

SHORT TAKES

Malawi VP among 10 killed in plane crash

Blantyre (Malawi): Malawi's vice president and nine others were killed in a plane crash, the country's president said Tuesday. The wreckage of the military plane carrying Vice President Saulos Chilima was located in a mountainous area in the north of the country after a search that lasted more than a day. There were no survivors of the crash, Malawian President Lazarus Chakwera said in a live address on state television. **P10**

Lt Gen U Dwivedi next Army Chief

New Delhi: Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi will be the next Chief of the Army Staff succeeding incumbent Gen Manoj Pande, the government announced Tuesday night, ending speculations on the key appointment. Lt Gen Dwivedi, who has vast operational experience along the frontiers with China and Pakistan, is presently serving as Vice Chief of the Army Staff.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



He doubled our workload... Double praise for his boss... Double PR for him... Double social media posts...

MAJHI IS BJP'S MAN

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 11: As the overcast sky Tuesday evening sobered down the sweltering heat in the Capital City, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Central observer and Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced to a packed media gathering about the state Legislature Party's decision to appoint one of party's strong tribal faces, Mohan Charan Majhi, as the 15th Chief Minister of Odisha. And, BJP's first.

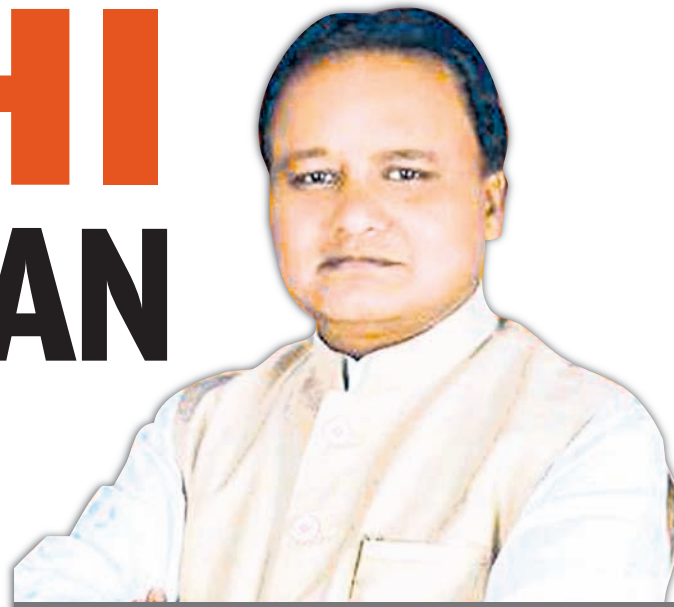
The announcement of Majhi's name for the top post nevertheless, took many by surprise as was the case with the saffron party's decisive mandate in the recently-concluded Assembly polls that saw the fall of nearly a quarter-century-old BJD bastion in Odisha. This was because the relatively low profile Majhi's name

was seldom discussed among the top contenders in the race for the coveted appointment in the run-up to the declaration.

However, it was expected that the party might spring a surprise as it did in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, or even in Haryana earlier, in selecting CMs; pitch forking grassroots leaders, with clear eye on the electorate.

Majhi, who is set to become the third CM of the state from a tribal community after Congress's Hemananda Biswal and Giridhar Gamang, began his political journey as a village sarpanch nearly three decades ago.

Hailing from Raikala village in the tribal-dominated and mineral-rich Keonjhar district, Majhi, son of a school peon, has been elected to the Assembly on four occasions - 2000, 2004, 2019 and 2024. Born January 6, 1972, Majhi,



MOHAN CHARAN MAJHI

a graduate from Chandrasekhar Mahavidyalaya in Champua, was the village head from 1997-2000. He completed his LLB from Dhenkanal Law College in 2011, and briefly worked as a teacher at Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir in Jhumpura. He was the secretary of the BJP's Adivasi Morcha before being elected as an MLA from Keonjhar in 2000. He served as a MoS in the BJP-BJD coalition government from

2004-09. He had lost the Assembly polls in 2009 and 2014. He was again elected in 2019 and was the BJP Chief Whip in the Assembly, countering the BJD government on several key issues. He survived a bomb attack while protesting against an alleged mining scam in Bansapala area in October 2021. In the 2024 Assembly elections, he retained the Keonjhar seat by defeating BJD's Mina Majhi. Majhi's wife is an Ayurvedic doctor.

In his first reaction after he was named the CM, Majhi said, "Due to the blessings of Lord Jagannath, the BJP achieved majority in Odisha and is going to form the government in the state. I would like to thank the 4.5 crore Odias who voted for change." Majhi also asserted that the BJP will honour the trust of the people of Odisha. The Chief Minister's swearing-in ceremony will be held at the Janata Maidan here, Wednesday. **More inside**

Dy CM Pravati Parida

BJP leader Pravati Parida, 57, who was chosen as one of the two deputy chief ministers, won the Assembly polls from Nimapara seat for the first time by defeating BJD's Dilip Kumar Nayak by 4588 votes. A lawyer by profession, she completed her LLB from Utkal University and enrolled as an advocate in the Odisha High Court. She first served as the women's wing president of the state BJP. She is married to Shyam Sundar Nayak, a former government employee.



Dy CM KV Singh Deo

Deputy Chief Minister-designate Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, 67, who defeated BJD candidate Saroj Kumar Meher by a slender margin of 1,357 votes in the Assembly polls, comes from the erstwhile royal family of Patnagarh, a former princely state in Bolangir district. Singh Deo won from Patnagarh five consecutive times before being defeated by BJD's Saroj Kumar Meher in 2019. Singh Deo also served as the minister in the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD-BJP coalition government between 2000 and 2009.



NEET sanctity hit: SC

AGENCIES

New Delhi, June 11: Observing that the sanctity of NEET-UG, 2024 has been affected, the Supreme Court Tuesday sought responses from the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA) on a plea seeking holding of a fresh examination on grounds of alleged question paper leak and other malpractices.

The top court, however, refused to stay the counselling of successful candidates for admissions to MBBS, BDS and other courses. Taking note of the allegations, a vacation bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah said what the NTA was supposed to do was sacrosanct. "Sanctity (of the exam) has been affected, so we need answers," he said.

Besides the Centre and the NTA, which conducts NEET-UG, the bench also issued notices to

the Bihar government. There were allegations of malpractice in holding the exam in the state.

"How much time do you want...Immediately on the re-opening? Otherwise, the counselling will start," the bench said. It tagged the plea filed by Shivangi Mishra and nine other MBBS aspirants with a pending petition and asked the NTA to file the response in the meantime. The top court will resume regular hearings from July 8 after the summer vacation which commenced May 20 comes to an end.

NEET-UG, 2024, was held May 5 and results were declared June 4. It was expected to be declared June 14. "Issue notice. In the meantime, the response will be filed by the NTA," the bench said.

It, however, did not agree to the submission of lawyer Mathews J Nedumpara, appearing for the students, that the counselling of students be stayed in the meantime.

2 INDIAN RECRUITS KILLED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Two Indian nationals, who were recruited by the Russian Army, have recently been killed in the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the Ministry of External Affairs said, Tuesday.

India has strongly taken up the matter with Russia and sought early release and return of all Indian nationals who are with the Russian Army, it said.

"We regret to state that two Indian nationals who had been recruited by the Russian Army

have recently been killed in the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine," the MEA said.

"We offer our deepest condolences to the families of the deceased. Our embassy in Moscow has pressed the Russian authorities, including the Ministry of Defence, for early repatriation of mortal remains," it said.

Several Indians have been working as security helpers in the Russian military, and they were forced to fight with Russian soldiers in certain areas along Russia's border with Ukraine, according to reports.

"Jay Jagannath"
Odisha will play a pivotal role in the Journey to Vikashit Bharat.

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Shri Mohan Charan Majhi
Hon'ble Chief Minister (Designate)

SWEARING-IN-CEREMONY

of the

New Council of Ministers of Odisha

Date: 12th June, 2024
Time: 5:00 pm onwards
Venue: Janata Maidan, Bhubaneswar

LIVE iprodisha IPR_Odisha iprodisha

Department of Parliamentary Affairs | Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Odisha

leisure



TRAINOR REGRETS INTIMATE CONFESSION ABOUT LOVE LIFE

All About That Bass hitmaker Meghan Trainor admitted she wishes people weren't still talking about her intimate confession. Trainor regrets opening up about intimate struggles with her husband in the bedroom. The 30-year-old singer previously discussed her sex life with husband Daryl Sabara saying making love with him was painful.

DENISE RICHARDS RETURNS TO REALITY TV WITH NEW SERIES

American actress Denise Richards - who previously starred in *Denise Richards: It's Complicated* 16 years ago - has announced plans for a new programme called *Denise Richards and the Wild Things* on *E!*, following her life with husband Aaron Phypers and her children.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
You are enthusiastic about mixing with people today, and you will feel like combining business and leisure. You will be encouraged to take part in group activities as you have the ability to work and have fun at the same time. Ganesh says that as a matter of fact you may emerge wiser from others' ideas.

TAURUS
Professionals in all spheres of work are due for a field day today. The day will be particularly outstanding for Administrators and executives are likely to get richer by the end of the day. Even if you are engaged in some other work, you will stand out and get noticed for your overall excellence.

GEMINI
Routine work bores you, and today you will go all out to break free from the shackles of boredom. The results, however, may not be as dramatic. You will have to depend on your children, if any, to rescue you from the tyranny of routine.

CANCER
You wish to display your social prestige and monetary clout in front of your relatives. But you have to pay a heavy price for that. Your past experience will teach you something, which will stand in good stead for future dealings.

LEO
You will see some change in your daily schedule today. It is a good day to start a new job or business activity. You will focus more attention on your personality today. You will try to improve yourself and bring your hidden talents to the fore. Make the most of this opportunity to implement your plans, says Ganesh.

VIRGO
Ganesh says you realise the importance of family matters today. You have great skills when it comes to negotiations, and you will use them in settling disputes amicably. Ganesh says you have learned the lessons of life on staying level-headed, and that you keenly believe that opposition eventually leads to progress.

LIBRA
Ganesh says today you may be able to undertake travel for business or pleasure purposes. It may be a busy day for you work wise and you may not be able to completely focus on your family or family issues. Try your luck in the stock market today, as it may prove beneficial to you. If there are certain issues or problems they will be sorted out today because of your varied skills and past experiences.

SCORPIO
Try to take a chill pill as you may be worried about petty issues today. Do not let them hinder your happiness and take a toll on your health. However, the day looks promising towards the end. Friends are just a phone call away, call them and set out for a destination unknown to distress and rejuvenate.

SAGITTARIUS
Work is likely to keep you on toes. At work place, you and your opinions will be in demand. Those who are associated with stock exchange and shares will be happy to gain profits during the afternoon. Wait and watch the end result in the evening.

CAPRICORN
Though you leave no stone unturned to identify the opportunities coming your way, you need to keep your guards on whenever you are a part of a legal matter. Financially, you're likely to bear some heavy losses, and if you're a dealer or a broker, the chances of suffering from them are even higher. Take some precautionary measures well in advance, advises Ganesh.

AQUARIUS
The game is set; you are put up against those who are holding a grudge against you and are waiting for an opportunity to pull you down. But, you are confident, skilful, and know your strengths very well. No matter how hard the opponents try, they will be no match to you, predicts Ganesh.

PISCES
You will find yourself in a philosophical state of mind today. You will be able to see things for what they really are, rather than what they appear to be. You are unlikely to try and swim against the flow today, given your mental state.

Aditi on special phase of her life

Mumbai: Actor Aditi Rao Hydari is enjoying a special phase of her life - both on a professional and a personal level. She has been getting rave reviews for her performance in web series, *Heeramandi*, and has started a new chapter with her long-time boyfriend Siddharth by getting engaged. Now, she says she is cherishing every moment spent with him.

Asked how she is balancing her personal life with the demands of her professional career, the actor says, "By enjoying the present. By laughing together and by knowing we are on the same team, regardless of what's happening around us".

Aditi and Siddharth have remained tight-lipped about their relationship. It is believed that the two fell in love with each other on the sets of their film, *Maha Samundram* in 2021.

Opening up about her relationship with Siddharth and how it has influenced her work and personal growth, she says, "I respect his immense talent, his integrity and intentions, both as an artist and as a human being and I value his honesty. I know he wants the best for me".

The actor is humbled by the appreciation coming her way, and mentions, "I am enjoying being in the present and savouring all the love".

"I am grateful to my director, Sanjay Leela Bhansali for his artistry and affection. I hope for more such invaluable experiences that give me so much appreciation and evolution as an artist," she adds.



'Have always believed in pushing boundaries'

Mumbai: The Hindi film industry has undergone a significant transformation, evolving from classic romantic movies to diverse genres that resonate with the masses. Filmmakers are now embracing new kinds of filmmaking and narratives, which are being received well at the box office, and the success of films like the latest horror comedy *Munjya* is proof.

Now, Zareen Khan has expressed her enthusiasm for this evolving trend. She mentioned her desire to be a part of scripts that are not only challenging but also resonating with audiences. "I'm excited to be part of this change and eagerly looking forward to being a part of scripts where I have the scope to showcase my acting capabilities. I am ready to embrace new challenges and I've always believed in pushing my boundaries to explore diverse characters," she said.

In her career, Zareen Khan has taken on roles in films such as *Veer*, *Hate Story 3*, *Hum Bhi Akele Tum Bhi Akele* and *1921*, consistently setting higher benchmarks with each performance. She is eager to continue this journey, seeking out roles that allow her to grow and connect with audiences in meaningful ways.



Samantha embraces holistic wellness

Hyderabad: Renowned actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, known for her commitment to holistic wellness, recently shared a serene glimpse into her meditation session at Sadhguru's Isha Foundation.

Samantha Tuesday took to Instagram to post a series of pictures from her visit, expressing her gratitude and insights gained from the experience.

In her Instagram post, *The Family Man 2* actress shared about the privilege of finding a guru who can illuminate one's life with wisdom and compassion. She wrote, "So many of us search for a Guru or mentor. When you find one with the intensity, perception and compassion to light up your life, it is a rare privilege. If you want a piece of wisdom, you have to search in the world. Because everyday things are being thrown at you, it's become easy. You're thinking

this is normal. This is not normal. You must work hard for it. And just knowing is not enough. Implementation of this knowledge is what truly matters."

Samantha's commitment to wellness is not new.

She has long been an advocate of healing treatments and holistic health practices. Her visit to the Isha Foundation is another step in her journey towards mental and spiritual well-being.

On the professional front, Samantha is preparing for her role in the upcoming web series *Citadel: Honey Bunny*, where she will star alongside Varun Dhawan.

This project marks her return to the screen after a year-long hiatus due to her diagnosis of Myositis, an autoimmune condition, in 2022.



Sidhant, Anubhav, Babushaan, Akash to clash at box office

Bhubaneswar: Three Odia movies headlined by four top stars are set to clash this Raja festival.

Ajay Padhi-directed and Anubhav Mohanty starrer courtroom drama *Kuhudi* will release June 14. Produced by Himadri Tanaya Das under the banner of Camera Queen Production, the movie is based on



child custody issue. Dipanwit Das Mohapatra, Prakruti Mishra, Supriya Nayak, Kuna Tripathy and Sukumar Tudu play other key roles in the film.

Chandrabanshi, a multistarrer is the next to hit the screens the same day. It is a contemporary take on the epic *Mahabharata*. Helmed by directors duo Yash and Sunil, the en-

semble cast of the movie includes Sidhant Mohapatra, Akash Das Nayak, Sritam Das, Raj Rajesh, Poonam Mishra, Jasmin Rath, Lipsa Mishra, Usasi Mishra, Rishi, Vivash, Prativa Panda, Smita Mohanty, Rajkumar, Tapas Sargharia, Daitari Panda and Bapi Ray. Pritam Sahu will make his debut in the movie being made under Anasmish production.

Loosely based on true event, third movie *Pabar* is a political one led by Babushaan Mohanty with Elna Samantaray playing the female lead.

The plot of the movie revolves around simpleton Benudhar Kandi who belongs to a small village of Gumagarh

in Odisha. He does not have big expectations until circumstances force him join politics.

