

NOTHING FISHY IN DEMANDING FLOATING JETTY

KARTIK

MAYABUNDER, OCT 11/--/ In order to protect themselves from crocodile attack as also to help easy transportation of fish catch to the market, the fishermen of remote Khadi Basthi in Oralkatcha village under Nilambur Panchayat at Baratang have long been demanding a 150-Mtr fish landing floating jetty at the village. Khadi Basthi is a remote village in Oralkatch under Nilambur Panchayat in Baratang which has about 28 fishermen families who have been raising the issue with the Fisheries department for long but of no avail. Local



Oralkatcha fishermen seek floating jetty at Khadi Basthi to guard themselves from crocodile attacks as also help easy transportation of fish catch to the market

fishermen rue that due to non-availability of a fish landing jetty, they have to tie their fishing dinghies 200 mtrs away from the land and have to carry their catch on their shoulders. During high tide, the hapless fishermen have to walk through the water

infested with killer crocodiles to reach their fishing dinghies. Speaking to EOI, Mr. Tapan, Assistant Director, Fisheries department, North & Middle Andaman said that he would take up the issue with his higher authorities.

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MP seeks setting up a power house at Hanspuri village, seeks 24 hours power supply

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The Member of Parliament, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Lt. Governor to arrange to supply 24 hour electricity in the Hanspuri area of North and Middle Andaman. Mr. Sharma has also requested to set up a powerhouse for the region. In his letter, Mr. Sharma said that during his recent visit to Mayabunder region, he has been informed by villagers and PRI members of Hanspuri area of N & M Andaman that power is supplied in Hanspuri Area for only seven hours a day i.e from morning 4.00 AM to 6.00 AM and evening 05.30 PM to 10.30 PM. He added that power supply only for seven hours a day is not only causing huge problems to the residents of the area but also adversely affecting the studies of children of the region. The Member of Parliament mentioned that the villagers are unable to use water pumps and other tools for cultivation due to non-availability of power for most of the time in a day in the region.



CME by Apollo Clinic Garacharma



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The Common Medical Education (CME) was organised by Apollo Clinic Garacharma and Apollo Hospitals, Chennai at Lemon Tree Hotel, where four super specialist doctors presented their views on different topics. Dr. M. Balamurugan (Senior Consultant Neurosurgeon), MBBS, DNB (Neurosurgery), FNS (Japan), FNS (Aust) FAANSI (USA) spoke on the topic Brain & Spine Surgery Demystified, Dr. Vijay Kishor Kondreddy (Senior Consultant Orthopedic Surgeon), MBBS, DNB (ortho), M. Ch (Ortho), FIA (Germany), FIAS (Aust) spoke on Robotic Assisted Hip & Knee Replacement, By Dr. Nivas Venkatachalapathi (Senior Consultant Gastroenterology), MBBS MS (General Surgery), MRCS (England), DND (Surgical Gastroenterology) on Healthy Liver Healthy Life and Dr. Sumit Sharma (Contd. on page-6)

More Local News on page-3,5 & 6



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SC to hear Punjab CM assassination case convict Rajoana's plea on Nov 1

NEW DELHI, OCT 11 /--/ The Supreme Court said on Tuesday a three-judge bench will hear on November 1 the plea by Balwant Singh Rajoana, convicted in the 1995 assassination case of Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh, seeking commutation of his death penalty to life imprisonment.

His plea for mercy is pending before the government for over a decade.



Rajoana's counsel Mukul Rohatgi told a bench headed by Chief Justice U U Lalit that his client has been in jail for 26 years and he has a substantive case based on the judgements of the apex court that his rights under Article 21 of the Constitution (The right to protection of life and personal liberty) has been violated. On September 28, the top court had expressed dissatisfaction over the Centre's failure to take a decision on Rajoana's plea for his death penalty be commuted to life imprisonment.

During the hearing on Tuesday, Rohatgi insisted before the bench, also comprising Justices S R Bhat and Bela M Trivedi, that Rajoana is entitled to such commutation of penalty. The bench noted the Centre had earlier referred to the pendency of an appeal filed by a co-accused in the Supreme Court against the life term awarded to him. ". supposing in case we acquit that man, who is on life sentence as of now, then the matter assumes a different complexion before the President. He may as well give you full pardon and let you off," the bench observed. The apex court said it may list both the matters -- the pending appeal of the

co-accused as well as Rajoana's plea -- for hearing on the same day. Rohatgi, however, requested the bench for Rajoana's plea to be heard separately. "I (Rajoana) do not want to be clubbed with this for the simple reason that I have spent 26 years in jail. I do not rely on their decision whether they will pardon me or not. I want to argue my case that I am entitled to be commuted to life imprisonment today," he said. Rohatgi said Rajoana is in jail since January 1996 and his mercy petition was filed in March 2012. He said his client is on death row since 2007. The bench said it will list Rajoana's plea for hearing on November 1. "List before a bench of three-judges on November 1, 2022 for final disposal," it said.

The bench said, in the meanwhile, the authorities are at liberty to take appropriate action. Rajoana has sought commutation of his death sentence to life imprisonment on the ground of his long incarceration of 26 years. The top court had on May 2 asked the Centre to decide within two months on the commutation plea filed on behalf of Rajoana. Later, in terms of a letter of July 27, 2022, circulated by the counsel for the Centre, the matter was adjourned to September 13.

Earlier, the apex court did not consider the submission of the Centre that Rajoana has been on record saying "he has no faith in the Indian judiciary and the Constitution". It had said the pendency of appeals of other co-accused in the case will not come in the way of the authorities deciding Rajoana's mercy plea. The top court had also questioned the Centre over the delay in sending Rajoana's mercy petition to the President. It had asked the government to apprise it as to when the authorities concerned will send the proposal to the President under Article 72 of the Constitution which deals with the powers of the President to grant pardon, suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases. (PTI)

Bommai panic stricken over response to Bharat Jodo Yatra in Karnataka: Cong

CHITRADURGA, OCT 11 /--/ The Congress hit out at the BJP on Tuesday, saying Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai is panic stricken over the response that the Bharat Jodo Yatra is getting in his state and accused him of running a "corrupt" and "incompetent" government. Congress in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Surjewala said Bommai should stop befooling people and posed a set of 10 questions to him, asking why has he not taken action in corruption cases. The remarks came as Bommai and BJP strongman B S Yediyurappa started their Jana Sankalpa Yatra on Tuesday. "Panic stricken by the sea of people marching in BharatJodoYatra, CM Bommai-Yediyurappa begin their 'Plane-Helicopter' Yatra today. 'First, People of Karnataka want answers-- Was BSY removed as CM on charges of corruption? Has a

corruption FIR lodged against him now by Lokayukta? Isn't BJP government known Nationwide as '40 Percent Sarkara'?" Surjewala asked on Twitter: "Isn't #PayCM the buzzword on everyone's mouth? Why have you not taken action on 40% commission complaint of 'contractors' association"? Why have you not acted on the 40% commission complaint of 13,000 Private Schools Association?" he asked.

The Congress leader also asked why has even Matta's Swamiji accused the Bommai government of 40-per cent commission and why Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLAs themselves are accusing the government as "most corrupt". "Why are your own MLAs saying even CM post is on sale for ?2,500 crores? Haven't your own ministers saying that there is no government in

Karnataka and you are just passing time?" Surjewala asked. "Mr. Bommai, the plain truth is...you have zero plans, zero vision for Karnataka - yours is a zero-sum game. You lord over the most corrupt government in India. Your incompetence is becoming legendary and your mal-administration is exemplary. Stop fooling people, people will defeat you," the Congress leader said in a series of tweets. Bommai and Yediyurappa launched the saffron party's yatra in the southern state from Raichur on Tuesday, in the run-up to the Assembly polls next year.

The two leaders are scheduled to cover 52 Assembly segments by December 25 as part of the Jana Sankalpa Yatra. The ruling party's tour begins at a time when the Congress's Bharat Jodo Yatra, led by Rahul Gandhi, is passing through Karnataka. (PTI)

Court verdict on plea for carbon dating of 'Shivling' at Gyanvapi mosque on Oct 14

VARANASI, OCT 11 /--/ A district court here will pronounce on October 14 its verdict on a plea for the carbon dating of a "Shivling", claimed to be found on the Gyanvapi mosque premises. Hindu petitioners had during a court-mandated videography survey of the mosque premises claimed that a "Shivling" was found close to the "wazookhana", a small reservoir used by Muslim devotees to perform ritual ablutions before offering the namaz.

The claim was disputed by the Muslim side, which said the object was part of a "fountain". Arguments on the plea were

complete on Tuesday and the court will pronounce its verdict on October 14, District Government Counsel Mahendra Pratap Pandey said. Advocate Mumtaz Ahmed, who appeared for the Muslim side, said they told the court that carbon dating of the object cannot be done. If the object gets damaged in the name of carbon dating, it amounts to the defiance of the order of the Supreme Court, he said. Earlier, the Muslim side had contended that the Supreme Court had asked the Varanasi district magistrate to keep the object safe. In such a situation, getting it examined cannot be justified, they had said. (PTI)

300 delegates likely to take part in Indian Ecological International Conference in Jammu from Oct 13

JAMMU, OCT 11 /--/ Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST)-Jammu is hosting a 3-day Indian Ecological International Conference on "sustainable agricultural innovations for resilient agri-food systems" here from October 13, a varsity official said on Tuesday.

