apolitical. The controversy has sparked a debate on the intersection of sports and politics in West Bengal, a state where both hold significant cultural importance.

The reaction of the Union ministry of youth affairs and sports and subsequent developments are awaited with keen interest as the by-election approaches.

Cuffs on 2 for cheque fraud

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
ASANSOL, 4 NOVEMBER

Officers of Cyber Crime police station of Asansol Durgapur Police Commissionerate (ADPC) in Udchi have arrested two persons from Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh (MP) within seventy two hours after receiving the complaint from the Asansol Municipal Corporation (AMC) over withdrawal of over Rs 40 lakh from a bank account after forging signatures.

On the instructions of the mayor of Asansol Municipal Corporation (AMC), Bidhan Upadhyay, the financial officer (FO), Ahmed Kamal Faridih has lodged a written complaint at the Cyber Crime police station, under ADPC in Asansol on 30 October, alleging that state government funds worth Rs 40,00,501 has been siphoned off after submitting a forged signature at the bank by some persons.

The incident has rocked the civic body as this was the second incident of money swindling from its bank account.

Earlier, another FIR was lodged at Kulti police station after a large amount, collected from various taxes, was not deposited in the bank.

After starting investigations (case no 91/24), under Sections 319(2)/318(4)316(2)/61(2)/338/336(3)/340(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BANS), the officers of Cyber Crime police station of ADPC visited the nationalized bank's branch and found that the amount had been transferred to an account in Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.

A special investigation team (SIT) of cybercrime police reached Jabalpur and nabbed the two suspects and brought them to Asansol on five days transit remand through a local court there.

Dr Arvind Kumar Anand, DCP (HQ) of ADPC confirming the developments said that two persons have been arrested in connection with this case and taken into custody for further investigations.

3 youths in police remand for murder

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
ASANSOL, 4 NOVEMBER

Hirapur police station, under Asansol Durgapur Police Commissionerate (ADPC) has arrested three persons allegedly for killing a youth near the famous Chinnamasta temple in Radhanagore on Friday night after some altercation.

They have been forwarded to Asansol Court today and sent to four days police custody for further investigations today. The three arrested persons are - Raju Karmakar, Bisal Bauri and Bijoy Bauri.

Sunil Kumar Choudhary,

commissioner of police, Asansol Durgapur Police Commissionerate said that one Mukesh Chouhan (36) was found dead on last Friday after locals informed the police.

"Immediately, after the recovery from the road, the dead body was sent to post-mortem on Saturday morning at Asansol district hospital and investigations had begun. Investigations so far revealed that the victim and the accused knew each other before and have been killed after being beaten mercilessly by the three persons after some dis-

pute and altercations. All three of them have been arrested by Hirapur police and taken into custody to find out the reason behind the murder," the commissioner of police added.

But, the most saddening fact is that the victim was alive all night and though he was screaming in absolute pain nobody came out to see him and send him to hospital and inform police. At wee hours, he succumbed to his injuries and blood loss.

The victim was a painter by profession and was riding a motorcycle in the evening.

SBI lends helping hand for just cause

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

State Bank of India MD Rana Ashutosh Kumar Singh, CGM, Kolkata circle Satyendra Kumar Singh, network GMs Sanatan Mishra and Nand Kishor Singh and GM, SBIL Rajeev Ratna Srivastava along with other senior functionaries of the Bank extended on Monday support through donation of couple of school buses to Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Narendrapur and Vivekananda Shiksha Niketan, Joygopalpur respec-



tively, under Bank's CSR initiative. Rana Ashutosh Kumar

Singh praised both the organizations for their selfless efforts towards the society

and highlighted SBI's CSR commitment as a social obligation.

On behalf of RKM Vidyalaya, Swami Tatparananda Maharaj expressed his deepest gratitude towards SBI for this benevolent support in the form of school buses.

Biswajit Mahakur, on behalf of Vivekananda Shiksha Niketan, appreciated and acknowledged the fact that this donation of school buses will solve the commuting problems of the students in the remote areas of Joygopalpur.

Coal India marks 50th Foundation Day

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

The Coal India Limited (CIL) on Monday marked its 50th Foundation Day at its headquarters in Kolkata.

The celebration was graced by Union minister of coal and mines, G Kishan Reddy, as the chief guest, along with Vikram Dev Dutt, secretary of the ministry of coal, as the guest of honour.

Minister Reddy, launched the Golden Jubilee logo and unveiled the mascot "Angara."

The logo symbolizes CIL's pivotal role as the backbone of India's energy sector, reflecting the company's commitment to innovation, progress, and sustainability.

The mascot embodies the strength and resilience of coal miners, highlighting their courage and dedication.

The Mascot is inspired by the Royal Bengal Tiger.

During his address, G Kishan Reddy extended heartfelt congratulations to the officers,



staff, and workers of CIL for reaching the milestone of 50 years of operation and stressed that increasing coal production and enhancing supplies to reduce imports should be CIL's foremost priorities.

He underscored the importance of miners' welfare and the rehabilitation of communities affected by mine closures. "Contracted workers play a significant role in Coal India's output, and I applaud the management's decision to implement Performance Linked Incentives for them, effective FY 2023-24," he stated.

The minister pointed out

that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Coal Mines Special Provision (CMSP) Act was enacted in 2015 to augment coal production through transparent allocation of coal mines via auction.

This initiative has been pivotal in ensuring coal availability for sectors such as steel, cement, and power utilities.

He further stated that the launch of commercial coal mining in 2020 ushered in transparency, ease of doing business, and investment opportunities, helping to open the coal sector.

Expressing confidence in CIL, he stated that the company has the competency and commitment to compete in the current open market scenario.

The minister reiterated that while coal will remain a central component of India's energy landscape for the coming decades, the nation

is also heavily investing in renewable energy and addressing climate change.

He commended CIL's diversification efforts, including the setting up of a thermal power plant and foraying into critical mineral acquisition.

In the Viksit Bharat initiative, Coal India has a vital role to play and it needs to shoulder this responsibility. The coal secretary highlighted that CIL provides coal to Indian consumers at competitive rates compared to imported coal.

He added that coal stocks at power plants reached 31.6 MT as on October 28, 2024, as compared to 18.8 MTs of corresponding period of last year with a growth of 68 per cent, largely attributed to the contribution of CIL.

Coal secretary also said, Coal India should recalibrate its processes, operational and cost efficiency in accordance to the changing business dynamics.

EXERCISE IS FUN



Teenagers make the most of a pleasant day at the Maidan as they try their hand at some acrobatics on Monday. ■ BISWAJIT GHOSHAL

Baul-fakir mela at Bannabagram to showcase communal harmony

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

Three-day baul and fakir mela will be held from 22 November at Bannabagram.

This will be the 15th edition of the fair. Around 40 Baul gurus belonging to 35 Baul and Fakir akhras along with 250 Bauls will attend the three-day fair.

The baul and fakir are associated with akhras situated in Nadia, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Bankura and Burdwan.

It may be mentioned that UN Tourism has acknowledged the role of banglanatakdotcom around Bannabagram ashram and how it brought an unknown place into a developed tourism.

The fair will start with Prabhati, a ritual observed by the baul community,



Bannabagram, popularly known as Baulgram, hosts musical programmes every weekend, where bauls and fakirs take part. Local people attend the musical programmes.

Baul philosophy is very old and through songs, baul propagates the philosophy.

After the Prabhati ritual on 22-23 November, bauls from four akhras will present songs. From 3pm to 8pm, well-known bauls and fakirs,



including Arjun Khyapa, Arman Fakir, Maki Kajumi, a Japanese woman baul, Golam Fakir, Rina Das, Shyama Khyapa, Kangal Khyapa, Girish Khyapa and Ramen Barraig among others.

The fair is an example of long-cherished communal harmony in Bengal.

Both the bauls and fakirs sing traditional songs upholding the philosophy of communal harmony.

The bauls consider the



worship of the human body as the highest form of worship. The fair has become very popular over the years and people from Kolkata, Durgapur, Santiniketan visit the day fair.

This year Milli Janatkov from the Czech Republic will be the guest artist.

Bannabagram is 13 km from Guskara, 33 km from Santiniketan and 25 km from Mankar.

(representational image)

Accountant looks after managerial job at women's bank

KANCHAN SIDDIQUI
DURGAPUR, 4 NOVEMBER

A bank operating in the heart of Durgapur town over the months has been running without an administrator or manager. Instead, it has been run by an amateur weightlifter.

Aiming to lend financial independence to the women, a key prerequisite of a progressive and equitable society in and around the industrial town, the operation of Durgapur Mahila Cooperative Bank was started in 1998. The employees of the bank, except a peon, are women and 90 per cent of the depositors are women too.

The bank's board was dissolved in 2017 and an administrator was appointed. The administrator too has left the bank after her tenure ended. The bank currently has



6,500 odd account holders and secured a Rs 12.5 crore deposit in 26 years. It has extended loan support worth Rs 5.5 cr to the local women, who are the beneficiaries of bank's dividend against annual business. It provides loans to women for pottery, poultry, nursery, sewing machines - mostly to meet the requirements of the feminine gender. "We also have started providing loans for two-wheeler, four-wheelers, besides term loans and consumer loans," said Rupa Banerjee, the accountant who's now the highest designated employee of the DMCB.



She's a weightlifter by passion but her workload at her professional arena, as she described: "Seems like a heavier weight these days after the entire office responsibility is tasked upon my shoulder, which I cannot shrug off."

The bank has just six staff, including Rupa. Nivedita Das works as the assistant manager of the bank but she couldn't be promoted as the manager and Rupa, a junior to her too couldn't be assigned as the manager superseding Nivedita due to technical reasons. So, she's termed as the HDE to conduct the functioning of the bank. The office assistants, Manisha Nayek, Mahua Gan-

guly also agreed to the decision by the bank's administrator Dr Bratati Banerjee.

Dr Banerjee, the administrator too, vacated the office last February and it's now Rupa alone to act as the chief navigator Rupa explained, "Our pay revision is pending since August 2020 but type and volume of work has increased. Our expansion plans are shelved at a time when we are consistently missing the opportunities of astupendous increase in business."

The bank's desperately eyeing the proposed election on 1 December to help formation of a new board. "We had been seeking a board for a long time and a number of communications has been forwarded to the registrar of the cooperative office," said Nivedita.

THUMBNAILS



A group of giraffes is seen playing inside its enclosure at Allipore Zoo in Kolkata. ■ SNS

Regulation of Circular Railway services for Chhath: The Eastern Railway has planned to regulate Circular Railway services for two days during the festival of Chhath. As learnt from the Railway Office, the regulation of trains comes following a request from the state administration on 7 and 8 November. During the festival days, some of the local trains of the Circular Railway are to be short terminated, diverted short originated or even cancelled following the 'Ganga Bath' and 'Dandi' rituals performed by devotees during Chhat Puja. Some of the Circular Railway trains that would be short terminated include 30322 Hasnabad-B.B.D Bagh, 30128 Kalyani Simanta- Majerhat and so on. ■ SNS

Emergency landing for Air India Flight: A passenger flight had to make an emergency landing at NSCB Kolkata airport following a technical glitch, last night. According to reports, Air India flight AI 768, which was bound for Delhi, took off from Kolkata at 3.51 pm with 150 passengers and 6 crew members on board. However, mid-flight, the aircraft encountered a drop in cabin pressure due to a fault in the cabin pressure control system. The cockpit detected warning signals, prompting the pilot to contact Kolkata ATC (Air Traffic Control) for emergency landing clearance. Permission was granted and the aircraft safely landed at 4.55 pm. Emergency response teams were deployed at the airport, and the flight was guided by a follow-me vehicle to Bay Number 101. After the landing, all passengers were safely disembarked and taken to the arrivals section. ■ SNS

Man found dead with throat slit

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

The body of a young man with slit throat was recovered in front of a relative's house in the Singhichak area of Raidighi in South 24-Parganas. Police have started an investigation but no one has been arrested in this connection. The police have identified the deceased as Dilip Naiya (34), a resident of Bakultala village. According to the family's allegations, Dilip was called out of his house and then murdered. Police and local sources revealed that Dilip used to drive a car in Kolkata. He had returned home on Sunday afternoon after nearly two months. It is known that although he got married about 10 years ago, his wife had left him. Dilip's eight-year-old child lived with his elderly parents. Dilip's family members are puzzled as to why he was killed. The police are investigating whether there was any dispute over money involving Dilip. However, the police mentioned that a ladies' bicycle was found near the spot where Dilip's body was recovered. They suspect that the attack took place elsewhere, and, with his throat cut, Dilip attempted to reach his relative's house for help but could not make it. He collapsed on the road and died before that. Although a murder case has been filed, no arrests have been made so far. Local people demanded immediate arrest of the culprits.

RG Kar tragedy: Trial to commence at special court from 11 November

The trial will be conducted on a fast-track and daily basis

AGENCIES & SNS
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

The trial into the ghastly rape and murder of a junior woman doctor of R G Kar Medical College & Hospital in August this year will commence from 11 November at a special court in the West Bengal capital, an official said on Monday.

The trial will be conducted on a fast-track and daily basis.

The process of the framing of charge was completed exactly 87 days after the body of the lady junior doctor was discovered at a seminar hall within the R G Kar premises in the morning of August 9 this year.

Around a month ago, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) filed its first charge sheet into the matter at the special court where Roy, a civic volunteer with Kolkata Police, was described as the "sole prime accused" in the rape and murder case.

However, in the charge sheet, CBI officials did not rule out the possibilities of a larger conspiracy behind the macabre crime that prompted alleged events of tampering and altering of evidence during the initial phase of the investigation which was carried out by Kolkata Police.

On Monday, Roy was presented in person at the special court. After the framing of charges was completed and the date of the trial commencement was completed, he was again taken out of the court.

Outside court, Roy claimed that he was innocent.

"I neither committed the rape nor the murder. I am innocent. I am being falsely implicated by the govern-



Accused of RG Kar rape and murder case Sanjay Roy produced at Sealdah Court, in Kolkata on Monday. ■ IANS

ment," he claimed.

He also accused government officials of constantly threatening him to remain silent.

"I was silent for such a long time. But despite the fact that I am innocent, no one is listening to me. I am constantly being threatened not to open my mouth. I have even been threatened by my own departmental colleagues. I am innocent," he claimed repeatedly.

Besides Roy, two others arrested by the CBI officials in the matter are the former principal of R G Kar Hospital, Sandip Ghosh and former SHO of Tala police station Abhijit Mondal. R G Kar comes under the jurisdiction of Tala police station.

The main charges against Ghosh and Mondal are misleading the investigation when the Kolkata Police were carrying out the investigation before it was handed over to CBI by Calcutta High Court.

80 bodies together form 'Abhaya Manch' to continue protest movement



AGENCIES
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

Women take part in a protest rally against RG Kar Medical College and Hospital case, at CGO complex in Kolkata on Monday. ■ MOUL MONDAL

As many as 80 different associations have united to create a platform christened 'Abhaya Manch' to continue the protests after the rape and murder of a junior doctor of R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital here in August.

The body of the doctor was found in suspicious circumstances on August 9 morning in the seminar hall of the hospital.

Since laws forbid revealing the identity of the victim in sexual assault cases, the deceased doctor was given the name "Abhaya" by the protesting doctors.

The new joint platform will have representatives from the protesting junior doctors attached to different medical colleges & hospitals in the state, repre-

sentatives from civil society and celebrities as well as common people expressing solidarity with the protesting junior doctors.

Already, the junior doctors under the aegis of their own umbrella body titled West Bengal Junior Doctors' Front (WBJDF) are spearheading the protest movement on the rape and murder issue.

Although the fast-onto-death agitation by a group of junior doctors in the matter has been withdrawn, WBJDF has announced that their protest programmes in support of their demands on this issue will continue.

The slogan of the newly formed joint platform is "Droher Alo Jwalo" (Lit up the lamp of protests) and

the aim is to continue the movement on the rape and murder issue unless the CBI probing the case comes to a quick and logical conclusion in the case.

Last week, West Bengal Governor C. V. Ananda Bose, announced the launch of a new scheme 'Abhaya Plus' under which self-defence courses will be organised for the girls in the state.

Raj Bhavan insiders said that this scheme is the brainchild of the Governor himself in the backdrop of the rape and murder of the doctor.

In the past the Governor had been vocal on the alleged lackadaisical initial probe carried out by Kolkata Police before the matter was handed over to the CBI by Calcutta High Court.

Both have been accused of tampering with evidence in the case.

However, West Bengal Junior Doctors' Front (WBJDF), the umbrella body

spearheading the movement in the rape and murder issue, have objected to the findings in CBI's charge sheet identifying only Sanjay Roy as the "sole prime accused" in the

main crime of rape and murder. They have claimed that crime cannot be the handiwork of one person and that there were surely partners in the crime.

Agenda for winter session yet to be decided: Assembly Speaker

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

The upcoming winter session in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly is likely to start from 25 November.

There are several important issues which may be discussed. The brutal rape and murder of the 31-year-old postgraduate trainee doctor at R G Kar Hospital was going to be discussed.

While the official schedule of the session has not been finalised, sources suggested that the ruling Trinamul Congress (TMC) plans to bring a resolution condemning the central government for allegedly withholding funds meant for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in the state.

"The Winter Session is likely to begin on 25 November, but the agenda is still being decided," state Speaker Biman Bandyopadhyay told The Statesman.

"This time the session will continue for eight to 10 days," Mr Bandyopadhyay added.

According to Trinamul Congress sources, the government is likely to introduce a resolution criticizing the Centre for failing to release



funds under PMAY, which in West Bengal operates as the Banglar Awas Yojana. The scheme aims to provide housing assistance to the rural poor.

Recently, protests have erupted across West Bengal over alleged exclusions of beneficiaries under the Banglar Awas Yojana.

The Mamata Banerjee government is currently conducting a field survey for around 11 lakh potential beneficiaries, who were initially approved to receive financial support for house construction. Villagers have been protesting in several districts, including Purulia, Birbhum, West Midnapore and South 24-Parganas, particularly outside block development offices

(BDOs) in the district.

Many of them alleged that local TMC leaders have deliberately deleted their names from the list of beneficiaries.

Under PMAY, beneficiaries in plain areas are eligible for a subsidy of Rs 1.2 lakh, while those in hilly or tribal regions receive Rs 1.3 lakh, distributed in two installments.

The first round of funding for these beneficiaries is expected to be released in December.

However, the state secretariat Nabanna claims that the state government is funding the Banglar Awas Yojana on its own, as the central government has allegedly stopped its contributions.

For the past 87 days since 9 August, the medics under the banner of the West Bengal Junior Doctors' Front (WBJDF) have been organising protests, including cease-work in government medical colleges and hospitals and 17 day-long fast-onto-death at Esplanade from 5 October demanding justice for the incident at R G Kar Hospital, safety and security for doctors and other staff inside state-run hospitals and end of 'threat culture' in state health-care facilities.

CHHATH PREPARATION



A street vendor sells bamboo baskets in preparation for the Chhath festival, in Kolkata on Monday. ■ BISWAJIT GHOSHAL

KMC launches Ganga awareness drive

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

The Kolkata Municipal Corporation launched an awareness drive to keep the Ganges clean. Mayor Firhad Hakim today kicked off the Ganga Utsav drive urging citizens to keep the river clean.

For the last few days, the mayor has been holding various programmes to give the message of maintaining cleanliness of the river among the citizens of Kolkata.

Yesterday Mr Hakim, led an awareness programme at Prasnannamaye Ghat in ward 82 urging people to preserve the sanctity of the river.

He also urged the devotees offering puja during Ganga Aarti or other occasions at the river not to throw garbage



in the Ganga.

As informed by the mayor, some of the organisations have also held pujas to keep the river clean. The civic body is also planning to do shooting and make videos of the river for carrying out a campaign on social media.

As mentioned by Mr Hakim, the Ganges is also changing its course over the last few years.

Some of the ghats like the Nimtala Ghat are getting eroded and are said to have reached a dangerous point. During immersion of idols, this Durga Puja, the civic body had even barricaded a portion of the Nimtala Ghat sensing danger.

Mayor Firhad, others senior officials of the KMC and Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port had inspected Bajje



Kadamtala Ghat to take note of the situation. The city port that looks after the maintenance of the city ghats is said to be preparing a detailed project report on measures to prevent the erosion.

Reiterating the massive erosion of Nimtala Ghat during the launching of Ganga Utsav at Princep Ghat today, Mr Hakim said, "There is a dredging problem here. From Nimtala to Falta, ghats are getting eroded while on the Ballyside of Howrah, siltation is taking place and the river is changing its course. This needs to be addressed im-

mediately by the central government through the port or other agency."

Mr Hakim also asserted that dredging is needed from Kolkata to Gangasagar or till Haldia. The mayor however, claimed that this huge dredging work is not possible on the part of the state government alone. "A lot needs to be done and a lot of planning is required, related to the Ganges. The central government should come forward in a big way on the subject," he said.

The mayor also claimed that the state government has spent Rs 25 crore on dredging from its funds. As informed by the mayor, the state government carried out dredging at a stretch of 10 kilometers of Adi Ganga.

