

Manushi Chhillar doesn't agree with beauty pageants' images of being only about glamour and looking pretty

LEISURE | P2



China's LAC push

China is set to build a rail link connecting Xinjiang province with Tibet, part of which will run near the Line of Actual Control

INTERNATIONAL | P10



MF inflow soars

Equity-oriented mutual funds hit a net inflow of ₹42,702 crore in July, making the highest-ever monthly tally in the segment

BUSINESS | P11



Ganne scripts history

Indian-American golfer Megha Ganne creates history by winning 2025 US Women's Amateur title at Bandon Dunes to stun the golfing world

SPORTS | P12

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BHUBANESWAR | TUESDAY | AUGUST 12, 2025

Oppn rally against EC; many detained

New Delhi, August 11: Delhi Police detained several senior Opposition MPs, including Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Privanka Gandhi Vadra, and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut, Monday morning as their protests against the revision of electoral rolls by Election Commission's (EC) in Bihar and alleged "vote chori" spilled onto the streets of central Delhi.

As Opposition MPs, wearing white caps with red cross on the words 'SIR' and 'vote chori', started walking from Parliament's Makar Dwar to the EC office while carrying placards and banners, they were stopped by the police, which had made elaborate arrangements to prevent them from proceeding forward by putting up barricades outside the PTI Building.

Many of the MPs sat on the road and raised slogans while some women MPs, including

saree-clad Mahua Moitra of TMC and the Congress' Sanjana Jatav and Jothimani, climbed the barricades. They were later whisked away by police in buses lined up along the road and taken to the Parliament Street Police Station. All the

MPs were later released. TMC's Moitra and Mitali Bag fainted during the protest and were helped by Rahul Gandhi.

"This fight is not political, but it is aimed at saving the Constitution. This fight is for 'one man, one vote' and we want a clean, pure voter list," Gandhi said as he was being taken away in a bus after being detained.

"They cannot talk as the truth is before the entire nation....," he said.

"This has not just happened in Bangalore, but in different constituencies across the country, and the Election Commission knows this. The EC knows that this data will explode.

What it is trying to control and hide, we will bring it out, and it will explode. The EC knows this," he said after his release.

Gandhi had Thursday cited data from 2024 Lok Sabha polls to claim that over 1 lakh votes were "stolen" in Mahadevapura Assembly segment in Karnataka through five types of manipulations.

The Opposition is already up in arms over SIR in Bihar and has been protesting in both Houses of Parliament against it, alleging that the EC's exercise is aimed at "disenfranchising voters" in the state ahead of the assembly elections due later this year.

Meanwhile, the EC described as "factually incorrect" the claims of "vote theft" made by the Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi during a protest march here. The apex poll body also issued a "factcheck" on the claims made by the opposition



UPPING THE ANTE: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, along with other members, attends to TMC MP Mitali Bag after she fell sick during a protest march by INDIA bloc MPs from Makar Dwar of Parliament to the Election Commission's office over the alleged 'poll fraud' issue in New Delhi, Monday

Govt 'no' to online sale of Mahaprasad

Bhubaneswar, August 11: The state government has rejected the proposal made by some organisations for sale of Puri Srimandir's 'Mahaprasad' on online platform, state Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan said here Monday.

Speaking to mediapersons here, Harichandan said some organisations recently request ed the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) to deliver 'Mahaprasad' and 'dry prasad' of the temple to devo tees through online platforms.

"Though it was a good idea to provide prasad to devotees worldwide, the government and SJTA rejected the proposal to preserve the sanctity of the holy offering," he said. "We have doubts about

whether the sanctity of 'Mahaprasad' can be maintained if it is transported and delivered in this manner," he said. Harichandan said that the

government does not support or promote any such initiative. "Neither do we have any

such proposal, nor will we promote anyone to sell Mahaprasad online," he asserted

Lok Sabha passes new Income Tax Bill

New Delhi: The new Income Tax Bill passed by Lok Sabha Monday, will allow individuals to claim TDS refunds even if they fail to file I-T return within due date. The Income Tax (NO.2) Bill, which from April 1, 2026, will replace the Income Tax Act, 1961, was introduced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and passed in Lok Sabha amid din without a debate. The Bill cuts down wordage and chapters by almost half and writes the clauses in simpler and easy to understand language. It does away with the confusing concepts of assessment year and previous year, replacing them with easier to understand 'tax year.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



month. We know 280 people

Bargarh minor girl dies of immolation

Bargarh/Gaisilet, August 11: A 13-year-old schoolgirl, who allegedly set herself on fire at Phiringimal under Padmapur sub-division in Bargarh district, succumbed to burn injuries at a hospital in Burla Monday, police said. The deceased was the daugh-

ter of a migrant labourer of Tendapadar in the sub-division. The girl's mother was staving at her paternal place along with her son and the deceased daughter. Her husband is working in Tamil Nadu, said sources. The girl went to the play-

ground and allegedly set herself ablaze by pouring petrol on her body around 7:40am Monday. Some villagers rescued her in a half-burnt condition and rushed her to Bargarh district headquarters hospital, and later to VIMSAR in Burla.

Though the exact reason behind the girl taking the extreme step is yet to be ascertained, a video clip of the spot has sent the chatters abuzz. In this clip, the girl could be seen speaking in Sambalpuri lan-



July 14: Female FM (Autonomous) College

August 2: Minor girl, allegedly set ablaze

August 6: An undergraduate female student's charred body found from her house at Pattamundai in Kendrapara August 11: Minor girl dies after alleged

guage and indicating about another girl - her uncle's daugh-Police launched an investiga

tion by detaining her maternal grandfather and a shopkeeper. The police are also interrogating her uncle's daughter. A plastic bottle, a match box and a pair of slippers were seized. Bolangir SP Abilash G, who

is in charge of Bargarh district, said, "The girl succumbed to burn injuries at VIMSAR. We are investigating the reasons behind the girl taking the extreme step." A three-member police team

has been formed to probe the incident, he said, adding that police are in possession of a

video relating to the girl. Northern Range IG Himan-

shu Lal said, "The girl was staying in a hostel of Sapalahar

Sevashram School in Paikamal. She was at her uncle's house since July 4 and was scheduled to return Monday. The girl was keeping unwell

for some time and was under treatment at Padampur hospital, a police officer said. Meanwhile, Congress lead-

ers demanded a compensation of ₹20 lakh to the girl's family. They also urged the government to bring back her migrant father and provide him a job in

Notably, this is the fourth such incident in the state in less than a month, that sparked outrage, with Opposition parties rushing teams to the spot for fact-finding.

Suicide remark by elderly man irks CM

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 11: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Monday expressed concern over the mindset of some people and urged an elderly man not to talk of "suicide", assuring him to remain patient until his grievances were

Majhi made the remarks while presiding over the 14th session of the Chief Minister's public grievance hearings here.

The Chief Minister became visibly upset when an elderly man, identified as Jagabandhu Panda, told him that he would 'prefer to die by suicide'' his grievances had remained unheard for a long time.

Annoyed at Panda's words. Majhi said, "If your grievances are genuine, they will certainly be addressed. I am there for you people. Please do not talk of 'suicide'. It is not a good word."

The CM heard Panda's grievances and assured him that the case would be genuinely consid-

Panda told the media that he has been with the Public Works department as a temporary worker since 1993 and earns ₹6,000 a month, and that he leads a miserable life as his wife is a paralytic and son differently-abled.

WARMING SEA WATERS

Swarm of jellyfish shuts French nuclear plant

Put stray dogs in shelters: SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: The Supreme Court Monday directed the Delhi-NCR authorities to remove all stray dogs from their localities and put them in shelters while saying the canines won't return to the streets.

Calling the incidents of stray dog bites "extremely grim", a bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan passed a slew of directions and warned of strict action against an individual or organisation in case of obstruction, which might also prompt the court to initiate contempt proceedings.

"If any individual or any organisation comes in the way of such force picking up stray dogs and rounding them up, and if it is reported to us, we shall proceed to take strict action against any such resistance which may be offered," the bench said.

The bench further remarked if the animal activists and "socalled lovers" would be able to bring back children who fell prey to rabies. "Will they put life back to those children? When situation demands, you



have to act," it noted

The top court was hearing a suo motu case initiated July 28 over stray dog bites leading to rabies in the national capital.

The top court said it is issu ing the directions only keeping the "larger public interest" in

"Infants and young children should not at any cost fall prev to such dog bites leading to rabies. The action should in spire confidence in the mind of people, young and old, that they can move around freely on roads without any fear of being bitten by a stray dog," it said suggesting against any sentiments in the exercise.

Pak's nuclear threat stock-in-trade: India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: India Monday said Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir's fresh nuclear threat against it reinforced the well-held doubts about the integrity of nuclear command and control in that country where the military is "hand-in-glove" with terrorist groups and that New Delhi will not give in to any nuclear blackmail.

Nuclear sabre-rattling is Pakistan's "stock-in-trade", the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in its firm response to Munir's reported remarks from the US soil, and asserted that India will continue to take all steps necessary to safeguard its national security.

It is also regrettable that these remarks were made from the soil of a "friendly third country", it said in an apparent

In an address to Pakistani diaspora in Florida's Tampa, Field Marshal Munir reportedly said that Pakistan could use its nuclear weapons to take down India and "half the world" in case his country faced an existential threat in a future war with India.

Munir also warned that Islamabad would destroy Indian infrastructure if they hit water flow to Pakistan. "We are a nuclear nation. If

we think we are going down, we'll take half the world down with us," media reports quoted him as saving. "We will wait for India to

build a dam, and when they do so, we will destroy it," he MEA spokesperson Rand-

hir Jaiswal said, "Nuclear sabre-rattling is Pakistan's stock-

message to Washington.

Paris, August 11: Four reactors at France's Gravelines nuclear power plant were shut down late Sunday due to a swarm of jellyfish in the cooling systems, operator Electricite de France (EDF) said Monday, likely due to rising water temperatures because of global

The plant in northern France is one of the largest in the country and cooled from a canal connected to the North Sea. Its six units produce 900 megawatts of power each, or 5.4 gigawatts in total.

The entire plant has now temporarily halted production as the other two units are offline for planned maintenance, EDF data showed.

The beaches around Gravelines, between the major cities



seen an increase in jellyfish coming ashore in recent years due to warming waters and the introduction of invasive species.

"Jellyfish breed faster when water is warmer, and because areas like the North Sea are becoming warmer, the reproductive window is getting wider and wider," said Derek Wright,

marine biology consultant with the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries.

"Jellyfish can also hitch rides on tanker ships, entering the ships' ballast tank in one port and often getting pumped out into waters halfway across the globe," he said.

An invasive species known

as the Asian Moon jellyfish, native to the Pacific Northwest, was first sighted in the North Sea in 2020.

The species, which prefers still water with high levels of animal plankton like ports and canals, has caused similar problems before in ports and at nuclear plants in China, Japan and India.

"Everyone talks about nu clear being clean but we don't think about the unintended consequences of heat pollution," Derek said.

EDF did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Reactors 2, 3, and 4 at Grave lines stopped automatically just before midnight when the filter drums of the pumping stations became packed with a "massive and unpredictable" swarm of jellyfish, and reactor 6 went offline several hours later, the EDF notice said.

The event did not affect the safety of the facilities, staff or the environment, it said.

The nuclear plant is also near beaches that have become hotspots for migrants attempting to cross into Britain. The invasive jellyfish are not considered a threat, as they do not have a poisonous sting.

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Mouni

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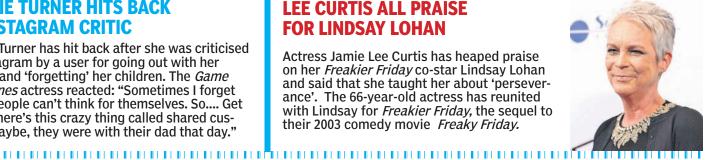


SOPHIE TURNER HITS BACK AT INSTAGRAM CRITIC

Sophie Turner has hit back after she was criticised on Instagram by a user for going out with her friends and 'forgetting' her children. The Game of Thrones actress reacted: "Sometimes I forget some people can't think for themselves. So.... Get this....There's this crazy thing called shared custody. Maybe, they were with their dad that day."

LEE CURTIS ALL PRAISE FOR LINDSAY LOHAN

Actress Jamie Lee Curtis has heaped praise on her Freakier Friday co-star Lindsay Lohan and said that she taught her about 'perseverance'. The 66-year-old actress has reunited with Lindsay for Freakier Friday, the sequel to their 2003 comedy movie Freaky Friday.





Friends, friends, and more friends — that's what the day will be all about. Life seems to be one big party, even if all vou're doing is having tea together! But reserve the evening for that one special

friend, suggests Ganesha. **TAURUS**

Prepare yourself to handle ordinary situations in an extraordinary way, foretells Ganesha. Today, you will get a lesson in how people work. Before arriving at any crucial decision, explore the pros and cons with a balanced mind, says Ganesha.

GEMINI

Today, you will be at com plete peace with yourself and your surroundings. So, it is rather unlikely that you will give in to provocations and lose your temper. Health of a family member may cause some anxiety, but more or less, you will remain unperturbed by the world.

CANCER

Your peers will be impressed 📝 by your professional effi-ciency today, forecasts Ganesha. You had better postpone auction bids or sealed tenders for some other day. You are likely to do well in interviews, says Ganesha.

It's an early thanksgiving for you today, says Ganesha, as you feel full of the spirit of joy and blessing. Academically, this might push you towards developing a penchant for subjects like philosophy and metaphysics. Culturally, this translates into a desire to learn and hone your creative skills. Make the best of this fruitful day and remember to thank God for the mercies and magnanimity bestowed upon you.

Ganesha warns that anger will run riot today. You will probably blow hotter than a volcano During the afternoon, you could draw out the plans for a big business project. You will gain the support of your colleagues. But Ganesha advises that during the evening try to do some meditation so that you can soothe those frayed nerves.

LIBRA

Think long and hard about all things past, present and fu-ture, says Ganesha, since there are chances that you may be in a pensive mood today. But do not be in a brooding frame of mind. You might have to manage balancing

SCORPIO

Once in a while, it's okay to enjoy the luxuries of life and pamper yourself. And if accompanied by your spouse, it adds a romantic touch to the entire experience. When it comes to work, people look up to you as an asset to the company. At times, even unknown people lend you a helping hand and contribute to your progress; appreciate them, says Ganeshji

SAGITTARIUS Success will knock your doors today and you may

be in the limelight. The experience will be full of emotions for you. Romantic developments on cards today, predicts Ganesha.

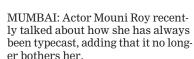
CAPRICORN

You will do a commendable job solving complicated prob-In keeping with the circumstances, you will be spontaneous in coming up with solutions to pressing issues; and so accurate you may be in your assumptions about a likely situation that in future, your peers and subordinates will blindly accept whatever proposal you table. A news from outside the country can double your joys.

AQUARIUS

Friends - the pillars of your life are going to be your constant companions for the day. Ganesha suggests you come out of your shell and tread new paths. Bring the vibrant side of your personality to the fore and see the difference you make in every one's life.

PISCES A conflict-ridden day awaits you. Avoid openly confronting people today, for petty issues could blow up into major disasters. Legal disputes may also hassle you. Meditative techniques will bring you peace of mind. Delay the start of important activities for a more opportune time, says Ganesha.



Speaking about the kinds of roles she is offered, Mouni said, "I have been typecast since the beginning of my career. When I did Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, people said the girl next door can't play a glam part. When I did a few reality shows, dance reality shows,

they said I was too glamorous. When I did Sati, they said I was too Indian. When I did Naagin, it was 'she can only do fantasy fiction or mythological shows. That's something I've always dealt with, and it doesn't really bother me. She added, "It doesn't matter

whether you call me glamorous, stylish, or anything else - like saying she's good for a certain kind of role. When I did Brahm stra or Bhootnii, they said she's

good for these... largerthan-life, but more outlandish roles.

She can play these parts well. As long as whether it's glam, outlandish, girl next door, dancing or – if you can

see that I'm putting in my hard work and 100%, and it resonates with the audience, that's my take away from it.'

CHENNAI: Shruti Haasan, who stars alongside Rajinikanth and Nagarjuna in the highly anticipated film Coolie, has opened up about her rewarding experience.

She credits the experience of working with industry icons Rajinikanth and Nagarjuna, under the direction of Lokesh Kanagaraj, as both professionally rewarding and personally enriching.

"Sharing screen space with such legends and beby Lokesh was learning experisaid. pushed "It

plore new performance." layer of emo-

to the film's

high-energy narrative, bringing inspiration and relatability to audiences while complementing the larger-thanlife action and drama.

Shruti's

rewarding

experience

With her portrayal, Shruti aims to make Preeti a character who lingers in the audience's minds long after the credits roll. "I don't think Preeti is like me at all," Shruti

admitted. "But I did connect with certain aspects of

her. I believe many women will relate to those parts, and that's what I really liked about the character. Preeti is extremely responsible, extremely focused, and quite inspiring," added the actress For Shruti, the role offered an opportun-

ity to portray a kind of quiet strength that is often overlooked but deeply impactful.

She believes Preeti represents women whose determination and sense of responsibility rarely make headlines, yet form the backbone of their personal

WORLD OF BEAUTY PAGEANTS

Manushi busts myth

MUMBAI: Actor and former Miss World Manushi Chhillar is a handful of films old in Hindi film industry and she has dabbled with both glamorous and non-glamorous roles so far. With her transition into

films, she joins the league of several actors like Sushmita Sen, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Priyanka Chopra Jonas and others

who were former beauty pageant winners and later entered films.

However,

Manushi doesn't agree with beauty geants images of being only about glamour

is that when people say that world of beauty pageant is of glamour, I do

and

pretty.

with It's that one night in $36\bar{5}$ days

when a girl is crowned, which

you see on stage." The actor, who won the 2017 Miss World pageant, says, "The whole year what you are doing is not a very glamorous job. I was working with a charity called Beauty With A Purpose and we were constantly traveling to the remotest areas of different parts of the

world and that's not a very glamorous job. So technically what I had to do as a Miss World was not just wear a crown, dress up and get photographed. Probably the media covers

that one night, which gets most spoken about."



Guru Dutt's letters reflect his longing for family the family. Even though he was

MUMBAI: One of the most accomplished filmmakers and actors in Hindi cinema, Guru Dutt had his share of turmoil in his personal life. Much like his films, his personal life was also full of ups and downs. In an exclusive interview with this agency on the occasion of the hundredth birth anniversary of Guru Dutt. the filmmaker and actor's granddaughters, Gouri and Karuna Dutt, spoke about his films, life, hobbies, and more.

While talking about the letters their grandfather, Guru Dutt, wrote to their grandmother, Geeta Dutt, Gouri said, "We've been very lucky — our dad preserved all the letters. In fact, they were



member one letter he addressed to his children, he drew a cartoon face when signing it.'

