

After DC(N&MA) site inspection, expert team on job to prevent landsliding

KURMA RAO



MAYABUNDER, OCT 21/--/ The Deputy Commissioner, North & Middle Andaman on Thursday visited the landslide site near R.P. Hospital, Mayabunder. A team of senior officers, including Assistant Commissioner, Mayabunder, Tehsildar, Medical Superintendent, RP Hospital, Mayabunder and Executive Engineer, NACD were also present on the occasion. Directions were given by the Deputy Commissioner for carrying out all preventive sets to check landsliding work on an emergency basis. Accordingly, a special team of experts from Port Blair reached Mayabunder on Friday to take necessary action for the prevention of land sliding. Work has been started to prevent the sliding of land. Due to incessant rain, carrying out work in the sliding zone has become a challenge for the workers. It may be recalled that on 9th Sept 2021, massive land sliding was witnessed in this area. An estimate was prepared for taking up work to stop sliding. But due to some administrative reasons, the work could not be taken up.

MP for introduction of new undergraduate courses in MGCC



PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ The Member of Parliament of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Lt. Governor, Andaman and Nicobar Islands to introduce some more Under Graduate courses like Physical Education, Computer Science, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Microbiology, Forestry and Fisheries to maximise the chance of North and Middle Andaman Students to get employment in high places of local, national and international level. In a letter addressed to the Lt. Governor, the Member of Parliament mentioned that Mahatma Gandhi Government College (MGCC) is the only degree

college of North and Middle Andaman and since last many years only six subjects viz History, Political Science, Economics, Geography, Commerce and Bachelors of Cooperative Management are being offered by the college. He mentioned that with changing local, nation and international scenarios regarding job opportunity and employability there is an urgent need to introduce some more courses which have high demand everywhere. He pointed out that introduction of these courses will not only provide more choices to students of North and Middle Andaman but also it will generate lots of jobs for unemployed youths of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

PBGKR celebrates Diwali with inmates of Abbhuday Complex at Ferrargunj

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ In order to bring smiles and happiness to the faces of inmates of Abbhuday Complex at Ferrargunj, the Port Blair Guru Ki Rasoi team celebrated 2nd Diwali with old aged, specially abled kids and children of Abbhuday Complex at Ferrargunj. Team Port Blair Guru Ki Rasoi celebrated their second Diwali with the residents of Abbhudaya Complex, Ferrargunj. Sweets and crackers were distributed among the kids and diyas with sweets to elderly to spread joy and happiness. Diwali embarks the festival of win against evil and by lighting diyas and spreading light to kill darkness. Mandeep Grewal, President, PBGKR said his team is happy to celebrate Diwali for the second year in a row at Ferrargunj and will continue to do so in the years ahead.



DC(SA), team visits areas inhabited by Ranchi Community in South Andamana

Issues heard, decisions taken on spot to address them

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ The Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman), Mr. hriSuneelAnchipaka, along with a team of senior officers, PRI members visited the areas predominantly inhabited by Ranchi community in Mithakhari, Namunaghar, Brindaban, Tushnabad Gram Panchayats.

During the visit, the DC (SA) interacted with the Ranchi community residents in these areas. The common issues raised during the interaction were frequent power cuts,



irregular distribution of LPG cylinders, water supply, construction/repair/maintenance of roads etc. In Mithkhari GP, the people raised the issue of electricity cut due to which activities of people were affected badly. The residents further requested for set apart of land for playground and PHC, separate Power sub-station, separate feeder for the Gram Panchayat and shifting of one of the transformers from Surya Chakra. Regarding the issue of irregular supply of LPG cylinders, DC (SA) directed the concerned distributor to prepare a monthly schedule for LPG cylinder distribution and strictly adhere to the schedule. The Tehsildar, Ferrargunj and the area Patwari were also directed to handover the unutilized old building constructed under MPLAD fund to the Gram Panchayat, so that it can be used for multipurpose activities. It was informed that the road work towards the Boating house and Boating house complex will be undertaken by Zilla Parishad, South Andaman for which an estimate has been prepared already. In Namunaghar Gram Panchayat, Ranchi Community people requested for Primary School renovation including compound wall construction, and set apart land for development of Mini Stadium. Officials were requested for maintenance of Street light and water pipeline and if was informed that the construction of road under Special Financial Assistance has been proposed. The ranchibasti people requested to cover them under the PMAY scheme as they were settled there by APWD and have been living for 70 years without pattas.

(Contd. on page-6)

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Shivraj Patil's jihad remarks another attempt to 'insult' Hindutva: BJP

Patil's comments 'Unacceptable', says Cong

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 /--/ The BJP on Friday stepped up its attack against the Congress over its leader Shivraj Patil's claim that Bhagavad Gita also spoke of jihad, saying that this is one more attempt to smear Hindutva by the opposition party, which disassociated itself from the remarks, terming them as "unacceptable".

The Congress also said the former governor and former Union home minister has clarified his comments and asserted that Bhagavad Gita is a key foundational pillar of Indian civilisation. Attacking the Congress, BJP spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi demanded that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge or its

leader Sonia Gandhi should respond to Patil's comments. He noted that Mahatma Gandhi in his commentary on the Hindu epic had described it as a source of 'Anasakti Yoga' (selfless action) while Bal Gangadhar Tilak expounded his philosophy of 'Karma Yoga' through his study of Gita and added that Congress leaders now see jihad in it.

BJP national spokesperson Prem Shukla alleged that the Congress has long been involved in the conspiracy to "insult Hindu, Hindutva and Hindustan" and Patil's remarks are yet another chapter towards this.

Congress leaders in the past have drawn a parallel between Hindutva with

terror organisations like Boko Haram and Taliban, he alleged.

Former Union ministers



Shivraj Patil

Sushilkumar Shinde and P Chidambaram had spoken about "saffron terror", he said. Gita is the philosophy of humanity, Shukla asserted. The BJP also accused it of playing vote

bank politics. With the BJP seizing on Patil's remarks to corner it, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh took to Twitter to give the party's view.

"My senior colleague Shivraj Patil reportedly made some comments on Bhagavad Gita that's unacceptable. Subsequently, he clarified. The Congress's stand is clear. Bhagavad Gita is a key foundational pillar of Indian civilisation," he said.

He also shared on Twitter excerpts from Jawaharlal Nehru's book 'The Discovery of India', wherein the former prime minister wrote: "The message of the Gita is not sectarian or addressed to any particular school of thought.

It is universal in its approach for everyone, Brahmin or outcaste. 'All paths lead to me,' it says. It is because of this universality that it has found favour with all classes and schools."

Patil on Thursday claimed that the concept of jihad was not just in Islam but also in Bhagavad Gita and Christianity. Speaking at the launch of Congress veteran and former Union minister Mohsina Kidwai's biography, Patil, also a former Lok Sabha Speaker, said it is said there is a lot of discussion of jihad in the religion of Islam. The concept comes to the fore when despite having the right intentions and doing the right thing, nobody understands or reciprocates, then it is said

one can use force, he said. "It is not just in Quran, but in Mahabharata also, the part in Gita, Shri Krishna also talks of jihad to Arjun and this thing is not just in Quran or Gita but also in Christianity," he claimed in his remarks in Hindi.

Reacting to Patil's comments, BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla on Thursday tweeted, "after AAP's Gopal Italia & Rajendra Pal, not to be outdone in Hindu hatred & vote bank politics, Congress' Shivraj Patil says Shri Krishna taught 'Jihad' to Arjun!" Congress coined Hindu/Saffron terror, opposed Ram Mandir, Questioned Ram JJ's existence, said H i n d u t v a = I S I S , " Poonawalla tweeted. (PTI)

Old pension scheme to be restored in Punjab

Will do it in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh too if voted to power: Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 /--/ Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Friday congratulated government employees in Punjab after the state cabinet gave its nod to the restoration of the old pension scheme and promised that the AAP would do so in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, if it is voted to power in the upcoming polls. The old pension scheme should be restored and implemented all over the



country, he said, terming the new pension scheme unfair . The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener's promise to the state government employees of the poll-bound Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh came after Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann announced his government's decision to restore old pension scheme. "We had promised that we would implement the old pension scheme in Punjab. Today Bhagwant Mann fulfilled the promise. Congratulations to all the employees of Punjab, Kejriwal said in a tweet in Hindi. The old pension scheme should be restored and implemented all over the country, he said. "If the people of Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat give (us) a chance, we will implement OPS (old pension scheme) there too, Kejriwal added. The assembly polls in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh are slated for later this year. (PTI)

Order making valid PUC mandatory on hold following suggestions from fuel dealers' assn: Rai

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 /--/ Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai on Friday said the government has put on hold the order asking vehicle owners to mandatorily carry a valid pollution-under-check certificate (PUC) to buy fuel from October 25. "The diesel and petrol dealers' association has given some suggestions regarding law and order... These will be discussed with the chief minister and a decision will be taken thereafter," he told reporters.

For now, it is not being implemented from October 25, the minister said. The government had earlier asked vehicle owners to compulsorily carry a valid PUC for buying fuel at petrol pumps from October 25. According to government estimates, the transport sector accounts for 28 per cent of the PM2.5 emissions in Delhi. Vehicular contribution also makes up 80 per cent of nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide in Delhi's air.

More than 17 lakh vehicles in the national capital do not have PUC, according to the Delhi Transport Department. Under Section 190(2) of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1933, vehicle owners not having a valid PUC can be fined up to Rs 10,000, or imprisoned for up to six months or both. Officials had earlier said vehicle owners not having a valid PUC may also face suspension of registration certificate. The owners are required to get their vehicles tested to ascertain if they meet emission standards for pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrous oxides, carbon dioxide. There are over 900 pollution checking centres authorised by the transport department in Delhi. These are set up at petrol pumps and workshops spread all over the city. (PTI)

Cross border propagation of terrorist ideologies cannot be termed political problems: Shah

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 /--/ Emphasising that terrorism is the biggest violator of human rights, home minister Amit Shah on Friday said cross-border propagation of terrorist ideologies through online radicalisation cannot be considered as "political problem". Addressing the concluding session of the 90th Interpol General Assembly, he said all countries must come together to have a common definition of terrorism and terrorists. "We cannot fight terrorists and terrorism globally unless there is a common definition of both. Commitment to fight terrorism and differentiating good or bad terrorism or classifying terror attacks as big or small cannot go together," he said. Shah said there must be a consensus on the cross-border propagation of terrorist ideologies through online radicalisation.



"We cannot consider this to be a political problem. We must all be committed to ensuring that an effective fight against terrorism should be long-term, comprehensive and sustainable," he said. Interpol is the best platform to achieve "across border cooperation" which is must to defeat "cross border terrorism", he said.