Primary health center gets award for best services

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
HOOGHLY, 4 NOVEMBER

District primary health center at ward 14 within Hooghly-Chinsurah municipal area received national quality certification from National Health Mission through external assessment carried by national quality assurance standards (NQAS) certification.

National Health Mission's two teams representing NQAS on 24-25 October carried out an external assessment of a primary health center in ward 14 of Hooghly-Chinsurah municipality.

The visiting team carried out an external assessment score, based on five criteria related with patient satisfaction and 12 departmental

scores, based on general clinic, maternity health, newborn and child health, immunization, family planning, communicable diseases, dressing room and emergency, lab outreach and general administration.

The primary health center met all the criteria, achieving an overall score of 90.97 per cent. Satisfied by the health services rendered to the patients as based on external assessment score, the National Health System Resources Centre, National Health Mission awarded national quality certification. Joydeb Adhikari, Hooghly-Chinsurah municipal health official said, "Our hard work has paid off. I share this rare honour given to us."

Even political newbies want DMK to be obliterated: Stalin

Without directly naming Vijay, the CM commented that DMK has no time to respond to such figures

AGENCIES CHENNAI, 4 NOVEMBER

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK President, M.K. Stalin, in an indirect response to Tamil superstar-turned-politician Vijay, remarked that even political newcomers want the DMK to be obliterated.

Without directly naming Vijay, CM Stalin commented that the DMK has no time to respond to such figures.

"My humble request to them: Please consider the achievements of the current DMK government, which will soon enter its fourth year," TN CM Stalin said.

"To put it simply, I would like to echo the words of Anna (C.N. Annadurai): 'Hail detractors'. I can only say this much: I do not concern myself with that. Our focus is solely on serving the people. We don't need to respond to every criticism, nor do we want to waste time on it. We hardly have enough



time as it is to serve the people.

"We are committed to serving with the same confidence that you, the people, placed in us when electing us," CM Stalin said.

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister made these remarks

The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister made these remarks at a public event after distributing welfare aid on behalf of the Anitha Achievers Academy in his constituency, Kolathur.

assumed office following the 2021 Assembly elections. He noted that his 'Dravidian model' government has been systematically implementing schemes like Naam Muthalvan, Tamil Puthalvan, and the Puthumai Penn scheme to enhance the overall abilities of students across Tamil Nadu.

He added that emerging political parties that criticise the DMK government should recognise that his administration has been steadily fulfilling its election promises, one by one.

CM Stalin assured that the remaining pledges would be completed soon and

emphasised that the government is closely monitoring the implementation of its schemes.

On the subject of National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), CM Stalin stated that the Union government will eventually have to heed the unified voice of the Tamil Nadu people, saying, "There is no doubt about it. It could be today, tomorrow, or the day after, but it will definitely happen. We are confident of that."

Vijay, who recently entered politics, had, during his first public program at Vikkaravandi on October 27, sharply criticised the DMK, even calling it a corrupt party.

This prompted strong reactions from DMK leaders, with Tamil Nadu Law Minister, S. Raghupathy, suggesting that Vijay was the "C team" of the BJP.

However, this is the first time that the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has publicly addressed Vijay's statements.

KTR alleges payoff by Adani to Revanth

Through his reference to 'Radani' Rao attempted to drag in Rahul Gandhi who is a vocal critic of the Prime Minister's alleged proximity to the Adani Group.



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD, 4 NOVEMBER

Criticising the Congress for taking a hypocritical stand over Adani Group BRS working president KT Rama Rao today alleged that the Rs 100 crore worth donation from industrialist Gautam Adani towards setting up a skill university in Telangana, was actually a pay-off ahead of the public hearing for the Ambuja Cement plant coming up at Nalgonda.

The allegation was raised by the BRS ahead of Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi's visit to the state tomorrow. Gandhi will be in the city prior to the official flag off for the caste census across the state.

In reply to a post by Jairam Ramesh on the social media platform 'X' KT Rama Rao today wrote, "Then why is your Congress Chief Minister supporting Ambuja cement plant of Adani Group

The allegation was raised by the BRS ahead of Leader of the Opposition, Rahul Gandhi's visit to the state tomorrow. Gandhi will be in the city prior to the official flag off for the caste census across the state.

much against the wishes of the people of Ramannapet in Nalgonda district? Why this hypocrisy?

Chief Minister accepts Rs100 crore donation a few days before the public hearing for cement plant and hopes no one is watching! So 'Modani' is not okay but 'RaDani' is?"

Through his reference to 'Radani' Rao attempted

to drag in Rahul Gandhi who is a vocal critic of the Prime Minister's alleged proximity to the Adani Group.

This is not the first time that BRS has alleged an unholy nexus between the Adani group and chief minister Revanth Reddy who has met Gautam Adani several times in less than a year over investments.

K'taka Lokayukta summons CM Siddaramaiah for questioning over MUDA on 6 November

AGENCIES HAVERI, 4 NOVEMBER

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Monday that he has been summoned by the Mysore Lokayukta regarding the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

On being asked by the media, CM Siddaramaiah said, "Yes, Mysore Lokayukta has issued a notice regarding MUDA. I will go to Mysore Lokayukta on November 6."

The Mysuru Lokayukta officially initiated an inquiry and investigation into the case following a September 27 court order to file an FIR. The Lokayukta was directed to investigate allegations of illegalities in the allotment



of 14 sites worth Rs 56 crore to Siddaramaiah's wife, Parvathi, by MUDA.

It is alleged that MUDA illegally allotted 14 sites to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife in the prime location of

Mysuru city. Recently, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on October 28, conducted searches at more than half a dozen locations in Mangalore, Bengaluru, Mandya and Mysuru in Karnataka's MUDA-linked money laundering case.

The move came within a week of the agency summoning six employees associated with the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) in Karnataka, for questioning. The employees were summoned in connection with the high-profile alleged scam on different dates for the interrogation, which will take place at the ED's zonal office in Bengaluru.

The ED also filed a money-

laundering case against Siddaramaiah and others. The case was prompted by a First Information Report (FIR) from the state Lokayukta concerning the MUDA, which has placed the Congress leader in a difficult situation.

The FIR names Siddaramaiah, his wife BM Parvathi, his brother-in-law Mallikarjuna Swamy, and Devaraju, from whom Swamy bought land that was later gifted to Parvathi.

The ED has applied provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in its case, enabling the agency to summon individuals for questioning and possibly seize assets during the investigation.

Andhra Dy CM hails Yogi model of tackling crime

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD, 4 NOVEMBER

Andhra Pradesh deputy chief minister Pawan Kalyan today hailed the Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath's model of tackling crime and criminals and demanded that the state's home minister Anitha, who is from ally TDP, should emulate him.

Of late, Pawan Kalyan has emerged as the poster boy of right wing hardliners and has even floated a new wing within his Jana Sena party, named Narasimha Varahi Brigade to safeguard 'Sanatana Dharma.' Under Yogi Adityanath rule, UP police have eliminated crim-



inals and gangsters in encounters and has deployed the bulldozer against their properties or those of their kin.

While addressing a rally in Pithapuram, he spoke on the deteriorating law

and order situation, particularly rising crime against women and the recent assault on a three-year-old. He said, "If I was the home minister the situation would be different. I don't know why the police are afraid. Why be in police if there's no courage."

Criminals involved in violence should be dealt in the same way as did Yogi Adityanath in Uttar Pradesh," said he while attacking home minister Anitha who hails from TDP. Kalyan currently handles the Panchayati Raj, forest and environment departments but warned the state home minister to discharge her duties seriously.

Karnataka bans glass-coated string for flying kites

AGENCIES BENGALURU, 4 NOVEMBER

Accepting animal-lovers' suggestions, the Karnataka government has banned the use of metal or glass-coated string or manja for flying kites to curb harm to humans, birds, and the environment, a statement said on Monday.

The government has issued an amendment to its notification under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA), 1986, now requiring that only cotton thread, which is "free from any sharp, metallic or glass components, adhesives, or any other thread-strengthening materials", be allowed for kite flying.

SC relaxes bail condition of journalist Siddique Kappan in UAPA case: The Supreme Court on Monday allowed an application filed by Kerala journalist Siddique Kappan seeking relaxation of the bail condition requiring him to record his presence at the local police station every week in a UAPA case.

Port infrastructure gets a boost in Chennai

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE CHENNAI, 4 NOVEMBER

Enhancing container movement and giving a boost to port infrastructure modernisation and expansion, Union Minister for Shipping Sarbananda Sonowal on Monday inaugurated new projects at a total cost of Rs 187.33 crore at the Chennai and Ennore Kamarajar ports.

Speaking on the occasion, Sonowal said the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways was committed to enhance maritime connectivity by modernising the ports to make the country a key player in global trade. The new projects included the four new Exim godowns at Chennai port and the doubling of rail connectivity at



Kamarajar port, were aimed at strengthening maritime growth and infrastructure with sustainability.

"We are laying the groundwork for seamless operations and green practices, preparing our ports to meet the evolving demands of global trade while ensuring they align

with environmental goals," he said adding that these green port initiatives would streamline trade operations to meet the evolving demands of global trade in tune with environmental goals.

The new four Exim godowns, built at a cost of Rs 73.91 crore under the Sagarmala Scheme, cover an area of 18000 sq meters to provide dedicated and clean storage to sensitive cargo, including agro products and food grains. This is part of the initiative to expand trade capacity at major ports. Besides the godowns, Sonowal inaugurated a newly constructed concrete road, laid at a cost of Rs 4 crore, which would facilitate smooth movement of heavy cargo and container movement to the

second container terminal. It would reduce dust pollution.

At the Kamarajar port in Ennore, the minister inaugurated the doubling of rail connectivity to the port, to accommodate the growing Exim demands.

The Rs 88.91 crore project, comprising three rail bridges over the Kosasthalaiyar river and the Buckingham canal besides conversion of unmanned level crossings into interlocked crossings, would significantly increase the ports rail handling capacity from the present 22 rakes to 44 rakes per day.

He also inaugurated a Shore Power Supply Facility for coal vessels to operate without depending upon diesel engines.

Classified

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	CHANGE OF NAME
<p>NOTICE</p> <p>It is hereby notified that my client viz. Smt. Kalyani Roy, Wife of Naba Gopal Roy, residing at 100, Bellious Lane, Police Station Howrah, District Howrah-711101, is the absolute owner and occupier in respect of the property lying and situated at R.S. & L.R. Dag No. 1404, L.R. Khatian No. 3532, 2938 corresponding to New L.R. Khatian No. 3885, J.L. No. 24, Mouza -Mashila, Under Mashila Gram Panchayat, Police Station Sanikral, within the jurisdiction of District Sub-Registry Office Howrah and Additional District Sub-Registry Office Ranihat, Howrah, by virtue of registered Deed of Sale dated 20/05/2013 executed by the then owners viz. Sri Dipak Kumar Bose & Another registered before the Office of Additional District Registrar Ranihat, Howrah and incorporated Registered in Book No. 1, Volume No. 7, Pages 4379 to 4392. Being No. 02423 for the year 2013. The said deed is also lying in my custody.</p> <p>Recently i.e. on 28/09/2024 two erstwhile deeds in respect of the aforesaid property in the name of my client's vendors being Deed No. 2441 for the year 2003 & Deed No. 3264 for the year 1994, were misplaced from Howrah Maidan Area, within Police Station Howrah, District Howrah. If anyone can find and/or trace the aforesaid missing of 2 (Two) numbers of Deeds please contact me or with my clients as earliest for your good gesture.</p> <p>Thanking You</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sd/- ATANU KOLEY ADVOCATE HOWRAH JUDGES COURT</p>	<p>NOTICE</p> <p>My client has entered into a notarised sale agreement dated 2nd May, 2024 for purchase of landed properties measuring 0.49 acres and 1/ or 50 decimals being Shali, Danga, Pukur, Pukur Par and Goal Ghar lands, P.S.: Kolkata Leather Complex, Mouza-Kharamba, J.L. No. 34, L.R. Khatian No. 1359 contained in various daga for a valuable consideration from MD. IQUBAL ALAM @ MAHAMMAD ALAM, son of Ahmed Hussain, residing at 61A, Topsis Road, P.O. & P.S.: Tijala, Kol-39, represented by his CONSTITUTED ATTORNEY JAWED ALAM, son of Late Mohammed Nizamuddin, residing at 33B, Topsis Road, P.O. & P.S.: Tijala, Kol-39, by virtue of registered Power of Attorney executed on 25th April, 2024, recorded in Book No. 1, Volume No. 1604-2024, pages from 217336 to 217357, being No. 160404494 for the year 2024 registered before Office of D.S.R.-IV, South 24 Parganas. Any one having any objection contact the undersigned with valid documents within 14 (fourteen) days.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Mujibur Rahman Khan Advocate High Court, Calcutta</p>	<p>PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>This is to inform all concerned workmen that following the mass gate meeting held on 21st May, 2022 between the management and the workmen, and in continuation of several other notices issued by the company, a further notice is hereby issued to all concerned workmen. Those who have not yet availed the benefit of the Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) or collected their statutory dues, if any, are requested to submit their requisite documents and petitions in a sealed cover, along with a forwarding letter addressed to,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Statesman Readers are requested to make appropriate enquiries and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Statesman Group doesn't vouch any claim made by the advertisers of products and services. The printer, publisher, Editor and owners of The Statesman Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the advertisers. For any loss incurred, the onus lies entirely with advertisers and not with the publication.</p>	<p>I, TANISHKA Nandedkar, D/o. Samir Sharashchandra Nandedkar, residing at B-19, State Bank Institute of Leadership, Plot II F/2, Action Area III, Newtown, Rajarhat, Kolkata-700160, shall henceforth be known as Tanishka Samir Nandedkar as declared before the Notary Public vide Affidavit No. 5 (N) dated 30-10-2024. Tanishka Nandedkar and Tanishka Samir Nandedkar both are same and identical person.</p>
<p>I, APARAJITA Bhattacharyya, daughter of Late Ganesh Chandra Panja on 3-10-24 (65125) by affidavit 7th Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Alipore Court changed my name to Aparajita Bhattacharyya from Aparajita Panja. Aparajita Bhattacharyya & Aparajita Panja is same and identical person.</p>			

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Kerala govt intervenes in Munambam Waqf land issue as CM calls high-level meeting

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 4 NOVEMBER

As residents of Munambam village in Ernakulam district intensified their protest against the Waqf Board's claim over their land, the LDF government intervened in the issue with the Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan calling a high-level meeting on November 16 to resolve the issue.

Apart from the Chief Minister, State Law Minister, Revenue Ministers, Minister in-charge of Waqf V Abdur Rahman and Chairman Waqf Board will attend the meeting to be held online. Along with seeking legal options, the discussion will be on restoring the revenue rights of 614 families in Munambam. The status of the existing cases in the court will also be discussed in the meeting.



614 families of Munambam coastal village in Kerala's Ernakulam district against the claim by Waqf board on their land emerged as a major issue in Kerala. These families in Munambam lost their land revenue rights after the Waqf board claimed right over it. The ongoing Munambam issue started in 2019 with the Waqf board staking claim over the land citing

that it was Waqf land that was donated to Farook college in Kozhikode by one Siddique Sait in 1950. In 2022, they were told that they cannot pay the land tax on their properties. Following this, the Kerala government intervened and allowed them to pay the tax. However, a forum under the banner Waqf Samrakshana Samathi (Waqf protection forum) challenged the move in the Kerala High Court. The High Court then stayed the Kerala government's decision to allow the protesting families to pay tax. The case is still pending before the High Court.

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Assembly, V D Satheesan, on Monday urged Vijayan to convene an all-party meeting to resolve the Munambam Waqf land issue. Satheesan, in a statement, on Monday said he has written to CM

requesting an all-party meeting to discuss the issue. Stating that no Muslim religious organisation has claimed that the land in Munambam is Waqf property, he demanded that the land be given to the current residents unconditionally and called for the government's urgent intervention in the matter.

The Catholic Church has launched a scathing attack on both the LDF and UDF legislators for unilaterally passing a resolution in the Assembly against the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2024 brought by the Union government, even while the people in Munambam were protesting against the Waqf Board's claim on their land. Recently, both the LDF and UDF unilaterally passed a resolution in the state Assembly opposing the BJP-led Centre government's Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

Jaishankar inaugurates new consulate in Brisbane

EAM discussed economic, trade, investment cooperation with Governor Young

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday inaugurated the new Consulate General of India in Brisbane, saying his visits to Australia are a reflection of the growing intensity of cooperation between the two countries.

"Our ties have undergone a transformation. I don't use that word lightly. The Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) is one indication of that. It has certainly opened huge trade opportunities for our countries. We hope to take that to the next level. We certainly see a very promising economic future for our partnership and I am sure that the consulate will help make that happen more speedily," he said in his address on the occasion.

Mr Jaishankar was confident that the consulate in Brisbane would meet the consular needs of the Indian diaspora in Australia in a timely manner.

Taking to X later, he wrote, "Delighted to formally inaugurate the new Consulate General of India in Brisbane



today. It will contribute to strengthening India's ties with Queensland state, promoting trade, fostering educational linkages, and serving the diaspora."

He acknowledged the presence of prominent officials, including Dr Jeannette Young, Governor of Queensland, and Ministers Ros Bates and Fiona Simpson, who attended the inauguration ceremony.

In a separate meeting, Mr Jaishankar discussed economic, trade, and investment cooperation with Governor Young.

"Pleased to meet H.E Dr Jeannette Young, Governor of Queensland, in Brisbane

today. Discussed opportunities and ways to strengthen economic, trade, and investment cooperation with the Queensland state," he wrote on X.

Earlier, Mr Jaishankar paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Roma Street Parklands in Brisbane.

The Indian foreign minister is currently on a two-nation tour of Australia and Singapore.

In Australia, he is scheduled to co-chair the 15th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue with his Australian counterpart Penny Wong in Canberra. He will deliver the keynote address at the inaugural session of the 2nd Raisina

Down Under to be held in the Australian Parliament House. He is also scheduled to have interactions with Australian leadership, parliamentarians, members of the Indian diaspora, business community, media and think tanks.

On the second leg of the visit to Singapore on November 8, Mr Jaishankar will address the 8th Roundtable of ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks. He will also meet the leadership of Singapore to review the close partnership between the two countries and explore avenues to further enhance the bilateral relationship.

All efforts will be made for restoration of J&K's statehood: LG Manoj Sinha

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 4 NOVEMBER

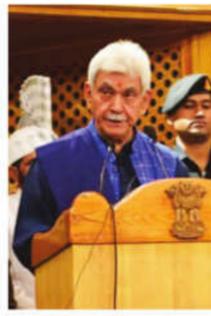
Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said the government will make all efforts for restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and the constitutional guarantees available to the state.

Sinha, who was addressing the first session of the Assembly in Srinagar, said, "It would be a befitting reciprocation of the faith reposed by the people of Jammu and Kashmir in our democratic institutions."

He said, "PM Narendra Modi has reiterated the commitment for the restoration of J&K's statehood at the earliest. My government will make efforts for the restoration of statehood, and create an enabling atmosphere for development."

He said the council of ministers has recently passed a unanimous resolution calling for the restoration of statehood. It reflects the collective will and all stakeholders have to work together as one team to achieve that.

"The aspiration for a return to the statehood remains strong. The resolution passed by the cabinet reflects the collective will of the elected representatives, echoing the aspirations of the people for the reinstatement of full



democratic governance," Sinha said.

He said the government is fully committed to fulfilling its promises for further political empowerment of the people.

The LG said the high voter turnout in the assembly polls reflected the enduring faith of the people in the democratic process, but the aspiration for the return to statehood remains strong.

Referring to the recent Assembly elections, Sinha said "These elections, the first since the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 and the reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory, are a critical milestone in restoring democratic governance after a period of political uncertainty."

"The high turnout particularly in regions that traditionally could not participate fully because of separatist sentiments was very encouraging," he said.

The LG said that "My Government will make efforts to rehabilitate Kashmiri migrants back into the valley with dignity for which a safe and secure environment will be created. Work on transit accommodation projects for Kashmiri Migrants employees will be speeded up for providing them suitable accommodation at designated places."

Sinha said that the government has launched a war against drugs as the menace in J&K represents a complex challenge intertwined with socio-economic factors and historical context.

He said all vacancies in the Government sector will be identified and filled up on a fast-track basis. The Government is committed to expedite the process of compassionate appointments as well.

The LG said that the government is committed to providing 200 units of electricity per household. The modalities are being worked out. We are exploiting the hydel electric resources, and J&K will be self-sufficient in electricity by 2026," he added.

Maha Kumbh: Corridor & renovation works of most temples will be completed by 15 November

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
PRAYAGRAJ, 4 NOVEMBER

As part of preparations for Mahakumbh 2025, the Uttar Pradesh government has prioritised the restoration of Prayagraj's historic temples, with renovations now nearing completion.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Tourism and Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat emphasised the importance of timely completion of the projects in a recent Mahakumbh review meeting in Lucknow.

Three key departments -- the Tourism Department, Smart City, and Prayagraj Development Authority -- are collaborating closely to finish these projects at an accelerated pace, officials here claimed.

The Tourism Department is currently overseeing 15 temple corridor and renovation projects, with 14 set for completion by November 15 and the final project by November 30.