Adding to that, she said, "I remember something he wrote to his children, 'No work is big or small, but those who do not work are fools.

She continued "I think it was his way of saying that you have to work hard if you want to reach anywhere in life." Throwing more light on the letters, Karuna said, "Through his letters, you could

definitely sense his longing for

POST

a workaholic, there was a part of him that deeply missed them."

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me to ex-

facets of my

Preeti adds a

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Coolie,

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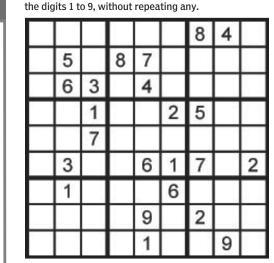
For the unversed, Guru Dutt was a veteran filmmaker and actor, who was mostly active during the 1940s and 1950s. He is known for iconic films like Pyaasa, Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam, Chaudhvin Ka Chand, Mr. & Mrs. 55, and many more.

He passed away at the young age of thirty-nine. His films gained cult status after his demise. Recently, to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of Guru Dutt, six of his filmsincluding Pyaasa, Baaz, and Chaudhvin Ka Chand—have been restored and screened in theatres

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains



SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

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

PEANUTS



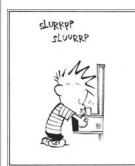
WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER DO, HIT A HOME RUN WITH THE BASES LOADED OR MARRY THE LITTLE RED-HAIRED GIRL?







CALVIN AND HOBBES

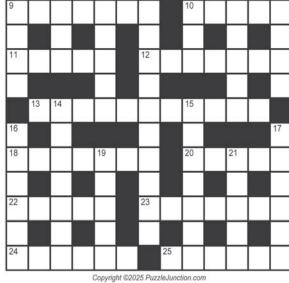






BREVITY





22 Andrea Bocelli,

Across 1 Avaricious

4 Newspaper VIP

9 Lanai, in Hawaii 10 Parting word

11 Takes a chance 12 Riot police

weapon (4-3) 13 Nannies

18 High theatre

walkway 20 Rival of Paris

for one 23 Cartoon, maybe

24 Desk item 25 Fights (3-3)

Down 1 Rule

2 Noblemen

5 Video store

3 Ming or Tang, e.g.

17 Tree branches 19 Eagle's nest 21 Damp

6 Gun part

8 Famous pirate

7 Defy

(7,4)

14 Lobster part

16 Edge tool for

cutting grass

15 Raw steak

dish

category

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

BHUBANESWAR: Newly-appointed Odisha State Commission for Women (OSCW) Chairperson Shovana Mohanty takes charge at the commission's office in Bhubaneswar, Monday. "I assure all the women of the state that we will take necessary steps to address all issues affecting them," Mohanty said.

owntown

CM resolves 88% grievances



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 11: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has resolved over 88 per cent of public grievances received during the last 13 sessions of grievance hearing in Bhubaneswar, official sources said Monday.

According to a statement from the Chief Minister's Office, Majhi received 12,252 grievances till the 13th round of the grievance redressal programme. "Of those, 10,807 (88.20 per cent) grievances have been resolved. The pending ones are under process for redressal," it said.

Accompanied by Deputy Chief Minister Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, seven ministers and senior officials, Majhi Monday conducted the 14th session of the Chief Minister's Public Grievance Hearing since assuming office in June last year.

Majhi, after reaching at the CM's Grievance Cell in Unit-II area here, directly walked to 40 differently-abled persons and those with serious ailments, and heard

their grievances first, it said. "The CM directed the secretaries of the departments concerned to redress all the grievances received during the day," the CMO statement said. The public grievance hearing is also held in other districts of the state.

ister Mukesh Mahaling, Housing and Urban Development Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Rural Development Minister Rabi Narayan Naik, S&ME, SSEPD and ST&SC Development Minister Nityananda Gond, Higher Education, Sports & Youth Services, OLL&C Minister Suryabanshi Suraj, Handloom, Textiles and Handicrafts Minister Pradeep Bal Samanta and Forest, Environment & Climate Change and Labour & ESI Minister Ganesh Ram Singhkhuntia were also present during the grievance hearing.

Snake rescued

A snake was rescued from the premises where Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi was hearing public grievances Monday morning, an official said.

The reptile was found in the waiting hall for the differently-abled people minutes before the CM's visit to the grievance cell, he added.

"The snake fell from the roof and took refuge underneath a

backpack," the official said. On spotting it inside the hall, panic spread among those present. "A one-foot yellowish snake was rescued," the official pointed

Around 2,000 people, including women, children and journalists, were present on the premises when the snake was rescued.

Hit & run: Now, injured woman dies

ARRESTED IN PURI

12 FAKE SERVITORS

Puri, August 11: Puri police Monday arrested 12 men for allegedly extorting money from devotees by impersonating ser-

vitors of Srimandir. The accused, aged between 20 and 51, were nabbed from Grand Road and Parikrama Road while duping devotees in servitor attire. Police said the gang had been operating for months, targeting pilgrims mainly from West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh.

Police have seized 14 mobile phones and Rs 20,000 cash from the fake servitors.

They have been booked under multiple Sections of the BNS, police said.

A speeding vehicle hit Rebati, her eight-year-old daughter and three-year-old son when they were crossing

> the busy NH-16 near Patrapada area in Bhubaneswar Saturday evening

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 11: A woman, who was seriously injured along with her minor daughter and son in a 'hit and run' case in Bhubaneswar, succumbed to her injuries Monday, police said.

The deceased was identified as Rebati Raul of Patrapada area here under Khandagiri police station



limits. A speeding vehicle hit Rebati, her eight-year-old daughter and three-year-old son when they were crossing the busy NH-16 near Patrapada area here Saturday evening, the police said.

Rebati's minor daughter Jagruti died on the spot while she was under treatment at AIIMS-Bhubaneswar here.

Expressing deep grief over the death of the mother-daughter duo, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has announced an ex gratia of Rs 4 lakh to the next

of kin of the deceased.

After Rebati's death, locals staged a protest and blocked the NH-16 for nearly two hours from 4:00pm near Patrapada Monday.

Due to the protest, hundreds of vehicles were stranded on both sides of the NH.

They demanded the immediate arrest of the driver of the vehicle which hit Rebati and her two children. "Though three days have passed since the accident, why the driver of the vehicle not been arrested yet?" asked a protester.

After getting assurance from police officers, the locals withdrew their road blockade.

Bhubaneswar DCP Jagmohan Meena said, "The vehicle has been seized from Jatni area. We have identified the accused driver, who is absconding. We will arrest him soon."

WORLD **ELEPHANT DAY TODAY**

Pachyderm landscape decimation behind human-elephant conflict

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, August 11: Relentless human activities like mining, agriculture, industrial development and urbanisation in Odisha's elephant landscape have severely disrupted traditional habitat corridors, leading to increased conflicts between humans and the gentle giants, experts said Monday on the eve of World Elephant Day.

According to the latest census, Odisha is home to 2,098 elephants. In 1979, there were 2,044 elephants, mostly confined to rich forested districts.

However, the state has now turned into a gruesome gravevard for the pachyderms. Between 2017 and November 2024, a staggering 634 elephants have died in the state due to reasons like deliberate electrocutions, train collisions and poaching. The 2024-25 period alone (until March 18, 2025) saw a record 94 elephant deaths—the highest in any year to date.

According to a study by the Asian Nature Conservation Foundation. Odisha's forest landscapes can sustainably support only 1,700 to 1,800 elephants. With the population now exceeding that limit, elephants are being pushed into farmlands, villages, and towns, sparking daily conflict.

Sangita Iyer, founder of Voices for Asian Elephants, said forests are vanishing at unprecedented rates. "In 2024 alone, India lost 29,000 hectares to roads, mining, dams, and defence projects," Iver said, adding that the result is a 36 per cent rise in elephant attacks



and displacement, both human and animal, in thousands.

Ancient migratory corridors, used by elephants for generations, have been blocked by rail lines, illegal mining and urban expansion. With food and water sources gone, elephants are now trampling crops, entering homes, and often getting killed in retaliation, Iyer pointed out.

"While development and resource use are necessary, they must never come at the cost of irreversible damage to the natural world. The path forward demands sustainable development, strict enforcement of wildlife protection laws, community education and unwavering political will, Iyer added.

Jitasatru Mohanty, a former senior forest officer and trustee of Save Elephant Foundation Trust, said in the past, people had a respect for elephants and even welcomed them during harvest. But now, anger and fear dominate.

"Human casualties and crop losses are rising, but compensation is slow or inadequate, deepening resentment among affected communities," he added.

"Elephants taught us coexistence. Now it's our turn to remember that lesson before it's too late," Mohanty pointed out.

Wildlife biologist and Bikash Saathi founder Biswajeet Panda, who in association with Orissa POST and Dharitri launched Odisha's first community interaction platform on elephant conservation - 'Hati Sabha', said elephants today face a host of challenges like habitat fragmentation, shrinking corridors, railway accidents and food scarcity.

"These threats, highlighted through SWOT analysis, require urgent and integrated solutions. Measures like rail fencing, trench revival, rock wall construction. bamboo plantations within reserves, early warning systems, and distribution of night torches to forest-edge communities can significantly reduce human-elephant conflict," Panda said.

He added that promoting alternative livelihoods can also go a long way to help reduce pressure on forest resources, fostering more sustainable coexistence. "Enhanced surveillance during migration and proactive efforts to prevent railway collisions are crucial. Ultimately, long-term elephant conservation depends on strong coordination between Forest department and local communities," Panda pointed out.

Sanjukta Basa, a local conservationist, has been advocating for ground-level interventions like restoration of corridors with tree and bamboo plantations, creation of water bodies, curbing illegal mining, avoidance of human activity during elephant migration, use of sound deterrents like tiger roars and fair as well as prompt compensation.

Noted environmentalist JK Panigrahi said, "On World Elephant Day, we honour their emotional lives and wisdom. "Odisha's forests are vital to their survival, yet habitat loss, conflict, and poaching threaten them. Urgent, united action is needed to protect these gentle giants and preserve India's rich elephant heritage," he said.

PCCF (Wildlife) Prem Kumar Jha said behavioural change is crucial. "We're guiding people on how to respond when elephants are nearby. This work will continue in a sustained manner, added Jha.

Suicide isn't solution to problem: Law min

Bhubaneswar, August 11: Law Minister Pritihiviraj Harichandan Monday appealed to distressed people to seek legal help instead of ending lives, saying suicide is not a solution to any problem.

Reacting over the alleged self-immolation death of a school girl at Gaisilata in

Bargarh district, Harichandan said, "The government has taken the incident seriously and steps are being taken in that regard. Such incidents have been happening for some time. Suicide is not a solution to any problem."

The Law Minister appealed to distressed people to seek legal help instead of ending their lives. "People are free to vent their grievances. The Chief Minister's doors are open to all. The government is taking steps to prevent such incidents," he said.

On Opposition parties, the Law Minister said, "Their job is to target the government by telling lies. We are not worried about it. We are worried about the loss of lives.'



8 - 17 AUGUST 2025

12.00 PM TO 9.00 PM

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Orissa POST

Dy CM Singh Deo reviews flagship energy schemes



Bhubaneswar, August 11: Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo conducted a comprehensive review of key Central government flagship schemes under the Energy department-PM Surya Ghar and PM-KUSUM-Monday. These initiatives play a vital role in Odisha's clean energy

During the meeting, Singh Deo reaffirmed the state's commitment to a sustainable and self-reliant energy future, highlighting innovation, inclusion, and the empowerment of households and farmers through renewable energy solutions.

Sharing scheme updates post-meeting, the Minister highlighted that under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana, a total of 1,28,336 applications have been received. Of these, 1,27,820 applications have been deemed

Deputy CM Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo stresses timely grievance redressal and vendor accountability, warning of deregistration for

technically feasible, and 33.6 MW of capacity has already been installed.

underperformance

In the PM-KUSUM scheme, a total capacity of 50 MW has been approved by the Odisha Electricity Regulatory Commission (OERC).

Deputy CM Singh Deo also underscored the importance of timely grievance redressal, particularly those raised through the Chief Minister's Grievance Cell. He instructed officials to regularly review the

performance of vendors, with poor-performing vendors facing deregistration.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Energy, Vishal Dev, FA-cum-Special Secretary Debidutta Tripathy, Additional Secretary Saidutta Biplab Keshari Pradhan, and senior representatives from OREDA, TP Central Odisha, and the Energy department. Officials presented strategic roadmaps and updates to further accelerate the implementation of these schemes.

These efforts are part of Odisha's broader energy vision that includes strengthening distribution infrastructure, promoting energy efficiency, and ensuring affordable and reliable power access across rural and urban areas.

Recently, Odisha has sub-

mitted a proposal to the Centre under the Power System Development Fund (PSDF) for a 500 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), underlining the state's commitment to grid innovation. Govt urged the Centre to provide proactive support for several critical initiatives. These include the sanction of ₹6,284 crore under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), central financial assistance for disaster-resilient power infrastructure, and approval for 800 MW power allocations from the NLC Talabira Phase II project.



TIRANGA RALLY: Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) organises 'Har Ghar Tiranga' programme in Old Town area of Bhubaneswar, Monday PIC- BIKASI

Non-student found dead in Utkal varsity

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 11: The body of a youth, not a Utkal University student, was found under mysterious circumstances near Fakir Mohan Chhatrabasa (hostel) inside the campus Monday, raising safety concerns among students.

The deceased has been identified as Biswa, who is suspected to have died after falling from

the roof of the hostel. According to reports, Saheed Nagar police reached the spot and sent the body to Capital



Hospital for autopsy. The po-

After the body of the non-student was recovered from the campus, ABVP alleged that the victim was a driver of BJD leader Chinmay Sahoo.

Bishwajit Patra, national executive member of ABVP has alleged that the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) is creating unrest in the campus. The deceased was the driver of BJD leader Chinmay Sahoo. Patra questioned how, despite being a non-student, he was staying in room number 94 of Fakir Mohan Hostel

Patra further alleged that the BJD has been selling hos tel rooms on campus and allowing non-students, including Ola and Uber drivers, as well as BJD student leaders' associates to use them as hideouts.

ABVP has demanded that details be revealed about how many other hostels have been taken over by the Congress, BJD, and other po litical parties.

We have tried to contact BJD over the allegations made by ABVP but no response was received regarding this matter

BIITM's SPARK 2025 for new I-MBA batch

Bhubaneswar: The Biju Patnaik Institute of Information Technology & Management Studies (BIITM), Bhubaneswar, inaugurated SPARK 2025, a three-day induction and orientation programme for its Integrated MBA (2025-30) began with student registration, ceremonial lamp lighting, and the BIITM Anthem, followed by a welcome address from Principal Mihir Ranjan Nayak, who highlighted the institute's vision to groom responsible and skilled business leaders. Guest of honour Lopa Mishra Jana, operations officer at AHRC-AI & HPC Research Center, IIT-Bhubaneswar, urged students to "create the future rather than predict it."

CLASSIFIED

I. Gitanaiali spouse of - Chudamani, Dist. -Bhadrak (Odisha).

My name is Dipankar Mandal, At - Kimbhiria Basti, Mundasahi, GGP Colony, Thana - Mancheswar, Dist. -Khorda has damaged by whiteant spite all **Educational Certificate** 10th, 12th, Diploma, B.Tech certificate and Marksheet. I want to apply for **Duplicate Certificates** and Marksheet from

EPFO hosts session on PM-VBRY in City

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 11: The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) recently held an interactive session on the "PM-Viksit Bharat Rojgar Yojana" (PM-VBRY), the Central Government's flagship employment-linked incentive scheme, at Hotel Swosti, Bhubaneswar,

The event aimed to guide employers and employees on how to avail the benefit of the scheme, promoting formal employment and economic growth, with a special focus on manufacturing sector.

Maushumi Lata Padhi, Regional PF Commissioner-II

of the Regional Office was the chief guest at the session and briefed about the Scheme, Alekh Ch Sahoo, Enforcement Officer elaborated the key features of the PM-VBRY scheme and urged all employers and employees to take full advantage of the scheme which is being positioned as a key pillar in the Prime Minister's mission for a Viksit Bharat. He also gave a detailed presentation on the

eligibility criteria, technical process and incentive structure under PM-VBRY.

Sahoo also informed that the scheme has already been implemented from August 1, 2025 and will continue until July 31, 2027. The first-time EPFO registered employees earning up to ₹1 lakh per month will get incentives up to ₹15,000/- in two installments through DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) mode using Aadhaar Bridge Payment System (ABPS) while employers will get up to ₹3000/- per month for each additional employment through their PAN linked Account.

For the manufacturing sector, the incentives will be extended for additional two years. He also stated that generation of Universal Account Number (UAN) through UMANG (Unified Mo bile Application for New-age Governance) mobile App has been made mandatory from 1st August, 2025 using Face Authentication Technology (FAT). However, EPFO has given some respite to adopt the new services till August 15.

Ravenshaw Collegiate School's Laddu Diwas



Cuttack, August 11: Ravenshaw Collegiate School, Cuttack, celebrated Laddu Diwas Monday with a series of cultural events and festivities.

The school recently inaugurated a smart classroom, generously funded by Dr Chandra Bhanu Satpathy, who also inaugurated the facility.

The celebration commenced

with students performing a solemn rendition dedicated to Laddu Diwas. The event featured a welcome song by students, a Laddu Diwas theme song by renowned singers, and an Odishi dance set to a prayer from Shree Guru Bhagwat. Pragati Panda, Head Mistress, felicitated Dr Satpathy who also delivered a discourse during the programme. The event concluded with the distribution of laddus to all students.

Laxmi Kanta Mohapatra, re tired Indian judge and former Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court, requested Dr Satpathy to become the patron of the Ravenshaw Collegiate School Old Boys Association and advise on further development plans for the school.

AFFIDAVIT

Army No. 15180995F Hav/ Pradip Kumar Mohanty resident of Vill - Chudamani, PO Bhadrak, State - Odisha, PIN - 756125 have changed my name from Gitanjali to Geetanjali Mohanty vide affdavit No. 71AA157533 dated 4th August 2025 before N.K. Das Notary,

LOST

respective board.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DA

Youth in Odisha driving local actions for change

RESHMI YADAV, OP

Bhubaneswar, August 11: Marking International Youth Day (August 12), which this year focuses on the theme "Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond," Odisha stands out with its own youth powernearly 34 per cent of its projected 46.95 million (4.70 crore) population in 2025 will be aged 15 to 34, according to an Asian Development Bank report. This aligns with India's position as the nation with the world's largest youth population, over 371 million aged 15-29, as per

The focus is on how young people-from Odisha's cities to its rural heartlands—are transforming local initiatives into impactful efforts to combat climate change, promote mental health, foster entrepreneurship, and advance social justice.

