

DADLS-41



୭୯^{ତମ} ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଦିବସର ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଓ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା

ବିକଶିତ ଭାରତ@୨୦୪୭ ମାର୍ଗରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାର ସମାବେଶୀ ବିକାଶ

ସୁରକ୍ଷିତ ହେଉଛି ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଅସ୍ଥିତା, ବିକଶିତ ହେଉଛି ଐତିହ୍ୟ

ପୁରୀର ପ୍ରସିଦ୍ଧ 'ସାହିଯାତ'କୁ ମିଳିଛି ୧୭ ଲକ୍ଷ
ଟଙ୍କାର ଅନୁଦାନ
'ବରପୁତ୍ର ଐତିହ୍ୟ ଗ୍ରାମ' ଯୋଜନାର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ

ସଶକ୍ତ ମହିଳା, ବିକଶିତ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

'ସୁଭଦ୍ରା' ଯୋଜନାରେ ୧ କୋଟି ମହିଳା ଉପକୃତ,
କୋଟିଆ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତରୁ ୧୭୮୩
୧୭ ଲକ୍ଷ 'ଲକ୍ଷପତି ଦିବି' ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରି ସାରା ଦେଶରେ
ସବୁଠୁ ଆଗରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

କୃଷି ଓ କୃଷକଙ୍କ କଲ୍ୟାଣରେ ସମର୍ପିତ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାର

ଗୋପାଳକଙ୍କୁ ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହିତ କରୁଛି 'ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ
କାମଧେନୁ ଯୋଜନା'
'ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ କୃଷି ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗ' ଯୋଜନାରେ ୧୧୭ ପ୍ରକାର
କୃଷି ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗ ପାଇଁ ୧ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ଯାଏଁ ରିହାତି

ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାରରେ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ସେବାକୁ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱ

ଆୟୁଷ୍ମାନ ଭାରତ ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଜନ ଆରୋଗ୍ୟ ଯୋଜନା,
ଗୋପବନ୍ଧୁ ଜନ ଆରୋଗ୍ୟ ଯୋଜନା ଏବଂ
ଆୟୁଷ୍ମାନ ବୟୋ ବଦନା ଯୋଜନା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ

ସୁଲଭ ଓ ସୁରକ୍ଷିତ ଯାତାୟାତ ଏବଂ ଉନ୍ନତ ପରିବହନ ଓ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା

ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱରରୁ ଆବୁଧାବିକୁ ସିଧାସଳଖ
ବିମାନ ଚଳାଚଳ ଆରମ୍ଭ
ସୁବର୍ଣ୍ଣପୁରରୁ-ପୁରୁଣାକଟକକୁ ରେଳ ସଂଯୋଗ
୧୦୦ ଗୋଟି ଇ-ବସ୍ ସେବାର ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ

ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାରରେ ସାମାଜିକ ସୁରକ୍ଷାକୁ ପ୍ରାଧାନ୍ୟ

କାର୍ଯ୍ୟରତ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତିରାଜ ପ୍ରତିନିଧିଙ୍କ ମୃତ୍ୟୁରେ
୨ ଲକ୍ଷ ଟଙ୍କାର ଅନୁକମ୍ପାମୂଳକ ସହାୟତା ରାଶି
ଓ ଅକ୍ଷମତା କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ୧ ଲକ୍ଷରୁ ୨ ଲକ୍ଷ ଟଙ୍କା
ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଆର୍ଥିକ ସହାୟତା
ପରିମଳ (ସ୍ୱଚ୍ଛ ଓ ସେପ୍ଟିକ୍ ଟାଙ୍କି ସଫେଇ)
କର୍ମଚାରୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ୧୦ ଲକ୍ଷ ଟଙ୍କାର ଜୀବନ ବୀମା,
କର୍ମକ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଜୀବନହାନି ହେଲେ ୩୦ ଲକ୍ଷ
ଟଙ୍କାର ସହାୟତା ରାଶି

ସବୁ ଜିଲ୍ଲାରେ ଶିକ୍ଷା, ସବୁ ଜିଲ୍ଲାରେ ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗୀ

ଘରୋଇ ପୁଞ୍ଜିନିବେଶରେ ଦେଶରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ୧ ନମ୍ବର
୨୦୨୫ ଏପ୍ରିଲରୁ ଜୁନ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସାରା ଦେଶର ମୋଟ
ଘରୋଇ ପୁଞ୍ଜିନିବେଶର ୪୦% ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ
DMF ପାଣ୍ଠି ସଂଗ୍ରହରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ସାରା ଦେଶରେ
ସବୁଠୁ ଆଗରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାରରେ ସୁଶାସନ ଓ ସୁରକ୍ଷାକୁ ପ୍ରାଧାନ୍ୟ, ନ୍ୟାୟିକ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା ସୁଦୃଢ଼

ଦୁର୍ନୀତି ଓ ଦୁର୍ନୀତିଗ୍ରସ୍ତଙ୍କ ପ୍ରତି ସରକାରଙ୍କ
'ଶୂନ୍ୟ ସହନଶୀଳ' ନୀତି ଅବଲମ୍ବନ ପ୍ରଶସ୍ତ କରୁଛି
ସୁଶାସନ ଓ ଗରିବ କଲ୍ୟାଣ
ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାରରେ ସୁଦୃଢ଼ ହେଉଛି ସହାୟତା
ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା, ଜରୁରୀକାଳୀନ ପ୍ରଶମନ ପାଇଁ
'ଡାଏଲ ୧୧୨ ଯୋଜନା'ର ସମ୍ପ୍ରସାରଣ

ଯୁବ ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣ ପାଇଁ ଉତ୍ସର୍ଗୀକୃତ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାର

ସରକାରୀ ଚାକିରି ଆବେଦନ ବୟସ ସୀମା
୩୨ ରୁ ୪୨ କୁ ବୃଦ୍ଧି
ଗତ ଏକ ବର୍ଷରେ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସରକାରୀ ପଦବୀରେ
ମିଳିଛି ୨୮ ହଜାରରୁ ଅଧିକ ନିଯୁକ୍ତି, ଚଳିତବର୍ଷ
ଆଉ ୪୦ ହଜାର ସରକାରୀ ଚାକିରୀ ଦେବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ

ଜନଜାତି ଉନ୍ନତିରେ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାର

'ମାଧ୍ୟା ସିଂ ହାତ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ ଯୋଜନା'ରେ ୩ ଲକ୍ଷ ଯୋଗ୍ୟ
ଆଦିବାସୀ ଛାତ୍ରଛାତ୍ରୀଙ୍କୁ ମିଳୁଛି ବାର୍ଷିକ ୫ ହଜାର ଟଙ୍କା
'ଆମେ ପଢ଼ିବା ଆମ ଭାଷାରେ' ଯୋଜନାରେ ୧୭ଟି
ଆଦିବାସୀ ଭାଷାରେ ମିଳୁଛି ମାତୃଭାଷା
ଆଧାରିତ ପ୍ରାଥମିକ ଶିକ୍ଷା

ସୁଦୃଢ଼ ହେଉଛି ଶିକ୍ଷା ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥା ସୁନିଶ୍ଚିତ ହେଉଛି ଭବିଷ୍ୟତ

ଗୁଣାତ୍ମକ ଶିକ୍ଷାର ସୁନିଶ୍ଚିତତା ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରଥମ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟାୟରେ
୮୩୫ 'ଗୋଦାବରୀଶ ମିଶ୍ର ଆଦର୍ଶ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ'
ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଆଦର୍ଶ ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟରେ 'ମାଗଣା ଛାତ୍ରାବାସ ସୁବିଧା'

ବିକଶିତ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ପାଇଁ ବିକଶିତ ଗାଁ ଓ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ସହର

'ପିଏମ୍-ଆବାସ' ଓ 'ଅନ୍ୟୋଦୟ ଗୃହ' ଯୋଜନାରେ
୨.୬୫ ଲକ୍ଷ ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ ମିଳିଛି ପକ୍କା ଘର
ମହାନଗର ନିଗମରେ ପରିଣତ ହେବ ପୁରୀ ପୌରପାଳିକା

ପରିବେଶ ଅନୁକୂଳ ବିକାଶକୁ ପ୍ରାଧାନ୍ୟ ଦେଉଛନ୍ତି ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାର

ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଶକ୍ତି ବ୍ୟବହାରରେ ଅଗ୍ରଣୀ ଓଡ଼ିଶା
ସୌରଶକ୍ତିସମ୍ପନ୍ନ ହୋଇଛି ୬୦୩ଟି ସରକାରୀ କୋଠା

ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାରରେ ସୁନିଶ୍ଚିତ ହେଉଛି ଛାତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ସୁରକ୍ଷା

ଉଚ୍ଚ ଶିକ୍ଷାନୁଷ୍ଠାନରେ ଛାତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ସୁରକ୍ଷା, ଆତ୍ମରକ୍ଷା ଓ
ସଶକ୍ତିକରଣ ସୁନିଶ୍ଚିତତା ପାଇଁ ଐତିହାସିକ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ
'ଶକ୍ତିଶ୍ରୀ'
ଛାତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ସାଥି 'ଶକ୍ତିଶ୍ରୀ' ମୋବାଇଲ ଆପ୍

ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଅସ୍ଥିତାର ପରିଚୟ ବୁଣାକାରଙ୍କୁ ମିଳୁଛି ସମ୍ମାନ

ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ବୟନ ଶିଳ୍ପର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଁ 'ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଟେକ୍ସ-୨୦୨୫'ରେ ୧୬୦ରୁ ଅଧିକ
ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗପତିଙ୍କ ସହିତ ୩୩ ଏମ୍ପୟୁ ସ୍ୱାକ୍ଷରିତ, ୮ ହଜାର କୋଟି
ପୁଞ୍ଜି ନିବେଶ ପ୍ରସ୍ତାବ ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ-୫୩,୩୦୦ ନିଯୁକ୍ତି ସୁଯୋଗ ସୃଷ୍ଟି

ଲୋକଙ୍କ ସରକାରରେ ଦୂରାନ୍ୱିତ ହେଉଛି ସାମଗ୍ରିକ ବିକାଶଧାରା

ଦୁର୍ଗମ ତଥା ପଛଆ ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ଉପାଦକୁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଓ ଜାତୀୟସ୍ତରରେ
ପ୍ରୋତ୍ସାହିତ କରିବ 'ଆକାଂକ୍ଷା ହାତ'
'ଡିଜିଟାଲ ଇ-ମାର୍କେଟ ପ୍ଲେସ'ରେ ଉପଲବ୍ଧ ହେବ ଆକାଂକ୍ଷୀ ଜିଲ୍ଲାର ଉତ୍ପାଦ

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I-DAY TODAY: CRPF personnel participate in a ‘Tiranga Boat Rally’ at Dal Lake on the eve of 79th Independence Day, in Srinagar, Thursday

PTI PHOTO

J&K cloudburst kills at least 46

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, August 14: A massive cloudburst led to flash floods in a remote mountain village in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Thursday, killing at least 46 people, including two CISF personnel, and trapping many more.

As night fell over Chositi village, rescuers worked frantically and pulled out 167 people from under mounds of rubble. Of these, 38 are in a serious condition, officials said. The death toll went up steadily as the day progressed and there were fears it could rise further.

