



KIM VOWS FULL
SUPPORT TO RUSSIA

P9



CHANDRABABU NAIDU
GETS A BIT OF RELIEF
FROM HC

P4



JFK TWIST

P6

TRUSTED MY
PREPARATION

P12



SENSEX 67,466.99▲245.86

NIFTY 20,070.00▲76.80

₹ vs \$ 82.95 ▼06 PAISE

GOLD 60,535.00

SILVER 73,500

BRENT CRUDE (IN \$) 91.41▲0.08

WEATHER

GENERALLY CLOUDY SKY. LIGHT
RAIN/THUNDERSHOWERS. THE MAXIMUM
AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURES WOULD
BE AROUND 35 AND 26 DEGREES CELSIUS
RESPECTIVELY.

RAINFALL: Nil

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

Max. 93% Min. 63 %

TEMPERATURE

Max: 36.1°C (+2) Min: 25.7 °C (+1)

SUN RISES

06:06 hrs

SUN SETS

18:28 hrs

MOON RISES

06:07 hrs

MOON SETS

18:19 hrs

THUMBNAILS



A three-wheeler wades through a flooded street at Super Market after heavy monsoon rain in Dimapur, Nagaland on Wednesday. ■ ANI

Police officer killed, two Village Defence Volunteers injured by armed attackers in Manipur: A police sub-inspector was killed and two Village Defence Volunteers (VDV) injured by unidentified armed attackers at Chingphai in Manipur's Churachandpur district. The police sub-inspector was shot in the head and succumbed to his injuries at the Churachandpur district hospital while two VDV's sustained bullet injuries and are undergoing treatment.

Frame guidelines on police media briefings: SC to govt

Supreme Court cracks down on media trials, biased reporting

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

For a "fair and unbiased" media coverage of criminal cases under investigation and noting the sweeping changes in media reporting that have taken place over a decade, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the Central government to prepare a new manual to lay down guidelines as to how police officers should brief media about the cases under investigation.

Heading a Bench also comprising Justices Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha and Manoj Misra, Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud asked the Union Home Ministry to prepare a manual on media briefings by police, particularly in sensitive cases, protecting the sanctity of the investigation and the rights of both the accused and the victim.

Stating that "biased reporting also gives rise to public suspicion that the person has committed an offence. The media reports can also violate the privacy of victims," the Bench said that biased reporting would harm the reputations of both the accused and the



» Supreme Court orders new manual for unbiased media coverage guidelines.

» Concerns over biased reporting and privacy rights in criminal cases.

» Balance between free speech and fair investigation emphasized by court.

victims and it has the potential of derailing the investigation.

The Bench pointed to the need to maintain the "delicate balance" between the fundamental right to free speech and expression, the rights of the accused to a fair investigation, and the privacy of victims.

The court appointed senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan as amicus curiae to assist the court in the matter.

Noting the sweeping changes that have taken place since the existing manual was framed more

than a decade ago, Mr Sankaranarayanan said: "We cannot restrain the media from reporting, but the sources can be restrained because the source is the State. Even in the Aarushi case, so many versions were given to the media."

Ordering the preparation of a fresh updated manual relating to briefing to media by police of the criminal cases under investigation, the Bench said that the existing manual was over a decade old and media coverage of criminal cases has evolved since then.

It noted that both print

and electronic media played an important role in such cases as it involved several layers of public interest, including the public's right to know during an investigation, the potential impact of police disclosure on the investigation process, the rights of the accused, and the overall administration of justice. The court gave the Union Home Ministry three months' time to prepare the handbook of the manual.

The Bench asked the Union Home Ministry, while preparing the manual on police briefing of media, to take inputs from the chiefs of state and Union Territories police forces, and the National Human Rights Commission.

Posting the matter for hearing after four months in January 2024, the Bench cautioned that the police briefing should guard against media trial of the cases, predetermining the guilt of the accused.

The top court direction for preparing a new manual to govern media briefing by the police of the cases under investigation, came on a public interest plea by NGO People's Union for Civil Liberties seeking framing of guidelines for the reporting of criminal cases and encounter killings.

Colonel, Major, DSP killed in Anantnag encounter

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, 13 SEPTEMBER

The commanding officer (CO) of a Rashtriya Rifles (RR) unit and a Major of the Army as well as a DSP of J&K Police were killed on Wednesday in an encounter with terrorists in South Kashmir's Kokernag in Anantnag district.

Official confirmation of the casualties was awaited from the Army and Police.

The Srinagar-based Chinara Corps said in the morning that two Army and a J&K Police personnel were injured.

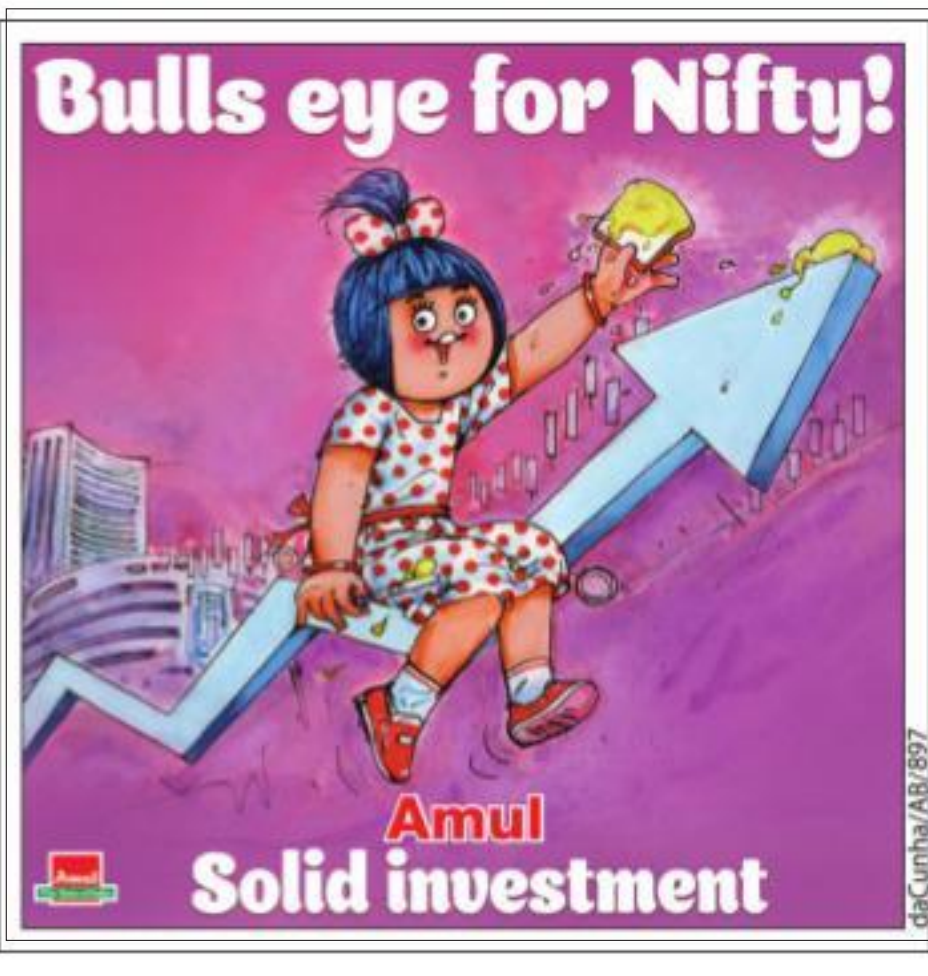
However, sources confirmed these casualties.

Army helicopters were rushed to evacuate the critically injured officers to the Srinagar based military hospital.

In another encounter in Jammu's Rajouri district, a rifleman of 63 RR, Ravi Kumar was killed on Tuesday evening.

Two Pakistani terrorists have been killed and three other Army soldiers and a police PSO have been injured in the encounter.

Meanwhile, GOC 15 Corps, Lt. General Rajiv Ghai, DGP Dilbagh Singh, ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar along with other senior officers flew to the gunfight spot in Kokernag to personally monitor the ongoing operation. (P5)



Govt convenes all party meet on Parl session on Sunday

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Ahead of the five-day Parliament Session from 18th September, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has called a meeting with floor leaders of political parties on Sunday, 17 September, in Parliament House.

The Session of the Parliament is scheduled to be held from 18 September to 22 September, 2023, a government release said, as per reports. The Monsoon session of Parliament, which concluded on 11 August, was held in the old Parliament building. The announcement of the Special

The Opposition criticised the BJP-led central government for calling a special session of Parliament without disclosing the agenda.

Session came as a surprise in political circles with the parties gearing up for Assembly polls in five states later this year. Meanwhile, the first meeting of the Coordination Committee of INDIA (Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance) took place on Wednesday at NCP chief Sharad Pawar's residence.

Airbus delivers first C295 to IAF

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Airbus Defence and Space has officially handed over in fly-away condition the first of 56 C295 aircraft to the Indian Air Force (IAF) to begin replacing its ageing Avro-748 fleet.

The C295, in transport configuration and with an indigenous electronic warfare suite, took off from Seville airfield in Spain with Indian Air Force chief Marshal VR Chaudhary on board on Wednesday.

Group Captain PS Negi is flying the aircraft which will have stopovers at Malta, Egypt and Bahrain before landing at Vadodara air base in Gujarat.

"It was only two years ago that we signed this contract with India, the largest order



in the history of the C295," said Jean-Brice Dumont, Airbus' Head of Military Air Systems, in a delivery ceremony held in Seville in the presence of India's Ambassador to Spain Dinesh K. Patnaik and Air Chief Marshal Chaudhary.

The IAF chief said: "It is a major milestone not only for IAF but for the whole country. This is for two reasons - first, for IAF it improves our tactical airlift capabilities. For a nation, it marks the beginning of a new era."

The first 16 C295s of the 56

aircraft on order will be assembled at the San Pablo Sur site in Seville, Spain, with the second aircraft due to be delivered in May 2024 and the next 14 rolled out at a rate of one per month until August 2025.

To boost self-reliance in the defence-manufacturing sector in India, the remaining 40 C295s of the IAF order will be manufactured and assembled ~ in partnership with Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) ~ at a Final Assembly Line (FAL) in Vadodara in Gujarat.

The production of components of these aircraft has already started in the Main Constituent Assembly (MCA) facility in Hyderabad. These parts will be shipped to the Vadodara FAL, which is expected to be operational by November 2024.

PM attends party election committee meet on MP, Chhattisgarh

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP president JP Nadda and senior party leaders on Wednesday evening attended the party's Central Election Committee meeting at BJP headquarters to discuss Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh Assembly elections.

This was the Prime Minister's first visit to the party headquarter after the completion of the G20 summit under India's Presidency in Delhi.

Mr Modi received a rousing reception at the party office, and his car was covered by a shower of flower-petals as he arrived at the party office. Mr Modi was welcomed with a scarf and a bouquet by Mr Nadda, after



lighting from his car.

Before proceeding further, Mr Modi waved backed to the party workers. Senior Ministers including Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, as also Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh

Chouhan presented him roses.

Several Central Ministers and party leaders including Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis stood at the entrance to the party office to welcome Mr Modi.

A large crowd of party workers had gathered outside

the office complex and waved at the Prime Minister. There was an air of excitement as the Prime Minister came to the party office after the successful organisation of the G20 summit.

The Union Cabinet earlier in the day adopted a resolution moved by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, putting on record people's appreciation of the Prime Minister's highly successful presidency of the G20 Summit.

The G20 Summit's successful organisation reflected the Prime Minister's leadership and strong will power, Mr Thakur said. This was the talk around the world, not just in India.

The New Delhi Declaration consensus showed India's growing power, and Mr Modi's leadership which led to so

many unanimous decisions for welfare of the world, the Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said.

The Prime Minister will visit Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh on Thursday, beginning with Bina in Madhya Pradesh, where he will lay the foundation stone of projects worth more than Rs 50,700 crore, including 'Petrochemical Complex at Bina Refinery' and 10 new industrial projects across the state.

He will reach Raigarh, Chhattisgarh in the afternoon and dedicate to nation important rail sector projects. During the programme, the Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone of 'critical care blocks' in nine districts of Chhattisgarh and also distribute one Lakh sickle cell counselling cards.

Manali hoteliers, taxi union, and mahila mandal join forces for highway repair

CHANDNI S CHANDEL
KULLU, 13 SEPTEMBER

Kullu and Manali is not bustling with tourists for the past 45 days. No tourism means no money and that means that the livelihood of the people ~ hoteliers, homestay owners, transporters, farmers, etc is at stake.

After all, the national highway that connects the twin towns of Kullu and Manali to the rest of India is disconnected at various places due to recent landslides after the monsoon mayhem. Locals say complete repair and renovation will take at least five years, such was the destruction. But these very stakeholders ~ hoteliers, taxi union operators, travel agent associations, mahila mandals have come together to pick up the pieces. They have been organising a 'shramdaan', voluntarily offering manual labour services to the NHAI and state administration to put back a crate wall (a kind of retaining wall) in place.

"It is a long haul, but the idea is to help every stakeholder involved, be it hoteliers, taxi services operators or others who have lost business worth crores due



to blocked national highway," says Anil Kant, a Kullu-based hotelier. "People are voluntarily doing manual labour and others are delivering food, water, and cold drinks to ensure work doesn't stop. They offered their services when it came to light that the NHAI had only 2-3 labourers to do labour work. The very first day we were just about five people, now we are more than 50," says Raj Kumar Dogra, President of Manali Taxi Operator Union.

Right now the volunteers ~ Hamta Prayavaran Samiti, Mahila mandals, HP Travel Agents Association, and Man-

ali Taxi Operators Union ~ are contributing physically in order to build the 180-metre-long crate wall by themselves on the Manali bypass, just about 500 metres from the town. Most of the volunteers are white-collar men doing a blue-collar job.