Key projects nearing completion include the Bhardwaj Corridor, Mankameshwar Temple Corridor, Dwadash Madhav Temple, Padila Mahadev Temple, Alop Shankari Temple, and nine additional temples.

Meanwhile, the Smart City initiative is advancing three major projects, all slated for completion by November 15. These include the Akshayavat Corridor, Saraswati Koop Corridor, and Patalpuri Corridor.

Additionally, the Prayagraj Development Authority is finalising two projects: the renovation of Nagvasuki Temple, targeted for November 30, and the Hanuman Temple Corridor, set to be completed by December 10.

Vivek Chaturvedi, Additional Mela Officer for Mahakumbh, said here on Monday that, "Preparations for Mahakumbh are progressing at full speed. The temple corridor and renovation work are also in their final stages. The Mela administration has prioritised both the faith and the comfort of all devotees and tourists attending Mahakumbh to ensure a memorable experience for them."

During Mahakumbh 2025, millions are expected to bathe at the sacred Sangam, where the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers converge. By visiting Prayagraj's revered temples, devotees express their deep devotion to the Sanatan faith.

Jharkhand assembly polls: Mandal Murmu, who proposed CM Soren's candidature, joins BJP

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

In a personal setback to Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Mandal Murmu, who proposed Soren's candidature in the Assembly polls, has joined the BJP.

Murmu announced his allegiance to the saffron party on Sunday in the presence of Union Minister and BJP's Jharkhand election in-charge, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, party's acting state president Dr Ravindra Rai and Godda MP Nishikant Dubey.

Chouhan welcomed him into the party fold by putting the party's scarf on his shoulders.

Mandal Murmu told reporters that he was the sixth descendant of Sidhu-Kanhu. "I joined the BJP after being impressed by the policies and principles of the party. I was not feeling comfortable in Jharkhand

Mukti Morcha (JMM) after becoming the proposer of Chief Minister Hemant Soren from the Barhait assembly seat," he added.

He announced that he would work on addressing the demographic changes in the Santhal Pargana region of the state.

BJP's Jharkhand election co-in-charge Sarma, emphasising the significance of Murmu's decision, said, "Mandal Murmu's joining the BJP signifies that the party has received the blessings of Sidhu Kanhu and Phulo Jhano."

Murmu is a direct descendant of revered tribal icons Sidhu and Kanhu, who, along with Phulo Jhano, led the historic uprising against British colonial rule and the exploitative zamindari system in present-day Jharkhand.

Echoing the importance of unity within the tribal community, CM Hemant Soren took to social media platform X to say, "Today, Shri Mandal Murmu ji, a

descendant of Sidhu-Kanhu and proposer of Shri Hemant Soren, became a member of the BJP family. Due to the wrong policies of the present Jharkhand government, the culture of the tribal society is in danger, hence every section of the society is joining the BJP today."

"If we remain united, we will be safe," he added.

Responding to the development, JMM leader Mahua Maji dismissed the move as a typical BJP strategy ahead of polls. "BJP always indulges in such things. They have nothing to do with development... This is not going to make any difference. The people of Jharkhand are happy with the work of Hemant Soren. They want a leader who thinks for them... People want facilities and a leader who thinks for them. BJP was in power here for 17-18 years, they did nothing... Now when our government is doing good work, they are after us," she remarked.

Uttar Pradesh cabinet nod to amended policy for FDI

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, 4 NOVEMBER

In a significant move to boost foreign investment in Uttar Pradesh, the state cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath here on Monday, approved amendments to the Incentive Policy 2023 for FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) and investment of Fortune 500 companies. This amendment by the state government provides significant relief to foreign investors. Now, foreign companies that secure funding through equity, loans, or other sources can also invest in the state. This decision is expected to lead to an increase in foreign investment in UP.

Providing details on the state Cabinet's decisions, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna stated, "The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, introduced on 1/11/2023, has been amended slightly. The minimum investment threshold for eligibility under



the policy remains at Rs 100 crore. According to the RBI's definition, FDI has so far only included equity investments. However, with this policy amendment, we have broadened it to include Foreign Capital Investment."

He further explained that, until now, the FDI included investment made by a company in its equity alone, however, many companies raise funds from external loans or other sources to expand. "We have now allowed that as well. If a company has just 10 per cent equity and secures 90 per cent of its investment

from other sources, it will still be eligible for benefits under this policy."

He announced that this policy will now be known as the 'Foreign Direct Investment, Foreign Capital Investment, and Fortune Global 500 and Fortune India 500 Investment Promotion Policy 2023.' It will include preference shares, debentures, external commercial borrowing, standby letters of credit, letters of guarantee, and other debt securities for foreign companies investing in equity as foreign capital investment.

He further explained,

"Other methods outlined by the RBI for calculating foreign investment, including the Framework on External Commercial Borrowing, Trade Credit, and Structured Obligations, will also qualify. Foreign capital investments made by a company—including at least 10 per cent in equity, with the remainder through debt and other instruments—will be deemed eligible and factored into the total capital investment calculation."

Meanwhile, the state government has approved a proposal to amend the Uttar Pradesh Retirement Benefits Rules 1961. Under this amendment, if an employee dies while in service or after retirement without receiving their gratuity and has no surviving family members or nominees, the gratuity can now be paid to the individual designated in a succession certificate issued by a court. The minister noted that previously, in such cases, the gratuity amount was transferred to the government treasury.

CM effects massive administrative reshuffle in Haryana

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, 4 NOVEMBER

Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini has effected massive administrative reshuffle in Haryana involving significant changes in the positions and assignments of senior bureaucrats of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS).

An official statement has said that the Haryana Government has issued posting and transfer orders of twenty seven IAS officers with immediate effect.

CG Rajini Kaanthan, Director General, Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Director General Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, has been posted as Secretary Finance Department.

Yash Garg, Deputy Commissioner Panchkula and Chief Administrator Shri Mata Mansa Devi Shrine Board Panchkula, has been posted as Director, Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Director Micro Small and Medium Enterprises. Ashok Kumar Garg, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Manesar, has been posted as District Municipal Commissioner, Gurugram. Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Manesar.

Rajesh Jogpal, Deputy Commissioner, Kurukshehra, has been posted as Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Haryana.



Dhirendra Khadgata, Special Secretary to Government, Haryana, Environment, Forests & Wildlife Department and Deputy Commissioner, Nuh and CEO, Mewat Development Agency, Nuh, has been posted as Special Secretary, Environment, Forests & Wildlife Department and Deputy Commissioner, Rohtak.

Dharmender Singh, Special Secretary, Cooperation Department has been posted as Special Secretary to Government, Haryana, Cooperation Department, District Municipal Commissioner, Rohtak, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Rohtak.

Ram Kumar Singh, District Municipal Commissioner, Ambala and Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ambala, has been posted as Special Secretary Revenue & Disaster Management Department, Special Secretary, Irrigation & Water Resources Department and Managing Director, HSMITC and Chief Executive Officer, Micro Irrigation Authority.

Congress to move court against rebel MLA

State Assembly Leader of Opposition Umang Singhar told some media persons today that he had formally submitted a complaint against Nirmala Sapre to the Assembly Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, 4 NOVEMBER

The opposition Congress in Madhya Pradesh has alleged that their application against rebel Congress MLA Nirmala Sapre has disappeared from the State Assembly and the party will now move the High Court in the matter. State Assembly Leader of Opposition Umang Singhar told some media persons today that he had formally submitted a complaint against Nirmala Sapre to the Assembly Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar.

Saying that Congress had demanded that the Assembly membership of Sapre from Bina constituency of Sagar district be quashed, he alleged that the application has disappeared from the Assembly Secretariat. He claimed that the Assembly Secretariat had even provided a receipt for the submission of the complaint but now the application has disappeared.

Government e-Marketplace introduces 170 seed categories ahead of cropping season

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Ahead of the upcoming cropping season, Government e Marketplace (GeM) has revamped & introduced 170 Seed categories on the portal.

The newly populated categories feature nearly 8,000 seed varieties that can be procured by Central/State PSUs and other governing bodies for further dissemination across the country, according to a Commerce & Industry Ministry statement.

Created after consultation with stakeholders including state seed corporations and research bodies, seed categories on GeM portal offer a ready framework for seed procurement, incorporating the extant rules & regulations by Government of India and necessary parameters, easing the entire process for procuring authorities, the Ministry added.

"We invite sellers to leverage these new seed categories and list their offerings to

participate freely in government tenders. We also encourage seed corporations/state bodies to utilise these new categories for cost-effective procurement of quality seeds" said Roli Khare, Deputy CEO, GeM.

The roll out of these new categories is a part of GeM's broader strategy to promote category based procurement through the portal.

With an emphasis on increasing efficiency, category based procurement of seeds aims to reduce time con-

sumed in tendering processes, stimulate transparency & accountability in government procurement, while facilitating increased participation of sellers across the country, the Commerce ministry said.

GeM is a platform for procuring common user goods and services by various government ministries and agencies that was set up in 2016.

It also offers a separate service called 'GeM Sahay' which enables cash-flow

based lending for small and medium enterprises against government purchase orders issued on the parent portal.



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No. KMDA/WG/SAPRE/2024-25
Online e-Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer, North Circle, GAD Wing, W&S Sector, KMDA, Block-D, 1st Floor, Umayan Bhawan, Kolkata-700091, from eligible and resourceful contractors with financial capability, for the work, Name of Work, Estimated Amount, Earnest Money, Time of Completion, Operation and Maintenance of STP (11MLD TF and 10 MLD WSP), 13 nos. LS, 1 no MPS along with existing sewerage network line for one year including replacement of filter media of Trickling filter and including laying of new DI 150 mm dia. sludge pipe and 2 nos. sluice valve (150mm) dia. at Kalyani. To be quoted by the Bidder, Rs.8,67,340/- through online as per the System, 01 year. Last date & time of online Bid submission: 12.12.2024 upto 15:00 hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-705) www.wbtenders.gov.in ICA: T19798(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer Salt Lake Reclamation Division invites two no. online percentage rate basis e-tenders vide Tender ID No. 2024 UJD 766089-1 & 2 WBUD/MA/EE/SLRD/NIT-12(e)/2024-25 of EE/SLRD dated 29/10/2024. Value of works are Rs. 21,78,813.00 and Rs. 22,81,316.00. Start and Last date of submission of bid online are 05/11/2024 and 19/11/2024 up to 13:00 Hrs. respectively. All documents can be seen/obtained from the website https://wbtenders.gov.in Detailed information can also be seen in the website www.wbtenders.gov.in and office Notice Board. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Salt Lake Reclamation Division. ICA: T19798(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
N.L.E.T. No. 08 of EE/ED of 2024-25 & N.L.E.T. No. 09 of EE/ED of 2024-25 Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, PHE Dte. has invited an open e-Tender for "Operation and guarding of pumping machinery at different water supply scheme under Electrical Division, PHE-D." (1) Tender Reference No. WBPHE/EE/ED/2024-25, (ii) Tender Reference No. WBPHE/EE/ED/09/2024-25, (iii) Bid Submission End Date: 29.11.2024, (iv) Details of NET available in website: www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbphed.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, PHE. Dte. ICA: T19813(3)/2024

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Regd. Office: Wajud Bhawan, Block-DI, Sector-II, Bidhanagar, Kolkata-700 091
CN: 1940109WB200756C113473, www.wbseid.in
Extension of Time
Ref. original NIT No: P-46/2024-25/PC-I of the Chief Engineer (P&C), Procurement & Contracts Department, WBSEDC. Bid Submission End Date is hereby extended up to 18.11.2024 (14:00 hrs.). ICA: T19803(3)/2024
For details, visit https://wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbseid.in

More Tender Ads on Page 8

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Alipore Division, PHE Dte. On behalf of Governor, West Bengal vide Ref.No WBPHED/EE/NIT-56/AD/2024-2025 and Tender ID : 2024.PHE.766105-1 to 18 for the works of construction of temporary hogla structures including maintenance of latrine, supply of different articles etc. in connection with Ganga Sagar Mela 2025 under Kaldwip Sub-Division of Alipore Division, PHE Dte. Details will be available in the website wbtenders.gov.in The last date for submission of tender is 20.11.2024 upto 02:00 PM, Sd/- for Executive Engineer, Alipore Division, PHE. Dte. ICA: T19810(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
ESI HOSPITAL SEALDAH
301/3 A.P.C. Road, Kolkata-700009
e-TENDER NOTICE
Memo No. ESI/SDH/NIT/BSC/2024-4684
Date: 21.10.2024
E-Tender is being invited for selection of supplier of Anti-Cancer drug at ESI Hospital SealDAH, 301/3A, A.P.C. Road, Kolkata-700009, under ESI (MB) Scheme, W.B. Details of this e-Tender and "Terms & Conditions" will be available from 05.11.2024 in the website www.wbtenders.gov.in and submission of e-tender will be through the same website. Last date of bid submission is on 25.11.2024. Any corrigendum regarding this notice will be published in the website of ESI (MB) Scheme, W.B. Sd/- Superintendent, ESI Hospital SealDAH. ICA: T19796(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Following E-tenders have been invited by the concerned TIA under Directorate of Fisheries, WB:

Establishment/District	NIT No.	Name of Work/Scheme
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Uttar Dinajpur	WBDOF/ADF-UD/01/2024-25(2* Call)	Supply of Carp fingerlings, lime etc. in Uttar Dinajpur district
Dinajpur	WBDOF/ADF-UD/02/2024-25(2* Call)	Supply of Pungas, Carp fingerlings, lime etc. in Uttar Dinajpur district
Assistant Director of Fisheries, Malda	WBDOF/ADF/MALDA/Nit-02/2024-25(2* Call)	Supply of good quality Pungas, Carp fingerlings, lime etc. in Malda district

Bid Submission Start Date: 08.11.2024, Bid Submission End Date: 15.11.2024. Other details may also be seen at https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Director of Fisheries, West Bengal ICA: T19792(4)/2024

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Job Market

Recent data highlights a complex and challenging moment for the American labour market, revealing both troubling signs and resilience in the face of adversity. While the modest increase in non-farm payrolls - just 12,000 jobs in October - signals a stagnation in job growth, particularly influenced by significant strikes in the aerospace sector and the disruption caused by hurricanes, it is essential to consider the broader implications of these trends. The striking decline of 46,000 manufacturing jobs, particularly due to the actions of aerospace workers, illustrates continuing tension between labour rights and corporate interests. Workers are increasingly asserting their demands for fair wages and better conditions, a movement that, while disruptive in the short term, reflects a long-overdue reckoning in labour relations. This conflict raises critical questions about the future of employment in a shifting economy, where workers are no longer willing to accept stagnation in wages and deteriorating job security.

The fallout from these strikes is felt beyond the immediate loss of jobs; it sends a message that the workforce is becoming increasingly empowered to advocate for their rights. Moreover, the impact of recent hurricanes on job reporting underscores the fragility of employment data in the face of natural disasters. With over half a million workers unable to report to their jobs due to severe weather conditions, it is evident that external factors can distort labour market assessments. This reality serves as a reminder that economic indicators must be interpreted with caution, especially in volatile times.

Despite these setbacks, there are glimmers of optimism. The stability of the unemployment rate at 4.1 per cent suggests that while job growth has slowed, many employers are holding on to their workers, indicating a level of stability in the job market. Additionally, the healthcare sector continues to show robust growth, adding 52,000 jobs, which reflects the demand for healthcare services. This sector's resilience could be a crucial anchor for the overall economy as it adapts to the challenges presented by an ageing population and ongoing public health needs. The implications for policymakers and the Federal Reserve are profound. As the economy navigates these turbulent waters, it is crucial for monetary policy to strike a balance between fostering growth and controlling inflation. The potential for interest rate cuts may provide some relief, but the effectiveness of such measures will depend on addressing the underlying issues affecting the labour market, such as wage stagnation and job security. Ultimately, the labour market scenario is a clarion call for a more holistic approach to economic recovery - one that prioritises worker rights and equitable growth. As America makes a pivotal decision in the political arena in today's Presidential election, the fate of the labour market should be at the forefront of discussions, emphasising the need for policies that support not just economic indicators, but the very fabric of the US workforce.

Another warning

The recent catastrophic floods in Spain's Valencia region serve as a stark reminder of the intensifying climate challenges facing Europe. With hundreds of lives lost and entire communities devastated, Spain's response - its largest peacetime deployment of military resources - illustrates the gravity of this tragedy and the increasing strain on national resources in the face of climate-induced disasters. This catastrophe calls for a reassessment of Europe's readiness and resilience in dealing with extreme weather, which is becoming more frequent and destructive. Spain's rapid mobilisation of 7,500 troops to aid in search and recovery operations reflects an extraordinary commitment to immediate disaster response. Yet, even with this level of mobilisation, the path to recovery remains daunting. In communities like Picanya, where residents face days without essential utilities and are forced to discard irreparably damaged belongings, the extent of the disruption is profound. Such scenes are not unique to Spain; extreme weather events across Europe are forcing governments to increase their preparedness levels, but it remains clear that response alone is insufficient without bolstering infrastructure and public resources against future climate threats. The scientific consensus is that a warming Mediterranean Sea is contributing significantly to the intensity of storms hitting southern Europe. Warmer seas lead to greater evaporation, increasing the potential for heavy, sudden rainfall. The Mediterranean's warming is not an isolated phenomenon but rather part of a larger pattern driven by global warming, which brings more severe and unpredictable weather events. As the risks of such events grow, Europe's infrastructure must evolve to withstand these new pressures.

Resilience to climate-related disasters should be at the core of urban planning and policy across the continent. For example, cities in flood-prone areas might require more robust drainage systems, flood barriers, and emergency evacuation plans that can be quickly enacted. Communities situated near coastlines need clear disaster-prevention strategies, including maintaining natural barriers like wetlands, which can mitigate flood impact. Additionally, there is an urgent need to ensure that at-risk populations, especially the elderly and those in lower-income areas, are prioritised in disaster management plans, as they are often the hardest hit and the slowest to recover. Spain's efforts to coordinate relief operations through a central hub, the City of Arts and Sciences in Valencia, represent a step toward streamlined disaster management. It demonstrates how using centralised locations as bases for operations and volunteer coordination can enhance the efficiency and reach of relief efforts. Yet, this tragedy also shows that reactive measures, while essential, cannot replace the need for preventive policies. The message from Valencia's devastation is clear: Europe must prioritise climate adaptation and resilience-building at every level. Investing in climate-resilient infrastructure is not just a forward-thinking strategy; it's a necessity for safeguarding lives and economies. Policymakers, scientists, and communities must work in concert to prepare for this new reality, strengthening both physical and social resilience to protect Europe's future in a worryingly warming world.

Burning bright

Spain is a medium power but it has a foreign policy of a big benign power. There is a lot to learn from the way Spain has, in such a short span of time, created instruments of enhancing its global reach. It is not its economic might or its military prowess but its ideas and innovations that explain the high stature that it commands in the comity of nations



Hungarian anthropologist Karl Polanyi says that there are certain critical periods of history when time expands. In recent years, time has expanded in Spanish politics. The country has become a global hotspot of social movement contestation. A new civic culture has emerged which has provided good space for civil society.

A Spanish transition to democracy is considered a global exemplar. Post-Franco Spain has avoided both a sense of victimhood and a delusion of grandeur. How did that happen?

The credit goes to Spain's political leaders, to compromise between the reformist right and the non-violent left. Consensus became the watchword which was epitomised by the "Pacto de Olvido" (Pact of Forgetting).

A collective memory has often led to war than peace. As Edna Longley, a Northern Irish writer, suggests the next memorial to Irish history should be "raising a monument to amnesia and forgetting."

In more and more countries, political leaders seek glory in the past and the media is obsessed with the eternal present. Spain institutionalised the pact of forgetting. The Democratic Memory law, introduced by the government pardoned all victims of the regime who were sentenced on grounds of political, religious beliefs, ideology and sexual orientation.

Spain's journey towards democratic consolidation and democracy-deepening has been incredible, though not without challenges. Main players, parties, organised interests and institutions view and accept democracy as the only game in town.

Spain has enshrined fundamental individual rights following the high standards of the UN Declaration and the European Convention on Human Rights.

Many consider Spain among the world's more advanced democracies. It has also made several innovations like a digital

parliament and citizen assemblies to deepen democracy.

Both left and right broadly agree on key foreign policy goals. The European Union is Spain's main foreign policy priority. However, Madrid punches below its weight in Europe.

The country has a visibility problem. It is not seen, even when it is there. Spanish diplomats are proud of quiet initiatives and behind-the-scenes diplomatic brinkmanship. They are good at nurturing close personal relationships with key stakeholders.

Spain pursues a minimalist and managerial foreign policy which is focused on geo-economics and security. Spain's natural network of partners are fellow members of the Southern Seven (Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta and Portugal) and the Big Six (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Poland, and the United Kingdom).

Evidence suggests that Spain lacks close links with the Affluent Seven (Austria, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands) and the eastern member states.

Spain's most favoured partners are France, Germany, Italy, and Portugal for almost all the political priorities in the EU. For Madrid, Berlin and Paris have always been the capitals to look up to, and it has actively sought their acceptance as a third leg of the Franco-German axis.

