

Deep depression moving towards Odisha-Andhra coast: IMD

BHUBANESWAR, OCT 9 /-/- The depression over the Bay of Bengal Tuesday intensified and moved towards Odisha-Andhra Pradesh coast before taking the shape of a cyclonic storm, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. The fear of a cyclonic storm thickened as the deep depression remained practically stationary and lay centered at about 560-km southeast of Gopalpur in Odisha and 510-km southeast of Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, it said. "It is very likely to move west-northwards for some time and then north-westwards and cross Odisha and adjoining north Andhra Pradesh coast between Gopalpur and Kalingapatnam around morning of October 11." Director of the Meteorological Centre in Bhubaneswar, H R Biswas, told PTI. He said the system is very likely to recurve north-eastwards, move towards Gangetic West Bengal across Odisha and weaken gradually. Under its influence, heavy rainfall is likely to lash some places in south coastal Odisha's Gajapati, Ganjam, Puri and Jagatsinghpur districts from

Wednesday. Apart from this, districts like Ganjam, Gajapati, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Khurda, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balasore are expected to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall from Wednesday and Thursday. The IMD also forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall for Kandhamal, Boudh and Dhenkanal district from October 11. Rainfall would be accompanied by squally wind speed reaching 40-50 kmph and gusting to 60 kmph is very likely to commence along and off Odisha coast from Tuesday night. The wind speed will gradually increase to 80-90 kmph and gusting to 100 kmph from Wednesday evening along and off south Odisha coast and 55-65 kmph gusting to 75 kmph along and off north Odisha coasts, the IMD bulletin said. As sea condition is likely to be rough to very rough over central and adjoining North Bay of Bengal in the next 24 hours and very rough to high on October 10 and 11, fishermen have been advised not to venture into sea along and off Odisha coast and central and North Bay of Bengal till October 12. In view of adverse weather conditions, the

Meteorological (MeT) centre advised hoisting of Distant Cautionary Signal No 1 at all ports of Odisha. The state government was also cautioned about possible floods in view of the heavy rainfall across the state. It also issued storm surge warning stating that storm surge of height of about 0.5 meter above astronomical tide is very likely inundate low lying areas of Ganjam, Khurda and Puri districts of Odisha and Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh during the time of landfall. Meanwhile, Relief Commissioner P.K Mohapatra informed that around 300 motor boats have been arranged to assist in rescue operation as there is likelihood of flood situation due to possibility of heavy rains till October 11. All the cyclone and flood shelters have also been kept in a state of preparedness, he said. (PTI)

ER staff honoured for safety in train operations



Harindra Rao, General Manager, Eastern Railway with the employees after honouring them with Safety Awards for their diligent work in maintaining safety in train operations, at headquarters on Tuesday. Suchitoo Kumar Das, additional general manager and Rahul Gautam, chief safety officer, Eastern Railway were also present—EOP/Photo

EOI CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA, OCT 9 /-/- Harindra Rao, general manager, Eastern Railway (ER) honoured six employees of with Safety Awards at the headquarters, Fairlie Place, on Tuesday for their alertness and prompt action, which averted possible untoward incident related to train operation.

Hammering on pandrol clip. They immediately caught the miscreants, found some 18/20 pandrol clips lying in their bag and thereafter handed them over to RPF. Their promptness and courage averted possible untoward incident.

K.K. Gorai, gateman, Ukhra, Asansol Division, while on duty at LC Gate no. 6/B/T on August 21 noticed smoke was coming out from a wagon of a goods train. He immediately informed the matter to station master/

Manish Kumar, Track Maintainer, Jasidih, Asansol Division while on duty on August 6 noticed that a huge quantity of rock and soil was sliding down over the up line between Ghorparan and Narganj stations following heavy rain. They immediately informed the matter to the concerned authority. Thereafter, speed restriction was imposed and accumulated soil and rock was removed. Their devotion, dedication to duty and promptness averted a possible untoward incident. Rameswar Chauhan, Senior Technician, Sealdah

State Notes

Two suspected rhino poachers killed in encounter

MORIGAUON, OCT 9 /-/- Two suspected rhino poachers were killed in an encounter with Special Task Force of police in central Assam's Morigaon district early on Tuesday, police said. A STF team went to Sitalamari char near Orang Wildlife Sanctuary in adjacent Darrang district based on specific info of rhino poachers taking shelter there, the sources said. As soon as the team reached Sitalamari char at about 1.20 am when the suspected rhino poachers fired at them forcing the STF team to return the fire, they said. In the exchange of fire two suspected rhino poachers were killed while the others fled under cover of darkness, they said, adding no police personnel was injured in the encounter. (PTI)