The brain behind this volunteer movement is Budhi Prakash Thakur, president of HP Travel Agents Association, who is also a hotelier, entrepreneur and an innovator who started Himalayan Bulls, an air service from Chandigarh to Manali on his own in 2014. Budhi Prakash says: "If we do not contribute, on its own it will take anything

between two to four years for the government to repair these bottlenecks on the national highway. Though one-way traffic is open, it remains sluggish due to long traffic jams, Volvo buses are not plying and crop produce is rotting either on the field or in the trucks." "It's been two months and not a single Volvo has entered the state. The entire economy is dependent on tourism and the transportation of goods. Volvo buses are the lifeline which brings in throngs of tourists every day," says Sunita Bodh, a social activist based in Manali.

Another hotel owner Anju

Rais says: "Without tourism Manali is dead. Tourism is the lifeline of Manali."

Not just tourism, but transportation of crops from Lahaul and the apple belt of Manali has either halted or moving at a snail's pace because of broken roads.

Anju tells how woeful the scenario is, "Each hotel has a staff strength of 20 to 25. They have to be paid their salaries but there is no revenue. The situation is even worse than during the Covid lockdown." However, clarifying on behalf of the National Highway, Ashok Chauhan, Supervision consultant, NHAI, says, "Due to the heavy destruction on the highway, reconstruction will take time. Our labour force only gets to work between 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. in the night. In the daytime, one-way road is open for traffic. About four km stretch of road has vanished at 10 to 15 different locations." He says there's another dimension to the problem. The construction material is taking a long time to reach the affected sites due to long traffic jams. However, he ends on a positive note: "The double lane will be through by 15 October."

Cabinet approves 75 lakh more free Ujjwala LPG connections

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

The Government on Wednesday approved extension of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) for release of 75 lakh more free LPG connections for eligible beneficiaries over three years from 2023-24 to 2025-26.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Union Cabinet held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The total financial implication of the extended scheme will be Rs 1650 crore.

There will be a subsidy of Rs 2200 per connection for 14.2 kg single bottle connection; Rs 2200 per connection for 5 kg double bottle connection; and Rs 1300 per connection for 5 kg single bottle connection.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur told newsmen that as per the existing modalities of Ujjwala 2.0, the first refill and stove will also be provided free of cost to Ujjwala beneficiary



ies. Recently, the government on the occasion of Raksha Bhandhan, reduced the price of a LPG cylinder for all consumers by Rs 200, brought down to Rs 900 from Rs 1100. The Ujjwala beneficiaries received an additional subsidy of Rs 200 per cylinder, Mr Thakur said.

Under the PMUY, 9.60 lakh connections have been given so far, and the Cabinet decision on Wednesday will provide these free connections to 75 lakh more eligible beneficiaries. The decision has been taken on the basis of demand, Mr Thakur said.

The PMUY extension will provide a targeted subsidy of Rs 200 per 14.2 kg LPG cylinder,

der, up to 12 refills per year. The continuation of the PMUY was required so that eligible poor households get their due benefit under the scheme.

The deposit-free LPG connections to poor households provide access to clean cooking fuel and helps in addressing health problems caused by the use of traditional sources of cooking fuel such as firewood, coal and cow-dung.

The LPG use will enhance productivity of women, raise quality of their life by removing drudgery associated with collection of wood and insure them against non-availability of cooking fuel, at times.

Some eligible households still do not have LPG connections. This is due to multiple reasons ~ new households are formed every year as a result of rising population, marriages, migration, nuclearisation of families, left-over households, extremely remote locations etc. There is a demand for 15 lakh PMUY connections as on 31 August, 2023. (See also Page 5)



THUMBNAILS

Youth thrashed for refusing to raise slogans in college election campaign: A 19-year-old student of the PGDAV college in the national capital was allegedly thrashed by a group of students after he refused to participate in raising slogans in favour of a candidate who was contesting a college election, the police said on Wednesday. According to the FIR, the student is a BA Final year student of the college located in Nehru Nagar. The incident happened on September 5 when he was sitting with his friends. "Around 1.55 p.m. on September 5, when some other students called me to participate in their election campaign and to raise slogans in their favour. I refused to do so. The group started thrashing me without any reason," the complainant told the police. He further said that during the scuffle, he also lost his gold chain. Later, he informed the police about the matter, following which the police took him to AIIMS for treatment.

SC declines to interfere with Delhi govt's ban on firecrackers on Diwali

Supreme Court seeks response from Delhi police over the plans to enforce firecracker ban in Delhi-NCR

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Refusing to interfere with Delhi government's complete ban on the sale and bursting of firecrackers during the coming festival season including Diwali, Christmas and new year the Supreme Court on Wednesday asked Delhi police to explain why despite ban, the firecrackers are being sold and used.

At the near fog end of the two-hour long hearing today, Justice A.S. Bopanna heading a special bench also comprising Justice M.M. Sundresh asked which lawyer in the courtroom was representing Delhi police. The court was told that the Union government represents Delhi police as the same is under its control.

Justice Bopanna said that the "concern is if there is ban, then how this (sale and bursting of crackers) is hap-

pening. When there is a ban, ..."

The bench said that it will hear Delhi police on it.

The hearing also saw the bench cold shoulder ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's Lok Sabha members Manoj Tiwari's plea against the Kejriwal government's complete ban on the sale and use of firecrackers during coming festival seasons.

Stating that they will not interfere with the Delhi government's ban on the sale and use of firecrackers, Justice Bopanna said, "There are many states imposing complete ban on the sale and bursting of the firecrackers, despite the orders of this court (permitting the sale of only those crackers conforming to the green norms."

Justice Bopanna told the advocate appearing for Tiwari, "Locally if there is ban, there is a ban. We will not interfere. You can find other ways to celebrate"



Today's hearing which will now continue tomorrow as well, saw the Central government - Ministry of Environment and climate change - apprising the court about the efforts it has made to rein in the "unregulated" firecracker industry, which is now being transformed into a law-abiding industry.

"It would be prudent to mention ... that with the efforts of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, an unregulated industry is now being transformed into a law-abiding industry", says the affidavit filed by the MoEF & CC before the top court.

Additional Solicitor Gen-

eral Aishwarya Bhati appearing for the MoEF & CC gave the details of the steps taken so far, for the enforcement of quality controls of the firecracker. ASG Bhati said that the RACE facility - a raw material, composition, emission, testing facility - has been set-up in Sivakasi, a hub of firecracker industry, for the regular and random testing of the firecrackers to enforce the compliance of green norms.

The RACE, ASG Bhati told the bench will undertake testing involving the purity of the raw material/chemicals used in fireworks, testing of the composition of formulation in fireworks and the testing of emission and sound therefrom, digital quality control, (including usage of green logo and QR code), skill training programme.

ASG told the court MoEF & CC is working with CSIR, NEERI, PESO and CPCB. She said that firecrackers with

30% less emission of particulate matter are being manufactured by the firework manufacturers which together are more than 1500.

She said that CSIR-NEERI and the firework manufacturers are jointly working together to achieve a 40 to 50% or 35 to 40% reduction in the emission of particulate matter.

One such facility has been set-up in Nagpur also.

The bench was also told about the mechanism that has been put in place for enforcing of these norms and imposing penalties on the violators including suspension/cancellation of licences for manufacturing fireworks.

In contrast, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan appearing a petitioner Arjun Gopal - now a minor - told the bench the way October 23, 2018, and the subsequent top court orders were being violated with impunity.

A petition was filed on

behalf of Arjun Gopal in 2015, when he was a toddler.

Telling the court that though use of Barium salt was banned by the top court on October 23, 2018, yet it was being imported in huge quantities by the firecracker manufacturers. He said that one of the firecracker manufacturers imported over one lakh kg of Barium and others imported thousands of kg.

Reinforcing his point on the violation of top court order with impunity by the firecracker manufacturers, Gopal Sankaranarayanan took the bench through the findings of the Central Bureau of Investigation that probed some of the cases.

It is these very firecracker manufacturers, Sankaranarayanan said, who are repeatedly approaching the top court seeking the modification of the October 23, 2018 and other orders.

The hearing will continue tomorrow - Thursday.

Delhi govt to register construction workers at labour sites using mobile vans



SNS & AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Delhi Labour Department on Wednesday said that it will register construction workers at all labour sites in Delhi using mobile vans.

It said that this registration through mobile vans will ensure that they can avail benefits under various welfare schemes.

"We are committed to ensuring that all the rights of our construction industry's

hardworking men and women are granted according to their qualifications. Initiating mobile registration vans will be a significant step in this direction as it will help deliver essential documents for all welfare schemes to as many laborers as possible," Labour Minister Raaj Kumar Anand said.

He said that a specially designed skill development program for Delhi's construction workers will soon be launched.

The plan is to commence it at the end of this month. This program will provide opportunities for laborers to improve their skills, opening up new avenues for their employment prospects.

"The plan is to commence it at the end of this month. This program will provide opportunities for laborers to improve their skills, opening up new avenues for their employment prospects."

"The distribution of Newsletters will commence at construction sites in Delhi, containing all crucial information. This will aid in raising awareness about departmental initiatives for the workers."

DU campus in election mood, rallying in full momentum



SIYA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

The rhythmic sounds of Indian drums, intermingled with car horns and occasional sirens, echoed through the campus air as the University of Delhi prepared for the

upcoming Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) elections scheduled for September 22. The DU campus election mood is a different story altogether.

Sea of students, many atop a cavalcade of cars marched for the election

campaigning with banners pronouncing their prospective candidates' names, while fireworks lighting up the vicinity of college entrances, and printed campaign posters adorning the streets of North Campus. Furthermore, various walls across DU's North

Campus bore marks of defacement, covered in candidate names and campaign posters since the DU campus election campaign began.

Dr. Geeta Sahare, Joint-Proctor, who is also member of the Election Committee, while discussing the chal-

lenges told that conducting elections after three years has been a hurdle. "Students are not aware about the election process," said Sahare.

She also expressed concern over influence of political parties in the campaigning process. Despite imposing restrictions, Sahare told that student groups are receiving support from them in terms of money and power.

Taking place after a three-year gap, elections for the four-member Delhi University Student Union are finally taking place as the previous years saw continuous postponements due to the Covid-19 pandemic. According to the schedule, the deadline for submitting nominations for the elections is set for September 14. Voting is scheduled for September 22, with morning students able to vote from 8:30 am to 1 pm, and evening college students from 3 pm to 7 pm.

Kamani auditorium to host Saurabh Shukla starrer play 'Barff'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Barff - burns more than fire, a play set amidst the valleys of Kashmir, is a thrilling production. It is written, directed, and performed by the prominent Indian theatre and Bollywood actor Saurabh Shukla, alongside two other theatre artists. A one of its kind play, Barff has been produced by Ashvin Gidwani.

During his conversation with The Statesman, Shukla shared how enriching the experience was. He explained that although the initial plan was to adapt it into a feature film, they ultimately chose to proceed with a theatrical production. Shukla emphasized the rarity of thriller plays in the Indian theatre scene, making 'Barff' a distinctive offering. The play is scheduled to be held at the Kamani Auditorium on the 16th and 17th



of September.

Saurabh Shukla has been a prominent figure in several blockbuster films of their era. His portrayal of

'Tapasvi Maharaj' in the Aamir Khan-led movie PK made a significant impact. Additionally, he gained popularity for his comical depic-

tion of a judge in the film Jolly LLB. This role was presented with a humorous touch, further showcasing Shukla's versatility as an actor.

Being a graduate of the National School of Drama, Shukla discussed the evolution of theatre. He delved into the impact of technological advancements in the theatre world, specifically addressing the influence of AI. Shukla emphasized that while AI can certainly assist in writing scripts for theatre, it falls short in providing the human touch. He stated, "Scripts are written from the writer's personal experiences and that's something AI is missing. AI is no magic stick and humans are the sole source of generating an idea." Shukla underscored that AI's primary role can lie in facilitating script translation between languages and providing subtitles. He further emphasized that people's affection for theatre remains as strong as before. The percentage of regular theatre-goers has either held steady or even risen, he pointed out.

Delhi Govt sends 780 elderly people for pilgrimage to Rameshwaram



SNS & AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday met 780 senior citizens of Delhi who were going to Rameshwaram under Mukhyamantri Teerth Yatra Yojana.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Today, 780 senior citizens of Delhi are leaving for Rameshwaram. This is like a bonanza for them as they are getting

this chance because of the honest government in Delhi. This honest government saves money to organise pilgrimage tours for senior citizens. Best arrangements have been made by the government."

Meanwhile, AAP national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal held a crucial meeting with party leaders on Monday focused on the forthcoming Haryana state elections.

As per sources, the discussion was held regarding the expansion of the organization and intensifying the campaign for the upcoming elections. Aam Aadmi Party is set to kickstart the 'Parivar Jodo' campaign across the entire state in the near future.

AAP National Organization General Secretary Sandeep Pathak, state President Sushil Gupta, campaign committee chairman Ashok Tanwar, senior Vice President Anurag Dhanda and Vice President Chitra Sarwara were present in the meeting held at the residence of AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Apart from these, all the secretary-level officials of Haryana AAP were also present.

Notably, the Haryana assembly polls are scheduled to be held in 2024.

Taking G-20 agenda forward, 3rd International Climate Summit to begin today

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

India is aiming to become the third largest economy in the world, and New Delhi is putting a major focus on green hydrogen, biofuels, and renewables to achieve this goal. The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry is organizing the 3rd International Climate Summit (ICS) 2023 at Vigayan Bhawan on September 14-15 to discuss the transition to a clean energy future.