Gills Tremlett, fellow at Canada Blanch Centre of the London School of Economics, says Spain has many friends, but few allies.

Prime Minister Pedro Gonzalez has embraced Emmanuel Macron's idea of the "Europe that protects" as a way to reassert Spain's Europeanism. In a speech to the European Parliament in

January 2019, Sanchez adopted an even more proactive stance, proposing to forge an environmental union and complete the foundations of the economic, social, and political union.

This was a first step for Spain moving from words to deeds and starting to think bigger. Democratic Spain's diplomacy itself has undergone a democratisation process.

A democratic Foreign Service is a basic requirement of the new foreign policy of Spain.

In an address at the UN, Marcelino Oreja, who served as foreign minister from 1976 to 1980, highlighted respect for human rights and individual freedom as the "cornerstone" of Spain's new foreign policy. In a speech at the School of

Diplomacy on 26 May 1977, Oreja highlighted the three main features that a democratic foreign policy should have: first, to be the expression of internal democratic change; second, to be effectively controlled by Parliament; third, to be deployed by a modernized Foreign Service.

A strong Europe in the world has been the common line wheeled by successive Spanish governments. There are four axes of Spain's foreign policy: the European axis, the Atlantic axis, the Latin American axis and the Mediterranean axis.

Integration in the EU is the primary objective of the European axis. The two major components of the Atlantic axis are ties with the US and a role in NATO. As far as the Latin American region is concerned, Spanish foreign policy has moved from Hispanism to Ibero-Americanism.

In 2021, the Pedro Sánchez government approved the first draft of the 'Foreign Action Strategy 2021-2024', which outlines

Spain's foreign priorities and goals for the next four years.

Sustainable development has been outlined as a core instrument to achieve Spain's foreign goals. Spain has also reformed its Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation.

Spain is a medium power but it has a foreign policy of a big benign power. There is a lot to learn from the way Spain has, in such a short span of time, created instruments of enhancing its global reach.

It is not its economic might or its military prowess but its ideas and innovations that explain the high stature that it commands in the comity of nations.

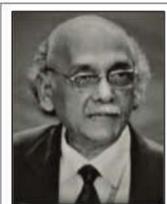
Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez's views on migrants are bold and imaginative. Unlike Italy where migrants are sent to a third country, Sanchez has characterised them as "synonymous with wealth and development."

He has extolled "the contribution" of migrants to Spain's economy, social system and the sustainability of its pensions as "fundamental". He has said famously: "We Spaniards are the children of migration, and we are not going to be the parents of xenophobia."

A country doesn't have to be big to have global influence. The Scandinavian countries are powerful players when it comes to conflict resolution or sustainable development. Canada and Australia have been great advocates of cooperative security.

Some big countries are big bullies. As Mexican writer Carlos Fuentes says, American foreign policy "is like a Hollywood movie. You have to know who has the white hat and who has the black hat and then go against the black hat."

In contrast, Spain has the belief, as pointed out by Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, former Prime Minister, in a foreign policy "in which Spain's name is synonymous with solidarity, justice and humanity throughout the world."



ASH NARAIN ROY

The writer is director, Institute of Social Sciences, Delhi

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

Nuanced responses

SIR, I refer to your editorial, "Resilient Growth" (October 30). India's economic trajectory remains positive, yet a sustained and resilient growth path will require nuanced responses to both domestic and international challenges.

While strong monsoons and agricultural productivity drive rural demand, a focused approach towards crop diversification and sustainable farming can help mitigate climate and market-related risks.

Investments in advanced agricultural technology, crop insurance, and streamlined supply chains will ensure more stable rural incomes and reduce sectoral vulnerability. To address the volatility in food prices, particularly for staples, prioritising development of cold storage infrastructure is critical. This expansion would reduce

post-harvest losses, stabilise market prices, and enable farmers to better control market timing.

Accelerating public-private partnerships in this sector could expedite infrastructure growth and improve food supply resilience. With urban demand showing signs of restraint, targeted tax incentives for durable goods and essential consumer items could stimulate spending.

Additionally, supporting e-commerce and digital payment adoption in secondary cities would increase access to goods and services, helping boost consumer confidence and urban demand.

Expanding green energy initiatives and digital infrastructure will build resilience while promoting inclusivity. Providing incentives for renewable energy adoption in in-

dustrial sectors could reduce exposure to global oil price volatility, while investments in rural digital infrastructure would support e-governance, enhance job creation, and improve access to financial services.

To reduce exposure to geopolitical and trade uncertainties, India should strengthen trade relations with emerging markets across Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America.

This diversification would provide stability to India's export markets, reducing the risk from economic shifts in major economies.

Yours, etc., Amarjeet Kumar, Hazaribagh, 30 October.

MEDICINE COST

SIR, This refers to your report "PM Modi rolls out Ayushman health cover for all 70-plus citizens", published today.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hit out at the Delhi and West Bengal governments for not implementing the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme due to "political interests" and said he was pained that the elderly in these places cannot avail free treatment under the expanded programme. Significantly, before elections in Delhi in 2025

JUSTICE DENIED

SIR, As 40 years have passed since the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, one feels heartbroken that no justice has been served till date. Thousands of Sikhs were killed in broad daylight for days on end in Delhi, Kanpur, Bokaro and other parts of the country and yet not a single person has been sentenced to death for orchestrating, planning or participating in that genocide.

Numerous inquiries, multiple commissions, humungous chargesheets and fast track courts later, no justice has been served to the victims. Even after 40 years, those accused are still undertrials. God alone knows what kind of 'fast' justice these fast-track courts have been providing.

India as a nation has failed to learn lessons from the 1984 riots leading to the repeat of similar situations in Gujarat, Manipur, etc. The reason behind it is that the orchestrators of such riots feel that they can get away with it.

The time has come to remedy the situation and enact legislation that provides time bound justice and does not wait for all the victims and accused to die before judgement is pronounced.

Yours, etc., Gurnoor Grewal, Chandigarh, 31 October.

and in West Bengal in 2026, PM Modi reminded that he will not rest until the poor and middle class of the country are free from the burden of expensive treatment.

He is concerned about those people who are not benefited from this scheme and he apologised to people of the two states.

In fact, Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme is for people aged 70 years and above subject

A MEMBER OF THE ANN ASIA NEWS NETWORK

ASIAN VOICES

Remembering EJK victims

Remembering the dead is a time-honored tradition in these parts, with Filipinos paying their respects to the departed with equal parts grief and longing, and some measure of comfort over good moments shared. However, for the families of thousands of victims of extrajudicial killings (EJKs) during the Duterte drug war, remembering brings with it painful memories of how once productive lives were suddenly, brutally and unjustly cut short, often in the middle of the night, and by the police who were sworn to serve and protect the public. That the bodies were dumped unceremoniously on streets and in dark alleys, sometimes with a crude placard describing them as drug pushers, only underscores the perpetrators' lack of respect for the dead and total disregard for the feelings of the victims' families.

The horrific details of the drug war surfaced anew in this week's Senate hearing on EJK, with its chief architect, former president Rodrigo Duterte justifying the crime. In what former senator Panfilo Lacson had termed a "Senate invasion," Duterte essayed for hours his self-described role as "The Punisher," and expressed neither remorse nor apology for thousands of lives lost. "Don't question my policies because I offer no apologies, no excuses. I did what I had to do," Duterte said, his imperial manner recalling the climate of fear and impunity during his term. With no sense of irony, he added: "The war on illegal drugs is not about killing people. It's about protecting the innocent and the defenseless."

According to official police records,

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

more than 6,000 suspects died in the drug war, some of them children as young as one. Rights groups however placed the number of victims as closer to 20,000.

While he had vigorously denied that the drug killings were a state policy, Duterte's words betrayed him, as he reiterated how he had instructed the police to force suspects to fight back so they could be shot in "self-defense."

When he taught at the police academy and as a fiscal, Duterte said he encouraged the police to defend themselves when their lives were at risk. "The duty of the police is to overcome the resistance if a suspect won't surrender and is armed. And if you think ... that you'll get killed, then shoot him. Shoot him in the head, kill him! At least there's one less criminal in the community."

At the same time, Duterte said, he did not tolerate police abuses "in (his) entire life as mayor for so many years and as president." The claim was previously belied by his own justice secretary, Menardo Guevarra, who told the United Nations Human Rights Council in February 2021 that the police did not properly examine many weapons used in drug war killings, disputing the blanket excuse claim that drug suspects were killed because they fought back.

In multiple cases, guns with the same serial numbers were found at two or more crime scenes, suggesting they were planted by drug war operatives and used several times, a June 2020 report by the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet noted.

"In more than half of the records reviewed, the law enforcement agents involved failed to follow standard protocols pertaining to coordination with other agencies and the processing of the crime scene," Guevarra admitted of the more than 5,000 EJK cases that the justice department had reviewed.

Of this number, only eight policemen have been convicted for drug killings, as of June this year.

Putin's Korean googly confounds the West

HARSHA KAKAR

NATO and Europe are crying hoarse about North Korean troops being deployed in Russia. According to the Pentagon, about 10,000 North Korean troops are ready to be deployed in the war zone, most of whom are undergoing training in Russia. This would imply strength of about one division. A few thousands have been observed in the Kursk region where Russia is fighting to push back Ukrainians who entered the region in a surprise offensive in August this year. Ukraine's top commander, General Oleksandr Syrskiy, mentioned recently that Ukraine is struggling to stem 'one of the most powerful offensives' by Russia.

NATO Secretary-General, Mark Rutte said: "The deepening military cooperation between Russia and North Korea is a threat to both Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic security." NATO fears that despite all its support the war will tilt in favour of Russia. The US believes it is a violation of UN resolutions and an escalation in the conflict; however there is little it can do. There is no doubt that the presence of North Korean soldiers would benefit Moscow. President Vladimir Putin will not need to resort to additional mobilization to meet demands of the conflict, thereby saving the Kremlin from embarrassment.

Earlier there were reports of Iran providing missiles and UAVs to Russia and of North Korea providing it with artillery ammunition. Putin, who had earlier denied such reports, did not comment on the presence of North Korean soldiers, instead mentioning it was up to Russia to determine how to implement its 'strategic partnership treaty' with Pyongyang. In response, Ukraine has sought sanction of its backers to permit employment of weapons to target North Korean military camps in Russia, over which the West hesitates.

North Korea and Russia are currently the most sanctioned nations on the planet. As per the BBC, the West along with its partners, Australia, South Korea and Japan, have imposed over 16,500 sanctions on Russia. About 50 per cent of its total foreign exchange reserves and 70 per cent of the assets of its banks in Western nations have been frozen. They claim that sanctions are impacting the Russian economy.

The UN has imposed massive sanctions on North Korea for its nuclear testing and firing of ballistic missiles, resulting in its isolation and humanitarian suffering. In March this year, Russia vetoed a UNSC resolution to extend the mandate of the Panel of Experts monitoring UN sanctions on North Korea. China and Russia have imposed selective UN sanctions, though they continue to maintain close ties with Pyongyang, and provide it with aid.

In June this year, President Putin visited Pyongyang and inked a 'comprehensive strategic partnership treaty'. This was endorsed by Russia's lower house (Duma) on 24 October. The treaty mentions that either nation would provide military assistance employing 'all means' in case any of them is attacked. It was to fulfil its part of the treaty that North Korea provided 10,000 troops to Russia.

In return for military assistance, Russia is expected to provide weapon technology which could enhance Pyongyang's ballistic missile and satellite capabilities, as also economic aid and cheap fuel. This would add to the threats to its neighbours. Pyongyang recently tested its longest range intercontinental ballistic missile dubbed Hwasong-19. Russian support would worsen its ties with South Korea and Japan, though both have joined Western sanctions against Moscow.

North Korea remains the world's most reclusive authoritarian state,

generally ignored, except when it conducts its nuclear or missile tests. The West was aware of the visit and the pact, but never acted to stall it. Increased security cooperation between Washington, Seoul and Tokyo was seen as a threat to the survival of the Pyongyang regime.

Kim Jong-un has been globally ignored with few attempts to engage with it or manage its concerns. Putin exploited this fear and insecurity existing within North Korea to his advantage. The Russian veto in the UNSC against North Korean sanctions worked in his favour.

The presence of North Korean troops would confirm the existence of the alliance between Russia, China, Iran and North Korea. This will be a major challenge to US-led domination, especially in Southeast Asia. The treaty will guarantee the survival of the Pyongyang regime as Russia is now its security partner.

However, Beijing which has been treating Pyongyang as its satellite state would now have to deal with the fact that Russia and North Korea are close allies. An added fear is that this pact may bring the US, South Korea and Japan closer, something China does not desire. The future would depend on who comes to the White House next.

For the West, which was hoping to exploit the war to degrade Russia's military capabilities, the move has come as a surprise, even though it was not unexpected. It opens doors for increased Russian assaults on Ukrainian positions. The war, which was progressing slowly, would now move at a faster pace, as Russia has additional trained troops to push on to the battlefield. How technologically capable North Korean troops are is unknown.

NATO, which is concerned about the arrival of North Korean troops, can do little. Employing its own forces, inviting Ukraine to join the



organization or permitting Ukraine to hit Russia deep could result in an escalation which it seeks to avoid. The West could have considered talks to end the war, over which it hesitates. India has all along been insisting on dialogue, which was ignored by the West. Russia too had been hinting on talks to diffuse the situation, which was also discarded.

While the US elections could change the scenario, the emergence of North Korean troops has placed Putin at an advantage. Terms and conditions of Moscow in any future dialogue can no longer be bypassed, despite tall claims by Volodymyr

Zelensky, the Ukrainian president. How would North Korean troops perform in a technology-dominated battlefield is to be seen, however it is expected that Russia would mix them with its own forces to ensure they are not overawed.

Ignoring North Korea over the years and applying continuous pressure, hoping for a regime change has been exploited by Moscow. Now all that the West can do is limit the damage. Further sanctions will do little to change the scenario.

(The writer is a retired Major-General of the Indian Army.)

100 YEARS AGO

OCCASIONAL NOTE

A COMPLAINT which appeared this week from a correspondent afforded an illustration of some observations in this column on the subject of postal delays. Our correspondent, being in a hurry, enclosed a currency note for Rs. 100 and a Rs. 10 note in an ordinary letter which should have reached Darjeeling on October 18 but which had not been delivered on October 20. Apparently, what should be done in such a case is to communicate to the Presidency Postmaster, Calcutta, the particulars of posting—by whom, at what hour, and in what letter-box— together with a description of the letter and a copy of its address, or, better still, an addressed specimen envelope. These details would give the postal authorities some definite materials for inquiry. Of course the complainant took a risk, because by placing currency notes in an ordinary unregistered letter he infringed the injunction contained in clause 40 of the Post and Telegraph Guide against sending notes otherwise than by insured post. The number of the Rs. 100 note will give no help, as these notes are now universal.

NEWS ITEMS

SEIZED BALLOON

FRENCH PROTEST AT ACTION BY GERMANS

(“TIMER” SPECIAL SERVICE.)

PROTESTS are being raised against the action of the German authorities in confiscating the French balloon, "Anjou", which was forced to descend near Emden on October 11.

It is considered regrettable, says The Times Paris correspondent, that the German Government should have confiscated a balloon engaged in an international sporting event at the very moment at which permission had been given to the Z R 3 to fly over French territory.

M. Georges Cormier, who was detained by the Germans for two days, has lodged a complaint with the French Government, pointing out that his charts and instruments were seized.

SPINNING INDUSTRY

SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT IN MANCHESTER

THE decision of spinners of American yarn in Manchester to increase the working week to thirty-two hours from November 3 is regarded as convincing proof that the industry is improving. Manufacturers of cotton goods have complained that deliveries are delayed under existing conditions.

DARJEELING EMPTYING

PROBLEM OF A CITROEN TRACTOR

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE station is fast emptying of its Puja visitors. On October 13, "The Young Person in Pink" was staged at the Durbar Hall in Government House by Mr Morgan in aid of Lady Lytton's Fund for the Calcutta Nurses' Club. Lady Hermione was in the title role; others taking part in the more important characters of the play being Miss Lafone as Mrs. Badger, Mrs. Corbett Thompson as Lady Tonbridge and Captain Maclean as Lord Stevenage.

The recent telegram in connexion with the preliminaries for another attack on Everest recalls an expedition that ended with not quite the success that was hoped for and that is the adventure of Colonel Haddick and his Citroen tractor. The tractor has been lying at Sedonchen all through the monsoon and two of the party left a few days ago to bring the machine back under its own power if possible. This seems unlikely at the moment as recent reports on the condition of the roads that must be traversed are not all favourable and even now the rains do not appear to have ended.

COTTON IN CEYLON

EXPERT TO REPORT ON POSSIBILITIES

THE report of the Council of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, which was submitted at the annual meeting to-day, states that the Governor of Ceylon asked the Corporation to arrange for an expert to visit Ceylon to report on cotton experiments which were being carried out by the Department of Agriculture and the possibilities of future production on a commercial scale.

It is hoped that it may be possible to arrange with the Government of India to send an officer for this purpose. The matter was fully discussed at a meeting with the Director of Agriculture, who was home on leave, the Secretary of the Indian Central Cotton Committee, and the Director of the Corporation.

Politics of the nepo-babies

MALEEHA LODHI

Pakistan's politics is still dominated by dynasties and family networks that manage to retain their grip over the country's top political offices and a significant number of seats in parliament.

Many lawmakers come from political dynasties and have inherited seats from their parent, spouse or other familial connections. Hereditary politics continues to hold sway, with power distributed among relatives by those who secure high office. The mould of dynastic politics was broken by the rise of PTI, but while its leader was not a dynast, the party included scions of influential political families.

Pakistan is no exception to a phenomenon witnessed across the world — of political families and dynasties dominating the political landscape. What are called political 'nepo-babies' are prominent almost everywhere. A political nepo-baby is generally defined as a beneficiary of nepotism — the offspring of someone who achieved high political office and ascends to power by virtue of that. The phenomenon also includes spouses or siblings who succeed in politics due to family connections.

Many countries in Southeast Asia are governed by nepo-babies. Pae-tongtarn Shinawatra in Thailand, Bongbong Marcos in the Philippines, Hun Manet in Cambodia and Kim Jong Un in North Korea are all children of former rulers who now run their countries. Similarly, Indonesia's vice president Gibran Rakabuming Raka is the son of former president Joko Widodo. Singapore was ruled for two decades by Lee Hsien Loong, son of Lee Kuan Yew, the country's founder and first prime minister.

In South Asia, the recently ousted prime minister of Bangladesh, Hasina

Wajid owed her political ascent to her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. In India, three prime ministers came from the Nehru-Gandhi family; its scion Rahul Gandhi is now leader of the opposition. Latin America too has had its share of political families. Argentina has seen the Peróns and Kirchners. Former Uruguay president Jorge Luis Batlle came from a family of three presidents. Honduran President Xiomara Castro de Zelaya is the spouse of an ex-president.

Political dynasties have also been a familiar phenomenon in the West. The Kennedys, Bushes and Clintons are prominent examples in the US. Then there is Justin Trudeau in Canada. In Europe, Estonia's premier is the daughter of a former prime minister. Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo and Marine Le Pen in France had politically famous parents.

The track record of nepo-babies has varied. Some have governed well, others not so. But there is no disagreement that however 'qualified' they may be, it is their family name that helped them attain power. Their privileged background gives them an advantage that runs counter to the very notion of a meritocracy. When the political playing field is skewed by their privileged DNA and offers unequal access to other political aspirants that doesn't make political competition fair or equitable. This has adverse implications for democracy.

A study of 'Hereditary democracy' by an Australian scholar Dr. James Loxton emphasised its harmful impact on the political system. It found that mediocre leaders are more likely to rise to power when political office is limited to those with family connections in politics. In some cases, they even lack formal qualifications. Voters are also let down because when they elect relatives of famous

politicians, they usually assume and expect similarities in leadership qualities or policies.

However, elected progeny or relatives may differ substantially from their predecessors, leading to dashed voter expectations and poor representation. An article published earlier this year in The Economist subtitled 'Damaging dynasties', argued that in several Asian countries, dynasts impeded economic growth because their interests and those of their cronies collided with the need for reform. Moreover, dynastic rule inhibits the building of strong institutions as personalities assume an outsized role and seek to dominate institutions, showing impatience with institutional checks on their power. They also prevent institutionalisation of their own political parties.

Why people vote for nepo-babies is an important question but has no uniform answer as political contexts and conditions vary from country to country. Generally speaking, name recognition and people's familiarity with a well-known personality are important reasons for their support. As also their perception that the parent or relative of the political leader had earlier lived up to their expectations and his/her heir would bring stability. Dynastic leaders are also more prevalent in developing countries which have a political culture where politics is organised around patron-client networks and patronage oils the working of the political system.

While every country with ruling dynasties has specific features, Pakistan's case is different from others in an important respect. As political interventions by the military have been pervasive throughout Pakistan's history, it has often chosen to ally with one or the other political dynasty to counter a common political foe.



This has helped to shore up their position and revive their political fortunes even when public support for them has waned. They have also been vehicles to preserve the status quo. The two major political parties headed by dynasties are today favoured and bolstered by the establishment, as they serve as a counterpoise to Imran Khan's PTI.