Vice Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu Prof J P Sharma said the conference, which will be inaugurated by Union Minister Jitendra Singh, will discuss

climate change and its impacts on agriculture. There will be five technical sessions and four poster sessions of the mega event. It is expected that 300 delegates from India and abroad will be participating in the event, Sharma said. He said an exhibition will also be held to demonstrate the innovative technologies generated by SKUAST-Jammu and various public and private sector agencies. Food security is a global issue affecting millions of people around the world and its effects

have been worsened by the Covid pandemic. As the world population continues to grow, much more effort and innovation will be urgently needed in order to sustainably increase agricultural production, improve the global supply chain, decrease food losses and waste, and ensure that all who are suffering from hunger and malnutrition have access to nutritious food, he said. The vice chancellor said responding to this challenge requires a holistic view of the agriculture sector to develop

sustainable, productive and resilient systems for food production, processing and distribution in order to meet the growing demand in India and globally. He said the sustainable development goal to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture recognises the inter linkages among supporting sustainable agriculture, empowering small farmers, promoting gender equality, ending rural poverty, ensuring healthy

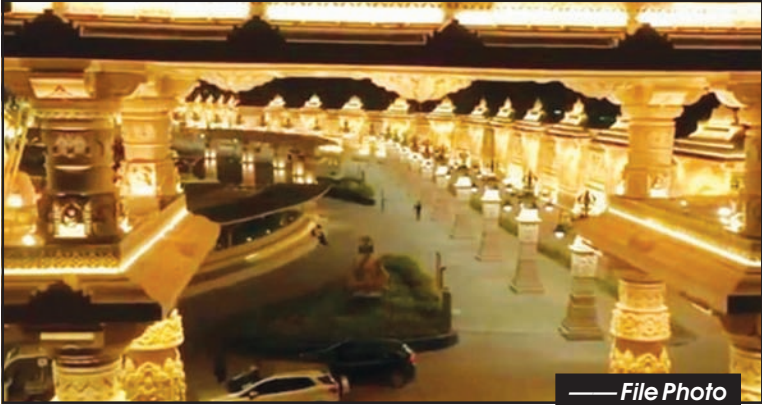
lifestyles and tackling climate change. Land, healthy soils, water and plant genetic resources are key inputs into food production, and their growing scarcity in many parts of the world makes it imperative to use and manage them sustainably. Boosting yields on existing agricultural lands, including restoration of degraded lands, through sustainable agricultural practices would also relieve pressure to clear forests for agricultural production, he said. (PTI)

Mahakal project: Heritage Dharamshala in 'Maharajwada' 'Shikhar Darshan' in 2nd phase

UJJAIN, OCT 11 /--/ A 40-room Dharamshala with a five-star hotel-like facility is being developed in a heritage building located near the Mahakaleshwar Temple as part of the second phase of the mega corridor development project, a top official has said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is slated to inaugurate its first phase -- 'Mahakal Lok' -- on Tuesday evening amid a festive mood in Ujjain, located around 200 km from the state capital Bhopal. The Rs, 856-crore project, under the Ujjain Smart City, started in 2017 and in five years the entire landscape has undergone a sea change.

"While the PM will inaugurate the first phase of the ambitious Mahakal corridor project on October 11 evening, work on the second phase is already underway. We are on track and by June 2023 the entire project is to be completed," Chief Executive Officer of Ujjain Smart City, Ashish Kumar Pathak told PTI. Asked about the second phase of the project, he said, it involves the creation of a 'Shikhar Darshan', a vista that will offer a clear and obstruction-free view of the temple's 'shikhar' (pinnacle) with aesthetic



— File Photo

landscaping". "We are also working on setting up a heritage Dharamshala in an old building, 'Maharajwada' that is located near the Mahakaleshwar Temple. The building is about 100 years old and offers a close and stunning view of the temple. This will be a 40-room heritage Dharamshala with five-star hotel-like facilities," he said. Besides this, there is an open space of five-and-a-half acres in its front, where facilities like 'Chintan Van', 'Anubhuti Van', and meditation centre will come up, Pathak added.

A high school for girls was earlier running in the Maharajwada building, another senior official

said. Pathak said nine schools were located in the vicinity of the temple, and as part of the project, about 3,500 students were integrated into three schools for which new buildings were created with smart classrooms and other facilities. MP MyGov on Saturday had on Twitter shared some of the photographs and videos of the 'Mahakal Lok' and in one poster it shared that the first phase of the corridor project has been built at a cost of Rs 350 cr while the cost for its second phase is estimated at Rs 450 cr. Ram Ghat on Kshipra River bank will also be developed as part of the second phase of the project, officials said. A

large number of households in Begum Bagh area which adjoins the new corridor were affected by the project, and compensation was duly awarded, they said.

Asked about the status of the second phase of the project, Pathak said, "It is on track, all tenders have been floated, work orders issued, and all agencies on board." "Our team has continuously worked, sometimes at night, without affecting the flow of devotees," he further said.

The first phase includes an over 900-m-long corridor -- 'Mahakal Lok', billed as one of the largest such corridors in India that skirts around the old Rudrasagar Lake. The lake has also been revived as part of the overall redevelopment project around the Mahakaleshwar Temple, one of the 12 'jyotirlings' in the country that gets devotees throughout the year. The new corridor is dotted with 108 ornate sandstone columns bearing decorative 'Trishul' (tridents) on top and 'mudras' (symbolic hand gesture) of Lord Shiva on its faces, gushing fountains surrounded by sculptures of the deity and 53 illuminated murals depicting stories from Shiv Puran. (PTI)

Health and education are twins; need to nurture them for country's well being: VP Dhankhar

NEW DELHI, OCT 11 /--/ Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday described health and education as twins and underlined the need to nurture the two for the country's present and future well-being.



He said healthcare is one of the most important pillars of nation-building and called for collective effort and greater public-private partnership to ensure its infrastructure expansion in the country. Addressing an event organised by an industry body, he noted that Indian healthcare demands are of a great scale and diversity. Dhankhar called for greater collaboration between all stakeholders to achieve the "collective dream of universal healthcare". Referring to the government's initiative in positioning India as a global hub for medical and wellness tourism through the 'Heal in India' initiative, the vice president called for redoubling efforts to utilise India's potential to become a prime health tourism destination. Recalling India's experience with the Covid pandemic, Dhankhar paid tributes to the healthcare workers and scientists for their contributions and said India has not only vaccinated its citizens in a short period, but also exported vaccines to many nations.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the healthcare sector, India has registered a significant decline in health indicators such as the 'Infant Mortality Rate' since 1990 and is on course to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets, he said. Referring to 'Ayushman Bharat', Dhankhar said the scheme has been instrumental in bridging the gap between the rich and the poor in terms of accessibility of healthcare services in the country. Stressing that healthcare is one of the most important pillars of nation-building, the vice president said "health and education are twins that need to be well looked after and nurtured for our present and future wellbeing". (PTI)

SC admits pleas against Talaq-e-Hasan

NEW DELHI, OCT 11 /--/ The Supreme Court on Tuesday admitted the pleas seeking "Talaq-e-Hasan" and all other forms of "unilateral extrajudicial divorce" to be declared unconstitutional.

"Talaq-e-Hasan" is a form of divorce among Muslims by which a man can dissolve the marriage by pronouncing the word 'talaq' once every month over a three-month period. A three-judge bench headed by Justices S K Kaul asked the Centre, National Commission for Women, National Human Rights Commission and others to file their responses within four weeks. "Counsel for the private respondent (husband) has entered appearance and seeks to affirm that he is not agreeable to settlement even on issue of further alimony. List in the third week of January for final hearing," the bench, also comprising Justices Abhay S Oka and Vikram Nath, said.

The apex court was hearing three separate petitions, including the one filed by Ghaziabad resident Benazeer Heena, who claimed to be victims of unilateral extrajudicial Talaq-e-Hasan. They have also sought a direction to the Centre to frame the guidelines for gender and religion-neutral and uniform grounds of divorce and procedure for all citizens. The top court had earlier impeached the husbands of the petitioners and sought their response to the pleas filed by them. When the hearing commenced today, the lawyer appearing for Benazeer's husband informed the court that no settlement was possible in the dispute with his wife.

The bench then asked the parties to file their responses and said it will hear the case in the third week of January, 2023. The top court had in August said its primary focus is to provide relief to two women, who claimed to be victims of Talaq-e-Hasan, before deciding the constitutional validity of this form of divorce. Under Talaq-e-Hasan, a divorce gets formalised after the third utterance of the word 'talaq' in the third month if cohabitation has not resumed during this period. However, if cohabitation resumes after the first or second utterance of talaq, the parties are assumed to have reconciled. (PTI)

Kashmiri separatist leader Altaf Shah dies of cancer at AIIMS: Family

NEW DELHI, OCT 11 /--/ Jailed Kashmiri separatist leader Altaf Ahmad Shah, the son-in-law of late pro-Pakistan Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani, died of cancer at the AIIMS here on Tuesday, a few days after he was taken to the hospital on the orders of the Delhi High Court. Shah, popularly known as 'Altaf Fantoosh', was 66 and is survived by his wife, son and two daughters. The



separatist leader was arrested in 2017 with six others in a terror funding case and was lodged at the Tihar jail. Shah's body was handed over to family members by the hospital after necessary formalities and it is being taken to Srinagar for last rites. He had been admitted to the Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital here after he was diagnosed with the disease, and last week, was moved to AIIMS following the intervention of the Delhi High Court.

On October 3, the court, while ordering his shifting to AIIMS, had said "suitable treatment is the part of fundamental right as enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution". Once considered heir apparent to Geelani, Shah had slipped into coma late on Monday evening before being pronounced dead during the intervening night. An inconsolable Ruwa Shah, who was fighting her father's case, told PTI: "We were informed about abu's (Shah) passing away late last night." On Tuesday evening, she said that the body has been handed over to family members after completion of necessary formalities and they are on their way home to complete the last rites. Shah's body was embalmed at AIIMS before it was transported to the airport in police escort. In a tweet, Ruwa Shah said, "Abu (father) breathed his last at AIIMS, New Delhi. As

a prisoner." Shah, a resident of Srinagar's Soura locality, was arrested on July 25, 2017, in the case being probed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). His counsel had told the court he was receiving treatment for certain serious ailments at the RML hospital but it was recently revealed he was suffering from last stage of renal cancer. While claiming the RML hospital does not have adequate facility to treat renal cancer, the counsel prayed he should be allowed to be shifted to AIIMS or Apollo Hospital for urgent treatment. Justice Sudhir Kumar Jain, without going into the merits of the case under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, said the right to have adequate and suitable treatment was part of the fundamental rights under the Constitution and it was in the interest of justice that the petitioner receives treatment at AIIMS. "However, without going into the merits of the case as the right to have adequate and suitable treatment is the part of a fundamental right as enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution and after considering the totality of the circumstances and in the interest of justice it is ordered that the petitioner be shifted to AIIMS, Delhi for appropriate treatment under the judicial custody and direct supervision of the concerned jail superintendent and after following all necessary security measures," the court said. The NIA, after arresting Shah, had filed a charge sheet against him and 11 others, including Lashker-e-Taiba chief Hafeez Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen head Syed Salahuddin, in a case related to alleged funding of terror and secessionist activities in the Kashmir Valley in January 2018. He had since been facing trial in a special NIA court. (PTI)

Death toll in Durga Puja pandal fire in UP's Bhadohi climbs to 14

BHADOHI, OCT 11 /--/ The death toll in the fire incident at a Durga Puja Pandal here reached 14 on Tuesday with two more people succumbing to burn injuries at a Varanasi hospital, a senior official said. District Magistrate Gaurang Rathi said Shivangi Gautam (18) and Nitya (1) died during treatment in Varanasi. "Priyal (16) and Priti (16), who were injured in the fire, died on Sunday," Rathi said, adding that 10 other people lost their lives in the fire that broke out on October 2 in Nathua village due to

overheating of a halogen light. According to officials, among those killed, Jaya Devi (45), Naveen (10), Seema Bind (25), Harshwardhan (8) and Priyal were of the same family. The other people who died are Ankush Soni (12), Arti Devi (48), Shivpujan (70), Ram Murat (65), Manju Devi (40) and Ashok Yadav (35). At least 68 people injured in the fire are undergoing treatment at seven hospitals in Bhadohi, Varanasi and Prayagraj, and the condition of some of them are stated to be serious, the DM said. (PTI)

Secretary (RD) inaugurates DDU-GKY training center



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ Mr. SuneelAnchipaka, Secretary (RD/Panchayat) inaugurated the DDU-GKY Training Center of the Program Implementing Agency (PIA)-Nalanda Educational Society on Tuesday in the presence of Dr. Vijay Shardha Reddy, CEO of the PIA, Mr. Radhey Shyam Meena, Director (RD/Panchayat), Smt. Neha Gupta, Mission Manager State Partnership, MoRD, Mr. Santosh Kumar, Programme Manager, NIRDPR and the State Team of DDU-GKY. The training center is one of its kind opened for the first time in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for skill development training of the rural youth of the Islands.