The home minister said

terror agencies of the countries where real time information and intelligence can be shared among countries. He said India is committed to work with Interpol to counter all forms of global terrorism providing its technical and human resources. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of India's independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put forward his vision of a drugs-free India, he said. There is a need to establish platform for exchange of intelligence and information among countries to counter illicit narco-trade, he said. "There should be exchange of information, joint campaigns, regional maritime cooperation, mutual legal assistance, effective mechanism to tackle money laundering to combat narco-terrorism and narco-smuggling," he said underlining successes achieved by Narcotics Control Bureau recently. (PTI)



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath distributing tablets to researchers under the Chief Minister's Fellowship programme at Lok Bhawan, in Lucknow

Climate change led to increase in JK's average mean temperature in last 28 yrs: Official

JAMMU, OCT 21 /--/ The average mean temperature in Jammu and Kashmir has increased in the last 28 years due to climate change, a senior official said on Friday. He said agriculture is the only sector that can help reduce poverty by raising incomes and food security for 80 per cent of the world's poor populace. "J&K is also witnessing the brunt of climate change and average mean temperature in last 28 years has climbed up by

2.32 C and 1.45 C in Jammu and Kashmir region, respectively", Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Atal Dulloo said after inaugurating a two-day international conference on "existing climate change scenario and its arising risks" here. He said in 2014, we witnessed a devastating flood situation in Kashmir and almost every year due to untimely rainfall, the crop of paddy in Jammu and apple in Kashmir suffer huge losses. "We should

prepare ourselves and our farmers to adapt to these weather changes so that they do not suffer on the economic front," Dulloo said. He said agriculture is an integral part of the world's economy and is the lifeline of underdeveloped and developing countries like India. "But, today the prosperity of agriculture and future of our farmers is being threatened by numerous impending challenges like climate change which needs to be

tackled collectively", he added. ACS said the yield of rain-fed and irrigated rice in India has been projected to reduce by 2.5 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively, by 2050. Further, the wheat yield has been projected to be lessened by 6 to 25 per cent and maize yields by 18 to 23 per cent in 2100, he added. Dulloo informed the government have constituted a high-powered committee under the chairmanship of Dr Mangla Rai, former director-general

of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and secretary Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) for formulating a comprehensive policy for holistic agriculture development in J&K. He appreciated the vice-chancellors of both farm universities for playing an outstanding role in drafting proposals with the target to enhance the incomes of farmers in the union territory. (PTI)

While some of the applicants prayed for becoming a party to the case seeking permission for regular worship of deities whose idols are located on an outer wall of the mosque, others said they had detailed information of the matter. Lawyers connected with the case have been claiming that the basements are located near the "wazookhana", a place for the ritual ablution in the mosque complex. One of the petitioners from the Hindu side also pleaded for ensuring the safety of idols of Lord Ganesh and Goddess Lakshmi, which they claimed have been recovered from the complex.

Last Friday, the court had turned down the Hindu petitioners' plea seeking scientific investigation and carbon dating of a "Shivling" claimed to have been found on the mosque premises. The Muslim side has rejected the claim. The Gyanvapi mosque is located next to the iconic Kashi Vishwanath temple and the case in the Varanasi court has revived claims that the mosque was built on a portion of the Hindu structure demolished on the orders of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. (PTI)

SC dismisses as 'frivolous' plea of self-acclaimed environmentalist to be elected as Prez of India

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 /--/ The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed as "frivolous" a plea of a self-acclaimed environmentalist for making "scurrilous allegations" against the President of India. The petitioner sought to be made "undisputed candidate" for the post of President of India and be given salaries and perks since 2004, as he was disallowed to file nomination. A bench of justices DY Chandrachud and Hima Kohli dismissed the PIL by Kishore Jagannath Sawant, who argued in-person, and said he should not file such kind of petition and instead pursue the aim in life, in which he specialises. It ordered, "The petition is frivolous and an abuse of process of law. The allegations made against the highest constitutional office are without any sense of the responsibility and expunged from the record." The bench directed the apex court registry to not entertain the petition of Sawant on the same subject matter in the future. It noted the prayer made in the petition that he be treated as "undisputed candidate" for the 2022 presidential election, direction to appoint as President of India and for payment of salaries and perks payable to the President since 2004.

During the hearing, the bench asked Sawant what kind of scurrilous allegations he has made against the President of India and he even want salaries and perks given to the President. Sawant said he believed that his case will redefine the basic ethos of the Constitution and urged the court to entertain his plea. He submitted that being a citizen of the country, he has every right to contest the government policies and procedures. The bench said, "Yes, you have right to contest the government policies and procedures but you don't have any right to file frivolous petitions and waste the precious time of the court. You can stand outside on the road and give a speech, but you cannot come to the court and occupy public time by filing such frivolous petitions. Sawant requested the court to hear him out for two minutes and submitted that he is an environmentalist working in the field for 20 years and in the past three presidential elections, he was not allowed to file the nomination. "I have every right as a citizen to at least file a nomination. I have every right as a citizen to contest the government policies," he said. The bench said that the court has a duty to decide these cases and passed the order to dismiss his plea. (PTI)

Rajinder Sharma of BJP elected mayor of Jammu

JAMMU, OCT 21 /--/ Rajinder Sharma and Baldev Singh Billoria of the BJP were elected mayor and deputy mayor of the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), respectively, on Friday. The BJP and the Congress were in a straight contest for the posts of mayor and deputy mayor, but the Congress corporators boycotted the election in protest against the change of procedure of voting from secret ballot to open ballot. The Congress mayoral candidate, Dwarka Nath Choudhary, however, polled one vote. JMC Commissioner Rahul Yadav told PTI that Rajinder Sharma was elected as mayor and Baldev Singh as deputy mayor. "The election for the post of mayor has taken place. A total of 59 votes were polled -- 57 went to BJP candidate Rajinder Sharma, one vote was declared invalid and one vote went to the Congress candidate," BJP corporator Baldev Singh Billoria told reporters here. For the post of deputy mayor, the BJP candidate defeated Sonika Sharma of the Congress.

The posts fell vacant last month following the resignation of incumbent mayor Chander Mohan Gupta and his deputy Purnima Sharma, both from the BJP, to focus on strengthening the party ahead of the assembly elections scheduled to take place after the conclusion of ongoing special summary revision of electoral rolls. In the 75-member Jammu Municipal Corporation, the BJP has 44 corporators, the Congress 13 corporators and the rest are Independents. Chief spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Congress Ravinder Sharma told PTI, "Although we did not have the majority, we put up candidates for the contest. The change of procedure from secret voting to open ballot was undemocratic. It had not been done in the past. This undemocratic step forced us to boycott it." Two candidates each -- Rajinder Sharma and Baldev Singh of the BJP and Dwarka Nath Choudhary and Sonika Sharma of the Congress -- submitted their papers for the two posts on the last day of the filing of nominations on October 17, officials said.

Chander Mohan Gupta and Purnima Sharma took over their respective posts on November 15, 2018 after the BJP won the civic body during the Urban Local Bodies elections which were held in four phases from October 8-16 in 2018 after a gap of 13 years. The current council is completing its five-year term next year. (PTI)

Fisherman sustains injuries as Indian Navy fires 'warning shot', Stalin takes up issue with Modi

CHENNAI, OCT 21 /--/ A Tamil Nadu fisherman on Friday sustained bullet injuries when the Navy, "fired warning shots" in mid-sea and chief minister M K Stalin sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention to prevent such incidents. The Navy said its ship intercepted a suspicious boat on the Palk Bay and as the vessel did not stop despite repeated warnings, warning shots were fired as per Standard Operating Procedures to halt it, a Defence PRO tweet said. A crew member on board the boat sustained injury and he was hospitalised. The boat was noticed by the Navy ship, while on patrol near the India-Sri Lanka International Maritime Boundary Line in the early hours of Friday. An inquiry has been ordered to investigate the incident, the Defence statement said. "The injured person was administered first aid by the ship and evacuated by an Indian Navy Chetak helicopter to INS Parundu at Ramnad and has been shifted to the Government Hospital, Ramanathapuram for further medical management. His condition is reported to be stable."

The Tamil Nadu government identified the injured fisherman as K Veeravel belonging to Vanagiri village of Mayiladuthurai district. In a statement, Stalin said he was shocked by the incident and said Veeravel has been shifted to a state-run hospital in Madurai and that he has directed the authorities to provide best medical treatment to him. Also, the Chief Minister ordered a financial assistance of Rs 2 lakh from the Chief Minister's Public Welfare Fund to the fisherman. Writing to Prime Minister Modi, Stalin said the incident in which the fisherman sustained grievous bullet injuries has caused distress and anguish. While fishing, Veeravel was shot in mid-sea by Indian Navy personnel on board INS Bangaram in the early hours of Friday, he said. Veeravel was part of a 10-member fishing group that ventured for fishing in a mechanised boat.

Seven fishermen belong to Tamil Nadu and three were from Karaikal in Puducherry. The boat was based from Karaikal. The injured fisherman was brought to a hospital in Ramanathapuram for treating grievous bullet injuries in the abdomen and thigh and shifted to a Madurai government hospital, he said. (PTI)

A&N Police commemorates Police Commemoration Day, homage paid to Police Personnel



PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ Together with the police forces of States/UTs and different Central Police Organizations, Andaman & Nicobar Police on 21st October 2022, conducted 'Police Commemoration Day Parade-2022' in a befitting manner at Parade Ground, Police Lines to pay homage to the police personnel, who laid down lives during the year while serving the nation. Mr. Neeraj Thakur, Director General of Police, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Mr. Mohit Shisodia, Air Commodore, A&N Command, Shri Bhisham Sharma, Inspector General, Coast Guard and other senior officers of Andaman & Nicobar Police paid tribute to the brave souls by placing the wreaths & flowers at the "Shaheed Smarak". 21st October is observed as 'Police Commemoration Day' every year. 'Commemoration Day Parade' is conducted by the police forces of States/UTs and different Central Police Organizations to homage to 10 policemen, who were killed in Ladakh in the face-off with the Chinese Army in 1959 and all other police personnel who have sacrificed their lives in the service of the nation. Since 1947, nearly 36000 brave policemen have made supreme sacrifice while protecting the nation and its citizens from crime, terrorism and insurgency. A total of 264 police personnel got martyrdom this year. Their names were respectfully read out by DGP, A&N Islands to mark respect and pay obeisance by observing two minute silence. To highlight the bravery, valour of martyred police personnel, 'Police Service Flag Day' is observed every year. As part of the 'Police Service Flag Day', different commemorative events are conducted from 21st to 31st October, 2022 every year. On 21/10/2022, A 'Blood Donation Camp' in collaboration with Directorate of Health Services was organized at Drill Hall, Police Line. MR. Neeraj Thakur, DGP, A&N Islands, Shri Sanjay Kumar Jain, IGP (L&O) and other senior police officers donated blood. A&N Police planned to conduct/play skits on martyrdom especially in the area of martyrs to create awareness among youths. Eye Camp, Walkathon, Bike Rally, Cyber Awareness Programs, Beach Cleaning Drives, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and display of Police Brass & Pipe Band will also be conducted.

DC(SA) visits GP Mithakhari, villagers elated

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ The Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman), Mr. Suneel Anchipaka, along with the Adhyaksha ZPSA, Smti. Pramila Kumari and Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mr. Dilkush Meena visited Ranchi Basti under Gram Panchayat Mithakhari on 20th October and interacted with the villagers. The villagers raised several concerns which were addressed on the spot by the DC. The main issues like Electricity, LPG distribution, development of Playground, sanctioning of Primary Health Centre at Lal Tekrey etc. The DC(SA) gave a patient hearing and addressed several issues on the spot. The Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Mithakhari, Mr. Mohammed Safiq thanked the administration for the people's friendly approach.



ANTCC President seeks Dialysis services at Nicobar hospital



PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ ANTCC President, Mr. Rangalal Halder has demanded from the Directorate of Health Services for installation of Dialysis Services immediately and appointment of specialist doctors at District Hospital of Nicobar. In the letter addressed to the Director, Directorate of Health Services, Mr. Halder said that to provide maximum healthcare benefits to the patients by appointing necessary specialist doctors and Dialysis Care services in Bishop John Richardson Hospital, Nicobar District. He said that the existing District hospital in Nicobar is a key priority to receive affordable multi-specialty care in their place of stay. Patients from Nicobar are making a lot of efforts in travelling to Port Blair for health care facilities and other necessary medical treatments. He further mentioned that by providing Dialysis Services and Specialist Doctors at District Hospital of Nicobar could reduce the time bound for the Patients of Nicobar.