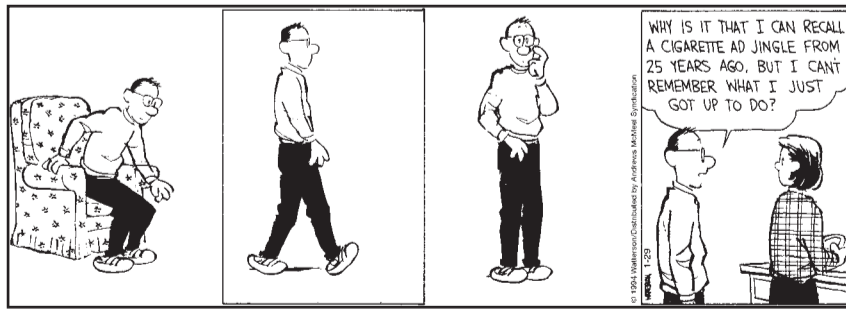
Directed by Ashok Pati and produced by Tripti Satpathy, the movie will be released June 12.



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

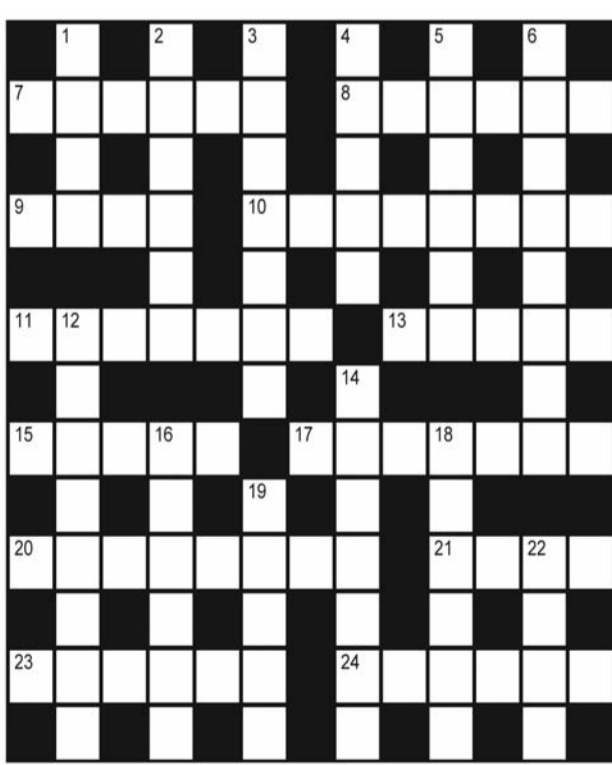


BREVITY



FUN post

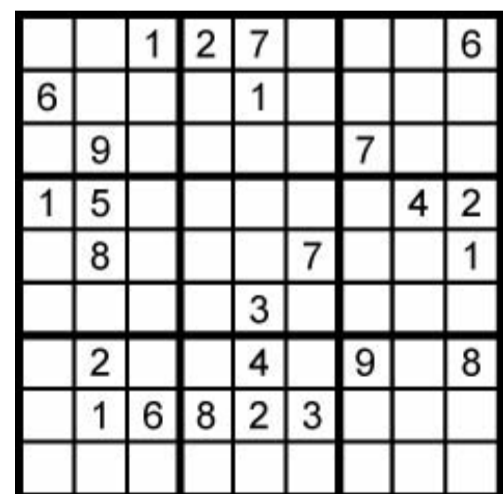
CROSSWORD



- Across**
- 7 Mexican cloak
 - 8 Esoteric animal
 - 9 Footwear
 - 10 Onion plant
 - 11 White ant
 - 13 Spring bloom
 - 15 Fool
 - 17 Venezuelan statesman
 - 20 Photograph
 - 21 Mouselike
 - 23 Food grain
 - 24 Type of policy
 - 4 Impertinent
 - 5 Predicament
 - 6 Sleep disorder
 - 12 Heightened
 - 14 Roman Catholic Pope
 - 16 Weak person
 - 18 Commit funds
 - 19 Blackboard item
 - 22 Incline
- Down**
- 1 Genesis skipper
 - 2 Shout
 - 3 Trinket

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD



SUDOKU



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

BJP stakes claim to form govt



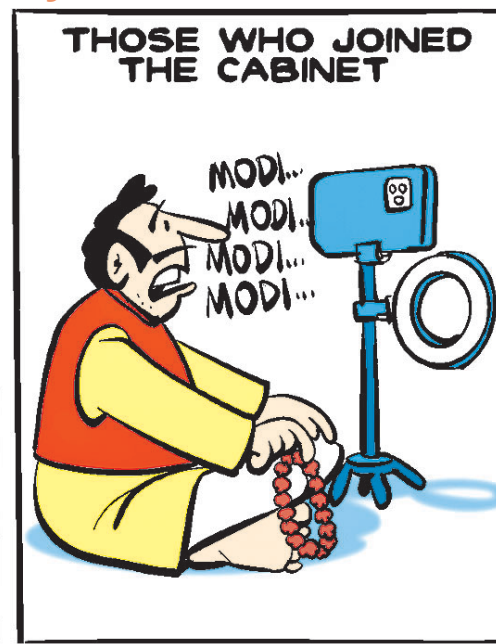
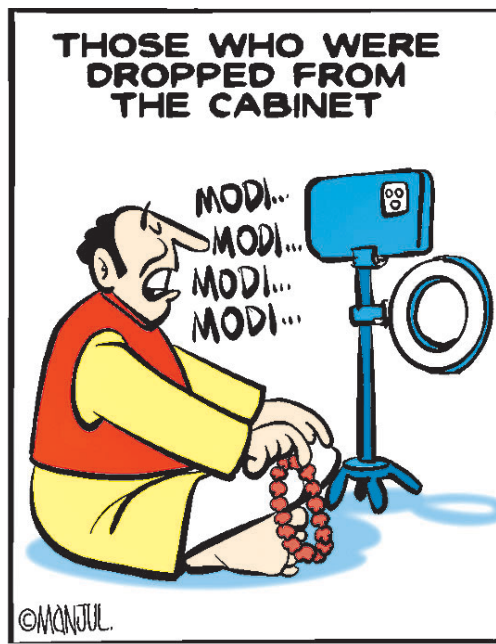
Vijaypal Singh Tomar (party in-charge of Odisha), Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Ashwini Vaishnaw, BJP national vice-president Baijayant Panda, state BJP president Manmohan Samal and BJP general secretary Sunil Bansal.

The Governor welcomed the Chief Minister-designate and felicitated him with a silver filigree replica of Sun Temple wheel. He also felicitated other BJP team members.

The swearing-in ceremony of the BJP government will be held at Janata Maidan here Wednesday which will be graced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, several Central BJP leaders besides the Chief Ministers of at least seven BJP ruled states, party sources said.

The BJP has won 78 of the total 147 Assembly seats in the 2024 election in Odisha.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, June 11: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Tuesday staked its claim to form the next government in Odisha.

The BJP Legislature Party, which met here under the supervision of two Central observers - Union Ministers Rajnath Singh and Bhupender Yadav, unanimously elected four-time MLA from Keonjhar (ST) Assembly seat Mohan Charan Majhi as its leader and the Chief Minister.

The BJP Legislature Party also named six-time MLA from Patnagarh Assembly constituency Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and first-time MLA from Nimapara Pravat Parida as the two Deputy Chief Ministers.

Rajnath announced the names of Majhi as Chief Minister and the two Deputy Chief Ministers soon after the legislature party meeting.

The BJP team, led by Rajnath, later met Governor Raghurav Das at Raj Bhawan and stake claim to form the next government in the state.

Chief Minister-designate Majhi, and Deputy Chief

Minister-designates KV Singh Deo and Pravati Parida also accompanied Rajnath to the Raj Bhawan.

Other leaders also who accompanied the team to the Raj Bhawan were Bhupender Yadav,

Security beefed up for oath-taking ceremony

BHUBANESWAR: With the BJP government's swearing-in ceremony scheduled at Janata Maidan Wednesday, the Commissionerate Police have made elaborate arrangements by deploying 67 platoons of security personnel for the high-profile event.

Addressing the media here Tuesday, twin city Police Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda said the route connecting Airport to Governor House would be cordoned off by the security personnel, in view of



several VIPs attending the event. The dignitaries, who would attend the swearing-in ceremony, include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Cabinet ministers and Chief Ministers of at least seven BJP-ruled states.

Following the brief visit to the Governor House, the Prime Minister would be escorted to Janata Maidan in a high-security carcade, he added.

Panda stated that three DIGs, 13 DCP-rank officers, 18 additional DCP-rank officers, 58 ACPs, 94 inspectors, and 312 SIs & ASIs have been deployed for the event. This apart, three Special Task Force (STF) units and one ODRAF unit has been kept in alert along with bomb squad for emergency situation, he added.

Traffic advisory for swearing-in event

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 11: The Commissionerate Police Tuesday issued a traffic advisory for the BJP government's swearing-in ceremony scheduled to be held at Janata Maidan here, Wednesday.

"To ensure better regulation and free flow of traffic in the interest of general public, by virtue of power conferred by Odisha Urban Police Act, 2003 and in pursuance of the Regulation 36 of Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Police Commissionerate regulations, 2008, traffic restrictions and parking arrangements are made for better convenience of general public," the circular said.

No vehicle will be allowed to ply from Jaydev Vihar Square to Nalco Square road and vice-versa, and the connecting lanes/bylanes June 12, from 2pm to 7pm or till the end of the function excluding the vehicles provided with pass.

Buses coming from Cuttack will be diverted from Acharya Vihar Square towards Apollo Hospital lane while those coming from Khurda side will take the service road after Jaydev Vihar flyover and turn towards Apollo Hospital lane. Buses coming from Nandankanan side will be diverted from Omfed Square. All the buses will have common dropping point at OSAP 7th battalion gate.

Similarly, four-wheelers com-

ing from Cuttack side will take the service road after Rasulgarh flyover and will be diverted towards Apollo Hospital lane. Four-wheelers coming from Khurda side will take the service road after Jaydev Vihar flyover and will be diverted towards Apollo Hospital lane. Likewise, four-wheelers coming from Nandankanan side will be diverted from Nalco Square and proceed towards Sainik school campus and park their vehicles there. The restrictions will not be applicable for emergency vehicles (Fire and Ambulance).

Twin city Police Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda requested the public for cooperation and advised to plan their routes accordingly.

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MODI GOVT MINISTERS

'Eleven 12th pass; 28 have criminal cases'



57, have qualifications of a graduate level or above, ADR reported.

Specifically, 14 ministers have declared themselves as graduates, holding a basic university degree while 26 ministers have postgraduate degrees.

An additional 10 ministers have professional graduate degrees, indicating specialised education in fields such as law, engineering or medicine.

Furthermore, seven ministers have achieved the highest level of academic attainment by earning doctorate degrees.

Meanwhile, ADR said among the ministers facing criminal cases, two have declared cases related to attempt to murder under Indian Penal Code section 307.

They are Shantanu Thakur, minister of state for ports, shipping and waterways, and Sukanta Majumdar, minister of state for education and Development of North Eastern Region, the ADR said.

Similarly, five ministers have cases related to crimes against women. ADR also reported that 99 per cent of the ministers are crorepatris with average assets among them amounting to ₹107.94 crore.

Among the ministers, six stands out for their particularly high asset declarations, each exceeding ₹100 crore, the ADR said.

criminal cases against them with 19 of them facing serious charges such as attempted murder, crimes against women and hate speech, the poll rights body said.

In the third term of Modi government, 15 per cent of ministers have their educational qualifications up to 12th standard while 80 per cent of ministers, totaling

66% ministers aged 51 to 70yrs
New Delhi: Out of 71, 47 ministers -- accounting for 66 per cent -- in the new council of ministers have declared their age between 51 and 70 years. The report analysed 71 ministers, providing insights into the age distribution within this group. The data indicates that a significant majority of the ministers fall within the age bracket of 51 to 70 years. Specifically, 66 per cent of the ministers, amounting to 47 individuals, are within this age range. Breaking down this category further, 22 ministers are aged between 51 and 60 years, while the remaining 25 are between 61 and 70 years old. In the younger age brackets, 24 per cent of the ministers are aged between 31 and 50 years. This group includes 17 ministers, with two ministers in the 31-40 age range and 15 ministers in the 41-50 age range. The report also identified a small but noteworthy segment of the ministers who are aged between 71 and 80 years. This group consists of seven ministers, representing 10 per cent of the total analysed.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: According to a recent report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), eleven out of 71 ministers in the new council of ministers have declared their highest educational qualifications as 12th standard.

Besides, 28 ministers have

20 farmers feted at Samridh Kisan Utsav



ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, June 11: Twenty progressive farmers/farmwomen were felicitated for outstanding contribution in agriculture sector at 'Millionaire Farmer's of India (MFOI) Samridh Kisan Utsav' organised by ICAR- Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) - Khurda in association with Krishi Jagaran and Mahindra Tractors at VG Jhingan auditorium here, Tuesday.

ICAR-CIFA director PK Sahoo graced the occasion as chief guest and appreciated the ef-

forts by Krishi Jagaran for disseminating knowledge to farming communities in agriculture and allied sectors.

Sahoo also valued the attempts by KVK-Khurda for enhancing the income of the farmers as well as improving the socio-economic status of the agrarian community.

Senior scientist at ICAR-CIFA and head of KVK-Khurda Harapriya Nayak briefed about the Samridh Kisan Utsav programme.

Scientists from KVK-Khurda Surendra Singh, PR Sahoo and Sukanti Behera encouraged the farmers to practice scientific means of agricultural.

Majhi's asst dies in series mishap

Bhubaneswar: A 31-year-old motorcyclist, reportedly an assistant of CM-designate Mohan Majhi, died when a speeding car caused a series mishap in front of the CBI office at Unit VIII under Nayapalli police station here, Tuesday. According to sub-inspector (SI) of Nayapalli PS, Biswambar Pradhan, the investigating officer (IO) of the incident, "The deceased has been identified as Chandan Mohapatra, a resident of Nayapalli here. Prima facie, the white-colour car with three-people onboard came at a very high speed and hit another car and two-motorcycles in front of CBI office at around 11am." Three persons, including a 40-year-old woman who is undergoing treatment at Capital Hospital, have sustained grievous injuries in the accident, said a senior police official at Nayapalli police station. The SI said the situation remained tense in the area following the accident as irate locals mobbed the driver of the speeding car. However, the cops rushed to the spot and placated the angry locals. As per preliminary inquiry, said SI Pradhan, the three men in the car were not in an inebriated condition during the accident. "We have initiated a probe into the incident and would soon nab the accused," he said.



AT LORD'S SERVICE: Maharana servitors busy preparing wheels of chariots for the upcoming Rath Yatra at Jagannath Temple in Chandini Chowk area of Cuttack, Tuesday

Vaishnaw takes charge of Railways, I&B, MeitY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: BJP leader Ashwini Vaishnaw took charge of the Railway as well as Information and Broadcasting ministry Tuesday. He also retained his electronics and IT portfolio by assuming charge of Electronics and IT Ministry (MeitY).

Addressing the media as Union Railways Minister, Vaishnaw said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought a lot of reforms in railways in the past 10 years such as electrification of rail routes, laying of new tracks, introduc-

tion of new types of trains and redevelopment of stations.

"PM Modi has a special emotional connection with railways, and he has entrusted me the responsibility to further his transformative vision to ensure that Indian Railways remains an affordable and convenient mode of transport for the general public," he said. "Railway connects common people, it plays a huge role. Railways runs continuously 24x7. We shall work as a team to take it forward under the guidance of PM Modi," he said.

Later, taking charge of MeitY,



Vaishnaw said the government will push ahead with its tech-

driven agenda of cementing India's global lead in semiconductor and electronics manufacturing, and as a technology and digital hub.

He vowed that the government would build on the past momentum and leverage the power of technology and digital solutions to improve lives of people.

Vaishnaw said his efforts will be to ensure that technology continues to bring positive changes in the lives of people in the country, and that it empowers youth with a promising future driven by new-age tech.