The training center is equipped with IT lab facility, Domain & Non-Domain classrooms, Placement & Counseling Units, separate hostel facility for male and female candidates, in-door recreational activities, etc. The TOT certified trainers for Domain and Non-Domain trades are engaged to fulfill the training needs of candidates. The training center has the capacity to train 105 candidates at a

time.

Dr. Vijay Shardha Reddy, CEO, Nalanda Educational Society informed that they will commence training on Field Technician Computing and Peripherals for the first batch of 70 candidates from 17th October, 2022 against the total target of 488 candidates under DDU-GKY project sanctioned to them and subsequently come up with more training pogrammes. The Program Implementing Agency (PIA)-Nalanda Educational Society has been selected for imparting training as per the guidelines and verification by MoRD under DDU-GKY Scheme.

The Secretary (RD/Panchayat) appreciating the efforts of the PIA to open the first ever residential DDU-GKY training center at Port Blair has requested the PIA to put in best efforts to ensure quality skill development training of the rural youth of the Islands and subsequently their suitable placement. He insisted the PIA also look into the accommodation facilities for the candidates along with the training. He also requested the PIA to seek the support and cooperation of the PRI members for mobilization of maximum number of rural youths to avail the benefit under the scheme.

Subsequently, study materials were distributed by the dignitaries to the candidates. The Director (RD/Panchayat) requested the PIA to ensure fulfillment of all the norms of the DDU-GKY guidelines so as to have best skill development trainings for the rural youth of the Islands and assured the PIA that all necessary support shall be extended to them as and when required so as to have effective implementation of DDU-GKY Scheme in this UT.

Last date for IGNOU admission extended

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The last date for Fresh Admission for PG and UG Programmes (except certificate and semester-based Programmes) in Indira Gandhi National Open University's for July 2022 session is further extended upto 20th October, 2022. For Online admission, please log on - <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in>. For more details, visit IGNOU Website - www.ignou.ac.in or for offline admission contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: reportblair@ignou.ac.in.

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03192-252052/03192-252522/9531807777

MP seeks Copraprocurement under Price Support Scheme



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The Member of Parliament, Mr. Kuldeep Rai Sharma met the Secretary (Agriculture) and Directors of 'E l l o n H i n e n g o Limited'(EHL), Car Nicobar on 7th October 2022. He requested to make arrangements to purchase Copra from farmers of Car Nicobar and other areas of Andaman and Nicobar Islands under Price Support Scheme.

He informed the Secretary that due to delay in procurement of Copra under Price Support Scheme of Government of India, presently Copra

farmers of these Islands are being exploited by middlemen, who are procuring Copra from them at very cheap price.

He said that procurement of Copra under Price Support Scheme is crucial for the economic upliftment of farmers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and saving farmers of these Islands from exploitation.

The Member of Parliament requested the Secretary of Agriculture to take up this matter with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.(NAFED) for the benefit of farmers of A & N Islands.

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Madeleine L'Engle

Gloom descends on India's economic landscape

The World Bank recently scaled down India's economic growth forecast to 6.5% for the current fiscal from its earlier estimate of 7.5%, announced in June, while the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said the GDP growth is expected to decelerate to 5.7% in 2022 from 8.2% last year due to higher financing costs and weaker public expenditures. Last week, the Reserve Bank of India too cut its growth forecast to 7% from an earlier estimate of 7.2% after increasing the repo rate by 50 basis points to 5.9% to fight inflation. This spectre of gloom looms large over India's economic landscape which is contrary to the NDA government's glib pronouncement that the country would witness a high growth trajectory in the world. This is the third time that the World Bank has revised its growth forecast for India in the current financial year. In April, it revised India's projected economic growth to 8% from the previous estimate of 8.7% in January. One of the reasons cited by the World Bank for trimming India's growth forecast is the uneven recovery from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in South Asia.

Another area of concern is that the services sector activity fell to a six-month low in September due to a cooling in demand amid soaring prices. High inflation and low demand pulled India's factory growth to a three-month low in September. The seasonally adjusted S&P Global India Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell to 54.3 in September, the weakest rate of expansion since March, from 57.2 in August. The PMI data, released every month, is an indicator of the overall health of the economy. Private sector sales rose at the weakest pace in six months, amid softer increases in manufacturing and services economies. Hiring in the sector continued for the fourth month but fewer jobs were created compared with August. The PMI survey pointed out that price pressures, an increasingly competitive environment and unfavourable public policies restricted the upturn in the month.

The steep depreciation of the rupee seen due to interest rate hikes in the US has posed additional challenges to the Indian economy. Last month, the US Federal Reserve raised its interest rate by 75 basis points and hinted at more hikes in the future. This led to the strengthening of the US dollar and the weakening of other currencies, including the Indian rupee. Currency instability poses renewed inflation worries as imported items become more costly. This means that the RBI will continue hiking interest rates to protect the rupee and contain price pressures. The spillover from the Russia-Ukraine war and the global monetary policy tightening cycle also weigh on India's economic outlook. Rising borrowing costs will affect domestic demand while slowing global growth inhibits India's export growth.

Economic crisis in India accentuating with continuing loss of jobs

"One of the most striking results of the path of capitalist development is the concentration of Capital with economic power in the hands of big monopolies who enrich themselves at the expense of people and even other broad sections of the Indian bourgeoisie..."

These are lines from the program adopted by 22nd Party Congress of the Communist Party of India (CPI) held at Puducherry on March 25-29, 2015. It becomes very clear that the path of finance capital moves through concentration of capital in few hands. The fact is that finance capital takes its shape only when there is merger, of various forces, which is called concentration and the system it operates in requires its centralization that is exclusivity. No other player is allowed. Since the devastation that came with pandemic, resources are getting accumulated as the process of monopolization gets sharper. In the process, the small and medium industries and agriculture, centers of production in rural and urban areas that provide livelihood are dying. Millions of small businesses are getting simply shutting down, industries closing down, employment rate diminishing, millions of workers and employees have been perishing. People at a massive scale are either walking miles to meet the two ends or doing jobs that leaves them almost starving. Even the middle class employees and entrepreneurs face the same crisis as the common workers. It is not only the workers and peasants exploited, it is the entire non-monopoly section that

bears the burden of such atrocities. The unemployment situation in India remains grim. Mass exit of labour force during last few years has distorted the labour force participation in the economy and caused it to shrink to an alarmingly low level. India's unemployment rate surged to a one-year high of 8.3 per cent in August as employment sequentially fell by 2 million to 394.6 million, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). This is the highest unemployment rate since August 2021. During July, the unemployment rate was at 6.8 per cent and the employment was 397 million, the CMIE data added. Quite obviously, India urgently needs an economic revival with rejuvenation in job market with employment generation. According to CMIE data, 70 percent of the share of wealth is today concentrated in the hands of only ten percent. In the days of lock down and in its aftermath, as there was no relief for the larger masses, hunger, deprivations and deaths were common sight. Covid 19 has polarized productive and finance capital as never before. While world economy slipped deeper into crisis, financial giants accumulated wealth as never before, mainly through speculation. The world was never witness to such accumulation of wealth, and that too so fast, and at the

same time, so much deprivation and weakening of economy eating away the roots. As per the latest data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), inflation in the food basket was 7.62 percent in August, up from 6.69 percent in July and 3.11 percent in August 2021. On an annual basis, the rate of price rise was in excess of 10 percent in the case of vegetables, spices, footwear, and 'fuel and light'. The BJP government's very refusal to discuss the issue in Parliament amounts to admitting failure to control inflation, which can be attributed to government's flawed policies. Food inflation has been particularly worrisome. Domestic budgets started feeling the pinch ever since demonetisation began to rob people of their livelihood, in the process sucking up all the demand in the economy. The government at the centre has not just heaped mounting miseries on people, it has also comprehensively manipulated the data. This is often done to either hide the failures of the government or to show a growth that never happened. With production process in turmoil while monopolies keep reaping the gains, and been evolving, the basic contradiction of monopoly capitalism as corporate sector gets strengthened. It has been the evolution of dialectics, reaching out to a stage that has both

the old and new features that are getting ushered in. Development is always relative, and nothing is out of blue. Roots are there but relevant only till it spaces out for the new. As the monopolization goes further, there emerges a new socio-economic reality, which has no precedence. We are witness to each of its features. The phenomenon is unprecedented and new. It has the new basics. The productive forces have been developing in a novel way moving towards scientific and technological revolution and democratizing the entire masses of non-monopoly sections. On the other hand, with concentration of capital, contradictions also get sharper as the capital keeps moving away from production and towards speculation and stock market. When Lenin wrote about imperialism and finance capital, he also visualized the agony of the entire non-monopoly section of the masses and the rising need for assertion of their unity to face the challenge. His "Two Tactics of Social Democracy" was the script for the democratic revolution based on unity of all these sections. It was on these lines that the Communist Party of India in its program adopted in 2015 carried forward the concept of democratic revolution, and said clearly, "...This...has to be anti-feudal, anti-imperialist and anti-monopolist." The 24th congress of CPI at Vejawada from October 14 to 18 will discuss in details the present economic crisis and chart out programme of action to fight the anti-people measures of the Narendra Modi Government. (IPA)