Odisha farmer commits suicide

JAJPUR, OCT 9 /-/- A farmer allegedly committed suicide on Monday in Odisha's Jajpur district with his family claiming that he was under stress due to debt burden, police said. Sisir Khata (38) was found hanging from a beam in his house at Digambarpur village under the jurisdiction of Dhamrasala police station. His family members took him to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival. Inspector in-Charge of Dhamrasala police station Umakanta Nayak said. Khata's family claimed that the farmer had taken loan from private money lenders for farming on a 4 acres of land but was unable to repay the money. (PTI)

Three security guards arrested as 'jailbreak' plan foiled

JAMSHEDPUR, OCT 9 /-/- Four persons, including three security guards deputed at Chaibasa divisional jail in West Singhbhum district were arrested allegedly for planning a jailbreak to free a hardcore Naxal, police said Monday. The Naxal has been languishing in the jail and the accused wanted him to flee the prison sometime during Durga Puja, a senior police officer said. The arrested security guards identified as Vijay Khisro, Channu Munda and Horal are all residents of Khunti district, are retired policemen. SP G. K. Prasad Kumar said. The fourth person arrested in this connection, Rama Pandey alias Ramashankar Pandey, a resident of Gua in West Singhbhum district, was the financier of the hardcore CPI (Maoists) leader Motilal Soren alias Sandeep and a trade union leader. Kumar said Sandeep was carrying a reward of Rs 25 lakh on his head. (PTI)

IDA, West Bengal bags first prize for celebrating Oral Hygiene Day



KOLKATA, OCT 9 /-/- Indian Dental Association (IDA) West Bengal, bags the first prize for celebrating Oral Hygiene Day on August 1 at Dr. R. Ahmed Dental College and Hospital in its own unique manner. The award was presented by Indian Society of Periodontology. Like every year, this year also IDA has organised "Oral Hygiene Day" to emphasize on the well being of oral care across the nation by holstering free dental camps on oral awareness. Dr. Raju Biswas

Syndicate Bank celebrates 93rd foundation day

KOLKATA, OCT 9 /-/- Syndicate Bank is celebrating its 93rd foundation day as a fortnight of activities from October 10 to October 25. During this period the bank and its employees, known for their faithful and friendly motto of service, will contact new and existing customers. Syndicate Bank is having a network of over 4000 branches and 4300 ATMs, spread across length and breadth of nation. With a clientele of over 56 million, the bank aspires to grow younger and stronger at 93. During the fortnight, celebrations will be combined with expansion of its business by garnering new clientele under both deposits and advances. MD and CEO, Mr. Pradyumn Mahapatra, reiterated Syndicate Bank's commitment to the nation, especially to the customers, youth and entrepreneurs, who are the backbone of Bank's business. (EOIC)

SER to run 6 pairs of superfast festival special trains between Santragachi, Chennai

KOLKATA, OCT 9 /-/- In order to clear heavy rush of passengers during ensuing festival season, South Eastern Railway has decided to run 6 pairs of Superfast Special Trains between Santragachi and Chennai during the period from October 12 to October 17, 02841 Santragachi-Chennai Special leaving Santragachi at 12.40 am every Friday will reach Chennai at 4.40 pm the next day. In the opposite direction, 02842 Chennai-Santragachi Special leaving Chennai at 6.20 pm every Saturday will arrive Santragachi at 11.30 pm the next day. The Special Train consisting of four AC 2-Tier, five AC 3-Tier and four Sleeper Coach classes will have stoppages at Kharagpur, Bhadrak, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Bhubaneswar, Khurda Road, Brahmapur, Vizianagaram, Duvvda, Rajahmundry, Vijayawada and Nellore between Santragachi and Chennai. (EOIC)

One AC 3-tier coach to be attached with Malda-Delhi Farakka Express

KOLKATA, OCT 9 /-/- To clear the rush of passengers, one AC 3-tier coach will be attached with 13413/13414 Malda-Delhi Farakka Express (via Sultanpur) leaving Malda w.e.f. October 11 and leaving Delhi w.e.f. October 13 and 13483/13484 Malda-Delhi Farakka Express (via Faizabad) leaving Malda w.e.f. October 10 and leaving Delhi w.e.f. October 12 on permanent basis. (EOIC)

Metro staff rescue lady from eve teasers

KOLKATA, OCT 9 /-/- Today around 4 pm a 24 year old lady commuter boarded at Esplanade Station for going to Mahanayak Uttam Kumar Station. A group of young men in their early twenties, started behaving indecently with her in the running train. The group of young men and the lady commuter got down at Mahanayak Uttam Kumar station and got involved in a scuffle after she protested against such misbehavior. On hearing the commotion, the on-duty Traffic Supervisor and lady RPF sub-inspector immediately rushed to the spot and rescued the lady. All of them were taken to the Station Superintendent's Office and the matter was referred to the Regent Park Police Station. The on-duty sub-inspector/Regent Park Police Station came to Mahanayak Uttam Kumar Station and the lady commuter along with the group of young men was handed over to him and they were taken to the Police Station. (EOIC)

Four lakh children vaccinated against Measles, Rubella: Meghalaya minister

SHILLONG, OCT 9 /-/- Nearly four lakh children in the age-group of 9 months to 15 years have been vaccinated against Measles and Rubella in Meghalaya, health minister A L He said Tuesday. The one-month vaccination programme, which was launched in the state on September 20, aims to cover 13 lakh children.