Disaster struck Chositi, the last motorable village on the way to Machail Mata temple, between 12 noon and 1:00 pm. A large number of people had gathered there for the annual Machail Mata Yatra that began July 25 and is scheduled to end September 5. The 8.5 kilometre trek to the 9,500-ft shrine begins from Chositi.

Chositi is about 90-kilometre from Kishtwar town. A ‘langar’ (community kitchen) packed with devotees bore the brunt of the cloudburst, which led to flash floods and washed away several structures, including shops and a security outpost.

Videos showed torrents of muddy water, silt and



rubble tearing through the steep slopes, destroying everything in the way. Houses folded over like pack of cards, rocks came tumbling down, blocking roads and rescue paths, the mudslide turning the verdant landscape to a grim brown-grey.

The fragile Himalayan slopes faced disaster just nine days after flash floods wreaked havoc in Dharali village of Uttarakhand’s Uttarkashi district. Though only one person is confirmed dead, 68 people are still reported missing.

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi sent their condolences.

“The news of several deaths due to a cloudburst in Kishtwar, Jammu-Kashmir, is extremely tragic. I express my heartfelt condolences to the grieving families and pray for the success of relief and rescue operations,” Murmu said.

In a post on X, Modi said, “My thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the cloudburst and flooding in Kishtwar, Jammu and Kashmir. The situation is being monitored closely. Rescue and relief operations are underway.”

Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and CM Omar Abdullah to take stock of the situation.

“The local administration is conducting relief and rescue operations. NDRF teams have promptly been rushed to the site,” he wrote on X.

Immediately after news came in of the disaster, Kishtwar Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma and senior officials mobilised rescue teams and headed towards the spot to personally supervise the operations.

A large-scale rescue operation was launched by NDRF, SDRF, police, Army and local volunteers, officials said.

Army’s White Knight Corps said efforts are on to safeguard lives and aid the survivors.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh was among the first to indicate the magnitude of the tragedy.

The annual Machail Mata Yatra was suspended following the tragedy, it was learnt.

Panel soon for metro project

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 14: The state government has decided to set up a technical committee comprising senior officers and experts to draft a fresh and comprehensive plan for the proposed Bhubaneswar Metro Rail Project, H&UD Minister KC Mahapatra said Thursday.

The earlier project plan prepared by the previous BJD government has been scrapped and a fresh one will be designed and executed with support from the Centre, he said. “We’ll form a technical panel including department secretaries, officers, and experts. A new DPR will be prepared based on the committee’s report, and the Centre’s support will be sought for the project’s execution,” he added.

NOTICE

There will be no edition of the paper August 16 (Saturday) as the offices and press of **Orissa POST** will remain closed on Independence Day.

Wishing readers
HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY
—EDITOR

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



What are we celebrating today? We got freedom on 16 May, 2014

Publish details of 65 lakh deleted voters: SC to ECI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 14: The Supreme Court Thursday directed the Election Commission of India (ECI) to publish with reasons the details of 65 lakh voters, whose names were deleted from the draft roll published August 1, 2025, to enhance transparency in Bihar’s special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral roll.

Acting on a batch of pleas challenging the ECI decision to conduct the SIR of electoral roll in poll-bound Bihar, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said, “The list of approximately 65 lakh voters, whose names appeared in the voter list as on 2025 but are not included in the draft roll dated August 1, 2025, shall be displayed on the websites of the district election officers (district-wise).”

The SC said the information will be booth-wise, but it can be accessed by referring to the EPIC number of each voter. “The list so displayed shall also disclose the reason for non-inclusion in the draft

BIHAR SIR ROW



roll,” the bench said.

The chief electoral officer of Bihar, the bench said, will also get the soft copies of the district-wise lists of the voters who have not been included in the draft roll, along with the reasons for their non-inclusion, displayed on its website.

The eight-page order read, “It is clarified that the lists so displayed in all the websites shall be in searchable mode with the EPIC number.”

In addition, the booth-wise lists of 65 lakh voters whose names were not included in the draft roll, along with reasons for non-inclusion of their names, should also be displayed on the notice board of respective panchayat-level office and the office of dis-

trict-level returning officers to enable the general public to have access to the voter lists, it added.

“With a view to inform the people about online availability of the above-mentioned lists on the website of the district election officer and the display of such lists at the panchayat-level office and the office of district-level returning officers, extensive publicity shall be given in the daily newspapers in the vernacular language as well as English newspapers having wide circulation in the state of Bihar,” the SC said and directed the same to be broadcast and telecast via radio and electronic media.

The public notice should also expressly mention that the aggrieved persons can submit their claims along with a copy of their Aadhaar card, it said. “The ECI shall obtain a compliance report from all the booth-level officers and district election officers and place it on record as a collated status report,” the SC said and posted the matter for August 22.

Shilpa, hubby booked

MUMBAI: Mumbai Police have registered a case against actor Shilpa Shetty and her husband Raj Kundra for allegedly duping a businessman of ₹60.4 crore in a loan-cum-investment deal in their now defunct company Best Deal TV Private Limited, officials said Thursday.

However, a lawyer representing Shetty and Kundra denied the allegations. Juhu police registered a case on the basis of a complaint of businessman Deepak Kothari, director of Lotus Capital Finance Services, Wednesday. Later, it was transferred to the Mumbai Police’s EOW for an investigation, they said.

22 from state to be honoured on I-Day

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 14: Additional Superintendent of Police Rabindra Kumar Panda and Commandant Naresh Kumar Patel are among the 22 from Odisha who will be honoured for their contribution to policing and public service on the occasion of Independence Day Friday, official sources said Thursday.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, “Additional Superintendent of Police Rabindra Kumar Panda

and Commandant Naresh Kumar Patel from Odisha will be honoured with President’s Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM) for their outstanding contribution to policing.”

Similarly, nine Odisha Police personnel will receive the Medal for Gallantry for their exceptional bravery in the line of duty. Furthermore, 11 officers will be awarded the Medal for Meritorious Service for their dedication and long-standing service, it said.

‘Frankenstein bunnies’ spotted in Colorado

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denver (US), August 14: A group of rabbits in Colorado with grotesque, horn-like growths may seem straight out of a low-budget horror film, but scientists say there’s no reason to be spooked — the furry creatures merely have a relatively common virus.

The cottontails recently spotted in Fort Collins are infected with the mostly harmless Shope papillomavirus, which causes wart-like growths that protrude from their faces like metastasizing horns.

Viral photos have inspired a fluffe of unflattering nicknames, including ‘Frankenstein bunnies’, ‘demon rabbits’ and ‘zombie rabbits’. But their affliction is nothing



new, with the virus inspiring ancient folklore and fuelling scientific research nearly 100 years ago.

The virus likely influenced the centuries-old jackalope myth in North America, which told of a rabbit with antlers or horns, among other animal

variations. The disease in rabbits also contributed to scientists’ knowledge about the connection between viruses and cancer, such as the human papillomavirus that causes cervical cancer.

The virus in rabbits was named after Dr Richard E Shope, a professor at The

Rockefeller University who discovered the disease in cottontails in the 1930s.

News about the rabbit sightings in Fort Collins, 105 kilometres north of Denver, started getting attention after residents started spotting them around town and posting pictures.

Kara Van Hoose, a spokesperson for Colorado Parks and Wildlife, told The Associated Press that the agency has been getting calls about the rabbits seen in Fort Collins.

But she said that it’s not uncommon to see infected rabbits, especially in the summer, when the fleas and ticks that spread the virus are most active. The virus can spread from rabbit to rabbit but not to other species, including humans and pets, she said.

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For You, With You, Always

AIIMS-Bhubaneswar hosts Aesthetic Surgery meet

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 14: AIIMS-Bhubaneswar successfully hosted the Aesthetic Surgery Conference 2025, an event that brought together leading national and international experts in plastic and aesthetic surgery.

The three-day conference was organised by the Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons of Odisha (APRASO), in collaboration with the Indian Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons (IAAPS) and AIIMS-Bhubaneswar.

The programme covered a wide spectrum of topics, including facial rejuvenation, rhinoplasty, body contouring, breast aesthetics, minimally invasive techniques, and regenerative medicine.

Renowned surgeons shared advanced surgical skills, cutting-edge technologies, and the

latest evidence-based practices. Live surgical demonstrations featured procedures such as rhinoplasty, abdominoplasty, and breast reduction, while hands-on workshops trained participants in injectables, aesthetic lasers, thread lifts, and regenerative therapies.

The conference drew over 150 delegates, including surgeons, residents, and allied health professionals.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by AIIMS Bhubaneswar executive director Dr Ashutosh Biswas, dean Dr Prasanta Mohapatra, medical superintendent Dr Dillip Kumar Parida, APRASO president Dr Ruchi Gupta, Burns and Plastic Surgery head and organising chairman Dr Sanjay Kumar Giri, organising secretary Dr Unmesh Kumar Jena, IAAPS president Dr Medha Bhawe, vice president Dr Venkata Ramana and secretary Dr Rajat Gupta.



4 dead in separate snake bite incidents

Bhubaneswar: Four persons, including a woman and her son, were killed in two separate snake bite incidents in Keonjhar and Ganjam districts, police said Thursday. According to police, a woman and her minor son died after a snake bit them during sleep at Radhikadeipur village of Keonjhar district Wednesday night. The deceased were identified as Jemamani Munda and her son Ganesh Munda. “When they were sleeping at home, they felt sick at around 1am. I took them to Keshadurapal community health centre on a bike, and then they were shifted to Anandpur hospital, where the doctor declared them dead,” said Sunil Munda, Jemamani’s husband. A case of unnatural deaths has been registered at Ghasipura police station, and process is on for post-mortem of the bodies, said a police officer. Similarly, a woman and her nephew lost their lives while sleeping after being bitten by a venomous snake Tuesday night at Bilugaon village under Patrapur block of Ganjam district, another police official said.

VSSUT bans ‘dupattas’ for girl students

PNN & AGENCIES

Sambalpur, August 14: In an attempt to promote uniformity, safety, and professionalism among students, the government-run Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) in Burla near here has introduced a mandatory uniform dress code for its first-year undergraduate students starting from the 2025-2026 academic session while prohibiting the wearing of ‘dupattas’ or scarfs by girl students.

The notification stated that prohibition of ‘dupattas’ has been made from safety concerns without elaborating



further on such restriction for girl students.

As per the notification issued by varsity authorities, it has been made mandatory for male students to wear formal pants and shirts, while female students are given the

Odisha inks MoU with CEGIS for data-driven governance

Partnership marks the start of a transformative journey—placing data, evidence, and outcomes at the core of public service delivery



◀◀ CEGIS brings 150+ experts and experience with key central government bodies

◀◀ Five-year MoU to aid Odisha in capacity building and real-time, data-driven decision-making

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 14: In a major push for evidence-based governance, the Odisha government Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Centre for Effective Governance of Indian States (CEGIS) to roll out a Decision Support System (DSS). The partnership seeks to institutionalise data-driven decision-making and enhance long-term governance capacity across state departments under the Viksit Odisha Vision 2036 and 2047.