Food safety drives ahead of Diwali

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ In the ensuing festive occasion, during which the demand for sweets, savouries, milk and milk products like khoya, paneer etc increases across the country, in such scenario, the preventive actions, including carrying out special surveillance/enforcement drives by Food Safety Department is an effective tool to curb the malpractices while ensuring safety of such products. Accordingly, the officials of the Food Safety Department conducted special drives in the last few days in South Andaman District. As a part of these drive samples of sweets, savouries, milk and milk products etc. were collected from various manufacturers/bake houses and sweet stalls for its analysis through FSSAI notified laboratories. Further, strict vigil is being kept on the manufacturing and sale of sweets, savouries and milk products during the on-going festive occasion. The Commissioner Food Safety, A&N Islands/Dy. Commissioner, South Andaman District has requested all the FBOs to refrain from using any chemicals or preservatives in food items which are not permitted under the Act. The general public is also requested to may pass information or lodge complaints or grievances on toll free No. 1077 or 03192-236168, 03192-236112.



State Congress leaders condole demise

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ ANTCC President, Mr. Rangalal Halder, Chairman-Campaign Committee ANTCC, Mr. TSG Bhaskar and the entire family of Congress Party mourn the sudden demise of Smti. Kanti Devi, R/o Junglighat on Friday. She was a very dedicated Congress leader and was involved with the Mahila Congress and held various portfolios in the Congress. We have lost a very good Human Being and a dedicated Worker. They felt any conveys their heartfelt condolences and pray to give strength to the bereaved Family Members.



Foundation day of Azad Hind Fauj



Last date for IGNOU admission extended

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ 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 27th 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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FATF reprieve for Pakistan

Pakistan's exit from the grey list of the global watchdog on terror financing and money laundering FATF will allow it to try to get foreign funding to tide over its precarious financial situation. Till June, Pakistan has completed most of the action items given to it 2018 by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and a few items which were left unfulfilled including its failure to act against UN designated terrorists, including Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) chief Masood Azhar, Lashker-e-Taiba (LeT) founder Hafiz Saeed and his trusted aide and the group's 'operational commander' Zakiur Rehman Lakhvi. Azhar, Saeed and Lakhvi are most wanted terrorists in India for their involvement in numerous terrorist acts, including 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks and bombing of a CRPF bus at Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir in 2019. Pakistan was put in the inglorious list in 2018 for its failure to check risk of money laundering, leading to corruption and terror financing.

The FATF had found Pakistan's deficiencies in its legal, financial, regulatory, investigations, prosecution, judicial and non-government sector to fight money laundering and combat terror financing considered serious threat to global financial system. The Paris-based global watchdog on money laundering and terrorist financing had recently said that the "first FATF Plenary under the two-year Singapore Presidency of T. Raja Kumar will take place on October 20-21" in Paris. Pakistan has made high-level political commitments to address these deficiencies under a 27-point action plan. But later the number of action points was enhanced to 34. With Pakistan's continuation on the grey list, it had increasingly become difficult for Islamabad to get financial aid from the IMF, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the European Union, thus further enhancing problems for the cash-strapped country.

Pakistan needed 12 votes out of 39 to exit the grey list and move to white list. To avoid black list, it needed support of three countries. China, Turkey and Malaysia are its consistent supporters. Pakistan was placed on the grey list by the FATF in June, 2018 and was given a plan of action to complete it by October, 2019. Since then the country continues to be in that list due to its failure to comply with the FATF mandates. The FATF is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system. Currently, it has 39 members including two regional organisations -- the European Commission and Gulf Cooperation Council. India is a member of the FATF consultations and its Asia Pacific Group.

Uddhav Thackeray emerging principled leader in battle against Shinde

REFLEX ACTION

Sushil Kutty

not trespass except to bend low when summoned. In hindsight, it's clear, Eknath Shinde was biding time, whispering sweet nothings into dozens of ears, plotting not just the takeover of Balasaheb Thackeray's legacy, but also to grab both power and party. The Shinde takeover of the Shiv Sena is a work in progress, and the "Dussehra rallies" told us who has the upper hand, who is the legitimate claimant, and who the outsider-usurper?

As it is, the Shiv Sena was split wide open when Shinde broke through the defences of dozens of loyal Shiv Sena MLAs, and turned them into traitors. The fight for the Shiv Sena continues in the Supreme Court, and in the Election Commission. That's because like all those who double-cross, Shinde cannot stop now, not before he has divested Uddhav Thackeray of the last traces of Balasaheb Thackeray's Shiv Sena. And whoever gets the Shiv Sena will also get the Shiv Sena election symbol. For Uddhav Thackeray and "his" Shiv Sena, the wait is a constant reminder of the treacherous retainer whose 'deception' is hard to digest.

The Dussehra rallies of both men brought out the reality in starker relief. Police estimates of crowd presence at the two rallies give an idea. The Shinde rally was at the BKC-MMRDA grounds. The Thackeray rally was held at Shivaji Park in Dadar. Police said 1 lakh attended the Thackeray rally, while 2 lakh heard Shinde at BKC-MMRDA. No disputes there because Shivaji Park is smaller than the BKC-

MMRDA grounds. Some newspaper reports, however, said that "50% of the BKC crowd" left when Shinde started talking even though Shinde had organized food in substantial quantities for the rally. Thackeray said his rally was attended by 2.5 lakh people, while that of Shinde by 3 lakh. The fact of the matter is, while Shivaji Park can hold 80,000 max, the BKC-MMRDA 'grounds' has a holding capacity for only 1 lakh. Who scored more brownie points? Uddhav Thackeray gutted a Ravana-effigy at his Shivaji Park rally, symbolic of the illicit takeover of his government. The Ravana 'effigy' was made of "50 khoke (50 cartons)" and was called "Khokasur". The "50 crore" indicative of how much was allegedly paid to the Shinde MLAs for the treachery.

"Khokasur" burned to loud cries of approval and Uddhav Thackeray, in his speech, called out Shinde for the "Ghadari" while Shinde retaliated with saying "Gadar not Ghadari", even as Uddhav cursed the "traitors" and said that their treachery will taint their names long after they have departed this life. He called his Shiv Sena the Sena of "loyalists" and a poster at the entrance carried the legend "I won't let my Shiv Sena become a slave of the BJP."

The Bharatiya Janata Party, the elephant in the room! Uddhav Thackeray and Eknath Shinde, both claim to be a victim of the calculated deception and double-dealing dishonesty of the other. Uddhav Thackeray, for instance, said this about Eknath Shinde and his MLAs---"Ravana had turned into a monk to abduct Sita, now these traitors are using Balasaheb's mask to try and take away the Shiv Sena. As time changes, Ravana's face also changes..."

Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra will make a difference to Uddhav Thackeray's political fortunes when it enters Maharashtra November 7. (IPA)



A vendor sells candles ahead of Diwali at Natun Bazar in North Kolkata--Arijit Ganguly

Indian fuel prices expected to resume climb after freeze lifted

As the global oil markets digest the news about OPEC+ announcement of a 2 million barrels per day of crude output cut, more details emerging from market analysts should calm Indian nerves a bit as the impact may not be as severe as feared.

The Brent price had touched \$94 straightaway from \$88 as soon as the output cut announcement came, raising the spectre of further hikes in the days to come. But more in-depth analysis of the situation suggests that the cartel will not be able to deliver on the full headline cut.

According to Rystad Energy, the effective cut may not exceed 1.2 million barrels, as 14 out of the 23 member countries, accounting for 39 percent of the group's production in September, are currently underproducing so that the new quota will not be binding on them.

The estimated 1.2 million bpd of effective output cut for November 2022 will be mainly shouldered by Saudi Arabia (-520,000 bpd), Iraq (-220,000 bpd), the UAE (-150,000 bpd) and Kuwait (-135,000 bpd), apart from cuts by Kazakhstan, Algeria, Oman, Gabon, and South Sudan. But equally significantly, the cartel has announced two new non-volume policy shifts, which are expected to have deep impact

on the oil market. Firstly, the Declaration of Cooperation was extended until the end of 2023, which means another year of potential sturdy oil price floor amid what OPEC+ describes as 'uncertain' global economic outlook and the need for long-term guidance in the oil market. Higher oil prices will inevitably add to the inflation headache that global central banks are fighting, and higher oil prices will factor into the calculus of further increasing interest rates to cool down the economy. This is a concern shared by the oil producers as well as it has a major bearing on demand.

Another important detail is that the 23-member group will only meet every 6 months, signalling that the new target production level of 40.1 will not be tinkered with on a month-to-month basis.

Analysts see OPEC+ going for a strategy of 'sell more for less' amid weaker-than-expected demand as recession weighs and as supply ticks up in the US. The announced cuts, even if executed at a 60 percent level, would

push inventory draws into bullish territory. So there is scope for a certain moderation in the price increase. Rystad Energy believes that by this Christmas Brent would reach over \$100 per barrel and not the \$120 levels the price had touched earlier. This should prove to be some consolation for India, which imports 85 percent of its oil requirements.

The news of the 2 million bpd cut had caused worries in India as the relative easing of price had helped the country balance its oil economics to a certain extent. Thanks to the price stability, a virtual freeze in fuel prices has been in force for the past six months, which helped the government manage the run-away inflation to some extent. It also meant that oil companies were narrowing their losses due to enforced holding of prices to oblige the government ahead of crucial elections.

The price freeze meant that the oil firms were booking losses on fuel sales as oil prices rose to a multi-year high of around \$120 per barrel during May-June, although the rates had started to

ease in August, dropping to January levels last month. If the downward trend continued, oil companies would have made good some of their losses, but the cartel's decision of output cut made such calculations go awry.

According to estimates, the public sector retailers IOC, BPCL and HPCL had incurred a combined net loss of Rs 18,480 crore in the June quarter alone on account of the freeze in retail prices. But the companies were narrowing their losses in view of the falling international prices. According to industry sources, the loss on diesel had come down to about Rs 5 per litre from a peak of around Rs 30 a litre while the companies started even making a small profit on petrol.

But the OPEC+ output cut has altered the scene completely. The consequent firming up of crude prices in the international market, coupled with the falling value of rupee against dollar, would now mean that the retail losses would widen. So, when the freeze is lifted, which is bound to happen as the elections are over and the inflation is brought to manageable levels, a key concern for the Reserve Bank of India in its monetary policy, the burden will entirely shift to the consumers, who will ultimately pay for any increase in crude prices. (IPA)

FOCUS

K Raveendran

Conventional Crossword												
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ACROSS						DOWN					
1	Spruce	2	Joke	3	Of the country	1	Expensive	2	Like better	3	Efface
4	Fields of conflict	5	Secret agent	6	Quick	4	Corrosion	5	Fuel	6	High mountain
7	First woman	8	Whirl	9	Employ	7	Part of a church	8	Japanese currency unit	9	Long detailed story
10	Distant	11	Storm	12	Insane	10	Quickly (mus)	11	Actor who overacts	12	Myth
13	Degrades	14	Not discourteous	15	Precious stone	13	Attack	14	Employed	15	Top airman
16	Free from	17		18		16		17		18	Somewhat dark

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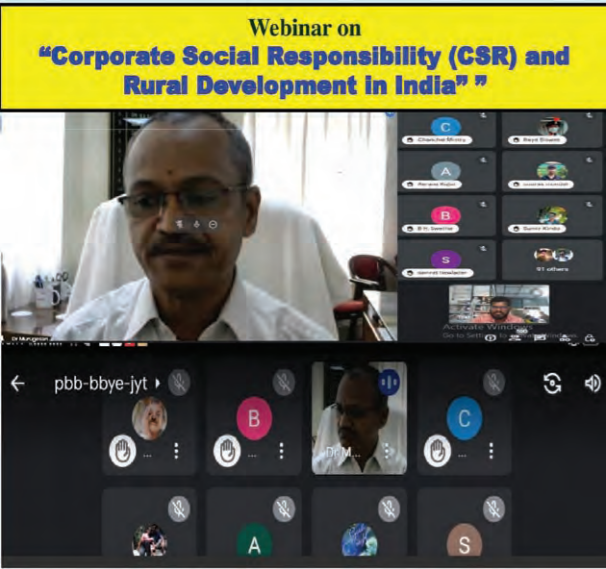
Yesterday's Solution 3672								
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4	9	3	7	8	2	1	6	5
1	8	6	5	4	9	7	3	2
2	4	1	9	3	8	5	7	6
8	5	9	6	1	7	2	4	3
3	6	7	4	2	5	8	9	1
9	3	8	2	5	4	6	1	7
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Yesterday's Cross Word Solution 1681												
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DISCLAIMER

The views in the articles published here are absolutely the views of the author and The Echo of India does not stand liable for them.