Patnaik to attend swearing-in ceremony



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 11: The BJP, all set to form its maiden government in Odisha, Tuesday invited BJD president and outgoing chief minister Naveen Patnaik for the swearing-in ceremony.

The first invitation card for the ceremony was, however, given to Lord Jagannath in Puri.

A five-member delegation led by the BJP Odisha unit president Manmohan Samal went to Naveen Niwas and formally invited him to attend the swearing-in ceremony.

Senior leaders such as Suresh Pujari, Basanta Panda, Samir Mohanty and Nityananda Gond accompanied Samal.

"Naveen Babu has accepted the invitation and assured us that he would attend the ceremony," Samal told reporters.

Meanwhile, a group of MLA elects comprising Pravati Parida, Prithviraj Harichandan, Irashish Acharya and Ashrit Patnaik went to the Jagannath temple in Puri to invite the Lord for the ceremony.

"It is our Odia tradition to invite Lord Jagannath on all aus-

A group of MLAs comprising Pravati Parida, Prithviraj Harichandan, Irashish Acharya and Ashrit Patnaik went to the Jagannath temple in Puri to invite the Lord for the ceremony

icious occasions. Therefore, we have come to invite the Lord. The party seeks his blessings," Parida said.

The BJP state president said that the party would also invite the president of the Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) and other political parties to the swearing-in ceremony.

This apart, Samal said all the people who have earned name and fame for the state will also be invited. Preparations are in the final stage at the Janata Maidan, the venue for the oath-taking ceremony. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, central ministers and chief ministers of many BJP-ruled states are likely to attend it.

MARKET WATCH		
INDEX		VARIATION
SENSEX	76456.59	↓ 33.49
NIFTY	23264.85	↑ 5.65
DOLLAR	83.30	↑ ₹0.00
EURO	91.28	↑ ₹0.00
GOLD	₹71,506	↑ ₹0.10
SILVER	₹88,691	↓ ₹1.33

WEATHER		
	BBSR	CTC
Max Temp	38.4°C	37.4°C
Min Temp	28.0°C	27.0°C
Humidity	75%	72%
Rainfall	Nil	Nil

KIIT students excel in JEE Advanced exam



ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, June 11: Students of KIIT International School have once again demonstrated their dedication and brilliance by achieving praiseworthy success in the JEE Advanced examinations.

Anish Darika secured All India Rank (AIR) 109 while Sailesh Kumar Sahoo attained AIR 1849. Subhankara Dash secured AIR 2638, Aditya Pradhan secured AIR 2887 and Asutosh Maharana secured AIR of 3080.

KIIT and KISS founder Achyuta Samanta extended his heartfelt congratulations to the achievers and praised their success and dedication, which have brought great pride to the institution.

Insomnia loss can raise risk of ovarian, breast cancer

Women with sleep loss condition insomnia may be at significant risk of developing ovarian cancer, said experts Tuesday.

Insomnia is a common sleep disorder that can make it difficult for a person to fall asleep or stay asleep.

People with the condition are also likely to wake up too early and not be able to get back to sleep. They may continue to feel tired after waking up.

"Insomnia, commonly linked to stress and anxiety, may also play a role in the risk and survival rates of ovarian cancer patients. Research suggests that disturbed sleep patterns could heighten inflammation and weaken the immune system, potentially fostering cancer growth," Kinjal Kothari, Associate Consultant - Obstetrics and Gynecology, Manipal

Hospital, Goa, told IANS.

A recent study published in the Lancet shows that treating insomnia in high-grade ovarian cancers can improve survival. The study also proposed that treating insomnia may be able to prevent ovarian cancer.

Cancer incidence and prevalence are on a rising trend. With the trend, there is a blazing need to study the patterns of the disease and ways to improve the survival and quality of life of the patient.

"Sleep disorders are common among cancer patients. It may be a sleepless or abnormal sleep-wake cycle, probably more than half of the patients are af-



Sleep disorders, such as insomnia, are known to increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancers and negatively affect their prognosis

KARTHIK KS I
CONSULTANT SURGICAL
ONCOLOGY, KMC HOSPITAL,
MANGALORE

ected. The patient's quality of life is negatively impacted," Karthik K S, Consultant Surgical Oncology, KMC Hospital,

Mangalore, told IANS.

Sleep symptoms may also be due to the psychological impact (like anxiety and depression) of the disease on the patient and the family, the doctor said.

"Patients may have sleep loss because of pain and pressure

A recent study published in the Lancet shows that treating insomnia in high-grade ovarian cancers can improve survival

The study also proposed that treating insomnia may be able to prevent ovarian cancer

symptoms of the cancer. Side effects and complications of treatment like nausea and vomiting can also affect sleep," Karthik said.

MA Raja, Director and Senior Consultant - Medical Oncology, MGM Cancer Institute, Chennai told IANS that sleep disorders, such as insomnia, are known to increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancers and negatively affect their prognosis.

"Sleep is essential for the human body, intricately involved in endocrine, metabolic,

and immunoregulatory pathways, which are also implicated in various cancers. These shared pathways may account for the increased risk of sleep disturbances among cancer patients, with insomnia being the most prevalent," the doctor said.

Moreover, insomnia often leads to poorer mental health, which can indirectly affect treatment adherence and overall well-being during cancer therapy. Understanding this connection underscores the importance of addressing sleep disturbances in cancer care.

"Developing tailored interventions, such as cognitive behavioural therapy for insomnia, could potentially improve outcomes for ovarian cancer patients by promoting better sleep and bolstering resilience against the disease," Kinjal said.

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FOCUS NATION

IDEAS FOR THE NEW GOVT



Much of the skilling and enhancement of human capital happens on the job, via learning by doing. So, one measure that the new government could undertake is to push for a nationwide apprenticeship programme

priorities of the new government in Delhi, and what measures can be used to address them. The most important issue is that of employment and livelihood. A recent report by the Institute of Human Development and International Labour Organisation said that 83 per cent of the unemployed were youth below the age of 29. Thus, tackling youth unemployment is a very high priority. This challenge is further aggravated due to two factors. First there is the threat of automation and artificial intelligence, which can wipe out present employment options. According to a McKinsey report, nearly 70 per cent of manufacturing jobs in India are vulnerable to this phenomenon. The second factor is the wide skills mismatch. We have a co-existence of jobs shortage and a skills shortage. We need skills and training programmes which make the youth ready for the jobs of tomorrow, which perhaps don't even exist today. Much of the skilling and enhancement of human capital happens on the job, via learning by doing. So, one measure that the new government could undertake is to push for a nationwide apprenticeship programme. This would consist of six-to-nine month long employment, with no obligation on the employer to make the worker "permanent." The apprenticeship certificate so ob-

tained should have the stamp of authenticity by a national authority and should be portable and acceptable across the nation. As such there are apprenticeship policies and programmes in place in many states, but this needs a national big push in a creative way. Another smaller opportunity to enhance employment is to extend the Agniveer programme by another three to four years, because four years is too short. The officers short service commission is for ten years, so it makes sense for the non-commissioned ones, such as the Agniveer tenure to be extended. Their experience, training and discipline will increase their future employment opportunities in the private sector. The second important area for the government to focus on is small entrepreneurs. There are an estimated 70 million enterprises, each employing between one to ten or twenty employees. These are sought to be brought into the formal sector via Udyam registrations and into the net of the Goods and Services Tax Network. The main challenges of small and tiny businesses are four: Access to credit and working capital, access to markets, access to technology, and financial and tax literacy. The first requires that their Udyam registration be linked to the GST Network, to ensure automatic enforcement

of no payment delay beyond 45 days, as mandated by the MSME Act of 2006. In practice the small suppliers are squeezed by their big customers, against whom the supplier has no recourse, because often that is the only one and repeat customer. Hence, we can use the digital technology to ensure payment discipline. The estimated size of delayed payments in the country is close to 10 trillion rupees. It will provide a shot in the arm to the small entrepreneur, if such a legislation and mechanism is implemented by the Central government.

Access to markets can be enabled through e-commerce and initiatives like the Open Network for Digital Commerce. Credit flow to MSMEs can also be enhanced by allowing peer to peer lending, as well as allowing localised equity ownership. Details of these are available with the authorities, and it needs an implementation push. To help with technology, the government can sponsor the development of a free super app, a sort of enterprise management software, which takes care of everything from taxes, inventory planning, marketing and customer relationship. Just as BHIM is an app for digital cashless payment, which is available free, and is a government initiative, a tech product for micro enterprises can be freely distributed by the government.

The third suggestion relates to farmers, and assured prices. It is high time that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism be given legal teeth and made into law. As such the MSP for twenty-two crops kicks in only when the market prices fall below the threshold. This happens roughly half the time, statistically speaking. Hence the net fiscal burden is not as high as feared. Besides when the government gets into procurement, that puts an upward pressure on prices, negating the need for an MSP guarantee. The MSP law is primarily a political decision at this stage but will earn the trust of farmers. Its time has come.

The writer is a noted Pune-based economist.

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Ajit Ranade

THE MSP LAW IS PRIMARILY A POLITICAL DECISION AT THIS STAGE BUT WILL EARN THE TRUST OF FARMERS. ITS TIME HAS COME

A new government has been sworn in, with Narendra Modi taking charge as Prime Minister for the third time. Even though his party has not been able to secure an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha, as on two previous occasions, it is still the largest single party. India's political history is more dominated by governments formed by coalitions than by parties enjoying an absolute majority mandate. So, after the last ten years, India's polity is reverting to a configuration which is a more common historic pattern. This should not be surprising for a country that exhibits an incredible diversity in every conceivable dimension. In that sense the national election to the Lok Sabha is not one, but 543 separate elections. And they are fought on issues which are mostly local. Of course, there is sometimes a national wave attributed to a charismatic or powerful personality, but more often than not, the electoral victory determinant boils down to local issues, more than other factors.

The national government has responsibilities which are distinct from those of the state governments, as specified in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Over time there has been a "creep" of the turf of state governments being "encroached" by the Union government. This has often been necessitated by need to strengthen or accelerate development processes. So, programmes like the National Food Security Act of 2013 passed by the Central government, addresses issues like food security, hunger and nutrition which are squarely the domain of states. The same goes for employment (National Rural Employment Guarantee), education (Right to Education), health insurance (Ayushman Bharat) to name a few examples. Such national policy intervention is supposed to supplement or strengthen the states and not to undermine their efforts. But the very nature of a nationwide initiative has the elements of a "uniform" approach, which tends to paper over regional differences.

With that background, let's examine what are the pressing

Sarpanch to CM

Mohan Charan Majhi, 52, is all set to take oath as the fifteenth Chief Minister of Orissa and the first from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). After twenty-four long years, the coastal state has got a new leader as the people had voted in support of change in the recently held simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the state Assembly. The son of a watchman, Majhi has always been associated with the BJP and has had held leadership positions in the party's Adivasi Morcha. The tribal leader had started his political career as a sarpanch and is a four-time MLA from Keonjhar. He was also the Opposition Chief Whip in the out going Assembly. Moments after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced his name as the BJP legislative party's unanimous choice for the top post, Majhi said: "Due to the blessings of Lord Jagannath, the BJP achieved majority in Orissa and is going to form the government in the state. I would like to thank the 4.5 crore Odias who voted for change." Majhi is also the third tribal Chief Minister of Orissa, the first two being the Congress' Hemananda Biswal and Giridhar Gamang.

Majhi has two deputies - Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, one of the senior most BJP leaders of the state, and Pravati Parida, a first-time MLA from Nimapara in Puri district. Singh Deo, who had been the Urban development minister in the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD-BJP coalition government in the state between 2000 and 2009, has experience in governance and is a prominent face of the party from western Orissa. Hailing from the erstwhile royal family of Patnagarh, Singh Deo has been a former president of BJP's Orissa unit.

Pravati Parida, a former lawyer and social activist, has been the president of the women's wing of Orissa BJP. She is going to take oath as the first woman Deputy Chief Minister of the state.

It is pertinent to note that by picking these three leaders for the top posts, the BJP has tried to represent three regions of the state - Majhi from the north, Singh Deo from the west and Parida from coastal Orissa.

The people of Orissa have great expectations from this new government that is going to be sworn-in today. It is incumbent upon this BJP government to address the pressing issues plaguing the state for long, such as migration of labour, poverty, unemployment, soaring prices and regional imbalance in prosperity.

Only time will tell how issues of the state are handled and whether Orissa reaches new heights under the new dispensation which enjoys not only a clear mandate but also the state is now under a Double Engine government situation with support from the government at the Centre.



THE MOTHER

Let nothing short of Perfection be your ideal in work and you are sure to become a true instrument of the Divine.

Glimmer of Hope

Finally, light seems to be appearing at the end of the tunnel. That could be the best way to describe the United Nations Security Council's (UNSC) resolution on 10 June endorsing a US-backed ceasefire proposal aiming to end Israel's nine-month assault on Gaza. The vote on the United States-sponsored resolution was 14-0, with Russia abstaining. The latter explained it could not be a party to the resolution since the details had not been made known to it.

The world has been waiting with bated breath for this moment. The attacks by Israel on Gaza following equally mindless killings and abduction in Israel by Hamas on 7 October, 2023 have been taking a heavy toll of civilian lives in Gaza while maiming thousands of Palestinians on a daily basis. Peace proved to be elusive because of the belligerence of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who announced Israeli forces would not stop until after the Hamas military and governing capabilities were destroyed lock, stock and barrel. The fact that such a goal is impossible to achieve did not seem to dawn on Israel which continued to be blinded by rage and is unwilling to heed any international appeal and pressure to stop the bloodshed.

The UNSC resolution hails a three-phase ceasefire proposal announced by US President Joe Biden last month, which calls for an initial six-week ceasefire and the exchange of some Israeli captives held in Gaza for Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails. The second phase would include a permanent ceasefire and the release of the remaining captives. The third phase would involve a reconstruction effort for the devastated Gaza Strip. The whole exercise will be crowned with a permanent resolution of the conflict through the implementation of a two-state formula that envisages the formation of a Palestinian state incorporating Gaza with the West Bank.

The US iterates that Israel has accepted the proposal, though some Israeli officials have promised to continue the war until the elimination of Hamas, the Palestinian group that governs Gaza. The resolution calls on Hamas, which initially said it viewed the proposal "positively," to accept the three-phase plan. It urges Israel and Hamas "to fully implement its terms without delay and without condition."

Hamas has been clever to quickly welcome the resolution stating that it was ready to cooperate with mediators and enter indirect negotiations over the implementation of the principles of the agreement. As the UNSC passed the resolution overwhelmingly, it is binding in international law. It may not be the best but this is probably the most practical solution suggested so far.

Hamas has frequently said that any deal must lead to a permanent ceasefire, a full Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, an end to the Israeli siege of Gaza, reconstruction and "a serious exchange deal" between captives in Gaza and Palestinians held in Israeli jails.

Whether Israel and Hamas agree to go forward with the plan is under a question mark. But the resolution's strong support in the UN's most powerful body puts added pressure on both parties to approve the proposal. For the US administration the resolution of the conflict is of utmost importance. If the plan materialises, it would give a huge mileage to US President Biden in his bid to win the presidential election this November for the second term. That is the reason why Biden is leaving no stone unturned to make his trusted friend and ally - Netanyahu - reconcile to reality and declare a ceasefire.

Earlier on 10 June, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad leaders met in Qatar to discuss the proposed ceasefire deal and they spelt out what they expect from it. Algeria's UN Ambassador Amar Bendjama, the Arab representative on the council, succinctly summed up the implications when he said the text of the deal is certainly not perfect, but it at least offers a glimmer of hope to the Palestinians. The alternative is the continuing killing and suffering of the Palestinian people.

Diplomacy now stands a chance and it is hoped the global economic crisis primarily caused due to the raging conflict in the Middle East may ease off to a great extent.