"You are not just the leaders of tomorrow—you are the changemakers of today,' said **Tr. Jitendra** Nath Pradhan, TGT (Social Science) at Krishna Vikash Tech-

no School, Brahmapur. He cited the lack of opportunities matching youth skills as a pressing challenge, alongside climate change, unemployment, mental health concerns, and unequal access to resources. "Education can empower young people with the problem-solving skills needed to tackle environmental issues. Schools should integrate sustainability into the curriculum, encourage ecoclubs, and promote 'learning by doing' through initiatives like composting, water conservation, and energy efficiency. he added.

Environmentalists underscored the urgency of addressing climate change and plastic pollution. "By 2050, our oceans could contain more plastic than fish," warned environmentalist Bapi Gochhayat. "Plastic pol-

lution is damaging our climate, wildlife, and health. While youth are stepping up, this must grow into a mass movement involving educators, civil society,

and communities. Large-scale tree plantations, mangrove conservation, and reducing plastic

use are essential," he said. Health experts highlighted the link between environmental degradation and youth well-being. "Stress is the biggest health challenge facing young people today," said Dr Dibya Singha, Senior Consul-

tant in Robotic Joint Replace ment & Sports Medicine at Utkal Hospital. "Pollution, fuelled by climate change. is aggravating



Students also voiced their concerns. "We have skills and dreams, but opportunities are limited and competition is intense. Climate change is not just a headline—it's something we are living through: heatwaves, floods, polluted air. Our it." said Monalisa Swain. a graduate student.

"Mental health strain is a major issue, as the gap between what youth aspire

to and what they can achieve of ten leads to stress and anxiety. Today's young Indians inherit both power and responsibility in shaping society. I believe in changes small enough to start now but big enough to matterlike reducing energy waste or using public transport. Youth voices can influence climate and policy more effectively when they move beyond protest to active participation in decision-making," Arpita Mohanty, 3rd-year LLB

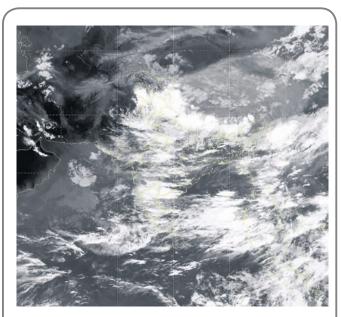
(Hons) student at University Law College, Utkal University.

This International Youth Day is not only a celebration of youthful energy but al-

so a call to action-empowering young leaders and supporting their local initiatives.

OUR





	WEATHI	ER			
	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST		
Max Temp	35.8°	35.8°	Partly cloudy sky		
Min Temp	25.4°	25.0°	with one or two spells of rain or		
Humidity	78%	81%	thundershower.		
Rainfall	2.0mm	Nil			

generation cannot ignore BOOKING

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488

ERTISEMENTS CONTACT

Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816 Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515. Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion-Jagmara-9938714347 Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point-9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.



BJD's Raighar bandh over nursing student's death affects normal life

Raighar/Bhubaneswar, August 11: Normal life was affected in Raighar block of Nabarangpur district Monday due to a 12-hour bandh called by the Opposition BJD to protest against the death of a nursing student after alleged harassment.

Shops, markets and transport services did not operate from 6am to 6pm, though emergency services continued. Holding party flags and banners, the BJD activists and leaders blocked roads near the Hanuman Mandir Square at Raighar and some other places in the area.

The BJD's 'hartal' (bandh) call was supported by various trade unions and business as-

The regional party has demanded Rs 1 crore compensation for the family of the second-year female nursing student, who died at AIIMS-Bhubaneswar Sunday, over three weeks after allegedly consuming pesticide, BJD leader Pradeep Majhi said. "She was allegedly stalked by a person, who later made intimate pictures of her and her boyfriend viral," Majhi, also a former MP, said.

Though the woman had lodged an FIR against the accused, the police did not take any action, he claimed

Her body was brought to Dumurimunda village under tight security, but family members had not cremated it till Monday evening demanding justice.

Woman murdered; daughter critical

Berhampur, August 11: Police here are investigating the murder of a woman who was found dead with her throat slit in Shree Maa Nagar under Nimakhandi police limits. Her 10-year-old daughter was critically injured in the attack.

The incident came to light after the house owner informed the police. After getting information, the police rushed to the spot and recovered the body of the woman in a pool of blood.

The victim was identified as 30-year-old Gayatri Swain. Her daughter, Nilam Swain, was taken to MKCG Medical College and Hospital before being shifted to AIIMS Bhubaneswar



for advanced treatment. Police recorded Nilam's statement at MKCG hospital, in which she reportedly identified the attacker as a relative who had visited their home that night.

The suspect is on the run and an intensive manhunt has been launched to nab him. Berhampur SP Saravana Vivek M, the

Sadar SDPO and the local station inspector probed the scene, assisted by a forensic team.

Gayatri's husband, Sadhu Charan Swain, works in Bhubaneswar. She lived in a rented house in Berhampur with her daughter Nilam, a Class VI student. They visited her brother in Hinjilikatu Saturday for Raksha Bandhan and returned Sunday evening. The attack occurred in the early hours of Monday.

CCTV footage shows a man leaving the house late Sunday night, walking to the end of the lane and fleeing on a motorcycle. Preliminary investigation suggests the suspect slit Gayatri's throat and, fearing

identification, struck Nilam on the neck with a sharp weapon before locking the house from outside and escaping.

Police have registered a murder case (243/25) based on a complaint by Gayatri's brother, Chitrasen.

Police suspected illicit affair might be the cause of the incident. The person who had a relationship with the deceased was absconding, the police said. "We are investigating from

different angles," said the SP. Investigators believe a businessman from Lochapada is the prime suspect. The motive will be determined once he is apprehended.

Nayagarh: A 36-year-old widow, Jayanti Behera, was allegedly murdered Sunday night in Bhapur, within the jurisdiction of the Bhapur beat house under Fatehgarh police station limits in Nayagarh district, after her throat was reportedly slit inside her home in front of her son and daughter. Acting on a complaint, Fatehgarh police arrested two suspects - Manoj Kumar Sahu, a cousin of the victim's late husband from Baideshwar police station area in Cuttack district, and Manoj's friend, Raja. A case (260/25) has been registered and an investigation is under way. Although there were rumours that the murder was linked to an extramarital affair, police

said no such allegation had been

formally made.

Widow slain in front

of children; 2 held

Concern over continuation of Women's Studies in BU



POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, August 11: Even as efforts are underway to improve the academic system at Berhampur University, concerns have grown over the future of its post graduation (PG) in Women's Studies.

No students have enrolled in the programme for the past two years. raising questions about its continuity. University officials are currently deliberating whether to discontinue the course or retain it.

The self-financing programme was launched in 2022 with an intake capacity of 24 students. It was designed to focus on gender awareness and women's empowerment, aiming to address issues such as gender discrimination and sexual harassment.

while also promoting social empowerment initiatives for women.

Experts say the programme remains relevant, especially at a time when gender sensitisation campaigns are being conducted in educational institutions and various government measures are underway to empower women.

However, they question why no review was carried out when enrolment of girl students began to drop. They believe the first step after the decline should have been to assess the reasons for the lack of interest among female students in taking up the course and identify measures to attract them.

With no such efforts made, the situation repeated itself this year. Not a single student has enrolled in the

Man held for harassing student on FM college campus

Balasore: Fakir Mohan (Autonomous) College here has again drawn public attention, raising concerns over campus safety. Just a

month after the self-immolation of a student over sexual harassment and inaction, another sensitive incident occurred Monday. Police

said a 25-year-old man allegedly entered the college's east campus and misbehaved with a female student, hurled obscene abuses

Giri, 25, of Badagambharia village under Badasahi police station area of Mayurbhanj district. He was produced in court, where his

abusing the students in vulgar language. He then allegedly threatened a specific female student. Town police are investigating

bail plea was rejected, and was remanded to judicial custody. According to police, Giri entered the east campus Monday and began

whether the accused had any prior acquaintance or relationship with her. Inspector-In-Charge Bijay Kumar Das said the probe will

and issued threats to her and other students present. The incident is suspected to be linked to one-sided romantic interest. Following

a written complaint at Town police station, officers registered a case (206/25) and arrested the accused, identified as Chandan Kumar

programme for 2025-26. Last year, only one student joined the course but later dropped out.

The university also offers facilities for research, with two women currently pursuing PhD degrees in gender studies. However, enrolment in some specialised courses has re-

For instance, the Linguistics department has only four students against 30 available seats. The MSc in Computer Science has seven students against the strength of 24 seats, the Electrical Science department has 18 students against 40 seats, and Home Science has 22 students against 50 available seats. Enrolment in the MBA in Tour and Travel Management, Sociology, and Public Administration programmes is also limited.

University authorities have yet to decide whether these programmes should continue or be discontinued. When contacted, Vice Chancellor Professor Geetanjali Dash said the courses will be reviewed before a final decision is taken.

The matter will be discussed at the upcoming syndicate meeting. However, she confirmed that the Women's Studies Research Centre

Dy CM announces ₹87.93cr package for Ranipur Jharial

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kantabanji, August 11: Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida Monday visited Ranipur Jharial, a unique and ancient Yogini shrine in Bolangir district. and announced a package of Rs 87.93 crore for its development.

Built in 9th or 10th century and located around 26 km from Kantabanii town. Ranipur Jharial is famous for its circular, open air temple dedicated to 64 Yo-

On her arrival, Parida was given a grand welcome by the temple trust committee. She offered prayers at the Someshwar Mahadev Temple, where chief priest Jagmohan Tripathy briefed her on the shrine's facilities, problems and challenges. Later, at a meeting organised by the block administration, officials presented a detailed project report (DPR).

The deputy chief minister announced the firstphase allocation of over Rs 87.93 crore for development works in the shrine. Temple trust convener

Anil Kumar Tripa-

thy and Kantabanii

MLA Laxman Bag expressed gratitude. ple trust chairman Manik Chand Jain, secretary Khirasindhu Bhoi, Manjes Meher, Jharial sarpanch Bharadwaj Gahir, samiti members

Raju Hati, Gopinath Sahu Rashmiranjan Putel, Nityananda Prusty, Rama Sahu, Jyoti Sahu, Nabaghan Bharasagria, Yubraj Bag and others attended the programme.

After the event, Parida proceeded toward Harish ankar shrine via Kantabanji and Turekela. At Tureke la, the BJP's block unit gave her a rousing welcome Sadar panchayat sarpanch Jalandhar Mahakhud and the sarpanch association also felicitated her.

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Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor(s)

ZONAL OFFICE: SAMBALPUR 2nd Floor, Shyam Arcade, Khetrajpur, Sambalpur-768003

APPENDIX-IV [Rule-8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Description of the

Notice is hereby given under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of Security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice calling upon the following borrower(s)/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) to repay the outstanding amount & interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The borrower(s)/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors and the public in general that the Authorised Officer has taken SYMBOLIC POSSESSION of the property of below mentioned account in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said rules. The borrower(s)/guarantor(s). mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Indian Bank for an amount mentioned herein below. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Śub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Amount outstand- Date of Demand/

ing as on the date

ı		of Demand Notice Notice			
		₹24,34,254/- as on 04.05.2025 + interest, costs & expenses thereon05.05.2025 / 07.08.2025All that piece and parcel of Land and recorded in the name of Mr. Ranjit Sit Late Inder Singh in Plot No.: 587, Kl 963, Corresponding to 2013 settlemenNo.: 1169 and Plot No.: 587, Corresponding to Sabik Khata No.: 535,			
	Singh, At: Shop No.: 12, Tiwari Complex, Vedvyam, Brahmanitarang, Rourkela-769004	123/1 with Area: Ac.0.05dec. at Mouza: Brahmanitarang, Tahasil: Lathikata, Dist.: Sundargarh, Bounded by- North: B.D.Sahoo, South: Road, East: Plot No.: 123(P), West: Plot No.: 124			
	NUAPADA BRANCH / Borrower & Mortgagor: Mr.Bidyadhar Punji, S/o- Debendra Punji, At/P.O.: Kodomeri, P.S.: Jonk, Dist : Nuapada, PIN-766104		07.05.2025 / 06.08.2025	All that piece & parcel of land & Building recorded in the name of Sri Bidyadhar Punji , S/o-Debendra Punji under Khata No.: 322/270, Plot No.: 1201/3013 Kissam: Gharahari Area: Ac 0.05dec. at	

Mouza: Kodomeri, P.S.: Jonk, Tahasil/Dist.: Nuapada. Bounded by- North: Indrabati Rout, South: Road, East: Debendra Punji West: Paduram Rout BARBIL BRANCH / ₹20,77,843/-29.04.2025 All that piece and parcel of Land and Building as on 28.04.2025 Borrower: M/s.Bijaya Laxmi Enterprises, recorded in the name of Mr. Ashok Kumar Prop.:Mr. Nakul Chandra Oram, At: Jhadgaon, Bhadrasahi, Barbil, Dist.: Keonjhar-758035 + interest, costs & Senapati, S/o- Anama Charan Senapati under 11.08.2025 Plot No.: 157/1177. Khata No.: 128/303 with Area Ac.0.05dec. at Mouza: Bhusugaon unit No.: 15, Thana/Tahasil: Barbil, Dist.: Keonjhar, Bounded by North: Plot No.: 157, South: Guarantor & Mortgagor: Mr. Ashok Kumar Senapati, S/o-Anama Charan Senapati, At Vill/P.O.: Serenda,P.S.: Barbil, Dist. Plot No.: 204, East: Abhimanyu Mishra, West: Plot No.: 157

Date: 11.08.2025, Place: Sambalpur

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Indian Bank

Female jumbo found dead in Mayurbhanj

elephant was recovered at Benu-adar jungle in Satkosia forest range under Karanjia forest division in Mayurbhanj district Monday. The actual reason behind the animal's death is yet to be ascertained. The pachyderm, aged within 15 to 20 years, is suspected to have died of illness before its treatment could be started, Forest officials said. The reason behind the animal death will be ascertained after a post-mortem of the carcass is conducted Tuesday, they said. As per sources, locals noticed that the animal was unable to move and standing at one place in Benuadar Sahi rural jungle in compartment no-19 near Bhaliadal panchayat and informed the Forest officials. On being informed, Forest officials and veterinarians led by ranger Rabindranath Mohanta started preparations to leave for the spot. However, they found the animal dead on their arrival at the spot.

Man, daughter killed in accident; wife critical

Barbil: A speeding truck rammed into a scooter and dragged it along NH-520 at Topadihi under Keonjhar district's Rugudi police station limits Monday evening, killing a man and his 2-year-old daughter and leaving his wife critically injured. The deceased were identified as Dilip Sinku and his daughter Yasmin of Loidapada in Rugudi police station area. The injured, Tulasi Sinku, is undergoing treatment. Police said the incident occurred around 7pm when Dilip was riding his scooter from Guali toward Loidapada with Tulasi and Yasmin. Near Topadihi Square, a truck struck the scooter from behind and dragged it, throwing all three onto the road. Dilip and Yasmin died on the spot. The truck driver fled with the vehicle after the accident. Rugudi police arrived at the spot, rescued Tulasi in critical condition, and admitted her to Barbil Community Health Centre. A manhunt is on to trace the driver and an inves-

tigation is under way.

Botched work, fund misuse alleged in Bari road repair



POST NEWS NETWORK

determine the exact motive and whether the act was driven by unrequited love.

Bari, August 11: Local residents have alleged substandard work in the repairing of Baruan-Bari-Kalamatia road under Panikoili Public Works Division in Jajpur district.

However, officials have reportedly failed to take note of the issue despite a series of public complaints. As a result, potholes have reappeared on the road within six months of repairing, leading to frequent accidents and thereby, loss of life and property.

Locals have been suffering due to the road's poor condition. It is alleged that officials violating government norms have split larger projects into smaller ones having work order of Rs 5 lakh to bypass the open tender system and assigned the work to preferred contractors through backdoor methods. The repair work of this stretch of road was executed before March under such a process.

Crucially, the work was not properly supervised by departmental engineers, allowing contractors to use sub-standard materials, locals alleged. Although residents have protested multiple times, no action has been taken. Even after media reports highlighted the matter, concerned officials have remained silent on the issue.

An official requesting anonymity also alleged that some officials are complicit in misappropriating public funds through these covert tender practices. The repair work has resumed again with reports suggesting new contracts may again be awarded under political pressure through similar secretive means.

When contacted, Junior Engineer Bhagaban Behera said he recently joined the office and will give his opinion after reviewing the papers and documents. Locals have demanded a high-level investigation

into the matter.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT BHUBANESWAR

TENDER NOTICE

Reserve Bank of India (hereinafter referred to as "the Bank"), Bhubaneswar invites application for e-tender in two parts (Technical & Financial Bid) from reputed and experienced Chemists/Stockist who fulfill the stipulated eligibility criteria supplying medicines for the dispensaries of Reserve Bank of India, Bhubaneswar.

For details of the tender, please visit "Tenders" section RBI website (https://www.rbi.org.in) contact or Resource Management Department, Human RBI, details. Bhubaneswar for further The last date submission portal tender **MSTC** of in (https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocn) till 02:00 pm on August 29, 2025.

Regional Director Reserve Bank of India Bhubaneswar



DELIGHT IS THE SECRET. LEARN OF PURE DELIGHT AND THOU SHALT LEARN OF GOD. SRI AUROBINDO



Conscious Capitalism

ompanies have long justified sustainability initiatives as a way to boost their reputation, comply with external and internal standards, or generate incremental profits. But the initiatives are rarely transformative, because markets disregard ecological limits and social goals, rewarding firms that burn through resources and often punishing those with regenerative models. No matter how compelling the business case, corporate sustainability strategies cannot escape their structural misalignment with the logic of our current economic system.

The problem runs deeper than many realize. In the absence of the narrative infrastructure needed to reshape economic logic, all the sophisticated sustainability standards and metrics we have developed the technical infrastructure – are insufficient. Our efforts remain hostage to the quarterly earnings dance, and companies that should be leaders on sustainability are instead cautionary tales.

Consider a hypothetical manufacturing company that designs products for complete circularity: every material input retains value indefinitely through continuous reuse. This would dramatically reduce the

company's material costs and insulate it from volatile commodity prices. But today's markets - which are accustomed to business models based on linear extraction – would see only the high upfront investment demands.

With investors favoring immediate returns over long-term value creation, and credit agencies struggling to price the benefits of resilience into ratings decisions, the circular manufacturer ends up starved of investment, while its resource-burning competitors have ample access to lower-cost capital. Rewarding companies for externalizing costs is economic insanity disguised as financial

That is why we must initiate a shift to what I call "aligned capitalism." In such a system, ecological impacts would be priced into markets, regulators would reward ecosystem restoration, and investors would compete on resilience. Financial statements would capture natural and social capital, while credit ratings would factor in equity and environmental preparedness.

In other words, sustainability would move from cost center to profit engine. Under this system, our hypothetical circular manufacturer would flourish. The resourceefficiency and supply-chain independence of such companies would deliver huge advantages. As materials become scarcer and more expensive, and trade becomes increasingly fractious, these companies would be able to build competitive moats that strengthen over time.