Webinar on ‘Corporate Social Responsibility & Rural Development” at JNRM



PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) Cell, JNRM, in association with the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayatiraj (NIRDPR), North Eastern Regional Centre (NERC), Guwahati, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India organised a webinar on “Corporate Social Responsibility and Rural Development” on Friday.

During the inauguration, the chief guest Dr.R.Murugesan, Director (NIRD & PR-NERC) has informed the gathering that real India lives in villages by depending on agriculture and allied activities as their livelihood. The various income generating activities are being carried out by them with the assistance of schemes like Aajeevika for sustainable livelihood development, he added. DrMurugesan has further underscored the concept of CSR and its process, steps in developing a CSR Strategy. Through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode especially with the support of CSR the Atmanirbhar Bharat activities could be accelerated in collaboration with Panchayat Raj Institutions, he added. Dr.H.K.Sharma, Principal, JNRM, spoke on the importance of rural development and community partnerships through HEIs. Dr. K. Venkatesan, HOD, Homescience and Coordinator of this programme spoke about the Institute Social Responsibility through Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) and adoption of villages. Altogether 100 students and faculty members attended this webinar.

Sailing of MV SwarajDweep to Chennai postponed

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/In view of weather advisory issued by IMD about the formation of low pressure area over North Andaman Sea and adjoining areas and its likely intensification into a Cyclonic storm in the Bay of Bengal, this Directorate keeping in view the safety of the passengers and the vessel, the scheduled sailing programme of MV SwarajDweep from Chennai to Port Blair on 23.10.2022 has been postponed till further notice. However, a fresh date of sailing of the vessel will be announced in due course. Due to the above postponement further schedule of the vessel to Vizag on 28.10.2022 and return voyage from Vizag to Port Blair on 01.11.2022 may also get affected. Inconvenience caused to the passengers is regretted. Passengers can also get update/status from the Information Counter at Phoenix Bay by using the Number 03192 – 245555/232714 & TOLL FREE NUMBER 18003452714, Chennai Counter Number 044 – 25226873 & Vizag Counter Number 0891 – 2565584/2562661/2569404.

Maharashtra govt frames rules to curb honour killings, 'khap panchayat' diktats against couples, mob violence

MUMBAI, OCT 21 --/The Maharashtra government has framed rules to prevent honour killings, 'khap panchayat' diktats, mob lynching as well as violence, and asked the Director General of Police to apprise personnel across the state force of their implementation, an official said on Friday.

The rules, which have been mentioned in a government resolution (GR) issued on Thursday, are in keeping with the recommendations of the Supreme Court on the issue, he added. The GR has directed that police stations across Maharashtra should exercise alertness if an incident of inter-caste or inter-religious marriage is reported in their respective jurisdictions. It also stated that 'khap panchayat' and similar organisations should be reported to district and police authorities, and law-enforcing agencies must get in touch with the members of these outfits and tell them such meetings are not allowed as per law. Local police must be alert and, if necessary, ban such meetings, the GR stated, adding that if a meeting is held despite a ban, then the deputy superintendent of police must be in attendance and participants must be told no decision should be taken that harms the couple in question or their kin. Police will be required to videograph such meetings and people who take decisions violative of rules will be liable to be booked for criminal offences, the resolution added.

If the meeting of a khap panchayat or any such outfit cannot be banned as per law and if there is a possibility that the couple's lives are at risk, prohibitory orders under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) should be issued and participants must be arrested, as per the GR. Apart from arrests under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) provisions, remedial measures will include protection to the couple and their families. The district magistrate, police commissioner or superintendent should handle the threats given to the couple and their families sensitively, and it must be checked if the couple are adults, so that, if needed, they can be helped to get their marriage registered. Complaints from the couple about threats being received from relatives, community members and khap panchayat-like bodies must be probed by local authorities and a report should be submitted within a week, and those threatening the couple should be booked under section 151 of CrPC, it said.

Police officials not adhering to these rules deliberately or due to negligence can face punitive action, including departmental inquiry under service rules. "To stop mob violence and lynching, police have been asked to train rapid action force teams in each districts. Water cannons and tear gas should be used to control mobs. Attackers at the site should be immediately arrested," the resolution stressed. In cases where a protest by a group or organisation has resulted in violence and loss of property , the leaders or office-bearers of the group should present themselves for questioning in the police station within 24 hours, failing which they will be declared absconders and will have to face legal action, the GR stated. (PTI)

CITU lends support to ongoing indefinite protest demonstration of APWD workers

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ The Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) has extended support to the ongoing indefinite mass demonstrations of APWD workers from 19th October 2022, under the banner of A n d a m a n Sarva janik Nirman Vibagh Mazdoor Sangh (ASNVMS), affiliated to CITU, demanding implementation of High Court order on granting Pay, DA, bonus and regularization of services of DRMs.

Despite the high court orders, the Andaman and Nicobar administration is not implementing the office memorandum of 1988

issued by Govt. of India granting 1/30th of pay and DA to the daily rated workers, even after the favorable orders from High Court, the daily rated APWD workers are not being paid the bonus. The contempt petition against the officers of the administration including Chief Engineer is pending in the High Court for their failure to implement the High Court Order. On 19th October 2022, APWD Workers has staged territory wide muss demonstrations, at Port Blair, hundreds of workers assembled in front of the chief Engineer's office and held protest demonstrations, the mass demonstrations

will continue till the demands are met.

CITU fully supports the demands of APWD workers and demands upon the UT labour department and administration to resolve the legitimate demands of the workers, CITU also demands fixing of accountability of the UT Govt, Chief Engineer and other officials who deliberately disobeyed the High Court orders. CITU, while conveying solidarity to the struggling workers, congratulates the union and the mass of APWD workers for their indefinite protest demonstrations on their legitimate and just demands.

One-side parking in some road stretches in city introduced

PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ In order to avoid traffic congestion, the A&N Traffic Police has initiated one-side parking at various road stretches on a trial basis for smooth flow of vehicular traffic. It has been noticed that some people park their vehicles in a haphazard manner, alongside the various stretches of Aberdeen Bazaar market which creates hindrance to the free flow of vehicular traffic. Accordingly, the stretch from Ganeshan temple to Gymkhana

crossing has been made left side parking for two wheelers from Lucknow textile to Mohan Ford showroom. Left side parking for four wheelers from Mohan Ford Showroom to KK Thevar Pan shop. Left side No parking for all types of vehicles from KK Thevar Pan shop to Gymkhana. In the same manner, in the road stretch from Gymkhana Crossing to Hanuman Temple, it has been left side parking for two wheelers from Shyam N Shyam to IDBI Bank. Left side parking

for four wheelers from IDBI Bank to SafaElectronics Store. Left side parking for two wheelers from Safa Electronics to Hanuman Temple and No parking for all types of vehicles from the side of LG Showroom to TSG, Ganesh Temple. The initiative has been taken up by the A&N Traffic Police to make the roads safe and secure for road users. Hence, all the general public have been advised to cooperate with the Traffic Police to make the trial successful.

ADVISORY TO GENERAL PUBLIC AND TOURIST VIEW INCLEMENT WEATHER

This is for the information of the passengers/general public that due to prevailing adverse weather conditions, the status of the announced schedule for Saturday the 22nd October, 2022 in respect of Foreshore sector vessels are detailed below :-

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE VESSEL	DEPARTURE TIME	DESTINATION PORT	STATUS
1.	MV Dering	1900 Hrs	Port Blair to Diglipur via Mayabunder (Return voyage on 23.10.2022 at 1230 Hrs)	Cancelled
2.	MV Bambooka	0630 Hrs	Port Blair to Swaraj Dweep	All sailings are subject to favourable weather condition.
	MV Bambooka	1400 Hrs		
	MV Kamorta	1700 Hrs		
	MV Kamorta	0600 Hrs	Swaraj Dweep to Port Blair	
	MV Bambooka	0900 Hrs		
	MV Bambooka	1630 Hrs		
3.	MV Strait Island	0630 Hrs	Port Blair to Shaheed Dweep	Will be reviewed one hour prior to scheduled departure of the vessel.
		0845 Hrs	Shaheed Dweep to Port Blair	
4.	MV Chouldari	1100 Hrs	Port Blair to Swaraj Dweep via Shaheed Dweep	
		1430 Hrs	Swaraj Dweep to Port Blair via Shaheed Dweep	
5.	MV Baratang	0615 Hrs	Rangat via Shaheed Dweep, Swaraj Dweep, Strait Island & Long Island (Return voyage on 23.10.2022 at 0615 Hrs)	

Similarly, in the prevailing weather conditions, operation of Harbour /Vehicle ferry services between Chatham, Bambooflat, Phoenix Bay, Dundas Point, Panighat and out stations may also get disrupted/suspended in short notice depending upon the weather condition.

Passengers can also get update/status of the vessels from the Information Counter at Phoenix Bay by using the Number 03192 – 245555/232714 & TOLL FREE NUMBER 18003452714. The passengers and tourists are hereby advised to plan their journey suitably to avoid any inconvenience.

ED attaches 7 properties of gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari in PMLA case

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 --/ The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday said it has attached seven immovable assets of gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari as part of a money laundering investigation against him and his family. The properties, provisionally attached under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), are worth Rs 1.48 crore (registry value) while their circle rate at the time of registration was Rs 3.42 crore, the federal agency said in a statement. Ansari, a five-time former MLA, is currently lodged in a jail at Banda in Uttar Pradesh. The 59-year-old was questioned by the ED in this case last year. (PTI)

State BJP President meets fire victims of Aerial Bay



PORT BLAIR, OCT 21/--/ Mr. AjoyBairagi, State BJP President met shopkeepers of Aerial Bay Bazaar who were affected by the tragic fire accident which occurred on 18th October 2022.

Immediately, after knowing about the unfortunate incident, Mr. Bairagi flew to Diglipur from Port Blair on 19th and met the victims, along with the District leaders of Diglipur. After reaching there, Mr. Bairagi looked after the arrangements made for the

affected shopkeepers. He along with all leaders, elected representatives of Diglipur collected and distributed relief materials like ration items, cash, clothes and many more essentials to the affected people.

Further, after reaching Port Blair, Mr. Bairagi plans to meet the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration, along with the shopkeepers who have lost everything in the tragic fire incident.

Chhattisgarh: Elephant calf killed, herd tramples man to death in neighbouring village

KORBA, OCT 21 --/A herd of elephants went on a rampage and killed a man after a calf from the group was killed by villagers in Chhattisgarh's Korba district, a forest official said on Friday.