IN JEST THIS

Cruising down the highway of life at 90



Melvin Durai

WRITING IS A GOOD PROFESSION TO CHOOSE IF YOU PLAN TO KEEP DOING IT INTO YOUR NINETIES. NOBODY IS WORRIED ABOUT A 90-YEAR-OLD WRITER

Ruskin Bond, one of India's most beloved authors, recently turned 90, an age when many people have not just retired, but retired twice. Some have retired from a full-time job, then retired from part-time billiards. If not billiards, then bridge, poker or competitive knitting.

Others have retired from a full-time job, grown tired of being retired, returned to the workforce, grown tired of being unretired, and retired again.

But Bond is not contemplating retirement. "I might not be very strong, but I can read and write," said the author, who has been writing for 75 years, producing hundreds of short stories and dozens of books. "I can do my work."

Writing is a good profession to choose if you plan to keep doing it into your nineties. Nobody is worried about a 90-year-old writer. What's the worst thing that can

happen - dozing off at your laptop, hitting the wrong key and emailing your manuscript to your plumber instead of your publisher? At least you'll get a compliment that "everything flows very well."

A number of other professions can also be performed by people in their 90s. Nobody really cares how old you are, for example, if you are a hairstylist, as long as you don't keep giving everyone a Marilyn Monroe cut.

Other professions are harder to perform as you get older, partly because of age restrictions. You can't fly past the age of 65 as a commercial pilot in most countries. You have to give up your pilot's license before flying past 65.

Thankfully, for Doyle Archer, there is no age restriction that keeps him from driving a truck in America. Archer was recently recognised by Guinness World Records as the "oldest truck/lorry/HGV driver (male)

at 90 years 55 days old."

Archer started driving trucks more than 60 years ago, around the time of the British invasion, when America just couldn't resist Paul, John, George and Ringo.

"I do not plan to retire any time soon," Archer told Guinness. "As long as my health holds, I will keep driving. I do not have the word 'retire' in my vocabulary."

He does not have the word 'accident' in his vocabulary either. His employer for the last 20 years, Coomes Inc. in Phillipsburg, Kansas, has named him a "Million Mile Safe Driver" for traveling 1 million miles without an accident. One million miles, in case you are wondering, is the distance from Planet Earth to whichever planet Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is on.

Archer has actually driven 5.5 million miles in his career. That's like driving all the way around the world 220 times, or just 22 times around Beyoncé's and Jay-

Z's mansion.

Archer has travelled through 48 US states and five Canadian provinces. "Anything you can haul in a truck, I have hauled it," he said. (We can probably assume, however, that he has never hauled classified documents from Washington D.C. to Florida.)

But why keep working at age 90?

Perhaps the question should be "why not?" especially if you're physically and mentally capable of working, and feel the urge to keep producing.

Of course, Archer, Bond and other working nonagenarians are outliers. I love these types of outliers. Whether it's George Foreman winning the world heavyweight boxing title at age 45 or Mick Jagger still rocking on stage at age 80, outliers show us what's possible. They create new boundaries, teach us that we shouldn't be too stuck on our beliefs, assumptions and even rules.

Dastardly attack

Sir, The cowardly terrorist attack on a bus carrying innocent pilgrims en route to Vaishno Devi is most reprehensible. After the ambush, the bus plunged into a deep gorge, resulting in the loss of nine innocent lives while another 33 were injured. This attack underscores a renewed wave of terror in the region and has set alarm bells ringing in the top levels of India's intelligence services. Such barbaric acts of terror are an attack on humanity and simply cannot be forgiven. There is an urgent need for an all-out and well-coordinated response from the security forces to neutralise terror elements.

Ramesh G Jethuani,
BANGALORE

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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

WISDOM CORNER

Let come what comes, let go what goes. See what remains.

RAMANA MAHARSHI

You don't look out there for God, something in the sky, you look in you.

ALAN WATTS

There is no way to happiness - happiness is the way.

THICH NHAT HANH

MALVIYA SEXUAL ABUSE ROW

Statements misinterpreted: Sinha

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, June 11: Kolkata-based lawyer Santanu Sinha, who was served a legal notice for making false and defamatory allegations against BJP's IT head Amit Malviya and the party's West Bengal unit, Tuesday claimed that his statements were "misinterpreted".

Sinha also said he was not withdrawing the social media post but expressed "heartfelt sorrow" if it hurt Malviya.

"If my post hurts Mr Malviya and/or undermines my party for such misinterpretation and edited version, I do express my heartfelt sorrow for the same. Since I have not written anything untoward in my post, with the mission to malign, I am not withdrawing the post, the bone of contention," he said in a Facebook post.

When contacted, Sinha said this is not an apology but an attempt to clear the air on the en-



tire controversy as to how his statements were "misinterpreted".

"This is not an apology. I wrote this fresh post as I wanted to clarify my position, following so much misinterpretation and misrepresentation of my previous post," he told PTI.

In his social media post, the lawyer said, "It is a great chagrin

to me that the nastiest and most corrupt political party of the country, the Indian National Congress, being armed with a post in Bengali posted from my Facebook account, is spreading hate campaign against Amit Malviya and the Bharatiya Janata Party."

Sinha also expressed his astonishment that none from the

state BJP has ever tried to know the purpose of the post, but played a dubious role.

"I want to give a clear message that the post was not aimed to malign Malviya but as caution not to get entangled in honey trap, which was first brought to light by Tathagata Roy, ex-president of the state unit and former governor of Tripura with the phrase Kamini Kanchan (women and money)," he said.

BJP IT department head Amit Malviya has sent a legal notice to Sinha for making false and defamatory statements against him and demanded an apology for it. In the legal notice, Malviya's lawyer said Sinha, in a post on Facebook, made some false and defamatory allegations with an intention to harm his client's reputation.

West Bengal BJP president Sukanta Majumdar Monday had dubbed the allegations against Malviya as baseless and politically motivated.

55 companies of CAPF to be deployed in 4 Assembly seats

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Kolkata, June 11: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has decided to deploy 55 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) personnel for the bye-elections for four Assembly constituencies in West Bengal to be conducted July 10.

Sources said that the deployment and route marches by the CAPF companies will start June 15, almost a month before the polling day. "This is the initial figure and in due course depending on the ground-level realities the Commission will decide whether the CAPF deployment will be further increased or not," said a source in the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO).

The four Assembly constituencies that will be held are Bagda from North 24 Parganas district, Ranaghat-Dakshin in Nadia district, Raiganj in North Dinajpur district and Manikatala in Kolkata. The bye-election at Manikatala



has been necessitated by the demise of the erstwhile Trinamool Congress legislator from there Sadhan Pandey.

In the other three constituencies, the erstwhile BJP legislators, namely Biswajit Das from Bagda, Dr Mukut Mani Adhikari from Ranaghat-Dakshin and Krishna Kalyani from Raiganj, all of whom got elected in 2021, had to resign from Assembly as they contested Lok Sabha election as Trinamool

Congress candidates.

Although all three of them got defeated this time, bypolls need to be conducted in these three Assembly constituencies from where they had resigned.

According to statistics from the office of the CEO, in terms of the results of the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls, BJP is ahead at Bagda, Ranaghat-Dakshin and Raiganj, while Trinamool Congress is ahead only from Manikatala.

All parks to stay open from 5 am to 10 pm: Shivakumar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, June 11: Parks in the city would henceforth remain open from 5 am to 10 pm, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, who is also in-charge of Bengaluru Development, said Tuesday.

He said some people had complained that parks were being closed in the afternoon hours and wanted them to remain open without a break.

"Now it is from 5 am to 10 am and then from 1:30 pm to 8 pm. So we have now decided that all parks in Bangalore city will be open from 5 am to 10 pm. For the benefit of the citizens, we are extending it," Shivakumar told reporters here.

Referring to concerns over parks being used for "illegal or unwanted" activities, he said cameras have been installed at their entry and exit gates.

Bangalore has more than 1,200 public parks, probably the highest in the country, officials said, adding that the new timing particularly covers the parks that come under city civic body, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara



Palike (BBMP) jurisdiction.

Speaking on the Climate Action and Resilience Plan for Bangalore (BCAP), Shivakumar said under the flagship 'Hasiru Rakshaka' project, sapling plantation programme has been successfully completed across all BBMP zones.

"Our aim is to raise awareness among school children towards the environment and they responded with great enthusiasm and active participation. Last

year, BBMP planted one lakh saplings and distributed 50,000 saplings to the public. 250 schools participated in the programme and their students planted 52,000 saplings," he said.

These schools and students also signed agreements to take care of these trees in the coming years. A website and mobile application have been developed for children to monitor the health of their plants.

Further noting that BBMP already invited eight tenders for conducting Tree Census across the city, Shivakumar said the work under the programme is in progress.

Noting that Bangalore is joining the Cities Forests platform- A global alliance of more than 95 cities, Shivakumar said the move will facilitate technical support and knowledge sharing with cities across the globe. "With WRI India as a knowledge partner, Bangalore becomes the 4th city in India to be a C4F member."

Bangalore has more than 1,200 public parks, probably the highest in the country

Women avail of 227 crore free bus rides in one year

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, June 11: Women in Karnataka have availed themselves of 227 crore free rides in government non-luxury buses under the 'Shakti' guarantee in the last one year, costing the state exchequer ₹5,526.64 crore,

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy said Tuesday.

The Congress government, led by Siddaramaiah, launched the 'Shakti' scheme -- one of the five guarantees which the party had promised before the Assembly elections -- June 11 last year.

These promises are said to have yielded rich electoral dividends to the Congress, helping it dethrone the Basavaraj Bommai-led BJP government.

As the government celebrates one year of 'Shakti' guarantee implementation, Reddy said in a statement that 226.95 women

travelled free of cost in the government buses.

Most such rides were accounted for by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation buses (BMTCL-71.45 crore), followed by Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC-69.5 crore).

Major tax rebates for commercial vehicle owners

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, June 11: The West Bengal government Tuesday announced major rebates ranging from 15 per cent to 40 per cent on the tax paid by commercial vehicle owners.

According to a notification issued by the state Transport Department, any commercial vehicle owner paying tax for three years in advance will get a rebate of 15 per cent on the total amount payable by him or her during that period.

The rebate rate will be extended to 30 per cent in case the advance tax is paid for five years and to 40 per cent in case of 10 years. "The rebate offer will encourage many commercial vehicle owners to pay the advance tax, which will add to the kitty of the state exchequer," said a senior Transport Department official. According to him, a proposal to offer a rebate on advance payment was passed on the floor of the state Assembly earlier this year.

Property tax rebate open till July end

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, June 11: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, who is in-charge for Bengaluru Development Tuesday said the 'One Time Settlement' window for payment of outstanding property tax in the city is open only till July 31.

"The BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike) had not actively pursued property tax outstanding due to elections. The one-time settlement (OTS) scheme will end July 31 and hence I urge people to make use of the opportunity to clear the outstanding payments. The OTS scheme provides 50 per cent concession on penalties and 100 per cent concession on interest payments," Shivakumar said.

"More than 50,000 people have paid taxes under the OTS scheme and another 4 lakh are yet to pay. They will be deemed defaulters from August 1," he said.

The process of digitising 20 lakh properties is in progress, Shivakumar said, adding about 8 lakh properties are completed and the rest would be completed within 3 months. "Once the process is complete, the digital records will be sent to property owners."

Innovations, chemical analysis key to boosting waste reuse: Experts



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, June 11: More innovations and understanding the chemistry of waste material will help find ways to reuse solid waste, experts suggested during a panel discussion organised at Bangalore International Centre June 9.

One of the panelists, Myriam Shankar, co-founder of The Anonymous Indian Charitable Trust (TAICT) formed to address the critical issue of solid waste management, pointed out that in India 45% of dry waste cannot be recycled.

"It is mainly because the waste is not segregated at source. This also increases the cost of recycling," added Shankar. Shubhi Sachan, a multidisciplinary designer who specialises in textile waste, proposing alternative uses rather than

traditional waste disposal methods, discussed the challenges in waste processing.

According to her, homogeneity is the biggest hurdle when it comes to using waste as a resource.

"For instance, we cannot insist on mono material because we may not get, say, 2 million tonnes of milk packets when we need it. Often we are forced to use different packets resulting in differences in the recycled yarn or textile," said Sachan.

She also said economically it will not be viable to scale waste reuse projects as long as waste management is not recognised as a separate industry.

"At present, we have to deal with taxation three times. When we buy waste, we are taxed. When we process the waste and sell it, we are taxed. And when we innovate end uses, again we are taxed.

There is also no visibility for the industry players. We do not know how much waste contributes towards our GDP, for instance," said Sachan.

Pune-based Jesh Krishna Murthy, founder of Advanced Nature, which transforms toxic materials into sustainable solutions, specialising in cement-free concrete and waste-based products like tiles and furniture to combat the climate crisis, talked about the need to merge science and art as well as the need for experimentation in form and function of recycled waste.

Sachan added that many times interventions to convert waste into resources fall flat because of the knowledge gap. "I remember a time when someone presented a pair of slippers made of cow dung, stating that skin contact with cow dung was supposedly beneficial to a person. But the slipper was coated with varnish, defeating the entire purpose," said Sachan.

At the end of the day, the sustainable solutions put forth by a handful of people are not enough to make sustainable living for all a viable concept, Shankar said, adding that to gain momentum, political will is needed.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender Notice No.: MSM-ROH-RSP-SLRA-6-24
Name of Work : ROH OF WAGONS AT SARLA (SLRA) ROH DEPOT FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR.
Approx cost of the work : ₹ 3,63,43,199.66, EMD: ₹ 3,31,700/-, Completion period of the work: 12 Months.
Tender closing date & time : at 1500 hrs. of 26.06.2024.
 No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.
 Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website www.reps.gov.in
 Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, PR-197/P/24-25 Sambalpur

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

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

Form No. STK -- 6
PUBLIC NOTICE
 [Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]
Public Notice: ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/205 Date: 29/05/2024

Reference:
(1) In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (5) companies in the state of Odisha under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S. No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AA7432951	U74999OR2017PTC027656	LEADLEAP ENGINEERS PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AA7860130	U24290OR2023PTC041783	ARROWFIELD INDUSTRIES PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AA7896807	U85100OR2018PTC029046	FOUR-5 MILESTONE CONSULTANCY PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AA8009375	U52100OR2019PTC030328	CHINGRO RETAILS AND FOODS PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AA7510421	U74999OR2017PTC027316	LOKET SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED

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

Irkan Tirkey
 Assistant Registrar
 Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit
 CBC 07123/11/0148/2425



Bank of India
 Zonal Office: Bhubaneswar Zone, 1/1D, Star House, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Ph.: 0674-2362249

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
 E-Auction Sale Notice Under SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Where as the Bank acting through its Authorised Officer in exercise of its powers under-Section 13(4) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI) has decided to put up for E-auction of the following property "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis for realization of the debts due to the Bank.

Sl. No.	BRANCH/ Name & Address of the Borrower/ Total Dues	Description of the Property	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increment Amount
1.	TANGI BRANCH, MOB: 8327793415 / Borrower: Mrs. Bandana Swain, At: Jasorajpur, PO.: Samsarpur, Dist.: Cuttack, PIN-754023 / Total Dues: ₹17,61,964.40 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	All that part and parcel of Land & Building situated over Khata No.: 815/89, Plot No.: 820/2257, Area: Ac.0.060 Dec. i.e 2613.6 Sqft., KISSAM: Gharabari at Mouza: Kaitha, P.S.: Mahanga, SRO: Mahanga, Tahasil: Mahanga, Dist.: Cuttack-754023, Standing in the name of Mrs. Bandana Swain, Bounded by North: Gopinath Swain, South: Road, East: Batakrushna Rout, West: Pitambar Swain.	₹65,90,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹6,59,000/- / ₹50,000/-

Date & Time of E-Auction: 26.07.2024 From 11.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 (Ten) minutes each.
Last Date & Time for submission of EMD & Documents: 25.07.2024 upto 4.00 P.M.
Inspection will be provided to the prospective bidders on any working day before 25.07.2024 with prior appointment of the authorised officer
The sale shall be subject to the terms and conditions and provisions prescribed in the SARFAESI Act 2002 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
This is also a 30 days sale notice to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) of the aforesaid loan account for settlement of their outstanding dues with the Bank and to participate in the public auction on the above mentioned date.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in (1) <https://www.ibapi.in> (2) <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> (3) www.bankofindia.co.in

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 12.06.2024 **Authorised Officer, Bank of India**

national

of the day quote

During our government in Rajasthan, unemployment allowance of up to ₹4500 per month was started to be given to the youth, which is a big support for them



ASHOK GEHLOT | FORMER RAJASTHAN CM

We must remain committed to harnessing the immense potential of earth sciences to foster sustainable development, mitigate climate risks, advance data-driven policy and decision making, safeguard our people from risks, and enhance environmental stewardship for future generations



JITENDRA SINGH | UNION MINISTER

Unless all the groups divided in the AIADMK are united, the party will not be able to win at any time



O PANNEERSELVAM | FORMER TN CM

SHORT TAKES

NIA chargesheets two PLFI members

New Delhi: The NIA Tuesday chargesheeted two members of the People's Liberation Front of India (PLFI) for being part of a conspiracy to attack security forces and extort money from railway contractors, businessmen and others, a statement issued by the agency said. The charge-sheet against Nivesh Kumar alias Nivesh Poddar and Raman Kumar Sonu alias Sonu Pandit was filed before the NIA special court in Ranchi, a National Investigation Agency said.