Former President of India Ram Nath Kovind will be the chief guest of the two-day event. Union Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Dr. Jitender Singh, G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant,

and ONGC Chairman and CEO Arun Kumar Singh will be the other prominent guests attending the event.

The event will focus on "Sustainability through Green Growth" and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mission LIFE - Lifestyle for the Environment. During the summit, climate change captains will be honored with green awards for their path-breaking contribution in finding sustainability through green solutions.

The 3rd ICS summit will have delegates from across the globe, including academicians, researchers, and scholars, bureaucrats and government officials. Representatives of civil societies, diplomats, missions, and



trade bodies will also participate in the two-day summit.

The summit will open a global dialogue and call for actionable outcomes

on climate change mitigation from an Indian perspective, blending our

repository of ancient wisdom and circular economy. India, under its G20 pres-

idency, has unveiled a new pathway for climate change mitigation, through mainstreaming of Lifestyle for Environment (Mission LIFE) - urging the world to adopt sustainable practices and climate-friendly actions in everyday life.

When it comes to climate change mitigation, the importance of individual action and collective responsibility cannot be ignored, and the time to act is now.

India is also building significant capacity in areas of biofuels, renewables, and alternate energy solutions like green hydrogen, to define its long-term national energy strategies, accelerate its climate commitments, and put the country on a

sustainable growth path.

The summit also aims to showcase India's ability to combine ancient wisdom and modern technologies to mitigate climate change and encourage adoption of circular economy principles that highlight India's efforts towards achieving energy security through renewable energy deployment and opportunities in green hydrogen.

The talking points will also include biofuels and other renewable technologies, strengthening international cooperation, and facilitating public-private government partnerships in green energy technologies, unlocking climate finance, technology transfer, knowledge sharing, and capacity building.





Govt. of Uttarakhand



G20
भारत 2023 INDIA
एक दुनिया, एक परिवार, एक भविष्य
ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE



75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav



Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Unveiling Uttarakhand's Opportunities

YOUR GATEWAY FROM PEACE TO PROSPERITY



DESTINATION UTTARAKHAND

GLOBAL INVESTORS SUMMIT 2023

December, 2023 | Dehradun Peace To Prosperity

Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit: Curtain Raiser

14th September, 2023 (Thursday), 11:00 am, Hotel Taj Mahal, Mansingh Road, New Delhi



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The priority for the Health dept is to prevent more people from catching the Nipah virus and arrange timely treatment of suspected patients, including psychological support

AMIDST FEARS OF THE SPREAD OF NIPAH VIRUS IN KERALA AFTER THE DEATH OF TWO PATIENTS IN KOZHIKODE DISTRICT

KERALA HEALTH MINISTER VEENA GEORGE

THUMBNAILS

Former BJP state general secretary PP Mukundan passes away: Senior BJP leader PP Mukundan who was the former state general secretary of the party in Kerala, passed away on Wednesday morning. He was 77. Kochi-based Amrita Hospital where Mukundan was undergoing treatment for respiratory diseases declared him dead at 8.11 am today. He was a former Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Pracharak (worker) and general secretary of the kshatriya (Temple) Organization. Hailing from Kannur, Mukundan has been working in the public sector for the past 60 years. He passed away on Wednesday morning.

Teen killed, several injured after getting electrocuted at Mathura event: A teenager died from electrocution and several others were injured in the Kosikala police station area of Mathura on Wednesday morning.

Chandrababu Naidu gets a bit of relief from HC

TDP supporters hold a massive protest in IT corridors of Gachchibowli in Hyd

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

HYDERABAD, 13 SEPTEMBER

Andhra Pradesh High Court has stayed all trial court proceedings against former chief minister and TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu in connection with the Skill Development Corporation case till 18 September.

This came after a lunch motion petition was filed yesterday by his legal team in the High Court seeking the suspension of the 14 day long judicial remand by the Anti Corruption Bureau special court and also a stay on all the proceedings till the court gave a verdict on his quash petition.

The CID had filed a petition for police custody of Mr Naidu in the ACB court which was slated to be heard today but with the High Court's stay the investigators cannot take him in custody till 18 September.



September.

In the High Court, Mr Naidu's legal counsel Siddharth Luthra argued today that his arrest was in violation of section 17 A of the Prevention of Corruption Act and also that before his arrest the governor's permission should have been taken.

The additional advocate

general P Sudhakar Reddy was asked how much time he would require to file a counter and he sought a week's time. After considering the request from Mr Naidu's legal counsel for a stay on police custody proceedings the court decided to post the next hearing on the matter on the first working day next week.

Classified

PUBLIC NOTIFICATIONS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that Shri Sumesh Shokeen son of Shri R.K. Shokeen resident of D-9, Pashanajali Farms, Bijnawar, New Delhi-110061, has agreed to sell the Schedule Property (as mentioned below), free from all sorts of encumbrances (whatsoever). By way of this Public Notice it is notified that if any Person, Bank, NBFC, financial institution, governmental statutory or non-statutory authority/agency, tax or any other department or any other entity has or claims any rights, title, interest, lien, demand, charge or claim of any nature as owner or otherwise by way of possession, mortgage, surety, guarantee, gift, inheritance, agreement, MOU, arrangement, purchase, HUF, lease, license, understanding, etc. in respect to the above captioned property or in part thereof and/or against the aforesaid Owner or has any sort of dispute/litigation or otherwise has any objection for its absolute sale/transfer/ conveyance to my Client, then, such Person, Entity, Bank, NBFC, financial institution, authority or any other entity, etc. should notify the same to the undersigned forthwith along with valid Documentary Proof of such claim, dispute, encumbrance etc. within the period of 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this Notice, failing which it will be deemed that the above captioned property is absolutely free from all sorts of encumbrances of any nature whatsoever and the above named Owner is vested with absolutely perfect/complete and marketable title in respect of Schedule Property with absolute right of alienation/disposal and my Client shall proceed further with the transaction as bona fide purchaser and any alleged claim and/or objection raised thereafter shall be treated as invalid, given-up, waived and forsaken and the same shall not be binding upon my Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that Apartment constituting 50% of the Ground Floor and 50% of the Basement, situated on the right hand side (towards Property No. 10, Kautilya Marg), with 50% of the Front and Rear Set Back appurtenant thereto, Two recent Quarter on Ground Floor, with front side Lawn, one Car Parking Space in the Right Hand Side of the building (adjoining to Property No. 10, Kautilya Marg, New Delhi), along with proportionate undivided, indivisible and impartible ownership rights in the plot of land measuring 123.3 Sq. Yards, bearing No. 54, 1 & 2, KHYBER PASS, DELHI (also known as Army Press). The Agreement To Sell in respect of above said property in favour of our client is subsisting Agreement to Sell and sale deed/transfer document would be executed in the near future.

SAMAN YADAV (Advocate)

T-806, C/5 SUKHEV MARKET, KOTLA MUBARAKPUR DELHI - 110003

MOB: +91 9999991468

E-MAIL: samanyadav@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that MR. JAGDISH BAJAJ AND MRS. SHARDA BAJAJ has executed a Agreement To Sell in favour of our client MR. SANJEEV SINGHAL, in respect to Property bearing No. 1 & 2, KHYBER PASS, DELHI (also known as Army Press). The Agreement To Sell in respect of above said property in favour of our client is subsisting Agreement to Sell and sale deed/transfer document would be executed in the near future.

VAIBHAV MASSEY (Advocate)

Madan Lal & Associates, Chamber No. 22A, Civil Wings, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

Ph: 7838104856

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Capital Heights Private Limited, is in the process of undertaking development of Commercial (Retail Office) named "The Global" (Project) an area measuring 1.4862 acres in accordance with provisions of the Land Use Act of 1986 dated 14 November 2022, in the revenue estate of village Begumpur Khalsia, sector-73, Gurugram, approved by Director General, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh (TCPP) and granted layout plan / town standard design (Architect control sheet) for the said Commercial Plot which were approved vide DTCP Memo No. 125-1673/2022/2023 Dated 10th January 2023.

PUBLIC NOTICE

And whereas several individuals have made bookings entered into purchase agreement for allotment of the commercial plots in the Project (herein after referred to as "existing allottees").

However, before granting full permission for the Project, DTCP has required setting of objections / suggestions from the existing allottees of the Project regarding the said amended design (Architect control sheet).

Accordingly, the public notice, objections / suggestions are hereby invited from the existing allottees of the Project with respect to the Project, DTCP has required setting of objections / suggestions from the existing allottees of the Project regarding the said amended design (Architect control sheet).

Further, there is a change in height as well, earlier it was 15 meters and now it has come to 19 meters. In accordance with the said DTCP Memo, the said change in height is approved by the Director General, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh (TCPP) and granted layout plan / town standard design (Architect control sheet) of the Project in accordance with the approval of the revised layout plan (Architect control sheet) of the Project.

Hence, for the period of the existing allottees of the Project, the "approved building plan" and "typographic as-built approved plans" have been placed at the following locations in the Project (herein after referred to as "existing allottees").

Company's website: www.capitalheights.in (B) in the office of the undersigned and (C) in the office of the undersigned and (D) in the office of the undersigned.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for notice of the general public that a political party is proposed to be registered by the name of TELUGU SENA PARTY.

The office of the party is located at: 195-1, Narasimhaiah Street, New Delhi for its registration as political party under section 29A of the Representation of People Act 1951. Name/Address of the office bearers of the party are as follows:-

President:- SH. MADHAV VENKATESHWAR

General Secretary:- SH. KAMALASANTOSH KUMAR

Treasurer:- SH. CHINTHANILAMALLES

SH. CHINTHANILAMALLES

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The Statesman
Incorporating and directly descended
from THE FRIEND OF INDIA - Founded 1818

Cold War 2.0

That the United States of America is entering a consequential period in its relations with China is beyond doubt. The trajectory of this bilateral relationship will shape both countries' foreign policy agendas for decades to come. At a time when the characterisation of the intensifying competition between the USA and China as "a new Cold War" has gained global currency, what aspects of the US-Soviet or original Cold War are applicable even today? Matthew Turpin of the Hoover Institution nails it in a recent research article when he writes that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) views the USA as an existential threat. That is the starting point of this debate. Over the past few years, a new geopolitical condition has emerged. The USA and China coexist, if somewhat uneasily, in a multipolar world in which each side is deeply suspicious of and hostile to the worldview of the other.

Simultaneously, adds Turpin, both Washington and Beijing recognise that they cannot overpower their rival, which compels them to avoid direct military conflict while pushing their rivalry into other domains. Pithily put, this geopolitical condition is called a cold war. Thus, it is important to differentiate between the term "cold war", and the proper noun "Cold War," an event that took place between the USA and the USSR from 1947 to 1991. The historical event involved specific circumstances and actors, but the condition defined by the term (a state of political hostility between countries that unfolds across all domains short of open, direct warfare) aptly applies to today's Sino-American situation, just as it did a generation ago to the US-Soviet rivalry. Therefore, goes the argument, the question that some scholars and commentators still ask ~ are the USA and China 'destined' for a new cold war ~ is a category error, iterates Turpin. The cold war already exists. A unique attribute of cold wars, however, is that their beginning can only be perceived in retrospect; belligerents don't issue formal declarations of hostility.

A cold war starts incrementally as the weight of actions by both sides builds "until we reach what George Orwell called a peace that is no peace". Beijing seems to have learnt lessons from the Cold War better than that confrontation's victor, at least in one respect. If your rival is reluctant to acknowledge a cold war exists, it can be advantageous to paint them as harbouring a "Cold War mentality" as the CCP and the top echelons of the People's Republic of China routinely does. It helps complicate the adversary's political decision-making, especially if it is a democracy which for all its flaws America is, even as one wages a cold war against it as China is certainly doing. That is the grim reality. Costly and dangerous as it is, the American establishment, especially of the left-liberal variety, needs to internalise it if it is to design an effective foreign policy vis-à-vis Beijing.

JFK twist

As the 60th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's assassination approaches, an unexpected twist has emerged from an interview with Paul Landis, a former Secret Service agent who was a first-hand witness to the fateful events of 22 November 1963. Landis, now 88, has cast doubt on the Warren Commission's single-bullet theory, prompting renewed speculation and debate around one of the most enduring mysteries in American history. In the recent interview, Landis's recollection diverges from his written statements shortly after the assassination. He now questions the official narrative that a single bullet struck Kennedy from behind, exiting through his throat, before continuing to hit then Texas governor John Connally in the back, thigh, chest and wrist. The bullet, a shred of crucial evidence supporting the theory that Lee Harvey Oswald was JFK's sole assassin, had been famously found on a stretcher believed to have held Connally at Parkland Memorial Hospital. Landis's revelation is significant for several reasons. First, his proximity to Kennedy during the motorcade in Dallas grants him a unique perspective on the events.

Standing on a running board just feet away from the President when he was shot, Landis's account holds weight as an eyewitness testimony. Secondly, his change of heart challenges the conventional wisdom held for decades. The Warren Commission's conclusion that Oswald acted alone in assassinating JFK had been controversial since its inception. Landis's scepticism about the single-bullet theory could breathe new life into the theories and conspiracies that have persisted over the years. One crucial detail from Landis's interview is his claim that he found a bullet lodged in the limousine seat behind where Kennedy was sitting. To save it from souvenir-hunters, he picked it up and placed it next to Kennedy on a stretcher. Landis's decision underscores the gravity of the situation at the time. He recognised the bullet as a crucial piece of evidence and didn't want it to disappear or be lost. This revelation raises questions about how such a critical piece of evidence ended up on Connally's stretcher.