The MoU was signed at the Chief Minister's Conference Hall, Loka Seva Bhawan, in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, who welcomed the CEGIS team and lauded Odisha's historic resilience and future aspirations.

“This MoU marks the start

of a transformative journey—placing data, evidence, and outcomes at the core of public service delivery. Our solutions must be smarter, more targeted, and more responsive,” the Deputy Chief Minister said.

He added that the CEGIS partnership will offer vital technical and analytical support to strengthen policy-making, optimise spending, and enhance public service delivery in key sectors including health, education, livelihoods, disaster management, and digital infrastructure.

The CEGIS Foundation, a non-profit, brings a team of over 150 professionals and experience collaborating with five key Government of India bodies, including NITI Aayog, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation MoSPI, Capacity Building Commission, Karmayogi Bharat,

and the India Intellectual Property Office.

Under the non-financial, five-year MoU, CEGIS will support the Odisha government in capacity building and data-driven governance. The new Decision Support System is designed to serve as the Chief Minister's Office (CMO)'s primary tool for real-time, evidence-based decision-making.

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, in his keynote address, reaffirmed the government's commitment to last-mile service delivery, highlighting investments in technology and capacity building to tackle bureaucratic challenges.

The MoU was formally signed by Vineet Bharadwaj, Executive Director of the Centre for Modernising Government Initiative, for the Odisha government, and Dr Vijay Pinage, CEO of CEGIS Foundation.

Karthik Muralidharan, Co-Founder and Scientific Director of CEGIS, briefed the leadership on the DSS platform's design and potential, highlighting its role in competency mapping and assessing to enhance state capabilities.

The partnership underscores Odisha's vision for transparent, efficient, and citizen-focused governance, reinforcing its goal to become a national model for public administration by 2036 and beyond.

BJP youth wing holds grand Tiranga Yatra



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 14: The BJP state youth wing led a grand Tiranga Yatra Thursday to mark the 79th Independence Day, under the guidance of state president Abhilash Panda.

The rally saw participation from Housing and Urban Development Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra, BJP state vice-president Biranchi Narayan Tripathy, state general secretary Sarada Prasad Satapathy, district president Niranjan Mishra, and others.

Participants carried a one-kilometre-long national flag as the rally moved from Rupali

Square to Master Canteen Square, accompanied by music, dance, and patriotic slogans.

Panda stated that the tricolour symbolizes the nation's pride, identity, and patriotism, and should be displayed not just in schools and institutions but in every home. The BJYM is organising similar rallies statewide to promote this message. “The tricolour is our identity. Every Indian, everywhere, should celebrate this Independence Day with zeal,” he added.

Minister Mahapatra called the tricolour a symbol of the sacrifices of freedom fighters and soldiers for India's unity and independence. Tripathy and Satapathy dedicated the event to the nation's soldiers and martyrs.

Participants march with a one-kilometre long tricolour, celebrating patriotism through music, dance, and slogans

Leaders stress the flag's significance, honoring freedom fighters and soldiers while encouraging nationwide participation

Bengal couple found dead in Puri hotel

Puri: A couple from West Bengal was found dead inside a hotel room in the Pilgrim City here Thursday, police said. The bodies were found hanging from the ceiling of the hotel room located on Chakratirtha Road under the Sea Beach police station. The incident came to light after a foul smell emanated from the room, a police officer said. The police broke open the door and recovered the bodies, he said. The couple had checked in August 9. Puri SP Pinak Mishra said police were interrogating the hotel staff, and family members of the deceased in Kolkata have been informed.

Son-in-law assaulted by in-laws

POST NEWS NETWORK

R. Udayagiri, August 14: In a shocking incident triggered by family dispute, relatives of a woman allegedly tied her estranged husband to a village post and brutally assaulted him here in Gajapati district Wednesday.

Police said the victim, identified as Jalant Baliarsingh of Budishila village under Bramhanigaon police limits, was rescued Thursday morning after spending the entire night tied to the post in Garadama village under Adaba police limits.

According to reports, Jalant married Subhadra Malabiso of



Garadama village three years ago. However, due to marital discord, Subhadra's family brought her back to her parental home 11 months ago. Both families lodged complaints at the local police station, and

the matter is currently sub judice in a court. The incident occurred when Jalant visited Garadama village to collect PDS rice. Informed of his presence, Subhadra's family members, along with some villagers, allegedly attacked him. They tied him to a post in the village square and brutally beat him up again.

On being informed, Adaba police reached the spot, pacified the family and villagers, and rescued the victim.

No formal complaint has been lodged so far in connection with the incident, Adaba IIC Shubhranta Panda said.

Vig nabs 4 officials

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha Vigilance Directorate has arrested four government functionaries in separate bribery cases following three operations conducted Wednesday. According to Vigilance sources, the accused include two health staffers from the CDMO office in Paralakhemundi, one health staffer from the Muniguda CHC in Rayagada district, and a junior clerk from the office of the BEO, Mahakalpara in Kendrapara district. They were formally arrested Thursday and will be produced before the Vigilance courts. In one operation, following the trap of clerk Jagdish Pattnaik and peon Niranjan Nayak, both from the CDMO office, Paralakhemundi, Vigilance teams carried out searches and recovered ₹5,19,700 from Pattnaik's office drawer and ₹1.5 lakh from his government quarters in Paralakhemundi. The seized cash is suspected to be bribe money. Pattnaik is currently being interrogated to determine its exact source. Further details are awaited.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I Saswati Kumari Mahapatro (25)
D/o. Suresh Kumar Mahapatro, Vill: Aska Road, Digapahandi, P.O.: Digapahandi, P.S.: Digapahandi, Ganjam declared by this affidavit No. A/1885/14.8.25 that now onwards I shall be known as Saswati Kumari mahapatro for all future purposes.

Committee soon for new metro rail plan

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 14: The state government has decided to set up a technical committee comprising senior officers and experts to draft a fresh and comprehensive plan for the proposed Bhubaneswar Metro rail project, a minister said on Thursday.

The decision was taken at an inter-ministerial meeting chaired by Deputy Chief Minister KV Singh Deo.

The earlier project plan prepared by the previous BJD government has been scrapped and a fresh one will be designed and executed with support from the Centre, Housing and Urban Development Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra said.

“We will form a technical committee including department secretaries, officers, and experts. They will visit other metro-operating cities to study best practices and prepare a new route plan, identify parking spaces, and finalise other infrastructure needs,” Mahapatra told reporters.

A fresh detailed project report (DPR) will be prepared based on the committee's findings, and the Centre's support will be sought for the project's execution, he added.

Singh Deo emphasised the



importance of studying Metro systems in other cities, pointing out that many projects are running at loss, with the burden falling on state governments.

“So, it has been decided to study the projects in other cities and submit the report to the government. Further action will be taken on the basis of the report,” he said.

The previous BJD government had proposed to take up the first phase of the Metro project on a 26-km-long stretch between Biju Patnaik International Airport (BPIA) in Bhubaneswar to Trisulia in Cuttack at an investment of ₹6,225 crore. Soil testing and other ground work were also initiated by the then government.

Meanwhile, Opposition BJD has criticised the BJP government for allegedly pushing

the Metro rail project into uncertainty.

BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty accused the government of misleading people.

“Hyderabad and Bengaluru Metro projects are profitable. The previous Naveen Patnaik government had taken concrete steps to implement the Metro rail in Odisha. The BJP government lacks sincerity and is only confusing the public with contradictory statements,” Mohanty said.

Mohanty said the BJD government took necessary steps to start the Metro project in a developing state like Odisha.

He pointed out that ministers have made conflicting remarks—one suggesting the metro will be elevated, another suggesting it will go underground—adding to the confusion.

Drug traffickers get 10-year RI

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 14: In a significant crackdown on interstate drug trafficking, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Bhubaneswar Zonal Unit, secured the conviction of two individuals for illegal Ganja transport. Both were sentenced to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment and fined Rs 1 lakh each.

The case dates back to August 2020, when 175 kg of Ganja, concealed under pumpkins in a truck, was seized. The consignment, originating from Odisha, was headed to West Bengal. NCB promptly arrested Shailesh Saradaprasad Pandey of Thane, Maharashtra, and Juber Ahamad of Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, at the site. After a detailed probe, the NCB filed a complaint in February 2021. August 13, the Second Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bhubaneswar, convicted both under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. The verdict highlights the NCB's dedication to a drug-free India through rigorous investigation and legal enforcement.

Citizens are urged to aid the fight against drug trafficking by reporting information anonymously through MANAS, the National Narcotics Helpline (Toll-Free: 1933).

| MARKET WATCH | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|---------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| CURRENCY | | BOURSES | | COMMODITIES | |
| INDEX | VARIATION | INDEX | VARIATION | INDEX | VARIATION |
| DOLLAR | 87.64 ▲ 0.14 | SENSEX | 80597.66 ▲ 57.75 | GOLD | ₹100,189 ▲ ₹4 |
| EURO | 102.47 ▼ 0.13 | NIFTY | 24631.30 ▲ 11.95 | SILVER | ₹114,524 ▼ ₹505 |

| WEATHER | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|--|
| | BBSR | CTC | FORECAST |
| Max Temp | 32.7° | 31.6° | Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershower |
| Min Temp | 25.5° | 24.6° | |
| Humidity | 89% | 95% | |
| Rainfall | 20.8mm | 21.6mm | |

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Stray dog menace due to inaction: SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 14: The Supreme Court Thursday said the “whole problem” of stray dogs in Delhi-NCR was a result of the “inaction” of local authorities which did “nothing” in implementing the Animal Birth Control Rules on sterilisation and immunisation of canines.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and NV Anjaria, which was constituted to hear a suo motu case and some other pleas concerning stray dogs, reserved its verdict on the interim prayer for a stay on the directions issued by the apex court August 11.

A two-judge bench August 11, among other directions, ordered the Delhi-NCR authorities to permanently relocate strays from streets to dog shelters.

The bench had acted in the suo motu case initiated July 28 over a media report on stray dog bites leading to rabies, particularly among children, in the national capital.

“The whole problem is because of inaction of the local authorities. You frame rules in Parliament. The government acts, rules are framed but no implementation is carried out creating problem which is standing today,” the bench said Thursday.

The top court added, “On the



Everyone, who came before the court and filed intervention, would have to own responsibility, said the SC

one hand, humans are suffering and on the other hand, the animal lovers want the animals also to be treated with dignity.”

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Delhi government, referred to data and said in 2024, India reported around 37.15 lakh dog bites cases – nearly 10,000 per day.

Mehta also referred to a media report and said the World Health Organisation, using government and other authentic sources, reported 305 dog-bite

related deaths last year.

The bench observed the Animal Welfare Board of India, local authorities and the government had done nothing.

“NGOs make a lot of noise but they don’t know what they should actually be doing. They should have been here earlier for implementation of those rules (Animal Birth Control Rules). Nothing is happening,” it added.

Everyone, the court said, who came before the court and filed intervention would have to own responsibility.

During Thursday’s hearing, Mehta said it was an issue to be resolved, not a matter to be contested.

“Children are dying,” he said, “please bear in mind a vocal minority view as against a silent suffering majority view”.