Bus ploughs into society wall, 1 dead

Noida: A bus ferrying employees of a private company ploughed into the boundary wall of a group housing society in Noida Tuesday, killing a fast food seller who had set up his shop outside the residential complex, police said. The deceased has been identified as Nepali-origin Deepak (30), while his younger brother Sushil (18) suffered severe injuries in the crash and has been hospitalised in critical condition, the police said. However, eye-witnesses claimed that one more person who worked at the momo stall suffered injuries in the episode.

Jake Sullivan likely to visit India next week

New Delhi: US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan is likely to visit India next week to review overall progress in implementation of the ambitious iCET initiative, people familiar with the matter said Tuesday. The top Biden administration official will hold wide-ranging talks with NSA Ajit Doval, primarily focusing on cooperation under the US-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET), they said. If the visit takes place, then it will be the first trip to India by a senior American official after the Modi government came to power for the third term.

TN Assembly session advanced to June 20

Chennai: Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker M Appavu Tuesday advanced the Legislative Assembly session to June 20 from June 24 announced earlier. A release from the Assembly Principal Secretary K Srinivasan said the House will meet at 10 am on the day. The session has been rescheduled owing to the by-election to the Vikravandi Assembly constituency.



People have made up their minds to bring Congress to power

BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA | CONGRESS LEADER

J&K BUS TERROR ATTACK

Over 20 detained for questioning

AGENCIES

Jammu, June 11: Extensive efforts to track down terrorists involved in the attack on pilgrims in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district continued Tuesday, with 11 teams of security personnel working on the ground and a multi-directional cordon laid around the Ranso-Poni-Treyath belt, officials said.

A National Investigation Agency (NIA) team also joined the operation and scanned the area for leads, they said.

Security forces have sounded a high alert in Jammu and Rajouri districts and intensified checking and frisking in the belt following the terror attack that left nine dead and 41 injured. According to the officials, more than 20 people have been detained for questioning.

Terrorists Sunday opened fire at the 53-seater bus carrying pilgrims when it was en route from the Shiv Khori temple to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Katra near Teryath village in the Poni area. The bus, which was ferrying pilgrims from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi, plunged into a deep gorge following the gunfire.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Udhampur-Reasi Range, Rayees Mohammad Bhat said the security forces have got some leads as 11 teams of police, Army and CRPF are jointly working on two different axes to neutralise the fleeing terrorists. "The search operation is going on today in and around the area (where the attack took place) with 11 teams



Terrorist killed by security forces

One terrorist was killed by security forces after the ultras attacked a village near the International Border (IB) in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir Tuesday evening, police said. A massive operation is on to flush out the remaining holed-up terrorists. The operation was on when the last reports were received, the spokesperson said. Union Minister Jitendra Singh said he is in constant touch with top civil and police officials in the district, which is part of his Udhampur parliamentary constituency, and a local villager whose house was attacked by the terrorists. The Jammu and Kashmir Police Tuesday released a sketch of a terrorist involved in the attack and announced a ₹20 lakh reward for information about him.

working on the ground apart from a multi-directional cordon laid around the (Poni-Treyath) belt," another senior police officer said.

The officials said that based on the statements of those injured in the attack, they have not ruled out the possibility of a fourth person being present at the spot who acted as a lookout for the three terrorists.

Sources said security forces suspect the Pakistani terrorists are hiding in the mountainous terrains of Rajouri and Reasi and have intensified combing operations in the region. They are taking directions from Pakistan's ISI through secured communication, the sources

said. There are reports that four terrorists including a local over ground worker were involved in the attack which was carried out on the directions of Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Abu Hamza, they said.

The NIA team visited the attack site for the second consecutive day Tuesday. It examined the entire area, including the bus, and recreated the scene of the attack.

They have also questioned some of the detainees to gather leads related to the attack. Armed with surveillance equipment, including drones, and sniffer dogs, the security personnel launched the massive combing operation Monday.

PM Modi must heed Bhagwat's Manipur remark, says Oppn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Leaders of the Congress and other opposition parties Tuesday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi should pay heed to the "advice" of RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat and visit Manipur which has seen violence for over a year now, a day after Bhagwat said the situation in the strife-torn state must be considered a priority.

While Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said Bhagwat can perhaps prevail upon the "former RSS office-bearer" to go to the north-eastern state, independent MP Kapil Sibal said it is "not in the DNA" of the prime minister to listen to the advice of the opposition but he should pay attention to the words of the RSS chief.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav said Bhagwat has aired his concerns a bit too late and claimed that the prime minister has maintained "silence" on every crisis including Manipur.

Asked about RSS chief's concerns about Manipur, the RJD leader said, "He has been too late in speaking out."

Rahul attacks BJP over dynasty politics



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Tuesday targeted the Modi government over dynastic politics and dubbed the NDA ministry a "Parivar Mandal" as he pointed out several ministers in the Modi 3.0 government who hail from political families.

"Those who call the tradition of struggle, service and sacrifice of generations as nepotism are distributing the will of power to their 'sarkari parivar' (government family)," Gandhi said in a post in Hindi on X.

"This difference between the words and actions is called Narendra Modi," he added. In



his post, Gandhi named H D Kumaraswamy, son of former prime minister H D Deve Gowda, Jyotiraditya Scindia, son of former Union minister Madhav Rao Scindia, Kiren Rijju, son of first pro tem speaker of Arunachal Pradesh Rinchin Kharu, Raksha Khadse, daughter-in-law of former Maharashtra minister Eknath Khadse, and Jayant Chaudhary, grandson of former prime minister Chaudhary Charan Singh, and 10 more as part of NDA's "Parivar Mandal".

Rahul Gandhi's post came in response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi accusing the Congress of practising "dynastic politics" during the election campaign for the just-concluded Lok Sabha polls.

SECURITY REVAMP LIKELY

Security provided to some individuals in the country may see some revamp in the coming months with interchanging of paramilitary forces guarding them, sources said. They said this exercise will cover political figures, ex-ministers, retired bureaucrats and some others



North India battles scorching heatwave

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Temperatures in most parts of north India remained above the 40 degree Celsius-mark as heatwave conditions persisted Tuesday, with Delhi's Narela and Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh recording highs of 47.1 degrees Celsius.

Delhi sweltered under intense heat as the Safdarjung observatory, considered the official marker of the national capital, noted a high of 43.8 degrees Celsius, four notches above the normal average.

The Narela weather station recorded the highest temperature in the city at 47.1 degrees Celsius, they said. Other weather stations, such as Najafgarh recorded a high of 46.6 degrees Celsius while Aya Nagar recorded 44.8 degrees C, Ridge 45 degrees C and Palam 44.1 degrees C, the bulletin said. The national capital was on "orange" alert, which stands for "be prepared" in the colour codes of the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest maximum temperature in the state at 47.1 degrees C.

Varanasi recorded a high of 45.3, Bagpat and Fursatganj 45.2 degrees C each, Fatehpur 45 degrees while the state capital Lucknow saw a maximum temperature of 44.7 degrees C.

Meanwhile, light rains occurred in Agra. In Rajasthan, Churu was the hottest place with a high of 45.6 degrees Celsius, a MeT department official said.

Light rain was also observed in some parts of the state today.

Sriganganagar recorded 45.1 degrees, followed by 44.8 degrees each in Fatehpur and Bikaner. Pilani recorded a high of 44.7 degrees C, Sangaria 44.3 degrees,



Barmer 44 degrees while it was 43.5 degrees each in Jaipur, Alwar and Jaisalmer. Isolated heatwave returned to Jammu with the maximum temperature in the city settling at 43 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal during this part of the season, the meteorological department said.

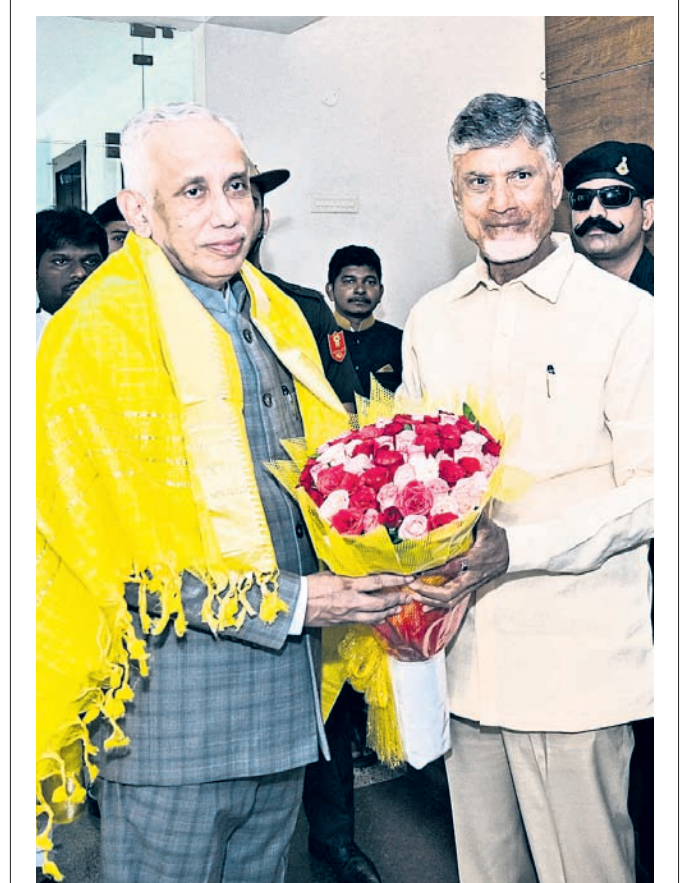
The city, which reeled under heatwave for most part of the last month, got relief June 7 when the temperature dropped to 37.6 degrees Celsius.

However, the day temperature once again shot up in Jammu to 41.2 degrees Celsius Monday amid prediction of dry weather and return of isolated heatwave from June 11 till June 17. In Himachal Pradesh, the weather remained dry as Neri in Hamirpur district was hottest place in the state with a high of 44.8 degree Celsius.

Una recorded a high of 42.8 degrees, Dhaulakuan 42.6 degree Celsius, Hamirpur 40.8 degree and Sundernagar 40 degrees Celsius.

The minimum temperature remained above normal at most places and Neri recorded a low of 28.3 degree, followed by Dehra Gopipur 26.0 degree and Paonta Sahib 25.0 degree.

The MeT station in Himachal has predicted dry weather in lower and mid hills June 12 and 13 and rains at isolated places in higher hills from June 12 to 14. In Haryana, Nuh reeled at 45.9 degrees Celsius and Hisar recorded a maximum temperature of 44.8 degrees Celsius.



Telugu Desam Party (TDP) chief Nara Chandrababu Naidu meets Andhra Pradesh Governor S Abdul Nazeer ahead of his swearing-in ceremony as Chief Minister, in Vijayawada. Naidu is set to be sworn in as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Wednesday for a fourth term

Scientists detect frost atop Mars' volcanoes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Researchers have detected frost atop volcanoes on Mars, so far considered "improbable" owing to hot temperatures on the planet.

The discovery marks the first time that frost has been detected near the planet's equator, challenging current perceptions of the planet's climate, said the international team of researchers, led by those at the University of Bern, Switzerland.

The volcanoes in the Mars' Tharsis region, where the frost was observed, are the tallest in the entire solar system. The frost sits in the calderas of the volcanoes, which are large hollows at their summits created during past eruptions, the re-

searchers said.

They proposed that the way the air circulates above these mountains, it creates a unique "microclimate" allowing for the thin patches of frost to form.

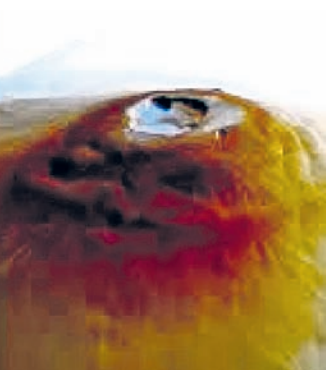
"We thought it was improbable for frost to form around Mars' equator, as the mix of sunshine and thin atmosphere keeps temperatures during the day relatively high at both the surface and mountaintop, unlike what we see on Earth, where you might expect to see frosty peaks," explained Adomas Valantinas, who led the work as a PhD student at the University of Bern.

"What we're seeing may be a remnant of an ancient climate cycle on modern Mars, where you had precipitation and maybe even snowfall on these volca-



noes in the past," said Valantinas. In their study, published in the journal Nature Geoscience, the researchers described that the frost is present for only a few hours after sunrise before it evaporates in sunlight.

Further, at about a hundredth



of a millimetre thick, roughly the width of a human hair, the frost is "incredibly thin," yet "quite vast," the authors said.

The frost is part of at least 1.5 lakh tons of water cycling between the surface and air each day during the cold seasons --

The volcanoes in the Mars' Tharsis region, where the frost was observed, are the tallest in the entire solar system

The frost sits in the calderas of the volcanoes, which are large hollows at their summits created during past eruptions, the researchers said

about the same as 60 Olympic-size swimming pools, they said.

The Tharsis region on Mars hosts numerous volcanoes, which tower above the surrounding plains at heights ranging from one to two times that of Earth's Mount Everest. Olympus Mons, for instance, is as wide as France, the researchers said. They said that modelling how frosts form could help scientists understand

Mars's other secrets, including those about the existence of water, along with those of the planet's atmosphere.

The knowledge is essential for future exploration and the search for possible signs of life, they said. For the study, the researchers analysed more than 30,000 images obtained from the Colour and Stereo Surface Imaging System (CaSSIS) onboard the European Space Agency's (ESA's) Trace Gas Orbiter (a spacecraft). The findings were validated through independent observations, including those from the ESA's Mars Express orbiter.

The efforts helped in initially finding the frost and then confirm its existence, the researchers said.

national



Looking ahead, definitely, I think the two axioms that the prime minister has given us -- Bharat First and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam -- will be the two guiding axioms of Indian foreign policy

S JAISHANKAR | EAM

'DROP MODI KA PARIVAR FROM SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday urged his supporters to remove "Modi Ka Parivar" suffix from their social media handles, saying the election win of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance has effectively conveyed the message it was meant to. BJP members and his supporters in huge numbers had identified themselves on social media platforms as "Modi Ka Parivar" (Modi's family) in March following opposition leader



of the day quote

I regret that innocent pilgrims, unarmed people, were attacked. We all, the people of the state, should condemn it and pray that god sends the people who did this to hell

FAROOQ ABDULLAH | NATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

When rainwater will be released from Haryana, it will flow swiftly through these artificial channels, carrying with it the small soil islands, thereby eliminating any possibility of water stagnation and allowing the water to flow swiftly ahead

SAURABH BHARADWAJ | DELHI IRRIGATION AND FLOOD CONTROL MINISTER

As we were scared of the temple being used as the election agenda to seek votes, the people of Ayodhya showed how to correct the 'politics of temple' (by defeating the BJP candidate.)