Of course, to change the economic logic, all stakeholders in the political economy – from board members to regulatory agencies, trade unions, local communities, and civil-society organizations – must do their part. But smart corporate leaders will not wait for others to act. They can demonstrate what good business looks like when systems align with environmental and social realities. The recent backlash against environmental, social, and governance (ESG) commitments makes this even more important.

The first and most important step is to construct the missing narrative infrastructure. Business leaders must engage in strategic, evidence-based storytelling that links corporate actions to broader realities, and build trust within and outside boardrooms by entering into dialogues with stakeholders that outlast political cycles. They should also invest in research that demonstrates the superior outcomes

Some companies are getting it right. The Brazilian cosmetics group Natura's partnerships with indigenous communities have improved business results and social outcomes. Interface, the global flooring manufacturer, has inspired other companies with its Mission Zero commitment, which resulted in a 74% reduction in its carpets' carbon footprint. Schneider Electric, an energy-management and digital-automation company, has made sustainability a central part of its business strategy, embedding it deeply into its operations. These companies' narratives helped create the economic logic that rewards their sustainability practices, setting the stage for regulatory and market shifts.

But corporate behavior is just one piece of the puzzle. To promote coordinated action, firms must adopt governance structures designed for advocacy, not just compliance, and then advocate for regulatory reform that entrenches environmental and social criteria in financial disclosures and decision-making. Regulators, for their part, must mandate the inclusion of comprehensive ecological-social disclosures in financial statements and set ambitious timelines for system re-

Investors also play a crucial role, especially because regulation follows, as much as it leads, market pressure. Investors must integrate resilience criteria into their mandates, develop new valuation methodologies, and compete on long-term value creation rather than quarterly profits. The smartest asset managers are already building these capabilities, recognizing that tomorrow's winners will be companies that thrive within ecological and social boundaries.

Lastly, business schools should teach ecological and social literacy. as well as how to shape future economic realities as part of their core curricula. Todav's MBA students will inherit an economy in transition – whether orderly or disorderly – and need the tools to lead that transformation, instead of just managing resources within existing constraints.

Under aligned capitalism, today's marginal business models can become profitable. Product-as-a-service companies could generate steady returns. With environmental benefits bringing cost advantages, carbon-negative manufacturers could scale rapidly. Firms focused on workforce development and community healthcare could earn direct payments for delivering positive social outcomes.

To create a system where sustainability is the natural winner, business leaders must first recognize that the current economic framework is fundamentally misaligned with ecological and social realities- the markets rarely reward transformative ESG initiatives, and that is unlikely to change. A better form of capitalism, under which the most regenerative and sustainable strategies are also the most profitable, is possible. But it will require executives to spur coordinated action among investors, regulators, and all of their stakeholders. When the dust settles, those who had the courage to act first will be the new market leaders

The Writer is Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship at London Business School. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

WISDOM CORNER

Science is not only a disciple of reason but, also, one of romance and passion.

STEPHEN HAWKING

Ioannis Ioannou

should teach

ecological and

social literacy,

as well as how

to shape future

realities as part

of their core

economic

curricula

Business schools

DEMOCRACY ON TRIAL

Election Commission of India to Rahul Gandhi's detailed, well researched presentation raising specific concerns that go to the very heart of the working of India's elections system is shocking to say the least. The ECI working under three worthy commissioners has no reason to turn this into a slanging match with the Leader of the Opposition (LoP). The ludicrous demand put up by the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka and two other states that Gandhi should sign off the charges under oath or apologise to the nation only indicates the unease within the ECI in the face of what to the common eve are credible questions and valid concerns on the integrity of the poll process. Ideally, it should be in the interest of the ECI to set up a task force and get to the bottom of this in a timely manner that satisfies all parties and lays all doubts to rest or results in corrective

After all, what is in doubt is not just the outcome of one seat with fake voters, but the very future of Indian democracy. Every Indian irrespective of political colour or party of preference would agree that at the heart of India's constitutional democracy is a national commitment to conducting elections that are regular, free and fair. These are also the words headlined on the ECI website under its link titled "election management".

This is now looking more like election mismanagement, less in the sense of slackness and more in the sense of sinister. "Regular, free and fair"



POLL PROCESS

From Rahul Gandhi's allegations on vote theft to ground reports from Bihar, it appears difficult to escape the thought that there is something very rotten in the state of Denmark

are three non-negotiables required for the integrity of the process. When fairness of the process is suspect, regularity of the process becomes meaningless and 'free' becomes a hollow term.

The bitterness of the attacks on Rahul Gandhi indicates just how much the exposé by Rahul Gandhi of voter list fraud has angered the BJP. Maharashtra is the state where ground reports indicated that the BJP would take a huge hit in the last Assembly polls of 2024 and would be penalised for its role in splitting the Shiv Sena. Most observers could read anti-BJP sentiment. But the results that brought Phadnavis to power with the BJP bagging 132 of the 288 seats in an alliance with a breakaway Shiv

Sena group, surprised many. What should be the road ahead if India is not to collapse as a democracy?

First, the election commis-

sioners should commit to the nation that all data on record including voter lists, polling records, video recordings, all camera feeds and paper trails as well as the EVM machines would be preserved and available for a full-fledged inquiry at any future date. The process of such a preservation should be independently audited and timelines must now stretch well beyond those specified in rule books since we are living through unusual circumstances and very serious allegations from the major opposition party. Original files need to be encrypted and vaulted. This would assure the nation that even if something has gone wrong in the field, including any concerted attempt by interested parties to defeat the process, the ECI is serious about getting to the bottom of it. Second, there is no reason why soft copies of voter lists

some reason these are not available, then prints provided to the LoP ought to be, at a minimum, machine-readable. Third, the hastily conducted Bihar Special Intensive Revision is fraught. There is enough material now from the ground to indicate that new names could be added without adequate verification so that those that may not qualify will become voters while at the same time many marginal groups run the risk of being disenfranchised.

Given the circumstances. from Gandhi's allegations on vote theft to ground reports from Bihar, it appears difficult to escape the thought that there is something very rotten in the state of Denmark.

The ECI leadership should know and understand that this is an important moment in the history of free India. The people in charge of the ECI and how they conduct themselves will be seen not only in today's context but will also be remembered and recalled vears from now. When the very foundations of elections were under threat, what did the most important free institution charged with conducting elections do? What does a free and fair election mean? If the voter list is vitiated, then Indian democracy is effectively erased. India will be stripped of its most valuable jewel – a democratic process that the world admires and every India has been proud of. The ECI must act fast.

The writer is a journalist and faculty member at SP-JIMR. Views are personal @thebillionpress.org

SPECTRUM

Jagdish Rattanani

THE PEOPLE IN

CHARGE OF THE

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WILL BE SEEN

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YEARS FROM

NOW

NOT ONLY

IN TODAY'S

INVESTMENT

Black money parking in foreign banks



Gopabandhu Mohapatra

THE UNLAWFULLY **ACQUIRED MONEY KEPT ABROAD IS ROUTED BACK** TO INDIA BY THE **ROUND TRIPPING PROCESSES**

n today's globalised world, investors are increasingly looking beyond their home country for attractive investment opportunities. There's no definitive figure for the total amount of Indian deposits held in foreign countries. Some reports suggest that substantial sums of money, including both legal and illegal funds, potentially are held in foreign accounts. For non-resident Indians (NRIs), foreign currency fixed deposits have emerged as popular options for diversifying their earning for higher returns.

The unaccounted money that is concealed from the tax administrator is called black money. Black money includes all funds earned through illegal activity and otherwise legal income that is not recorded for tax purposes. Black money is a result of systemic issues like corruption, bribery, and inadequate measures to curb the generation of illicit wealth. There is income on which the taxes imposed by government or public authorities have not been paid.

Recognizing the need to curb black money, a comprehensive law 'The Black Money Act' was introduced in 2015 and announced a voluntary disclosure scheme till September 30, 2016, for declaring assets and until December 31, 2016, to pay tax at 30 per cent and penalty at 30 per cent. With the new law, it was mandatory to disclose foreign assets and income in your income tax return to avoid tax evasion and enhance transparency in cross-border transactions.

The Black Money Act specifically usually addresses undisclosed foreign income and assets, imposing tax and penalties on them. For returning NRIs, this include, foreign bank accounts and deposits. Undisclosed foreign income and assets are taxable at 30 percent with penalties. The Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act. 2015, is India's strong measure against tax evasion through offshore holdings. Even if you've legitimately earned wealth abroad during the NRI years, failing to disclose these assets upon becoming an Indian resident can trigger the provisions of this act.

The root cause for the increasing rate of black money in the country is the lack of strict punishments for the offenders. The criminals pay bribes to the tax authorities to hide their corrupt activities. The criminals who conceal their accounts from the government authorities include big politicians, film stars, cricketers and businessmen. Thus, they are rarely punished in the Court. Some Indian corporations practice transfer mispricing, by under-invoicing their exports and over-invoicing their imports from tax haven countries such as Singapore, UAE, and Hong Kong.

should not be made available

The unlawfully acquired money kept abroad is routed back to India by the round tripping processes. Round tripping involves getting the money out of one country, sending it to a place like Mauritius and then, dressed up to look like foreign capital, sending it back home to earn non favourable profits. India has long witnessed controversy surrounding black money parked in Switzerland. It is seen as a safe bet to park the money in Switzerland, Some reports claim a total of US\$1.06 - \$1.40 trillion is held illegally in Switzerland. The circulation of black money across the tax heavens has always been a point of concern for the Income Tax Authorities

Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs) are agreements between countries to provide each other with legal assistance in criminal matters, such as exchanging evidence and information. India has entered into MLATs with 42 countries, as of November 2019. These treaties facilitate cooperation in investigations, prosecutions, and other legal proceedings related to criminal activity. Assets held by Indian residents in Switzerland would not automatically be seen as 'black money' and emphasised their active cooperation with India in tackling tax fraud and evasion.

Undisclosed foreign income/ assets are Scheduled Offence under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA), which provides for imprisonment of minimum of 3 years (which can be extended up to 7 years) and a fine of up to Rs. 5 lakh and the tainted proceeds parked overseas can be recovered through Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties. The Ministry of Finance reported that investigations are ongoing and taxes are being collected from those implicated.

The anti-black money measures taken by the government during the last four and half years in the form of Black Money Law, the Fugitive Criminal Offenders Act, and Demonetisation, have brought undisclosed income of about Rs 1,30,000 crore to tax. These measures have also led to seizure and attachment of assets worth approximately Rs 50,000 crore and compelled holders of large cash currency to disclose

their source of earnings. Efforts are still on to bring back to India black money deposited in various foreign banks by some Indians. Treaties in this regard have been done with some foreign countries. It's a lengthy legal process. The government is not sitting idle on this matter.

The writer is a retired banker. Views are personal

TO THE EDITOR

Readers of Orissa Post are most welcome to contribute letters (100 words), articles and columns (between 600-1000 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to:

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

On White Revolution

Sir, Operation Flood started the White Revolution in India and made our country self-sufficient in milk and this was achieved entirely through the cooperative structure. Today around 12 million farmers in more than 22 states across the country own around 250 dairy plants handling around 20 million litres of milk a day. This is a remarkable achievement. While we in India tend to take our achievement for granted, this feat elicited high praise and admiration throughout the world. In 1955 our butter imports were 500 tonne per year; today our cooperatives alone produce more than 12,000 tonne of butter. Similarly, we imported 3,000 tonne of baby food in 1955; today our cooperatives alone produce 38,000 tonne of baby food. Moreover when Amul started there were so many competitors in the market like Polson and other foreign players but Amul stood the test of time and over the years emerged as India's favourite. By 1975 all imports of milk and milk products stopped. Hope and pray that we rise above small bickering and help the White Revolution. Thanks to Dr Verghese Kurien we came out of trying times and showing surplus.

Islamabad unnerved

Sir, , Apropos to Pakistan Army chief's provocative remarks; 'If we go down, we'll take down half the world' and 'If India builds dam, Pak will destroy it with 10 missiles.' The highly provocative statements against India reflect the state of frustration of the neighbouring country due to its inability to respond to India's Op Sindoor where it suffered heavy losses. India's water bomb strategy without firing a single shot appears to be unnerving Islamabad. However India must not take such rhetoric lightly. India's strength lies not just in its deterrent but in its ability to calibrate pressure — knowing when to maintain the heat and when to ease off before the situation crosses the threshold. Cornering an adversary without an escape route risks provoking a desperate, dangerous strike. Vigilance, preparedness, and strategic foresight remain India's best safeguards.

Mani Ramani Jayanthy, VASHI (NAVI MUMBAI)

RS Narula, PATIALA



TWO STATES





Bastar shines in e-healthcare services

Once synonymous with Maoist insurgency, Bastar division is steadily rewriting the narrative, emerging as a model for digital healthcare in **Chhattisgarh**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Raipur, August 11: Chhattisgarh's Bastar division has been witnessing a major transformation in healthcare with the effective implementation of digital medical services in the tribal-dominated region, officials said Monday.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has been making consistent and determined efforts to strengthen healthcare delivery in Bastar, where effective implementation of the Next Gen e-Hospital system, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission and Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogva Yojana services are proving to be a game-changer, a government statement said.

The Next Gen e-Hospital system is functioning in six



district hospitals, two civil hospitals and 41 community health centres of the Bastar region comprising seven districts, including Bastar, Kanker, Kondgaon, Narayanpur, Bijapur, Dantewada and Sukma, it said.

This system brings the OPD registration, consultation, diagnostics, medicine distribution and all patient-related medical information on to a single digital platform, ensuring better and timely services for patients. The integration of digital technology has led to remarkable improvements in transparency, efficiency and patient satisfaction across these hospitals, the release said.

Under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, Health Facility Registration (HFR) for hospitals and Health Professional Registration (HPR) for doctors and nursing staff have been completed in the region. Ayush-

man Bharat Health Account

(ABHA) kiosks have been set up

in hospital premises, enabling

patients to create their health accounts. The "Scan & Share" feature and ABHA ID-based online OPD registration have spared patients from waiting in long

lease said. The impact of these digital innovations is visible, as the Bastar District Hospital recorded a total of 60,045 OPD registrations in May, June and July this year. Out of these, 32,379 (53 per

queues, allowing them to re-

ceive prompt services, the re-

cent) were linked with ABHA. During the same period, Dantewada district hospital recorded 33,895 OPD registrations, with 13,729 (40 per cent) linked to ABHA, as per the release.

This entire process not only saves time but also provides patients with digital health records which they can access anywhere in the country. It has improved transparency in the healthcare system while enhancing continuity and quality of treatment, it said.

CM Sai said the digital services have ensured timely, accessible and quality treatment to patients in the region.

"This initiative is not just a model for Bastar but for the entire state. We will soon implement it across all districts to realise the vision of a 'Healthy and Empowered Chhattisgarh',

State Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal said these services in healthcare go beyond mere digitisation as they serve as a powerful bridge connecting people in rural and remote areas to quality medical facilities.

The positive results from Bastar prove that when technology. administrative willpower and public participation come together, the pace of development multiplies manifold, he said.

This initiative will not only transform healthcare services, but also ensure Chhattisgarh's substantial contribution to building a 'Healthy

The Lumineers to perform in Delhi-NCR next year

New Delhi, August 11: American folk-rock band The Lumineers is set to perform in India as part of their 'The Automatic World Tour', the organisers said Monday.

The Grammy-nominated group, known for hits such as "Ho Hey", "Cleopatra", "Stubborn Love" and "Ophelia", will perform at Huda Ground in Delhi-NCR February 1, 2026.

The concert, produced and promoted by BookMyShow Live, will be the band's only stop in the subcontinent and is part of their world tour in

album 'Automatic'. The Lumineers, led by founding members Wesley Schultz and Jeremiah Fraites, has performed at major ven-

support of their fifth studio

ues including Madison Square Garden, London's O2 Arena, Glastonbury and Coachella.

"At BookMyShow Live, our mission has always been to bring world-class entertainment to Indian audiences and firmly place India on the global live entertain ment map," Naman Pugalia, Chief Business Officer - Live Events, BookMyShow, said in a statement.

Under Order 5 Rule 20(IA) IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE. SENIOR DIVISION AT BICHOLIM

The Respondent Shri. Prashant Kumar Pradhan alias Prassanna Kumar Pradhan, aged 42 years, Son of late Shri Shriidhar Pradhan married, Indian National, Resident of Madhuban Balia, Talaganga, Chandan Puri, Puri Odisha, 752002
WHEREAS the above named Petition was instituted by the properties of the pro

has instituted a Suit against you for divorce u/s 13(1) (ib) and 13(i) (ia) of the Hindu Marriage Act. 1955. (copy of the same may be collected from this office on any working day during office

ours).

AND WHEREAS summons issued to n the last available address has been return this Court unserved.

AND WHEREAS, petitioner has filed

such a service.

NOW, therefore, notice is hereby given to you to appear before this Court either in persor or by a pleader duly instructed on 08th day o September, 2025 at 10.00 a.m., to answer the claim and further you are hereby directed to file or hat day a written statement.

TAKE further notice that, in default of you appearance on that day and time afforementioned the matter will be heard and determined in you absence.

Senior Civil Judge, "A" Court, Bicholi

3. Interested retd offrs to send their resume alongwith copy of PPO, Discharge Book & self certificate (No recordable discr

NCC GROUP HEADQUARTERS. CUTTACK

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(c) Min. 5 yrs experience in handling Type 'F' Cat | CSD

2. Qualifications & Terms of Employment.

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(e) Experience in HR mat.

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ward in career) to the address below:-OIC CSD NCC Gp HQs, Cuttack SO-15, Cantonment Road

Near Senior Police Officers' Mess Cuttack-753001

e mail: gphqcuttack@nccorissa.org Mob: 7893123452

Last date for submission of applications is 25 Aug. 2025

Delhi to build 21,000 smart classrooms

New Delhi, August 11: Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood said Monday that the government aims to build 21,000 smart classrooms in the next four years. He said that as part of reforms in the education sector, AIbased language labs and attendance systems using facial recognition will also be implemented in Delhi govern-

Chairing the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Modern School, Vasant Vihar, Sood said AI will be utilised more and more for complex and important tasks like paper checking.

"The Chromebook model will equip schools with technology," he said, adding that under the guidance of PM Modi and the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the Delhi Government is bringing about major changes in the field of educa-

Sood extended his best wishes to Modern School's Principal, Trustees, President, Secretary, parents, and students on the eve of Independence

Addressing the students present, the Education Minister said that this 50-year journey of Modern School is not just a number, but a half-century-long voyage filled with their hard work, dreams, and values, which has shaped thousands of students into responsible citizens.

He described the 79th Independence Day and the school's 50th year as an opportunity for introspection, saying, "We must think about what we will give back to the country and to Delhi when we complete our education from school."