The two dynasty-led parties, PML-N and PPP have alternated in power for over four decades (when the military hasn't assumed overt power). An assessment of how they governed has to be undertaken separately. Noteworthy here is that while the country has moved on, politics is still stuck in the old hereditary mode. Representative politics and the governance system are increasingly misaligned with the social and economic

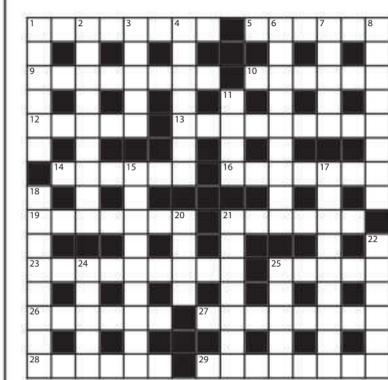
changes that have been reshaping the country's landscape. These changes include greater urbanisation, shift in economic power from the countryside to the cities, expansion of a more assertive middle class, emergence of a diverse civil society and a more 'connected' and informed citizenry, thanks to the spread of technology.

These changes are creating different public expectations and aspirations. The growing middle class wants to see a meritocratic political system free from domination by dynasties that are seen to represent the past, not the future. The key question is whether this growing mismatch between the demands of a rising middle class and family or clan-dominated politics can unleash dynamics that ultimately yield more competent and accountable governance.

Dawn/ANN.

CROSSWORD

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YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

DISGRACE COMMON
THERPEOE
EGREGIOUS SINEW
BUASYSITY
ANGELUS CURACAO
CEHOKER
KNOWLEDGE GREEK
NARE
RESEW GROUNDSSEL
OLMUUIT
ADAMANT TRAFFIC
DUKTCLELE
BOGIEEVOCATION
EHRDMMNOC
DETEST DEPORTEE

ACROSS

- Dull part of cricket pitch (8)
- Functional uniform with fur (6)
- Embraced sixth sense love employed (8)
- American directors on ship (6)
- Fine, limp fringe (5)
- Exploit Oscar during unusual free trip (9)
- One suspended in hot incense (6)
- Endlessly lucky Ken rolled joint (7)
- Demanding individual run out by you and I (7)
- A small platter is out of place (6)
- Profanities as naughty child draws across middle of frieze (9)
- Golf shot starts to spin hard after nasty knock (5)
- Emphatic type with male mice hearts (6)
- Manipulate mechanic? (8)

DOWN

- Elegant and witty, eases oddly inside (6)
- Pressing item is dull and inflexible (8)
- Regarding enemy rising loudly and unmatched (3-3)
- Seaplane crashed across end of Southwold promenade (9)
- Shy laugh the French dismissed (5)
- Secret agent skins up with little sign of hesitation (7)
- Bores quit changing nickname (9)
- Sword turned up in pedal bin (5)
- Approved of final section by journalist written about Old Republican (8)
- Heartless cook behind house wine (4)
- Supplies reportedly more disgusting diners regularly (9)
- Stand after knock out in the manner of Australian native (5,4)
- Dim foe I'd routed changed (8)
- Part of nourishing piece of beef (4)
- Club succeeded in promotion of street artist (7)
- Pelt across right bend in piste (3,3)
- Leapt around in coat (5)
- Avoid drink in street (5)

NOTE: Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required. (By arrangement with The Independent, London)



India re-elected as President of International Solar Alliance

Joshi highlighted that the ISA aims to give impetus to accelerate the journey towards the 1000 strategy which aims to mobilise \$1,000 billion of investments in solar energy solutions by 2030

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

India was re-elected as President of the 120-nation International Solar Alliance (ISA) from 2024 to 2026 on Monday, while France has been elected as Co-President, at the General Assembly held at the iconic Bharat Mandapam here.

Addressing a press conference at the 7th General Assembly of the ISA, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi (photo) said India's election to the President's post is a testament to the impactful work the country, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been doing over the years for the global good in advancing solar energy adoption across the globe and boosting investment in essential solar projects, including mini-grids and health-care solutions. Joshi said while India was the sole contender for the post of President, the Co-Presidency was contested between the Republic of France



and Grenada, with France emerging victorious. "India and France, along with member countries, will aim to raise their ambitions and promise to make this decade count as we usher in a fresh wave of energy, determined to bring the power of solar to improve countries around the world in a way the world has never witnessed before," the minister

said. Joshi highlighted that the ISA aims to give impetus to accelerate the journey towards the 1000 strategy which aims to mobilise \$1,000 billion of investments in solar energy solutions by 2030. The fresh elections to the post of President and Vice President allow both, India and France to lead 120 countries again to build on the solid work that

has already been done and more importantly leverage the gains we have made together, to now accelerate our mission towards a sustainable path, headed. Eight Vice Presidents of the Standing Committee, two from each of the four ISA geographical regions, were also selected by the Assembly. They include Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean regions. ISA Member Countries have also selected the third Director General of the Alliance. Ashish Khanna is the Director General Designate and will assume office in March 2025 when the tenure of the incumbent Director General, Dr AJAY Mathur, comes to a close. ISA initiated Demonstration Projects in 2020 to meet the needs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Development States (SIDS). The aim was to exhibit solar technology applications that can be scaled up and build the capacity of Member Countries to replicate these solar-powered

solutions. Today, 11 of these projects were dedicated to the people of the respective countries: Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cuba, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Samoa, Senegal, The Gambia, and Tonga. ISA remains committed to supporting governments in their efforts to scale up solar energy projects and improve the lives of their people. According to Minister Joshi, the ISA acknowledges that accelerating the adoption of advanced technologies relies on a skilled workforce that can design, install, and maintain them effectively. For advancing capacity building in its Member Countries, the ISA had launched the STAR-C initiative for setting up Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR-Centres), in collaboration with the Republic of France. These national centres are equipped with specialized training facilities, tools, and structured learning modules designed to cultivate a highly skilled solar workforce.

'Bharat' jettisoning colonial mindset: VP Dhankhar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Monday said that 'Bharat' is quickly jettisoning the colonial mindset and defying the earlier defied colonial ideas and symbols.

The Indian public administration, he said, should have Indian characteristics distanced from colonial mindset, aligning with the post-independence aspirations of India.

Addressing a gathering at the 70th Annual Meeting of the General Body of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi, he noted that the new criminal laws — Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam — have unshackled the Indian Criminal Justice system from colonial legacy.

It is a monumental and revolutionary change that the 'Dand' Sanhita has now become the 'Nyaya' Sanhita, effecting improvements to protect the victim's interests, carry out prosecution efficiently, amongst many other



aspects. "Bharat is quickly jettisoning the colonial mindset. Now you do not need English to learn medicine or technology", Mr Dhankhar added.

Highlighting the importance of emotional intelligence and soft skills among public officials, he said, "Focus more on emotional intelligence of its trainees. Developing soft skills, emotional intelligence, and cultural competence among public officials is crucial so that officials can understand the struggles of the marginalized and the underprivileged; design and implement policies that truly address those challenges".

Mr Dhankhar further emphasised the need to enhance civil servants' problem-solving abilities and reinforce ethical leadership, stating that while ethical

standards are fundamental to our civilization, they require constant nurturing with withstand temptation.

Underlining the importance of technology adoption in public administration, he said, "Our training programs (IIPA's) and research initiatives should focus on emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, blockchain, and data analytics, while ensuring their ethical and responsible implementation in public service delivery. The cornerstone of effective public administration is continuous learning and capacity building."

Drawing attention to the concern of digital marginalisation and need for an inclusive approach, He Dhankhar underlined, "However, while embracing technology, we must also ensure that it does not create further divisions. Rapidly advancing technology can exclude the most vulnerable sections of society. Therefore, our approach should be inclusive and inspired by 'anydogy', ensuring that technological advancements reach all corners of our population."

Residents in Meghalaya's border village apprehend 7 Bangladeshi nationals: In a proactive move, residents of Boldamgre village in Meghalaya's South West Garo Hills apprehended seven Bangladeshi nationals early Monday morning. The individuals, caught attempting to enter India illegally, were handed over to the police at the Kalaichar Patrol Post. Authorities seized several items from the detainees, including Bangladeshi passports, currency notes, mobile phones, and SIM cards. The incident is part of ongoing collaborative efforts by the District Police of South West Garo Hills and the Border Security Force (BSF) to curb illegal crossings along the India-Bangladesh border. Local villagers are being actively engaged in these security efforts, reporting suspicious activities to bolster border defenses. A case regarding the apprehended individuals has been registered at Mahendraganj Police Station, with their identities confirmed as Angur Hussain Afrib (20), Amir Ali (35), Chand Miah (60), Md. Bukul Mia (52), Mir Jahan (45), Md. Rasel Ali (35), and Biblop Miah (35). In recent related incidents, ten Bangladeshi nationals were apprehended near Zikzak on September 27, while another arrest was made in Bakdagra on 8 October. In the latter case, both the apprehended Bangladeshi national and a local resident who had allegedly provided shelter were detained. SNS

AAP to support SP candidates in Uttar Pradesh by polls

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, 4 NOVEMBER

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has announced its support to the Samajwadi Party candidates in the Uttar Pradesh bye-polls. "Our stand is clear. Don't get divided but defeat BJP at any cost," announced AAP leader and in-charge of UP Sanjay Singh (photo) here on Monday while launching the party's membership drive.

With a target to enroll 50 lakh new members in next 6 months time, Singh said no membership fee will be charged from anyone and anyone can become a member through online website or



through social media. Talking to media, he said 26,000 government schools have been closed in UP and the BJP government is destroying the future of children. Singh said

that there is no discussion anywhere in the bye-elections about what BJP did. "The agenda of hatred is being run in UP. SP candidates in India alliance has AAP's support

and I will also go to campaign. What is happening in the police stations of UP is unfortunate. Be it the death of Mohit Pandey, or the case of beating of Indal Singh. The rule of law has ended. CM is giving protection instead of action in such cases," he alleged. On the posters of 'Batenge to Katenge' being put up in the bye-elections, he said that there is hatred in BJP against Dalits and backward classes. They want to end the Constitution and reservation. He said that BJP is an anti-national party. "What is the CM of Assam saying in Jharkhand? Talking against the Constitution, talking of spreading hatred.

TENDER

Kamarhati Municipality
Memo No - 569/KM/PW/24-25

1, M.M. Feeder Road, Rathtala, Kolkata-56
Date : 28.10.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender are invited by the Chairman, Kamarhati Municipality, North 24 Parganas for different works within Municipal area under 5th SFC, 14th FC, BEUP Fund.

NIT No - WBMAD/KM/PW/5th SFC_BEUP_14th FC/NIT-11(e)/24-25 (2nd Call)
Tender ID No - 2024_MAD_765601_1 to 4

Bid submission start date : 05.11.2024 at 1.00 P.M.
Bid submission end date : 12.11.2024 at 1.00 P.M.
Bid opening date : 14.11.2024 at 1.00 P.M.

N.B : For details and any other information, please visit Govt. website <http://wbtennders.gov.in> this advertisement is also given <http://Kamarhatimunicipality.org>.

Chairman
Kamarhati Municipality

Kamarhati Municipality
Memo No - 568/KM/PW/24-25

1, M.M. Feeder Road, Rathtala, Kolkata-56
Date : 28.10.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender are invited by the Chairman, Kamarhati Municipality, North 24 Parganas for Procurement for installation of 28 nos. 110W LED mini-mast, 60 and 45 watt LED street light with 5.0 mtr. steel tubular pole (59 nos.), supply, fitting and fixing of LED street light (120, 60 and 45 watt) in existing poles at different roads and places (67 nos.) and bollards and LED spot lights (15 nos.) at different roads and places within Kamarhati Municipality under Green City Mission.

NIT No - WBMAD/KM/PW/GCM/NIT-18(e)/24-25
Tender ID No - 2024_MAD_765601_1 to 5

Bid submission start date : 05.11.2024 at 1.00 P.M.
Bid submission end date : 19.11.2024 at 1.00 P.M.
Bid opening date : 21.11.2024 at 1.00 P.M.
Pre-bid meeting date : 12.11.2024 at 2 p.m.

N.B : For details and any other information, please visit Govt. website <http://wbtennders.gov.in> this advertisement is also given <http://Kamarhatimunicipality.org>.

Chairman
Kamarhati Municipality

e-Auction Notice for Leasing of SLR/LVPH

e-Auction Notice No.: LEASE-KGP-2024-23 & LEASE-KGP-2024-24, Dated: 04.11.2024

For & on behalf of the President of India, the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Kharagpur Division, South Eastern Railway invites e-Auction for leasing of SLR/LVPHs for a period of 02 (two) years for transportation of parcels in the trains which are notified in the <https://www.ireps.gov.in/website> Sl. No.: 1. **Category:** Parcel. **Catalogue No.:** LEASE-KGP-2024-23. **Date of e-Auction:** 09.11.2024. **Auction Closing Time:** 12.40 hrs. Sl. No.: 2. **Category:** Parcel. **Catalogue No.:** LEASE-KGP-2024-24. **Date of e-Auction:** 15.11.2024. **Auction Closing Time:** 13.00 hrs. **Auction Start Time:** 12.00 hrs. (for Sl.No. 1 & 2). Interested parties and contractors to take note of this and go through the website as mentioned above for details of the trains and related information about the E-Auction notice. For enquiries/clarifications if any, please contact the office of the undersigned.

(PR-763) Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Kharagpur

South Eastern Railway
We serve with a smile

EASTERN RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM

Corrigendum to Corrigendum Slip No. 9 of Abridged Tender No. EPC-02-CAO-C-ER-2023 : Open EPC E-Tender in Single Stage - Two Packet System, Dtd. 01.11.2024 published earlier by Chief Administrative Officer/Con, Eastern Railway, Kolkata, 4th Floor, 14 Strand Road, NKG, Kolkata-70001. The following modification in the above Tender No. To be noted as under : Field Name : Tender Closing Date & Time. Existing Value : 18.12.2024 at 17.00 hrs. Modified Value : 18.12.2024 at 17.00 hrs. The tender documents and other details can be obtained from the website www.ireps.gov.in. The bidding for the tender is to be submitted through the e-tendering on EPC mode on above website. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any manual offer if received, shall not be accepted and will be summarily rejected. The other terms & conditions will remain same. (CON-69/2024-25)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at : [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

EASTERN RAILWAY

e-Tender Notice No. : OACT/152/24-25 (Open), dated 01.11.2024. e-Tender (Open) is invited by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301 for the following work : Case No.: O-AC-T-152-24-25. Name of the work : Open Tender for regrading work at Baidyanathdam with extension of Bridge No. 13. **Tender value :** ₹ 6,49,73,157.66. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 4,74,900/-. **Completion period for the work :** 03 months. **Date and time of closing & opening :** 27.11.2024 at 12.00 hrs. Complete details can be seen in the Railway's website www.ireps.gov.in (ASN-213/2024-25). **Tender Notice is also available at websites :** www.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at : [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM NO.1

Tender No. JHS-TMC-11-2024, name of work of "Supply, erection and commissioning of hydraulic test bench for pump & motor at TMD Jhansi as per scope of work" Which is scheduled to be closed on 11.11.2024 at 15:00 hrs. The closing date of said tender has been changed and now the closing date of tender will be 18.11.2024 at 15:00 hrs. 1821/24 (C)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
No. JHS/ELG/WT-44/2023-24/RT3 Date: 01.11.2024

Tender Notice

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) North Central Railway, Jhansi invites open tenders through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:-

Description: Annual Maintenance Contract of AC units and water coolers of Jhansi division under jurisdiction of SSE/ELM-East/JHS, West/JHS, DIRM office/JHS, DSL shed/JHS & LAR depot for a period of three years.

Tender Value	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Document
₹ 6007260.30	120200/-	NIL

Completion period: Three years (36 months). **Closing date of tender:** 26.11.2024 (at 15.00 Hrs.). **Date & time of opening of tender:** 26.11.2024 (at 15.30 Hrs.). In case the date of tender opening happens to be a holiday or technical problem in website, the tenders shall be opened on the next working day in the same manner. The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tender is available in website on <https://www.ireps.gov.in> up to 15.00 Hrs. on the due date of tender opening. Tenderer will submit the tender online up to 26.11.2024 (at 15.00 Hrs.) complete details & for submission of tenders can be seen in Indian Railway website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 1920/24 FA

www.nctr.indianrailways.gov.in

Directorate of Ports & Inland Water Transport, Fortune Tower, Ground Floor, Zone - A, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar
Phone: 06 74-2300885, Email: -portsniwt.od@nic.in

e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

JJ-09 Bid Identification No. DPIWT - 07/2024-25

01. Name of work	1 (One) No Double cover
02. No. of works	Rs. 1.88 Crore
03. No. of Covers	Rs. 10,000.00
01. Value of works	04 (Four) Calendar Months
2. Bid Cost	07.11.2024 to 21.11.2024 upto 05.00 P.M.
3. Period of Completion	07.11.2024 to 13.11.2024 upto 03.00 P.M.
4. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	21.11.2024 up to 05.00 P.M.
5. Date & Time of Bid Clarification	22.11.2024 at 11.30 AM
6. Last date & time for receipt of bids in the portal	Intimation will be given through online
10. Date of opening of bid document	"B" & "A" Class Contractor
11. Date of transparent lottery process (if situation arises)	Director, Ports & Inland Water Transport, Fortune Tower, Ground Floor, Zone-A, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, Pin-751023
12. Class of Contractor	Phone-0674-2390355, Fax-2396885, e-Mail - portsniwt.od@nic.in
13. Name and address of officer inviting Tender (OIT)	

Construction of Approach Road from RD road to Passenger Jetty at Nitala in Bidadrak District

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement market place, <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>.

The Addendum / Corrigendum if any will be hosted in the website only.

OIPR-38035/11/0009/2425

Director
Ports & IWT, Odisha

MP POORV KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
BLOCK SHAKTI BHAWAN, RAMPUR, JABALPUR (M.P.)
Tel No.0761 2702473, Fax No.0761-2660048, e-mail: cepurez@yahoo.in
CIN: U40109MP2002SGC015120

No. CGM(S&P)/EZ/GM-4/11/1896 Jabalpur, dt: 28.10.2024

TENDER NOTICE

Online Tenders are invited for following item:-

Sl. No.	TS No. (For e-Tendering) Discom- EZ/Par	NAME OF ITEMS	APPROX. QUANTITY (In Units)	TENDER FEE IN Ru	Due date & time of opening of tender online from 14.00 hrs (T)
1	TS-1508 (e-Tendering) 2024_PNVVC_378204 (1)	DPC Wire	34328	9900	20.11.2024
2	TS-1508 (e-Tendering) 2024_PNVVC_378203 (1)	HV/LV Brass Studs	54-79	1180	20.11.2024
3	TS-1507 (e-Tendering) 2024_PNVVC_378205 (1)	Pre-Compressed Board	14-44	1180	20.11.2024

*For updated / extended due dates for opening of tender (EMD in cover-1 & Techno-commercial bid in cover-2) please refer to the online key dates.

*For other details visit our website- www.mpep.co.in/online_tenders.gov.in

C.G.M. (S&P)
G. Pandey
Public Relation Officer

UP gov't denies closing 27K primary schools due to low turnout

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, 4 NOVEMBER

After much hue and cry by the opposition leaders, Uttar

the media that over 27000 schools in the state will be closed are totally baseless and misleading. She claimed that no such process is under-



Pradesh government on Monday denied the news of closure of over 27,000 primary schools in the state.

State Director General of Basic Education Kanchan Verma said that reports in

Issuing a statement here on Monday, she said that there are media reports of closing over 27000 primary schools by merging them with nearby schools.

Residents in Meghalaya's border village apprehend 7 Bangladeshi nationals: In a proactive move, residents of Boldamgre village in Meghalaya's South West Garo Hills apprehended seven Bangladeshi nationals early Monday morning. The individuals, caught attempting to enter India illegally, were handed over to the police at the Kalaichar Patrol Post. Authorities seized several items from the detainees, including Bangladeshi passports, currency notes, mobile phones, and SIM cards. The incident is part of ongoing collaborative efforts by the District Police of South West Garo Hills and the Border Security Force (BSF) to curb illegal crossings along the India-Bangladesh border. SNS

President appeals to women achievers to become guides for other women

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

President Droupadi Murmu on Monday urged women achievers to become guides for other women and encourage them to choose their careers and realise their dreams.

She lamented the fact that often many women are not able to fulfill their dreams even after receiving higher education due to a lack of support from family.

She was interacting with a group of women achievers in the Indian Aviation Sector at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The meeting took place under the initiative "The President with the People" which aims to establish a deeper connect with people and recognise their contributions.

President Murmu said that women are playing a key role in various operational and technical areas in India's civil aviation sector. She noted that 15 per cent of Air Traffic Controllers are women, 11 per cent of flight dispatchers are women, and 9 per cent of aerospace engineers are women.



She also noted that 18 per cent of pilots who received commercial licenses last year were women. She appreciated all women achievers who think innovatively and have the courage to tread new paths.

The President said that the inclusive efforts of the government have given a boost

to the progress of women in the civil aviation sector. More and more women are now choosing aviation as their career. She emphasised that along with increasing the participation of women in the aviation industry, equal opportunities moving forward in this field are also necessary.