SHARAD PAWAR | NCP (SP) LEADER

X POST OF THE DAY

Tamil Nadu has more temples than any other states of India. Tamil Nadu is home to more than 400,000 Hindu temples and is aptly called "the land of temples". BJP has never ever won any seat in Tamil Nadu because people of Tamil Nadu follows the ideology of "HINDUISM", not "HINDUTVA". And that's why they are far ahead in life as compared to Bihar, UP and MP people. #MKStalin #MKStalinEra #MKStalin4TN #ModiCabinet #AllEyesOnReyasi #RahulGandhi

@dhruvrahte

SHORT TAKES

Alamgir resigns from state Cabinet

Ranchi: Jharkhand minister Alamgir Alam, who is in jail in connection with a money laundering case, has resigned from the state cabinet and also as the leader of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP), an official said Tuesday. In a letter to Chief Minister Champai Soren from Birsamunda Central Jail, Ranchi, Alam tendered his resignation as a cabinet minister, he said.

Fire at Park Street restaurant in Kolkata

Kolkata: A major fire broke out in a restaurant in the Park Street area of central Kolkata Tuesday, triggering panic among local people, an official said. No casualty was reported in the incident, he said. At least nine fire tenders were pressed into service to douse the blaze, which was first spotted around 10.50 am, the official said, adding that a disaster management team was also deployed. The fire broke out at the restaurant adjacent to a multi-storied building on Park Street.

Mumbai Airport increases eGates

Mumbai: The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMA) has increased the terminal entry points (eGates) from 24 to 68, the highest number of such eGates at kerbside/landside in the country, an official said here Tuesday. This will enhance the CSMA's processing capacity to 7,440 passengers per hour at Terminal 1 and 2,160 at Terminal 1, which is triple its current capacity.

Ayushman coverage to all over 70 years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Extending the Ayushman Bharat coverage to everyone aged above 70 years and the pan-India roll out of the U-WIN portal to digitise routine vaccinations are among the highlights of Narendra Modi's new government's 100-day agenda for the Union health ministry.

In a brief interaction with senior officials after taking charge of the ministry Tuesday, J P Nadda, who is also the BJP president, asked them to focus on the agenda, sources said.

Prime Minister Modi while releasing the BJP's Lok Sabha poll manifesto in April had announced that senior citizens above 70 years of age and the transgender community will be brought under the ambit of the Centre's health scheme Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

Launching the National Health Claims Exchange to ensure interoperability and faster processing of health insurance claims, use of drone services to deliver medical essentials from AIIMS and other Institutes of National Importance in difficult terrains and providing cashless treatment services to ex-servicemen also feature among the 14 agenda items for the ministry, the official sources told PTI.



Several parts of national capital face power cuts

Delhi Power minister Atishi says she will meet the Union Power minister and chairman of Power Grid Corporation to ensure prevention of such situation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Several parts of national capital, including the area housing Delhi LG secretariat and Chief Minister's residence, faced outages for varying lengths as a substation of power grid in neighbouring UP's Mandola caught fire Tuesday afternoon, officials said.

Power discom officials said several areas, largely in the central and east Delhi, were affected due to the failure. Some areas in north Delhi also faced outages. "Areas likely Civil Lines, Model Town, Kashmiri Gate, Gulabi

Bagh, Shakti Nagar and Vijay Nagar in North Delhi faced outages. The supply was resumed within an hour," said a discom official.

He said the power supply of LG House and Chief Minister's residence was also briefly affected. Areas in east, central, south and north Delhi like ITO, Laxmi Nagar, Lajpat Nagar, Jamia, Narela, Model Town, Rohini, Gopalpur, Sabzi Mandi, Wazirpur, and Kashmiri Gate also faced outages, he said.

Delhi Power minister Atishi termed the occurrence extremely worrying and said she will meet the Union Power minister and



chairman of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) in Mandola near Loni (Ghaziabad) in Uttar Pradesh had led to power outage in many parts of the national capital.

"There is power outage in

many parts of Delhi from 2:11 pm. This is due to a fire at sub-station of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) in Mandola UP. Delhi receives 1200 MW of power from the Mandola sub-station, and therefore many parts of Delhi have been affected. The power restoration process has begun and electricity is now gradually returning to different areas.

"But this major failure in the national power grid is extremely worrying. I am seeking time with the Central Power Minister and the Chairman of PGCIL, to ensure that such a situation is not repeated," she said in the post.

BJP to start nationwide organisational rejig soon



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: The BJP is set to kickstart soon the process of wide organisational changes with the launch of a fresh membership drive, followed by an internal poll across states leading up to the election of a new party president.

Though the extended tenure of incumbent president J P Nadda ends June 30, a recent amendment in the BJP's constitution has empowered its apex body, the Parliamentary Board, to take a call related to a president, including his term, in "emergency" situations.

Sources said the party's Parliamentary Board may extend Nadda's tenure till the election process for his replacement is complete.

They, however, added that it is for the party's top brass to take the final call and they may appoint a "working president" till his replacement is elected.

Nadda's induction into the Union Cabinet as the minister for

health and chemicals and fertilisers has necessitated the search for his replacement.

When Amit Shah, the BJP's president during the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, moved to the government, Nadda was appointed its working president before being elected the party's full-fledged president in January 2020.

The precedent opens up the possibility of appointing a working president, more so as a full-time leader may be needed to shepherd the upcoming membership drive and elections in its organisational units, be it districts or states. With assembly elections due in Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Delhi in the coming months, a working president will help galvanise the organisation, the sources said.

While Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's decision not to retain Nadda as a Cabinet minister in his second term was a clear indication that the seasoned leader will helm the party's vast organisational apparatus, the probable choices now are far from clear as most of the BJP's experienced leaders, who have been seen as likely choices, are part of the government.

The likes of Dharmendra Pradhan or Bhupendra Yadav, who are solid organisation hands and were often spoken about as potential party presidents, have continued in the Modi government in its third term.

This suggests that the party may elevate someone from its state faces or one of its national general secretaries to the top post. The shift of some BJP state presidents to governments, either at the Centre or the state, besides its electoral setback in a key state like Uttar Pradesh is likely to bring new faces in their place, the sources said.

The BJP's president in West Bengal Sukanta Majumdar has become a Union minister, while his Bihar counterpart Samrat Choudhary is a deputy chief minister in the state. Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini also heads the party in the state.

Kannada actor Darshan arrested in murder case



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, June 11: Leading Kannada film actor Darshan Thooogudepa and his close friend and actress Pavithra Gowda were arrested Tuesday in connection with the murder of a man who allegedly made "derogatory" comments against her, police sources said.

The police questioned the "Challenging Star" and 12 others after taking them into custody in connection with the alleged murder of the man, identified as Renukaswamy, whose body was found here June 9. Later, they all were arrested.

They were produced before a Bangalore Magistrate court, which remanded them to seven days police custody.

It is alleged that Renukaswamy, who worked with a pharma company and hailed from the district headquarters town of Chitradurga, had made "derogatory" comments against Gowda in social media posts, the sources said. Darshan was picked up from a Mysuru hotel as he stepped out after working out in

the gym there, in connection with the murder here, police said. After the alleged killing at a shed at Pattanagere under Kamakshipalya police station limits, allegedly belonging to one of the aides of Darshan, Renukaswamy's body was dumped into a nearby stormwater drain, police sources said.

"Based on the recovery of the dead body of an unidentified man and the injuries on his body, a murder case was registered. On the basis of CCTV footage and other technical evidence, the deceased was identified as Renukaswamy," Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda said.

Police came to know about the incident after some local residents alerted them about the body, which was later sent for an autopsy and the forensic report confirmed that he was murdered, police sources said. Further investigation led to the arrest of 11 suspects, police sources said, adding, based on their statement, Darshan and Pavithra were taken into custody. inquiry by police.

Varsities can now offer admissions twice a year

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Indian universities and higher education institutions will now be allowed to offer admissions twice a year on lines of foreign universities with the University Grants Commission (UGC) giving a go ahead to the plan, UGC chief Jagadeesh Kumar said.

The two admission cycles will be July-August and January-February from the 2024-25 academic session.

"If Indian universities can offer admission twice a year, it will benefit many students such as those who missed admission to a university in the July-August session due to a delay in the announcement of board results, health issues, or personal reasons," Kumar told PTI.

"Biannual university admissions will help students maintain motivation since they do not have to wait one full year to be admitted if they miss admission in the current cycle. With biannual admissions in place, industries can also do their campus recruitment twice a year, improving employment opportunities for the graduates," he added.

The UGC chief explained that biannual admissions will also enable the higher education institutes (HEIs) to plan their resource distribution, such as faculty, labs, classrooms and support services, more efficiently, result-

ing in a better functional flow within the university. "Universities worldwide already follow a biannual admission system. If Indian HEIs adopt the biannual admission cycle, our HEIs can enhance their international collaborations and student exchanges. As a result, our global competitiveness will improve, and we will align with the global educational standards," Kumar said.

"If HEIs adopt biannual admissions, they need to work on administrative intricacies, good planning for increased use of available resources, and providing

seamless support systems for the smooth transition of students admitted at dissimilar times of the year. HEIs can maximize the usefulness of biannual admissions only when they sufficiently prepare faculty members, staff and students for the transition," he added. Kumar, however, clarified that it will not be mandatory to offer biannual admissions for universities and those HEIs that have the required infrastructure and teaching faculty can utilise the opportunity. Last year, the UGC allowed students to take admission in open and distance learning (ODL) and online modes biannually in January and July during an academic year. Kumar said that last year's decision had helped nearly half a million students join their degree programs without waiting for one full academic year.



VSS INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES & RESEARCH (VIMSAR) Ayur Vihar, Burla, Sambalpur, Odisha - 768017 Walk-in-Interview for Selection of Assistant Professor, Associate Professors and Professors in various Departments of VIMSAR on Contractual/Deputation Basis

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, DHENKANAL FOREST DIVISION SHORT TENDER NOTICE Bid. Identification No. 01/2024-25 Date: 11.06.2024

The Odisha Agro Industries Corporation Limited (A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking) 95, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar - 7 Bid Identification No. MD/OAIC-42 (Tech.)/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER SUNDARGARH (R&B) DIVISION, SUNDARGARH "e"-Procurement Notice

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION, BHAWANIPATNA NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH E-Procurement

international

of the day quote

People are going to say what they're going to say. The reality is I'm not going to stop going, I'm not going to stop fighting for people's votes, I'm not going to stop fighting for the future of our country

RISHI SUNAK | PM, UK

My government tried to change this environment by bringing in the Protection of Journalists and Media Law but it has been sidelined since the engineered vote of no-confidence

IMRAN KHAN | FORMER PM, PAKISTAN

Premier Li Qiang's visit to Australia is an important opportunity to engage directly on key issues for both our nations

ANTHONY ALBANESE | PM, AUSTRALIA

SHORT TAKES

Market fire kills hundreds of animals

Bangkok: Hundreds of caged animals died Tuesday after a fire struck Chatuchak Weekend Market, one of the most famous markets in Thailand's capital. The fire was reported early in the morning and quickly swept across more than 100 shops in the market's pet section, according to the Bangkok government. There were no reports of human casualties, but multiple caged animals were found dead at the market, which belongs to the State Railway of Thailand.

Baltimore shipping lane reopens

Washington: The Baltimore shipping lane blocked for more than two months after a cargo ship collided with a major bridge in March, sending it crashing into the water, fully reopened Monday, authorities said. The US Army Corps of Engineers, along with Navy salvage divers, restored the channel to its original dimensions by removing about 50,000 tons of debris from the Patapsco River, a statement from the Key Bridge Response Unified Command said. The river was certified as safe for transit Monday.

49 migrants dead after boat capsizes

Geneva: The UN migration agency said Tuesday that at least 49 migrants had died and 140 others remained missing after their boat capsized off the coast of Yemen, revising higher an earlier toll from local officials. The boat travelling from Somalia was carrying Somali and Ethiopian passengers, the International Organization of Migration statement said. Among the dead were 31 women and six children, it said.

Singapore Airlines offers compensation

Singapore: Singapore Airlines Tuesday offered monetary compensation and a full refund of the airfare to the 211 passengers onboard the flag carrier's turbulence-hit London to Singapore flight last month, which led to the death of one passenger and injured many others. On May 21, Flight SQ321 en route from London to Singapore encountered extreme turbulence. The Boeing 777-300ER aircraft was carrying 211 passengers and a crew of 18 when it made an emergency landing at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport. Passengers and crew were thrown up to the plane's ceiling before falling back down, leading to the death of one man and injuries to dozens of others.



Although the size of India and Bulgaria are not comparable, I believe that we need to do more as a country which is part of the EU to foster the EU-India relations

KRISTIAN VIGENIN | DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE BULGARIAN SOCIALIST PARTY (BSP)

CHINESE PREMIER TO VISIT THREE COUNTRIES

Chinese Premier Li Qiang will visit New Zealand, Australia and Malaysia starting from June 13 to 20, a Chinese Foreign Ministry statement said Tuesday



US lifts weapon ban on Ukrainian military unit

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyiv, June 11: The US has lifted a ban on providing American weapons and training to a controversial Ukrainian military unit that was key to the defense of the major port city of Mariupol, the State Department said Tuesday.

The Azov Brigade is among Ukraine's most effective and popular fighting units, but has been dogged by its origins as a volunteer battalion that drew fighters from far-right circles and criticism for some of its tactics. The US had banned the regiment from using American weapons, citing the neo-Nazi ideology of some of its founders.

The current members of the Azov Brigade, which has been absorbed into Ukraine's National



Guard as the 12th Special Forces Brigade, reject accusations of extremism and any ties with far-right movements. But the Kremlin has seized on the regime's origins in its efforts to cast Russia's invasion as a battle against Nazi influence in Ukraine.

US law prohibits providing equipment and training to foreign military units or individuals suspected of committing gross human rights violations. The State Department said in a statement that it found "no evidence" of such violations.

"This is a new page in our

Zelenskyy appeals for help

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy appealed for short-term help in repairing his country's electricity network and long-term investment in its energy system as a conference to gather support for Ukraine's recovery from the destruction wreaked by Russia's war opened Tuesday. Starting a week of intense diplomacy that will also see him travel to the Group of Seven summit of Ukraine's leading Western allies in Italy and a global peace summit in Switzerland, Zelenskyy also renewed his calls for more help in repelling missile attacks by Russian forces.

unit's history," the Azov Brigade wrote in a statement on Instagram. "Azov is becoming

even more powerful, even more professional and even more dangerous for occupiers."

"Obtaining western weapons and training from the United States will not only increase the combat ability of Azov, but most importantly, contribute to the preservation of the lives and the health of personnel," the statement said.

Up until the State Department's decision, Azov was prohibited from sending fighters to Western military exercises or accessing weapons bought with American funds. Lifting the ban will likely bolster the brigade's fighting capacity at a difficult time during the war against Russia's invasion. Ukraine suffers from persistent ammunition and personnel shortages.

Hunter Biden found guilty in gun case

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wilmington, June 11: Hunter Biden was convicted Tuesday of all three felony charges related to the purchase of a revolver in 2018 when, prosecutors argued, the president's son lied on a mandatory gun-purchase form by saying he was not illegally using or addicted to drugs.

Jurors found Hunter Biden guilty of lying to a federally licensed gun dealer, making a false claim on the application by saying he was not a drug user and illegally having the gun for 11 days. The jury in Wilmington, Delaware, deliberated for about three hours over two days. Hunter Biden started straight ahead and showed little emotion as the verdict was read.

Hamas accepts Gaza truce plan

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during his latest trip to the Middle East, where America's top diplomat urges approval of a cease-fire proposal

REUTERS

Tel Aviv, June 11: Hamas accepts a UN resolution backing a plan to end the war with Israel in Gaza and is ready to negotiate details, a senior official of the Palestinian militant group said Tuesday in what the US Secretary of State called "a hopeful sign".

Conversations on plans for Gaza after the Israel-Hamas war ends will continue Tuesday afternoon and in the next couple of days, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in Tel Aviv after talks with Israeli leaders. "It's imperative that we have these plans."