Today, India faces formidable challenges such as climate change, the ethical use of artificial intelligence. the geopolitics of semiconductors, and shortages of water and energy. To tackle these, the new generation must come forward as a confluence of Indian values and modernity, he said.

Sood further said that patriotism is not limited to just hoisting the tricolour but should also be reflected in everyday habits and discipline, such as the habit of cleanliness, following traffic rules, and respecting the rights

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER REDHAKHOL FOREST DIVISION Mobile No.- 06644-299949, Email Id:dfo.redhakhol@odisha.gov.in No.MM-154: Notice No.11, Date: 11.08.2025

Corrigendum- Extension of Tender Submission Date Name: Procurement of Solar Powered Early Warning System

(EWS) for Redhakhol Forest Division. It is to inform all prospective bidders that the last date and

time for bid submission for the Tender invited for the abovementioned work vide Notice No-09 dated 04.08.2025 has been extended as per the details given below SI. Current Bid Submission last Extended Bid Submission

No.	date and time	last date and time			
1	On 11.08.2025	On 16.08.2025			
	upto 05.00 PM	upto 1.00 PM			
The Opening of the bid will be on 16.08.2025 at 04.00 PM.					

All the other terms and conditions of the Tender documents will remain unchanged Sd./- Divisional Forest Officer

OIPR-08146/11/0029/2526

Redhakhol Forest Division

AN INVESTOR EDUCATION AND AWARENESS INITIATIVE

Do join us to learn more about Mutual Funds. **Date and Venue:**

Wednesday, 13th August 2025; 6:30 p.m. onwards at Hotel Radhika Regency, Bisra Road, Rourkela - 769 001, Odisha. For registration, please contact: Ranjit Mallik, Mobile: 99370 88035.

Wednesday, 13th August 2025; 7:00 p.m. onwards. at Hotel Jasmin Palace, NH-55, Kandsar, Angul - 759 145, Odisha. For registration, please contact: SK Mobarak Hosen, Mobile: 86372 70639 Registration is compulsory. The registration time will be from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Visit https://www.hdlcfund.com/informationfkey-know-how to know more about the process to complete a one-time Know Customer (KYC) requirement to invest in Mutual Funds. Investors should only deal with register Mutual Funds, details of w can be verified on the SEBI vebsite (www.sebl.gov.infintermediaries.html). For any queries, complaints & grievance redre investors may reach out to the AMCs and / or Investors Relations Officers. Additionally, investors may also lodge complaint through SCORES portal on https://scores.gov.in. SCORES portal facilitates investors to lodge complaint online with SEBI subsequently view its status. In case the investor is not satisfied with the resolution of the complaints raised directly with the AMCs.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefu

Chhattisgarh boy gets calls from Kohli, AB de Villiers & other cricket royalty

were soon sucked into a

world of disbelief as call-

ers identified themselves

as Kohli, de Villiers and

Yash Dayal, though the

DREAM

DIAL

two tried to remain

by

The story turned on its

head when, on July 15,

Patidar himself called up

with a fervent "brother,

Manish and Khemraj

still believed it was a

prank before realising

the seriousness in Pati-

dar's tone when he spoke

about sending police to

A police team arrived

some minutes later, put-

ting a lid on any assump-

tions that it was a prank.

perintendent of Police

Neha Sinha said the SIM

had been deactivated as

per telecom policy after 90

days of inactivity and was

reassigned to a new cus-

tomer, which in this case

happened to be Manish.

Gariaband Deputy Su-

solve the matter.

please return my SIM".

grounded in re-

ality thinking

these were all

part of some elaborate

In fact, the

duo even played

along, Khemraj

prank

friends.

claimed.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gariaband (Chhattisgarh). August 11: For Manish Bisi, a young man from Madagaon village in Chhattisgarh's Gariaband district, the simple act of buying a SIM card from a local mobile phone shop let loose a whirlwind of disbelief, celebrity, and a bizarre series of events that felt more like a movie script than reality.

The SIM card once belonged to rising cricket star Rajat Patidar, and soon an awestruck Bisi was fielding calls from legends like Virat Kohli and AB de Villiers.

What Manish and his friend, Khemraj, thought was a system glitch when they saw the profile picture of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) captain Patidar after they installed WhatsApp soon turned as real as voices on the other end of the phone line.

The tryst with instant fame for Manish, son of farmer Gajendra Bisi, began on June 28 when he purchased a new Jio SIM from a mobile shop in Deobhog, around 8 kilometres from his village. Manish and Khemraj getting calls from cricketers who were in contact with Rajat Patidar. Patidar informed the Madhya Pradesh Cyber Cell that his number had been allotted to someone else and requested to have it back," she said. The MP Cyber Cell con-

tacted Gariaband police, who spoke with Manish and his family and with their consent, the SIM was recently returned to Patidar, the Deputy SP informed. "There was no legal is-

sue or fault on anyone's part. This was simply a result of standard telecom procedures," Sinha added. For Manish,

> their families, meanwhile, the experience has been like "something out

Khemraj, and

of a film". Khemraj, an ardent Kohli fan, excitedly said, "I never imagined I would speak to Virat Kohli one day and that too from our village. When AB de Villiers called, he spoke in English. We couldn't understand a word, but we

were so thrilled." The villagers are overjoyed because most people here are RCB fans and talking to legends like Kohli and de Villiers is something that cannot be described and even now seems like a dream, said Manish's brother Deshbandhu Bisi.

"Even if it was all due to a mix-up, these conversations happened out of sheer luck. People just dream of seeing them, we got to speak to them, Deshbandhu gushed.



मानव संसाधन प्रबंध विभाग भ्वनेश्वर

निविदा सूचना

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक (जिसे आगे ''बैंक'' कहा जाएगा), भूवनेश्वर प्रतिष्ठित और अनुभवी केमिस्ट/स्टॉकिस्ट, जो भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक, भुवनेश्वर की डिस्पेन्सरियों को दवाइयों की आपूर्ति के लिए निर्धारित पात्रता मानदंडों को पूरा करते हैं, से दो भागों (तकनीकी और वित्तीय बोली) में ई-निविदा के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है।

विवरण के लिए, कृपया बैंक की वेबसाइट (https://www.rbi.org.in) के ''निविदाएं' खंड को देखें अथवा मानव संसाधन प्रबंध विभाग, भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक, भुवनेश्वर से संपर्क करें। एमएसटीसी पोर्टल (www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocn) पर निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तारीख 29 अगस्त, 2025 को अपराह्न 02:00 बजे तक है।

क्षेत्रीय निदेशक भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक भुवनेश्वर

national



The grave problem appears to have remained unchecked and unnoticed for too long. The unscrupulous elements have played with the health and lives of people. This has to stop and those deliberately involved in playing with public health must face the law

OVER 16L AFFECTED BY FLOODS IN BIHAR

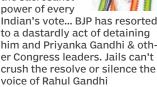
More than 16 lakh people have been affected by floods in Bihar, where several rivers are in spate due to torrential rainfall in the past 24 hours, officials said Monday. A total of 32 teams of the NDRF and the SDRF have been engaged in rescue operations, they said



best place for entrepreneurs to start SIDDARAMAIAH | CHIEF MINISTER, KARNATAKA







A REVANTH REDDY I CHIEF MINISTER, TELANGANA





YOGI ADITYANATH CHIEF MINISTER, UTTAR PRADESH

SHORT **TAKES**

Pak intruder killed after BSF opens fire

Jammu: A Pakistani intruder was killed after being shot at by the BSF while attempting to sneak into this side from across the International Border (IB) in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir Monday, officials said. The Border Security Force (BSF) said they are lodging a protest with their Pakistani counterparts over the incident. The officials said BSF troops noticed some intruders trying to sneak into this side between Chandwan and Kothey border outposts in the Hiranagar sector around 4 pm and were challenged to stop, "He was warned by alert troops but paid no heed. BSF troops sensing threat fired on his legs. Later on, he was taken into BSF custody. Protest being lodged with counterpart," the border guarding force said in a statement here.

Two tiger cubs die at Delhi zoo

New Delhi: Two tiger cubs have died over the past three days at the Delhi zoo, officials said Monday. The deaths came just a week after the zoo celebrated the birth of six Bengal tiger cubs - the largest litter in two decades. The cubs were born to a seven-yearold tigress, Aditi, August 4 between 9 am and 11 am. This was her first litter since being brought from the Gorewada rescue centre in Nagpur

BSF launches 'Operation Alert'

Jaisalmer: Ahead of Independence Day, the Border Security Force (BSF) launched a week-long 'Operation Alert' along the Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan, aimed at strengthening security and preventing any infiltration attempts. The operation began August 11 and will continue till August 17, BSF Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Yogendra Singh Rathore said, "Although BSF remains vigilant throughout the year, surveillance is being further tightened during this

8 killed as pick-up van falls off road

period," he said.

Pune: Eight women on their way to a temple were killed and 25 people injured after a pick-up van they were travelling in fell off the road on a hilly terrain in Pune district Monday, police said. According to preliminary information, the driver lost control, causing the pickup van, carrying 30 to 35 passengers, most of them women and children, to veer off the road and plunge 25

Al flight diverted to Chennai

Aviation watchdog DGCA said Air India's flight from Thiruvananthapuram to Delhi was diverted to Chennai Sunday evening due to suspected

malfunctioning of the weather radar of the aircraft

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: Air India Monday said the crew of the Thiruvananthanuram-Delhi flight that was diverted to Chennai Sunday followed the protocols and the first landing attempt had to be aborted due to suspected foreign debris presence on the runway amid safety concerns raised by some Parliamentarians who were onboard the aircraft.

The flight AI2455, which was diverted to Chennai following a suspected technical issue, land-

Aviation watchdog DGCA Monday said Air India's flight from Thiruvananthapuram to Delhi was diverted to Chennai Sunday evening due to suspected malfunctioning of the weather radar of the aircraft.

Senior Congress leader and former Minister of State for Civil Aviation KC Venugopal, **Senior Congress**

leader and former Minister of State for Civil **Aviation KC** Venugopal, who was among the **Parliamentarians** onboard, claimed the flight came 'frighteningly close to tragedy'

who was among the Parliamentarians onboard, claimed the flight came "frighteningly close to tragedy".

The flight diversion incident has also sparked a political uproar, with BJP IT Department Head Amit Malviya Monday

cited Air India's denial of Venugopal's claim that an aircraft carrying MPs, including him, came close to a "tragedy" due to the presence of another plane on Chennai runway to demand that he should face consequences if his allegation is untrue.

Air India said Monday, the crew of the Thiruvananthapuram-Delhi flight followed the protocols and the first landing attempt had to be aborted due to suspected foreign debris presence on the runway.

The decision to divert the flight to Chennai was a precautionary measure and was taken in the best interest of the safety of passengers and crew due to a suspected technical issue. The flight was not diverted to Bengaluru as the weather in Chennai was clear, the airline said.

"As the aircraft was over-

weight for an immediate landing the pilot had to hold over Chennai to reduce weight and no emergency was declared. During the first landing approach, the ATC asked the pilots to initiate a go-around as another aircraft that had taken off from the same runway had reported a suspected foreign object debris (FOD) on the runway," the statement said.

Deeply regretting the inconvenience, the airline said all the affected passengers were accommodated on alternate flights to Delhi and that the aircraft has also resumed commercial operations.

In a detailed statement Monday, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said the A320 aircraft VT-TNL during the flight encountered moderate turbulent conditions.

The flight AI2455, which was scheduled to depart at 19:15 hours Sunday, was delayed by 49 minutes due to the late arrival of the aircraft from Delhi. and took off from Thiruvananthapuram at 20:04 hours.

K C Venugopal, also the Chairman of Parliament's Public Accounts Committee, on Sunday night claimed the flight came "frighteningly close to tragedy"

"Further, Venugopal said, "we were saved by skill and luck" and that passenger safety cannot depend on luck

Mixed reactions over SC order on stray dogs

RWAs hail directive; animal activists call it 'regressive'



New Delhi, August 11: The Supreme Court's order to remove all stray dogs from Delhi-NCR localities Monday sparked mixed reactions. While RWAs have welcomed the order, animal rights activists including Maneka Gandhi argued that civic bodies lack the land and funds to carry out the "mammoth" task and warned it could worsen human-dog conflict.

Former Union minister Vijay Goel also hailed the top court's order on the shifting of stray dogs to shelter homes as an endorsement of his 'no dogs on streets policy' demand.

Terming the court's directive for the Delhi government and civic bodies as one of the most "regressive ideas" to date, activists said the order has caused panic among everyone -- from dog feeders to animal lovers in general. "It's such a childish order from a Supreme Court judge. which has to be challenged and

There is absolutely no infrastructure to execute such an order. The one MCD and other corporations, if Linclude NCR cannot sterilize or vaccinate dogs properly. Now, how can they plan a massive thing like this?" said an angry Nikhil Mahesh, founder of Umeed for Animals Foundation -- a rescue and rehabilitation centre in Gu rugram. "You need an immense land bank. You need massive funds. It is an impulsive reaction. They clearly didn't think it through. Mark my words, this will only increase panic between people and dogs," Mahesh said.

will be challenged for sure..

The animal activist has been flooded with frantic calls from dog feeders and worried animal lovers since the order was is sued. Animal rights activist and former Union minister Maneka Gandhi called the directive "impractical", "financially unviable' and "potentially harmful" to the region's ecological balance Gandhi said that the scale of the

task makes it "unworkable". "You have three lakh dogs in Delhi. To get them all off the roads, you'll have to make 3,000 pounds, each with drainage water, a shed, a kitchen, and a watchman. That will cost about Rs 15,000 crore. Does Delhi have Rs 15,000 crore for this?" she told PTL



Parl passes bill to provide reservation to Scheduled Tribes in Goa Assembly

New Delhi: Parliament Monday approved a bill to provide reservation to Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the Goa Assembly. The Rajya Sabha gave its nod to 'The Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes in Assembly Constituencies of the State of Goa Bill, 2025' with voice vote without discussion. The Lok Sabha had passed the legislation August 5. Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said the bill seeks to provide representation to the ST community in the state Assembly. "A special situation arose in Goa. There are 40 seats in the Goa Legislative Assembly One seat is reserved for Scheduled Castes. Their number is 25,494. But not a single seat is reserved for STs because according to the 2001 census, their population was recorded as 566," he said. Meghwal said the bill was brought so that the Scheduled Tribe community is not deprived of representation in the 40-member Goa Assembly.

RS returns Manipur budget, GST Bill

New Delhi: The Rajya Sabha Monday returned the Manipur Appropriation Bill, 2025, and The Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025 amid Opposition protests over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) issue. A brief debate on the Bills was also held. The Manipur Appropriation Bill authorises payment and appropriation of certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Manipur for services of the financia year 2025-26. The Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which seeks to implement the decisions approved by the GST Council, would replace the Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while replying to the debate on the Bills, accused the Opposition of opposing the Manipur budget. She called the Manipur budget one of the progressive, confidence

Parliament approves Bill aimed at ensuring safety, security of ships

New Delhi: Parliament Monday approved a bill aimed at increasing India's bankability in maritime sector besides ensuring safety and security of ships with minimal disruptions. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, while replying to the debate on 'The Merchant Shipping Bill, 2025', said the key focus of the bill is enablement of increasing India's bankability in the maritime sector. The Bill was passed with a voice vote, amid a walkout by the Opposition that was protesting in the House and demanding a discussion on the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar. The Lok Sabha had passed the legislation August 6. The legislation seeks to expand the eligibility criteria for ownership of merchant shipping vessels and provide for investigation and enquiries on marine casualties among others



Dasara elephants led by tusker Abhimanyu during a procession as part of rehearsals for the upcoming 'Dasara' festival, in Mysuru, Karnataka, Monday ряз рнот

India bans imports of jute products from B'desh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: India Monday banned imports of certain jute products and ropes from Bangladesh through all land routes with immediate effect, amid strained relations between the two countries.

However, according to a notification of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), these imports are allowed through the Nhava Sheva Seaport.

"Imports from Bangladesh

shall not be allowed from any land port on the India-Bangla desh Border," it said, adding, "Import of certain goods from Bangladesh to India is regulated with immediate effect.

The products included in the list are bleached and unbleached woven fabrics of Jute or of other textile bast fibre: twine, cordage, rope of jute; and sacks and bags of jute.

Earlier June 27, India prohibited imports of a number of jute products and woven fabrics from Bangladesh through all land routes. Those imports are, however, allowed only through Nhava Sheva seaport in Maharashtra. The curbs were imposed on items such as jute products, flax tow and waste. jute and other bast fibres, jute, single flax yarn, single yarn of jute, multiple folded, woven fabrics or flex, and unbleached woven fabrics of jute.

In April and May also, India had announced similar curbs on imports from Bangladesh.

India imposed port restrictions on the import of certain

tariff, the sources said, citing

the briefing by top government

The sources said the refer-

ence to "red lines" by the top

government functionary was

related to India's uncompro-

mising stand against the US

demand that India open its

agri and dairy sectors for its

Opposition members raised

questions on the recent plunge

in the India-US ties, the US

hosting Munir and Trump tar-

functionaries

products.

goods like ready-made gar ments and processed food items May 17, from the neighbouring country. India withdrew the transhipment facility it had granted to Bangladesh for ex porting various items to the Middle East, Europe and various other countries except Ne-

pal and Bhutan April 9. These measures were an nounced against the backdrop of the controversial statements made by the head of Bangla desh's interim government

Muhammad Yunus in China.

Focused efforts being made to mitigate adverse impact of US tariff

As part of 'mitigation measures being taken', the govt is focusing on 'export diversification strategy', making concerted efforts to tap the potential of India's existing trade agreements with partners such as the UAE, Australia, ASEAN, Japan, Korea, and Mauritius

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: The government Monday asserted that certain red lines cannot be crossed in the trade negotiations with the US and that it is making "focused efforts" as part of an export diversification strategy to mitigate the adverse impact of the high tariff imposed by the US, sources said.

At a briefing to the Parliament's Standing Committee by Pakistan Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir for making nuclear threat to New Delhi, the sources said.

Misri and Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal briefed the members of the panel headed by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on the "US India trade negotiations and tariffs" amid uncertainty prevailing over the next round of negotiations scheduled in India from August 25.

Citing the briefing, a source said the trade ties between the two countries were considered to be passing through a "difficult phase" and the government was taking measures to deal

Tharoor told reporters that a question was asked about Munir's "nuclear sabre-rattling", and Misri said India will not tolerate such nuclear blackmail. "It was not good that Munir used the soil of a friendly country to make such a statement, and this message will be

with the fallout.

He said the US has so far not conveyed anything on a change of schedule for the next round of talks or calling it off.