Health care professionals have to fight against hate & bigotry

REFLEX ACTION

Dr Arun Mitra

15th July 1994 where Hutu led government targeted Tutsi and moderate Hutus in Rwanda. Hatred was to the extent that even husbands killed wives from other tribe. More than 20 lakh people are supposed to have died during communal violence at the time of partition of India in which Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs killed each other for no reason. What happened during the pogrom of Muslims in Gujarat in 2002 or anti Sikh riots in 1984 are a slur on our democracy. In the present day times of science and technology there are forces who change laws to suit the structures in power in the name of religion or race. In a patriarchal society, women bear maximum brunt through miss-interpretation of religion by those who desire to continue to subjugation the women. It is easy to impose sanctions, the dress code and other things on women. Events in Iran are a pointer to this. Looking at the pictures of women in a museum in Iran, in the ancient times Iranian women never used a purdah. Therefore they have not accepted hijab as part of their dress. So they are rejecting the hijab despite extreme repression by the religious fundamentalist government. But those in power have no remorse in killing a 22 years young woman just because she spread her hair out and removed the hijab. The protests continue even though the girls in more number are out to face the killer squads. Worse is that the law makers in the Parliament shout in favour of police who is out to kill. Rituals of worship have

become stereotypical and lost the essence of humanity/religious value system. On many occasions extreme indoctrination about certain practices have been enforced on immature minds and made to follow dictates. Like any other thing religion too needs to be updated. Dogmatic approach in religion will kill its essence. Swami Vivekananda in his speech at Chicago had said 'I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world, tolerance and universal acceptance. We accept all religions as true...I am proud to belong to a nation which has protected all persecuted...' "Sectarianism, bigotry and its horrible descendant, fanaticism, have long possessed this beautiful earth. They have filled the earth with violence, drenched it often with human blood, destroyed civilization" Rabindranath Tagore had said the same in a different manner 'that we must wake up in a country where fear does not exist, we must not put people in fear'. The great martyr Bhagat Singh had out rightly condemned communalism as it was an impediment in uniting the people for anti-colonial struggle. By promoting hate, enjoying wounds being afflicted to others we loose our humanness and develop bizarre mind and a sick personality. Bigotry is a mental illness. Duty of a doctor is not only to be free of hate against others, but also preach love and compassion and inculcate fearlessness among the people to speak the truth under any circumstances. This is important because several doctors sided with Nazis in conducting experiments on the prisoners. Reports that some doctors refused to treat patients from other community during the violence in Gujarat is totally unethical and unexpected of a doctor. Let us all understand that if we inflict wounds on others, one day they bounce back. (IPA)



An artisan busy in making ornaments to adorn Goddess Kali idols--Arijit Ganguly

Conventional Crossword							
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28						29	
30					31		

ACROSS				DOWN			
1	Essential part	1	Jokes	2	Frozen formation	5	Meddle
4	Play for time	3	Beer tankard	6	Region	7	Wound dressing
9	Perform	4	Top of the head	8	Burdened	10	Worth
11	Operatic air	5	Artless	15	Strict	16	Way of viewing
12	Farm birds	6	Top of the head	17	Corruptly mercenary	18	Razor sharpener
13	Repair	7	Wound dressing	19	Uncommon	20	Stately
14	Top of the head	8	Burdened	21	Pale yellow	22	Scold
15	Artless	9	Worth	25	Of the ear	23	Part of the eye
19	Strict	10	Way of viewing	26	Wane	24	Therefore
21	Journey	17	Corruptly mercenary	28	Annoyances	31	Brave man
25	Uncommon	18	Razor sharpener				
26	Pale yellow	20	Stately				
28	Of the ear	22	Scold				
29	Wane	23	Part of the eye				
30	Annoyances	24	Therefore				
31	Brave man	27	Corn spike				

SUDOKU : 3663

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Yesterday's Solution 3662

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

Yesterday's Cross Word Solution 1671

P	O	P	E		S	T	A	L	K
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Vishal for adhoc bonus for all class of govt employees



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ Mr. Vishal Jolly, BJP's National Executive Member has demanded grant of Adhoc Bonus to all working class in a letter to the Chief Secretary. In his letter, he mentioned that the Central Government has issued an Office Memorandum dated 06th October 2022, for Grant of Non - Productivity Linked Bonus (adhoc bonus) to Central Government Employees for the Financial Year 2021 - 22. The OM has given the opportunity to grant adhoc bonus to the casual employees under clause 2 (iii) for grant of adhoc Non-PLB. In terms of the said provision, the DRMs, Contract and Temporary employees who are directly serving the A & N Administration for more than 3 years continuously or more than 240 days in a calendar year, would be squarely covered.

Two-days National symposium at CIARI

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ A National Symposium on "Harmonizing Land Use for Emerging Challenges and Opportunities in the Islands and Coastal Region" is jointly organized by the Andaman Science Association (ASA), ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIARI), Port Blair and BharatiyaKisanSangh at CIARI from 12th to 13th October 2022.

Dr. A. K. Singh, Deputy Director General, (Horticulture Science), ICAR, New Delhi will be the chief guest, Dr. Dinesh Kulkarni, BharatiyaKisanSangh& Dr. N.C. Gautam, Former Vice-Chancellor Mahatma Gandhi Chitrakoot Gramodaya Vishwavidyalaya and Chairman RAC, ICAR-CIARI will be the Guests of Honour, Dr Eaknath B. Chakurkar Director, ICAR-CIARI & President, Andaman Science Association will preside over the programme. The inaugural function will be held at 10:00 AM on 12th October 2022 at Dr. T. R. Dutta conference hall, Garacharma Research Complex of ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair. More than 150 delegates comprising of Scientists, technocrats, Change agents, including progressive farmers representing different part of Islands and mainland will be participating in this event.

03-days EDP under DAY-NULM at JNRM



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The Department of Home Science, JNRM in association with Port Blair Municipal Council (PBMC) is organising a 03-days "Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP)" is under way in JNRM for the for the beneficiaries under DeendayalAntyodayaYojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). The EDP commenced on 11th October 2022 in Lecture Gallery, JNRM. During the inauguration, the chief guest Smt.Smitha.R, Secretary, PBMC described that the contribution of entrepreneurship is inevitable for the

betterment of inclusive society and economic development. The local market is always important for the entrepreneur where they can thrive their potentials in product development, she added. Further Smt.Smitha.R opined that the empowerment of women can be achieved through educational, social, political and economical. This kind of EDP paves the way for the economic empowerment of women through DAY-NULM. Dr. H. K. Sharma, Principal, JNRM, informed the gathering that already through Home Science Department under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan conducted

various skill based entrepreneurship development programme for the rural women in various adopted villages. The entire nation is voicing for Skill India and Make in India which is another phase of entrepreneurship development programme, he added. Smt.PearlDevdas, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Geography, JNRM felicitated the organisers for making an effort to organise this programme for the self employment development in the Islands. She further exhorted the participants to make use of the learning through this training programme. Dr.

K.Venkatesan, HOD, Homescience and Coordinator of this programme spoke about the background of the programme and highlighted the activities carried out by the Home Science Department on Gender and Women Entrepreneurship Development programme. Earlier Smt. NidhiShekhawat Assistant Professor of Home Science welcomed the gathering and Dr.Rekha Kumari, Resource Person, Department of Home Science proposed vote of thanks. Smt.Poonam Singh, Resource Person, Department of Home Science moderated the programme.

RozgarevamSwarozgarMela at Tushnabad on Oct.13

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The Model Career Centre (Employment Exchange), Directorate of Employment & Training in collaboration with the Industries and A&NI Khadi& Village Industries Board will be organizing 'RozgarevamSwarozgarMela' at Gram PanchayatTushnabad on Oct.13 from 10am to 4pm. The objective of the Mela is to provide a platform

between the private employers, self-employment implementing Departments and job seekers to set up their livelihood venture into self-employment and to provide placement in the private sector. The programme is being arranged for the benefit of job-seekers of Ferrargunj Tehsil and all Panchayats of Ferrargunj area. The participating

Departments Will be provided separate counters to interact with the interested job-seekers/beneficiaries. The Department may bring their own brochures/pamphlets, application forms and establishment nameplate or banner etc. All interested job-seekers have been requested to participate in this 'RozgarevamSwarozgar Mela'.

Services of MVF Kadamtala withdrawn

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ In order to carry out repairs of the damaged ramp of the vehicle ferry vessel MVF Kadamtala, presently operating between Middle Strait and Baratang, her services would be withdrawn from 12th October 2022. With the withdrawal of vehicle ferry vessel MVF Kadamtala from the route, services of only two vehicle ferry vessels would be available for transshipment of passengers

and vehicles in between Middle Strait and Baratang, which may regrettably cause some inconvenience to the commuters. All commuters have been to cooperate and plan their journey accordingly. Nevertheless, best efforts are being put in by this Directorate to repair the vessel expeditiously so that the services of MVF Kadamtala can be resumed in the route at the earliest.

Humane Touch distributes clothes to needy at Mathura village



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ As part of the ClothShare initiative, a free cloth distribution programme was organised by Humane Touch at Mathura village on 9th October 2022. The programme started with the address of Mr. P MujeebRehman, President, Humane Touch who welcomed the gathering and briefed about various social and public issues taken up by the

organization and highlighted the importance of Clothshare programme and about the achievements of this initiative. Till now this initiative has reached 17 villages of South Andaman and nearly 4700 needy peoples have benefited from these programmes. A large number of villagers gathered and collected clothes according to their need.

Delhi govt asks hospitals to reserve 10-15 percent bedsforpatientsofvector-borne diseases

NEW DELHI, OCT 11/--/ Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday said all the city hospitals have been asked by the government to reserve 10-15 per cent beds for patients of vector-borne diseases and also to ensure that no such patient is denied admission due to a lack of beds. Seeing the low occupancy rate of theCovid-19 beds in the last few weeks, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government has also asked the hospitals to use the vacant beds to accommodate

dengue patients, Sisodia was quoted as saying in a statement. The city logged 937 dengue cases this year till September-end and 321 more cases were reported in the first five days of October, taking the tally to 1,258, according to a report released by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) on Monday."The government has put all the hospitals across the national capital on alert and is keeping an eye on the situation. Hospitals have been

directed to reserve 10-15 per cent of their beds for vector-borne disease patients and ensure that no patient is denied admission due to lack of beds," the statement said. Sisodia said the present weather conditions are conducive for the transmission of vector-borne diseases. He said the number of dengue cases has seen a sharp rise in the last two weeks but there is no need to panic as all arrangements have been put in place to provide treatment to the patients at hospitals.(PTI)

04-days students inductionprog commences at DBRAIT

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ The 04-days long students Induction Programme "DIKSHARAMBH-2022" as part of AICTE mandate commenced on Tuesday at DBRAIT conference hall. The event started with the filling of a self Analysis Form by the students for self introspection& knowing themselves in a rational way followed by ceremonial lighting of lamp by few parents and newly inducted students. The event was presided over by Dr. S.K. Vishvakarma, Prof. Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Indore as the keynote Speaker who addressed the gathering. In his address Professor highlighted the glorious contribution of our ancient rishis & scholars in the field of Science, Technology & medicines & surgeries. He reiterated how scientists & Engineers contributed to the Indian freedom struggle in their own way. Dr. Vishvakarma called upon the students to equip themselves with the latest technological advancement through several training/ internship and not just restrict them to conventional academics. Earlier, Dr. Jensen Daniel, HOD (Civil) welcomed the gathering & Mrs. SurajMoli acquainted the students with MSBT norms & regulations. Mr. Dinesh Lal CEO, Vyasn LLP and a final year B.Tech student of the institute spoke on developing Start-up Culture in the young generation. They are the first ever start-up recognized by DPIIT from this institute. During the afternoon session the students were also sensitized about various scholarship schemes of AICTE, the anti ragging rules followed by brain games and sports events. Around 120 parents & students attended "Diksharambh-2022".