Ahead of Blinken's trip, Israel and Hamas both repeated hard-line positions that have undermined previous mediation to end the fighting, while Israel has pressed on with assaults in central and southern Gaza, among the bloodiest of the war.

On Tuesday, however, senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri, who is based outside Gaza, said it accepted the ceasefire resolution and was ready to negotiate over the details. It was up to Washington to ensure that Israel abides by it, he added.

He said Hamas accepted the formula stipulating the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza and a swap of hostages held in Gaza for Palestinian prisoners jailed in Israel.

"The US administration is facing a real test to carry out its commitments in compelling the occupation to immediately end the war in an implementation of the UN Security Council resolution," Abu Zuhri told Reuters. Blinken said the Hamas state-



ment was "a hopeful sign" but definitive word was still needed from the Hamas leadership inside Israeli-besieged Gaza. "That's what counts, and that's what we don't have yet."

Biden's proposal envisages a ceasefire and release of hostages in exchange for Palestinians jailed in Israel in stages, ultimately leading to a permanent end to the war.

Israel has said it will agree only to temporary pauses in the war until Hamas is defeated, while Hamas has countered it will not accept a deal that does not guarantee the war will end.

Blinken had consultations Tuesday with Israeli President Isaac Herzog, centrist ex-military chief Benny Gantz, who quit Israel's war cabinet Sunday over what he said was Netanyahu's failure to outline a plan for the war's end, as well as opposition leader Yair Lapid.

The US State Department said Blinken discussed Biden's truce proposal with Gantz and reiterated that it would advance Israel's security interests, bring hostages home and raise the

chances of restoring calm along Israel's border with Lebanon.

The US is Israel's closest ally and biggest arms supplier, though it has become sharply critical of the high civilian death toll, vast

destruction and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza caused by the Israeli military campaign.

HOPES FOR CEASEFIRE REPEATEDLY DASHED

Biden has repeatedly declared that ceasefires were close over the past several months, but there has been only one, week-long truce, in November, when over 100 hostages were freed in exchange for about 240 Palestinians held in Israeli jails.

Israeli forces rescued four hostages held by Hamas in a commando raid into a crowded urban refugee camp in central Gaza Saturday during which 274 Palestinians were killed by Israeli bombardments, according to Gaza's health authorities.

There are over 100 hostages left in the coastal enclave, according to Israeli tallies, including at least 40 whom Israeli authorities have declared dead in absentia.

'Hopeful sign'

Chinese ex-Navy officer arrested in Taiwan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, June 11: Authorities in Taiwan have said a Chinese man who was arrested Sunday after entering a Taipei harbour illegally in a speedboat is a former navy captain who could have been on a military probe.

The intrusion by a mainland Chinese man amid high-security measures in the midst of recurring tensions with China came in for strong criticism from Taiwan's top politicians.



China views Taiwan as a rebel province that must be reunified with the mainland, even by force. The man, identified as Ruan,

The man had served as a captain in the Chinese navy. He was one of 18 purported defectors seen over the past year or so, all of whom claimed they admired Taiwan's democratic way of life and came for freedom

KUAN BI-LING | OCEAN AFFAIRS MINISTER, TAIWAN

60, was spotted 11 km off the coast of Tamsui in New Taipei. After entering the Tamsui River, which leads to downtown

Taipei, the boat hit a ferry at the pier, according to the coastguard, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported Tuesday. Ruan, who claimed to be a former Chinese navy captain, said he left Ningde port in China's coastal city of Fuzhou a day earlier. However, according to the coastguard, the man said he was persecuted by mainland authorities for "making improper statements" and that he wished to flee to Taiwan.

China develops humanoid robots with facial movement

REUTERS

Dalian, June 11: On the floor of the Ex-Robots factory in China's northeastern coastal city of Dalian, engineers develop humanoid robots with a focus on enhancing facial expressions and emotions.

Neck-length silicone masks lie sprawled on a table alongside silicone arms and feet, while disembodied heads sit on display and humanoid robots in various stages of construction stand nearby. Drawings of robot designs adorn a wall.

"We have our own software and algorithm teams," said Ex-Robots Chief Executive Li

Boyang, adding that humanoid robots are the most complex class of robotic products.

As an Ex-Robots worker moves her head, smiles and sticks out her tongue, a humanoid robot mimics her movement thanks to tiny motors installed in several spaces in its head.

"We are also working on the foundation model. The model we're making is multi-modal and capable of emotional expression. It can perceive the surrounding environment and produce appropriate facial feedback," Li said.

Ex-Robots said it takes from two weeks to a month to produce a humanoid robot, with



There are many basic models and algorithms that are commonly open source, which everyone uses. However, we concentrate more on how to enable the AI to recognise and express expressions and emotions

LI BOYANG | EX-ROBOTS CHIEF EXECUTIVE

prices ranging from 1.5 million yuan (\$207,000) to 2 million yuan. The main purpose of the company's robots so far is for display

in museums, one of which Ex-Robots has housed in the same building as its factory.

Looking ahead, Li believes humanoid robots will have a bigger role to play in the health-care and education industries.

"Psychological counselling and health are certainly future application scenarios. We are currently conducting related research, such as auxiliary treatment and preliminary screening for emotional and psychological disorders," he said.

"Moreover, I believe that emotional interaction has broader applications in service fields, such as those aimed at children."

of the day quote

Modi government will continue its work of bringing transformative change in people's lives, through use of digital technologies...India will keep its lead in every segment, be it semiconductor, telecom tech, manufacturing tech...

ASHWINI VAISHNAW | UNION MINISTER

This (new and renewable) sector is already contributing towards India's energy security, and we will work in this direction. I will also review the 100-day plan which has now changed to 125 days.

PRALHAD JOSHI | UNION MINISTER

We are a longstanding partner of the Russian federation. We have had discussion with the Russians on long-term deals

HARDEEP SINGH PURI | PETROLEUM MINISTER

SHORT TAKES

Union Bank to raise ₹10,000cr

New Delhi: State-owned Union Bank of India Tuesday approved a proposal to raise ₹10,000 crore, including ₹6,000 crore from share sale, to fund its business growth. The board approved raising equity capital not exceeding ₹6,000 crore in tranche(s) within the overall limit of ₹10,000 crore through public issue -- further public offer or rights issue or QIP, Union Bank of India said in a regulatory filing. This would be subject to the approval of the government, other regulatory authorities and shareholders' approval, it added. The board also approved the raising of Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 (AT 1) Bonds not exceeding ₹2,000 crore and Tier 2 Bonds not exceeding ₹2,000 crore (including foreign currency denominated AT1/Tier 2 Bonds) within the overall limit of ₹10,000 crore, it noted.

Tyre exports at ₹23,073cr in FY24

New Delhi: The total tyre exports from India during 2023-24 stood at ₹23,073 crore, matching previous year's figure on the back of a sharp recovery in the second half of the fiscal, the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA) said Tuesday. In the first half of the year, tyre exports were severely impacted by falling demand in view of slowdown in advanced economies, geopolitical uncertainties and inflationary pressures, the industry body said in a statement. "Tyre exports from India made a sharp recovery in the second half of FY2023-24 and went up by 12 per cent in value terms against the year-ago period," ATMA said citing data released by Ministry of Commerce. The total tyre exports from India during FY2023-24 stood at ₹23,073 crore matching previous year's figure, it added.

HCLTech, apoBank extend ties

New Delhi: IT services company HCL Technologies (HCLTech) Tuesday said it has expanded partnership with Germany's largest cooperative primary bank Deutsche Apotheker- und Ärztebank eG (apoBank). The estimated contract value of the deal is \$278 million over a duration of 7.5 years, according to a regulatory filing. "HCLTech will accompany apoBank with an outcome-oriented managed services model that delivers resilient, scalable, high quality and compliant digital foundation services, enabling apoBank to deliver fast and secured banking services to its customers," a company statement said.



From an industry perspective, stability is positive. What is also positive is the fact that this government has focused more on capex for long-term growth

ANISH SHAH | MAHINDRA GROUP CEO AND MD

EXPORTS FROM SEZs UP 4% IN 2023-24

Exports from special economic zones (SEZs) rose by over 4 per cent to \$163.69 billion in 2023-24 even though the country's total shipments dipped by more than 3 per cent in the last fiscal. According to the data of the commerce ministry, exports from these zones stood at \$157.24 billion in 2022-23 and \$133 billion in 2021-22.



India to clock 6.7% growth over 3 yrs: WB

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: India will remain the fastest-growing major economy recording a steady growth of 6.7 per cent in the next three years including the current financial year, said a world bank report released Tuesday.

In India, growth is estimated to have picked up to 8.2 per cent in fiscal year (FY) 2023/24 (April 2023 to March 2024) -- 1.9 percentage points higher than estimated in January, according to the World Bank's latest Global Economic Prospects report.

It further said global growth is projected to hold steady at 2.6 per cent in 2024 before edging up to an average of 2.7 per cent in 2025-26. That is well below the 3.1 per cent average in the decade before COVID-19.

"The forecast implies that over the course of 2024-26 countries that collectively account for more than 80 per cent of the world's population and global GDP would still be growing more slowly than they did in the decade before COVID-19," it said.

Growth in the South Asia (SAR) region is projected to slow from 6.6 per cent in 2023 to 6.2 per cent in 2024, mainly due to a moderation of growth in India from a high base in recent years.

With steady growth in India, regional growth is forecast to stay at 6.2 per cent in 2025-26. Among the region's other economies, growth is expected to remain robust in Bangladesh, though at a slower rate than in the past several years, and to



strengthen in Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

"India will remain the fastest-growing of the world's largest economies, although its pace of expansion is expected to moderate. After a high growth rate in FY2023/24, steady growth of 6.7 per cent per year, on average, is projected for the three fiscal years beginning in FY2024/25," the report said.

This moderation is mainly due to slowdown in investment from a high base.

"However, investment growth is still expected to be stronger than previously envisaged and remain robust over the forecast period, with strong public investment accompanied by private investment," it said.

It further said that private consumption growth is expected to benefit from a recovery of agricultural production and declining inflation.

Government consumption is projected to grow only slowly,

in line with the government's aim of reducing current expenditure relative to GDP, it added.

According to the report, global inflation is expected to moderate to 3.5 per cent in 2024 and 2.9 per cent in 2025, but the pace of decline is slower than was projected just six months ago.

Many central banks, as a result, are expected to remain cautious in lowering policy interest rates. Global interest rates are likely to remain high by the standards of recent decades -- averaging about 4 per cent over 2025-26, roughly double the 2000-19 average, it said.

In India, World Bank said inflation has remained within the Reserve Bank's target range of 2 to 6 per cent since September 2023. However, apart from India, regional inflation, though below peak levels, has remained elevated, reflecting persistently high food price inflation from local food supply disruptions.

India reports sixth strongest hiring outlook globally: Survey

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: India ranks sixth globally for its employment outlook for September quarter 2024, with 30 per cent of businesses planning to increase their staff over the next three months, according to a global survey by workforce solutions company ManpowerGroup.

India's Net Employment Outlook (NEO), calculated by subtracting employers planning reductions versus those planning to hire, stood at 30 per cent. It weakened from the previous quarter and the same time last year by 6 per cent, as employers are cautious in their hiring intent for the next three months.

India ranks sixth globally for its employment outlook, 8 points above the global average. The survey was conducted in 42 countries.

Globally, Costa Rica reported the strongest hiring expectation for July-September at 35 per cent, followed by Switzerland (34 per cent), Guatemala (32 per cent), Mexico (32 per cent) and South Africa (31 per cent).

On the other hand, Argentina and Romania reported the weakest NEO at 3 per cent. In the Asia Pacific region, the country has the strongest outlook. India (30 per cent) and China (28 per cent) continue to report the strongest outlook in the region. Most cautious outlooks were reported by employers in Hong Kong (8 per cent) and Japan (12 per cent).

In the latest edition of the ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey, 3,150 employers in India were asked about their third quarter hiring intentions.

Domestic PV sales up 4% in May: SIAM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Automakers dispatched over 3.47 lakh passenger vehicles to dealers in domestic market in May, recording a year-on-year growth of 4 per cent over same month last year, industry body SIAM said Tuesday.

The overall passenger vehicle (PV) dispatches from companies to dealers stood at 3,47,492 units last month, as compared to 3,34,537 units in May 2023. The dispatches were the highest ever for the month of May so far, driven by robust offtake of utility vehicles.

Maruti Suzuki sold 1,44,002 units last month, as against 1,43,708 units in May 2023.

Hyundai Motor India dispatched 49,151 units in May, as compared to 48,601 units in May 2023.

Mahindra & Mahindra sold 43,218 units last month, as against 32,886 units in the year-ago period.

All the segments -- passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, two-wheelers and three-wheelers have posted growth in May, as compared to the same month last year, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers

(SIAM) President Vinod Aggarwal said in a statement.

"Passenger vehicles have only witnessed a moderate growth, primarily owing to a high base effect of the previous year," he noted.

Two-wheeler sales rose 10 per cent to 16,20,084 units last month, as compared to 14,71,550 units in the year-ago period.

Three-wheeler dispatches rose 15 per cent to 55,763 units in May, as against 48,610 units in May 2023.

"With expectations of above normal monsoon and continued emphasis on economic development by the new government, as it pursues its goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047, the auto industry is optimistic of steady growth in 2024-25 as well," Aggarwal stated.

Elaborating further, SIAM Director General Rajesh Menon said PV dispatches last month were the highest ever in May so far. Two-wheelers saw a growth of 10 per cent last month but still remains lower than 2017-18 levels of May, he said.

"Domestic sales of three-wheelers in May 2024 grew by 14.7 per cent compared to May 2023, posting the highest-ever sales in May," Menon said.



Micro loans grow 27 per cent, stress levels inch up: Report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, June 11: The micro loans portfolio of various lenders grew by 27 per cent year-on-year for the March 2024 quarter, a report said Tuesday.

After remaining stable or improving over the last many quarters, the stress levels in terms of loan default inched up marginally during the quarter, the report by credit information company Crif High Mark said.

At a time when the regulator is flagging concerns on unsecured loans, the data pointed out that personal loan outstanding of microfinance borrowers witnessed the second fastest growth among other retail assets with a portfolio growth of over 38 per cent.

The gross loan portfolio grew 27 per cent to ₹4.42 lakh crore in March, the report said, adding that the growth was 8.5 per cent as compared to the preceding December quarter figure.

The top 10 states account for 83.5 per cent of the Gross Loan Portfolio (GLP), it said, adding

that West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh posted the fastest growth during the January-March period.

However, the proportion of loan assets overdue for the duration between 31 days and 180 days grew to 2.1 per cent in March from the 2 per cent level in December 2023, the report said.

Tirunelveli district was the worst performer nationally on asset quality, followed by Coimbatore and Madurai, making Tamil Nadu home to the three top districts where micro-lenders are facing maximum stress.

Tamil Nadu also topped nationally on the average balances per account front, with an outstanding of ₹62,200 per borrower.

The report said borrowers with a higher number of active loans have higher delinquency and added that over 12 per cent of the borrowers have four or more active loans. Karnataka leads the states where borrowers have the maximum active loans.

Sensex, Nifty settle flat amid volatile trade

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

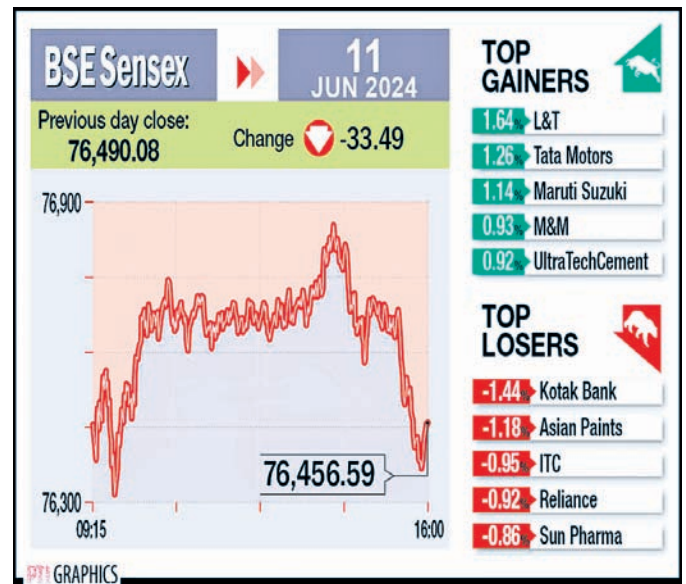
Mumbai, June 11: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty ended almost flat Tuesday after a record-breaking rally as investors preferred to remain on the sidelines awaiting further triggers.