Bernier calls out Prime Minister Trudeau on Khalistani issue

Bernier alleged that the the leaders refrained from identifying the attackers as Khalistani extremists, something that could have offended their voter base

AGENCIES
TORONTO, 4 NOVEMBER

People's Party of Canada (PPC) leader Maxime Bernier (photo, right) has lambasted Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and opposition leaders Jagmeet Singh (photo, far right) and Pierre Poilievre for their responses to attack on Hindus in Brampton.

Bernier alleged that the the leaders refrained from identifying the attackers as Khalistani extremists, something that could have offended their voter base.

Taking to X, Bernier posted, "Can you spot the difference between my tweet and that of the three establishment party leaders?"

He condemned the three leaders as "cowards" and

added, "Not one of these cowards dares to even name the Khalistani Sikhs who are committing the violence. They're afraid to offend some voters, even though Khalistani supporters are a minority of Sikh Canadians."

"This complacency explains why Khalistani extremism keeps growing in this country," he stated, sharing the screenshots of leaders' social media posts.

The criticism follows an attack near the Hindu Sabha Temple in Brampton on Sunday, where devotees were reportedly targeted by individuals believed to be affiliated with the Khalistani groups. Peel Police were stationed outside the temple but no arrests have yet been made.

Earlier, Bernier posted a video on X, showing the Khal-



istanis attacking worshippers at the Brampton Hindu temple.

"Nothing to worry about though because diversity is our strength!!!!", he added sarcastically.

Independent MP Kevin Vuong also condemned the attack by the Khalistani extremists on the Hindu devotees stating, "Alarming to see an attack on Hindu Canadians.

From Khalistani extremists to terrorist cosplayers, Canada has become a safe harbour for radicals. Our leaders are failing to safeguard Hindus as they have Christians and Jewish Canadians from violence. We all deserve to worship in peace."

Canadian PM Justin Trudeau also condemned the incident, calling it "unacceptable" and expressing support

for religious freedom and community safety.

"The acts of violence at the Hindu Sabha Mandir in Brampton today are unacceptable. Every Canadian has the right to practice their faith freely and safely," Trudeau wrote on X, also thanking Peel Regional Police for their swift response.

Opposition leader Pierre Poilievre described the attacks as "completely unacceptable." He assured Canadians that the Conservative Party stands firmly against such violence and pledged to "unite our people and end the chaos."

"Completely unacceptable to see violence targeting worshippers at the Hindu Sabha Mandir in Brampton today," he posted, adding that "Conservatives condemn this violence unequivocally."

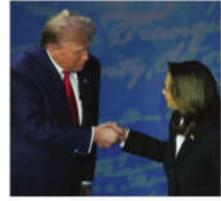
Harris and Trump will both make a furious last-day push before election day

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, 4 NOVEMBER

A presidential campaign that has careened through a felony trial, an incumbent president being pushed off the ticket and multiple assassination attempts comes down to a final push across a handful of states on the eve of Election Day.

Kamala Harris will spend all of Monday in Pennsylvania, whose 19 electoral votes offer the largest prize among the states expected to determine the Electoral College outcome. The vice president and Democratic nominee will visit working-class areas including Allentown and end with a late-night Philadelphia rally that includes Lady Gaga and Oprah Winfrey.

Donald Trump plans four rallies in three states, beginning in Raleigh, North Carolina and stopping twice in Pennsylvania with events in Reading and Pittsburgh. The Republican nominee and former president ends his



campaign the way he ended the first two, with a late Monday night event in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

About 77 million Americans already have voted early, but Harris and Trump are pushing to turn out many millions more supporters on Tuesday. Either result on Election Day will yield a historic outcome.

A Trump victory would make him the first incoming president to have been indicted and convicted of a felony, after his hush-money trial in New York. He will gain the power to end other federal investigations pending against him. Trump would also become the second

president in history to win non-consecutive White House terms, after Grover Cleveland in the late 19th century.

Harris is vying to become the first woman, first Black woman and first person of South Asian descent to reach the Oval Office, four years after she broke the same barriers in national office by becoming President Joe Biden's second in command.

The vice president ascended to the top of the Democratic ticket after Biden's disastrous performance in a June debate set into motion his withdrawing from the race. That was just one of a series of convulsions that have hit this year's campaign.

Trump survived by millimeters a would-be assassin's bullet at a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. His Secret Service detail foiled a second attempt in September when a gunman had set up a rifle as Trump golfed at one of his courses in Florida.

Ten killed in Ecuadorian Amazon highway crash



AGENCIES
QUITO, 4 NOVEMBER

Ten people died in a highway traffic accident in southeast Ecuador's Amazonian province of Morona Santiago, the national emergency service said.

The ECU 911 Integrated

Security Service, Ecuador's emergency hotline, received a report of the accident at 05:22 local time early Sunday, saying a pickup truck fell into a ravine over the Paute River, in the Bella Union district of the community of Mendez, and became trapped between rocks, according to

local media. The head of the Santiago de Mendez Fire Department, John Cordero, confirmed that 10 people were killed, including several minors belonging to two families, reports Xinhua news agency, quoting local media.

Preliminary reports from the National Police said the truck veered off the road and overturned. Emergency and fire department rescue teams were dispatched to the site to recover the bodies.

Traffic accidents are a leading cause of death in Ecuador, mainly due to speeding and inexperienced drivers on the road, according to authorities.

Trial opens in France in the beheading of a teacher over prophet cartoons

AGENCIES
PARIS, 4 NOVEMBER

The trial of eight people in Paris on terrorism charges started on Monday over the beheading of teacher Samuel Paty, who was killed by an Islamic extremist after showing caricatures of Islam's prophet to his middle school students for a lesson on freedom of expression.

Paty's shocking death left an imprint on France, and several schools are now named after him. Paty was killed outside his school near Paris on Oct. 16, 2020, by an 18-year-old Russian of Chechen origin, who was shot to death by police.

Those on trial include friends of assailant Abdoul-

lakh Anzorov who allegedly helped purchase weapons for the attack, as well as people who are accused of spreading false information online about the teacher and his class.

The proceedings started Monday in the presence of members of Paty's family, including his two sisters.

The trial was held under high security, with many police officers patrolling and making checks outside and inside the courtroom.

Five of the accused, who are currently imprisoned, were seated in a wide glass box. Three others, placed under judicial supervision, sat on the defendants' benches outside the box.

The attack occurred



against a backdrop of protests in many Muslim countries and calls online for violence targeting France and the satirical French newspaper Charlie Hebdo. The newspaper had republished its caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad a few weeks before Paty's death to mark

the opening of the trial over deadly 2015 attacks on its newsroom by Islamic extremists.

The cartoon images deeply offended many Muslims, who saw them as sacrilegious. But the fallout from Paty's killing reinforced the French state's commit-

ment to freedom of expression and its firm attachment to secularism in public life.

Much attention at the trial will focus on Brahim Chhina, the Muslim father of a teenager who was 13 at the time and claimed that she had been excluded from Paty's class when he showed the caricatures on Oct. 5, 2020.

Chhina, 52, sent a series of messages to his contacts denouncing Paty, saying that "this sick man" needed to be fired, along with the address of the school in the Paris suburb of Conflans Saint-Honorine.

In reality, Chhina's daughter had lied to him and had never attended the lesson in question.

Quincy Jones, music titan who worked with everyone from Frank Sinatra to Michael Jackson, dies at 91

AGENCIES
LOS ANGELES, 4 NOVEMBER

Quincy Jones, the multi-talented music titan whose vast legacy ranged from producing Michael Jackson's historic "Thriller" album to writing prize-winning film and television scores and collaborating with Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles and hundreds of other recording artists, has died at 91.

Jones' publicist, Arnold Robinson, says he died Sunday night at his home in the Bel Air section of Los Angeles, surrounded by his family.

"Tonight, with full but

broken hearts, we must share the news of our father and brother Quincy Jones' passing," the family said in a statement. "And although this is an incredible loss for our family, we celebrate the great life that he lived and know there will never be another like him."

Jones rose from running with gangs on the South Side of Chicago to the very heights of show business, becoming one of the first Black executives to thrive in Hollywood and amassing an extraordinary musical catalog that includes some of the richest moments



of American rhythm and song. For years, it was unlikely to find a music lover who did not own at least one record with his name on it, or a leader in the entertain-

ment industry and beyond who did not have some connection to him.

Jones kept company with presidents and foreign leaders, movie stars and musicians,

philanthropists and business leaders. He toured with Count Basie and Lionel Hampton, arranged records for Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald, composed the soundtracks for "Roots" and "In the Heat of the Night," organized President Bill Clinton's first inaugural celebration and oversaw the all-star recording of "We Are the World," the 1985 charity record for famine relief in Africa.

Lionel Richie, who co-wrote "We Are the World" and was among the featured singers, would call Jones "the master orchestrator."

LEISURE

10 MINUTE CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Tavern (3)
 - Frozen rain (4)
 - Pattern (8)
 - Unit of electric potential (4)
 - Eatery (10)
 - Visitor (6)
 - Plant part (6)
 - Unsettle (10)
 - Acid (4)
 - Disorderly place (8)
 - Take care of (4)
 - Affirmative answer (3)
- DOWN**
- Frozen dessert (3,5)
 - Short sleep (3)
 - Benefit (9)
 - Perennial plant (4)
 - Oriental market (6)
 - Ursine animal (4)
 - Persevere (7,2)
 - Fidgety (8)
 - "I Down" dish (6)
 - Zodiacal division (4)
 - Caprine animal (4)
 - Purchase (3)

- SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD**
- ACROSS**
- Hare
 - Rawls (Hair-bush)
 - Acid
 - Panda car
 - Water buffalo
 - Turret
 - Guilty
 - Coach station
 - Digestion
 - Idol
 - Nasty
 - Duly
 - Utopian
 - Initial
 - Chess
 - Noon
 - Toy
- DOWN**
- Utopian
 - Initial
 - Chess
 - Noon
 - Toy

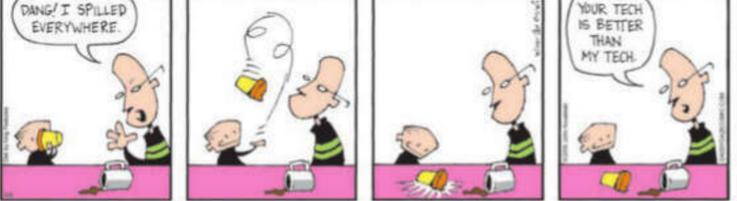
BETLE BAILEY/Mort Walker



RED EYE/Bill Yates & Mel Casson



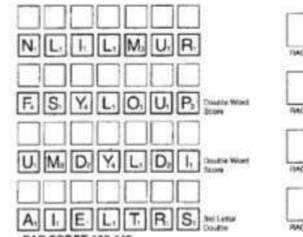
DADDY DAZE/John Kovalieski



NEED TO KNOW

- Ambulance**
FD Block Association (Amb) 9830452536, 9830181286
Happy Calcuttans 24400160
City Point Nurses Centre 2567-4113, 9831142623
People's Relief Committee 2286-4943/9444
- 24 hrs Medical Oxygen Delivery**
BOC India Ltd. 9831277777
- Blood Banks**
Ashok Laboratory 24720333
Central Blood Bank 23510619
- Life Care** 2284-6940
Peoples Blood Bank 2455-5164/5557
RK Mission Seva Pratishthan 2475-3636/39
- Police/Fire**
Lalabazar (Police Control Room) 22143230
S. P. (North 24-Pgns) 25423005
S.P. (South 24-Pgns) 2479-3333/1311
Bhawani Bhawan 24791761/9, 24791933
Fire Service Station Salt Lake: 2357-5293;
- Howrah** 2666-8111; Behala 2497-6285
- Civic Services**
Kolkata Municipal Corporation: 2286-1000
Water: 2543-1602
- Changed Number Announcement**
1951, 1952, 1953
- Taxi Refusal**
SMS 575756: Complaint and registration
- Police Toll Free No.** 1073
Transport Deptt. No. 6451-6718
- CESC Fault Reporting**
1912 and 4403-1912
- Trains**
Howrah Station Old Complex 1331/1332 (Auto Telephone Numbers), 1310, 2638-7412/2542/2581 (manual).
Sealdah: 2350-3535/3537
Shalimar Station: 2668-1121, Eastern Railway and South-Eastern Railway: 139.

SCRABBLE BRAND



- PAR SCORE 135-145**
by JUDD
- FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN**
- YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS AND**
- FLUSH** RACK 1 = 11
ISLES RACK 2 = 5
JOINER RACK 3 = 15
ORJNERV RACK 4 = 27
PAR SCORE 30-46
JUDD'S TOTAL 58
- INSTRUCTIONS:** Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Player with the highest score wins. If you use an empty letter box, you must use a letter from the rack. All Judd's words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OGSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). Judd's solutions are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OGSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). © 2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Inc. By King Features Syndicate, Inc.

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★

Answer to previous puzzle

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that no row, no column and no 3x3 box contains the same number. The difficulty level increases through the week.

What did you learn in school today?

MOHUL BHATTACHARYA

Have you ever felt school was not enough to represent the inner human being?

Bhaber Pathshala (or Bhabshala) was started in 2022 in a place called Mohishdhal Moujar, just 10 km away from Shantiniketan station with probably the same peripheral vision of spreading the essential mediums of art and activities. Four people and their need to create communities started this space. Arnab Sengupta, Meenu Baske, Pritam Chakraborty, and Anjan Das started the initiative to teach the local Santali kids. The commune now has 30 kids visiting it. These four teachers visit the place twice a week. Anjan Das is in charge of artistic guidance, paintings, and drawings; Pritam Chakraborty teaches music to the kids there. Meenu Baske has the pivotal role of translating foreign languages, that is, Bengali and English, to the Santali language so the children can learn, imbibe and express their own emotions. Arnab Sengupta has a long history as a theatre artist, a teacher by profession, and a cultural studies propagator. The inevitable Sengupta started his communion journey with an ashram in Bankura named Kalyan Sangha. After the pandemic period of 2019-2021, Sengupta decided to create this path-shala along

with his three other comrades in the model of studying of what Rabindranath Tagore and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar had envisioned for India. They have bought a plot of land which is in no way barricaded with barbed wires, it has just bamboo planks in the demarcating points and

to them. This isn't a school or a private tutoring centre in any sense. We call it Bhaber Pathshala, or Bhabshala—because this is a place where we weave the joys of life through reading, writing, counting, and art. They are not our students, and we are not their teachers," said Arnab

learning that is rooted in one's culture and surroundings, rather than imposing Western or colonial models of education. This approach emphasised the importance of local languages, customs, and traditions. Tagore's concept of mass education aimed to reach the rural and mar-

ginalised populations, particularly women and children, who were excluded from formal education. He believed that education should be accessible and inclusive, breaking down social and economic barriers. Institutionalised education has been urban at its core, not really reaching the peripheries. Maintaining such open schools of physical and mental expression builds up intro-

spection among the children, which most lack in a four-walled, uniformed classroom. There have been countless movements among the city folks of 'return to nature' in the late-capitalist setup. Education, too, has become a commodity; in such conditions, teachers like Sengupta He believed that education was a fundamental right and should be accessible to everyone, regardless of economic or social background. Vidyasagar's efforts helped democratise education in India, making it more accessible to people from all walks of life. Today, there are government schools in almost every village in India. However, the purpose of education has not really changed from what the colonists had in mind for us. Education has simply been a training process to make an individual ready for economic and societal norms. By providing spaces for dance, music, and art, Bhabshala is creating an environment for the students that mainstream institutions rarely can.

Talking to Arnab, he delightfully mentions how two of the kids from this space have gone on to live in hostels; Ram and Rima. But whenever they come back on breaks to their homes, they are more than eager to culminate into Bhabshala.

No work is done in seclusion. There are small pockets of such spaces around. One such alternative educational space is 'Choloman Pathshala', which translates to a school on wheels.

They operate in Diganta Polli, Shantiniketan, and Balgona. All these communities have been born out of the need for expression and upliftment of non-city children.



a 'char-chala' (a thatched roof of straws and four beams to support the roof.) The whole concept of this settlement is openness. There is very little constriction even in the eye line of the children flocking to have a peaceful co-existence in tune with the normative cultural parameters.

"Santali is their mother tongue, while Bengali and English are foreign languages

Sengupta about Bhabshala, which will be two years old this December of 2024.

Education according to Rabindranath Tagore

Tagore believed that education should not be limited to the acquisition of knowledge, but should also focus on the development of the whole person, including their physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. He advocated for

ginalised populations, particularly women and children, who were excluded from formal education. He believed that education should be accessible and inclusive, breaking down social and economic barriers. Institutionalised education has been urban at its core, not really reaching the peripheries. Maintaining such open schools of physical and mental expression builds up intro-

are a rarity and definitely a minority.

What Vidyasagar envisioned

Vidyasagar believed in the importance of mass education for social transformation. He advocated for the education of the masses, regardless of caste, creed, or social status. Vidyasagar supported the idea of free and compulsory education for all children, including girls and women.



Why Gen Z is saying 'no' to middle management roles, explains expert

LEDA STAWNYCHKO

Gen Z is poised to become the most populous generation on the planet, and their influence is already shaping the future of work. As one of the most educated and racially and ethnically diverse generations, they bring fresh perspectives and new expectations for how we work and lead.

Known as the first truly 'digital native' generation, Gen Z grew up immersed in a world of technology and social media, giving them a natural edge in navigating the modern world. But there is more to Gen Z than their digital fluency.

What truly sets them apart is their ambition, entrepreneurial spirit, financial savviness, commitment to ethical consumption and a strong sense of social responsibility. For Gen Z, work is more than just a paycheck—it's about committing to a higher purpose. They do best in people-centred organisations that value their contributions, prioritise well-being and align with their sense of mission.

Gen Z is redefining leadership by choosing to

lead through expertise rather than relying on formal positions of authority. One of the most striking trends is their growing reluctance to step into middle management roles—a phenomenon being called 'conscious unbossing.'

This powerful shift is catching many in the business world by surprise.

Where strategy meets execution

Middle managers play a vital role in organisations, acting as the crucial link between a company's big-picture strategy and its day-to-day operations.

Unlike supervisors, who primarily focus on overseeing day-to-day tasks, middle managers are responsible for both their team's performance and the implementation of broader organisational strategies. It's a dynamic role where strategic vision meets practical execution.

However, research shows that over half of Gen Z have no interest in pursuing middle management roles. There is an understandable reason for this: these roles are known for their high levels of burnout and may initially seem at odds with Gen Z's

values of autonomy, flexibility and personal well-being.

It is true that middle managers face real challenges. Over the past decade, their responsibilities have grown significantly. They manage competing priorities while contending with a polarised and rapidly shifting workplace. However, with the right approach, these roles can be deeply fulfilling and transformative.

Why middle management matters

Despite being highly ambitious, self-confident and driven by personal growth, Gen Z may be overlooking the valuable learning opportunities and influence that come with middle management.

Middle management roles serve as a crucial stepping stone for those seeking to make a real, systemic and lasting impact, offering a platform to advocate for the values Gen Z cares deeply about, such as social responsibility, sustainability and equity.

Additionally, middle management provides important opportunities to develop essential tech-

nical and human skills, including emotional intelligence, strategic thinking and complex decision-making. Embracing these roles can unlock the potential to lead change and inspire transformation.

How to find joy in middle management roles

If you are part of Gen Z and are unsure about middle management, reframing these roles to align with your values and aspirations can help you see it as a rewarding opportunity rather than a burden. This three-step framework can help you make the most of these roles while staying true to your values:

1. Use it as a vehicle to increase self-awareness

Middle management offers a unique environment to enhance self-awareness. By reflecting on how you respond to challenges, interact with others and make decisions under pressure, you can gain valuable insight into your strengths, areas for growth and leadership style. For example, self-awareness can help you delegate more effectively—empowering your team,

preventing burnout, and freeing up time to focus on what matters most to you.

2. Think of the role as a leadership incubator

Viewing middle management as a leadership incubator can help you shift the focus toward its long-term value. These roles offer a training ground where you learn to negotiate priorities at multiple levels of the organisation and give you access to important networks and development opportunities.

The skills you develop—strategic thinking, negotiation and stakeholder management—not only prepare you for higher positions but also equip you to effectively advocate for social change or succeed as an entrepreneur.