International Day of Girl Child observed

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11/--/ International Day of the Girl Child is an annual and internationally recognized observance on October 11 which empowers girls and amplifies their voices. International Day of the Girl Child acknowledges the importance, power, and potential of adolescent girls by opening up more opportunities for them. At the same time, this day is designated to eliminate gender-based challenges that little girls face around the world, including child marriages, poor learning opportunities, various kind of violence, and discrimination.

As part of the observance, a programme was organized by the District Child Protection Unit, North and Middle Andaman at Forest Labour (Welfare) Club, Mayabunder today, in which the students of Govt. Model Senior Secondary School, Mayabunder, Anganwadi Workers and team from DCPU, N&MA participated. Dr. Satyendra Singh Dursawat, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, N&M Andaman was the chief guest on the occasion while the Assistant Commissioner (HQ), Mr. VaibhavRikhari& Assistant Commissioner, Rangat, Mr. Aditya Kumar Asthana were the guests of honour. Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest highlighted the importance of the theme of International Day of the Girl Child, 2022 - 'Our time is now-our rights, our future'. Talks on various issues like digital generation, child rights, health care & hygiene for girl child, importance of



education for every girl child & welfare schemes for girl child and BetiBachaoBetiPadhao etc. were delivered by the special invitees. Sports competitions and cultural activities formed part of the observance and prizes were distributed to the winners. Earlier, an all student rally was conducted from Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Mayabunder to Forest Labour (Welfare) Club, Mayabunder which was aimed at ending discrimination against the girl child and to empower them with equal opportunities. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by the Legal-cum-Probation Officer, District Child Protection Unit, N&M Andaman.

SC refuses to entertain plea seeking production of undertrials before courts virtually

NEW DELHI, OCT 11/--/ Observing that an accused going to court is "fundamental to the criminal system", the Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to entertain a plea which said production of undertrial prisoners before court on every date should not be ordered as a "matter of routine", while raising the issue of safety.

A bench headed by Chief Justice U U Lalit said as an idea it is good but the practical application would create a lot of difficulty."I visited one of the jails in Mumbai, and now in a city like Mumbai, there are say about six terminals which can facilitate the presence of an accused during the trial through virtual mode. There are number of accused. So at a time, only six persons can avail of that benefit," said Justice Lalit, who was heading the bench which also comprised Justices SR Bhat and Bela M Trivedi.

The bench allowed advocate Rishi Malhotra, who had filed the petition, to withdraw the plea. At the outset, Malhotra said it has become a "routine affair in the trial courts that every now and then an undertrial has to be produced before the court."He said it is endangering the lives of judicial officers, undertrials as well as the public."As an idea it is good but the practical application

creates a lot of difficulty," the bench said, adding, "an accused going to the court is fundamental to our whole criminal system".On Malhotra's prayer of producing undertrial prisoners before courts through video-conference, the CJJ said,"Supposing there are a number of accused who cannot be produced even through virtual mode, what it means is that all those trial courts will be obliged to adjourn the matters."Malhotra told the bench he will withdraw the plea.

The petitioner, while pitching for production of undertrial prisoners, especially gangsters, through video-conference, said it would balance safety and security of the public and judicial officers and the rights of the accused.

"The fulcrum of the instant public interest litigation is to prevent the various trial courts across India to not insist on presence of undertrials on each and every date as a matter of routine practice thereby not only endangering the safety of public as well as judicial officers but also facilitating the opportunity of hardcore prisoners from escaping from the custody of the police," it said.The plea referred to several incidents in trial courts, including the September firing incident inside a

district court in Delhi last year, when three people including a jailed gangster were killed.While referring to various provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), it said they provide

powers to the court concerned to dispense with the personal appearance of undertrial prisoners who are brought from jails during normal trial proceedings.(PTI)

AFFIDAVIT

I, JYOTI PRAKASH EKKA, S/o. KARLUS EKKA, aged about 42 years, R/o. Namunaghar Village, under Ferrargunj Tehsil, South Andaman District, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under:

1. That I am a permanent resident of these Islands and residing at above mentioned address.
2. That my father's actual and correct name is KARLUS EKKA as recorded in my Aadhaar Card (No. 4511 5554 2783), Scheduled Tribe (ST) Certificate No.(JHCST/2021/255250), Local Certificate No. (20211011LC06718), and my mother's actual and correct name is JIMMA MARGRATE TOPPO as recorded in Ration Card No. (353000132750) and other records.
3. That name of my father and mother has been wrongly entered as KARCUS EKKA and JEMMA MARGART in my 10TH R.I.O.S (Rural Institute Of Open Schooling) Mark Sheet No. (001365), 10TH Migration Certificate No. (002050), and other records instead of my father and mother actual name KARLUS EKKA and JIMMA MARGRATE TOPPO respectively.

That I swearing this affidavit for the purpose to declare my actual and correct father's and Mother's name, henceforth my father's and Mother's name shall be treated as KARLUS EKKA and JIMMA MARGRATE TOPPO respectively, for all official and non official purpose.

That the above statements made by me are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Place: Port Blair

Date: 11/10/2022

DEPONENT



Prime Minister Narendra Modi Offering prayers at Shri Mahakaleshwar temple in Ujjain on Tuesday

PM Modi inaugurates Mahakal Lok corridor at Mahakaleshwar temple

UJJAIN, OCT 11 /--/ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday inaugurated the 900 metre-long Mahakal Lok corridor built at the Mahakaleshwar temple here. The Mahakal Lok project cost is Rs 856 crore, with the first phase being developed for Rs 351 crore, an official said. Modi, accompanied by Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangu Bhai Patel and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, greeted sadhus present at the venue. He pressed a remote button to unveil a Shivaling replica to dedicate Mahakal Lok to the nation. The Mahakaleshwar Temple Corridor Development Project will provide better amenities for those visiting the temple which is dedicated to Lord Shiva and houses one of the 12 Jyotirlingas (representation of Lord Shiva) in India. The corridor has around 108 aesthetically ornate pillars made of intricately carved sandstones that depict the Anand Tandav Swaroop (Lord Shiva's dance form), 200 statues and murals of Lord Shiva and goddess Shakti. Modi offered prayers at the temple before he inaugurated the corridor project. (PTI)

Congress has outsourced contract of abusing me, it is working 'silently' to seek votes in villages: Modi

JAMKANDORNA, OCT 11 /--/ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the Congress has outsourced the contract of abusing him and it is working "silently" to capture rural votes. Addressing a rally in Jamkandorna town of Rajkot district in the Bharatiya Janata Party-ruled Gujarat ahead of the state Assembly polls due this year-end, Modi warned BJP workers and supporters to be aware of the opposition Congress. In the last 20 years, those who were against Gujarat left no stone unturned to defame the state. They hurled choicest abuses against me, including calling me maut ka saudagar, the prime minister said. They have suddenly gone silent.

They have outsourced the contract of creating ruckus, making noise and abusing me, to others. They are silently going to villages and asking people for votes, Modi said, without naming the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the new entrant to Gujarat poll fray. I should warn you against this silent strategy of the opposition party. I know this as this is being controlled by those who are known to conspire against Gujarat from Delhi, the PM said. Targeting the opposition, Modi said when the Indian government makes a move against corruption, "an entire group shouts against us", and begins to defame government institutions. "Why don't you give a straight reply to the allegations levelled against you. You will have to pay back whatever you have looted from the public. Shouldn't I continue to work

despite criticism? I have your full blessings," he said. Modi told the BJP workers and supporters to ask Congress leaders if they visited the world's tallest Statue of Unity, built in Gujarat in the honour of India's first home minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who hailed from the state. People from all over the world visit the grand Statue of Unity barring one group of people, he said. "If you find any Congress worker near your village, ask him whether he went to the Statue of Unity even once? Even if some of them went, they would have done so secretly so that others do not know about this," he said. "Those who do not respect the son of soil cannot be accepted in Gujarat," Modi said. In an apparent response to critics of the 'Gujarat model', Modi said today the state and development have become synonymous with each other. Whichever sector one may look at, talks of development of Gujarat can be backed by figures. He recalled days when people had to struggle for water and electricity, and the law and order situation was bad. In 20 years of the BJP rule, all this has changed, the PM said. He said in two decades of BJP rule, sectors such as education, healthcare and industry have seen a massive growth. Had Gujarat not developed so much in the last 20 years, there would have been a question mark on the future of youth of the state. "It is the hard work of 20 years that the future of our youth is moving ahead with development and trust," he said. (PTI)

IMF cuts India's economic growth forecast to 6.8 per cent in 2022

WASHINGTON, OCT 11 /--/ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday cut its projection of India's economic growth in 2022 to 6.8 per cent, as it joins other global agencies that have trimmed forecasts. The IMF had in July projected a gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 7.4 per cent for India in the fiscal year that started in April 2022. Even that forecast was lower than 8.2 per cent projected in January this year. India had grown at 8.7 per cent in 2021-22 fiscal (April 2021 to March 2022).