After trading in the positive territory for the most part of the session, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 33.49 points or 0.04 per cent to settle at 76,456.59 due to fag-end selling. During the day, it jumped 370.45 points or 0.48 per cent to 76,860.53.

In a volatile trade, the NSE Nifty ended marginally up by 5.65 points or 0.02 per cent to 23,264.85.

Sensex and Nifty hit their all-time high levels in the early trade Monday.

"After a notable rebound, the domestic market has stabilised, awaiting further triggers. With the resolution of uncertainties in government formation, attention has shifted back to global and domestic indicators. Concerns have risen regarding potential US rate cuts following last week's strong US job data, leading to an increase in US



bond yields. However, FIIs have been net buyers lately. Investors are now gearing up for this week's policy decisions from the US Fed and the BoJ, as well as key inflation data from the US and India, seeking insights into the trajectory of rate cuts," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Among the 30 Sensex companies, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Asian Paints, Reliance Industries, ITC, Sun Pharma, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and JSW Steel were the major laggards.

On the other hand, Larsen & Toubro, Tata Motors, Maruti, NTPC, Mahindra & Mahindra and UltraTech Cement were among the gainers.

In the broader market, the

BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.95 per cent, and midcap index rallied 0.74 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, telecommunication rallied 1.93 per cent, oil and gas climbed 1.84 per cent, realty soared 1.04 per cent, energy jumped 1.04 per cent, auto (0.89 per cent) and consumer discretionary (0.60 per cent).

In contrast, metal, FMCG and consumer durables were the laggards.

Signalling continuity, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Monday retained Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar in charge of the four high-profile ministries - Home, Defence, Finance and External Affairs - respectively, in his new government.

The four ministers in charge of these portfolios make up the crucial Cabinet Committee on Security headed by the prime minister.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 0.32 per cent to USD 81.37 a barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ₹2,572.38 crore Monday, according to exchange data.

No stake sale in ONGC's Mumbai High: Official

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will not give any equity stake in its flagship Mumbai High oil and gas fields to any foreign company and is only seeking help from global giants like BP Plc to help reverse declining output from the field, a top government official said Tuesday.

The foreign company will get a share of revenue from incremental production plus a fixed fee for its efforts, while ONGC will continue to be the operator and incur all the capital and operating expenditure in implementation of the technical solution, the official said.

All risks will be borne by ONGC, while the foreign partner will get the fixed fee even in case of a failure. "Mumbai High is a field that was given to ONGC on nomination basis and the



company has no authority or power to sell a stake in any nomination field," the official said. "What ONGC has done is floated an international tender to seek technical services providers (TSP) to reverse years of decline

in oil and gas production from the field."

India is more than 85 per cent dependent on imports to meet its requirement of crude oil, which is converted into fuels like petrol, diesel and LPG in refineries,

and roughly half of the consumption of natural gas, which is used to generate electricity, make fertilizers, converted into CNG to run automobiles and piped to household kitchens for cooking.

Govt imposes import curbs on jewellery

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: The government Tuesday imposed import curbs on certain types of studded gold jewellery, a move which could discourage inbound shipments of these items from Indonesia and Tanzania.

However, the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) said that imports under a valid India-UAE free trade agreement TRQ (tariff rate quota) will be permitted without restricted import authorisation.

The import policy of gold jewellery studded with pearls, with certain kinds of diamonds, and other precious and semi-precious stones "has been amended from free to restricted" with immediate effect, the DGFT said in a notification. An industry expert said that imports of these items were increased from Indonesia and Tanzania. India has a free trade agreement with Indonesia.

Batters eye form against USA

NRAI announces shooting squad for Paris Olympics

ASSOCIATION INFORMS THAT THE SHOTGUN TEAM WILL BE DECLARED LATER

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Women's pistol ace Manu Bhaker was the only one to be picked in two individual events after her excellent run of form in selection trials as the national shooting federation announced Tuesday a 15-member Indian rifle and pistol team for the Paris Olympics. The Paris Games will be held July 26 to August 11.

The squad was finalised during a selection meeting held virtually. Eight rifle shooters and seven in pistol discipline have been selected for the Games.

The selectors decided to give precedence to the trial results, shutting the door on the likes of World Champion Rudranksh Patil, who has been pleading to be considered despite underwhelming scores in his pet 10m air rifle event as he had won the quota. In shooting, quotas are won by countries and not individual athletes.

All the team members, along with the coaches and support staff, are currently in a camp in Volmerange-Les-Mines, France, mainly aimed at 'acclimatisation and hard-training' before they come back home for a two-week break.

Indian shooters managed to secure a record 21 of the 24 possible quotas, including a full allocation of eight each in rifle and pistol events.

This is India's best-ever quota haul in shooting at any edition of the Olympics, eclipsing the 15 from Tokyo Games.

Senior vice-president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo informed that the team have been selected after lengthy deliberations. "The selection committee met and deliberated at length. We feel we have selected the best team on current form as per merit and sticking to



Manu Bhaker is the only Indian shooter who will participate in two disciplines at the Paris Games

Shooting squads for Paris

(Rifle): Sandeep Singh, Arjun Babuta (10m Air Rifle), Elavelnil Valarivan, Ramita (10m Air Rifle Women), Sift Kaur Samra, Anjum Moudgil (50m Rifle 3 Positions Women), Aishwary Tomar, Swapnil Kusale (50m Rifle 3 Positions). (Pistol): Sarabjot Singh, Arjun Cheema (10m Air Pistol), Manu Bhaker, Rhythm Sangwan (10m Air Pistol Women), Anish Bhanwal Sidhu (25m RFP), Manu Bhaker, Esha Singh (25m Pistol Women).

the policy," Singh Deo stated. "We are confident that everything has been put in place for the team to deliver. Given our depth in rifle and pistol, some

very good shooters are not part of the squad. However, they will have a chance to make a comeback. We wish the squad all the very best," he added.

India take on 'Mini India' with the hosts having eight players of Indian origin



Both Suryakumar Yadav (left) and Virat Kohli would like to get some runs under their belt in the game against the USA

No game in the World Cup is easy and the USA have shown they can be a tough opponent on these pitches
ROHIT SHARMA

PONTING PRAISES ROHIT'S CAPTAINCY

New York: Former Australia skipper Ricky Ponting has hailed Rohit Sharma's 'outstanding' captaincy in India's six-run win over Pakistan in the T20 World Cup here. "Rohit Sharma is a very experienced captain, isn't he? And, I just saw him and said, 'mate, your captaincy today (Sunday) was outstanding,'" Ponting said in a video posted by the ICC on Instagram. "I don't think he could have done much more in the game," Ponting added.

Player' is finding it tough on two-paced tracks where the ball is gripping and coming late on to the bat.

AGENCIES

New York, June 11: India's batting prima donnas would want to unchain themselves from the vagaries of a much-maligned drop-in track and chance their arms freely against an impressive-but-inexperienced USA in their group league game of the T20 World Cup here Wednesday. The Men in Blue need one more win to ensure their Super Eight berth.

However, in the two matches that they have played so far, against Ireland and Pakistan, the Indian batting looked brittle on the not-so-friendly pitches. Against Pakistan, the Indians lost their last seven wickets for just 30 runs to be all out for 119

with an over still to spare. Hence the likes of Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja and Shivam Dube would all like to spend some quality time in the middle and boost their confidence against an inexperienced USA bowling attack.

The dreams of wearing the India blues remained unfulfilled but when a sprightly bunch of Indian-Americans take the field against their country of birth, the likes of Saurabh Netravalkars and Harmeet Singh would once again like to be the proverbial David against the Goliaths of the game.

Even though the track has significantly bridged the gap between teams, the USA, who are an eclectic mix of eight Indians,

two Pakistanis, a West Indian, one New Zealander, a South African and a Dutch might just find the gulf with India too much to bridge.

Monank Patel, Harmeet, Netravalkar, Jessy Singh and Noshutsh Kenjige all have their little Indian story to tell and if the opposition has Rohit Sharma, Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah and Rishabh Pant in their ranks, it would be a touch more endearing.

It's not every day that one gets a chance to bowl at Kohli and Rohit and face Bumrah even if it's far from being a sweet experience. But it's experience nevertheless and that too of a lifetime.

In both the games, India's weakest link has been Shivam Dube. CSK's most valued 'Impact

SHORT TAKES

Odisha FC recruit midfielder Rohit

Bhubaneswar: Midfielder Rohit Kumar completed Tuesday his move to Odisha FC by signing a two-year deal with the club. The player who represented Bengaluru FC earlier has so far played 80 matches in the ISL and also represented India nine times. "I'm thrilled and excited to be a part of Odisha FC. My conversations with the coach (Sergio Lobero) have been very positive, and I'm looking forward to working under him and learning from him," Rohit said in a release issued by Odisha FC. "I am ready to face the challenges. I really like the style with which Odisha FC play," he added.

Bopanna, Nagal seal Paris Olympics spot

New Delhi: Tennis players Rohan Bopanna and Sumit Nagal have secured their Paris Olympics quotas for India through their Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) rankings in doubles and singles competitions respectively, the All India Tennis Association (AITA) said in a release Tuesday. The qualification window for Paris Olympics ended Monday. World No. 4 Bopanna earned his quota comfortably, sitting pretty inside the top 10 of doubles competition. Nagal made it to the quotas as well after gaining a jump of 18 places in the singles rankings last week. He won an ATP tournament in Italy which helped him to improve his rankings.

First win for Pak

New York: Pakistan opened their account in the ongoing T20 ICC World Cup here Tuesday with an eight-wicket win over minnows Canada. After restricting Canada to 106 for seven, Pakistan romped home riding on a fine half century by Mohammed Rizwan (53 n o, 53b, 2x4, 1x6). Skipper Babar Azam (33) also played a supporting knock as the two put on 63 runs for the second wicket. Earlier, Pakistani pacers bowled well in tandem to restrict Canada. Mohammad Amir (2/13) and Haris Rauf (2/26) were the most successful bowlers for the Pakistan. The batters of Canada found the going tough against the Pakistani bowlers and rarely looked comfortable. Among the Canadian bowlers Dillon Heyliger (2/18) was the most successful bowler.

Injuries plague Polish team

Not much time left for strikers to recover before Euro game against the Netherlands

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Warsaw (Poland), June 11: Polish captain and striker Robert Lewandowski has been ruled out of his team's first game in the Euro Championship with a muscle tear, officials said Tuesday. His forward-line colleague Karol Swiderski is also doubtful for the entire tournament. Both suffered injuries as Poland beat Turkey 2-1 in a warm-up game Monday night.

In a separate development, the Dutch Football Federation said Tuesday that Netherlands midfielder Frenkie de Jong has been ruled out of the entire tournament after failing to recover from an ankle injury, dealing a blow to the team's chances. De Jong even did not play the Netherlands last warm-up game Monday in which they defeated Iceland 4-0.

Lewandowski set up Swiderski for the opening goal in the 12th minute in the game against Turkey. But in his celebrations, Swiderski hurt his ankle and had to be replaced.

Captain Lewandowski, Poland's all-time leading goalscorer, lasted until the 32nd minute when he hurt his right leg and was substituted.

The double blow is a nightmare for Poland. Arkadiusz



TOUGH TIMES: Poland skipper Robert Lewandowski limps off the field Monday

Milik was to be up front with Lewandowski for the Euros until he damaged his left knee Friday in the friendly against Ukraine. Milik returned to Juventus and had successful knee surgery Monday, but will not be able to play.

Turkey threatened to get the equaliser in the second half. Shots by Arda Güler and Orkun Kökçöçü were saved but goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny was helpless when substitute Baris Alper Yilmaz's shot from the edge of box deflected in.

After Turkey's Kerem Akturkoglu hit the crossbar from

long range, Poland won in the 90th thanks to a beauty by Nicola Zalewski, who weaved past two defenders to the box and scored his maiden international goal.

There was however nothing wrong with the Dutch attack as they put Iceland to the sword in Rotterdam, with Virgil van Dijk and Wout Weghorst scoring, just as they did against Canada last Thursday at De Kuip. The other scorers were Xavi Simons and substitute Donyell Malen who hit the target thanks to Memphis Depay, but Depay was denied moments later when VAR ruled out his goal.

Bangla blame rule for loss to SA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New York, June 11: The on-field umpire's decision to adjudge veteran batter Mahmudullah Riyad leg before, which was subsequently overturned in a review, was a bad call that cost Bangladesh the match against South Africa, their young batter Towhid Hridoy has said.

Bangladesh ended at 109/7 while chasing a target of 114 against South Africa. A contentious ICC rule saw them lose four leg-bye runs when Mahmudullah was given out leg before by on-field umpire Sam Nogajski off an Ottneil Baartman delivery. The ball had crossed the boundary ropes but it was deemed dead as Mahmudullah opted for DRS and got the decision overturned.

Look I cannot comment on ICC rule, but there are some areas that need reviews and those should be looked into
TOWHID HRIDOY

As per ICC rules, no extra runs (leg-byes or byes) can be given if on-field umpire gives a batter out LBW even if the decision is overturned by the third umpire. However, leg-bye runs can be awarded if the on-field umpire's decision of not out stays after a review.

"Actually, to be honest, that wasn't a good call. It was a tight match. So, I think in my point of view, umpire gave out, but it is a bit hard for us because those four runs would have changed the match scenario," Hridoy stated.

Bowlers dominate show

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 11: Jajpur, Ganjam and Gajapati emerged victorious in their respective U-19 Inter-District cricket tournament matches played Tuesday at various grounds in Cuttack.

Jajpur defeated Bolangir by 43 runs in a game played at Nimpur ground, Ganjam overcame the resistance of Malkangiri by 71 runs at the Bidanasi ground while Gajapati trounced Kalahandi by 129 runs at the Ravenshaw ground (2).

Most of the matches were low-scoring affairs with bowlers dominating the show. Divya R Das of Gajapati was the highest scorer of the day with an innings of 88 against Kalahandi. Shamala Reddy (61) and Keish



Subham Nayak

Choudhary (56) also got half centuries for Jajpur against Bolangir. Mohammed Raza (5/27) of Jajpur was the standout bowler on the day. There were a number of other bowlers who got four wickets. They were Jogeshwar Bag (4/21) of Bolangir, Chanddeep

Pencak Silat meet begins



Participants at the inaugural function in Bhubaneswar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 11: The 12th Senior National Pencak Silat Championships began Tuesday at the Biju Patnaik Multi-Purpose Stadium inside the KIIT campus here. A total of 39 states and Union Territories are participating in the event, officials said. Approximately 900 players are part of the event, they added.

The event was inaugurated Tuesday in the presence of a number of dignitaries including Tapash Ray Chaudhury, president, Pencak Silat Association

of India and its chairman Sachin Mohapatra.

Matches were held in three categories, 45kg to 50kg (Men), 65kg-70kg (Men) and 45kg to 50kg (Women). In the 45kg-50kg men's matches Odisha defeated Uttar Pradesh while Goa beat Chhattisgarh. In the women's category of the same weight segment, Odisha beat Rajasthan while Tamil Nadu beat Lakshadweep.

In men's matches of the 65kg to 70kg segment, Jammu and Kashmir defeated Mizoram while Karnataka trounced West Bengal.

Satwik, Chirag slip to 3rd place

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 11: Premier Indian doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who pulled out of their title defence at Indonesia Open last week, has slipped two rungs to third place in the latest Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings announced Tuesday. China's Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang are the new men's doubles No.1s.

In men's singles, HS Prannoy and Lakshya Sen remained inside the top 15, maintaining their 10th and 14th positions respectively while Kidambi Srikanth was 34th. PV Sindhu remained static at No 10 in the women's singles rankings.