3. Leverage the role to scale your impact

Middle management is about expanding your influence and creating larger ripple effects. The role offers a unique vantage point to shape organisational culture and advocate for meaningful change. You can demonstrate to older generations in the workplace that

Students' Space

VIVACIOUS VOCABULARY

AGELAST

Noun
Pronunciation: Adge-el-as
Meaning: Someone who never laughs
Example: He has an agelast persona
Synonym: Unsmiling, humourless

BALEFUL

Adjective
Pronunciation: Bayl-ful
Meaning: Menacing or destructive
Example: She shot a baleful glance at the stranger
Synonym: Unfriendly, hostile

CACHET

Noun
Pronunciation: Ka-shay
Meaning: Being respected
Example: The brand's organic range has given it a cachet among customers
Synonym: Prestige, prominence

DAUNTLESS

Adjective
Pronunciation: Dawnt-luhs
Meaning: Showing no fear
Example: She had a dauntless persona when it came to going for the unknown
Synonym: Fearless, spirited

- Compiled by Priyanjali Das

Meditation on life

*I was dropped down to this mess
On the second day of June.
Since then, my soul has never confessed:
When will my self depart too soon?*

*I grew; the mess, one year slipped by.
With gentle care, my father would tend,
My sister's laughter, a soft lullaby,
Together with mother and grandmother, my friends.*

*Days passed; I grew; sufferings kissed.
In a haunted way, my father flies
To taste the opportunities I missed,
To lick the nectar of death—a sigh.*

*Why was my conscience tired?
Why did I choose to seek bliss?
Yet I slip my loved ones as pure air,
Free to see, and free to wish.*

*Burn! Until I become white ash, slipped,
And let the air float the remnants.
Promise I shall never forget your kiss
If you, my friends, allow me this grant.*

*When my enigmatic existence fades,
And tender skin begins to wrinkle,
The whispers of shadows will invade,
And the temple will silence the bell.*

*I would be gone forever in blissful sway;
My body might trigger my kin,
But as pure as air, I shall stay—
Yet will I falter, witnessing my sins?*

*What if God never breathes in heaven,
And we are trapped in nonsense glee?
No—yes—I neither know nor care;
What if He breathes eternally, free?*

*What if hell kissed my legs and burned,
Trapped in a golden cage, I shout long?
What if Heaven touched my soul to earn
And sang me soporific songs?*

*What if I meet my deity—my mother,
And my sister and father up high?
What if we never meet, drift too far,
To escape the tragic vibes?*

*Unique I am; I shall not come again;
As me, my mom—you would never, too.
We shall leave today or faint
And kiss until the sky turns blue.*

*To perish is not what people long for,
But death will come and claim.
To perish—nothing is ever sure,
Perish—I can't stop saying names.*

*Why is 'perish' such a heavy sound?
Perish! I can't stop myself from thinking.
Why is 'perish' licking my wounds?
Perish, perish, perish, perish, perish, perish—I sing!*

SUMAN MONDAL,

English literature student (second semester)

If you are a school or college student who has a poem, essay or other fiction or nonfiction pieces which you would like to share with The Statesman's readers please write in with your submission to readers@thestatesmangroup.com.

Don't forget to mention your name, the name of your school, your class and your phone number.

Please write "C&C" in the subject field.

Publication is at the discretion of the editors.

THUMBNAILS

Maharatna PSUs NTPC and ONGC join hands to form a JV company: Maharatna PSUs NTPC and ONGC have collaborated to form a Joint Venture Company (JVC) through their Green Energy Subsidiaries (NTPC Green Energy Ltd. and ONGC Green Energy Ltd.) to further promote their interest in renewable and new energy arena. Subsequent to the signing of the Joint Venture Agreement on 7th February 2024, during India Energy Week 2024, and obtaining the required statutory approvals from DIPAM and NITI Aayog, NGEI has submitted an application to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for the incorporation of a 50:50 Joint Venture Company with OGL.

Top Employer certificate: Philip Morris International's India affiliate, IPM India has been recognised as a top employer for the fifth consecutive year.

40 pc surge in car deliveries during festive season fuels strong demand: Car deliveries surged by 40 per cent this festive season, with a notable increase in light motor vehicles, including cars and SUVs, sold in October. As per the industry data, the spike highlights a significant rise in consumer demand for four-wheelers during the festive period, despite a modest year-on-year growth of just 1.8 per cent in the broader passenger vehicle sector, which recorded a total of 401,447 units. Industry insiders attribute the restrained growth in overall numbers to several carmakers deliberately limiting production to keep inventories balanced. The data underscores a notable shift in consumer preference towards four-wheelers, particularly during festive seasons, a trend that manufacturers and dealers may strategically leverage moving forward.

Market declines due to foreign investor selling, weak quarter earnings

The Sensex fell by 1.2 per cent or 942 points to 78782.24, while the Nifty dropped 1.27 per cent or 309 points to 23995.35

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Stock market on Monday declined due to sustained foreign investor selling and weaker-than-expected September quarter earnings.

At the close, the Sensex fell by 1.2 per cent or 942 points to 78782.24, while the Nifty dropped 1.27 per cent or 309 points to 23995.35.

BSE MidCap and SmallCap indices down by 1.3 per cent and 1.65 per cent, respectively.

The overall market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms dropped to nearly Rs 442 lakh crore from Rs 448 lakh crore in the previous session.

On Nifty 50, as many as 42 stocks ended with losses. Shares of Hero MotoCorp, Grasim, Bajaj Auto, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone and BPCL as the top losers, falling 3-4 per cent.

Mahindra and Mahindra, Tech Mahindra, Cipla and SBI ended as the top gainers in the index, rising 1-2 per cent.

The top Gainers on Sensex were Mahindra & Mahindra (2 per cent), Tech Mahindra (1.94 per cent), State Bank of India (1.07 per cent), HCL Technologies (0.29 per cent), Infosys (0.19 per cent). On the losing side were Reliance Industries (2.77 per cent), Sun Pharmaceutical Industries (2.68 per cent), NTPC (2.59 per cent), Bajaj Finserv (2.44



per cent), Tata Motors (2.31 per cent).

Among the sectors, Nifty Realty, Oil & Gas and Media fell over 2 per cent. While Nifty

Bank, Auto, Financial Services, FMCG, Metal, Private Bank and Consumer Durables fell 1 per cent.

Shares of Mahindra &

Mahindra rose over 2 per cent after the company reported a robust 25 per cent year-on-year surge in SUV sales.

Bajaj Auto shares fell 3.5

per cent as investors reacted to the company's weak October sales data.

Shares of Hero MotoCorp fell over 4 per cent after the company reported its October sales numbers at 6.79 lakh units, up by 18 per cent YoY. Tata Power Company fell nearly 4 per cent after CLSA said that the stock has run ahead of its fundamentals, backed by the strength of retail shareholders, who have lapped up power-linked stocks.

On Monday morning, investors' wealth eroded by Rs 7.37 lakh crore. Equity markets fell sharply with the BSE Sensex tumbling 1,192 points.

Markets were dragged down by Reliance Industries and unabated selling by foreign

investors. Investors also turned cautious ahead of the US presidential elections and Federal Reserve interest rate decision scheduled to be announced later this week.

The Indian stock market is witnessing a heavy selloff from foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) are also cautious ahead of the major global events this week.

According to exchange data, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 211.93 crore on Friday.

In October, the foreign investors pulled out a massive Rs 94,000 crore (around USD 11.2 billion) from the Indian stock market.

India's consumer spending on goods to grow 7 pc in next 5 years

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

India's consumer spending on goods is worth \$1.29 trillion in 2024 and is expected to increase to 7.0 per cent in the next five years, according to a new report.

India's expansion in electronics has, thus far, followed an assembly-to-component strategy, using tariffs and production-linked incentives to draw investment in the manufacturing of smartphones and other network-connected devices.

The sheer scale of sales opportunity in the Indian market has also provided "in-market, for-market" justifications for investments in manufacturing in the country, according to a latest forecast by S&P Global Market Intelligence.

"India's consumer spending on goods is worth \$1.29 trillion in 2024, S&P Global Market Intelligence



forecasts show, with the inflation-adjusted growth of 4.8 per cent in the past five years, expected to increase to 7.0 per cent in the next five years," according to the report.

The acceleration in growth is particularly marked in export industries such as apparel (9.5 per cent in the next five years), household equipment including appliances and electronics (8.8 per cent in the next five years) and transport equipment (8.5 per cent in the next five years).

Apart from manufacturing for local sales, the contracted electronics manufacturers also export products, particularly smartphones, driving 44 per cent annual growth

in telecom equipment exports from 2015 to 2024.

To compete with developed economies' government support for local manufacturing and the use of rules of origin to secure their economic interests, emerging markets such as Malaysia, Indonesia and India have successfully attracted investment and boosted exports by leveraging their unique value propositions, the report noted.

India is poised to be the fastest-growing major economy over the next three years and the third largest globally by 2030. Its 2024 entry into JP Morgan's Government Emerging Market Bond Index could provide additional government funding and unlock significant resources in domestic capital markets.

"This is only a first step — investors will continue looking for improved market access and settlement procedures," the report mentioned.

CIL marks 50th Foundation Day; minister launches logo, mascot 'Angara'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Coal India Limited (CIL) has marked its 50th Foundation Day at its Headquarters in Kolkata.

The celebration was graced by Union Minister of Coal and Mines, G. Kishan Reddy, as the chief guest, along with Vikram Dev Dutt, Secretary of the Ministry of Coal, as the guest of honour.

Minister Reddy, launched the Golden Jubilee logo and unveiled the mascot "Angara." The logo symbolizes CIL's pivotal role as the backbone of India's energy sector, reflecting the company's commitment to innovation, progress, and sustainability.

The mascot embodies the strength and resilience of coal miners, highlighting their courage and dedication. The Mascot is inspired by Royal Bengal Tiger.

During his address, G. Kishan Reddy extended heartfelt



congratulations to the officers, staff, and workers of Coal India Limited (CIL) for reaching the milestone of 50 years of operation and stressed that increasing coal production and enhancing supplies to reduce imports should be CIL's foremost priorities.

He underscored the importance of miners' welfare and the rehabilitation of communities affected by mine closures. "Contractual workers play a significant role in Coal India's output, and I applaud the management's decision to implement Performance Linked Incentives for them, effective FY 2023-24," he stated.

The Minister pointed out that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Coal Mines Special Provision (CMSP) Act was enacted in 2015 to augment coal production through transparent allocation of coal mines via auction.

This initiative has been pivotal in ensuring coal availability for sectors such as steel, cement, and power utilities. He further stated that the launch of commercial coal mining in 2020 ushered in transparency, ease of doing business, and investment opportunities, helping to open the coal sector. Expressing confidence in CIL, he stated that the company has the competency and commitment to compete in the current open market scenario.

The minister reiterated that while coal will remain a central component of India's energy landscape for the coming decades, the nation is

also heavily investing in renewable energy and addressing climate change.

He commended CIL's diversification efforts, including the setting up of a thermal power plant and foraying into critical mineral acquisition. In the Viksit Bharat initiative, Coal India has a vital role to play and it needs to shoulder this responsibility.

Secretary of Coal, Vikram Dev Dutt highlighted that CIL provides coal to Indian consumers at competitive rates compared to imported coal.

He added that coal stocks at power plants reached 31.6 MT as on October 28, 2024, as compared to 18.8 MTs of corresponding period of last year with a growth of 68%, largely attributed to the contribution of CIL.

Coal Secretary also said, Coal India should recalibrate its processes, operational and cost efficiency in accordance to the changing business dynamics.

SEBI allows MFs to invest in overseas funds with exposure in Indian securities

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Monday allowed mutual funds (MFs) to invest in overseas mutual funds or unit trusts that invest a specific portion of their assets in Indian securities.

This is subject to the total exposure to Indian securities by such overseas funds not exceeding 25 per cent of their net assets, the market regulator said.

"Indian mutual fund schemes may also invest in overseas MF/UTs that have exposure to Indian securities, provided that the total exposure to Indian securities by these overseas MF/UTs shall not be more than 25 per cent of their assets."

In a circular, Sebi said the move is aimed at facilitating ease of investment in overseas MF/UTs, bringing transparency in the manner of investment, and enabling MFs to diversify their overseas investments.

The new framework will come into force with immediate effect, Sebi added.



"All investors in the overseas MF/UT have pari-passu and pro-rata rights in the fund, i.e. they receive a share of returns/gains from the fund in proportion to their contribution and have pari-passu rights," it added.

MF schemes are required to ensure that all investors' contributions to an overseas MF/UT are combined into a single investment vehicle without any side vehicles.

The corpus of an overseas MF/UT should be a blind pool with no segregated portfolios, ensuring all investors have equal and proportionate rights in the fund.

Subsequent to the investment, if the exposure breaches threshold, an observance period of six months from the date of publicly available information of such breach would be permitted to Indian MF schemes for monitoring of any portfolio rebalancing activity by the underlying overseas MF/UT.

During the observance period, the Indian MF scheme would not undertake any fresh investment in such overseas MF/UT and can resume their investments in such overseas MF/UT in case the exposure to Indian securities by such overseas MF/UT falls below the limit of 25 per cent.

Oil prices to spike only with escalation of Middle-East conflict, damage to Iran oilfields: Report

AGENCIES
MUMBAI, 4 NOVEMBER

Brent crude is projected to continue trading in a broad range of \$75-80 per barrel and any spike in oil prices may happen only if the Middle-East conflict escalates and some damage is caused to oilfields in Iran, according to a report on Monday.

Brent is currently trading at \$74 per barrel and the market traded most of the time in the lower part of the range.

"What instilled in the markets a certain amount of anxiety is the development around the Middle-East conflict. Given the current set up Brent crude will continue to trade in the same price band of \$75-80 per barrel," according to the report by Emkay Wealth Management Ltd.

Crude prices are weak as fundamental factors do not support higher oil prices and there has not been any major attacks on the oilfields in Iran.

What could disrupt oil supply and, therefore, adversely affect oil prices is any disruption of the traffic due to attacks by terrorists, and any potential damage to Iranian oilfields.

"It is worth mentioning here that the US sanctions on Iran as far as petroleum products are concerned is still in place and it has been tightened. But, beyond these regional issues which are of immediate concern, the fundamental factors do not support higher oil prices," said the report.

The estimates by OPEC, International Energy Agency (IEA), and the US EIA present a picture of oversupply of oil in the coming year.

These estimates differ in the magnitude of oversupply but have a common ground in supply which is in excess of the demand growth.

Yet another factor is the fact that the demand from China for oil is weak. It has been more pronounced in the last three months.

India's manufacturing sector growth revives after eight-month low: Survey

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

India's manufacturing sector growth revived after an eight-month low driven by faster increases in total new orders and international sales.

The HSBC final India manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), compiled by S&P Global, rose to 57.5 in October from an eight-month low of 56.5 in September.

A figure above 50 in the index denotes expansion in activity and below signifies contraction.

The survey further noted that new export orders also exhibited stronger growth, following the weakest uptick in a year-and-a-half during September, as panel members reported gains in new contracts from Asia, Europe, Latin America and the US.

The survey said the companies noted a quicker increase in order book volumes that was stronger than the average seen in nearly



20 years of data collection. Anecdotal evidence suggested that the introduction of new products and successful marketing initiatives helped enhance sales performances.

Production volumes were ramped up to a greater degree in October, fuelled by faster increases in the consumer and investment goods categories. When explaining the latest uptick in output, companies remarked on demand buoyancy, positive sales pipelines and favourable market conditions, it added.

On the employment front, the survey noted that not

only did manufacturers hire extra staff at the start of the third financial quarter, but also to a greater degree than in September.

Further, on the inflation front, data signalled stronger inflationary pressures across India's manufacturing sector with input price inflation quickening to a three-month high, though remaining below its long-run trend.

October manufacturing PMI came up slightly higher than the flash estimate of 57.4 for the month and it marks output rising for the 40th consecutive month in the sector since July 2021.

Dollar challenges conventional norms of formal dressing with Athleisure range

RITWIK MUKHERJEE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

Is the concept of being in formal on professional occasions withering away? Believe it or not, even professions that traditionally demanded suits, or at least a shirt and tie, are now relaxing their dress code policy as millennials move into positions of management and decision making. At least that's what Kolkata-headquartered Dollar Industries Limited, a prominent player in India's hosiery industry, is trying to propagate through its new range and the latest campaign. Aply called Athleisure, the new range from Dollar, challenges the conventional norms of formal dressing with the provocative

tagline, "Why So Formal?". Dollar is setting the trend with the launch of its latest campaign for its Athleisure range, challenging the conventional norms of formal dressing with the provocative tagline, "Why So Formal?". Conceptualized by Lowe Lintas, this campaign takes aim at societal expectations around dress codes and presents athleisure wear as a versatile and stylish alternative for any occasion.

"In an era of comfort and style, Athleisure wear has emerged as a dominant trend in the fashion world, prompting us to focus on an entire range of cool fashion wear like Tank Tops, Crew Neckers, Henleys, Polos, Sweatshirts, Jackets, Hoodies, Bermudas,

Capris, Track Pants, Joggers and Socks — which perfectly marry the young consumer's desire for comfortable yet trendy and versatile clothing options which they can wear at multiple events and locations. What makes matters more interesting is that even professions that traditionally demanded suits, or at least a shirt and tie, are now relaxing their dress code policy as millennials move into positions of management and decision making. Exactly what inspired us and Lowe Lintas to argue against acceptable social dress norms in our campaign and promote Dollar Athleisure as the perfect balance between casual comfort and chic style", said Vinod Kumar Gupta, Managing Director, Dollar



Industries Limited. Directed by renowned filmmaker Manav Malhotra, the campaign delivers a strong message about how formal

attire continues to be expected at specific events, such as board meetings and weddings. It challenges these traditional dress codes, urging consumers

to adopt athleisure for all types of occasions. By promoting a blend of comfort and modern style, the campaign seeks to break away

from outdated norms. The campaign features Dollar's extensive Athleisure collection for men and women, all designed to align with the evolving tastes of today's fashion-forward, comfort-conscious consumers. The price range starts from Rs. 325 to Rs 1500.

The new campaign has been rolled out across Dollar's digital platforms and will be promoted through multiple media channels, showcasing the fusion of comfort, style and the new casual elegance of Dollar Athleisure. The brand has released the new campaign on their online platforms as well as other mediums.

Significantly, Dollar Industries Limited has grown to

become one of India's leading names in the innerwear and garment manufacturing industry. The company offers a wide range of knitted garments, from basic wear to outerwear, and is known for its dedication to quality, innovation, and customer satisfaction. Dollar Industries has established a strong presence both in India and globally, with markets in countries such as UAE, Oman, Jordan, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Yemen, Iraq, Nepal, and Sudan. The company holds 15 per cent of the total market share in the organized segment and is the first Indian innerwear company to have a fully integrated manufacturing unit equipped with the latest technology.

La Liga: Barca go 9 clear, Atletico win; Athletic, Betis draw thriller

FC Barcelona take commanding nine-point lead over second-placed Real Madrid with 3-1 win against Espanyol

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

FC Barcelona have given themselves a massive chance to edge out arch-rivals and defending Real Madrid and claim the La Liga title yet again.

FC Barcelona moved nine points clear at the top of La Liga on Sunday with a comfortable 3-1 win at home to Espanyol.

Dani Olmo scored twice, and Raphinha also got on the scoresheet in an impressive first-half display from the league leader, who had the points virtually secured after just half an hour against their city neighbors.

Olmo put Barca ahead after 12 minutes following a spectacular pass from Lamine Yamal with the outside of his foot, reports Xinhua.

Raphinha doubled Barca's advantage 10 minutes later after Marc Casado produced a trademark defense-splitting pass for him to clip the ball over Espanyol goalkeeper Joan Garcia.

Olmo then scored the third goal after half an hour, drilling in a powerful shot close to the post after being given too much time outside the Espanyol area.

Barcelona eased off in the



second half, and Javi Puado scored a consolation goal for Espanyol in the 63rd minute.

Atletico Madrid claimed a much-needed confidence boost with a 2-0 win at home to Las Palmas, ending a run of poor displays.

Giuliano Simeone gave his father Diego a helping hand by putting Atletico ahead in the 36th minute against a rival that had traveled to Madrid looking to defend a draw. Alexander Sorloth scored Atletico's second in

the 83rd minute.

The game suffered a long stoppage in the second half after Las Palmas goalkeeper Jasper Cillessen had to be carried off following a collision with Atletico's Nahuel Molina.

Athletic Club and Betis drew 1-1 in a game the home side will wonder how they didn't win after hitting the woodwork three times in the first half.

Pablo Fornals put Betis ahead in the second half with their first shot of the game,

but a header from Aitor Berenguer saved a point for Athletic, who would have gone on to win but for several excellent saves from Betis goalkeeper Rui Silva.

Real Sociedad won 2-0 away to Sevilla with a convincing display that saw Takefusa Kubo open the scoring with an excellent individual goal in the 34th minute.

Mikel Oyarzabal scored the second from the penalty spot with 20 minutes left to play after Martin Zubimendi

was the victim of a straight-arm challenge inside the Sevilla penalty area.

On Saturday, Ante Budimir's 18th-minute penalty gave Osasuna a 1-0 win at home to struggling Valladolid in their El Sadar Stadium.

Budimir hit the post in the second half as Osasuna dominated against a rival that has only eight points from its first 12 games and a dreadful goal difference of minus 15.

Injury-hit Girona won a thrilling game 4-3 at home

to Leganes, although they had to dig deep as the visitors twice came back from a goal down.

Miguel Gutierrez opened the scoring for Girona, but Renato Tapia quickly pulled Leganes level minutes later.

Arnau Martinez responded to restore Girona's lead, before Juan Cruz made it 2-2 before halftime.

A penalty from substitute Christian Stuani and an own goal from Sergio Gonzalez looked to have won the game for Girona, but Munir El Hadadi's thunderbolt made it 4-3, giving Girona a nervous end to the game.