The timing of Landis's statement is also noteworthy. It comes after the Biden Administration ordered the release of over 16,000 documents related to Kennedy's assassination. These documents were made public in response to repeated demand. Over 70 per cent Americans supported the release, according to a 2022 poll. Landis's interview now adds another layer to the discussions around these documents and their potential to shed new light on the assassination. Landis's upcoming book, "The Final Witness: A Kennedy Secret Service Agent Breaks His Silence After 60 Years," scheduled for release on October 10, is expected to provide further insight into his perspective on the events of that tragic day. Readers and historians will undoubtedly scrutinise his account for additional revelations or details that could reshape our understanding of the assassination.



The Indian Touch

Because of the recognition of Indian prestige across the geopolitical divide, the Prime Minister's personal rapport with most leaders, and the mobilisation of the key Global South leaders, namely the past presidency (Indonesia), and the next two (Brazil and South Africa), the final draft was accepted by all participants and instantaneously adopted at the Prime Minister's initiative. This allowed all sides to claim victory on the Ukraine issue which was set in a much wider geopolitical context of the deleterious effects of conflicts in general



India pulled off a spectacular success at the just concluded New Delhi G20 Summit. An extremely well-organised event attended by the top world leaders with a right touch of colour and éclat, the Indian diplomatic team had a challenging ~ if, at times, despairing ~ task to achieve consensus on the summit document when many of the participants were not even on talking terms.

Achieving universal praise from world leaders for its organisation, its ambitious agenda and its skilful straddling of these divides is testimony to the country's organisational capabilities, negotiating savvy, and the country's and the Prime Minister's international prestige.

The fateful nature of this summit with serious implications for the G20's future, the parlous state of the global economy and overall stability is reflected in the Leaders' Declaration itself whose negotiations tested the risk-taking capability of the Indian side in bringing it to fruitful conclusion.

Upgraded to the national leadership level at the height of the 2008 global financial and economic crisis from that of the finance ministers and central bank governors of the 20 major economies after the Southeast Asian economic crisis (1997-98), this global economic coordination mechanism is beset with a widening economic divide between countries and aggravated great power tensions even as the pace of technology and global warming defy solutions except through collective global effort. To achieve the 'Bharat' imprint on its evolutionary journey is certainly an impressive result.

Created to achieve global macro-economic stability, the G20's record on this score has been mixed since all its decisions have to be fleshed out by "official" multilateral organisations comprising much larger memberships. The "cascading challenges and crises", mentioned in the Declaration, have only worsened with the G7 leaders' decision to bring the Ukraine conflict front- and-centre to the G20 process threatening to de-

rail it just when the UN secretary-general has been warning about a dysfunctional UN system; the Bali Summit only made it worse. Both at Bali and at New Delhi, leaders were forced to recognise that "geopolitical and security issues" ~ hence their resolution at such forums ~ "can have significant consequences for the global economy"; this is a departure from the G20's earlier summits. G7 leaders' injection of this dimension can paralyse this process when circumstances change in the future ~ as they would inevitably, given the current geopolitical volatility. The Indian negotiators ~ and the leadership ~ had to begin with the Bali formulation on Ukraine and find common language whilst retaining its substance.

As the Indian Sherpa noted, a take-it-or-leave-it stance was taken on the final draft to force the participants to countenance the prospect of the Summit's failure. A bold decision was to not invite the Ukrainian President to address the Summit. Because of the recognition of Indian prestige across the geopolitical divide, the Prime Minister's personal rapport with most leaders, and the mobilisation of the key Global South leaders, namely the past presidency (Indonesia), and the next two (Brazil and South Africa), the final draft was accepted by all participants and instantaneously adopted at the Prime Minister's initiative; this allowed all sides to claim victory on the Ukraine issue which was set in a much wider geopolitical context of the deleterious effects of conflicts in general.

G7 countries also realised that most developing countries have been taking a more ambivalent position on the Ukraine conflict despite their voting record in the UN General Assembly. Concerned about its economic fallout in their respective coun-

tries, they are far more invested in the G20's continuation as they can influence its decisions on the vital issue of sustainable economic growth and stability. A significant expansion of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) at its Johannesburg Summit (August, 2023) with more countries applying for membership of this 'Non-West' organisation was a signal to the G7 that an excessive focus on the political and security aspects of the Ukrainian crisis was counter-productive. That its geopolitical heft is inadequate to create a post-Cold War global political and economic order was indeed

recognised by them at the launch of the G20 forum at the finance ministers' level in 1999. The Declaration encompasses critical macro-economic issues of equity, sustainability, wider socio-economic progress, climate crisis, reformed multilateralism, international taxation, women's empowerment and terrorism and money-laundering advancing an ambitious common programme for the radically altered circumstances in the 21st-century to work for the objective of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'.

A number of working groups had worked hard on these thorny issues where Indian achievements in digital infrastructure, financial inclusion, public health, renewable energy, lifestyle for sustainable developments et cetera were showcased for the wider world, both the developing and the developed. The Prime Minister has suggested a virtual summit before the end of the Indian presidency in November, 2023, so that time-bound commitments can be passed on to the incoming Brazilian presidency.

These can be shaped further as India will continue to be part of the G20 Troika comprising the outgoing, the incum-

bent, and the incoming presidencies. Global ~ and, planetary ~ challenges remain daunting with shrinking time-horizons which are affecting global stability and social fragility. State fragility or collapse, as currently evident, diminishes governance capabilities which in turn become challenge-multipliers.

Due to the Indian initiative to give this process mass character, involving the developing countries extensively, many of these ideas do not even require adoption by the "official" multilateral institutions but can be propagated through experience-sharing and capacity-building in bilateral and plurilateral frameworks. For several years already, the G20 process has been buffeted by geopolitical tensions as much as any other multilateral organisation.

As it articulates more vigorously the voice of the Global South, the G7 is also consolidating whilst the absence of Russian and Chinese Presidents at the New Delhi Summit suggests a perception among decision-makers in these countries that the G20 is getting increasingly dominated by the West. They are concentrating their efforts to develop the 'Non-West' multilateral organisations. These widening geopolitical fault-lines do not bode too well for the health of G20's future.

The post-Cold War history demonstrates that alternative, competing organisations to the existing UN system are not their effective replacement. The West is also exploring further options in multilateral diplomacy such as the joint IBSA-US statement on the sidelines of the New Delhi Summit, to build on the "historic progress" of India's G20 presidency. Both Russia and China are absent in the IBSA organisation which comprises India, Brazil and South Africa.

The Prime Minister's approach to strengthen the existing UN system by making it more responsive to the challenges of the 21st century is thoughtful. This is important lest it also becomes a relic of the past leaving our troubled, volatile world and its challenges without a global governance mechanism.

A MEMBER OF THE **ANN** ASIA NEWS NETWORK

Ontario's farmers are fed up with the Greenbelt giveaways

The Ontario government is delaying construction of affordable housing by doubling down on the Greenbelt scandal and gifting to even more developers the power to pave over the land that farmers need to grow food for the people of this province.

For this government, it is developers first and farmers, eaters, and the house poor last.

The members of the National Farmers Union ~ Ontario (NFU-O) are fed up with the ruse that a lack of land is the cause of the housing crisis. Successive government inaction ~ including the current government ~ to prevent farmland and housing speculation, encourage municipal density, build public housing, and enforce affordable housing targets for developers are the real reasons so many Ontarians can't access affordable homes.

Farmers and farmworkers have not only been negatively affected by soaring housing costs, we've also borne the brunt of developer speculation driving up farmland prices. We've watched neighbouring farms removed from the agricultural landscape at a staggering 319 acres per day.

Farmland speculation threatens sustainable local food systems and has placed farm ownership out of reach for the next generation of farmers. Instead of listening to farmers,



Indigenous leaders, concerned citizens, a Housing Affordability Task Force (which included as a member the former Conservative leader, Tim Hudak), the auditor general, and the integrity commissioner ~ all of whom have disputed the need for sprawling development on agricultural and ecologically sensitive lands ~ the Ford government now insists their \$8.3 billion developer giveaway was not enough. Instead of returning the 7,400 acres snatched from the Greenbelt they've decided that other deep-pocketed developers deserve a hand-out too.

As for the average, hard-working Ontarians that this government apparently cares so much about? In a twist on the famous phrase attributed to Marie Antoinette, Ford might as well be saying, "let them eat concrete."

We have to disagree with Paul Calandra, Ontario's new housing minister: this government has proven itself incapable of a viable plan to build 1.5 million homes while respecting our natural heritage and finite farmland.

As the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs told the auditor general, the land already removed from the Greenbelt "will lead to significant adverse impacts on agriculture."

And while the government embarks on another dubious process for further Greenbelt land removals, properties within pre-existing municipal boundaries sit dormant awaiting a competent government that knows how to do the right thing.

We reject a Greenbelt giveaway scheme that takes away scarce resources and skilled construction workers to build unattainable sprawl instead of livable communities.

Tinkering with a corrupt process is not being accountable and endorsing sprawling development is not affordable or sustainable.

A viable plan to deal with the housing crisis would focus on building affordable housing where people actually work and where community infrastructure already exists.

The NFU-O demands the government return the 7,400 acres of Greenbelt land and halt any process that erodes Greenbelt protections or threatens the province's agricultural operations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

Flawed birth

SIR, Apropos your editorial, "Perilous path", published today, the constituent assembly that was to draw up the constitution for Pakistan and serve as a legislature under the parliamentary system, failed ab initio, as most of its ministers shunned legislative onus to be ambassadors or governors to relish power.

From the very beginning, the country's nascent democracy grew to indifference, spawning weak democratic systems.

In time its landed gentry usurped leadership to evolve over time a ruling class that convinced the populace that conti-

nuity of governance supercedes propriety and inclusiveness, and to set the stage for political dynasties. For long, Pakistan had one from Punjab and another from Sind.

But it had a third one, the dynasty of the military generals. The first two went the way of all flesh, busy dispensing favours. They had let the generals run policy. Imran Khan was the first Pashtun to break into a closed club.

True to his bloodline, he proved to be a rebel. And now it is but a question of time before he too would be exiled by the

stripes of real power. For a nation looking constantly inward, every change in Pakistan must remain peripheral and synthetic, its institutions systematically de-stabilised, its ideology circum-

scribed by tenuous relations with India and an economy dependent on big power largesse.

Pakistan would be led by circumstances and seldom by its leaders. With popular move-

ments never taking off, Pakistan could remain stunted, fresh sets of PMs and Army Chiefs notwithstanding.

Yours, etc., R Narayanan, Navi Mumbai, 9 September.



Why millets matter

PRABHROOP KAUR
AND GOVIND SINGH

Megasthenes visited India some 2,300 year ago and recorded his observations in the book Indika. His records show that millets were one of the main crops grown in ancient India and popular among the masses. The G20 delegation that visited India this year may have a similar account to narrate. The eighteenth G20 summit, hosted by India under the theme “One earth - One family - One future”, promoted millets as a sustainable and healthy option. Millets were discussed during different G20 events and also served as part of the fusion cuisine.

Millets are nutrient-rich superfoods that include diverse small-seeded crops like sorghum (jowar), pearl millet (bajra) and finger millet (ragi). They have the potential of feeding the increasing population without causing significant harm to the environment. Millets have been part of our diet since ancient times and were recently dubbed as Shree Anna or the best among all grains. 2018 was declared as the national year of millets by India, and 2023 has been declared as the international year of millets by the United Nations at the behest of India.

India took a number of initiatives as part of the G20 presidency to promote millets. In February 2023, during the G20 Agriculture Deputies' meeting, India called on G20 nations to adopt the 3S strategy of smart and sustainable agriculture that can serve everyone. A month later, the Government of India organised a global millets (Shree Anna) conference. The conference served as a platform for knowledge-exchange on agricultural best practices related to millets. In April 2023, the G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists took place in Varanasi and extended whole-hearted support to India's MAHARISHI or millets and other ancient grains international research initiative proposal.

India is the largest producer of



millets in the world accounting for nearly 20 per cent of the global production; promoting millets is certainly in India's interest. But millets provide benefits that far outweigh the economic gains. Millets are climate-resilient, and they have a better chance of withstanding increasing carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere. Millets are sturdy, drought-resistant crops and their revival can boost food security in all parts of India. They are also a healthy food option and can help overcome many of the lifestyle diseases that plague city dwellers.

Despite their many benefits, millets were largely overlooked during the decades that followed the independence of India. This is because the post-independence period was a turbulent one for India. Traditional, self-sufficient village economy had significantly declined under the British rule

prior to independence. The first few years of post-independent India were marred with famine, reduced agricultural productivity and widespread hunger.

Increasing food production to feed the millions was the need of the hour. High-yielding wheat and rice varieties were developed at such a time followed by mechanization of agriculture, setting up of chemical plants and enhancing irrigation facilities. In due course, under what came to be known as the green revolution, India became food-surplus.

However, challenges due to green revolution became prominent each passing year since the 1960s. In 1962, Rachel Carson published the book “Silent Spring” which amplified the detrimental effects of chemical-based agriculture on the environment. Green revolution needed favourable agro-climatic conditions due to which

agriculture boomed in only a few north Indian states. This led to regional economic disparity in the country since India is primarily an agricultural-based economy.

Increasing use of chemicals and machines in green revolution states like Haryana and Punjab subsequently resulted in soil degradation, water pollution and a public health crisis. Today, ground water has alarmingly declined in most parts of Haryana and Punjab. Climate change is worsening the situation and state governments are running schemes to discourage farmers from growing water guzzling crops like paddy.