The incidents took place in Katghora forest division. An elephant calf, around one-year-old, was allegedly killed by locals and buried in a field in Bania village under the Pasan forest range sometime earlier this week, said Premlata Yadav, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO). The herd of 44 elephants to which the calf belonged entered the nearby Devmatti village in the Jatga range on late Thursday night. The elephants trampled Pintawar Singh and his three cattle to death when he was in his cattle shed, the official said. Forest personnel have been monitoring the herd's movement. Locals

have been advised to remain alert and avoid going near the herd, DFO Yadav said. A team of forest officials visited the Bania village after being tipped off about the calf's killing. They found that paddy had been planted freshly on the patch of land where the carcass was buried to cover up the killing, Yadav said.

Forest personnel exhumed the carcass. The exact cause of death will be known after the autopsy report arrives, she said. The owner of the farm where the calf was buried was detained for questioning, the official said. The family of the man who was killed by elephants in Devmatti village was provided with an instant relief amount of Rs 25,000 while the remaining compensation of Rs 5.75 lakh will be given after the completion of formalities, she said. According to officials,

this herd of elephants has damaged crops on 22 acres of land in three villages in the area in the last two days. The human-elephant conflict has been a major issue in northern Chhattisgarh for the last decade but such incidents are also being witnessed in the central region of the state in the last few years.

The districts prominently affected by human-elephant conflict are Surguja, Raigarh, Korba, Surajpur, Gariaband, Jashpur and Balrampur. According to the forest department, at least 210 people were killed in elephant attacks in the state in the last three years. The state also reported deaths of 47 elephants in the last four years with the causes ranging from ailments and old age to electrocution. An elephant was found dead last week in Korba and Raigarh districts. (PTI)

ENROLMENT FOR APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING IN DESIGNATED TRADES AT NAVAL SHIP REPAIR YARD, NAVAL BASE, KARWAR, KARNATAKA - 581 308 AND NAVAL AIRCRAFT YARD (GOA), DABOLIM, GOA - 403 801

1. Applications are invited from ITI qualified Indian citizen (both male / female) in the various designated trades for enrolment into apprenticeship training at Naval Ship Repair Yard, Karwar and Naval Aircraft Yard (Goa), Dabolim, Goa under Apprentices Act, 1961 read in conjunction with Apprenticeship Rules, 1992. A total of 150 vacancies for Naval Ship Repair Yard, Karwar and 30 vacancies for Naval Aircraft Yard (Goa), Dabolim, Goa.



2. Eligibility Conditions.-

- Educational Qualification.** Candidates who have scored above 50% marks in Matriculation or equivalent and above 65% marks in the relevant ITI trade recognized by National / State Council for Vocational Training (NCVT / SCVT).
- Age.** Candidates should have completed 14 years and below 21 years of age as on 01 Apr 2022 i.e. born between 01 Apr 2002 and 31 Mar 2009 (both dates inclusive). The upper age limit of 21 years is relaxable by five (05) years in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) / Scheduled Tribes (ST). The upper age limit may be further relaxed by two (02) years by Naval Headquarters at their discretion in respect of candidates who merit special consideration.
- Physical Standards.** Height 150 Cms, Weight not less than 45 Kgs, Chest expansion not less than 5 Cms, Eye 6/6 to 6/9 (6/9 corrected with glasses), Ears clear of wax, External & Internal organs to be normal in accordance with The Apprentices Act, 1961.
- Candidates who have already undergone or undergoing apprenticeship training under Apprentices Act, 1961 in any other Govt. / Public Sector / Private Industrial organization are not eligible to apply.

- How to Apply.** Interested eligible candidates are required to register online on www.apprenticeshipindia.org. On completion of online registration, candidates are required to forward the "Apprentice Profile" along with the under mentioned documents by speed/registered post to **"The Officer-in-Charge, Dockyard Apprentice School, Naval Ship Repair Yard, Naval Base, Karwar, Karnataka- 581 308"** within 30 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in Employment News.
 - Attested copy of Matriculation / 10th Class Mark sheet.
 - Attested copy of ITI Semester-Wise Mark sheet and All Semester Mark sheet
 - Attested copy of Category certificate (for EWS/OBC/SC/ST candidates only).
 - Attested copy of Disability certificate (for PwDs candidates only).
 - Certificate from competent authority, if son / daughter of armed forces personnel / naval defence civilian employee.
 - Certificate of undertaking stating the choice of establishment for undergoing apprenticeship training i.e. Naval Ship Repair Yard, Karwar or Naval Aircraft Yard (Goa), Dabolim, Goa need to be clearly specified.

4. Candidates are advised to refer to the Employment News for detailed advertisement, which will be published on third/ last week of Oct 2022.

CBC-10702/11/0080/2223

	<p>Ministry of Culture National Library Kolkata</p>									
<p>MKP. ADVT/2022-23/07</p> <p>TENDER NOTICE</p> <p>IREL, MK invites Request For Proposal for the following items / job descriptions:</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Tender No.</th><th>Description</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>GEM/2022/B/2589256</td><td>Manpower outsourcing service Minimum Wages – Semi-skilled</td></tr><tr><td>IREL/Kanyakumari/22-23/E147</td><td>Painting of internal & external surface of building in MK Plant premises & Housing Colony</td></tr><tr><td>GEM/2022/B/2626030</td><td>Excavation, loading & transportation of mineral sand from various inland deposits of IREL,MK etc.</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Bidder may download tender document from http://irel.co.in, http://gem.gov.in or CPPP website. Any corrigendum / extension to above tender shall be hosted in above websites only.</p> <p>Sd/- General Manager & Head, MK / महाप्रबंधक एवं प्रमुख,एमके</p> <p>CBC-48129/12/0048/2223</p>			Tender No.	Description	GEM/2022/B/2589256	Manpower outsourcing service Minimum Wages – Semi-skilled	IREL/Kanyakumari/22-23/E147	Painting of internal & external surface of building in MK Plant premises & Housing Colony	GEM/2022/B/2626030	Excavation, loading & transportation of mineral sand from various inland deposits of IREL,MK etc.
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IREL/Kanyakumari/22-23/E147	Painting of internal & external surface of building in MK Plant premises & Housing Colony									
GEM/2022/B/2626030	Excavation, loading & transportation of mineral sand from various inland deposits of IREL,MK etc.									
<p>Government of India Ministry of Culture National Library Kolkata</p> <p>Subject :- Young Professional Graduates from Library and Information Science as "LIS Interns" Programme for the year 2022-23. Applications are invited from the Young Professional Graduates having Masters Degree in Library and Information Science as "LIS Interns" at National Library, Kolkata in English and 22 Indian Languages (as mentioned in the 8th schedule of the Constitution of India). The link to fill up the application and instructions etc. will be available on official website of National Library, Kolkata i.e. http://www.nationallibrary.gov.in. The last date for filling up application online on the website of the Library will be 1501 day (from the first day in date range) of its publication in Employment News.</p> <p>Director General National Library, Kolkata</p> <p>CBC-107122/12/0006/2223</p>										

Rozgar Mela: 50 Union ministers to hand over appointment letters to nearly 20,000 people today

NEW DELHI, OCT 21/--/Fifty Union ministers will be handing over appointment letters to nearly 20,000 people at different locations across the country under the recruitment drive to be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday, officials said on Friday. They said these ministers will be personally handing over the letters of appointment to some candidates, selected for different government jobs, at their designated locations as part of the 'Rozgar Mela'. The appointment letters for appointees other than those participating at the venue will be sent by email or post as well, the officials said.

They said the state governments concerned would also organise events on

different dates to hand over appointment letters to some of the selected candidates as well. As many as 19,692 appointment letters will be given to the candidates by the Union ministers, the officials said citing an official list. Prime Minister Modi will launch the Rozgar Mela, a drive to recruit 10 lakh people, on Saturday via video-conference and appointment letters will be given to 75,000 candidates during this ceremony, an official statement issued on Thursday said.

According to the list of Saturday's event, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw will be in Jaipur to hand over appointment letters, Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia will be in Bhopal and Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur will be in Chandigarh. Social Justice and

Empowerment Minister Virendra Kumar will be in Indore on Saturday, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal in Mumbai, Port, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal will be in Guwahati, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in Bhubaneswar, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in Patiala and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will be in Chennai, the officials said. Law and Justice Minister Kiren Rijiju will be handing over appointment letters to the candidates in Shillong and Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh in Delhi, they said. In June this year, the prime minister had asked various government departments and ministries to undertake the recruitment of 10 lakh people on a "mission mode" in the next

year and a half. The new recruits, selected from across the country, will join 38 ministries or departments of the Government of India. The appointees will join the government at various levels in Group A and B (Gazetted), Group B (Non-Gazetted) and Group C. The posts on which appointments are being made include the central armed force personnel, sub-inspectors, constables, LDC, steno, PA, income tax inspectors and MTS among others, according to Thursday's statement. These recruitments are being done by ministries and departments either by themselves or through recruiting agencies such as UPSC, SSC and the Railway Recruitment Board. For expeditious recruitment, selection processes have been simplified and made tech-enabled, it had said. (PTI)



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Shri Kedarnath Temple, on Friday

Rahul Gandhi crosses again into Karnataka in his Bharat Jodo Yatra

AMARAVATI : The Andhra Pradesh leg of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra concluded on Friday as he once again crossed into neighbouring Karnataka. After an overnight stay, Rahul Gandhi resumed his foot march at Mantralayam on Friday morning. He crossed the AP border at Raichur and returned to Karnataka. The Wayanad MP's yatra passed through Anantapuram and Kurnool districts in two legs, the first one for a few hours on October 14 and then next for four days from the October 18. Huge crowds enthusiastically lined up to greet the Congress leader. Rahul Gandhi himself observed that the Yatra drew "tremendous response" in AP, and pointed out that his party leaders were also "quite surprised at the enthusiasm and response that we have had." (PTI)

DC(SA), team

From page-1
In Brindaban Gram Panchayat, upon the request of Ranchi community members, DC (SA) directed Tehsildar, Ferrargunj to submit a proposal along with the public to set apart land for Bus stand development. It was further informed that the maintenance work of the road from Shaitan Khari to Ferrargunj will be taken up by APWD. In Tushnabad Gram Panchayat, the ranchi community members requested for renovation of Community Hall and set apart land for construction of Anganwadi building and road connectivity through GPDP works. The DC (SA) requested the Gram Panchayat to submit the estimates for the renovation of the community hall and further concerned officials were requested for proper repair and maintenance of water pipeline and street lights. The Ranchi community expressed their gratitude towards the District Administration for the special focus given to all the above mentioned areas during COVID times. The DC (SA) motivated the Ranchi community members that the District Administration is committed for the welfare and overall development of South Andaman District and the District Administration requests the public to come forward with genuine issues related to development of their area.

NCMC reviews preparedness for possible cyclone over Bay of Bengal next week

NEW DELHI, OCT 21/--/The National Crisis Management Committee, headed by Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, on Friday reviewed preparedness of central and state governments for a possible cyclonic storm over the Bay of Bengal that is likely to make landfall on October 25.

At the meeting, the cabinet secretary said fishermen at sea should be called back and it must be ensured that people from vulnerable areas are evacuated well in time before the storm, according to an official statement. The National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) reviewed preparedness of central ministries, agencies, and state and Union Territory governments for the possible cyclonic storm over the Bay of Bengal.