US President Donald Trump has said that there will be no

trade talks with India till the tariff issue is resolved. A few industries like auto, textile, leather, and gems and

geting the Indian economy. An opposition MP asked if

it was triggered by the Indian stand on Trump's claim a source said

of mediating a "ceasefire" between India and Pakistan, Government functionaries told the members that many tariffs imposed by Trump but they later managed to negotiate them down by making a few

As part of "mitigation measures being taken", the govern ment is focusing on "export di versification strategy", making concerted efforts to tap the po tential of India's existing trade agreements with partners such as the UAE, Australia, ASEAN, Japan, Korea, and Mauritius

officials said. Preparations are on to lever age opportunities under new free trade agreement partners such as EFTA (European Free Trade Association) and the UK as soon as the agreements enter

into force, they said. Efforts are on to speedily conclude ongoing negotiations, such as with the EU, on the ba sis of mutually beneficial and balanced trade, they added.

on Foreign Affairs, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri suggested that India will take up with the US the use of its soil

conveyed," he added.

jewellery are likely to be particularly hit by the high US

countries, including traditional US allies, were hit hard by

national



Modi speaks to Zelenskyy

I often say to the people that you will not have a chance to sacrifice your life like our soldiers do to defend our country. We can however contribute to the growth of the country by taking part in such programmes like tree plantation and cleanliness

TERRORIST HUNTING ENTERS 11TH DAY IN J&K'S KULGAM

The anti-terror operation in Kulgam entered its 11th day Monday as security forces doubled down to flush out the terrorists hiding in the natural caves and dense foliage of the forest. "The operation is still in progress. The security forces are trying to draw out the terrorists who are apparently hiding in cave-like structures," an official said





chairman of the Rajya

21st--unseen, unheard, unread. But the Rajya Sabha met the PM very recently for 45 minutes. What is

JAIRAM RAMESH | CONGRESS LEADER

Every day, we will not allow the country's and Parliament's time to be wasted on one issue. Therefore, we will pass important bills



What is his current location? How is his health? There is no clarity on these matters. Some members of the Rajya Sabha attempted to contact him but were unsuccessful

SANJAY RAUT | SHIV SENA-UBT LEADER





Annamalaiji speaks. Distance from Israel to India: 4050

Distance from UPA ruled, press conference savvy Manmohan Singh's Delhi to Mumbai: 1445 Km. GaurayGogoi, before asking how terrorists reached Kashmir, would your government answer why NSG could not reach Mumbai within 2 hours of the attack ???

SHORT TAKES

PM inaugurates

New Delhi: Inaugurating a

complex of multi-storev flats

for parliamentarians. Prime

Monday suggested that the

the MPs should celebrate

residential premises housing

India's different festivals and

a swipe at his rivals, he said

compete on cleanliness. Taking

some people may link Kosi, the

name of one of the four towers

christened after different rivers.

to the upcoming Bihar Assembly

"small-minded" people that the

tradition of naming towers after

Speakers' Conference New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the All India Speakers' Conference

Gupta announce Monday. The centenary of Vitthalbhai Patel's leadership will be marked by a

grand exhibition, documentary

stamp at the All India Speakers'

Conference in Delhi, he added.

release, and special postage

polls but he will tell such

Shah to inaugurate

August 24 at the Delhi Assembly, its Speaker Vijender

rivers unites people.

Minister Narendra Modi

flats for MPs

@PoornimaNimo

according to the Telugu media, the former former chairman (Naidu) of



veyed to Ukrainian President KIREN RIJIJU | PARLIAMENTARY Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a phone conversation that India remains committed to making every possible contribution for an early and peaceful solution to the conflict. Zelenskyy complimented Modi's support to the peace efforts, but made an indirect reference to India's procurement of Russian crude oil as he called for limiting the export of Russian energy, particularly oil, to reduce Moscow's ability to "finance" the

> The phone conversation came ahead of the summit talks between US President Donald Trump and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Alaska August 15 to discuss ways to end

continuation of the war.

The phone conversation

came ahead of the

summit talks between US

President Donald Trump

and his Russian

counterpart Vladimir

Putin in Alaska August 15

to discuss ways

to end the war

New Delhi, August 11: Days

ahead of a much-anticipat-

ed US-Russia summit on the

Ukraine war, Prime Minister

Narendra Modi Monday con-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

"Glad to speak with President Zelenskyy and hear his perspectives on recent developments. I conveyed India's consistent position on the need for an early and peaceful resolution of the conflict." Modi said on 'X'.

"India remains committed to making every possible contribution in this regard, as well as to further strengthening bilateral

Last week, India welcomed the Russia-US summit and reaffirmed Prime Minister Modi's consistent position that it is not an "era of war"

ties with Ukraine," he said.

Following the phone talks, the Ukrainian president said he discussed "in detail" all important issues with Modi that included both "bilateral cooperation and the overall diplomatic situation". "I am grateful to the Prime

Minister for his warm words of

support for our people," he said in a social media post. "It is important that India is supporting our peace efforts and shares the position that everything concerning Ukraine must be decided with Ukraine's partic-

ipation. Other formats will not deliver results," the Ukrainian president said. Zelenskyy also noted that it is

necessary to "limit the export of

in this regard, as well as to further strengthening bilateral ties

Russian energy", particularly oil. "We also discussed in detail the sanctions against Russia. I noted that it is necessary to limit the export of Russian energy, particularly oil, to reduce its potential and ability to finance the continuation of this war. he said.

"It is important that every leader who has tangible leverage over Russia sends the corresponding signals to Moscow,' he added.

The Ukrainian president also dropped hints at PM Modi's possible visit to New York next month to participate in the UN General Assembly.

"We agreed to plan a personal meeting in September during the UN General Assembly and to work on an exchange of visits,' Zelenskyy said. India has been consistent-

ly calling for ending the Russia-Ukraine conflict through dialogue and diplomacy.

UTTARKASHI CLOUDBURST

1 body found so far; many still missing as rain hampers rescue op

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Uttarkashi, August 11: Incessant rains in Uttarkashi since Monday morning hampered rescue operations in di saster-hit Dharali and Harsil, even as officials said one body has been recovered so far and 42 people remain missing following flash floods in the area a week ago.

Apart from them, five of the 29 Nepali labourers reported missing initially have been contacted after the restoration of the mobile network, and authorities said they are hopeful that the others will also be

Due to the inclement weather, rescuers had to temporarilv halt their search for the missing people in the debris,

Hopes of finding survivors dimmed as it has been almost a week since raging waters and mudslides buried virtually half of Dharali village, besides causing extensive damage to an army camp in Harsil.

Commissioner of Garhwal division Vinay Shankar told reporters in Uttarkashi on Monday that "as per the information received so far, 43 people were reported missing in the disaster, out of which the body of Akash Panwar, a youth from Dharali village, has been recovered".

He, however, did not specify the death toll till now. Financial assistance has been provided to the family of the deceased youth, he said.

AAP withdraws land pooling policy



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, August 11: The AAP government in Punjab withdrew its land pooling policy Monday in the face of stiff opposition from rival political parties and farmer bodies

Although the government had been vehemently defending the policy, the Punjab and Haryana High Court, a few days ago, ordered an interim stay on its implementation for four weeks.

According to the nowscrapped policy, a land owner would be given a 1,000 square vard residential plot and a 200 square yard commercial plot in fully developed land in lieu of one acre of land.

The principal secretary in the Department of Housing and Urban Development said, "The government hereby withdraws the land pooling policy dated May 14 and its subsequent amendments.

'Consequently, all actions, like letters of intent issued, registration done, or any other action taken thereunder shall

be reversed henceforth." ac cording to the statement.

The high court, while ordering an interim stay on the policy, had held that it appears to have been notified in haste and concerns August 7, including social impact assessment and environmental impact assess ment, should have been ad dressed before its notification

The Bhagwant Mann-led AAP government had been facing flak from the opposition parties and various farmer bod ies, which dubbed the land pooling policy a "looting" scheme aimed at "robbing" farmers of their land.

The Shiromani Akali Dal, the BJP and the Congress, among others, had held multiple protests against the policy while various farmer bodies, including the Samyukta Kisan Morcha, had also planned demon strations and protests.

The AAP had hit out at the opposition parties for spreading "propaganda" against the state government's policy, with party leaders describing it as "farmers-friendly"

1,900 refugees from Myanmar, B'desh registered in Mizoram

Aizawl, August 11: More than 1,900 refugees staying in Mizoram have been enrolled in the ongoing exercise of biometric enrollment for people from Myanmar and Bangladesh, an official said Monday.

He said that the biometric enrollment for over 32,000 Myanmar nationals who have taken shelter across 11 districts of the state and nearly 3.000 Bangladeshis from Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) began in a few districts July 28, followed by most other districts July 30 and 31.

The exercise is progressing at a slow pace due to technical issues and poor internet connectivity in remote areas, he said.

As of Friday, district administrations have captured the biometric and demographic details of 1,947 refugees across 11 districts, according to the

Although collecting biometric and biographic data of refugees who are staying in relief camps is easier, district officials faced inconvenience for children who study in Aizawl

their parents currently took shelter, he said. He said that the enrollment exercise could also not be expedited for those refugees who live outside relief camps, especially in rented houses and those living with relatives or friends. According to the state home

department, a total of 32,504 Myanmar refugees are presently taking shelter across all the 11 districts of Mizoram with Champhai district hosting the highest at 13,586. The number. however, keeps changing almost every day as some refugees have the habit of going to their country and coming back to Mizoram repeatedly. officials said.

Although Champhai district, which has hosted the highest number of Myanmar refugees, began the enrollment exercise July 31, only seven have been enrolled so far due to technical glitches with the electronic devices, they said. The district administration has collected new devices from Aizawl Saturday, and the exercise is expected to run smoothly from this week, they said.

New Delhi/Mumbai, August

11: The Supreme Court Monday refused to intervene in a Bombay High Court order directing the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to book people feeding pigeons at "kabutarkhanas" (pigeon feeding spots) in the coastal city.

A bench of Justices JK Maheshwari and Vijay Bishnoi dismissed a plea against the HC order, saying "parallel indulgence" was improper.

Days after agitators removed a tarpaulin cover from a 'kabutarkhana' in Mumbai's Dadar area, the BMC has again covered it with plastic sheets, a civic official said.

Security has been beefed up in the area to prevent any law and order issue and deter people from feeding the birds, the official said.

Jain monk Muni Nileshchandra Vijay warned of launching an indefinite hunger strike from August 13 against the decision to shut down pigeon feeding spots. He asserted the community would not abide by court orders if it went against their religious practices.



SC upholds HC order preventing feeding of pigeons

"If necessary, we will also take up arms for religion," he

Maharashtra Skill Development Minister Mangal Prabhat Lodha, who has been supportive of efforts to save kabutarkhanas, distanced himself from the monk's comments.

The Supreme Court Monday said the petitioner could move the high court for the order's modification.

The top court was hearing an appeal filed by animal enthusiasts and others challenging an order of the Bombay High

The high court observed the issue was over public health and the grave and potential health hazard to people of all ages at large.

The court had previously restrained the BMC from demolishing any of the old heritage kabutarkhanas in the metropolis, but refused to allow feeding of the birds.

The court had then underlined the safety and predominance of human health from the menace created by the congregation of pigeons to be the

BMC COVERS

AGAIN

ers claimed the BMC started demolishing the feeding spots from July 3 onwards without legal backing. They argued the BMC's act violated the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

A large number of protesters removed the tarpaulin cover put up by the BMC to discourage the practice of feeding grains to pigeons and also clashed with police August 6.

Talking to reporters in Mumbai, the Jain claimed more than 10

lakh Jains from all over the country will KABUTARKHANA' take part in the August 13 protest.

"The ban targets Jain traditions The move is politically motivated with elections in mind. From ants to elephants no living being should die (from hunger), that is what our religion teaches. Why is Jainism being targeted? Show how many people die after consuming liquor and chicken," the monk said.

Air India to suspend Delhi-Washington direct service

The Tata Group-owned airline, which currently operates five weekly flights from Delhi to Washington using the Dreamliner, said the decision has been taken on account of a combination of operational factors to ensure reliability of its overall route network

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: Air India will suspend flights between the national capital and Washington DC from September 1, mainly due to non-availability of multiple Boeing 787 Dreamliner planes as the legacy aircraft fleet is undergoing retrofit.

The Tata Group-owned airline, which currently operates five weekly flights from Delhi to Washington using the Dreamliner, Monday said the decision has been taken on account of a combination of operational factors to ensure reliability of its overall route

"The suspension is primarily driven by the planned shortfall in Air India's fleet, as the airline commenced retrofitting 26 of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft last month. This extensive retrofit programme, aimed at significantly enhancing customer experience, necessitates a prolonged unavailability of multiple aircraft at any given time until at least end of 2026. That, coupled with the continued closure of airspace over Pakistan, impacts the airline's long-haul operations, leading to longer flight routings and increased operational complexity," Air India said in a statement. Following the closure of the

Pakistan airspace, Air India's Delhi-Washington flights have a stopover at Vienna and the total flight duration, including the stopover time, is around 19 hours. On the return leg, there is no stop enroute and the flight duration is about 15



The airline said passengers having bookings to or from Washington DC beyond September 1 will be contacted and offered alternative travel arrangements, including rebooking on other flights or

full refunds, as per their individual preferences.

At present, apart from Washington, the airline operates non-flights to six destinations in North America -- New York, Newark (EWR), Chicago, San Francisco (US), Toronto ■ In the wake of the fatal crash of Air India's Boeing 787-8 plane enroute to London Gatwick from Ahmedabad June 12, the airline, which has embarked on an ambitious five-year transformation plan, has made changes to its network, including withdrawal of flights on five overseas routes.

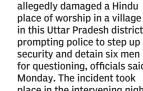
and Vancouver (Canada).

Currently, Air India has a fleet of around 190 narrow-body and wide-body aircraft. The retrofit of the legacy 26 Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner planes is expected to be completed by July 2027.

"Air India customers will continue to have the options of one-stop flights to Washington DC via four US gateways -- New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Chicago, and San Francisco - with the airline's interline partners, Alaska Airlines, United Airlines, and Delta Air Lines, allowing customers to travel on a single itinerary with their baggage checked through to the final destina tion," the statement said.

In the wake of the fatal crash of Air India's Boeing 787-8 plane enroute to London Gatwick from Ahmedabad June 12, the airline, which has embarked on an ambitious five-year transformation plan, has made changes to its net work, including withdrawal of flights on five overseas routes The airline, Sunday, said

that starting in early 2027, it will additionally retrofit 13 of its legacy Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, aiming for completion by October 2028, with the timeline having shifted due to supply chain delays.



Place of worship

damaged in UP

Bahraich (UP): Some people

in this Uttar Pradesh district, prompting police to step up security and detain six men for questioning, officials said Monday. The incident took place in the intervening night of Sunday and Monday in Padohiya village of the Mahsi area, when the shrine of village deity Gavat Mata was damaged, four neem trees were cut down and a Hanuman flag was allegedly inverted.

international



Don't laugh at India. Don't mock them when they are down because when we were down, they were the only ones to lend us a hand HARSHA DE SILVA DE SILVA

FRANCE'S TOP HONOUR FOR **EUROPE'S LAST HAWKER**

France will honour the country's last newspaper hawker, Ali Akbar, with the National Order of Merit for his decades-long service of delivering newspapers to cafes and restaurants in Paris' fashionable Latin Quarter. Akbar, originally from Rawalpindi in northern Pakistan, is also believed to be the last newspaper hawker in all of Europe



Australia will the State of Palestine at the 80th Sessions of the United Nations

in September, to contribute to international momentum towards a two-state solution, a ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages ANTHONY ALBANESE | PM, AUSTRALIA

I don't know what they're govt) talking about, playing just stating facts

We do not want to go to war, but think if there is a war over Taiwan we will be drawn, we will be pulled ing and screaming FERDINAND MARCOS JR

PRESIDENT, THE PHILIPPINES



territories belong to Ukraine

KAJA KALLAS | FOREIGN POLICY CHIEF, EU

SHORT **TAKES**

Dengue grips B'desh

Dhaka: Bangladesh is experiencing a surge in dengue cases and deaths, with health experts warning that August could bring an even more severe outbreak of the mosquito-borne disease if urgent action is not taken. Dengue has killed 101 people and infected 24,183 so far this year, official data showed, placing a severe strain on the country's already overstretched healthcare system. A sharp rise in fatalities has accompanied the spike in cases. Nineteen people have already died of dengue so far in August, following 41 deaths in July — more than double June's 19 fatalities. "The situation is critical. The virus is already widespread across the country, and without aggressive intervention, hospitals will be overwhelmed," said Kabirul Bashar, an entomologist at

SK, Vietnam expand ties

Jahangirnagar University.

Seoul: South Korea and Vietnam's leaders pledged to deepen economic cooperation Monday as their exportdependent countries try to shore up longstanding supply chains as US President Donald Trump's tariffs shake up global trade. There was no public discussion of the levies - 15% on South Korean products going to the US and 20% for Vietnamese goods - as South Korean President Lee Jae Myung hosted Vietnam's To Lam as his first state guest since taking office in June. But Trump's tariffs on products from Asian countries have increased uncertainty over future husiness commitments. with Vietnamese official data showing a slowdown in new investment.

XINJIANG-TIBET RAIL LINK NEAR LAC

Beijing deepens Himalayan presence

Strategic rail corridor near LAC highlights **China's intent**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, August 11: China is set to build the most ambitious rail link connecting Xinjiang province with Tibet, part of which will "run near" the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with India, according to a media report.

Work is expected to get underway this year on one of the world's most ambitious rail projects with the launch of a state-owned company to oversee the construction and operations of a line that will link Hotan in Xinjiang and Lhasa in Tibet, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported.

The Xinjiang-Tibet Railway Company (XTRC) had been formally registered with 95 billion yuan (\$13.2 billion) in capital and wholly owned by China State Railway Group to build the project, the report said. quoting the state-run Shanghai Securities News.

"This ambitious project aims to establish a 5,000 km plateau rail framework centred on Lhasa by 2035," Hubei-based Huayuan Securities said in a research note Friday.

The project's registered cap ital represents initial funding, not total project costs. For example, the 1,800 km Sichuan-Tibet Railway required an



The 1980 km railway line is expected to connect Hotan in Xinjiang to Shigatze in Tibet, from where a line to Lhasa is in place

This line is likely to run east of the G219 Xinjiang-Tibet Highway, where construction in the 1950s became a point of provocation for the 1962 war

India asserts Aksai Chin as an integral part of its territory based on historical claims and past

estimated 320 billion yuan (\$45 billion) to build, according to the report published Saturday. "Parts of the route will also

run near the China-India Line

of Actual Control (LAC), the de

facto border between the two countries, giving it defensive importance in a frontier area with less infrastructure than the rest of China," the report said. China's mega infrastructure project in the route, the Xinjiang-Tibet highway, also known

as G219 highway, was built through the disputed Aksai Chin area, which was a major flashpoint in the 1962 war. The Xiniiang-Tibet Railway

is one of four lines planned to connect Tibet with the rest of the country, with the other services linking the western region to Qinghai, Sichuan and Yunnan provinces, the report said. The Qinghai-Tibet line is up and running while construction continues on the other two, it said. The Tibet region in China is well connected by air, road and rail networks. Its high-speed rail network from Lhasa stretches close to the Arunachal Pradesh border.