Millets were the major food crops cultivated in India before the green revolution. Today, a need is felt to reintroduce millets as part of the strategy to adapt to climate change. Augmenting our food supply system with millets is also needed to

improve the overall health index of the Indian population. Consuming a mix of millets in the diet, for example, is known to reduce iron deficiency – a key public health concern in India. Making millets part of the daily diet can do wonders for improving public health.

Compared to rice and wheat, millets have higher protein, iron and calcium levels. They are rich in polyphenols, which help reduce fat absorption and have low glycaemic index which helps regulate blood sugar levels. With so many benefits associated with them, millets are the champions of the food system. Their re-adoption in the global food supply can help achieve many UN Sustainable Development Goals at one go.

(The writers are, respectively, student and associate professor at Jindal School of Environment & Sustainability, O.P. Jindal Global University, Haryana, India.)

100 YEARS AGO

OCCASIONAL NOTE

In the course of an interesting memorandum prepared for the Imperial Economic Conference by a committee representative of the shipping industry, a comparison is made between the cost of transport by sea and that by rail. The difference is greater than most people realise. Wheat can be carried from Australia to the United Kingdom, over a distance of 12,000 miles, at the rate of 1s. 6 and 3/4d. per cwt.; whereas to take it from Liverpool to London by rail costs 1s. 4d. per cwt.; or, taking the rates per mile, a sea freight of 0.0016 pence may be compared with a rail freight of 0.08 pence, the sea freight thus amounting to only one-fiftieth of the railway rate. In the case of iron and steel rails under 30 feet, the sea freight from London to New Zealand, a distance of 13,000 miles, when compared with the railway rate for 170 miles between Middlesbrough and Birmingham, works out at 0.046 pence per mile as against 1.4 pence, the sea freight amounting to one-thirtieth of the cost of railway transport. It is pointed out that the total cost of transport of cargoes between Great Britain and the Dominions, including freight, insurance, bank, and other charges, probably does not average more than 5 per cent on the value of the cargoes carried. Obviously there is not much room for reduction.

NEWS ITEMS

SHAHJAHANPUR RIOTS

ALLAHABAD, SEPT. 13

A correspondent wires to the Leader from Shahjahanpur stating that after five days of excitement, during which about 200 people received injuries, the city is quiet. Over one hundred people were arrested on September 7, but now there are less than fifty in custody or one bail. Hindu shops are still closed but the Commissioner paid a visit on September 9, and it is hoped that normal conditions will soon be restored. Mr. Bhagwati Sahai Bedar says that on September 4, the Dadhkandho day, all sorts of rumours were in circulation, and after some negotiation it was settled that the Hindus might celebrate the festival on the days agreed on, but crowds of Hindus and Moslems with lathis gathered near the point at which the Hindu procession was to start.

GERMANY AND THE RUHR

BERLIN, SEPT. 13

Addressing representatives of the German Press yesterday, the Chancellor, Herr Stresemann, said that clearly a solution of the Ruhr trouble could not be achieved solely by means of passive resistance nor by a policy of force. The Government would do a great service if it could cut the Ruhr dispute short, but feelers which up till then had been put forth shewed what difficulties existed. The question of the sovereignty of the Rhineland and regaining the freedom of the Ruhr was decisive to Germany, who was ready to give real guarantees for the purpose of its solution. The Government had been assured by leading representatives of industry and finance that they would take their share of obligations in connection with the proposed scheme.

POONA MURDER CASE

POONA, SEPT. 13

Staff-Sergeant-Instructor J.A. Pearston, who is charged with the murder of Miss May Esther Ingham on the night of August 17, was again brought up before Mr. Mackie, I.C.S., District Magistrate, Poona, today, in order that he might produce evidence to prove that he was a European British subject. Lieutenant Paton Walshe, R.A., tendered extracts from the accused's birth certificate and his father's marriage certificate, which the magistrate considered insufficient. Charges were framed under section 302 I.P.C. and the magistrate, committing the accused to the sessions, remarked that the question whether he was a European British subject or not could again be brought up in that court. Asked if he had any witnesses to call, the accused said he had none.

LALA LAJPAT RAI'S VIEWS

SOLOMON, SEPT. 13

In the course of an interview with a Press representative, Lala Lajpat Rai said that fundamentally the Council and the Assembly stood on the same footing as the municipal corporation and other local bodies. Both were Government institutions governed by British laws. Entry in the latter was allowed by the Congress with the object of using them for non-cooperation purposes. Entry into the Council was therefore no more opposed to the basic principle of non-cooperation than membership of municipal boards. With regard to non-cooperation, the Lala said that experience had shown that the country was not yet ready for the high ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, and that along with constructive work to prepare the country for such ideals, they should not neglect other channels and methods of political education.

In the moments before death

RAFIA ZAKARIA

With great wealth comes great privilege. In the case of the US, that privilege extends to the creation of a sterilised distance between the dying and the living. When the elderly begin to hover close to death, they are relegated to nursing homes where staff care for them and family visits every now and then. Most of the time, these forgotten but alive people die in the nursing home with strangers around them.

The cutting-edge medical facilities available to Americans also mean that treatment of medical problems continues all the way until death even after it has been shown to not provide benefits to them.

This used to be the norm until some years ago when a new service called 'hospice' also became available. This type of care is available both in medical facilities as well as at home. Unlike curative treatments which attempt to cure or curb illnesses like cancer, hospice services focus on providing palliative care. This means that instead of trying to cure a patient, hospice care only focuses on keeping the patient comfortable and as free from pain and discomfort as is possible as they start to close in on their last moments in this world.

Hospice workers, most of whom are qualified as registered nurses, spend a lot of time with people who are dying. Recently, one of these hospice nurses 30-year-old Hadley Vlahos released a book in which she lists the things she has been told or has observed as happening before someone passes away. Her best-selling book, The In-Between: Unforgettable



Encounters During Life's Final Moments, documents stories of patients she has cared for as they neared their last moments. According to Vlahos, the phenomena that she has observed are ones that she has seen occur regardless of the patient's religious beliefs or even if they had no religious beliefs.

According to Vlahos, nearly all dying people begin to see relatives and other dear ones who have already passed away. As she recounts in the book, the interesting thing about this is that in the dying experience these loved ones appear just as real as actually living people. So it is not uncommon for hospice workers to be introduced to these people that dying patients appear to see before them in their final moments.

To some, it would seem that these loved ones are there to make the experience of dying and leaving the world easier for those who are passing away. During this 'in-between' period, the dying person is said to be hovering somewhere in between this world and the next, and the barrier between the two becomes permeable. Many may ask if this can be considered proof that consciousness as we know it survives even after death. Very often the loved ones that they see look young and vibrant even if they had been old when they passed away.

In one case, the writer went for a routine shift to the home of a man who she had been taking care of for the past eight months. When she got there, her patient whom she had never seen getting out of bed was walking

around with a flashlight searching for something. She was surprised because she did not even know that the patient had the capacity to walk. When she asked his wife what was happening, she too did not have a clue. She asked the man who or what he was searching for and he said he was searching for Anna. When she told his wife this, tears starting pouring down her face. It turned out that the couple had lost a two-year-old daughter who had been named Anna. Not only did this patient believe he was seeing a deceased loved one, he was also experiencing a surge of energy.

In Vlahos's experience, many people who are dying experience a strong surge of energy just before they pass away. Patients with dementia or Alzheimer's may suddenly have

moments of lucidity in which they can talk to loved ones and recognise people who they have not been able to recognise for years. Others start to walk after being bedridden for years, or suddenly get the ability to have a conversation after being silent for months. In addition, many of the dying are able to say when they will die. So despite the medical odds, they will manage to hang on to life if they are waiting for a loved one to come and say a final goodbye.

The traditions of Muslim burial such as encouragement to attend funeral prayers of the deceased even if one did not know them exist so that the living do not forget the dead. This creates a proximity with death that is meant to foster not only a mindfulness of the transient and fragile nature of life itself but also empathy for the living family members in their grief.

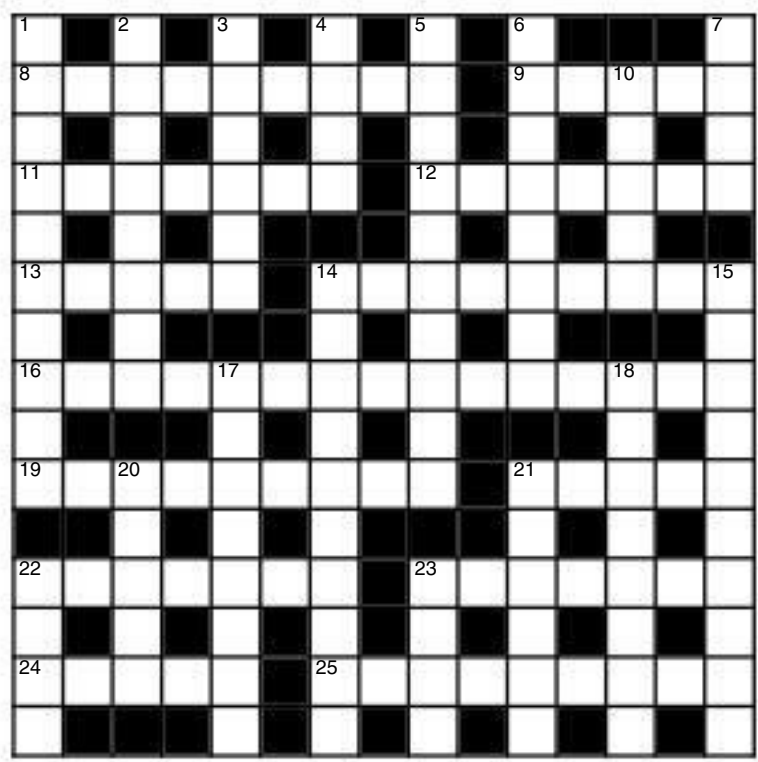
A few years ago, a study done on the regrets of the dying found that mostly those close to the end of life regretted not spending enough time with their loved ones, especially their children. They also regretted working too much since that often led to them missing out on important occasions. Many of the dying also wished that they had not spent so much time in their life worrying about what other people thought.

While I have seen the sick talking to deceased relatives I have not seen episodes of sudden and medically inexplicable lucidity and mobility. The fact that many people seem to experience the comforting presence of those that they have lost is a reminder that even in death there are moments to look forward to.

Dawn/ANN.

CROSSWORD

NO-292553



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Q U I Z S P P M
P U G I L I S T A M A Z O N
A N T E T T N
U G L Y H I T T E R O A D
M E S E I C
K I P P E R O R T H O D O X
R I N T
T E A L E A F S C R I B E S
L N V S N
S A B O T A G E M I M O S A
P W C H A I C
F E S T O O N I N G P U M P
M A N C G O B
B A L L A D L O O R O L L S
N K A E T P E

ACROSS

- 8 Fracturing a hip seems to give you stress (9)
9 Record company name left with guy in Genesis (5)
11 Earth footage beginning to explain rare event (7)
12 Requirement to return key was irritating (7)
13 Government on Hawaii has evacuated schools (5)

- 14 Loud 60s band hoards top-notch moisturiser perhaps (4,5)
16 Despire cod art as vulgar – it's often crude (7,8)
19 Mark is amongst sailors retreated for worms (9)
21 Coop came good finally with single large clutch? (5)
22 Pioneer in Western, a person without prospects (7)
23 Population theorist originally had useful stats on cereal (7)

- 24 Preliminarily examine lessons by Catholic church (5)
25 'airy thing maybe hopping about capital (9)
DOWN
1 Captain perhaps losing a pipe and navy trousers (10)
2 Ex-drinkers accepting sweet soldier's defence (8)
3 College zone parking south of river outside of undertakers (6)

- 4/22 Energetic character and yours truly on stage? (4,4)
5 Destructive prince blasted over written promises (10)
6 Both uninitiated, Stacy and Bella mounted animal (5,3)
7 Pleased when surgeon ultimately leaves thyroid? (4)
10 Boy cut all gorging, ankles progressively swelling (5)
14 Test specialty model Den brought back (5,5)

- 15 Interfering with tally of awards picked up (10)
17 Clint and Emmanuel hiding together (2,6)
18 Compound of lead cured doctor's inner demon (8)
20 Mean Grinch regularly spoilt enchantment (5)
21 Draw alien creature with a beak (6)
22 See 3
23 Pulp tour across frozen country (4)

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

THUMBNAILS

iPhone 12 meets radiation exposure limits: Apple has refuted claims made by France’s radiation watchdog (ANFR) that iPhone 12 breaches radiation exposure limits. Apple said, in a statement, that iPhone 12 has been certified by several international regulators as compliant. The tech giant, which just launched iPhone 15 series, said it has independent third-party lab results that show that it complies with all Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) standards globally. Earlier, the ANFR released a public statement saying that the iPhone 12 breaches radiation levels, telling the company to temporarily halt iPhone 12 sales and release a fix. "The French National Frequencies Agency (ANFR) is instructing Apple to withdraw the iPhone 12 from the French market as of September 12, 2023, after the Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) limit for this model was exceeded," the French agency said in a statement.

Admission-cum-scholarship test: A big bang edge test by FIITJEE will be conducted on 22 & 29 October through offline mode only across the country for students studying in classes V to XI. Big Bang Edge Test is also FIITJEE’s admission-cum-scholarship test. Selected students will be offered to join a FIITJEE different classroom programs based on performance.

X Corp bans record over 12 lakh accounts for policy violations: Elon Musk-run X Corp (formerly Twitter) banned a record 12,80,107 accounts in India between July 26 and August 25, mostly for promoting child sexual exploitation and non-consensual nudity. The micro-blogging platform, going through a churning under Musk who has recently appointed a new X CEO Linda Yaccarino, also took down 2,307 accounts for promoting terrorism on its platform in the country. In total, X banned 12,82,414 accounts in the reporting period in India.