He added, “Nobody is an animal hater. Out of 100 species of snakes, only four are poisonous but we don’t keep them in our house. Nobody says dogs are required to be killed. They have to be separated from the human habitations.

Mehta said the apex court would have to find a solution to the “menace of stray dogs”.

Aside from senior advocate Kapil Sibal, senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi also sought a stay on some of the directions passed by the apex court in its August 11 order.

Yet another woman sets herself ablaze

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 14: A woman allegedly made an attempt to die by setting herself on fire in Puri district, making it the sixth such incident in the state in just over a month.

Of the six cases, four including two minors died.

In the latest incident, a 37-year-old woman who was reportedly under debt burden, set herself ablaze at her rented house in Pipili town Wednesday when her husband and daughter were not present, a police officer said.

She is under treatment in AIIMS Bhubaneswar in a critical condition. Locals rushed her to Pipili hospital initially. Later, she was shifted to the AIIMS as she suffered 70 to 80 burn injuries, family sources said.

Puri Additional SP Sachin Patel said the police have seized a bottle used to carry kerosene, a handwritten suicide note and a match box. “During preliminary investigation, we found that she made an attempt to die by suicide due to debt burden. In the suicide note, however, she has not blamed anyone,” Patel said.

Urmila Mohapatra, a member of the State Commission for Women (SCW), Thursday visited AIIMS Bhubaneswar to record her statement. However, she failed to do it as the patient was not in a condition to speak.

“As per statements of her family members, the woman was found burnt when her husband was not in the home. They have also said that there is no family dispute,” Mohapatra said.

Collective effort needed for elephant conservation

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada/Karanjia, August 14: The human-elephant conflict in Mayurbhanj district is intensifying due to forest food shortages and poaching threats, forcing elephant herds into villages and towns. These encounters often lead to casualties on both sides, with frustrated locals resorting to harmful methods like poisoning and live electric wires, further endangering the endangered Schedule-I species.

In response, conservationists are calling for collaborative efforts to protect elephants. Addressing this growing crisis, premier vernacular daily *Dharitri*, English daily *Orissa POST*, and the Vikas Sathi organisation, in partnership with the Vana Suraksha Samiti of Badadeuli village in Karanjia block, held the second ‘Hati Sabha’ Thursday to discuss community-driven solutions.

Elephants from neighbouring Jharkhand are migrating through rural forest patches, passing villages like Kerkera, Bhanra and Sanadeuli before moving into Keonjhar district. With no designated elephant corridor and widespread deforestation, the depletion of food sources like bamboo, Siali leaves, banana plants and banyan trees is pushing them into human settlements. Paddy cultivation on forest foothills has also ceased, worsening the issue.

Adding to the crisis is the increased presence of poachers, forcing elephants to avoid



deep forests and travel through village roads. Attracted by the scent of locally brewed mahuli liquor and handia (rice beer), elephants often break into homes in search of food, sometimes becoming aggressive after consumption.

Dr Biswajit Panda, founder secretary of Vikas Sathi, appealed to villagers for compassion, emphasizing that elephants only seek food and pose no threat if left undisturbed. He warned that continued neglect would harm biodiversity and lead to further environmental degradation.

Representatives from the Odisha Forest Sector Development Project (OFSDP), Rajendra Behera and Akshaya Mohanta, stressed the need to restore elephant food sources in forests and promote livelihood opportunities in fringe villages. They highlighted how alternative incomes could reduce dependence on harmful practices and support conservation.

Local forest official Pradeep Mohanta addressed villagers’ livelihood challenges and introduced upcoming initiatives. Vikas Sathi also an-

nounced a pilot project offering free tailoring training for women and encouraged honey cultivation through beehive box installation to supplement household incomes.

Village Forest Council (VFC) member Purnami Naik suggested installing streetlights and high-beam torches to monitor elephant movement and enhance safety. VFC president Golak Bihari Rout noted that farmers have abandoned cultivating 90-day paddy crops near the forests due to frequent elephant raids. He proposed incentivizing edge-of-forest agriculture to replenish elephant food supply and reduce conflict.

“If alternative livelihoods can be arranged, we can coexist with elephants in harmony,” Rout said. Another VFC member, Sukanta Lohar, echoed the sentiment, adding that both elephant and human safety are equally important, and that forest preservation benefits all.

The programme was coordinated by Tushar Behera, Arabinda Singh, Manas Panda, Shubhasmita Panda, Chiranmayee Dixit and Baishnavi Kar.



On the 79th anniversary of Independence, take a vow to adopt swadeshi and build a self-reliant India.



Economic Freedom

Surveys by Oxfam Global, U.K., and some other agencies have revealed that between 1765 and 1900, foreign companies and aggressors looted India of assets worth more than 100 trillion dollars. Even today, a number of foreign companies take away from the country lakhs of crores of rupees in the name of trade. Swami ji has pledged to stop this loot through swadeshi and make India an economic superpower. **Prosperity for Charity** - Patanjali has been investing 100% of its profits in the service of Mother India. It has done so, is doing so and will continue to do so. Today, on Independence Day, let us vow to adopt 100% Swadeshi to fulfil the dreams of the martyrs for India.

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Do not give way, hold tight. It is when everything seems lost that all is saved.

THE MOTHER



Trump’s Tariff Trap

Economic relations between India and the United States have been thrown into disarray after US President Donald Trump announced a sweeping 50 per cent tariff on nearly all Indian imports, with the exception of iPhones and certain pharmaceutical products. The move places India among the five most heavily targeted countries under Trump’s tariff regime, alongside Brazil (50 per cent), Syria (41 per cent), Laos (40 per cent), and Myanmar (40 per cent). The announcement caught Indian policymakers off guard, particularly given Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s open support for Trump’s re-election campaign. The White House’s harsh statement, framing the move as punishment for India’s purchases of Russian oil, has only added to the confusion. As the Wall Street Journal recently noted, this reasoning does not hold up, since China – the largest buyer of Russian oil – has not been penalised for its purchases.

So, what explains Trump’s decision? Paradoxically, India’s policy of unquestioningly siding with Trump may have made India easier to take for granted, to the point that even a minor departure from Trump’s preferences is treated as unacceptable.

This dynamic is reminiscent of Anton Chekhov’s short story “The Ninny,” in which an employer withholds the equivalent of nearly a month’s salary from his children’s governess for arbitrary reasons. The governess accepts each cut without protest – a passivity that the employer chastises as spineless. The economist Ariel Rubinstein later drew on Chekhov’s story to develop a model illustrating how submission can invite exploitation.

India’s current subservience to Trump marks a sharp departure from its longstanding role as a strong, independent country. As a co-founder of the Non-Aligned Movement, it once championed strategic autonomy, balancing relations with multiple countries while avoiding subordination to any major power, be it the US or the Soviet Union.

It is time for India to draw on that legacy and cultivate economic and diplomatic ties with countries like Mexico, Canada, and China. This also means strengthening trade and cooperation with other governments concerned about the impact of Trump’s tariffs, particularly in Europe and Latin America.

It would be a mistake for Modi to retaliate by matching Trump’s tariffs, as some prominent Indian commentators have urged. While retaliation would hurt the US, the damage to India would be far greater. The US is India’s largest trading partner, whereas India is only the tenth-largest partner for the US – well behind Mexico, Canada, China, and Germany. The US economy is also far larger and therefore better able to absorb major shocks.

More importantly, courage does not necessarily mean responding in kind. By imposing heavy tariffs on longtime trading partners, the US is making a grave error, isolating itself and inflicting enormous damage on its own economy. To be sure, tariffs can play an important role in economic policy. A well-known example is the infant-industry argument, which holds that when a promising sector is still in its early stages, temporary tariff protections can give businesses the confidence to invest, allowing the sector to grow, achieve economies of scale, and become competitive. But once the industry matures, tariffs should be reduced, so that the discipline of open competition can help it perform even better.

India is a case in point. In 1977, a political dispute led the government to expel IBM, compelling the country to develop its own mini- and micro-computers. Protected by trade barriers, the domestic computing sector expanded quickly. But it was the economic reforms of 1991-93, which opened up India’s markets to international competition, that enabled its IT sector to flourish and Indian corporations like Infosys, Wipro, and Tata Consultancy Services to emerge as global leaders, driving a period of unprecedented economic growth.

Interestingly, the infant-industry concept predates modern academic economics and can be traced back to Alexander Hamilton, America’s first Treasury Secretary, who successfully advocated for US tariffs to protect and nurture its nascent industries. Although trade policies shifted after 1860, relatively high tariffs remained in place until 1934, after which they fell sharply, fuelling a sustained economic boom.

By contrast, Trump’s decision to raise tariff rates to their highest levels in more than 90 years is less an infant-industry policy than a nonage-narian one, shielding a manufacturing sector that long ago outgrew any need for protection. Moreover, competing with emerging economies like India, Vietnam, and Indonesia would require driving down US workers’ wages – a strategy that is neither realistic nor desirable.

The same applies to India: tariffs should not be used to settle political scores. In the long run, the collateral damage will far outweigh any short-term gains. And, as for Trump’s tariff policy, we can only hope that he will recognise the mistake and reverse course before it causes any more damage to the US economy.

The writer, a former chief economist of the World Bank and chief economic adviser to the Government of India, is Professor of Economics at Cornell University and a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

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WISDOM CORNER

“Happiness is a how; not a what. A talent, not an object.”
HERMANN HESSE

“The time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time.”
BERTRAND RUSSELL

“Prayer does not change God, but it changes him who prays.”
SOREN KIERKEGAARD

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1948:** Syngman Rhee announced the establishment of the Republic of Korea (South Korea).
- **1960:** Congo gains its Independence. The Central African country came under French control in the late 19th century. In the early 20th century, the French consolidated their territories in Central Africa to create the French Equatorial Africa, with Brazzaville as its capital. During the Second World War, when the Nazis occupied France, Brazzaville acted as the temporary capital of Free France. After violent protests and riots, the country became independent with Fulbert Youlou as its first President.
- **1975:** Sholay, widely regarded as Bollywood’s most iconic film, was released. Directed by Ramesh Sippy, written by the duo Salim-Javed, and starring an ensemble cast including Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, and Hema Malini, it held the record for highest-grossing Hindi movie for 19 years.

FOCUS

GEOPOLITICS

TRADE SHENANIGANS



Islamabad relies heavily on China for military equipment and must consider Beijing’s response if the US pursues oil exploration in Pakistan



Dhurjati Mukherjee

TRUMP’S STATEMENTS SHOULD BE VIEWED AS MERE PRESSURE TACTICS AIMED PRINCIPALLY AT INDIA

American President Donald Trump’s reference to Pakistan’s massive oil reserves sounds like a manoeuvre far from realism. “We have just concluded a deal with the country of Pakistan, whereby Pakistan and the United States will work together on developing their massive oil reserves,” President Donald Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. “We are in the process of choosing the oil company that will lead this partnership,” he added.

Various estimates peg Pakistan’s proven reserves of conventional oil at 0.2 billion barrels and natural gas at 529.5 billion cubic metres. These appear modest when compared to India, which, at last count, was estimated to have oil reserves of about 4.8 billion barrels and natural gas of 1149 billion cubic metres. Pakistan’s domestic production, meeting 15 to 18% of oil and about 60% gas demand, has remained modest as exploration efforts yielded incremental discoveries.