Significantly, China's plans for the new Xinjiang-Tibet rail link come just after Beijing and New Delhi began a normalisation of relations after over four vears of a freeze in ties due to the military standoff in the sprawling Eastern Ladakh.

DYNAMICS: Tibet

continues to be the focus of China's mega constructions. China recently started the construction of the world's biggest dam over the Brahmaputra River in ecologically fragile Tibet, close to **Arunachal Pradesh**

Aksai Chin is part of the region. The relations began looking up after last vear's meeting in Russia between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS summit.

Modi is expected to attend the two-day Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit beginning August 31.

Tibet continues to be the focus of China's mega constructions. China recently started the construction of the world's biggest dam over the Brahmaputra River in ecologically fragile Tibet, close to Arunachal Pradesh. The mega dam raised concerns in the lower riparian countries - India and Bangladesh. Costing about \$170 billion, the dam is stated to be the world's biggest infrastructure project.

China defended the dam proiect, saying it would not have any negative impact on the downstream countries.

According to the details provided in the registration of XTRC, its business scope also includes diversified operations such as real estate development, tourism, catering, accommodation and international project contracting.

Under the plan, the train route will join the existing Lhasa-Shigatse line with a new one from Hotan to Shigatse, forming a roughly 2,000km strategic artery linking northwestern and southwestern China, the Post reported. The route will have an average elevation of over 4,500 metres, and pass through the Kunlun, Karakoram, Kailash and Himalayan mountain ranges, going through glaciers, frozen rivers and permafrost.

The project posed many challenges as the winter temperatures on the Tibetan Plateau can plunge to -40 degrees Celsius, with oxygen levels at just 44 per cent of inland regions.

Along with the engineering challenges, the project team will have to cope with accelerated machinery wear, soaring logistics costs, and environmental conservation needs, the report said.

Planning for the Xinjiang-Tibet line dates back to 2008, when it was included in the revised "Medium and Long-Term Railway Network Plan" approved by the National Development and Reform Commission, the country's top economic planner.

Explosion at US Steel plant leaves one dead, dozens injured ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clairton (US), August 11: An explosion at a US Steel plant near Pittsburgh left one dead and dozens injured or trapped under the rubble Monday, with emergency workers on site trying to res cue victims, officials said. The explosion sent black

smoke spiralling into the midday sky in the Monongahela Valley, a region of the state synonymous with steel for more than a century. An Allegheny County emer

gency services spokesperson, Kasey Reigner, said one person died in the explosion and two were currently believed to be unaccounted for. Multiple other people were treated for injuries. Reigner said.

Allegheny County Emergency Services said a fire at the plant started around 10:51 am. The explosion sent a shock through the community and led to officials asking residents to stay away from the scene so emergency workers could respond. "It felt like thunder," Zach-

ary Buday, a construction worker near the scene, told WTAE-TV.

Dozens were injured and the county was sending 15 ambu lances, on top of the ambulances supplied by local emergency response agencies, Reigner said. The plant, a massive in-

dustrial facility along the Monongahela River south of Pittsburgh, is considered the largest coking operation in North America and is one of four major US Steel plants in Pennsylvania that employ several thousand workers

Trump takes control of Washington police

The US president promised new steps to tackle homelessness and crime in Washington, prompting the city's mayor to voice concerns about the potential use of the National Guard to patrol the streets

Washington, August 11: President Donald Trump said on Monday he was putting Washington's police department under federal control and ordering the National Guard to deploy to the nation's capital to combat what he said was a wave of lawlessness, despite statistics showing that violent crime hit a 30-year low in 2024.

"I'm deploying the National Guard to help reestablish law, order and public safety in Washington, DC," Trump told reporters at the White House, flanked by administration officials including Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Attorney General Pam Bondi. "Our capital city has been overtaken by violent gangs and bloodthirsty criminals.

Trump's announcement is his latest effort to target Democratic cities by exercising exec-

COMBATING CRIME



utive power over traditionally local matters. He has dismissed criticism that he is manufacturing a crisis to justify expanding presidential authority.

Hundreds of officers and agents from over a dozen federal agencies, including the FBI, ICE, DEA, and ATF, have already fanned out across the city in recent days.

The Democratic major of Washington, Muriel Bowser, has pushed back on Trump's claims, saying the city is "not experiencing a crime spike" and highlighting that violent crime hit its lowest level in more than three decades last

Violent crime fell 26% in the first seven months of 2025 National Guard troops to be deployed to Washington

Trump to take direct control of city police

Trump uses urban crime in latest political strategy push

after dropping 35% in 2024, and overall crime dropped 7%, according to the city's police department.

But gun violence remains an issue. In 2023, Washington had the third-highest gun homicide rate among US cities with populations over 500,000, according to gun control advocacy group Everytown for Gun Safety.

The deployment of National Guard troops is a tactic the Re-

publican president used in Los Angeles, where he dispatched 5,000 troops in June in response to protests over his administration's immigration raids. State and local officials objected to Trump's decision as unnecessary and inflammatory.

A federal trial was set to begin Monday in San Francisco on whether the Trump administration violated US law by deploying National Guard troops and US Marines without the approval of Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom.

The president has broad authority over the 2,700 members of the DC National Guard, unlike in states where governors typically hold the power to activate troops. Guard troops have been dispatched to Washington many times, including in response to the January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol by a mob of Trump supporters.

During his first term, Trump sent the National Guard into Washington in 2020 to help quash mostly peaceful demonstrations during nationwide protests over police brutality following the murder of George Floyd, Civil rights leaders denounced the deployment, which was opposed by Bowser. The US military is generally

prohibited under law from directly participating in domestic law enforcement activities.

India on UK's 'Deport Now Appeal Later' list

Colombian prez hopeful Uribe dies after campaign shooting in June



Bogota, August 11: Miguel Uribe, a Colombian senator who was vying for his party's candidacy in upcoming presidential elections, died Monday, two months after being shot at a campaign rally. He was 39.

Uribe, a father and stepfather, was shot in the head while giving a campaign speech June 7 and underwent multiple surgeries during his subsequent hospital stay.

He had shown some improvement during July, but his condition worsened over the past weekend due to a hemorrhage in his central nervous system. the hospital treating him said Sunday.

The assassination has evoked memories of intense political violence in Colombia's past. In the 1980s and 1990s, four presidential candidates were murdered in separate attacks blamed on drug cartels allied with right-wing paramilitary death squads.

"You'll alwavs be the love of my life," his wife Maria Claudia Tarazona said on Instagram early on Monday. "Thank you for a life filled with love, thank you for being a father to the girls, the best dad to Alejandro.

"I ask God to show me the path to learn to live without you," she added. "Rest in peace, love of my life. I will take care

of our children.' The death of Uribe adds fur-

ther tragedy to his family's fraught history. His mother, journalist Di-

ana Turbay, was killed in 1991 during a botched rescue mission after she was kidnapped by the Medellin Cartel, headed by drug lord Pablo Escobar.

The family is prominent in Colombian politics. His maternal grandfather, Julio Cesar Turbay, served as Colombia's president from 1978 to 1982 while his paternal grandfa ther, Rodrigo Uribe Echavarria, headed the Liberal Party and supported Virgilio Barco's successful 1986 presidential campaign.

Gaza becoming graveyard for scribes

At least 186 have been killed in Gaza

Jerusalem, August 11: Israel's military targeted an Al Jazeera correspondent with an airstrike Sunday, killing him, another network journalist and at least six other people. all of whom were sheltering outside the Gaza City Hospital

Officials at Shifa Hospital said those killed included Al Jazeera correspondents Anas al-Sharif and Mohamed Qureiqa. The strike also killed four other journalists and two other people, hospital administrative director Rami Mohanna told The Associated Press. Al-Sharif reported a nearby bombardment minutes before



his death. In a social media post that Al Jazeera said was written to be posted in case of his death. he bemoaned the devastation and destruction that war had wrought and bid farewell to his wife, son and daughter.

"I never hesitated for a single day to convey the truth as it is, without distortion or falsification," the 28-year-old wrote.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, August 11: India is among the countries being added to an expanded UK government list of countries where foreign criminals will be deported once they are sentenced before their appeals are heard as part of measures to crack down on rising migration to the country.

In an announcement Sunday, the UK Home Office confirmed that the scope of its "Deport Now Appeal Later" scheme will be nearly trebled from eight countries to 23, with foreign nationals from these countries to be deported to their home countries before they can appeal against that decision.

Foreigners who have had their human rights claim re-



fused will have a chance to take part in their UK appeal hearing remotely from overseas using video technology.

The list of countries covered under the remote hearing scheme, revived in 2023 by then

Conservative home secretary Suella Braverman, included Finland, Nigeria, Estonia, Albania, Belize, Mauritius, Tanzania and Kosovo. Now, India will be added

along with Angola, Australia,

For far too long, foreign criminals have been exploiting our immigration system, remaining in the UK for months or even years while their appeals drag on. That

YVETTE COOPER | HOME SECRETARY, UK

Botswana, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Uganda and Zambia.

The UK government said it remains in continuous discussions with "a range of other countries about joining the scheme".

"We are leading diplomatic efforts to increase the number of countries where foreign criminals can be swiftly returned, and if they want to appeal, they can do so safely from

their home country. Under this scheme, we're investing in international partnerships that uphold our security and make our streets safer," said Foreign Secretary David Lammy.

According to the Home Of fice, previously offenders from the countries on the expanded list could remain in the UK for months or years while their cases were worked through the appeals system as an "added burden on the British taxpayer" beyond the end of the prison sentences.

It also released the latest fig ures to highlight that around 5,200 foreign nationals were deported since July 2024 when the Labour government came into office, an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year.

business



Japan, South Korea, UK, Russia, Australia, **West Asia, South East** Asia and many countries are available for export of Indian seafoods

RAJIV RANJAN SINGH | UNION

PNB, BoB DONATE ₹1 CRORE EACH TO **UTTARAKHAND DISASTER RELIEF**

State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Bank of Baroda (BoB) have made a contribution of ₹1 crore each to Uttarakhand towards relief efforts in the disaster-affected areas of Dharali and Harsil in Uttarkashi district. The decision reflects PNB's deep-rooted bond with the people of Uttarakhand and comes as a heartfelt response to the torrential rains and climatic upheaval that struck the state August 5, 2025, PNB said in a statement Monday



Delhi and Mumbai are priorities for the company, she said, adding, in the the company will



open its supercharging station in **Gurugram to be followed by others** in Saket (South Delhi) and Noida ISABEL FAN | REGIONAL DIRECTOR, TESLA







in general savings bank accounts, while some have

rationalised to promote financial PANKAJ CHAUDHARY

MINISTER OF STATE, FINANCE

SHORT **TAKES**

JioFinance app offers paid tax filing facility

New Delhi: Jio Financial Services Ltd (JFSL) Monday said taxpayers can take assistance of JioFinance App for filing their returns as it has launched planning and filing module on its platform. Aimed at making tax planning and income tax return (ITR) filing simpler, smarter, and more affordable, the new feature has been developed in partnership with TaxBuddy, an online tax filing and advisory service, JFSL said in a statement. The tax filing feature allows users to either file returns themselves, or opt for expert-assisted filing, with plans starting as low as ₹24 for self-service options, and ₹999 for assisted options. The module includes two core features -- tax planner and tax filing, it said, adding that the tax filing feature is designed to address common challenges such as confusion between old and new tax regimes, helping ensuring deductions under sections like 80C and 80D are not missed, and eliminating over-reliance on costly intermediaries

Kamdhenu profit grows

New Delhi: Kamdhenu Ltd Monday reported 39 per cent year-on-year growth in net profit at ₹21.4 crore for June guarter of FY26, driven by increase in revenues. Kamdhenu, a leading TMT rebar player in India, had logged a net profit (profit after tax) of ₹15.4 crore in the April-June period of 2024-25 financial year. In the first quarter, the company said its revenue from operations grew to ₹196 crore from ₹184.5 crore a year ago. The revenue from royalty was at ₹41.5 crore. higher from ₹34.8 crore in the year-ago quarter.

Bata India net plunges

New Delhi: Footwear maker Bata India Ltd Monday reported a 70 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to ₹52 crore in the first quarter ended June 30, 2025, impacted by higher expenses amid sluggish consumption momentum and a high base effect. The company had posted a consolidated net profit of ₹174 crore in the corresponding quarter last fiscal, Bata India said in a regulatory filing. Consolidated revenue from operations in the first quarter stood at ₹941.85 crore against ₹944.63 crore in the year-ago period, it added.

Equity MF inflow hit record high

New Delhi. August 11: Equity-oriented mutual funds garnered a net inflow of ₹42,702 crore in July, making it the highest-ever monthly tally for the segment, propelled by contributions from thematic and flexi cap funds, despite heightened market volatility plagued by tariff war with US.

This was a sharp 81 per cent surge from ₹23,587 crore inflows registered in June, suggesting a clear resurgence in domestic risk appetite. Also, the latest fund infusion by investors marks the 53rd consecutive month of net inflows into the segment.

Additionally, a healthy growth was witnessed in SIP (Systematic Investment Plan) inflow at ₹28.464 crore during the month under review, an increase from ₹27.269 crore in June, data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed Monday.

"Despite uncertainties due to tariff war, India's growth story remains intact -- which is evident in strong inflow in equities -- backed by benign inflation, improved liquidity, improved savings," Venkat N Chalasani, CEO of Amfi. said.

Himanshu Srivastava, Principal, Manager Research at Morningstar Investment Research India, believes that intermittent market corrections



Despite uncertainties due to tariff war, India's growth story remains intact -- which is evident in strong inflow in equities -backed by benign inflation, improved liquidity, improved savings

VENKAT N CHALASANI | CEO, AMFI

during the month on the back of tariff war with the US, as well as ongoing geopolitical tension, which offered investors attractive entry points.

Among equity-oriented mutual fund categories, Sectoral or Thematic funds topped the charts with a net inflow of ₹9,426 crore, fuelled by the launch of seven new schemes that collectively garnered

₹7,404 crore. This was followed by Flexi-Cap funds which attracted ₹7,654 crore, supported by their versatile mandate to capture opportunities across market capitalizations.

In addition, Small Cap Funds (Rs 6.484 crore) and Mid Cap Funds (Rs 5,182 crore), Large & Mid Cap Fund (Rs 5,035 crore) registered robust inflows. Besides, Large Cap Funds saw net inflows of ₹2,125 crore.

"Strong corporate earnings, a steady macroeconomic backdrop, and expectations of a gradual monetary easing cycle kept investors engaged, particularly in growth-oriented categories such as flexi, mid, and small caps," Srivastava said.

Overall, the mutual fund industry experienced an infusion of ₹1.8 lakh crore in July, higher than ₹49 000 crore in June and ₹29,000 crore in May. This was driven by robust participation across categories, especially in debt, followed by equity.

The strong inflow has lifted the industry's assets under management to surpass ₹75 lakh crore for the first time The asset base rose by 1.3 per cent to ₹75.36 lakh crore as of July from ₹74.4 lakh crore at the end of June despite pressures from strong US Dollar and persistent foreign fund outflows, Amfi's Chalasani said.

Debt funds have staged a strong comeback, with ₹1.06 lakh crore inflows, led by low-duration and money market funds, alongside steady inflows in liquid and overnight

In addition, Gold ETFs (exchange traded funds) witnessed a net inflow of ₹1,256 crore in July, moderating from the robust ₹2,081 crore seen in the preceding month but still marking the third consecutive month of positive flows.

The sustained demand reflects gold's continued appeal as a portfolio diversifier amid lingering macro uncertainties. including volatile global interest rate expectations and geopo litical risks," Nehal Meshram, Senior Analyst - Manager Re search at Morningstar Investment Research India, said.

mark BSE Sensex rallied 746 points to close above the 80,000 mark Monday following buying in oil, auto and banking shares amid fresh foreign fund

to 24,585.05

definite assessment of the US trade and growth impact is yet to be assessed fully," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Ltd, said. Among Sensex firms, Tata

may still prevail, the more

Bank of India, UltraTech Cement and Larsen & Toubro

However, Bharat Electronics,

Sensex jumps 746 pts; closes above 80,000



AUGUST 11, 2025



CHANGE: +746.29 (+0.93%)

80,604.08

A MOTORS	+3.24 %				BEL	-0.20 %
RNAL	+2.84 %	TOP	TO	OP	BHARTI AIRTEL	-0.09 %
NT	+2.49 %	GAINERS		ERS	MARUTI	-0.02 %
N	+2.45 %	UMINERO	LUG	LICO	- 1	-
RATECH CEMENT	+1.95 %	T			-	-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Previous

ULTI

Mumbai, August 11: Bench-The 30-share Sensex jumped

746.29 points or 0.93 per cent to settle at 80,604.08 with 26 of its constituents ending higher. The 50-share NSE Nifty jumped by 221.75 points or 0.91 per cent "The market saw a relief rally

post a 3-month low; a positive global cue and a gradual return of FIIs supported the sentiment. Investors are positively assessing the upcoming US-Russia Summit this week, which may possibly give way to a de-escalation in geopolitical tensions. "While a near-term caution

Motors, Eternal, Trent, State

were the major gainers.

Bharti Airtel and Maruti were the laggards. The BSE midcap gauge

climbed 0.79 per cent and the smallcap index rose by 0.35 per cent. The majority of the BSE

sectoral indices ended higher Realty surged the most by 1.86 per cent, followed by bankes (1.13 per cent), healthcare (1.12 per cent), auto (1.03 per cent). financial services (1 per cent) utilities (0.92 per cent), services (0.90 per cent) and power (0.85 m)per cent). Consumer Durables emerged

as the only laggard. As many as 2.237 stocks advanced while 1,930 declined and 170 remained unchanged on the BSE

In Asian markets, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng settled in positive territory while South Korea's Kospi ended marginally lower. Markets in Japan were closed due to a holiday.

European markets were trading mostly lower. The US markets ended higher Friday.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth ₹1,932.81 crore Friday according to exchange data Global oil benchmark Brent crude dipped 0.45 per cent to \$66.29 a barrel.

SEBI proposes SWAGAT-FI for low risk foreign investors mechanism for certain catego-

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: Security Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has proposed introducing a single window access for low risk foreign investors seeking to participate in the Indian securities market, a move aimed at simplifying compliance and enhancing the country's attractiveness as an investment destination.

Single Window Automatic & Generalised Access for Trusted Foreign Investors (SWAGAT-FI), if implemented, would provide easier investment access to low risk foreign investors, enable a unified registration process across multiple investment routes and reduce repeated compliance and documentation for such entities, SEBI said in its consultation paper.