In its annual World Economic Outlook report released on Tuesday, the IMF said outlook for India is growth of 6.8 per cent in 2022 a 0.6 percentage point downgrade since the July forecast, reflecting a weaker-than-expected outturn in the second quarter and more subdued external demand. Global growth is forecast to slow from 6.0 per cent in 2021 to 3.2 per cent in 2022 and 2.7 per cent in 2023. This is the weakest growth profile since 2001, except for the global financial crisis and the acute phase of the Covid-19 pandemic. The economic growth projections reflect significant slowdowns for the largest economies: a US GDP contraction in the first half of 2022, a euro area contraction in the second half of 2022, and prolonged Covid-19 outbreaks and lockdowns in China with a growing property sector crisis, the IMF said. "The global economy continues to face steep challenges, shaped by the lingering effects of three powerful forces: the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a cost-of-living crisis caused by persistent and broadening

inflation pressures, and the slowdown in China," said Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas, Economic Counsellor and the Director of Research of the IMF, in his forward to the WEO released during the annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank. More than a third of the global economy will contract in 2023, while the three largest economies -- the United States, the European Union, and China -- will continue to stall. "In short, the worst is yet to come, and for many people 2023 will feel like a recession," he wrote. Growth rate projections for China is 3.2 per cent, down from 8.1 per cent growth rate in 2021. In China, the frequent lockdowns under its zero-COVID policy have taken a toll on the economy, especially in the second quarter of 2022. Furthermore, the property sector, representing about one-fifth of economic activity in China, is rapidly weakening. "Given the size of China's economy and its importance for global supply chains, this will weigh heavily on global trade and activity," Gourinchas said. In the United States, the tightening of monetary and financial conditions will slow growth to 1 per cent next year. In China, the IMF has lowered next year's growth forecast to 4.4 per cent due to a weakening property sector and continued lockdowns, he wrote in a blog post. "Russia's invasion of Ukraine continues to powerfully destabilize the global economy. Beyond the escalating and senseless destruction of lives and livelihoods, it has led to a severe energy crisis in Europe that is sharply increasing costs of living and hampering economic activity," he said. (PTI)

Our daughters should be provided respect, security for country's bright future: Rahul

CHITRADURGA, OCT 11 /--/ Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday said "we have to provide" security, equal opportunities and respect to "our daughters for the bright future of our country". On International Day of the girl child, Gandhi met a number of girl students and children as he walked from Harthikote to Siddapura in Chitradurga on the 34th day of the Bharat Jodo Yatra. "Father's stick and mother's hope. Our daughters are the support of every home. For the bright future of our country, we all have to provide them security, equal opportunities and respect at any cost," he said in a tweet in Hindi sharing pi turns of some girl children meeting him on the way. The former Congress chief also had an interaction with women workers which included ASHA, MNREGA and Anganwadi workers and ANMs at Sanikere. Gandhi also met some activists of



the civil society during his padayatra, who even accompanied him. The 34th day of the yatra started at 7.30 AM from Harthikote, an hour late due to heavy rains. However the Padayatri reached the morning halt at Sanikere after walking 14 km according to schedule.

Congress leaders said there is enthusiasm among people from all walks of life keen to meet and walk along with Gandhi during the yatra. As Gandhi started walking in the morning from Harthikote, some children ran ahead of him and also met him. He later also met some school children on the way, who waited for quite some time along the roads clad in their uniforms to meet him. He interacted with some girl students too as well as some tribals during the journey. The Bharat Jodo Yatra also stopped for a few minutes in the evening to pay homage to Samajwadi party supremo Mulayam Singh Yadav. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh tweeted, "It is day 34 of Bharat Jodo Yatra and as the evening Yatra begins the clouds gather near Challakere in Chitradurga where ISRO, DRDO, BARC and IISc form part of the Science City that is coming up." (PTI)

Mulayam Singh Yadav: A legacy of personal bonds with commoners

SAIFAI, OCT 11 /--/ As people thronged the funeral of Mulayam Singh Yadav on Thursday, the socialist leader's connect with the common man was apparent. Almost every one had a story to tell: How they first got introduced to 'Netaji', or how humble and accessible he was even after he became a heavyweight in Indian politics. Some recalled how, as a chief minister, Yadav would have his car pulled over to interact with villagers grazing their cattle in open fields, while many others thanked him for getting an inter-college



Mulayam Singh with son and SP leader Akhilesh Yadav—File photo

for girls built in Bundelkhand. Janak Singh (80) from nearby Chaubeypur said he knew Yadav from their early days and that he was fond of wrestling as well as enjoyed hosting Holi celebrations. "That did not change even after he became the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh and the defence minister. He was always accessible for us," Singh told PTI as he stood at the Mela ground with thousands of others to pay their last respects. Naresh Singh Yadav recalled that 'Netaji' gave the Kutha and block in Jalaun district, which falls in Bundelkhand region, its first inter-college for girls. "This happened soon after he became the chief minister for the first time in 1989. Until then, many girls would drop out of school after Class 5," he said. (PTI)

LOCAL NEWS

More medals for isles's sportspersons in National Games



PORT BLAIR, OCT 11 /--/ The A&N Islands sports contingent on Tuesday added one more medal in its medal tally when Star Kayak, Ms. Rajina Kiro won bronze medal in the ongoing 36th National Games-2022 at Gujarat/New Delhi. Rajina Kiro won Bronze medal in the 200 mtrs Kayaking-1. The A&N

Islands contingent participated in Cycling, Canoeing, Kayaking, Rowing and Athletic events in the National Games being held in various disciplines. With 2 gold, 5 silver and 5 bronze medals, the A&N Island contingent has so far secured 12 medals in the National Games which is scheduled to conclude on Oct. 12.

CME by Apollo Clinic Garacharma

From page-1
(Senior Consultant IR), MD, Fellowship in Interventional Oncoradiology (TMC, Kolkata) spoke on Interventional Radiology. Doctors from Government Hospitals and Private Hospitals, Dignitaries from various private and government sectors graced the occasion.

Secretary (Agri) interacts with PRIs at Rangat



KARTIK

RANGAT, OCT 11 /--/ Mr. Pankaj Kumar, Secretary (Agriculture) visited Rangat on 9th October 2022, and interacted with the PRI members of Rangat region at Panchayat Samiti Hall. During the meeting, the Zilla Parishad member, Nimbutala, Mr. R. Madhavan raised various issues of the farmers, including Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi-the benefits of which were provided to the farmers holding agricultural land without any income slab. Now the administration has decided to recover the PMKSN benefits provided to the farmers. The Pradhan urged the Secretary to halt the recovery process. He had also raised the issue of setting up a lab for soil testing at Rangat Tehsil. Issues like providing a minimum support price for copra and providing coconuts

to unemployed youths from Agriculture Farms so that the youth can start their own self-employment ventures. Since coconut from the Agriculture department run farms are available at prices much less than the market price, it will help the youth to produce copra and sell the same at market price fetching him some income. The Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Shivapuram, Mr. Venkateswar Rao appealed the Secretary of Agriculture to allot vacant agricultural land situated near Panchawati sea beach for development of vegetable garden by Gram Panchayat Shivapuram. He had also called for bringing Acrenut and Coconut under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bheema Yojana. Smti Shanta Kumari, Panchayat Samiti member GP Shivapuram raised the issue of dilapidated condition of agricultural depot and quarters located at Betapur. The Secretary (Agriculture) assured to resolve the issues at the earliest.

Deepawali SHG Mela at Marina Park on 15th & 16th Oct

PORT BLAIR, OCT 11 /--/ The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Rural Livelihood Mission (ANIRLM) attached to Directorate of RD, PRIs and ULBs, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, Port Blair will organize 'Deepawali SHG Mela' on 15th and 16th October 2022, at Marina Park, Port Blair from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The Self Help Groups formed under DAY-NRLM, DAY-NULM, NGOs and other institutions in South Andaman district will be participating in the mela to showcase and sell their handmade products i.e. Handicrafts made Coconut Shell, Bamboo & Cane, Ladies Hand Bag made of pearls, Coir Products, Decorative door hangings made of wool, Bakery products, Fish Pickle, Honey, local Spices, Foot Mats made of waste cloths, Snacks, Bakery Items etc. The SHGs from South Andaman District shall be participating in the "SHE MARKET". The general public can visit the Deepawali SHG Mela to support the SHGs of the islands.



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Australian cricketer Steve Waugh during a meeting, in Sydney

Taliban says 5.1 earthquake jolts northeastern Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, OCT 11/--/ A 5.1 magnitude earthquake on Tuesday jolted the Afghan city of Faizabad, the capital city of northeastern Badakhshan province, a Taliban official said.

Abdul Wahid Rayan, the director of the Taliban news agency Bakhtar, said the centre of the quake was Shaghnan district and it was felt in other parts of the

province. He had no information on any casualties or damage caused by the quake, but local media reported it was felt around 350 kilometers away in northern Balkh province. In June, a powerful earthquake ignited another crisis in the struggling country, underscoring the Taliban's limited capabilities and isolation.

United Nations officials said at the time that 770 people were killed, while the Taliban put the death toll at 1,150.

Overstretched aid groups already keeping millions of Afghans alive rushed supplies to victims of the June quake, but most countries responded tepidly to the Taliban's calls for international help. (PTI)

Israel announces sea deal with Lebanon, but doubts remain

JERUSALEM, OCT 11/--/Israel's prime minister said Tuesday that the country has reached a historic agreement with neighbouring Lebanon over their shared maritime border after months of U.S.-brokered negotiations.

The agreement would mark a major breakthrough in relations with the two countries, which formally have been at war since Israel's establishment in 1948.

But the deal still faces some obstacles, including key legal and political challenges in Israel. There was no immediate confirmation by Lebanon that a deal had been reached.

At stake are rights over exploiting undersea natural gas reserves in areas of the eastern Mediterranean that the two countries which do not have diplomatic relations claim.

Premier Yair Lapid called the deal an historic achievement that will strengthen Israel's security, inject billions into Israel's economy, and ensure the stability of our northern border.

The agreement is expected to enable additional natural gas production in the Mediterranean.

Lebanon hopes gas exploration will help lift its country out of its spiralling economic crisis.

Lebanon and Israel both claim some 860 square kilometers of the Mediterranean Sea. Under the agreement, those waters would be divided along a line straddling a strategic natural gas field.

According to a senior Israeli official, Lebanon would be allowed to produce gas from that field, called Qana, but pay royalties to Israel for any gas produced from the Israeli side.

Lebanon has been working with the French energy giant Total on preparations for exploring the field.

The agreement would also leave in place an existing buoy line that serves as a de facto border between the two countries, the official said.

He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was discussing behind-the-scenes negotiations.

Many leading security figures, both active and retired, have hailed the deal because it could lower tensions with Lebanon's Hezbollah militant group, which has repeatedly threatened to strike Israeli natural gas assets in the Mediterranean.

Pakistan rejects PM Modi's remarks about Kashmir during public rally in Gujarat

ISLAMABAD, OCT 11/--/Pakistan on Tuesday rejected Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks about Kashmir during a public rally in Gujarat, saying his contention that he has, somehow, resolved the Kashmir issue', is not only false and misleading but also reflects how oblivious the Indian leadership has become of the ground realities" in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognised dispute, the resolution of which has been on the agenda of the United Nations since 1948, the FO said in a statement.

"Instead of making delusional statements about having resolved the dispute unilaterally, the Indian leadership must deliver on their commitments to the Kashmiris and to the world and ensure that the people of Kashmir are accorded their inalienable right to self-determination, it said.

Pakistan's Foreign Office "categorically rejected" his remarks and said the Indian Prime Minister's "farcical contention that he has, somehow, resolved the Kashmir issue", is not only false and misleading but also reflects how oblivious the Indian leadership has become of the ground realities" in Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognised dispute, the resolution of which has been on the agenda of the United Nations since 1948, the FO said in a statement.

Relations between India and Pakistan have been strained over the Kashmir issue and cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan. Bilateral ties nosedived after India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution, revoking the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcating the State into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019. Following India's decision, Pakistan downgraded diplomatic ties with New Delhi and expelled the Indian envoy. Trade ties between Pakistan and India have largely been frozen since then.