On Friday night, Alaves ended a five-game losing streak with a 1-0 win at home to Mallorca, with Jon Guridi netting the only goal of the match with 15 minutes left to play.

Meanwhile, Barcelona manager Hansi Flick issued a warning to his players and demanded more from them ahead of the Champions League midweek matches following their victory against Espanyol.

Barca face Red Star Belgrade in the UEFA Champions League later this week.

The Catalans have six points, having won two of the three matches they have played so far.

Scotland name squad, aim for strong Nations League show



AGENCIES
GLASGOW, 4 NOVEMBER

Scotland Head Coach Steve Clarke has named his final Scotland squad of 2024, as he targets a big finish to the UEFA Nations League campaign. After securing their first point of the top-tier Nations League campaign with a hard-fought draw against Portugal in their last match at Hampden, Clarke will be targeting a strong finish in this double-header against Croatia and Poland, with the Croatians up first at Hampden on November 15.

The squad sees a number of regulars return after a period of absence, with vice-captain John McGinn joined by Jack Hendry, Scott McKenna and Tommy Conway after

missing the October fixtures due to injury.

Nicky Devlin retains his place in the squad after earning his first cap as a late substitute against Portugal, while there is a first call-up for Ipswich Town's young goalkeeper Cieran Slicker.

Following the October fixtures both Scotland captain Andy Robertson and goalkeeper Craig Gordon moved into the all-time top five most-capped Scotland players. Robertson earned his 78th cap, moving him into outright fourth place, while Gordon is now joint fifth alongside Alex McLeish on 77 caps.

Should Robertson play in both the upcoming matches he would go level with Darren Fletcher on 80 caps in third place.

Would't have come if I had known the truth: Mourinho on Turkey referees



AGENCIES
TRABZON, 4 NOVEMBER

Jose Mourinho, known worldwide for his iconic press conferences, delivered yet another controversial post-match speech following Fenerbahce's 3-2 win against Trabzonspor at the Papara Park on Sunday, in which he ripped into Virtual Assistant Referee (VAR) for two controversial penalties which were awarded against his side during the match.

"The Special One" claimed that he would not have joined Fenerbahce if he had been told the truth about the state of refereeing in Turkey.

"I blame the Fenerbahce

people that brought me here. They told me only half of the truth. They didn't tell me the whole truth because if they told me the whole truth, I wouldn't come. But, with half of the truth and my boys, we fight opponents and the system.

"He (Karaoglan) was alert to give the two penalty decisions which the referee didn't give and then he was having Turkish tea when it was a clear penalty for us and he didn't give it," said Mourinho in the post-game conference.

Mourinho's side took a 1-0 lead in the game against Trabzonspor thanks to goal by former Manchester United midfielder Fred. What followed were two penalty decisions being given by the VAR official in charge Atilla Karaoglan against the away side, which saw Simon Banzorec a brace and take a 2-1 lead in the game.

Edin Dzeko's 75th minute equaliser and Sofyan Amrabat's 90+12 minute winner guided Mourinho's side to victory. The Portuguese head coach took shots at the VAR in charge claiming he does not want to see him in charge of another Fenerbahce game.

PKL: Tamil Thalaivas raider Sachin Tanwar shares team mantra

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Currently top of the table, the Tamil Thalaivas are brimming with confidence as they gear up to face the Bengaluru Bulls in their upcoming Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) Season 11 encounter.

Against the Gujarat Giants, raider Narender Kandola led the scoring with 15 points. Sahil Gulia and Sachin contributed 5 points each in what was a complete team performance. Coach Cheralathan, who was visibly pleased with his team's recent performance at the post-match press conference, spoke about the growing cohesion within the squad. "The team delivered an excellent performance. Though we faced some challenges early on, our defense settled well, which helped us build a substantial lead. Players like Narender and Sachin stepped up admirably," he said. In the absence of captain Sagar, who is currently sidelined due to an injury, the Tamil Thalaivas have taken collective responsibility. This



was reiterated by star raider Sachin Tanwar, who said, "The more matches we play, the better we're getting as a unit. While our defense was slightly loose in the beginning, our left-right combination worked effectively, and our defenders put up a particularly strong showing." The team's unity was further emphasized by Sahil, who spoke about the positive environment within the camp. "The way everyone combines and plays together is wonderful to watch. We communicate openly during defense, and if someone makes a mistake, everyone encourages them," Sahil said.

Liverpool star Konate positive on injury return before UCL tie: Liverpool's Ibrahima Konate has provided a positive update on his injury that forced him off from the field at half-time during Liverpool's win over Brighton and Hove Albion on Saturday. The centre-back sustained a knock to the arm shortly before the interval of Liverpool's Premier League win over the Seagulls. He was unable to continue after the interval and was replaced by Joe Gomez for the second half. Konate underwent the subsequent assessment from the club's medical team to determine whether he faces a spell on the sidelines and later it was revealed the issue is not serious. "Thanks for all the messages of support. My injury isn't serious thankfully. I had a scan today and it confirmed there is no break. I'll be ready for the next game," the France international posted on social media. Liverpool will host Xabi Alonso's Bayer Leverkusen for matchday four of the Champions League's league phase on Tuesday night at Anfield, followed by their home game against Aston Villa in the Premier League on Saturday. Meanwhile, Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah has been the side's hero ever since he joined in 2017.

Premier League: Stunning volley by Moises Caicedo earns Chelsea hard-fought 1-1 away draw against Manchester United

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Two second half goals saw Manchester United and Chelsea battle it out for a hard 1-1 draw, in Ruud Van Nistelrooy's first league game as United interim head coach, at Old Trafford on Sunday.

A brilliant volley from Moises Caicedo earned Chelsea a point at Old Trafford after Bruno Fernandes' penalty had put Manchester United in front midway through the second half.

Until that moment clear chances had been hard to come by. Noni Madueke hit the outside of the post with a header, while Marcus Rashford also struck the woodwork during a scrappy opening 45 minutes.

The excellent Pedro Neto came close to putting Chelsea ahead as the contest opened up, before Robert Sanchez felled Rasmus Hojlund inside the box. Fernandes made no mistake from 12 yards.

The Blues reacted positively



to going behind and with just over a quarter-of-an-hour remaining, Caicedo drew the game level with a stunning volley.

The best chance of the first 45 minutes fell to Noni Madueke whose near-post header from a corner hit the outside of the post.

Levi Colwill fired the rebound into the side-netting.

It took until ten minutes into the second period for a shot in anger when Palmer played the ball out to Neto who, in a mistake by Dalot, struck the ball past Onana but just wide of the far post.

As the game entered its final quarter, Sanchez was adjudged to have brought Hojlund down as he controlled a diagonal Casemiro pass.

Fernandes stepped up and, unlike the corresponding fixture last season, sent Sanchez the wrong way.

Shortly after Cole Palmer's corner found Casemiro who cleared it towards Caicedo whose volley nestled in the bottom corner beyond Onana's reach.

Meanwhile, Dominic Solanke struck twice in four minutes as Tottenham Hotspur completed a thrilling 4-1 comeback win against Aston Villa at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

The striker produced a clever, dinked finish over Emiliano Martinez from Dejan Kulusevski's pass to make it 2-1 after 75 minutes before slotting home from Richarlison's cross on 79, to the delight of another packed house in N17. The double takes Dom to five goals in all competitions this season.

It took until the 30th minute for the first save of the match to be made, with Guglielmo Vicario scrambling Amadou Onana's header behind for a

corner after it had ricocheted off the post.

Villa capitalised from the resulting set piece to take the lead via Rogers. T

he attacker was in the right place to tap home from two yards out after Digne's corner had made its way through a crowded near post area.

While the hosts were edging possession and territory, the away side were charging forward on the counter-attack and almost grabbed a second goal before the break.

A slick move ended with Rogers sliding a ball through to Watkins, who took a touch before firing a left-footed effort wide of Vicario's far post.

In the second half, Brennan Johnson slotted home from returning skipper Heung-Min Son's cross as Spurs importantly found an equaliser four minutes into the second half of what had been a bit of a stop-start encounter, with Villa happy to sit in and play deep in their own half. That was Brennan's seventh goal in all competitions.

Ministry of Culture
Government of India

Droupadi Murmu
President of India

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

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WARNER 'NERVOUS' FOR INDIA BATTERS

David Warner, who retired from international cricket this year, said he would be nervous if he was a batter in the Indian team line-up when facing Australia in the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy, following the subpar performances in the recent 3-0 series loss to New Zealand. India's upcoming marquee five-match Test series against Australia, starting on November 22 in Perth, comes on the heels of an unprecedented 3-0 defeat to New Zealand, their first home Test series loss in 12 years. He also feels the Australian top-order needs to find a way to counter Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj.

For more updates www.thestatesman.com

THUMBNAILED

India A were up to something with the ball, claims Ian Healy. Former Australia wicket-keeper Ian Healy believes the India A players were up to something with the ball which led to the controversial ball change during day four of their first four-day game against Australia A at Mackay. At the Great Barrier Reef Arena, umpires changed the ball before play began on day four due to a scratch on the ball. On-field umpire Shawn Craig was heard saying via stump mic, "When you scratch it, we change the ball. No more discussion, let's play." Craig also warned wicket-keeper-batter Ishan Kishan about facing sanction related to dissent after saying the ball change was a "very stupid decision". But Cricket Australia said after the game ended in a seven-wicket win that the ball was changed due to deterioration and no action would be taken against anyone. He was also angry on India A decision to skip the post-match press conference, even as Australia A skipper Nathan McSweeney attended one and took questions. Healy was of India's preparation for the all-important five-match series, especially after cancelling their scheduled intra-squad game at the WACA.

India aim to put behind trauma of NZ debacle ahead of Oz series

Stunned after 0-3 humiliation at home, Team India gear up for tough tour of Australia

TRIDIB BAPARNASH
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

The 0-3 whitewash at home against New Zealand could work as a perfect wakeup call as well as a learning curve for the Indian team as Rohit Sharma and Co, look to put behind the mental demons and shift the focus to the challenging tour of Australia, where the outcome of the five Tests could eventually determine their chances of reaching a third World Test Championships final.

Rohit Sharma's side suffered a massive blow in their quest for a third consecutive appearance in the WTC final after conceding the series to the Kiwis and now must win at least four matches in Australia to qualify for the one-off Test at Lord's next year. India's forgettable outing against the BlackCaps also impacted their position in the WTC standings, and are now placed second behind reigning world Test champions Australia in the leaderboard. As part of the preparations for the Border-Gavaskar series, India were scheduled to take on India A in a three-day practice match



ahead of the first Test in Perth from November 22, but Rohit confirmed the team have since cancelled that contest in favour of match simulation against the same side that will allow their batters to maximise their time in the middle and get used to the conditions in Australia. "Look, you know, rather than a practice match, we planned a very match simulation kind of a thing with India A. I think sometimes when you play that practice

match, we're travelling with a squad of 19 players and it was only three days that were allotted to us. And I don't know how much workload we can get done in those three days in terms of getting everyone prepared," he said. "So we, as a management as well, we feel that rather than having that, the match simulation where the batters can spend more time in the middle, batting in the middle, and then the bowlers as well can bowl a lot of balls, so

that is something that, we as a team feel more comfortable doing rather than playing a practice game because game time is not a problem. All of us have been playing a lot of cricket. So it's just about spending time in the middle. If a batter gets out, he has to sit in the dugout for the whole day, you know, and he doesn't get too much of batting done. Whereas in match simulation kind of a thing, you know, the batters can go out and play 50-70 balls and then if

you feel that he's had enough, we can retire him out and then get someone else in. So that is the plan. We want to maximise this three-day slot that we've got and I feel this is the best way to do it where the batters can have a lot of time in the middle and the bowlers at the same time can get their workload in terms of getting the number of balls bowled in the middle. So that was the idea and we will be. I think we'll be training at WACA, which is as close to Optus (Stadium) where you have that bounce and carry. So hopefully we can use those three days perfectly and maximise how much ever we can from our point of view," he further said.

The Mumbai batter also conceded that he must reinvent himself in Australia after managing just 91 runs across three matches against New Zealand, while the India skipper is also looking for fellow veteran Virat Kohli to rediscover his mojo Down Under. Kohli managed a decent score of 70 in the second innings of the first Test against the Kiwis in Bengaluru, but failed to make it into double figures in four of his other five hits during the series.

Wriddhiman Saha to retire after ongoing Ranji Trophy



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 4 NOVEMBER

Former India wicketkeeper Wriddhiman Saha has announced his decision to retire from first-class cricket after the end of the ongoing 2024-25 Ranji Trophy season. Saha, a veteran of 40 Tests, returned to represent his home state — Bengal ahead of the ongoing season.

Currently preparing for Bengal's fourth-round fixture against Karnataka in Bengaluru, Saha had already opted out of BCCI's domestic white-ball tournaments, and remains solely focussed on helping Bengal lift the Ranji crown that eluded him in 2019-20, when they were pipped by Saurashtra in the final. "After a cherished journey in cricket, this season will be my last. I'm honoured to represent Bengal one final time, playing only in the Ranji Trophy before I retire. Let's make this season one to remember!" Saha announced in a social media post.

Ever since the Test retirement of MS Dhoni in 2014, Saha was India's first-choice wicketkeeper and last played for India in December 2021, until he was believed to have been informed by the then team management, led by Rahul Dravid, of India's plans of moving on from him.

The emergence of a dashing Rishabh Pant made it even more competitive for the ageing Saha, but he remained India's second-choice stumper on many occasions. Regarded as one of the best wicketkeepers in world cricket, Saha scored 1353 Test runs with three centuries in his career.

In the domestic circuit, he was instrumental in mentoring a young Abhishek Porel to take on the role of an all-format keeper, before making his way to Tripura for a two-year stint as a player-mentor. He returned to Bengal for his final season, following a meeting with former India skipper Sourav Ganguly. Saha's decision to opt out of BCCI's white-ball tournaments, Syed Mushtaq Ali and Vijay Hazare Trophy, could also mean that he won't feature in the Indian Premier League mega-auction ahead of the 2025 season.

Saha has featured in every edition of the IPL since its inception in 2008, and was most recently with Gujarat Titans, with whom he won a title in 2022. The right-hander has also previously represented Kolkata Knight Riders, Chennai Super Kings, Sunrisers Hyderabad and Punjab Kings, for whom he hit a memorable century in the 2014 final, where they were runners-up.

Will be fascinating to see how India rebound: Gilchrist

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

Former Australia wicketkeeper-batter Adam Gilchrist felt that the 3-0 whitewash by New Zealand will prompt an intensive period of retrospection in India as Rohit Sharma's men prepares for the challenging tour to Australia for a five-Test rubber, starting November 22 in Perth.

Gilchrist said it will be fascinating to watch the way in which India will bounce back from the debacle when they take on reigning World Test Champions Australia in the upcoming Border-Gavaskar Trophy series.

"It does (have an impact), more for the Indian players and the Indian team internally. They have to be asking themselves pretty hard questions."

"I'm not expecting them to come out and be easy beats, but I do think on the back of that loss and the fact that it was a clean sweep — I cannot remember when that's happened to them, just losing a series, let alone a clean sweep," Gilchrist was quoted as saying by Fox Sports.

"I think that will raise some questions internally



and the pressure and the expectation and the desire from a passionate cricketing nation to see that change around, that'll ride heavily on those shoulders of all those players.

"There are a few ageing players there who may start to even second guess themselves a little bit. There's some high class cricketers in that Indian squad. It's going to be fascinating to see how they rebound from that challenge," he further said.

Former opener David

Warner, who till recently was eyeing a comeback to the Test side to face India, said the series demonstrated there was some vulnerability in the Indian batting order which the Aussies could use to their advantage during the upcoming series.

"And it helps the Australian guys. They're coming out here after being beaten at home three-nil for five Tests against the Australian boys, (who have) three world class quicks and a world class spin bowler, and I'd be nervous if I'm in their batting order.

I would be nervous."

Warner later cautioned Pat Cummins & Co against being complacent while reminding them of India winning the Border-Gavaskar series on their previous two visits in 2018 and 2021.

Warner felt that the Australian top-order needed to find a way to counter Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj, while reminding them about the impact of the sidelined quick Mohammed Shami, who might feature in the series despite not being named in the initial squad.

"The Australian top order ... needs to make runs. They've got Mohammed Shami, who's currently on the road to recovery with the knee - he potentially could be out here with the team - (and) you have ... Bumrah and Siraj who are their spearheads," Warner said.

"I think if Australia can get through those two gentlemen, there could be some big runs put on the board. But ... we're going to have to come out with our chest out against India. We have lost our last two series here against India (and) they have got a lot to play for.

"They've got some older guys in their team. I know the Australian cricket team have got a lot over 30 (as well) but ... you have got Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, (Ravichandran) Ashwin, (Ravindra) Jadeja, you got these guys there who are in the back end of their careers as well, so there's a lot to play for there as well, and whether or not they finish their careers this year or next year, they will want to finish on a high.

"I know those guys very, very well and they will be so determined to come out here and score big runs," he added.

Indian women's hockey team reach Bihar for Asian Champions Trophy 2024: The Indian women's hockey Team has reached Gaya, marking the start of the first international hockey tournament hosted in the state. The Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 will take place from November 11 to 20, featuring defending champions India alongside Paris Olympics silver medalists China, as well as Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand, all set against the mesmerising backdrop of the historic town of Rajgir. Led by captain Salima Tete and vice-captain Navneet Kaur, India will commence their campaign against Malaysia on 11 November, followed by a match against Korea on 12 November. After a day of rest, India will face Thailand on November 14. On November 16, India will challenge Paris Olympics silver medalists China and conclude the pool stage with a match against Japan on 17 November. India must secure a top-four finish among the six teams to advance to the semi-finals on 19 November. The winners will then advance to the final, which is scheduled to be held on 20 November. AGENCIES

India women to host England, Australia, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe in FTP 2025-29

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 4 NOVEMBER

India will be playing host to England, Australia, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe in the newly-announced women's 2025-2029 Future Tours Programme, which outlines matches for the fourth edition of the ICC Women's Championship.

In the scheduled announced by the ICC on Monday, India will be playing its away matches in New Zealand, South Africa, West Indies and Ireland in the same period. The second women's FTP will run from May 2025 to April 2029.

This FTP sees an ICC women's event to be played each year with the inaugural six-team Champions Trophy scheduled for 2027. The other events during the period are the ICC Women's ODI World Cup in 2025 (India), Women's T20 World Cup in 2026 (the United Kingdom) and another



edition of Women's T20 World Cup in 2028 (host yet to be announced). The number of participating teams in the ICC Women's Championship will be at 11 this time, Zimbabwe added to the championship for the first time. In all, 132 ODIs will be played

in 44 series of three matches each, lending context by way of a qualification pathway to the ICC Women's ODI World Cup in 2029.

Ahead of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026, England will host India and New Zealand for a tri-series while

Ireland will host Pakistan and the West Indies. Sri Lanka and the West Indies are among other Members scheduled to host T20I tri-series, in 2027 and 2028, respectively.

"We are pleased that the new edition of the IWC has expanded and will include Zimbabwe as an eleventh team. It is heartening that Member Boards are keen to play across formats, and also that they have planned tri-series to prepare for ICC events. The effort made by the Members to provide a balanced and contextual calendar will further elevate the women's game. We thank Member Boards for their commitment and collaboration in finalizing the FTP," said Wasim Khan, ICC General Manager of Cricket.

There's more scope for Test matches in this FTP, with Australia, England, India, South Africa and the West Indies all agreeing to play multi-format series that

include ODIs and T20Is. Australia will play the maximum such series — two each against England, India and South Africa and one against the West Indies.

There's a window for 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, to be held in July that year, apart from dedicated annual windows for the WBBL (November), The Hundred (August) and Women's Premier League (WPL in January-February). From 2026 onwards, WPL will be played in the January-February window.

It also means that India's multi-format visit of Australia, consisting of one Test, three ODIs and three T20Is to now be held after the WPL in February-March 2026. "This is the first women's FTP with the WPL in place from the start. The BCCI's decision for the WPL to move earlier in the calendar year allowed us to look at our preferred times to play international cricket across the period."

Cummins cameo snatches victory from Pakistan as Australia claims series opener



AGENCIES
MELBOURNE, 4 NOVEMBER

Pat Cummins' 32 not out off 31 balls enabled Australia to clinch a thrilling two-wicket win over Pakistan in the first ODI at Melbourne Cricket Ground on Monday.

Chasing 204, Australia were in a spot of bother after being reduced to 155/7 in 25.1 overs but Sean Abbott

and Cummins stitched a crucial 30-run partnership before the former was run out on 13 in the 30th over. However, Mitchell Starc and Cummins made sure that Australia finished over the line in fashion in the 34th over. Starc remained unbeaten on two off 12 balls while Cummins' innings included four fours.

Earlier, Australia won the toss and invited visitors to

bat first. Pakistan had a troubled start with both openers Saim Ayub (1) and Abdullah Shafique (12) faltering cheaply against Starc in the powerplay overs. Babar Azam and captain Mohammad Rizwan added a 39-run stand to give some respite to the scoreboard. However, the partnership was broken by Adam Zampa in the 18th over with the wicket of Babar (37).