The director general of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) briefed the NCMC about the current status of the weather system in the Bay of Bengal, which is likely to move northwards and

intensify into a cyclonic storm on October 24, the statement said. Thereafter, it is likely to move north-eastwards and reach the West Bengal Bangladesh coasts on October 25, skirting the Odisha coast. It is likely to cross Bangladesh and adjoining West Bengal coasts around October 25 midnight. The chief secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands apprised the committee of preparatory measures being taken to protect the population in the expected path of the cyclonic storm and measures being taken by the local administration. Fishermen out at sea have been



on standby. Reviewing preparedness, Gauba stressed that preventive and precautionary measures should be taken by authorities of state and Union Territory governments and central agencies concerned. The aim should be to keep loss of lives to zero and minimize damage to property and

infrastructure such as power and telecom, and incase of damage to this infrastructure, it must be restored in the shortest possible time, he said. The cabinet secretary assured the state and Union Territory governments that all central agencies are ready and will be available for assistance. Those who attended the meeting included chief secretaries of Odisha, West Bengal and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, special chief secretary of Andhra Pradesh, secretaries of the home affairs and the power ministries, representatives of the Department of Telecom and member secretary of the National Disaster Management Authority. Director general of the National Disaster Response Force, IMD director general, director general of the Coast Guard, Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to The Chairman Chiefs Of Staff Committee and senior officers from the Ministry of Home Affairs were also part of the meeting. (PTI)

Rupee slips 9 paise to close at 82.88 against US dollar

MUMBAI, OCT 21/--/The rupee slipped 9 paise to close at 82.88 against the US dollar on Friday amid a strong greenback overseas. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 82.89 and witnessed a high of 82.59 and a low of 82.91. It finally settled at 82.88 against the American currency, registering a drop of 9 paise over its previous close. On Thursday, the rupee had rebounded from its lifetime low to close 21 paise higher at 82.79. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, advanced 0.47 per cent to 113.41. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures fell 0.11 per cent to USD 92.28 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex rose 104.25 points or 0.18 per cent to end at 59,307.15, while the broader NSE Nifty advanced 12.35 points or 0.07 per cent to 17,576.30. Foreign Institutional



Investors (FIIs) were net buyers in the capital markets as they purchased shares worth Rs 1,864.79 crore on Thursday, according to exchange data. "Rupee consolidated in a narrow range but suspected intervention restricted major losses for the currency. The dollar rose against its major crosses on expectation that the Fed could continue to raise rates in the forthcoming meetings," said Gaurang Somaiya, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services. In the last couple of sessions, RBI has actively intervened to curb sharp depreciation of the currency, Somaiya said, adding, "We expect the USD-INR (Spot) to quote in the range of 82.40 and 83.20." (PTI)

Jewellers optimistic about Dhanteras amid positive consumer sentiment, weakness in gold prices

MUMBAI, OCT 21/--/Positive momentum through the festive season and weakness in gold prices will likely boost demand this Dhanteras, jewellers said, but added that inflation worries and overall rise in cost of living may keep sales at par with last year. In 2021, after the first wave of the pandemic, revenge purchases along with postponed weddings boosted demand resulting in exceptionally good Dhanteras sales which crossed the pre-pandemic levels. The gold prices during Dhanteras 2021, at around Rs 46,500-47,000 per 10 grams, also supported the demand. This year, the industry is cautious in spite of benign gold prices, which is ruling at around Rs 47,000-49,000 per 10 grams, and overall positive consumer sentiment. Dhanteras, which marks the first day of Diwali in India, is considered auspicious for buying gold and silver as part of Hindu festivities. "We have witnessed a very positive momentum since the last 8-10 days. The demand for jewellery during Dhanteras this year is likely to be at par with

last year as 2021 was an exceptional year for the industry when the country slowly came out of the pandemic. "Postponed weddings and revenge purchases last year boosted demand with sales crossing the pre-pandemic levels," All India Gem And Jewellery Domestic Council Chairman Ashish Pethe told PTI. Similarly, World Gold Council Regional CEO, India, Somasundaram PR said the purchase of gold as a token boosts the positivity surrounding Dhanteras. "Moreover, with recent corrections in local gold prices and a favourable monsoon, festive sentiment among retail consumers appears to be positive," he pointed out. However, the impact of inflation on household finances may affect gold jewellery demand, he cautioned. "Unlike the Diwali season of 2021, this season may not have the advantage of pent-up demand or savings from muted wedding celebrations fuelling higher gold purchases." Having said that, this is a busy buying season, and with gold being

a valuable hedge against inflation, any further price declines in the coming weeks could result in a surge in demand," he added. Senco Gold and Diamonds Managing Director and CEO Suvankar Sen opined that this year the industry is likely to witness standardised demand as things have gone back to



normal after an exceptional 2021. "We expect the growth in sales will be either in high single digit or low double digit compared to last year, but the ticket size will be low, which will be compensated by higher footfalls," he noted. Weak prices may not have much impact on sales as the weak rupee has restricted further fall in gold price, he said. "This year the sales might get a boost as Dhanteras falls on a weekend and is spread

over two days. After a good first quarter and a muted second quarter the industry is looking forward to a positive third and fourth," he added. On gold prices, JM Financial Services' Rahul Sharma stated that rates are moving sideways to a negative direction from the last six months due to rising bond yields and a strong dollar index. "The rising interest rate scenario is having a negative impact on precious metals. Looking at the overall scenario, some more downside is left in the gold prices. However, it is expected to remain in a broader range of Rs 48,500-53,000 for the coming few months. "Lower gold prices may actually be a good thing for jewellery shoppers this Diwali but this also brings a good opportunity for traders to buy at lower levels for a possible rebound in November," he added. Meanwhile, De Beers Forevermark Vice President Amit Pratihar said the festive season is witnessing strong demand since all markets are completely operational

after two years. "There is still a pent-up demand for jewellery and hence we foresee that this festive season will be extremely strong, accelerating the momentum of diamond jewellery sales. "Owing to their inherent preciousness, diamonds are more sought after and have seen a rise in demand. With the festivities in full swing, we are expecting a double-digit growth this festive season," he added. Kalyan Jewellers India Executive Director Ramesh Kalyanaraman said with consumer sentiment shifting from unorganised to the organised sector, the latter will gain during this Dhanteras. Last year was an exceptional year as the country came out of the pandemic. However, with the ruling weakness in gold prices and no pandemic related uncertainties, things are looking positive this year, he said. "We have high hopes and are expecting a better and stronger Dhanteras compared to last year. For us, the pre-booking is strong and our e-commerce division, Candere, has done well and has gained popularity. (PTI)

Over 30 lakh govt officials will be trained in artificial intelligence by 2023: Union Minister Jitendra Singh

NEW DELHI, OCT 21/--/Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Friday said more than 30 lakh central and state government officials will be trained and exposed to emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and blockchain by 2023 for effective governance and service delivery at the grassroots.

He said there are 25 central training institutions, 33 state-level administrative training institutions and other civil service training institutions, besides Capacity Building Commission and the Wadhvani Institute of Technology and Policy (WITP) which will jointly achieve this noble mission. Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel, said artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning can detect frauds in GST and income tax returns, blockchain for securing records and certificates and data-driven decision making through use of analytics. He said civil servants will soon use



these techniques in day-to-day work and administration. Singh said the Indian growth story under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been driven largely by technology adoption in governance.

He said the use of Aadhaar for vaccine rollout and vaccine delivery through drones in difficult areas or the JAM trinity to link Jan Dhan accounts, mobile numbers and Aadhaar cards of Indians to plug the leakage of government subsidies through Direct benefit Transfer (DBT) and Unified Payments Interface (UPI) are some of the examples of technology adoption. The minister said this while delivering the valedictory address at a two-day workshop on Emerging Technology for Good Governance for heads of Central Training Institutions (CTIs) and State level Administrative Training Institutions (ATIs) at the Indian Institute of Public

Administration (IIPA) here. He said one must remain open to new developments in the science and technology sector and be always on a lookout for new science that can improve the work and outcomes. Singh said Prime Minister Modi has introduced innovation in governance and made it technology-driven. He said it is rather evident that in times of uncertainty and changing governance issues, technology is and will be the go-to resource and emphasised that for a nation as big and diverse as India, the adoption of technology is rather mandatory to ensure far reach of governance. Singh pointed out that the country and its citizens are evolving fast when it comes to technology education.

Kids in schools are taught coding and robotics and with every wave of workforce the level of technology is only going higher, he said. (PTI)

Pakistan Army Chief Gen Bajwa will retire next month: Report

ISLAMABAD, OCT 21 /--/Pakistan Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa said on Friday that he is retiring in another five weeks and will not be seeking an extension in service, according to a media report. Prime Minister



Shehbaz Sharif would pick the new army chief after Gen Bajwa's term is scheduled to end on November 29. The government has announced that his successor will be appointed in due course and according to the Constitution, Geo TV reported. Citing unnamed sources, the channel reported that Gen Bajwa said on Friday that he will not seek an extension and retire after five weeks. Bajwa, who has held the top post of the Pakistan Army for six years, also said that the army will not play any role in politics. He was initially appointed in 2016, but after three years of tenure, the then government of Imran Khan in 2019 extended his service for another three years.

In September, former prime minister Imran Khan had said that Gen Bajwa should be given another extension until the new government is elected, while reiterating calls for early elections. Speculation was rife that he may get another term after his meeting with Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif in London earlier this month. However, that seems unlikely now. The appointment of army chief is the sole prerogative of the prime minister and it is perhaps the only time that his verdict is accepted by the powerful army without any ifs and buts. The upcoming appointment is in the headlines for all wrong reasons. When Khan was in power, the opposition accused him of trying to bring an army chief of his choice who could support his alleged agenda of victimising opposition leaders.

Since he lost power in April this year, the equation has changed and now Khan is saying that the coalition government wants to install an army head of its choice to protect looted wealth and steal general elections. Whatever the political meaning of the rival rhetoric, the fact is that an army chief is seldom a silent spectator of the political games in the country. The powerful army, which has ruled the coup-prone country for more than half of its 75-plus years of existence, has hitherto wielded considerable power in the matters of security and foreign policy. (PTI)

EU weighs Ukraine support as new refugee exodus beckons

BRUSSELS, OCT 21 /--/ European Union leaders sought on Friday to shore up their support for Ukraine after President Volodymyr Zelenskyy warned that Russia was trying to spark a refugee exodus by destroying his war-ravaged country's energy infrastructure.

Nearly eight months into the war, Russia has increasingly targeted Ukraine's power stations, waterworks and other key infrastructure with missile and drone strikes. Meanwhile, the EU is struggling with the fallout of having to urgently wean itself off Russian gas and oil as the war fuels price hikes and market nervousness. In a speech via video link to European leaders in Brussels on Thursday, Zelenskyy said attacks by Russian cruise missiles and Iranian combat drones have destroyed more than a third of our energy infrastructure. Because of this, unfortunately we are no longer able to export electricity to help you maintain stability. The president added: Russia also provokes a new wave of migration of Ukrainians to EU countries, by attacking electricity and heating sources so that as many Ukrainians as possible move to your countries. Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas

described the targeting of civilian infrastructure as pure terrorism. Russia's attacks are meant to make us afraid. It is to make us refrain from the decisions that we would otherwise make, and this is awful that it is possible to do this in the year 2022, Kallas told reporters at an EU summit in Brussels. Her Latvian counterpart, Krisjanis Karins, said Russia's war is becoming ever more brutal, now blatantly aimed not at the Ukrainian military but at Ukrainian citizens." European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has branded Russia's attacks on civilian infrastructure as war crimes. More than 4.3 million Ukrainian citizens have registered for temporary protection in the EU. Poland is hosting almost almost a third of them. A draft of a summit statement has the EU leaders affirming they will stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes with continued political, military and economic support. They also say the 27-nation bloc will step up its humanitarian response, in particular for winter preparedness. The draft text, seen by The Associated Press, is expected to be adopted later Friday, although its precise wording could change. (AP)

Diwali will be public school holiday in New York City starting 2023

NEW YORK, OCT 21/--/ In a significant decision, Diwali will be a public school holiday in New York City starting 2023, with Mayor Eric Adams saying this sends a message about the significance of the city's inclusiveness and this long overdue step will encourage children to learn about the festival of lights.