India has repeatedly told Pakistan that Jammu and Kashmir was, is and shall forever remain an integral part of the country. India has said it desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan in an environment free of terror, hostility and violence. (PTI)

Targeting infrastructure and causing civilian deaths not acceptable in any part of world: Jaishankar

SYDNEY, OCT 11/--/ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Tuesday that targeting infrastructure and causing civilian deaths is not acceptable in any part of the world and emphasised on the need for both sides in the Ukraine conflict to return to the path of diplomacy and dialogue as "this conflict is not helping anybody at all."

Jaishankar made the remarks while responding to questions after his address at the Lowy Institute on the growing

importance of India's relationship with Australia and the interests that both countries share as members of the security-focused Quad.

"We really think that targeting infrastructure and causing civilian deaths is not acceptable in any part of the world," Jaishankar said while responding to a question on Russia's missile strikes targeting key cities across Ukraine on Monday, including the capital Kyiv which is being seen as the most intense attack since

the conflict started on February 24.

Jaishankar emphasised on the need to return to the path of diplomacy and dialogue to resolve the conflict, saying "this conflict is not helping anybody at all."

He said this conflict is hurting a large part of the world today because the daily lives of the people are impacted in a very, very damaging manner. "And these countries with whom we identify ourselves most of these countries and they

are actually feeling frustrated because they feel that their problems are being neglected," the minister said.

His comments came a day after India voted to reject Russia's demand for a secret ballot in the UN General Assembly on a draft resolution to condemn Moscow's illegal annexation of four regions of Ukraine. India favoured a public vote on the text along with over 100 other nations.

On Monday, India's External Affairs Ministry

Spokesperson said the escalation of hostilities was in no one's interest and noted that India stood ready to support all such efforts aimed at de-escalation of the situation.

India has not yet condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine and maintained that the crisis must be resolved through diplomacy and dialogue. India has abstained on votes on the Ukraine conflict in the UN General Assembly and the Security Council. (PTI)

Iran's crackdown on protests intensifies in Kurdish region

DUBAI, OCT 11/--/Iran intensified its crackdown Tuesday on Kurdish areas in the country's west amid protests sparked by the death of a 22-year-old woman detained by the morality police, activists said.

Riot police fired into at least one neighbourhood in Sanandaj, the capital of Iran's Kurdistan province, as Amnesty International and the White House's national security adviser criticised the violence targeting demonstrators angered by the death of Mahsa Amini.

Meanwhile, some oil workers Monday joined the protests at two key refinery complexes, for the first time linking an industry key to Iran's theocracy to the unrest.

Workers claimed another protest Tuesday in the crucial oil city of Abadan, with others calling for protests on Wednesday as well. Iran's government insists Amini was not mistreated, but her family says her body showed bruises and other signs of beating. Subsequent videos have shown security forces beating and shoving female protesters, including women who have torn off their mandatory headscarf, or hijab. From the capital, Tehran, and elsewhere, videos have emerged online despite authorities disrupting the internet.

Videos on Monday showed university and high school students demonstrating and chanting, with some women and girls

marching through the streets without headscarves as the protests continue into a fourth week. The demonstrations represent one of the biggest challenges to Iran's theocracy since the 2009 Green Movement protests. One video posted online by a Kurdish group called the Hengaw Organisation for Human Rights showed darkened streets with apparent gunfire going off and a bonfire burning in Sanandaj, some 400 kilometers west of Tehran.

Another showed riot police carrying shotguns moving in formation with a vehicle, apparently firing at homes. A video posted later Tuesday purportedly showed a massive bullet hole inside the home of one Sanandaj resident, a hole that Hengaw alleged came from a heavy .50-caliber machine gun the type often mounted to armoured vehicles. Another video purportedly showed security forces randomly firing in the air while arresting someone there on Monday. The New York-based Center for Human Rights in Iran posted another video showing what it described as a phalanx of motorcycle-riding security forces moving through Sanandaj. They reportedly broke the windows of hundreds of cars in the Baharan neighborhood," the center said. Amini was Kurdish and her death has been felt particularly in

Iran's Kurdish region, where demonstrations began Sept. 17 at her funeral there after her death the day before.

Amnesty International criticised Iranian security forces for using firearms and firing tear gas indiscriminately, including into people's homes.

It urged the world to pressure Iran to end the crackdown as Tehran continues to disrupt internet and mobile phone networks to hide their crimes. Iran did not immediately acknowledge the renewed crackdown in Sanandaj. However, Iran's Foreign Ministry summoned the British ambassador over the United Kingdom sanctioning members of the country's morality police and security officials due to the crackdown. Iran's Foreign Ministry called the sanctions arbitrary and baseless, even while threatening to potentially take countermeasures against London. Jake Sullivan, U.S. President Joe Biden's national security adviser, similarly noted that the world is watching what is happening in Iran.

These protestors are Iranian citizens, led by women and girls, demanding dignity and basic rights, Sullivan wrote on Twitter:

We stand with them, and we will hold responsible those using violence in a vain effort to silence their voices.

On Monday, workers held demonstrations in Abadan and Asaluyeh, a key



point for Iran's massive offshore natural gas field in the Persian Gulf it shares with Qatar.

Iran's state-run IRNA news agency on Tuesday claimed the Asaluyeh demonstration was a strike over wages. Videos of the protests included workers chanting: This is the bloody year Seyyed Ali will be overthrown," referring to Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei without his Shiite religious title of ayatollah. Workers also said several of their colleagues had been detained by authorities after their protests Tuesday.

On Tuesday, the Contractual Oil Workers Protest Organizing Council claimed another strike at Abadan, posting videos outside of the massive refinery complex in the city near the Iraqi border.

The details in the videos correspond with each and to known features of the facility compared against satellite photos taken in recent months.

It remains unclear how many people have been killed or arrested so far.

An Oslo-based group, Iran Human Rights,

estimates at least 185 people have been killed.

This includes an estimated 90 people killed by security forces in the eastern Iranian city of Zahedan amid demonstrations against a police officer accused of rape in a separate case.

Iranian authorities have described the Zahedan violence as involving unnamed separatists, without providing details or evidence. Iran's judiciary spokesman Masoud Setayeshi reportedly said Tuesday that Iran so far has released some 1,700 people arrested in the recent demonstrations, without offering a total figure for those detained so far.

Meanwhile on Tuesday, Iranian government spokesman Ali Bahadori Jahromi alleged without providing evidence that U.S. sanctions affected Amini's ability to get medicine for the chronic illnesses she faced. However, an Iranian government report Friday said that she was taking hydrocortisone and levothyroxine two medicines made in Iran available in pharmacies in the country. (AP)

Video games may trigger lethal heart problems in some children: Study

MELBOURNE, OCT 11/--/Playing video games may lead to life-threatening irregular heartbeat in susceptible children whose predisposition may have been previously unrecognised, according to a study. The research, published recently in the journal Heart Rhythm, documents an uncommon, but distinct pattern among children who lose consciousness while playing video games. "Video games may represent a serious risk to some children with arrhythmic conditions; they might be lethal in patients with predisposing, but often previously unrecognised arrhythmic conditions," said study lead investigator Claire M. Lawley from The Heart Centre for Children, Australia. "Children who suddenly lose consciousness while electronic gaming should be assessed by a heart specialist as this could be the first sign of a serious heart problem," Lawley said. The team reviewed research literature and carried out a multisite international outreach effort to identify cases of children with sudden loss of consciousness while playing video games. Across the 22 cases they found, multiplayer war gaming was the most frequent trigger. Some children died following a cardiac arrest, they said. Subsequent diagnoses of several heart rhythm conditions put the children at continuing risk, according to the researchers. Catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (CPVT) and congenital long QT syndrome (LQTS) types 1 and 2 were the most common underlying causes. Both the conditions are characterised by an abnormal heart rhythm. The researchers noted a high incidence of potentially relevant genetic variants (63 per cent) among the patients, which has significant implications for their families. In some cases, the investigation of a child who lost consciousness during video gaming led to many family members being diagnosed with an important familial heart rhythm problem, they said.

Families and healthcare teams should think about safety precautions around electronic gaming in children who have a condition where dangerous fast heart rhythms are a risk," Lawley said. The researchers attributed adrenergic stimulation -- of the nerves in body's sympathetic nervous system -- related to the emotionally charged electronic gaming environment behind this phenomenon. At the time of the cardiac incidents, many of the patients were in excited states, having just won or lost games, or were engaging in conflict with companions, they said. "We already know that some children have heart conditions that can put them at risk when playing competitive sports, but we were shocked to discover that some patients were having life-threatening blackouts during video gaming," added study co-investigator Christian Turner, from The Heart Centre for Children.

"Video gaming was something I previously thought would be an alternative 'safe activity'. This is a really important discovery," Turner said. The researchers noted that the need is to ensure everyone knows how important it is to get checked out when someone has had a blacking out episode in these circumstances. The study notes that while this phenomenon is not a common occurrence, it is becoming more prevalent. (PTI)

UK spy chief says China's tech aims are a "threat to us all"



LONDON, OCT 11/--/The head of Britain's cyber-intelligence agency is accusing China of using its economic and technological clout to clamp down at home and exert control abroad, saying Beijing's aggressive stance is driven by fear and poses a huge threat to us all.

Jeremy Fleming, director of GCHQ, says Beijing's Communist authorities are seeking to shape the global tech ecosystem, using technologies such as digital currencies and satellite systems to control China's population and increase its influence around the world.

In a rare public speech later on Tuesday to the Royal United Services Institute think tank, Fleming plans to say that the one-party system in Beijing seeks to control China's population and sees other countries as either potential adversaries or potential client states, to be threatened, bribed or coerced.

He will say that underlying that belief is a sense of fear.

And we're seeing that fear play out through the manipulation of the technological ecosystems

which underpin our everyday lives from monitoring its own citizens and restricting free speech to influencing financial systems and new domains, Fleming will say, according to extracts of the speech released in advance.

Relations between Britain and China have grown increasingly frosty in recent years, with UK officials accusing Beijing of economic subterfuge and human rights abuses.

British spies have given increasingly negative assessments of Beijing's influence and intentions. Last year the head of the MI6 overseas intelligence agency, Richard Moore, called China one of the biggest threats to Britain and its allies.

Fleming will warn that China is seeking to fragment the infrastructure of the internet to exert greater control. He will also say China is seeking to use digital currencies used by central banks to snoop on users' transactions and as a way of avoiding future international sanctions of the sort imposed on Russia over its invasion of Ukraine.

widely used GPS navigation technology could contain a powerful anti-satellite capability, with a doctrine of denying other nations access to space in the event of a conflict.

GCHQ said Fleming will warn that the world is approaching a sliding doors moment in history a reference to the 1998 Gwyneth Paltrow film in which a woman's fate hinges on a seemingly trivial moment.