Nifty closes above 20K for first time ever

Thirteen of the 15 Nifty sectoral indices ended in the green in Wednesday's session & BSE Sensex was up 245.86 points to close at 67,466 pts

AGENCIES
MUMBAI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Most of the sectoral indices were in green at the closing on Wednesday, as Nifty PSU Bank led the way with gains of 4.23 per cent, said Vaibhav Vidwani, Research Analyst at Bonanza Portfolio.

While the Nifty 50 index climbed 76.8 points to close above the 20,000-mark at 20,070 for the first time ever, the BSE Sensex was up 245.86 points to close at 67,466 on Wednesday. Thirteen of the 15 Nifty sectoral indices ended in the green in Wednesday's session.

Lower deposit-to-credit ratio, focusing more on high-yield products, and introducing technology into PUS banks will all help the sector's banks attracting more investors by boosting profitability and fostering development, Vidwani said.

The CPI for India dropped to 6.83 per cent in August from 7.44 per cent in July. In addition, there was unexpected rise in industrial pro-



duction to 5.7 per cent in July from 3.7 per cent in June.

Meanwhile, Coffee Day Global and IndusInd Bank have notified the Chennai bench of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) that they had achieved a settlement and



dropped their insolvency lawsuits. The order admitting Coffee Day Global to insolvency was overturned after NCLAT took their comments into account, Vidwani said.

Coal India, Grasim Industries, Bharti Airtel, Tata Consumer Products and Titan

Company were among the top gainers on the Nifty, while the losers included HDFC Life, L&T, M&M, Adani Ports and Cipla.

Volumes on the NSE were a bit lower than recent average. The small-cap index rose more than the Nifty even as

BSE SENSEX ▲ Sept 13, 2023		
Top Gainers		
Open:	67,188.64	
Close:	67,466.99	Change: 245.86 (0.37%)
Previous close:	67,221.13	
	Closing Price in ₹	% Change
Bharti Airtel	914.90	2.72
TITAN	3,262.85	2.42
IndusInd Bank	1,455.00	1.82
Axis Bank	1,015.20	1.56
SBI	596.45	1.39
NTPC	237.20	0.98
Power Grid	193.20	0.94
Tata Motors	625.95	0.83
Kotak Bank	1,824.05	0.71
Reliance	2,452.75	0.61

the advance decline ratio rose sharply to 1.94:1.

Rising crude oil prices have negative impact on stock market: Every 10 dollar rise in Brent crude prices widens India's Current Account Deficit by 0.5

Lower deposit-to-credit ratio, focusing more on high-yield products, and introducing technology into PUS banks will all help the sector's banks attracting more investors by boosting profitability and fostering development.

per cent, says V.K. Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services.

Rising crude prices positively impact oil exporters and negatively impact oil importing countries like India. Consequently, this depreciates the INR and leads to imported inflation, he said.

Also rising crude prices impact the profit margins of companies that use oil as input. So, the impact on the stock market will be negative. But now in India the markets are ignoring the rising crude prices, he added.

The reason is that the positive impact of good GDP growth, decent corporate earnings and sustained fund flows to the market is neu-

tralising the negative impact of rising crude. The situation might change if Brent crude rises to \$100, he said.

CareEdge Ratings said in a report that the recent surge in crude oil prices is primarily due to supply reduction announcements from key players such as Russia and Saudi Arabia.

Nevertheless, sluggish global consumption demand is expected to counteract this supply-demand gap starting from 2024.

Retail prices are unlikely to increase as there would be pressure on oil marketing companies (OMCs) not to hike retail petrol/ diesel prices. Thus, there would be no impact on inflation.

The impact on fiscal balance is also expected to be minimal as OMCs will take most of the burden of higher fuel prices.

The full-year current account deficit (CAD) will likely increase by 20 basis points (bps) to 1.8 per cent of GDP if the Indian crude basket averages USD 90 per barrel for the remainder of the fiscal year, the report said.

Setback for Torrent as NCLT rejects its plea in the Reliance Capital resolution matter



AGENCIES
MUMBAI, 13 SEPTEMBER

In a setback for Torrent Investment, the NCLT's Mumbai bench has rejected its plea seeking a stay on the ongoing resolution process of Reliance Capital.

The NCLT will now hear the Reliance Capital resolution plan approval application of the administrator on September 26.

In its plea, Torrent Investment had sought NCLT's directions to keep the Reliance Capital resolution plan

approval in abeyance till the final orders are passed by the Supreme Court.

Torrent had also asked the NCLT to direct IIHL - the successful resolution applicant, the administrator, and the COC to not undertake any further actions in respect of the conclusion of the resolution process of the Reliance Capital. Notably, Torrent's application that had challenged the second round of auction for the sale of Reliance Capital assets is pending before the SC, but the apex court refused to grant any stay

on the resolution process proceedings before the NCLT.

The counsel for the COC informed the court that due to the pendency of the resolution plan, the lenders of Reliance Capital are incurring a loss of Rs 42 crore per week.

While rejecting Torrent's plea, the NCLT stated that there is no stay from the Supreme Court on the proceedings before the tribunal. The court also said that Torrent did not participate in the second round of auction.

In June, the COC had approved the IIHL's Rs 9,800 crore resolution plan with 99.6 per cent votes. Post that, the Administrator had filed the final plan before the NCLT for approval.

Torrent challenged the COC's approval on the plan and tried to seek stay on the resolution process from the Supreme Court, but it refused to grant any stay on its application.

RBI directs banks to return property documents within 30 days of loan repayment

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Once the borrower has made the full payment towards a loan, lenders shall release all the original movable/immovable property documents and remove charges registered with any registry within a period of 30 days, Reserve Bank of India said on Wednesday.

In a breather to the borrowers, RBI said for delays attributable to the REs, beyond 30 days, they will compensate borrowers at a rate of Rs 5,000 per day for each day of delay. Lenders will have to communicate to the borrower the reasons for such delay.

RBI further in its circular has said in case of loss/damage to original movable/immovable property documents, either in



part or in full, the REs shall assist the borrower in obtaining duplicate/certified copies of the movable/immovable property documents and shall bear the associated costs, in addition to paying compensation.

However, in such cases, an additional time of 30 days will be available to the REs to complete this procedure and the delayed period penalty will be calculated thereafter (i.e., after a total period of 60 days).

These directions will be applicable to all cases where the release of original movable/immovable property documents falls due on or after December 1, 2023. These directions were being issued to address the issues faced by the borrowers and promote responsible lending conduct among the REs, the RBI said.

RBI now also provides the borrower an option of collecting the original movable/immovable property

documents either from the banking outlet/branch where the loan account was serviced or any other office of the RE where the documents are available, as per her/his preference.

The timeline and place of return of original movable/immovable property documents will be mentioned in the loan sanction letters issued on or after the effective date.

In case of contingent event of demise of the sole borrower or joint borrowers, the REs shall have a well laid out procedure for return of original movable/immovable property documents to the legal heirs.

Such procedure shall be displayed on the website of the REs along with other similar policies and procedures for customer information, RBI highlighted.

No need to make six airbags mandatory for cars, says Gadkari

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Minister for Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday said his Ministry doesn't want to make six airbags mandatory for cars.

"Now people are cautious and whatever the economic model they have six airbags, people will prefer to take that car. Everyone is making it, there is no need to make it mandatory," he said in response to a question regarding the proposal mandating six airbags in cars from October 1, at the 63rd ACMA (Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India) Annual Session here.

"Those (carmakers) who don't want to do it are facing problems in their selling. If they want to make a good competition they have to make six airbags. We don't want to make it mandatory."



In response to a question on road accidents, the Minister said: "Every year we have five lakh accidents and 1.50 lakh accident related deaths.

Sixty per cent of the deaths are related to the young population of our country from the age group of 18 to 34. It's very unfortunate. We have taken

all preventive measures as far as road engineering and automobile engineering is concerned."

"We have passed the road

safety law. In the future we will take the accident victims immediately to the hospital. We are trying to develop hospitals near highways but education is important. The most important thing is human behavior is a big problem. We are trying our level best to educate the people," Gadkari said. On automobile sector, the Minister said: "The growth is really a pride for India. Total size of the automobile industry is Rs 12.50 lakh crore. Only one thing which I feel that is a challenge for the industry is that import is Rs 1.63 lakh crore. We need to reduce this import and use the best technology and make the product of international standard that used to be challenged with the industry."

"The size of the automobile industry when I took charge as the minister was Rs 4.50 lakh crore and today it is Rs 12.50 lakh crore," he added.

'Tesla aims to source automobile parts worth up to \$1.9 bn from India this year'



AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Electric vehicle major Tesla Inc plans to source auto-

mobile parts worth up to \$1.9 billion this year from India, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said on Wednesday.

The imports will be around double as compared to auto parts worth \$1 billion imported by Tesla from India last year, Goyal said while addressing the annual convention of Automotive Component Manufacturers Association (ACMA).

He said that last year, Tesla had already bought \$1 billion worth of components from India and this year their target is \$1.7-\$1.9 billion.

The minister said he was convinced that electric vehicles are the future, which "we must try to attract".

Goyal's statement comes two months after reports said that the Elon Musk-led company has held talks with the government, and is exploring the possibility of bringing its auto parts and electronics chain to India.

NCLAT orders termination of CIRP against Coffee Day Global



AGENCIES
CHENNAI, 13 SEPTEMBER

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Wednesday ordered termination of the Corporate

NCLAT, Chennai on 13th September 2023 passed an order terminating CIRP Proceedings against CDGL and set aside NCLT order."

The NCLT on 20.7.2023 ordered admission and initiation of CIRP against CDGL for its debt of Rs 94 crore.

The CDGL had appealed to NCLAT against the NCLT's order and the former had stayed the CIRP on 11.8.2023.

The lender IndusInd Bank had assigned the loan given to CDGL to an asset reconstruction company and had filed a joint memorandum with NCLAT to set aside the NCLT's 20.7.2023 order.

CDGL runs the Café Coffee Day chain of outlets.

Blue Dart Express rebrands its service 'Dart Plus' as 'Bharat Dart'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

Amid the India vs Bharat row, logistics firm Blue Dart has rebranded its premium service in India from Dart Plus to Bharat Plus, it notified in a BSE filing on Wednesday.

It said the move underlines its "unwavering commitment to serve the diverse needs of Bharat".

"Bharat Dart is poised to refine express logistics services in Bharat, offering unmatched speed, coverage, and business of all sizes," the logistics firm said.

Blue Dart stated in the release that the decision to rebrand this service stems from an extensive discovery and research process aimed at aligning itself to the evolving needs of its customers. "Blue Dart Express Lim-



ited invites all stakeholders to join on this transformative journey as the company continues to connect

Bharat to the world and the world to Bharat," Blue Dart said.

Last month, Blue Dart in

its Q1 results reported a drop in profit for the third quarter in a row.

The Deutsche Post-con-

trolled company posted a consolidated net profit of 621.8 million rupees (\$7.6 million) in the quarter ended June 30, down 48.4% from a year ago.

It is to be noted that the India vs Bharat row started after a dinner invitation from President Droupadi Murmu to foreign leaders attending the G20 summit which was addressed in the name of "President of Bharat".

Even at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address at the 18th G20 Leaders' Summit also, the country's nameplate read Bharat instead of the traditional India.

If reports are to be believed, the government could introduce a bill in the special session of the Parliament commencing on September 18 to rename India as Bharat.





Govt is building DPI to skill young Indians for jobs of the future.

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND IT



TENDER

HIMACHAL PRADESH
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The **Executive Engineer Electrical Division No-II, HPPWD, US Club, Shimla-1** on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on percentage rate, in electronic tendering system in **two cover system**, for the works as mentioned below from the eligible and approved contractors / firms registered with HPPWD (Electrical) department in appropriate class. The bidder shall have to fulfil the criteria as specified in **Technical Qualification Criteria (TQC) in Form 8 at page No. 17-18 and page No. 147 & 148 of GCC** available online in tender document.

S. No.	Name of work.	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time	Cost of Form
1	Providing replacement of old, obsolete electronic gazettes / safety devices for lifts installed in special ward of MGMSC Khaneri Tehsil Rampur District Shimla. (H.P.)	Rs.17,81,800/-	Rs.35,700/-	6 Months	Rs.500/- NR
2	Modernization of passenger lift at Block-A OTIS make at nursing and girls hostel at IGMSC Shimla. (H.P.)	Rs.17,34,600/-	Rs.34,700/-	6 Months	Rs.500/- NR
3	Preventive maintenance of 11 KV Grid Sub-station consisting of 2 Nos. 2500 KVA 11 KV Distribution Transformers along with remote OLTC and HT Panel at AIMSS Chamiana Shimla-12. (H.P.)	Rs.5,08,494/-	Rs.10,200/-	One year	Rs.350/- NR

2. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

3. **Key Dates:**

1.	Date of Online Publication	13.09.2023	17:00 HRS
2.	Document Download Start and End Date	13.09.2023	17:30 HRS up to 22.09.2023 17:00 HRS
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	13.08.2023	17:30 HRS up to 22.09.2023 17:00 HRS
4.	Date of Technical bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid.	23.09.2023	11:30 HRS

4. **Tender details:** Tenders for the works shall be uploaded online and tender documents shall be uploaded in **2 Cover**. **Cover 1:** shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents / Eligibility Information." **Cover 2:** shall contain " BOQ / Financial Bid" where contractor will quote percentage rate."