And while the US has Pakistan’s largest refiner, Cnergyco, to import 1 million barrels of oil from American West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude from global commodity trader Vitol in October, Trump imposes additional 25% tariff on India for buying Russian oil. These threats appear to put pressure on India to buy American oil and make defence purchases. If the tariff threats are carried out, these would affect the Indian economy undoubtedly. Both Goldman Sachs and Moody’s Ratings have predicted a slowdown of the economy and GDP shrinking to just 6%. In such a situation, India may have to think of alternative ways of finding new export markets.



Sayan Chatterjee

FOR A FIGHTER BORN IN SOVIET STEEL, THE MIG-21 LIVES ON AS AN INDIAN LEGEND. IT DIDN’T JUST FLY. IT FOUGHT. AND IT FOUGHT WELL

When the MiG-21 first sliced through Indian skies in the 60s, its sharp delta wings and needle-nose fuselage seemed like something from the future. At a time when subsonic jets still patrolled the subcontinent, here was a fighter that could outrun its own shadow—Mach 2 at full throttle—heralding India’s arrival in the supersonic age. Six decades later, that future is about to become an etched memory. The Indian Air Force’s last two MiG-21 squadrons are preparing to shut down engines for good, closing one of the longest and most storied chapters in military aviation.

Conceived in the Cold War workshops of the Mikoyan-Gurevich Design Bureau, the MiG-21 was a compact, unforgiving, and astonishingly

According to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) data, Pakistan had 363.3 million barrels of proven and recoverable oil reserves as of 2016, placing it at No. 52 globally. At current consumption levels of around 556,000 barrel per day, it would cover less than two years of domestic demand without imports or new discoveries. Trump’s remarks possibly stem from recent seismic surveys in Pakistan’s offshore Indus Basin, which identified large underwater structures with powerful oil and gas structures.

Pakistan’s oil potential could take around four-five years at the least, if not more, just to confirm and begin production. Moreover, infrastructural requirements like refineries and pipelines would mean huge investments. With a massive external debt of \$126 billion, it appears doubtful whether Pakistan would be able to bear the expenditure.

Interestingly, Islamabad relies heavily on China for military equipment and must consider Beijing’s response if the US pursues oil exploration

in Pakistan. The recent ceremony marking the PLA’s anniversary highlighted Pakistan’s close defence ties with China, raising doubts about potential US partnerships in energy or other sectors.

However, building up an oil reserve in Pakistan may serve two purposes—one to repay his (Trump’s) gratitude to that country for being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize and the other to tell both India and China that the US would also invest there. But since no plan has been announced, only time will tell what action the US President will take.

It is indeed difficult to understand what Trump intends to do in the Indian subcontinent and the relationship he seeks to develop, especially with Pakistan and India. It’s no secret about his reservations on the formation of BRICS and India’s active role in that organisation. In fact, the US President does not want any third front and would back only those countries that show total allegiance towards the US.

Some analysts suggest that

the US is seeking to influence the ongoing relationship between India and Russia, developed over decades. During the 1971 war with Pakistan, the US supported Islamabad while Russia supported India. Over time, Russia has supplied defence equipment and technology to India. In addition to cooperation with Russia, India has established defence agreements with France and Israel and does not currently purchase American defence equipment due to higher costs and lack of technology transfer.

Trump’s statements should be viewed as mere pressure tactics aimed principally at India. Moreover, he may be losing out on his traditional support and popularity thanks to his absurd statements and contempt against nations. The US criticism of India’s close ties with Russia is seen as unjustified. These are expected to remain stable regardless of potential changes in US-Russia dynamics or a Trump-Putin summit.

India will prioritise national interests in its purchasing decisions, seeking affordable and accessible products. As Prime Minister Modi has stated, foreign policy is guided by national interest. India values its historic ties with Russia and aims to maintain strong relations, preferring not to risk these by allowing greater US influence in its markets.

Yet, according to Reuters reports, India’s state refiners have not purchased Russian oil for the last week, marking a dramatic turn in one of Moscow’s strongest energy relationships since the onset of the war in Ukraine. Eyebrows will continue to be raised till the trade deal is sealed.

INFA

SPECTRUM DEFENCE

MiG-21: Thunder set to fade

In my years of independent defence writing and reporting, I’ve had the privilege of seeing many national and international military fighter flying assets in action during peacetime. But the Mikoyan-Gurevich Model 21—better known as the MiG-21—was never just another fighter jet to me. NATO calls it Fishbed, a codename given for quick identification of this Soviet-built aircraft.

When the MiG-21 first sliced through Indian skies in the 60s, its sharp delta wings and needle-nose fuselage seemed like something from the future. At a time when subsonic jets still patrolled the subcontinent, here was a fighter that could outrun its own shadow—Mach 2 at full throttle—heralding India’s arrival in the supersonic age. Six decades later, that future is about to become an etched memory. The Indian Air Force’s last two MiG-21 squadrons are preparing to shut down engines for good, closing one of the longest and most storied chapters in military aviation.

Conceived in the Cold War workshops of the Mikoyan-Gurevich Design Bureau, the MiG-21 was a compact, unforgiving, and astonishingly

fast machine. India became the first non-communist country to operate it and later one of the few to build it under license through Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. By the 1980s, more than half of the IAF’s fighter strength wore the MiG-21’s unmistakable silhouette. For thousands of young pilots, it was the ultimate test—merciless in the hands of the careless yet exhilarating to those who mastered its quirks.

The MiG-21’s battle honours span generations. In the 1971 Indo-Pak War, it claimed multiple kills, including Pakistan’s prized F-104 Starfighter—a duel that echoed across the region as the day a Soviet delta-wing humbled America’s “missile with a man in it.” It flew in the icy shadows of Kargil in 1999, mapping enemy positions where helicopters dared not venture. And in 2019, decades past its design age, a MiG-21 Bison flown by Wing Commander (then) Abhinandan Varthaman engaged a Pakistani F-16 in a rare dogfight, reminding the world that skill could still turn a legacy platform into a deadly predator.

At its heart, the MiG-21 was a weapon—small, fierce, and built for the kill -- GSh-23L twin-barrel 23mm cannon for

close-range duels; R-60 (AA-8 Aphid) heat-seeking missiles for split-second strikes; K-13 (AA-2 Atoll) infrared-guided missiles modeled after the AIM-9 Sidewinder; and up to 2,000kg of bombs and rockets for precision ground attack.

In its upgraded Bison form, it gained Israeli radar, helmet-mounted sights, and modern R-73 missiles—enough to keep pace with fourth-generation fighters well into the 21st century. Veterans bristle at those terms. For the IAF, the MiG-21 was not a flawed machine—it was a ruthless instructor.

While reminiscing about the farewell, Wing Commander (Retd.) Amit Ranjan Giri a former MiG-21 pilot with the IAF, said, “The MiG-21 never pampered you—it tested you. Every flight was a duel with the sky, and winning meant you’d earned the right to wear those wings. I would love to walk to her one last time, knowing she had given me the sky and taken nothing but my doubts and, if any, fear. The MiG-21 never just flew—it carried our dreams on steel wings to me, as an aviator.”

Its glory, however, was tempered by tragedy. More than 400 crashes and the loss of over 200 pilots earned it the grim

nicknames “Flying Coffin” and “Widowmaker.”

In 2025, the IAF’s final MiG-21 units—stationed in Rajasthan and Punjab—are flying farewell sorties, soon to be replaced by the Rafale, Su-30MKI, and LCA Tejas. The new machines are faster, stealthier, and more sophisticated. Yet none will quite match the MiG-21’s mix of danger and devotion. It guarded India’s skies for over half a century, through wars, crises, and peace patrols. It trained generations of pilots and became part of the nation’s military identity.

When the last MiG-21 will lift off for its ceremonial climb into the blue, it will carry not just fuel and metal but the weight of sixty-two years of history. Its shadow will stretch far beyond the runway, into museums, memoirs, and the hearts of those who flew it, and one of those who have seen it coming, slicing the skies. What a thunderous beauty, she is, and will be.

For a fighter born in Soviet steel, the MiG-21 lives on as an Indian legend. It didn’t just fly. It fought. And it fought well.

The writer is a Delhi-based independent contributor to print and online publications.

Letters 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: edit@orissapost.com

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Identity in tatters

Sir, India’s identity crisis is not a mere bureaucratic quirk — it is a threat vector wide open to abuse. The Madurai passport scam (Madras HC, July 28, 2022) exposed this fragility when 54 passports — many to Sri Lankans — were fraudulently issued from a single police station jurisdiction using forged documents. This was no clerical lapse; it was a breach with grave national security implications. Now, the Bombay High Court has delivered an equally sobering verdict: Aadhaar, ration cards, voter IDs, and even passports cannot be relied upon as proof of citizenship, as they are vulnerable to manipulation. This means our current identification web—ration cards, Aadhaar, PAN, passports, and voter IDs—is a patchwork without the resilience to withstand fraud. Migrants, orphans, and the undocumented pay the price through exclusion, while fraudsters exploit the gaps. Policymakers must rise above piecemeal fixes and legislate a unified, tamper-proof national identity card, anchored in rigorous verification, cross-database authentication, and clear legal status. Anything less is an open invitation to future scams — and a slow erosion of both rights and security.

Gopalaswamy J, CHENNAI

‘TACO’ on display

Sir, Trump’s trade approach, dubbed ‘TACO’ (Trump Always Chickens Out), is again on display with a second 90-day extension to China, signalling hesitation and double standards. While Beijing enjoys a reprieve, India faces a harsh 50 per cent tariff, reflecting Washington’s selective pressure. It appears that Trump is buying time, especially after China pinpointed US choke points—most notably in rare earth magnets—triggering a surge in imports. The US-China meeting, expected in late October, aims to break the trade deadlock, but America’s softened stance towards Beijing contrasts sharply with its rigidity towards New Delhi. For India, the move underscores the need to diversify export markets, strengthen domestic manufacturing in strategic sectors, and deepen trade alliances beyond the US. By reducing dependency on any single economy and leveraging its own critical resources, India can turn Trump’s tariff chaos into an opportunity for stronger economic resilience. **RS Narula**, PATIALA

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES

Positive thinking can change the world, and you could do with some today. No matter how tough the going gets, take it in your stride, says Ganesha. If you think you can do it, you will. You have the magic touch today to initiate a new business strategy.

TAURUS

Definitely not a day when you plan to get your feet dirty (maybe a pedicure, though). You might delay the start of a new project. Perhaps, a romantic escape with your sweetheart or a day in the spa grooming yourself with a lavish makeover will validate your lethargy today. Either way, it will be heavy on your pocket.

GEMINI

Ganesha advises that while today will be a day filled with a lot of festivity, you still need to guard against getting carried away. You will spend the day socialising with friends and family. You might end up neglecting your household duties in organizing some function or picnic, says Ganesha.

CANCER

A hectic day, combined with domestic pressure will make you exhausted. You feel a heavy burden on mind and heart. Don't be too emotional, says Ganesha. Take care not to pass domestic burdens on to your career or business, and thereby mar your capacity and efficiency.