The low risk foreign investors identified by Sebi include government-owned funds, central banks, sovereign wealth funds, and multilateral entities, highly regulated public retail funds, and appropriately regulated insurance companies, as well as pension funds.

As of June 30, 2025, India had 11.913 registered FPIs, holding assets worth ₹80.83 lakh crore and SWAGAT-FIs are estimated to contribute more than 70 per cent of total FPIs' assets under custody as June 30, 2025.

"SWAGAT-FI framework aims to offer a unified, streamlined and consistent access

ries of foreign investors that are verified to have met specified eligibility criteria. This framework will help reduce regulatory complexity, simplify compliance, and enhance India's attractiveness as an investment destination," Sebi said. Under the framework, the

regulator has proposed to grant an option to SWAGAT-FIs applying for registration/ already registered as FPIs to also register as FVCI (Foreign venture Capital Investor), without the need for any further documentation".

Registration under both FPI and FVCI Regulations will enable SWAGAT-FIs to invest in listed equity instruments and debt securities of Indian companies as FPI, and in unlisted Indian companies engaged in specified sectors and startups as FVCI under respective regulations, it added.

To enhance ease of compliance, the regulator has suggested increasing the periodicity for continuance of registration, including payment of fee and review of KYC documentation to 10 years, up from the current three-year or five-year periods.

It has been proposed to permit the use of a single demat account for holding all securities acquired as FPI or FVCI or as foreign investor investing in units of investment vehicles, on an optional basis.

to prove their identity instantly, securely, and anywhere. "The pace of adoption has been exponential. 50 crore transactions were recorded by mid-2024. The number doubled to 100 crore transactions in January 2025 in just about five months. In less than six months, this figure has again doubled, reaching the 200 crore milestone," the statement said.

Aadhaar FaceRD sets new benchmark

have doubled to 200 crore in less than six months, an official statement

Kumar said from villages to metros, the authority is joining forces with

New Delhi: Aadhaar transactions carried out using face recognition

transactions of Face Authentication, showcasing India's rapid move

towards seamless, secure, and paperless authentication. Unique

Identification Authority of India Chief Executive Officer Bhuvnesh

governments, banks, and service providers to make Aadhaar Face

Authentication a grand success and by giving every Indian the power

said Monday. August 10, UIDAI celebrated a landmark 200 crore

Central Bank of India celebrates 144th Founder's day

Sambalpur: Central Bank of India, Sambalpur Regional Office, celebrated the 144th Birth Anniversary of its founder, Sorabii Pochkhanawala, in the presence of Divvendu Kumar, Regional Head, senior bank officials and customers. Tributes were paid to Sorabji for his pioneering role in establishing India's first Swadeshi Bank, with a reaffirmation of the Bank's commitment to his vision and values. The bank marked the occasion with tributes to the founder and highlighted its ongoing commitment to financial inclusion, digital innovation, and sustainable banking practices. The bank uses this day to reinforce its legacy, and encourage employee performance aligned with its mission. Thus, the bank celebrates this day with ceremonial tributes, customer campaigns, and recognition activities to honor its heritage and promote business goals.

AIIDBEA observes nationwide strike

Bhubaneswar: Under the banner of United Forum of IDBI Officers and Employees (UFIOE), the members of All India IDBI Officers' Association (AIIDBIOA and the members of All India Industrial Development Bank Employees Association (AIIDBEA) observed one day nationwide strike, Monday. A protest was earlier observed at Jantar Mantar, Delhi July 26, and the other protest was observed at Azad Maidan, Mumbai August 9. Main issues and demand includes, stopping the proposed sale of IDBI Bank to private/foreign players by Govt of India and LIC of India. Multiple recruitment in IDBI Bank. Stop the toxic work



culture prevailing in IDBI Bank. Introduction of bilateral transfer policy for officers. Issuance of Head office circular on categorization of branches. Introduction of furniture facility for officers. Conducting quarterly structured meetings. Re-introduction of medical assistance fund scheme for staff. Implement Bi-partite settlement on promotion of matriculate Class IV to the post of sorting clerk.

Apple, Vivo lead India smartphone market in 2025

New Delhi, August 11: Apple's supplies in India grew by 21.5 per cent annually to 5.9 million units in the first half of 2025 with iPhone 16 being the highest-shipped model across the country during the period, market research firm International Data Corporation (IDC) said Monday.

According to IDC worldwide quarterly mobile phone tracker, India's smartphone market shipped 70 million smartphones in the first half of 2025, with a 0.9 per cent growth YoY (year-over-year) and the second quarter of the year registered a growth of 7.3 per cent YoY, shipping 37 million smartphones.

The overall smartphone shipment growth was mitigated by a dip in supplies of Chinese companies -- OnePlus, Poco, Xiaomi and Realme, according to the report.

"Apple maintained its strong performance, with shipments growing 21.5 per cent YoY to 5.9 million units in the first half of 2025. The iPhone 16 was the highest-shipped model across India in the first half of 2025, making up 4 per cent of overall India shipments during that

During the second quarter Apple's iPhone supplies in India grew 19.7 per cent YoY in June 2025 quarter, thereby the company clocking 7.5 market share in the country's smartphone market.

The second quarter recorded 37 million smartphone unit shipments implying Apple supplied 2.7 million units in the India market. The overall smartphone

tured 19 per cent share with

23.5 per cent YoY shipment

Samsung followed Vivo with market during the June quara 14.5 per cent market share, ter was led by Vivo which cap-

"Vivo continues its impres-

registering a growth of 21 per cent YoY in smartphone ship-

sive run, leading the India smartphone market for the sixth consecutive quarter, with a balanced portfolio across price segments and channels.

Samsung, a steady second, registered strong growth of 21 per cent led by new model launches across Galaxy A/M/F series, introducing AI-enabled features to mid rangers," the report said. Oppo shipment grew 25.4

per cent YoY with the brand clocking a 13.4 per cent market share, while Motorola clocked an 8 per cent share rising by 39.4 per cent annually, and iQoo grabbed a 4.3 per cent market share, which was 68.4 per cent higher year-on-year.

OnePlus market share plunged to 2.5 per cent during the reported quarter from 4.4 per cent a vear ago with the company's shipment plunging by 39.4 per cent, according to the IDC report.

The market share of Realme slid to 9.7 per cent with the company's smartphone shipment declining by 17.8 YoY in the June 2025 quarter. Xiaomi market share declined to 9.6 per cent with a 23.5 per cent dip in volumes and Poco slipped to 3.8 per cent in terms of market share recording a 28.8 per cent fall in supplies.

The premium segment devices (priced between ₹52,000-Rs 70,000) registered the highest growth of 96.4 per cent, and their share increased from 2 to 4 per cent.

"iPhone 16/15 together accounted for more than three fifths of the shipments in this

segment," the report said. The super-premium segment phones (priced above ₹70,000 apiece) also grew by 15.8 per cent but thier share remained flat at 7 per cent.

"Samsung surpassed Apple for the leadership position at 49 and 48 per cent share, respectively. iPhone 16, Galaxy S25/S24 Ultra/S25 and iPhone 16Plus were key models in the segment," the report said.

Lok Sabha passes sports Bill India eves aim to end ICC trophy drought

MANDAVIYA CALLS IT SINGLE BIGGEST SPORTS REFORM SINCE INDEPENDENCE

performance at the Olympic

Games and on the interna-

tional stage has not been

satisfactory and this Bill aims to build India's sports

MANSIIKH MANDAVIYA | SPORTS MINISTER

able for action by the NSB but

it would be required to consult

the concerned global body be-

Another feature is the pro-

posal for a National Sports

Tribunal, which will have the

powers of a civil court and

decide disputes ranging from

selection to election involving

federations and athletes. Once

fore making its move.

capacity

New Delhi, August 11: The long-awaited National Sports Governance Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha here Monday with Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya describing it as the 'single biggest reform in Indian sports since independence' amid opposition protests over revision of electoral rolls in

The National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill was also passed when the Lok Sabha reassembled at 2pm after an early adjournment due to opposition

"It is the single biggest reform in sports since independence. This bill will ensure accountability, ensure justice, best governance in sports federations," Mandaviya said amid sloganeering by opposition members.

"It will have massive significance in India's sports ecosystem. It is unfortunate that such an important bill and reform does not have opposition's participation," he added.

Earlier, Chairman of the parliamentary committee on sports, Digvijaya Singh, requested Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to refer the National Sports Governance Bill to the panel. He felt that the bill should be examined and discussed before it is taken up by

Mandaviya said the two bills were key reforms aimed at building a "transparent, accountable and world-class sports ecosystem" in India as the country aims to bid for the 2036 Olympics.

"Efforts have been made since 1975 and in 1985, we had the first draft. But sports was also politicised for personal gains. Some ministers made efforts to bring this bill but could not move forward.



"In 2011, we had a National Sports Code, Another effort was made to turn it into a bill. It reached the cabinet, there was a discussion as well but the bill was deferred after that. It did not reach the Parliament.' the minister stated while presenting a timeline of the bill's

The sports governance bill has provisions for a National Sports Board (NSB) to create a stringent system of accountability. All National Sports Federations (NSFs) will have to attain NSB's recognition for access to central government

The NSB will have the mandate to de-recognise a national body that fails to hold elections for its Executive Committee or has committed "gross irregularities in the election proce-

Failure to publish annual audited accounts or "misused, misapplied or misappropriated public funds" would also be li-

instituted, Tribunal's decisions can only be challenged in the Supreme Court.

The bill makes some concessions on the issue of age cap for administrators by allowing those in the bracket of 70 to 75 to contest elections if the concerned international bodies' statutes and bylaws allow for it. It is a departure from the national sports code that capped the age limit at 70.

...as a part of the preparatory activities for the bidding of Summer Olympic Games 2036, it is imperative that the sports governance landscape undergo a positive transformation to bring better outcomes, sporting excellence and aids in improved performance in major international competitions,' read the bill's statement of objectives.

All recognised national sports bodies would also come under the ambit of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, something that the BCCI has vehemently opposed since it is not dependent on government

However, the cricket board has got some leeway on that front with the government amending the bill to ensure that RTI would be applicable only on bodies that rely on government funding or support.

The National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill-2025 that seeks to incorporate the changes sought by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), which objected to "government interference" in the functioning of the country's Anti-Doping Agency (NADA).

The act was originally passed in 2022 but its implementation had to be put on hold due to objections raised by WADA.

The world body objected to the institution of a National Board for Anti-Doping in Sports, which was empowered to make recommendations to the government on anti-doping 50-day countdown for ODI Women's World Cup starts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, August 11: India captain Harmanpreet Kaur Monday said her team is determined to end its ICC trophy drought during next month's ODI Women's World Cup and the preceding series against title favourites Australia will give the side a clear picture of where it stands.

India have never won a world title despite coming close on a few occasions including the 2017 ODI World Cup in England where they finished runners' up to capture the country's imagination.

"We want to break that barrier which all Indians are waiting for. World Cups are always special, always want to do something special for my country. Whenever I see Yuvi bhaiya (Yuvraj Singh) it gives me a lot of motivation, Harmanpreet said here at the trophy tour unveiling ceremony for the ODI World Cup.Former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh, former captain Mithali Raj and Harmanpreet's teammates Smriti Mandhana and Jemimah Rodrigues were also part of the function.

India go into the Australia series at home, starting September 14, high on confidence after beating England in an away ODI and T20I series. Yuvraj said players will have to individually believe that they can win matches for the country.

"(I would say) play the situ ation and not the expectation and be in the moment," he said

"It's a great opportunity to create history. But that doesn't mean that from the start point you are thinking of winning it. You have to experience the whole enigma of it. You have to feel that you have put in the process and results will come.

Both Rodrigues and Mand-

hana noted that there has been a significant change in the team's attitude when it comes to preparations. "A lot has changed with my preparation and mindset. I want to have a lot of confidence coming from my preparation and that gives me clarity," said Rodrigues Mandhana said, "Our whole team is heading into the direc tion where we know we have to put in a lot of hard work off the field and when we go on it, it's a reaction. That's been a massive change for the team as well as personally.

We want to break that barrier which all Indians are waiting for. World always want to do special for my country

HARMANPREET KAUR | CAPTAIN, INDIA

STARTS 30 SEPTEMBER

Indian-American Megha Ganne stuns golfing world

Bandon (US), August 11: Indian-American golfer Megha Ganne created history by winning the 2025 US Women's Amateur title at Bandon Dunes here, beating Brooke Biermann 4 and 3 in the 36-hole final, to stun the golfing world.

Ganne, a rising senior competing in her seventh US Women's Amateur, defeatthe 2025 Michigan State graduate Biermann.

The 21-yearold Megha's parents are Sudha Ganne, endocrinologist, and Hari Ganne, an IT entrepreneur. Both are originally from India and are first-generation immigrants to the United States. They live in Holmdel, New Jersey, with their two daughters – Megha and Sirina.

In 2021, Megha, then a teen, held the lead after the first round at the US Women's Open and was tied for third going into the final round. She finished tied 14th but had the golfing world looking at her in Alongside Indian-Americans

Akshay Bhatia and Sahith Thgala on the PGA Tour, Megha may well

> name in golf. By winning the 125th edition of the world's second-oldest womamateur competition,

be the next big

Megha has earned an exemption into next year's US Women's Open at The Riviera Country Club,

in Pacific Palisades, Calif, as well as guaranteed spots on the 2025 USA Women's World Amateur Team that will compete in Singapore in October.

National Games gold medallist Gagandeep banned 3-yr for doping

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 11: National Games discus throw gold medallist Gagandeep Singh was among a slew of athletes across sports who were handed threeyear ban by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) instead of four after they accepted their offence within 20 days of being charged.

Representing Services, Singh had won gold in men's discus with a best throw of 55.01m at the Uttarakhand National Games February 12. He later tested positive for testosterone metabolites and was handed provisional suspension.

In the NADA's latest update on done offenders, the 30-yearold Singh got one-year reduction in his ban period under "case resolution agreement" provided in Article 10.8 and 8.3 of NADA Anti-Doping Rule 2021. His threeyear ban period has started from February 19 this year.

Singh will be stripped off his National Games gold medal. Haryana athlete Nirbhay Singh's silver is expected to be upgraded to gold.

Team Asia gallops to victory

SURAJ NARREDU-LED TEAM ASIA MAKES HISTORY WITH SHERGAR CUP 2025 WIN

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, August 11: Suraj Narredu-led Team Asia has brought home the Shergar Cup 2025 trophy. From India to Ascot, Narredu delivered on his promise to leave a global mark. Alongside Japanese jockeys Ryusei Sakai and Mirai Iwata, he won two of six races and secured a crucial second place, snatching the win by just one point ahead of Europe.

Asia prevailed 68–67 over Europe, with Great Britain & Ireland third on 62 and the Rest of the World on 55. Hugh Bowman clinched the Silver Saddle as the leading

Trained by Dylan Cunha, Narredu piloted Fireblade at the prestigious Ascot Racecourse – winning Shergar Cup Stayers. Sakai also scored aboard Prince of India in the Shergar Cup Sprint.

In a steadily driven two-mile



event, the 40-year-old made his move early, keeping every opponent at bay by almost two lengths. "Being a debut team and winning today is icing

on the cake. I know this is a new team, but I'm sure in the future they'll be a force to be reckoned with," he said.

With over 2.400 career

Being a debut team and winning today is icing on the cake. I know this is a new team, but I'm sure in the future they'll be a force to be reckoned with

wins, Narredu has left no soil untouched by his excellence His passion for carrying the Narredu name like a crown - just as his father and uncle once did - adds deeper value to his game.

"It has been a dream come true. I had always imagined what it would feel like, but now that I'm living it, it's surreal. This is one of the greatest moments in my life- the one I'd always been waiting for. I fee honoured to take this win back to my country," he added.

To mark the milestone, Narredu celebrated with a signature flying dismount for the first time - a move made famous by his idol Frankie Dettori - lighting up the crowd and leaving fans smiling from ear to ear.

Bindra reminisces about 2008 Beijing Olympic gold BOXERS RULING THE RING

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, August 11: Former India shooter Abhinav Bindra reminisced about his historic gold medal win from the Beijing Olympics in 2008, when he became the country's first individual Olympic gold medallist after finishing in top spot in the men's 10m air rifle event.

In a gripping finale of the men's 10m air rifle finals at the Beijing Games, Bindra was tied with Finland's Henri Hakkinen at the top of the standings with one shot remaining. Bindra held his nerve, scoring 10.8 with his last attempt - his highest score of the finals - to see off the challenge of Hakkinen and secure victory

On the 17th anniversary of his trailblazing victory at the Summer Games, Bindra took



to X to share his emotion. "17 years ago, a medal was placed around my neck, but it truly belonged to a nation. It was built on the love of my parents, the wisdom of my coaches, and the belief of countless people who stood beside me."

"My hope has always been that the gold shone far beyond

that podium, lighting the way for every Indian athlete who dares to dream," he added.

The gold medal in the men's 10m air rifle at Beijing 2008 was the crowning glory in Bindra's stellar sporting career, which includes a World Championship gold and multiple medals at the Commonwealth Games

17 years ago, a medal was placed around my neck, but it truly belonged to a nation. It was built on the love of my parents, the wisdom of my coaches, and the belief of countless people who stood beside me

ABHINAV BINDRA

and the Asian Games.

Bindra hung up his rifle after the 2016 Rio Olympics, where he missed a podium spot by a tenth of a point after losing a shoot-off for the top three.

The legendary shooter, who featured in five Olympics (Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008, London 2012, Rio 2016), was bestowed with the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian honour, as recognition for his efforts in 2009.

Ritika bags heavyweight gold; India end Asian U22

Boxing Championships on overall fourth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangkok, August 11: Ritika bagged gold in the women's 80+kg category as India finished a creditable overall fourth in the Under-22 category of the Asian Boxing Championships here Monday.

The Indian U-22 contingent concluded their campaign with a total of 13 medals, while the U19 group returned home with a total of 14 medals, including three gold, seven silver and four bronze. The effort helped the U-19 side to end up at overall second in the tournament.

However, the day's sole gold came through Ritika in the women's 80+kg final, where she kept her composure under pressure to beat



Kazakhstan's Assel Toktassyn.

Facing a strong boxer, Ritika

mixed caution with aggression to

land some telling blows, bagging

India's fourth gold in the event.

In the morning session, Yatri Pa-

tel settled for a silver after losing

to Khumorabonu Mamajonova

of Uzbekistan in women's 57kg,

while Priya's spirited fight against

The Indian U-22 contingent concluded their campaign with a total of 13 medals, while the U19 group returned home with a total of 14 medals

Yu Tian of China in the 60kg final

ended in a narrow 2:3 loss. Later in the day, Neeraj went down against Shavkatjon Boltaev of Uzbekistan in the men's 75kg final. Later, Ishan Kataria lost to Khalimjon Mamasoliev of Uzbekistan in the 90+kg gold medal clash, as both the Indian boxers secured silver.

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