5. **Submission of original documents:** The bidders are required to upload the scanned copy of original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) upload scanned copy of bid Security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical Documents as mentioned in the tender documents and GCC page No. 147 & 148 on e-tender portal as specified in Key dates under Sr. No. 3. The successful bidder shall have to submit the original documents physically with the concerned authority before letter of award of work. In case any uploaded scanned copy of any documents is found to be false / forged at any stage, the bidder shall be debarred for tendering in HPPWD in future as per his affidavit / undertaking submitted alongwith his bid.

6. **Bid opening details:** The bids shall be opened on **23.09.2023 at 11:30 Hrs in the office Executive Engineer Electrical Division No-II, US Club, HPPWD Shimla-1** by the authorised officer.

7. If it happens to be holiday on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue and no separate notice will be given in this regard.

8. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than **120 days** after the deadline date for bid submission.

9. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer-inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

10. The competent authority on behalf of Governor of H.P reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason.

11. Registration with HP Sales Tax is essential. If the bidder has not registered and found to be the lowest bidder he is supposed to register him on award of work. He shall submit the sales tax paper to the employer, before any payment is made to him.

Executive Engineer,
Electrical Division No-II
HPPWD, US Club, Shimla-1

2658/2023-2024 'Him Suchna Avam Jan Sampark'

Prez praises India's adoption of new tech

The President virtually launches the Ayushman Bhav campaign from Gandhinagar Raj Bhavan

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 13 SEPTEMBER

President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday said India is moving forward with great enthusiasm in adopting new technology and working methods in many fields, including health sector.

The President said this in her address after virtually launching the Ayushman Bhav campaign from Raj Bhavan in Gujarat, in presence of Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Mansukh Mandaviya and other dignitaries.



Citing that Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) was launched in September

2021, she expressed confidence that India would set the example of digital inclusion

in the field of healthcare services also like other sectors. Talking about the Ayush-

man Bhav campaign, the President said, "It would make our country successful in achieving the objective of Universal Health Coverage (UHC)."

"If every person and every family stays healthy, then the resolve to build a healthy India would be fulfilled. A multi-ministerial approach has been adopted to achieve this goal. Everyone's cooperation would be helpful in achieving such big goals," Murmu said.

Speaking on the occasion Mandaviya said, "Ayushman Bhav will emerge as a big initiative in the field of health-

care. With this campaign, India is going to write a new chapter in making healthcare affordable and accessible."

The Ayushman Bhav campaign is a comprehensive nationwide healthcare initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that aims to provide saturation coverage of healthcare services, reaching every village and town in the country.

This campaign will be implemented during the 'Seva Pakhwada' from September 17 (coinciding with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday) to October 2."

12 passengers killed, 10 hurt in bus-truck collision near Bharatpur

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, 13 SEPTEMBER

Twelve passengers were killed and ten others injured today when a trailer rammed into a stationary private bus on Jaipur-Agra Highway near Hantra in Bharatpur District.

The deceased, hailing from Bhavnagar in Gujarat, included seven women, and five men, the SP, Bharatpur, Mridul Kachawa, told The Statesman

when contacted.

The passengers on the ill-fated bus were going from Bhavnagar in Gujarat to Mathura-Vrindavan in Uttar Pradesh via Ajmer and Pushkar.

The injured were admitted to a nearby hospital.

The deceased were identified as Antu Bhai, Nandram, Lallu Bhai, Bharat Bhai, Lalji, and seven women: Ambaven, Kumben, Ramuben, Mad-

huben, Anjuben, and Kalloben.

All of them belonged to Bhavnagar district of Gujarat. A group of 57 pilgrims left Bhavnagar on the bus four days ago.

In the early hours on Wednesday, the bus' diesel pipe burst and it was parked near a bridge under Lakanpur police station in Bharatpur district.

Most of the deceased were sleeping or sitting on bed sheets

when a speeding trailer truck rammed their bus and knocked over a few of them, the Station House Officer of Lakanpur, Ramavatar Bairwa, said.

The bodies were sent to Gujarat by ambulances and the driver of the trailer was found hiding in a roadside hotel. The heavy vehicle was loaded with iron roads, and the driver did not realise that the bus was stationary on a slope, the police suspect.

Spreading positivity: Trans football team provides healing touch to traumatised Manipur kids

TRIDIB BAPARNASH
GUWAHATI, 13 SEPTEMBER

It has been four months since the ethnic violence broke out in Manipur on May 3, leaving at least 174 people dead and over 67,000 displaced, and roughly 40 per cent of those are young children, some forced to flee alone and most with their entire families. While the situation refuses to normalize anytime soon, the scars of the clashes still haunt the mental well-being of the young ones.

Sensing the profound effect of the crisis on the state's children, many organizations have come forward with initiatives to divert their attention. One such is a football club named 'Ya_All', meaning 'You All' in English and 'Revolution' in Manipuri, and 'Inclusive Revolution' when combined. What makes the organization even more special is that it is India's first all-trans football club.

Founded by Sadam Hanjabam in 2020, Ya_All is recognised by the United Nations as the first registered LGBTQI+ youth-led and focused organisation based in the North East, and works in the areas of health, well-being, gender inequalities, providing comprehensive sex education and spreading awareness through

sports.

In May this year, when the violence first broke out, the organization set up a mission of distributing relief materials to over 100 camps across far-flung areas, and during those visits, they were touched by the plight of the children in the relief camps. Thereafter, the organization shifted its focus to mend the mental wellness of the kids stuck in the middle of the crisis with their initiative, "Football for Heal, Football for Peace."

"Initially, the members of the football team served as volunteers, carrying relief material to far-flung areas. During our visits to the relief camps, we noticed that there were many traumatised children and adolescents. So that was when we planned to start this mission of getting the kids to the football field," Hanjabam said.

Explaining the motive behind their initiative, Hanjabam said, "Sports can provide a great healing touch. We have been using football for inclusion but in addition to that, we have been using it to bond with the children and adolescents at the relief camps in Manipur. Our transgender football team has been taking the lead in using football for recovery from the trauma

of losing their parents, homes and friends in this crisis."

Pointing out the cloudy reality of their everyday lives beyond the Rainbow, Hanjabam said as queer and trans individuals, they battle for identity and against discrimination from the larger society each day and as such it is naturally ingrained in them to handle mental trauma.

"As trans individuals, we are used to the inner battle with identity and the outer fight against discrimination every day. While we have learnt to deal with it, these children aren't used to such challenges, and as such we wanted to extend our helping hand in bringing back the optimism in their lives," Hanjabam said while labeling the initiative as "Not just a game but a journey towards recovery."

So how did you approach, considering your team strength and the relief camps were spread across various districts of the state?

"We identified a group of five players from Ya_All travelling in turns to the relief camps in various districts, and the same group was also tasked to scout playgrounds near the camps. Due to the violence, most of the grounds were left neglected with over-

grown grass and weeds covering those. We would clear those to form a makeshift football turf, and hold football sessions as early as 5:30 am to 7 am before engaging with the children in conversation over breakfast that we provided," Hanjabam explained.

"The idea is to try and get over those horrible memories from their brains, and infuse a renewed sense of hope and positivity. So we would hardly discuss their tales of agony and their lives in the camps, but focus more on their dreams and motivate them to chase those by overcoming these challenges."

"The process continues for a couple of weeks until we realize that they can play independently before our team heads to the next camp," added Hanjabam.

It has been almost three months since Hanjabam and his team started the initiative and has covered more than 70 relief camps across four districts - Bishnupur, Kakching, Imphal East and Imphal West. But there is a long way to go.

With sudden curfews and conflicts often affecting their flow, Hanjabam maintained that Ya_All will continue in their endeavor to bring back normalcy in the state.

Dalit alleges being urinated upon in Bhopal

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BHOPAL, 13 SEPTEMBER

A Dalit Kotwar (watchman) of a village in Bhopal has alleged that some influential persons of the village who were trying to encroach upon government land thrashed him and urinated upon him when he went to the spot to stop them.

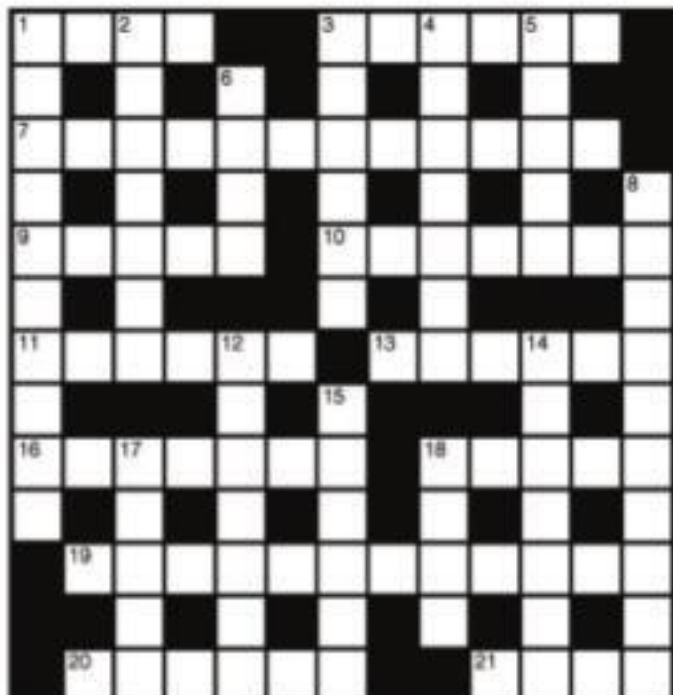
The police have registered an FIR upon the Kotwar's complaint and arrested five persons

in the matter, but the main accused, who is the husband of the village sarpanch, is still absconding.

According to information, the incident was reported from the Chopda Kalan village in Sukhi Sevaniya area of Bhopal. The victim dalit kotwar, Ramswaroop Ahirwar, lodged a police complaint against the village Sarpanch's husband Sheru Meena and his accomplices.

LEISURE

10 MINUTE CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**

 - Smell (4)
 - Husky (6)
 - Arranged carefully (5-7)
 - Beginning (5)
 - Playhouse (7)
 - Disinclined (6)
 - Short-sightedness (6)
 - Subdue (7)
 - Strong sweeping cut (5)
 - Restore to normal life (12)
 - Coldly determined (6)
 - Closed (4)
- DOWN**

 - Opposition (10)
 - Send forth (7)
 - Fireplace floor (6)
 - Type of school (7)
 - Perspire (5)
 - Accomplishment (4)
 - Alloofness (10)
 - Fill beyond capacity (7)
 - Egyptian ruler (7)
 - Hostility (6)
 - Ward off (5)
 - Omit (4)

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**

 - Tuvedo,
 - Baa,
 - Knuckle (Bar-nacle),
 - Sierra,
 - Alboard,
 - Song and dance,
- DOWN**

 - Bilbas,
 - Arrange,
 - Koala,
 - Unrained,
 - Krona,
 - Farache,
 - Unkrouth,
- 12 Oregona,**
14 Taverna,
16 Renal,
17 Feast,
18 Raids,

By arrangement with The Independent
Figures in parentheses denote
the number of letters in the words required

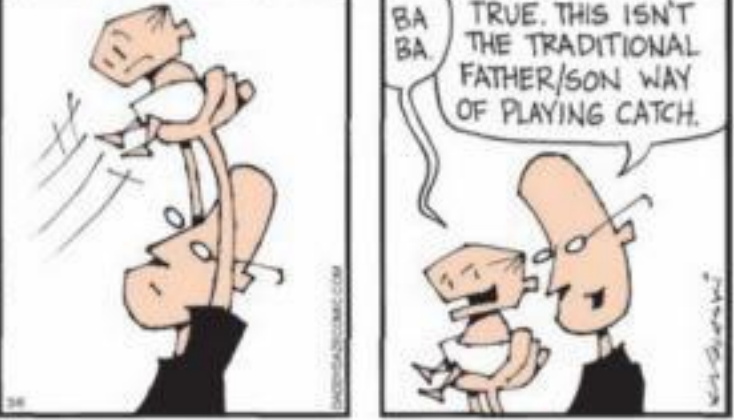
BEETLE BAILEY/Mort Walker



RED EYE/Bill Yates & Mel Casson



DADDY DAZE/John Kovalieski



NEED TO KNOW

- HOSPITALS**

 - AAIMS 26588500, 26588900
 - Moolchand Medcity (formerly Hospital) 42000000 & 24-hour Chemist Shop 42000447
 - Vidyasagar Institute for Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences 26924300, 26924304
 - Batra Hospital & Medical Research Centre 29051280, 29958747
 - Deen Dayal Upadhyay 25496320, 25494403
 - Guru Tegh Bahadur
- 22586262, 22585007

RAILWAY INQUIRY

 - General Inquiry 139
 - Toll Free Nos. 1800112511
 - SMS Inquiry Nos. 57886, 54959, 5676747

ROADWAYS INQUIRY

 - ISBT (General Inquiry): 23868836, 23865181
 - Haryana Roadways 23861262
 - Himachal Roadways 23717473, 23325320

- Punjab Roadways 23867842, 23860626
 - Rajasthan Roadways 23864470
 - U.P. Roadways 23868709
- FLIGHT INQUIRY**
- AIR INDIA Flight Inquiry and Reservation 18001801407
 - INDIGO AIRLINES New Delhi City Office 43513185, Call Centre 09910383838, 18001803838, Reservation 43513186; Indigo Airlines Air-
 - port 011-25671580; Terminal I- 8 25671576, Palam Road 25671579, 18001803838
 - JET AIRWAYS Flight Inquiry and Reservation 39841111
 - EMIRATES Flight Inquiry and Reservation 33773377
 - Air Canada Flight Inquiry 25656421/25656431 Reservation 41528181
 - Air France Flight Inquiry and Reservation 23466262 (City) 25652294 (Airport)
 - Kuwait Airways Flight Inquiry and Reservation 23354373