Territorial Army inseparable party of security set-up: Manipur CM

IMPHAL, OCT 9 /-/- Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh Tuesday said the Territorial Army (TA) act an inseparable part of the security set-up in the state. Speaking on the occasion of the 69th Territorial Army Day here he said the TA has become an interface between the local populace with the Army and the Assam Rifles personnel based in the state. Singh said the TA has brought the local populace "closer" to the Army and Assam Rifles units

deployed in the state. He said the Territorial Army has provided "impetus to gainful employment of the states youth" and the mindset of highly educated and well trained TA personnel are genuinely concerned in dealing with the problems of the state. The chief minister also congratulated the TA for its involvement in development of ecology by planting saplings in deforested areas. (PTI)

Man arrested for derogatory remarks against Mamata

AMBASSA, OCT 9 /-/- A man was arrested in Tripura's Dhalai district for allegedly making derogatory remarks against West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee in social media, a police officer said Tuesday. A West Bengal Police team arrested Tishu Sharma of Kulai area in Dhalai district on October 6 for the alleged derogatory remarks against Banerjee, Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Ambassa, Assish Das Gupta said. Sharma was produced before the court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) of Ambassa. The West Bengal Police sought his transit remand. However, the CJM rejected the request of the West Bengal Police as the arrested person was sick and ordered for his admission in a hospital. The CJM ordered that the accused be produced before it on Wednesday. A West Bengal Police team camping in Tripura said it will again appeal for the transit remand of Sharma in the court on Wednesday. (PTI)

Patna HC rejects bail plea of former minister Manju Verma

PATNA, OCT 9 /-/- The Patna High Court Tuesday dismissed an anticipatory bail plea filed by former Bihar minister Manju Verma who is facing arrest in an Arms Act case. Justice Sudhir Singh turned down the application of Verma, against whom an FIR was lodged in August at Cheria Barhampur police station of Begusarai district after the seizure of about 50 cartridges from her residence. The seizure was made during a raid conducted at Verma's Patna and Begusarai residences by the Central Bureau of Investigation in connection with the Muzaffarpur shelter home sex scandal.

Grass crafts women upbeat about online offer in Odisha villages

KENDRAPARA, OCT 9 /-/- With e-commerce portals evincing keen interest to market their products, the women grass craft makers of a cluster of villages in Kendrapara district are elated at the prospect of augmenting their income. General Manager of District Industries Centre, Santosh Mishra, said if the online marketing initiative of e-commerce companies materialises, it will definitely enhance the sale of grass craft products. Besides empowering the rural craftsmen by helping them earn better, the online platforms will help them by providing them a larger reach for their creations, he said. "Marketing of the product was a major hindrance that was encountered by us. All of us engaged in this craft are excited after online sale offers were received by us recently." A leading handicraft maker, Jagadevi, said with us for online sale of our products. The deal is almost finalised barring some technical formalities", he said. Several villages under Baro gram panchayat are known for the craft skills of their artisans, mostly women, who weave a wide variety of products with wild Golden Grass (Vetiver zizanioides), locally known as 'Kaicha Ghasa'.

Home maker S Mohapatra, who made a woman's group, said members of women Self-Help Groups who became self-reliant with a love for the grass craft, are now brimming with self-confidence after learning of the initiative of the e-commerce companies.

"For marketing, we used to travel extensively across the state by taking part in trade exhibitions. Our annual sale has hovered around Rs 20 lakh to Rs 25 lakhs in recent years. We are quite optimistic that the sale might make a quantum jump in the coming days, thanks to online marketing", she said. "My spouse is a farmer. We were living on the fringes with limited income accrued from farming activities. But the golden grass crafts have transformed our lives," 49-year-old Mohapatra said with a

tinge of pride. "My daughter is a trained graduate. She got her married to an employed man. My elder son is pursuing B-Tech course while younger son is a graduate student. We have a pucca house and decent savings to meet exigencies. All this could be possible after I tried my hand in grass craft weaving", she said.

Damyanti Parida (40) and Surama Baral (39), who became self-reliant through grass craft weaving, also echoed similar views. "This traditional craft has come down from generation to generation but everything used to be done in an amateur manner. In recent years, government agencies have provided fiscal incentives to the artisans and opened the doors for exposure of the products", officials of the District Industries Centre said. (PTI)