He'll call on Western firms and researchers to toughen intellectual property protections and for Western countries to work harder to develop alternatives to Chinese technology, which Fleming says brings hidden costs.

The US has banned Chinese tech firm Huawei as a security risk, and in 2020, then-British Prime Minister Boris Johnson ordered Huawei to be stripped out of the UK's 5G telecoms network by 2027.

Fleming will also address the war in Ukraine, saying Russia is running short of weapons and Ukraine's courageous action on the battlefield and in cyberspace is turning the tide.

Russia's forces are exhausted, he will say. The use of prisoners to reinforce, and now the mobilisation of tens of thousands of inexperienced conscripts, speaks of a desperate situation.

GCHQ, formally known as the Government Communications Headquarters, is one of Britain's three main intelligence agencies, alongside MI5 and MI6. It did not disclose the sources of its intelligence on China and Russia. (AP)

Roger Binny files nomination for post of BCCI president, Shah likely to remain secretary

Sourav refused IPL chairmanship



In this file photo former cricketer Roger Binny with Indian cricket team Head Coach Rahul Dravid in Bengaluru. Binny is likely to replace Sourav Ganguly as the BCCI President when the Board will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Oct. 18, according to the cricket body's sources

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI, OCT 11 /--/ Roger Binny, a member of the 1983 World Cup winning team, on Tuesday filed his nomination for the post of BCCI President and is likely to get the top job unopposed, Board vice President Rajeev Shukla said. Binny, 67, is so far the only candidate to have filed nomination for the post and if no more candidate emerges, he will replace Sourav Ganguly as BCCI chief when the Board holds its AGM in Mumbai on October 18. After hectic parleys and back-channel discussions in the past one week, it was decided that Binny would be the 36th Board president, one of the sources familiar with the development, said. Jay Shah, son of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, has also filed nomination and will continue as BCCI Secretary for a second consecutive term if no more candidate throws his hat in the ring. Shah is also expected to replace Ganguly as India's representative at the all powerful ICC Board.

"Roger Binny has filed nomination for president's post, myself for the vice-president's post, Jay Shah for secretary, Ashish Shelar for treasurer and Devajit Saikia has filed nomination for joint secretary's post," Shukla told reporters "Arun Dhumal will head the IPL governing council and Abhishek Dalmiya will be part of that council. Khairul Jamal (Mamun) Majumdar will be part of the Apex council. As of now these are the nominations and all are unopposed," Shukla added. Wednesday is last day for filing nominations. Candidates can withdraw their nomination by October 14. The final list of candidates for various positions will be published on October 15. Binny, though, is a surprise choice to head the BCCI.

However, hints were dropped that his name will emerge for a position when Karnataka State Cricket



Sourav and Jay Shah —File photo

Association (KSCA) named him as its representative at BCCI AGM instead of secretary Santosh Menon. Binny is KSCA President and will have to leave his position in the state body. The medium pacer was one of the architects of India's historic World Cup triumph in 1983. In eight games, he took 18 wickets, the highest in that edition of prestigious tournament. Binny has served as member of senior selection committee in the past when Sandeep Patil was the chairman. Whenever his son Stuart Binny's name came up for discussion for selection in the Indian team, he would recuse himself from the proceedings. "Roger is one of the finest human beings and a thorough gentleman, who has graced the field for India. Plus he is also a World Cup hero and has a squeaky clean image. He had resigned from the selection committee after

Lodha committee pointed out conflict of interest," said a BCCI source.

The only Congressman in the BCCI cabinet would be Shukla, who will continue as vice president, if he gets elected. Sports minister Anurag Thakur's younger brother Arun Singh Dhumal, who is currently the treasurer, will now become IPL chairman. He will replace Brijesh Patel. Influential Maharashtra BJP leader Ashish Shelar will be the new treasurer which means that he won't become Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) president. He was supposed to take up the role with support from Sharad Pawar faction. "Once he (Shelar) takes over as a treasurer, he will have to withdraw his nomination from MCA president's post," Shukla further informed. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's close aide Devajit Saikia is expected to replace Jayesh George as the new joint secretary. Whether BCCI will contest for the ICC chairmanship hasn't been decided as yet. Shukla said it will be discussed during the AGM. Ganguly, who reached Mumbai on Monday evening, had a lot of meetings with the stakeholders in New Delhi, last week. The former India captain was keen to continue as BCCI President but he was told that there is no precedence of giving a second term to the Board president. "Sourav was offered IPL chairmanship but he politely declined the offer. His logic was that he cannot accept becoming head of a sub-committee in BCCI after heading the same institution. He had expressed interest in continuing in the position," the BCCI source said. In case of Dhumal, the decision makers waited for Ganguly to take a call on IPL chairmanship and once he refused, they decided to promote the Himachal man, who, is one of the most efficient men in BCCI cabinet. With Ganguly moving out of the picture, the East representation was always going to be Assam CM Biswa Sarma's call as he played a key role even last time. (PTI)

GAME NOTES

New Zealand beats Pakistan by 9 wickets in Tri-series

CHRISTSHURCH : Finn Allen and Devon Conway shared a 117-run opening partnership as New Zealand cruised to a nine-wicket win over Pakistan with almost four overs remaining on Tuesday in the Twenty20 Tri-Series. Allen made 62 including a half century from 32 balls and Conway followed his match-winning 70 against Bangladesh on the weekend with an unbeaten 49 on Tuesday as New Zealand easily surpassed Pakistan's 130-7. Conway underlined his importance to the Black Caps ahead of the T20 World Cup with consecutive unbeaten innings. Allen took a moment to judge the pace and bounce of the pitch at Hadley Oval, then went on to 62 from 42 balls with six sixes, marking himself as a player to watch when the world tournament starts later this month. Pakistan and New Zealand are level in the series with two wins each from three matches, while Bangladesh is yet to win. The next match is between New Zealand and Bangladesh on Thursday. New Zealand's win Tuesday was set up by the bowlers. Mitchell Santner conceded 11 runs from his opening over then joined with Michael Bracewell to uproot Pakistan's top order. The pair combined to contain Pakistan's powerful batters, sharing four of the first five wickets.

Deepti Sharma gets back career-best third rank among T20 bowlers

DUBAI : India's Deepti Sharma on Tuesday jumped three places to reclaim her career-best third position in the Women's T20I bowlers rankings list and also touched the same rank in the all-rounders' chart. Sharma gained ranking points, riding on some fine performances in the ongoing Asia Cup in Sylhet, Bangladesh. She grabbed three wickets against Pakistan and two each against Bangladesh and Thailand, overtaking South Africa fast bowler Shabnim Ismail and now only trails England spinners Sophie Ecclestone and Sarah Glenn. She first achieved the third rank in the bowlers' list in November 2019. Sharma has also moved up one slot to 35th among batters and is ranked third among all-rounders after overtaking Australia's Ashleigh Gardner. India's Renuka Singh (up three slots to eighth), Sneha Rana (up 30 places to 15th) and Pooja Vastrakar (up seven places to 28th) have also progressed in the rankings for bowlers. (PTI)

USA take 5-0 lead

BHUBANESWAR : India have began their FIFA Women's Under-17 World Cup opening match against the mighty USA in Bhubaneswar on Tuesday. India are trailing 0-5 currently. India had booked an automatic berth in the age-group showpiece as hosts and they are one of the three debutants in the tournament along with fellow Group A side Morocco and Tanzania (Group D). Head coach Thomas Dennerby had said that the hosts would be a tough side to score against and taking a point from the formidable USA at the Kalinga Stadium on Tuesday could be a big achievement for India. USA have come into the tournament as winners of the CONCACAF championships and they would look to open their campaign with a win, knowing fully well that a slip-up against India can cost them dear in a Group which also has title contenders Brazil.

Spinners shine as India clinch ODI series against SA



Indian squad celebrating a dismissal during third ODI with South Africa at Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi on Tuesday.

NEW DELHI, OCT 11 /--/ India gave a good account of their enormous depth as a young and inexperienced side stunned a strong South Africa unit by seven wickets in third ODI here on Tuesday to secure a memorable series win. The spin trio of Washington Sundar (2/15), Shahbaz Ahmed (2/32) and Kuldeep Yadav (4/18) picked the right lengths on a slow Kotla pitch to bundle out South Africa for 99, the Proteas lowest ODI total against India. The home team batters, led by Shubman Gill (49), chased a paltry 100-run target in 19.1 overs. The series loss further jeopardised South Africa's chances of a direct qualification for the ODI World Cup next year. Pacer Mohammad Siraj (2/17) too continued his good run to make a strong case for his inclusion in T20 World Cup squad. While Washington and Shahbaz got wickets up front, left-arm spinner Kuldeep, who missed out on a hat-trick, cleaned up the tail. The quality of the Indian white-ball squad was on full display in the series as the second-string team came from behind to clinch the three-match series 2-1. Chasing a small total, opener Gill attacked the South African bowlers from the very first ball while skipper Shikha Dhawan played second fiddle. The Indians, who looked in a hurry to finish the match, lost a bit of momentum after the wickets of Dhawan, whose woeful run in the series continued as he was run out for eight, and Ishan Kishan (10). However, Shreyas Iyer (28 not out) continued his stellar run as he whacked three boundaries and two



Kuldeep Yadav celebrating a dismissal during third ODI with South Africa at Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi on Tuesday

sixes including a match-winning maximum to steer India to victory after Gill was trapped leg before with three runs needed. Earlier put in to bat, South African batters failed to impress, falling like ninepins. Quinton

de Kock (6) was the first to perish as he half-heartedly cut the ball to top-edge it to Avesh Khan at backward point, giving Washington his first wicket. India then seemingly got their second wicket when Reeza Hendricks (3) was trapped leg before but the South African took the review to turn the umpire's decision in the seventh over. Janneman Malan (15) smacked Siraj for three of boundaries in his consecutive overs before the pacer got rid of the opener as he tried to play the pull shot. South African batters continued to struggle and looked off colour as Siraj claimed his second when he got Hendricks (3) next. Aiden Makram (9), whose stay in the middle lasted 19 balls, became Shahbaz Ahmed's first victim as he nicked it through to the keeper Sanju Samson. The visitors dallied to 50 in 17.1 overs but India were all over the visitors. Skipper David Miller (7) and joined Heinrich Klaasen in the middle but he too couldn't make a mark as he was bowled, the ball slid in from round the wicket to clip the outside of off stump. Brought into the attack in the 20th over, Kuldeep too joined the party as Andile Phehlukwayo failed to read his googly. Klaasen and new-man Marco Jansen stitched a 22-run stand that included a four and a six to take South Africa closer to the 100-run mark. First, Jansen charged down the pitch for a six over long on, a few balls later Klaasen hit a boundary but he was dismissed by Shahbaz. Kuldeep then burst with a three-wicket haul clearing up the lower order as South Africa were bowled out in 27.1 overs. (PTI)

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