Adams, joined by New York Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar and New York City Schools Chancellor David Banks, said Thursday that in conversations on the campaign trail around how to run the state better, he learned so much about the Diwali holiday and what this festival means. He said that by declaring Diwali a holiday in New York City public schools, we wanted to send a loud and clear message to the countless number of people who acknowledge this period of time of celebration. At

the same time, this is an educational moment because when we acknowledge Diwali, we are going to encourage children to learn about Diwali. We're going to have them start talking about what it is to celebrate the festival of lights, and how to turn the light on within yourself, he said.

Consul General of India in New York Randhir Jaiswal thanked Adams for making Diwali a school public holiday. This had been a long pending demand of the Indian-American community. The recognition gives a deeper meaning to diversity and pluralism in New York City while allowing people from all walks of life to experience, celebrate and enjoy Indian ethos

and heritage, he told PTI. Rajkumar, the first South Asian-American woman ever to be elected to a state office in New York,



said that today she is proud to say that our time has come. The time has come to recognise over 200,000 New Yorkers of the Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh and Jain faiths who

celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights. Adams said as we deal with so much darkness that is around us, we fail to realise the overwhelming amount of light that is around us. And when we take this period to acknowledge Diwali, we are acknowledging the light that is within us, the light that clearly can push away darkness and that is why

Pak's Election Commission disqualifies ex-PM Imran Khan from holding public office for 5 years

ISLAMABAD, OCT 21 /--/In a major setback to former Prime Minister Imran Khan, Pakistan's top election body on Friday disqualified him from holding public office for five years in the Toshakhana case for hiding proceeds from the sale of gifts he received from foreign leaders. After the consensus ruling by a four-member bench headed by Chief Election Commissioner Sikander Sultan Raja, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman cannot become a member of the parliament for five years.

The decision was taken unanimously by the five-member bench. However, the member from Punjab was not present for the announcement. The ruling coalition government lawmakers had filed a case with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in

August against 70-year-old Khan seeking his disqualification for failing to reveal the proceeds from the sale of gifts that he purchased at a discounted price from the state repository, also called Toshakhana. The ECP after hearing the case had reserved its judgment on September 19 on the conclusion of the proceedings. The bench of the ECP on Friday unanimously ruled that Khan was involved in corrupt practices and was disqualified as a member of the parliament. It also announced that action would be taken against him under the corrupt practices laws. Asad Umar, Secretary

General of Khan's party, announced that the decision would be challenged in the Islamabad High Court. Fawad



Chaudhry, another PTI leader, rejected the verdict and asked Khan's followers to stage protests. The ruling came days after Khan's

party on Monday swept the crucial by-elections, winning six out of eight National Assembly seats and two out of three provincial assembly seats. Khan, who contested seven National Assembly seats in the crucial by-elections held on Sunday, emerged victorious in six constituencies.

Khan, who came to power in 2018, apparently received expensive gifts from rich Arab rulers during official visits, which were deposited in the Toshakhana. Later, he bought the same at a discounted price as per the relevant laws and sold the same at hefty profits. Though morally

apprehensive for rulers like Khan, who always takes a high moral ground and leaves no occasion to castigate his opponents as corrupt, the purchase and sale were legally allowed. The former premier informed the ECP during the hearing that the sale of the gifts that he had procured from the state treasury after paying Rs 21.56 million fetched about Rs 58 million. The gifts, among others, included a Graff wristwatch, a pair of cufflinks, an expensive pen, a ring and four Rolex watches. According to his opponents, Khan failed to show the sales in the income tax returns, making him liable. The case filed with the ECP seeks his disqualification under Articles 62 and 63 of the Constitution which suggests disqualification if someone is not truthful. (PTI)

Dissident Iranian cleric, relative of top leader, dies at 96

DUBAI, OCT 21 /--/ Ali Tehrani, a dissident cleric and brother-in-law of Iran's supreme leader, has died at



Ali Tehrani

age 96, local media reported. Tehrani had been a critic of Iran's authoritarian ruler, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and of the Islamic leaders who toppled the shah in 1979. Tehrani advocated for a more liberal political system after the Islamic Revolution. He opposed clerics having a role in government and supported the freedom of activity of all political groups, including Marxist and secular factions. The theologian died on Wednesday, and his death was reported on Thursday by the semi-official Tasnim news agency. Iranian state media did not mention his death. Tehrani had married Badri, a sister of the current Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in the 1950s. In 1979, Tehrani opposed a decision by the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, to appoint his brother-in-law to the important role of Friday prayer leader. Tehrani supported the nation's first president, Abolhassan Banisadr, who went into exile in 1981 following a fight with hardliners. Tehrani was imprisoned for several months in 1981, followed by house arrest, and fled to neighbouring Iraq in 1984. At the time, the two countries were at war. He continued his campaign against Iran's ruling system through radio broadcasts in Iraq. Tehrani returned to Iran in 1995 and was sentenced to 20 years in prison. He served nine years and was mostly silent after his release in 2005. (AP)

Sikh man accused of killing his kids charged with murder: Report

TORONTO, OCT 21 /--/A 45-year-old Indian-origin Canadian Sikh has been charged with two counts of first-degree murder after two of his children were killed in their home in Montreal, according to a media report.

Kamaljit Arora has been accused of killing his son and daughter, aged 11 and 13 respectively, on October 17. He was charged on Tuesday with two counts of first-degree murder, CTV News reported. He is also charged with one count of assault causing bodily harm for allegedly strangling his wife, Rama Rani Arora, in what police believe was a case of domestic violence in their home in Laval's Ste. Dorothee sector, north of Montreal, the report added. According to neighbour Annie Charpentier, it was the two children's older sister who first alerted authorities to the horrific incident. Charpentier was coming home from work when the teenager came to her door, asking her to call 911. "The young girl came out in crisis telling me, 'I need a phone, I need a phone,'" she recounted.

When police arrived at the home, they discovered an 11-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl in critical condition. The children were rushed to a hospital where they were pronounced dead. Their father was also taken to the hospital in critical condition under police custody, though his condition is now stable. His arraignment was postponed on Tuesday as the judge determined he was not fit to appear in court. The court was told that the accused has been unable to communicate since his arrest on Monday night and were hopeful the situation would change by the time he is due back in court Wednesday morning to formally face the charges, the report added. (PTI)

Rishi Sunak holds firm as bookies' favourite to replace Liz Truss as UK PM

LONDON, OCT 21 /--/A clear frontrunner to take over from Liz Truss as Conservative Party leader and British Prime Minister remains uncertain on Friday due to deep divisions among the Tories, but the bookies' odds have rocketed in favour of British Indian former chancellor Rishi Sunak.

As the runner-up of the leadership election which concluded last month, the former finance minister who had forecast much of the economic crisis unleashed by Truss' mini-budget is seen as a safe pair of hands to take charge at 10 Downing Street. The 42-year-old is holding a solid 55 per cent lead with the Oddschecker betting odds aggregator, followed by a 29 per cent chance of former prime minister Boris Johnson making a comeback. Third-placed in what is emerging as a three-way contest is Leader of the Commons Penny Mordaunt, who had polled third in the first round of parliamentary votes to shortlist candidates for the last leadership race. I back Rishi Sunak to be our next PM. He has the plan and credibility to: restore financial stability, help get inflation down and deliver sustainable tax cuts over time; and unite the Conservatives by bringing the best talent into government to deliver for the British people, tweeted former Cabinet minister Dominic Raab, among the first of nearly 50 MPs to openly declare support for Sunak.

Amid Opposition calls for an immediate general election, there is a frenzy among the governing Tories to find a successor for Truss, who now holds the ignominious title of being the shortest serving incumbent at 10 Downing Street after resigning on Thursday just 44 days after being elected to office. Under the rules set of this Tory leadership race, a candidate must have a minimum of 100 members of Parliament backing them to make the shortlist by the Monday 2pm



local time deadline. A comeback for partygate-hit Johnson is increasingly looking likely with reports that he has the support of around 140 MPs. The former prime minister, who was holidaying in the Caribbean, is believed to be on a flight

back to get his leadership campaign going quickly. "I'm backing Boris #BorisBust," tweeted UK Business Secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg, one of the head cheerleaders from the Johnson camp.

However, there are several others who have expressed their shock and dismay at the possibility, given that Johnson still faces a parliamentary inquiry over whether he misled the House of Commons on the parties held at Downing Street under his watch. Polling suggests the former prime minister, who won a thumping majority in the 2019 general election, remains popular with the wider Tory membership. Johnson's return would mark a dramatic comeback, having been dragged out of office by his Cabinet and MPs only 45 days ago.

Mordaunt and her supporters are also said to be tallying up the numbers in her favour. A maximum of three finalists are possible, given the Tory tally of 357 MPs in the Commons. The MPs will then hold an "indicative" ballot to pick the final two, with the winner then decided in an online vote of party members. If the 170,000 Tory members do get a vote on the top two contenders, the new leader will be declared by next Friday.

However, should Tory MPs manage to agree on one candidate, the contest could be over on Monday. Meanwhile, Truss remains caretaker Prime Minister until her successor has been elected and anointed by King Charles III. She resigned on Thursday after a brief yet tenure riddled with policy U-turns amid a spiralling economic crisis triggered by a controversial unfunded tax-cutting mini-budget last month that sent the financial markets into turmoil. (PTI)

Boris Johnson eyes comeback bid as UK Tories pick new leader

LONDON, OCT 21 /--/Several British lawmakers, including former Prime Minister Boris Johnson, were trying to scoop up support on Friday ahead of a short, intense contest to replace Liz Truss as the nation's leader.

Truss quit on Thursday after a turbulent 45-day term, conceding that she could not deliver on her tax-cutting economic plans. The Conservative Party is holding a speeded-up race to replace her, which will see a new leader who will also become prime minister chosen within a week. Former Treasury chief Rishi Sunak and House of Commons leader Penny Mordaunt are among the bookmakers favourites along with Johnson, who was forced to resign by the party just over three months ago after becoming mired in scandals over his ethics and finances. His return would be a remarkable resurrection for a politician who is popular and polarizing in equal measure. Johnson, who remained a lawmaker after stepping down as prime minister, has not said whether he will run, but his allies in Parliament are working to gather support.