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION BY JUDD
1. AC 68
2. AC 36
3. AC 11
4. AC 65
PAR SCORE 145-155
by JUDD
FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN
Scrabble is a registered trademark. All rights in the game are owned in the U.S.A. by Hasbro Inc. in Canada by Hasbro Canada Inc., and elsewhere by J.W. Spear & Sons Limited, a subsidiary of Mattel, Inc.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★

Answers to previous puzzle
1 5 6 7 3 2 9 6 4
6 3 9 1 8 4 5 2 7
4 2 7 6 5 9 8 3 1
2 1 4 3 8 3 7 5 6
7 3 5 2 6 4 1 9
9 6 5 4 7 1 2 3 8
5 8 1 2 6 7 3 4 2
3 9 6 2 4 5 1 7 8
7 4 2 3 1 8 9 5 5

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







आभार प्रधानमंत्री जी

बुलंद बुंदेलखंड बुलंद भविष्य

₹ 49 हजार करोड़
के बीना रिफाइनरी
पेट्रोकेमिकल कॉम्प्लेक्स
एवं
₹ 1800 करोड़
की औद्योगिक परियोजनाओं
का
शिलान्यास



नरेन्द्र मोदी
प्रधानमंत्री
के कर-कमलों द्वारा



14 सितम्बर, 2023 | प्रातः 11:00 बजे
बीना रिफाइनरी परिसर, हड़कल
सागर, मध्यप्रदेश

पेट्रोकेमिकल कॉम्प्लेक्स की मुख्य विशेषताएं

- प्रतिवर्ष 2,200 किलो टन विभिन्न प्रकार के पेट्रोकेमिकल्स का उत्पादन
- 1 लाख से अधिक लोगों को रोजगार के अवसर
- फाइबर, पेंट्स, प्लास्टिक, ऑटोमोटिव पार्ट्स जैसे उद्योगों में बढ़ोतरी
- प्रतिवर्ष लगभग ₹ 20,000 करोड़ की विदेशी मुद्रा की बचत

अन्य औद्योगिक परियोजनाओं के लाभ

- ₹ 1 लाख करोड़ का निवेश
- लगभग 2.36 लाख रोजगारों का सृजन
- नये आईटी पार्क्स, आईटी और आईटीईएस क्षेत्रों का तेज विकास
- वस्त्र, ऑटोमोबाइल, फार्मास्युटिकल्स इकाइयों के लिए नये अवसर



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JansamparkMP

सशस्त्र सेना झण्डा दिवस निधि
मध्यप्रदेश में दान दें



QR CODE

मध्यप्रदेश शासन

आवक्यन : स.प्र. माध्यम/2023

मध्यप्रदेश जनसम्पर्क द्वारा जारी



GILL CLIMBS TO SECOND SPOT

India opener Shubman Gill jumped to second position, among batsmen, in the latest ICC ODI Players' Rankings on the weight of his performances in the ongoing Asia Cup. India are yet to taste defeat in the Asia Cup and much of their success has to do with handsome contributions from batsmen, especially the top order comprising skipper Rohit Sharma, Gill and talisman Virat Kohli. Gill isn't the only Indian on the move up the rankings for batsmen, with Kohli rising two places to eighth and Rohit jumping two spots to ninth in the latest standings.

For more updates

www.thestatesman.com



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THUMBNAILS



'Harvest Gold Global Race 2023': Harvest Gold, one of the leading bread brands in India under the aegis of Grupo Bimbo, announced the launch of 'Harvest Gold Global Race 2023' on 24 September, at Cyber City Gurugram. The brand has on-boarded former badminton World champion Saina Nehwal as the 'Race Ambassador'.

WWE, UFC complete merger to form TKO Group Holdings: World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), the world's biggest sports entertainment company and the top mixed martial arts promotion (UFC) completed their merger to form a new entity named TKO Group Holdings. WWE announced the merger through their website. Endeavor Group Holdings owns the UFC. "Endeavor Group Holdings, Inc. ("Endeavor") and World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. (previously NYSE: WWE) ("WWE") today announced the close of their previously announced agreement and the launch of TKO Group Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: TKO) ("TKO"), said a statement by WWE.

Trusted my preparation, says KL on stunning int'l comeback

Rahul credited his preparation in last three to four months for the strong showing with bat & gloves

AGENCIES

COLOMBO, 13 SEPTEMBER

KL Rahul was initially not slated to be in India's playing eleven for their Asia Cup Super Four match against Pakistan, till a back spasm to Shreyas Iyer made him a last-minute addition.

It gave Rahul his first international game since March, and after undergoing surgery plus rehabilitation for a right thigh injury sustained in IPL 2023. In a rain-marred match which India won by 228 runs, Rahul struck an unbeaten 111, placing his shots well and attacking against spinners, followed by keeping wickets for the entire game.

Against Sri Lanka on Tuesday, Rahul made 39 off 44 balls before becoming one of Dunith Wellalage's five victims via a caught-and-bowled dismissal. He would then take a catch and effect a stumping as India won by 41 runs to end Sri Lanka's winning streak of 13 games.

Now reflecting on his stunning comeback to international cricket, Rahul credited his preparation in last three to four months for the strong showing with bat and



gloves, after initially not being in the frame to be in the eleven.

"I didn't get so much time to think about anything because it was so last moment. But I trusted my preparation in the last three or four months. I came to Sri Lanka thinking that I would start in the playing eleven, and that's how I was preparing for it. I was confident that I can still go there and do the job," he said in the

post-match press conference.

Asked about what he felt while batting, Rahul said, "When I played the first few balls, I was nervy and tried to figure out what are the shots I could play on this pitch and accordingly diffuse the pressure."

"It was different against Pakistan because the ground allowed us to play more shots and see what suits as per the

match. But in this match (against Sri Lanka), I am happy that the shots I chose to play till I got out were good." Rahul also revealed that he worked hard on his wicketkeeping at the NCA in Bengaluru, having been majorly donning the role since 2020. "Bahut saal ho gaya abhi (it's been many years now in wicketkeeping). I have been keeping for a while and since then Rishabh (Pant) was con-

cussed against Australia in 2019 (January 2020), so it's not something new. I have been told by the team management that this would be my role in the team.

"When I was at NCA, during my recovery, I worked on my keeping with the coaches there. Earlier, I was mostly batting, but this time, I did spend a lot of my time on keeping too. Hopefully I can do both the roles well."

In the last two matches, left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav has picked a fiver and four-wicket haul. Rahul was pleased to see Kuldeep perform brilliantly and be the standout bowler for the team.

"Kuldeep has bowled really well, especially in the last two matches. I am really enjoying keeping to him. I am really enjoying watching him bowling and I can see that he has developed a few new tricks in last year or so that are honestly giving some results to him, so much that I haven't been able to pick it under lights."

"We keep talking between the overs about the strategy to be adopted to get a batter out or how to keep a set batter away from the strike. His rhythm has also been good in the last two matches and it's all upto him on executing those strategies."

FIH withdraws Olympic hockey Qualifiers from Pak



AGENCIES

LAUSANNE, 13 SEPTEMBER

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) will soon announce a new host for one of the three Paris 2024 Olympic Qualifiers after withdrawing the hosting rights from Pakistan. The FIH was on Tuesday withdrew the men's Olympic qualifier from Pakistan because of issues related to the Pakistan Hockey Federation.

"FIH can confirm that it has informed the Pakistan Hockey Federation of its decision to withdraw the hosting of the Men's FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifier tournament - scheduled in January 2024 - from Pakistan. This is primarily due to the recent developments in the governance situation of the Federation. "A new host for this tournament will be announced shortly. The other qualifiers will be staged in

China and Spain as announced in July," the global hockey governing body said in a statement.

Pakistan was to host the men's Olympic qualifiers early next year along with China and Spain. The Olympic qualifiers could have been the first major international hockey event in Pakistan since the Champions Trophy in 2004.

The top 3 teams in each of the three FIH Hockey Olympic Qualification Tournaments will qualify for Paris 2024. They will join hosts France as well as the winners of each Continental Championship (African Hockey Road to Paris, Pan American Games, Asian Games, Euro-Hockey Championship and Oceania Cup).

Pakistan ranked 15 in the world, will need to secure victory in the Asian Games or await confirmation of their participation in qualifying matches held elsewhere.

Bring on the astrologer and be gung-ho

PULAKESH

MUKHOPADHYAY

KOLKATA, 13 SEPTEMBER

As more and more details emerge of how the All-India Football Federation goaded Igor Smitac into consulting, and eventually going by the advice of - an astrologer as the national team went through matches in international tournaments, you are left in no doubt that there indeed are times in life when lunatics seem to have taken the asylum over. Soothsayers and divination may be central to the game in parts of the world but India, you thought, was headed for a science - guided future aiming at the moon. And the Indian astrologer got paid too. Quite handsomely, in fact, if you take into account the brevity of his term of, well, office. Players being selected in terms of how



predictions made about them would influence the collective enterprise seems madness, plain and simple, with no one outside the small, usual circle of know - alls around the playing squad probably getting to know nothing of what bigwigs were up to. But that was how it was. Competence was no criterion; how the stars aligned in the instance of any specific player was. Kushal Das has

been spoken to again about the entire farcical affair and his answers to predictable questions from the media do not reflect either contrition or a faint hint at a let-by-gones-be-by-gones regret. Which probably implies Praful Patel's AIFF thought it was par for the course. How they explain it matters little; that they thought of it and went through with it would always be remembered as something astounding. The original story had been put on social media months ago and further details tumbled forth later on, the entire corpus of revelations adding up to a thought - provoking narrative, which could probably be much more than a chapter in Stimac's autobiography whenever he would find the time to write it. Stimac is said to have reacted sharply to sideswipes directed at him

but he was part of the show all right. The one-time Croatian World Cupper will some day have a good laugh about officials who professed an professional approach, got the Indian Super League off the ground and going and then happened upon astrology as a winning ploy. No wonder the Indian game plunges deeper and deeper as the federation set itself up for a take - over by people on a power trip, the about - to - be - defeated lot content with its takings and privileges. The stars may or may not have foretold the crash that was coming but they mightn't have had the right man for the job of prognostication. Posterity will poke fun at an entire bunch of self - important buffoons who ended up making fools of themselves. You can't do anything about it, can you?

Hong Kong Open: Lakshya Sen withdraws; Ashwini-Tanisha pair enters pre-quarterfinals



AGENCIES

KOWLOON, 13 SEPTEMBER

Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen withdrew from the Hong Kong Open Super 500 badminton tournament two hours before his men's singles opening round match, giving a walkover to his opponent Su Li Yang of Chinese Taipei, here on Wednesday. Lakshya, seeded eighth, was the highest-ranked Indian shuttler in men's singles in the tournament in the absence of World No.7 HS Prannoy.

After losing in the first round at the China Open, Lakshya was seen as the biggest bet for the title in the absence

of Prannoy, Kidambi Srikanth, and PV Sindhu. The trio will be part of the national camp for the Asian Games 2022.

After back-to-back ousters in the first round of the tournament, Lakshya is likely to lose his 8th position in the BWF World Rankings. He last won a tournament at the Canada Open Super 500 in July.

Meanwhile, the women's doubles duo of Ashwini Ponnapa and Tanisha Crasto (ranked 50th) advanced to pre-quarterfinals with a 21-19, 21-19 win over the world No. 21 Chinese Taipei pair of Lee Chia Hsin and Teng Chun Hsun.

In the mixed doubles, Ashwini, partnering B Sum-

meth Reddy, lost 16-21, 21-16, 18-21 to the Malaysian pair of Cheng Tang Jie and Toh Ee Wei in three games.

In men's doubles, Krishna Prasad Garaga and Vishnuvardhan Goud Panjala suffered a first-round exit after losing 14-21, 19-21 to Korean duo of Ko Sung Hyun and Shin Baek Cheol.

Priyanshu Rawat, World No.28, also suffered an early exit after going down 13-21, 14-21 to Kanta Tsuneyama of Japan.

In Women's singles, Aakarshi Kashyap lost to Yvonne Li 18-21, 10-21 in the opening round, while Malvika Bansod will face World No. 17 Zhang Yi Man of China.

Argentina romp to 3-0 win over Bolivia in 2026 FIFA WC qualifiers

AGENCIES

LA PAZ, 13 SEPTEMBER

Reigning champions Argentina kept intact their perfect start to South America's 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifiers with a 3-0 away victory over Bolivia here.

Playing without captain Lionel Messi, who was rested in the 3,600-meter altitude of La Paz, the Albiceleste took the lead in 31st minute through Enzo Fernandez on Tuesday, Xinhua reports.

The Chelsea midfielder timed his run to perfection to tap home at the near post after Angel Di Maria's dangerous run and cross. The hosts were reduced to 10 men shortly after when Roberto Fernandez was shown a second yellow card for a rough challenge on Cristian Romero.

Nicolas Tagliafico extended the advantage just before halftime with a looping header beyond the reach of goalkeeper Guillermo Viscarra after another Di Maria cross.

Afghanistan announces their World Cup squad: Afghanistan announced their 15-member squad for the ICC Men's World Cup scheduled in October in India. Pacer Naveen-ul-Haq, who last played a List A game in 2021, makes a comeback to the squad after two years gap while senior all-rounder Gulbadin Naib misses out despite a good showing in the ongoing Asia Cup.

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Prof. Manoj Kr. Jha, Member of Parliament
Mr. Mukund Padmanabhan
Mr. Ishan Joshi

Moderator :
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