LEO

You will pay more attention to the younger members in the family. You will guide the children in improving their daily schedule. An occasion to celebrate will present itself. You will be desirous of participating in some competition or program, says Ganesha.

VIRGO

Foreign contacts will in all likelihood be a source of monetary profits. Ganesha says you will perform wonderfully in anything you might choose to undertake today. Even your ambition of setting up an offshore business enterprise will take root today.

LIBRA

Lady Luck smiles on you today. With all the good fortune on your side, it's assured to be a day when financial gains come your way, especially if you are in the banking business. Agreed everything is going your way today, but be careful not to let your emotions cloud your reasoning and slow you down. Don your rational hat and lower your expectations a little. It never hurts to want less, especially since it is saves you from disappointments later on, advises Ganesha.

SCORPIO

Ganesha asks you to practice caution today. There are strong possibilities that an evil eye may attack you in some or other way. So, keep a watchful eye. And remember, every day brings along an experience and a lesson with it. Learn and move on.

SAGITTARIUS

Your stars are aligned in a way that you may have to travel long distance, either for business or for leisure. Socially, you are active as you are likely to attend a function and take the centre stage. You may also participate in religious activities and give importance of rites and rituals, if need be, informs Ganesha.

CAPRICORN

After all the drudgery you endured in a bid to reach a certain point in your career, it's time to sit back and enjoy the rewards, says Ganesha. Today, you can expect to get a transfer, a promotion, a pay hike or all the three. But these will be accompanied by added responsibilities and work, leaving you wondering if it really was an achievement or a bait used to trap you. A lucrative job offer may also come your way, and given the circumstances, you may find it hard to resist.

AQUARIUS

You will tackle complicated issues with infinite ease! But you will also find people passing the buck onto you. It irks you no end, having to take the blame for others' mistakes. But here's a chance, says Ganesha, to turn a weakness into a strength.

PISCES

The focus today will be on self-improvement. You may find yourself attending seminars or workshops. Self-employed people are likely to find lucrative deals landing in their laps in the afternoon. Quality time with your family in the evening will give you a sense of balance and of belonging, says Ganesha.

ZAREEN'S PREDICTION

MUMBAI: Actress Zareen Khan, who is known for Veer, Housefull 2, Hate Story 3 and others, has spoken up on the concept of micro-dramas, and how they mark a definitive moment in the content industry.

After making a memorable mark in Bollywood and carving a niche for herself with a string of notable performances, Zareen is now stepping into a brand-new storytelling space, the world of micro-dramas. Her latest project, Phir Se Restart marks her foray into this rapidly growing format.

Sharing her excitement about the format and the story she's exploring for the first time, the actress said, "Micro-dramas are such a fresh concept that's taking over the content scene right now. I'm thrilled to be part of this project because it's not just a good story, it's one that resonates".

She further mentioned, "And the fact that it's available right on people's phones means it

has the power to reach the maximum audience directly".

The actress sees micro-dramas as the future of bite-sized yet impactful entertainment, quick to watch, emotionally engaging, and always accessible. With Phir Se Restart, she once again proves she's unafraid to experiment and connect with audiences in new ways. Phir Se Restart is available to stream on Pocket TV.



Vidya gets candid

MUMBAI: Actress Vidya Balan, whose debut film Parineeta is gearing up for a re-release, has shared the title of the first song that she heard from the album.

The actress shared that she was shooting a music video with the late filmmaker Pradeep Sarkar when he asked her to listen to a song that he and his team had recorded. This was the first song from the film which the actress heard.

Talking about the same, she said, "There is something about Piyu Bole that just has my heart. I think it's so easily

humable, it has that old-world charm, it's so romantic, and the way it was shot added to making the song somewhat timeless. It's still relatable, even for people today".

She further mentioned, "In fact, a lot of young kids have told me they like that song, and I feel that is very telling that there's truly something timeless about it. The first song I heard that was recorded for Parineeta was Raat Hamari Toh. I was shooting with Dada for a music video in Kolkata, and he told me, 'Just go down to the car, there's a CD with a song we've just recorded'. I went down, played it, and I burst out crying in the car. It's such a beautiful, haunting, and powerful song. It's so easy to cry listening to it. I love the music of Parineeta every single song".

Vande Mataram is heartbeat: Suchitra

MUMBAI: Actress-singer Suchitra Krishnamoorti has unveiled her latest artistic offering, an original composition inspired by the national song Vande Mataram. Released Thursday, the eve of India's Independence Day, the track captures the timeless spirit of patriotism while weaving in a deep sense of devotion.

Speaking about the song, Suchitra said: "For me, Vande Mataram is not just music – it is breath, it is heartbeat, it is the pulse of a billion dreams. I wanted to create something that feels like the nation's own prayer – tender enough to soothe, powerful enough to stir." The phrase Vande Mataram, written in 1876 by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee as India's national song, has inspired generations and fuelled the freedom movement.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

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Tender Value: ₹ 70,51,290.12,
EMD: ₹ 1,41,000.00, **Tender Document Cost:** ₹ 5,900.00.
Bidding Start Date: 15.08.2025,
Tender closing Date & Time: At 1100 hrs. of 29.08.2025.
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PEANUTS



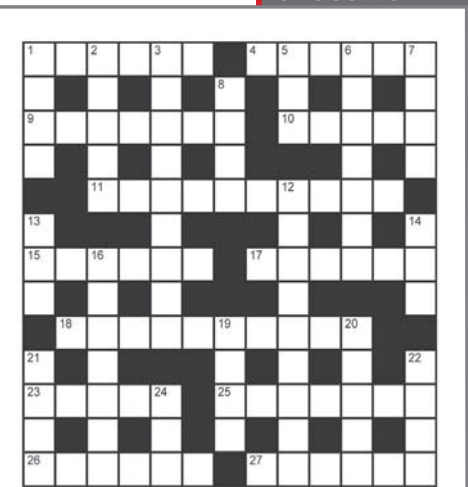
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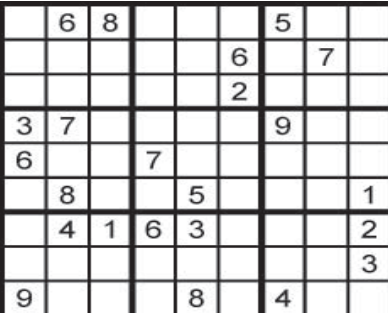


Across
1 Keep
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9 Griddle cake
10 Cheapskate
11 Fortune teller
15 Lean
17 Involuntary muscular contractions
18 Salon worker
23 Playground item
25 Ointment ingredient
26 Kind of monkey
27 Oil source
Down
1 Torture device
2 Bridge support
3 Off-the-cuff
5 Ready for battle
6 Pale or light colours
7 Like some losers
8 Eczema symptom
12 Dish washer, e.g.
13 Belief system
14 Egyptian snake
16 Enumerate
19 ___ of Wight
20 Man-made fibre
21 Bygone autocrat
22 Pesky insect
24 Bearded antelope

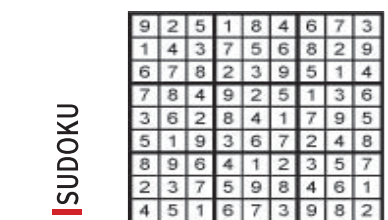
CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



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| Name & Address of Borrowers / Co-Borrowers | Description of Properties | Date of Demand Notice / Possession Notice / Date of Redemption Notice / Dues as per Possession Notice |
| Borrower: Mr. Mangraj Bhata / Co-Borrower: Mr. Suryaraj Bhatta, Both are resident of Dakdarpada, Jayantpur, Dhanupali, Sambalpur, Odisha, PIN - 768112 | Equitable Mortgage of Residential Land situated at Mouza: Lapanga, PS. No.:11, Katarbaga, Tahasil: Rengali, Dist.: Sambalpur, Odisha, having MS Khata No.: 362/818, Plot No.: 355/3423, Area: Ac.0.090Dec., Kissam: Gharabari & Plot No.: 354/3422, Kissam: Gharbari, Area: Ac.0.010Dec., Total Area: Ac.0.100Dec., in the name of Sri Mangaraj Bhata , Boundary of the Property having Plot No.: 355/3423, East: Plot No.: 354, West: Plot No.: 355, North: Road, South: Plot No.: 2472, Boundary of the Property having Plot No.: 354/3422, East: Plot No.: 354, West: Plot No.: 354, North: Plot No.: 3423, South: Plot No.: 341 | 11.04.2025 / 10.07.2025 / 15.07.2025 / Rs.17,05,854.36 |
| Borrower: Mr. Mangraj Bhata / Co-Borrower: Mr. Suryaraj Bhatta, Both are resident of Dakdarpada, Jayantpur, Dhanupali, Sambalpur, Odisha, PIN - 768112 | Equitable Mortgage and extension of Equitable Mortgage of Residential Land & Building situated at Mouza: Jayantpur, PS.: Sadar, Tahasil: Jujomura, Dist.: Sambalpur, bearing Chaka Khata No.: 352/149, No Consolidable Plot No.: 1021/2204, Area: Ac.0.070Dec., Kissam: Gharbari and Chaka Khata No.: 352/374, Non Consolidable Plot No.: 226/2407, Area: 0.0017Dec., or 75Sqft., in the name of Sri Mangaraj Bhata , S/o: Sri Maheswar Bhatta, Boundary of the Property having Khata No.: 352/149, Plot No.: 1021/2204, East: Plot No.: 1021(P), West: Plot No.: 1020, North: Plot No.: 1021(P), South: Plot No.:1021/2204(P), Boundary of the Property having Khata No.: 352/374, Plot No.: 2267/2407, East: Plot No.: 2204, West: Road, North: Plot No.: 2204, South: Plot No.: 2204 | 11.04.2025 / 10.07.2025 / 15.07.2025 / Rs.76,20,391.69 |
| Sub: Notice under Rule 6(2) and/or Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act, 2002). Whereas the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda, Khetrajpur Branch, Address- Poddar Heights, Main Road, Khetrajpur, Odisha, PIN-768 003 , being Secured Creditor Bank in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act 2002 (hereinafter referred as "Act") read with Rules 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 (hereinafter referred as "Rules") issued demand notice dated 11.04.2025 calling upon you being Borrowers (s)/ Mortgagor (s) /Guarantor (s) to repay the amount stated in the said demand notice within 60 days from receipt of said notice. And whereas you have failed to repay the amount, the undersigned in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 4 and/or Rule 8 of the Rules have taken over the Possession of Secured Assets (hereinafter referred as the said properties), more particularly described herein above Schedule. Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to Bank as mentioned in above Possession Notice. Your attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. Therefore, you all are requested to pay the dues as mentioned in possession notice along with applicable interest, cost, charges & expenses within 30 days from receipt of this notice and redeem the secured asset as mentioned above. In case you fail to pay the above mentioned dues & redeem the secured asset within 30 days from receipt of this notice, Bank will be constrained to sell the secured asset through public e-Auction by publication of e-Auction Sale notice. The date, time of e-auction and Reserve Price of the property shall be informed to you separately. | | |
| Place: Sambalpur, Date: 14.08.2025 | | Sd/- Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda |

EAST COAST RAILWAY INDICATIVE NOTICE

RE-ENGAGEMENT OF RETIRED PHARMACIST IN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT AT TITLAGARH HEALTH UNIT OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION, EAST COAST RAILWAY
No. DRM(P)/SBP/Staff/Med/Re-engagement/Retd. Pharmacist/25 Dated : 06.08.2025
The detailed Notification No. DRM(P)/SBP/Staff/Med/Re-engagement/Retd. Pharmacist/25, dated 06.08.2025 is available in East Coast Railways website on the following Path: www.eastcoastrail.indianrailways.gov.in ➤ About us ➤ Division ➤ Sambalpur Division ➤ Recruitment ➤ Re-Engagement of Retired Employees.
Divisional Personnel Officer / Sambalpur
PR-482/Q/25-26

WORKS DEPARTMENT No.B-367
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RAIRANGPUR (R&B), DIVISION
e-mail : serbairangpur@yahoo.co.in
Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. SE 17 OF 2025-26
The bidders have to participate in **ONLINE** bidding only. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://tendersodisha.gov.in>". All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE mode only.
Sd./- Superintending Engineer Rairangpur (R&B) Division
OIPR-34041/11/0011/2526

ଅଧୀକ୍ଷକ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର (ରାସ୍ତା ଓ ଗୃହ) ବିଭାଗ ନଂ-୪, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର
Office of the Superintending Engineer, Bhubaneswar (R&B) Division No.IV, Nirman Soudha, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar
E-mail ID : eemb4bbsr@gmail.com, Tel - (0674) - 2390245
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS THROUGH e-Procurement
No.6695 Date - 06.08.2025
Bid Identification No. - C.C. (R&B) - 04
e-Procurement Notice No. 14 of 2025-26

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. Name of the Work | 4 Nos. Road Works |
| 2. Total No. of Works | 4 Nos. Road Works |
| 3. Estimated Cost | Rs.53,91,021.00, Rs.61,45,083.00, Rs.64,12,805.00, Rs.71,16,253.00 respectively (As per Tender Call Notice) |
| 4. Class of Contractor | B Class (As per Tender Call Notice) |
| 5. Period of Completion | 1 (One) Calendar Month |
| 6. Type of Tender | Double Cover System Tender |
| 7. Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal | Dt.18.08.2025 to Dt.01.09.2025 up to 17.30 hours |
| 8. Last Date & Time for receipt of bids in the Portal | Dt.01.09.2025 at 17.30 hours |
| 9. Opening of Bid through online | Dt.02.09.2025 at 11.30 hours |
| 10. Name & Address of the Officer inviting Bid | Er. Sundara Madhaba Padhi, Additional Chief Engineer, Bhubaneswar (R&B) Division No.IV, Bhubaneswar |

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <http://tendersodisha.gov.in>.
The Tender Inviting Authority reserves the right to reject / cancel / modify the tender at any time without assigning any reason thereof.
N.B : Subsequent corrigendum / addendum if required shall be available in the website as indicated above.
Sd./- Additional Chief Engineer BBSR (R&B) Division No.IV, BBSR
OIPR-34090/11/0017/2526



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER (MSME), NEW DELHI

Expression of Interest (Eoi)
for Empanelment of Implementing Agencies for FY 2025-26

The Office of the Development Commissioner (MSME) invites applications from eligible Implementing Agencies (IAs) for their empanelment to organize training programmes under the Scheme of Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) for FY 2025-26, as per the scheme guidelines <https://dcmsme.gov.in/ESDP-Guidelines-new-01-04-2022.pdf>

The Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) aims to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship by providing technical and managerial training. It focuses on entrepreneurial skill enhancement, capacity building for MSMEs, fostering innovation, and generating employment. The programme ensures inclusive growth, targeting youth, women, and disadvantaged groups to drive economic development through technical up skilling and business innovation.

Eligibility Criteria for Empanelment

- Proven experience in organizing entrepreneurship skill development programmes.
- Adequate infrastructure and resources to conduct high-quality training.
- Willingness to adopt digital platforms for monitoring and evaluation.
- Institutes/organizations already shortlisted for the ESDP Scheme in the earlier phase for the current FY 2025-26, will not be considered again.
- Private Institutes, Private Universities, NGOs, Private Organizations, Private Bodies and Private Companies are not eligible for applying.**

Who Can Apply

Institutes: IITs, IIMs, NITs, Technology Centers (TCs), Tool Rooms, Central and State Universities, Govt Agricultural Universities, Govt. Research Centres (Scientific and Agricultural/Others) Central Autonomous Bodies under the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India, and institutes from Central and State Government departments.

How to Apply

Interested organizations can submit their application in the prescribed format can be downloaded from the official website at www.dcmsme.gov.in (Scroll Down -> Notice Board) along with supporting documents through email to esdp.div@dcmsme.gov.in within **21 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

For More Details, Visit: www.dcmsme.gov.in or contact the following address:

Joint Director (ESDP) O/o DC (MSME)
Room No.731, A-Wing, 7th Floor, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road,
New Delhi - 110011, Email: esdp.div@dcmsme.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS DIVISION, BHANJANAGAR
Email : eervbnjr@gmail.com
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Identification No. Online Tender / 09 / RWDBNJ / 2025-2026
Ltr. No. 4188 Date : 05.08.2025

| Identification No. | Name of work | No. of Works | Approx. Estimated Cost (In lakh) | Class of Contractor | Period of Completion |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Online Tender / RWDBNJ/09/2025-2026 | Building Works | 07 (Seven) Nos. | 50.17 Lakhs to 71.43 Lakhs | "B" Class as applicable | 09 (Nine) Calendar months |

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Procurement Officer | Bid Identification No. | Availability of tender online for bidding |
| Superintending Engineer, R.W.Division, Bhanjanagar | Online Tender/09/ RWDBNJ/2025-2026 | From To |
| | | 18.08.2025 at 10.00 A.M. 02.09.2025 upto 3.00 P.M. |

Further details can be seen from the website : www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Sd./- Executive Engineer R.W.Division, Bhanjanagar
OIPR-25174/11/0027/2526

WPI inflation declines to 2-year low

S&P LIFTS INDIA'S RATING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 14: Wholesale price inflation declined to a 2-year low of (-) 0.58 per cent in July, as deflation in food and fuel kept WPI in the negative zone for the second consecutive month, government data released Thursday showed.

Experts, however, projected WPI inflation to move back into positive territory in August, as base effects fade and seasonal price increases continue.

WPI-based inflation was 2.10 per cent in July last year, and (-) 0.13 per cent in June.

"Negative rate of inflation in July 2025 is primarily due to a decrease in prices of food articles, mineral oils, crude petroleum & natural gas, manufacture of basic metals, etc," the industry ministry said in a statement.

According to WPI data, deflation in food articles widened to 6.29 per cent in July, as against a deflation of 3.75 per cent in June, with vegetables witnessing a sharp drop. Deflation in vegetables was 28.96 per cent in July, compared to 22.65 per cent in June.

Fuel and power saw a negative inflation or deflation of 2.43 per cent in July, as against 2.65 per cent in June.

In the case of manufactured products, inflation was higher at 2.05 per cent in July, as against 1.97 per cent in the month before.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 14: S&P Thursday upgraded India's sovereign credit rating to 'BBB' with a stable outlook after over 18 years, citing robust economic growth, political commitment for fiscal consolidation and 'conducive' monetary policy to check inflation.

"India remains among the best performing economies in the world...The quality of government spending has improved in the past five to six years," S&P Global Ratings said.


The impact of US tariffs on the Indian economy will be "manageable", S&P said, adding that a 50 per cent tariff on US exports (if imposed) will not pose a "material drag" on growth.


"India is relatively less reliant on trade and about 60 per cent of its economic growth stems from domestic consumption," it said.

The rating upgrade by a US-based agency comes days after American President Donald Trump dubbed India as a "dead economy". Trump has imposed the highest 50 per cent tariff on Indian goods with effect from August 27.

S&P in January 2007 placed India on the lowest investment grade rating of 'BBB'.

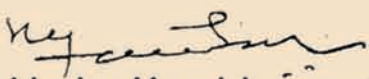
DADLS-42







MESSAGE OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF ODISHA ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY-2025

On the auspicious occasion of our Independence Day, I greet all my sisters and brothers of Odisha and extend my heartfelt wishes. I call upon all to work collectively and dedicatedly to transform Odisha into a Viksit Odisha and one of the best States of the country.

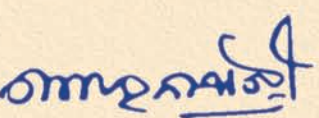

(Hari babu Kambhampati)






ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା


ପବିତ୍ର ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ଭାଇଭଉଣୀ ମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ଆନ୍ତରିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି । ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଏବଂ ବିକଶିତ ଭାରତ ଗଠନ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ସହିତ ରାଜ୍ୟ ଓ ଦେଶର ସାମଗ୍ରିକ ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ସମସ୍ତେ ସଂକଳ୍ପବଦ୍ଧ ହୋଇ କାମ କରିବା ।


(ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ)
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/13/0958/2526



Heartfelt greetings to all fellow citizens on 79th INDEPENDENCE DAY


Government of India

“If today the world thinks Bharat is ready to take a big leap, it has a powerful launchpad of 11 years behind it.”
- Narendra Modi

“

Live telecast of the Independence Day celebrations from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Doordarshan network from 6:30 AM onwards.

CBC 46101/13/0016/2526

From Nanded to Red Fort: Journey of 'Tricolour'

Nanded: As India gears up to celebrate its 79th Independence Day, one small city in Maharashtra is quietly playing a big role in the country's patriotic preparations. Nanded, home to the Marathwada Khadi Gramodyog Samiti, is one of the few official centres in India where the national flag – the Tiranga (Tricolour) – is manufactured according to strict government standards. From humble village offices to the grandeur of Delhi's Red Fort, these flags are proudly hoisted across the country. The roots of this unique responsibility trace back to 1965, when freedom fighter Govindbhai Shroff and visionary leader Swami Ramanand Teerth laid the foundation for Khadi Gramodyog in Nanded. Since then, the organisation has grown to become a cornerstone of local employment and national pride. According to the office superintendent, Gyanoba Solanke, flag production is a meticulous and time-consuming process that begins months in advance. It starts with untreated khadi cloth, which is first sent to the BMC Mill in Ahmedabad, a government-approved facility, for weaving in the three colours of the national flag. After stringent quality checks based on specifications laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the flags are returned for screen printing of the Ashoka Chakra, cutting, and stitching. One unique feature in the manufacturing process is the special 'Gardi' rope used to tie the flags. This rope is made from a blend of woods like turmeric, teak, sal, and rosewood, and is sourced from Mumbai. The entire production cycle takes a minimum of two months, making early planning essential.

British, vested interests divided India, says Majhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, August 14: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Thursday said the British and some vested interests divided India "for their political ambitions".

In a statement on Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, which is observed annually August 14, Majhi said today's India salutes the courage and determination of "our ancestors" who faced atrocities in 1947.

"Partition Horrors Remembrance Day is not merely a day for us; it is an occasion to recall that dark chapter of our history when the British and certain vested interests, for



their political ambitions, fragmented our Mother India," Majhi said in a post on X.