Nominations for a new leader will close on Monday afternoon, and candidates need the signatures of 100 of the 357 Conservative lawmakers, meaning a maximum field of three. Lawmakers will vote to knock out one of those, and will hold an indicative vote on the final two. The party's 172,000 members will then get to decide between the two finalists in an online vote. The



new leader is due to be selected by Oct. 28. Sunak, who came second to Truss in a summertime leadership contest, is favoured by some as a safe pair of hands who can steady the struggling economy. Mordaunt, who came third, is popular with the party grassroots. But the wild card in the contest is Johnson, who is adored by some in the party as a proven vote-winner with a rare common touch, and reviled by others for the chaos and scandal that marred his three years in office. Johnson ally Nadine Dorries said the party should pick him because he

is a known winner who led the Conservatives to a big election victory in 2019. Having a winner in place is what the party needs to survive, she told Sky News. But some other Conservative legislators said they would leave the party if Johnson who faces an ongoing probe by a standards committee over whether he lied to Parliament returned as leader. I cannot see any way forward in government, at any level, for somebody who is under that kind of scrutiny, and I think highly divisive, Tory legislator Roger Gale told Times Radio. And I think that there would be people, indeed like myself, who would find ourselves in the awful position of having to resign the Conservative whip. The party's second leadership contest this year comes after Truss became the shortest-serving prime minister in British history. She was elected leader by the Conservatives early last month after a party election to replace Johnson. (AP)

HIT-MAN ZONE

Rohit gets ready for Shaheen duel with extended session

MELBOURNE, OCT 21 /--/ Those who know Rohit Sharma well would vouch for the fact that the Indian captain doesn't get amused when he hears the term "lazy elegance" liberally thrown at him during formal and informal conversations. Rohit Sharma is supremely elegant but the word "lazy" hasn't existed in his dictionary for the longest possible time now. Out of his 41 international hundreds, 33 has come in ODIs and T20Is and it wouldn't have been possible had there been an iota of laziness in him. Forty eight hours before the marquee clash against Pakistan, it seemed Rohit, the skipper at least on the day, made way for Rohit, the batter, who is thinking of how to counter the menacing pace and swing of Shaheen Shah Afridi. May be that's the reason, he was trying to focus on not hitting any horizontal bat shots, which is a recipe for disaster against someone like Shaheen, who will not only bowl fast but also swing it late at a brisk pace.

The Melbourne Cricket Ground nets is slightly different from other stadiums where one can only get a top angle view of the nets and it always seems like players are training at a giant well. It was an optional net session for the Indian team on Friday and it was the skipper, who became the centre of attention for 30-odd spectators as he entered the arena. Rohit went through the grind for close to one and half hours along with Dinesh Karthik for company.

While Karthik, India's designated white-ball finisher, after a normal net session, did a bit of simulation training with some high-risk lap scoop and reverse lap scoop shots and pull-shots, Rohit's session was way more interesting. It seemed he was intent on playing within the V' and while Karthik enjoyed hitting some disdainful pulls, his captain, who is a pioneer of horizontal bat shots, refrained from hitting any. He defended, left deliveries, played front foot and back-foot push drives with elan. The way he kept the shape while lunging forward for the cover drives was sheer beauty.

And in between, he used his peripheral vision to keep an eye on what Karthik and reserve batter Deepak Hooda were up to on the adjacent nets. Watching Rohit bat, one would instantly remember the popular YouTube interview show Breakfast With Champions' where the host asks Kohli, Doesn't Rohit give you feeling that he has that extra second to play those shots?" Ek nahi, der second (Not one but one and half second), was Kohli's quickest response which showed the erstwhile skipper's reverence for his deputy. Even when he left a few deliveries alone in between his shots, it never looked boring. Batting isn't exactly Rohit Sharma's vocation. It is his passion. T20

might be a slam-bang version but the ingredient needed to be successful is the discipline of a marathon runner. Once his session was over, he continued watching Karthik and later Axar Patel bat at the nets while having a conversation with head coach Rahul Dravid. But if one thought that the skipper was done for the morning, they were mistaken. Having taken a break for some time, Rohit was back in the nets and this time facing the sharp left-arm throwdown of Sri Lankan specialist Nuwan Seneviratne. Nuwan was seen muscling the throwdowns at a high speed and angled it in from the 18 yards and Rohit was equal to the task each time. Not for once did he look wary or hurried into his shot. There was the trigger but not an early commitment into the stroke. In cricket, as in life, there are no guarantees, and hence how well things will pan out against Pakistan can't be predicted. But one thing can be said with a degree of certainty that Rohit Sharma is not leaving any stone unturned to turn the heat on Shaheen Shah Afridi. (PTI)



Rohit Sharma with head coach Rahul Dravid and teammates during a practice session ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup cricket match against Pakistan, in Australia

T20 WORLD CUP : Ireland knocks two-time champion West Indies out; reaches Super 12

HOBART, OCT 21 /--/ Veteran opener Paul Stirling slammed an unbeaten 66 as Ireland made the Twenty20 World Cup Super 12 on October 21, 2022 and sent two-time champions West Indies crashing out in a stunning upset.

Disciplined bowling restricted the Caribbean side to 146-5, with Gareth Delany taking a career-best 3-16, before the Irish romped to their target for the loss of just one wicket with 15 balls to spare in Hobart. Stirling, at his seventh World Cup, shared in a blistering 73-run opening stand with captain Andy Balbirnie to supercharge Ireland's run chase. The final Super 12 slot will be decided later on October 21, 2022 when Zimbabwe meet Scotland.

The West Indies won the tournament in 2012 and 2016, but came to Australia with a new-look team after the likes of Chris Gayle, Dwayne Bravo and Kieron Pollard retired, and Andre Russell was overlooked. They stumbled badly in their opening match against Scotland, crashing by 42 runs, before recovering to emphatically beat Zimbabwe. But in Ireland, who are playing in their seventh straight World Cup and had only been beyond the first round once before, in 2009, they again hit the wall. After the West Indies won the toss and batted at a breezy Bellerive Oval in



Hobart, the Irish bowlers sent down nine dot balls among their first 15. In frustration, Kyle Mayers launched at a delivery from Barry McCarthy and was caught by Harry Tector at mid-off for one. The dangerous Johnson Charles slammed 4-4-6 off Curtis Campher but his luck ran out in the next over, slicing to Campher off spinner Simi Singh for 24. Brandon King, who missed the West Indies' last game with illness, was dropped two balls later and made the most of the opportunity, crunching four boundaries to steer them to 67-2 at halfway. Evin Lewis received treatment for a hamstring issue and was out soon after for 13, ending a 44-run partnership. Skipper Nicholas Pooran (13) and Rovman Powell (6) didn't last against a quality attack as King (62 not out) did his best to push the scoreboard forward. (PTI)

Ashwin is peerless in Tests but has quality competition in T20s: Murali

MELBOURNE, OCT 21 /--/ Sri Lankan bowling great Muttiah Muralitharan says the quality and depth in Indian cricket's white ball eco-system is so good that the country has created an unimaginable talent pool in T20 format. The owner of 800 Test wickets and the greatest off-spinner of all times made his point with an observation that a bowler of the calibre of Ravichandran Ashwin struggles to make it to India's playing XI in white-ball matches. Ashwin, who is closing in on 450 Test wickets, is back in the white ball mix after being in the wilderness in shorter formats for more than three years. "There are too many quality options in Indian cricket system. There is very stiff competition among the top Indian spinners in white ball cricket," Murali told PTI in an interview organized by the Legends League Cricket (LLC). "In red ball cricket, there isn't much competition as Ashwin is on top. He is peerless. The moment we turn to T20, because of IPL, we get to see too many talented options as there are so many matches being played. That certainly speaks about depth of Indian cricket. "So when you get an option to compare his exploits with others and the opportunities to play T20Is get shared." One of the greatest exponents of doosra (the wrong 'un), Murali never compromised on his core strength which was a big off-break that he could turn at right angles taking the track out of equation. So are off-spinners using too many carrom balls in white ball cricket? "You can't bowl just carrom balls. You have to mix it up. Even during our times, we used floaters with conventional off breaks.



including him, but primary requisite of an off spinner will always be talent." Sri Lanka recently won a major trophy in Asia Cup after a gap of eight years.

While Murali believes that Sri Lankan players have every right to celebrate the success, he doesn't believe that a sporting victory can heal the scars of what his country went through due to collapse of democracy. "I wouldn't say a victory in a cricket tournament can heal the wounds of a nation. Sport is different and nation is different. Just like every nation goes through rough times, our cricket also went through a bad patch and is

now going in right direction." He refused a comparison between the current team with past the ones when he was an active players. "In our era, we won a lot of games and subsequently lot of tournaments like World Cup, Asia Cup and lot of trophies. For us, Asia Cup was another Cup. But I must say, for this team, pushed back by everyone, winning after 8 years is a great thing." (PTI)

GAME NOTES

Pakistan batter Masood hit on head at nets

MELBOURNE, OCT 21 /--/ Pakistan top-order batter Shan Masood was on Friday rushed to hospital for scans after being hit on the head during their net session at the Melbourne Cricket Ground here. It was a freak incident as Masood suffered the blow from a stray shot off the bat of Mohammad Nawaz, who hit a lofted shot while playing against a spinner. The 33-year-old was wearing pads but not the helmet as he was waiting for his turn to bat. Masood fell on the ground and looked in pain. He was soon attended by the team doctor. "He was hit awkwardly in a sensitive area. I don't know his current status, but he has passed the tests taken by our physio. Now, he's now gone to the hospital for a scan. We're praying for his quick recovery," said Pakistan vice-captain Shadab Khan, while giving an update. Masood, who made his T20I debut in their home series against England in September this year, has played all seven T20Is and slammed two half-centuries. (PTI)

BWF World Jr Mixed Team C'ships: India beat Germany 4-1 to finish 13th

NEW DELHI, OCT 21 /--/ The Indian team notched up a 4-1 win over Germany to sign off at the 13th position at the World Junior Mixed Team Badminton Championships in Santander, Spain on Friday. Mixed doubles pair of Samarveer and Radhika Sharma starting the proceedings, beating Germany's Jarne Schlevogt and Julia Meyer 21-18 21-16 to give India a 1-0 lead in the five-match play-offs for 13-16 positions. In men's singles, Bharat Raghav saw off Germany's Sanjeevi Padmanabhan Vasudevan 14-21 21-17 21-8 in a thrilling match to make it 2-0 in India's favour. Men's doubles combination of Arsh Mohammad and Abhinav Thakur, however, went down 14-21 22-24 to Jonathan Dresch and Simon Krax as Germany made a comeback. But Odisha Open winner Unnati Hooda crushed all hopes with a 21-8 21-6 win over Germany's Selin Hubsch and then women's pair of Shreya Balaji and Srinidhi Narayan prevailed 21-13 21-13 over Julia Meyer and Cara Siebrecht to end the lop-sided contest. (PTI)

Sen beats Prannoy to enter quarterfinals in Denmark Open

ODENSE, OCT 21 /--/ Commonwealth Games gold medallist Lakshya Sen got the better off his senior compatriot HS Prannoy in straight games to progress to the men's singles quarterfinals of the Denmark Open Super 750 badminton tournament here. Sen, a 2021 world championships bronze medallist, beat world number 13 Prannoy 21-9 21-18 in a 39-minute clash to set up a last eight clash with Japan's Kodai Naraoka. The two came into the match with a 2-2 head-to-head count in four meetings but the younger Sen proved to be the better player on the day as he made a rollicking to start to put Prannoy on the back foot on Thursday. World number 8 Sen zoomed to a 5-1 lead early on before swelling it to 11-3 at the mid-game break. He kept moving ahead as Prannoy's game crumbled. In the second game, Prannoy gave a better account of himself as he kept breathing down his opponent's neck with slender leads of 5-4 and 11-10. Things remained the same after the interval but Sen broke off at 17-17 to shut the door on Prannoy. (PTI)

Europa League: Arsenal reach knockout stages with win over PSV

London, Oct 21 /--/ Granit Khaka's second-half winner secured Arsenal a 1-0 victory over PSV Eindhoven at the Emirates Stadium and a place in the Europa League knockout phase on Thursday. Mikel Arteta's men moved five points clear of PSV at the top of Group A in a rescheduled game which was postponed last month following the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The two sides meet again in a week's time, when a point for Arsenal would be enough to wrap up top spot and qualification directly into the last 16. "I'm so happy to score. I don't know when I scored for the last time with the right foot but so happy," Khaka told BT Sport. "It doesn't matter which foot, or who scores. It gives us confidence and on to the next one." A fourth victory in as many games in Europe means Arsenal have won 13 of their 14 matches in all competitions this season. AFP)

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