In the partition of 1947, millions of brothers and sisters were displaced, countless families were torn apart, and thousands of innocent people were killed solely based on religion, he said. "Today's In-

dia has been built on their courage, sacrifice, and resolute determination. On the occasion of Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, we remember their struggle and sacrifice and pay our heartfelt tributes to them," the CM said.

Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, the BJP government is not only remembering the past, but is also correcting the "injustice of history".

"Article 370 has been removed from Kashmir, and the dream of 'One Nation-One Law- One Flag' has been fulfilled. Whether it is the border or the world, today India is not compromising its integrity and sovereignty; it

is giving a strong response to the aggressors," he said.

The day was also observed at Raj Bhavan, which was attended by Governor Hari Babu Kam-bhampati, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and the CM. "Partition's wounds left

deep scars that continue to influence our politics and perceptions. Yet the politics of hate must never divide our hearts again. Unity must be nurtured through tolerance, empathy, and justice," the Governor said.

Pradhan said without

remembering the horrors of August 14, the celebration of Independence Day remains incomplete.

Higher Education, Sports and Youth Services, Odia Language, Literature and Culture Minister Suryabanshi Suraj also attended the event.

ZONAL OFFICE: BHUBANESWAR ZONE
Star House, 1/1D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Tel: 0674 - 2362251/2362246, Email: zo.bhubaneswar@bankofindia.co.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform our valued customers and general public that Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Branch will be shifting its operations from the existing premises at: Old Address: Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Branch, 129, Ashok Nagar, Unit-II, Janpath, Bhubaneswar, PIN-751009 to the new premises at: New Address: Bank of India, Bhubaneswar Branch, Hotel Aryaprabha Private Ltd., Plot No.: 126/B, Ashok Nagar, Janpath, Bhubaneswar, PIN-751009. Branch operations at the new premises will commence within one month. The exact date will be displayed at the old premises as well as new premises. We thank you for your continued trust and patronage.

Zonal Manager, Bhubaneswar Zone

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Best wishes to all
UPSC / OPSC aspirants on

79th Independence Day

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Saluting the Nation, Energising Dreams

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IndianOil Paradip Refinery wishes

Happy Independence Day

MITS GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS
RAYAGADA & BHUBANESWAR CAMPUS

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY
15th August

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We Wish you a **Happy Independence Day**

With Best Compliments From **A WELL Wisher**

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A Government of India Undertaking

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INSTANT OVERDRAFT FACILITY

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- Free premium card with add-on features
- Accidental Insurance coverage to spouse
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Pride of the tricolour, spirit of freedom, Canara Bank extends warm Wishes on Independence Day!

On the occasion of **Dussehra** Presenting **11 Days Only**

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NEW MARRION HOTEL
Janpath, Opp. Ram Mandir, Bhubaneswar
From : 14th to 25th Aug. 2025
Full A/c

Products on Display - Orissa : Sambalpuri Ikkat Silk Saree, Bihar : Organic Tassar Silk Sarees, Suit & Stoles, Assam : Muga & Eri Silk Sarees, Karnataka : Creap Silk, Georgetown Silk, Arini Silk & Printed Sarees, Tamilnadu : Kanjeevaram Silk Sarees & Designer Fancy Sarees, Andhra Pradesh : Dharmavaram, Uppada, Gadwal, Mangalagiri & Pochampalli Sarees, Uttar Pradesh : Mulbari Silk, Jamdani, Jamawar Silk Sarees & Chiffon Silk, Maharashtra : Designer Dress materials, Chhattisgarh : Exclusive Raw Silk Sarees, Kosa Silk, Tassar Suit & Dupatta, Madhya Pradesh : Maheswari, Chanderi Silk Sarees & Suit, West Bengal : Baluchari, Dhaka Masli, Gicha Sarees, Boutique Sarees, Kantha Sarees, Zordoshi, Jammu & Kashmir : Chinon Silk, Tady Silk, Printed Sarees, Pashmina Shawls & Suit, Rajasthan : Kota Silk, Hand Block Print Dress & Sarees, Punjab : Fulkari Dress and many more...

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HAPPY 79th Independence Day

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Hearty wishes from Union Bank of India to all the people on the occasion of

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
भारत सरकार का उपकरण

Union Bank of India
A Government of India Undertaking

PSG's Super comeback

Paris Saint-Germain secure dramatic comeback win over Spurs to win Super Cup

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Udine (Italy), August 14: Paris Saint-Germain rallied from two goals down to beat Tottenham Hotspur 4-3 on penalties after a 2-2 draw in regular time, winning their first UEFA Super Cup at the Stadio Friuli Thursday (IST).

Luis Enrique's team have become the first French side to win this competition, with clubs from 13 different nations now having triumphed.

Both teams created chances early before the English side struck in the 39th minute. A long free kick into the box caused confusion, with Joao Palhinha's close-range shot tipped onto the post by PSG debutant goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier. Micky van de Ven pounced on the rebound to make it 1-0.

Two minutes into the second half, Spurs doubled their lead when Pedro Porro's long free kick found an unmarked Cristian Romero at the far post. The Argentine's header slipped through Chevalier's hands to make it 2-0.



Sometimes football is unfair. I have to say we were very lucky in the last 10 minutes that we could score two goals. My players had faith until the last minute, like our supporters

LUIS ENRIQUE | COACH, PSG

PSG pressed for a response. In the 65th minute, Desire Doue was denied by Guglielmo Vicario before Bradley Barcola scored on the rebound, only for VAR to rule it out for off-side. The breakthrough came in the 85th minute when Vitinha played the ball left to substitute

Lee Kang-in, who controlled and fired a stunning strike from the edge of the box to pull one back.

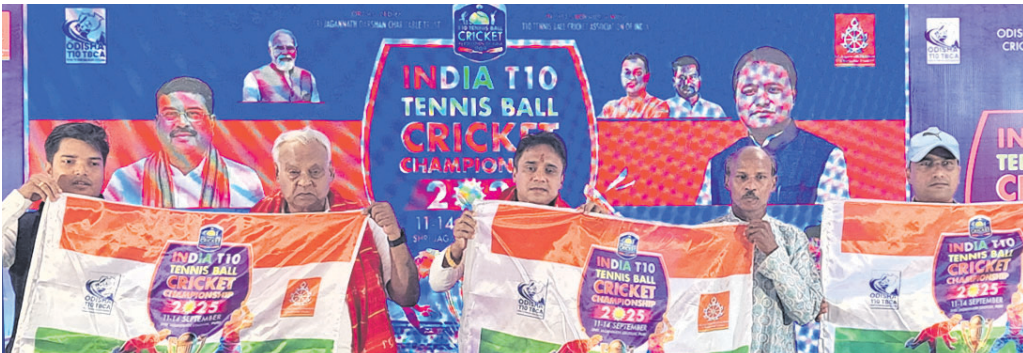
Deep into stoppage time, Ousmane Dembele surged down the right and delivered a pinpoint cross for Goncalo Ramos to head in from close

Winning run: The triumph capped a remarkable year for PSG, who have already won the French Super Cup, Ligue 1, French Cup and UEFA Champions League, and now the UEFA Super Cup. They will have the chance to complete a sextuple at the FIFA Intercontinental Cup in December

range, forcing a penalty shootout as the Super Cup has no extra time.

In the shootout, PSG's Vitinha had his shot saved, Van de Ven's effort was stopped, and Mathys Tel missed for Spurs. Nuno Mendes converted the decisive kick to seal a 4-3 shootout win and a 6-5 victory overall.

3rd All India T-10 Tennis Ball Cricket C'ship to be held from September 11



After success of the inaugural event in Lucknow and second edition in Goa, the national-level championship comes to Odisha for the first time

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 14: The T-10 Tennis Ball Cricket Association of India, in collaboration with the Odisha T-10 Tennis Ball Cricket Association and Shri Jagannath Darshan Charitable Trust, will host the 3rd All India T-10 Tennis Ball Cricket Championship at Shree

Jagannath Stadium, Puri, from September 11 to 14, 2025.

After the success of the inaugural event in Lucknow and the second edition in Goa, the national-level championship comes to Odisha for the first time. The tournament will feature 25 men's teams from 25 states and 6 women's teams, with all matches played in day-and-night format. International cricketer Debashish Mohanty will be the brand ambassador.

Group A includes Odisha, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh. Group B comprises Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Goa, Karnataka, North Karnataka, Madhya Bharat, Purvanchal,

and Delhi. Group C features Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.

The tournament trophy, jerseys, and promotional video were unveiled in the presence of Association President Bhabani Prasad Das Mahapatra, General Secretary Santosh Kumar Pradhan, Working President Nishikanta Mishra, and State Secretary Brajkishore Das.

"This is the first time Odisha is hosting the championship, and players from all states are filled with excitement. Beyond cricket, this will also be a vibrant platform for cultural exchange," said Mahapatra.

Mascot, logo of first-ever Khelo India Water Games Fest released

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar, August 14: The organisers of the first-ever Khelo India Water Sports Festival released the Himalayan Kingfisher as the mascot of the upcoming Games, which will be held at the iconic Dal Lake from August 21-23, in Srinagar Thursday.

The water sports festival is part of the expanding Khelo India calendar. The first-ever Khelo India Beach Games



were held in Diu in May this year. The KIWSF will be hosted by the J&K Sports Council in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Sports Authority of India. For Jammu and Kashmir, this will be the second Khelo India event after Gulmarg hosted the snow events of the Khelo India Winter Games in March.

Sports fraternity mourns demise of Vece Paes

1972 Olympic bronze medallist, father of tennis icon Leander Paes, passes away at 80

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, August 14: The sports fraternity has mourned the passing of Dr Vece Paes, an Olympic medallist and father of tennis legend Leander Paes, who died Thursday at the age of 80. A prominent midfielder from the golden era of Indian

hockey, Dr Paes was a member of the Indian team that clinched the bronze medal at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Dr Paes, who served Indian sport with distinction both on and off the field, was suffering from an advanced stage of Parkinson's disease. He was admitted to Woodlands Hospital late August 12 with multiorgan dysfunction due to lower respiratory tract & gastrointestinal tract infections. He had been under the Woodlands Home Care Service for the past ten months.



Born in Goa in April, 1945, Dr Paes was exceptional in both sports and academics. Beyond his athletic achievements, he was also a doctor of sports medicine and served as presi-

dent of the Calcutta Cricket and Football Club. Dr Paes started his medical practice at NRS Medical College and Woodlands Hospital in the 1960s.

"Very saddened by the passing of former Indian player and Olympic bronze medallist Dr Vece "Doc" Paes. The hockey family is grateful for what he gave to our sport as a player and then as a sports physician. We extend our condolences to his family and friends, as well as Hockey India," said FIH president Tayyab Ikram. "Deeply saddened by the

passing of Dr Vece Paes, a great hockey player, Olympic medallist & true motivator for athletes like me. Father of 7-time Olympian & Atlanta 1996 bronze medallist Leander Paes. His legacy in Indian sports will live on. May his soul rest in peace Om Shanti," said four-time Olympian Dhanraj Pillay. Besides hockey, Paes showed his skills by playing divisional cricket, football, and rugby. His love for rugby led him to become the president of the Indian Rugby Football Union from 1996 to 2002.

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