**Ananya's strategy** 

Actor Ananya Panday shares how she sustains confidence and self-worth while navigating life under constant public scrutiny

LEISURE | P2



#### Famine in Gaza

Gaza City and surrounding areas are officially suffering from famine, and it will likely spread to other areas, the UN said

INTERNATIONAL | P10



#### **Ban hits business**

Multiple online gaming platforms suspend their real-money online gaming operations in the wake of the Online Gaming Bill, 2025

BUSINESS | P11



#### Winning run

Dominant India score once in each half to blank Bangladesh 2-0 and record second straight win in SAFF U-17 Women's Championships

SPORTS | P12

12 PAGE | ₹5.00

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**BHUBANESWAR | SATURDAY | AUGUST 23, 2025** 

#### **Srimandir: Queue** system from Sept 15

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 22: In a significant move aimed at streamlining the flow of devotees and enhancing the darshan experience at the Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri, the much-anticipated 'Dhadi Darshan' queue system is likely to be introduced from September 15, pending final approvals and infrastructural readiness. This announcement was made by Law Minister Prithviraj Harichandan, who revealed that preparations for the new system are in the final stages. A key development that will precede the launch is the relocation of the Hundi (donation box) – a matter to be discussed in the first meeting of the soon-to-be-formed Shree Jagannath Temple Managing

#### **Lord Swraj Paul** passes away at 94

Committee.

London, August 22: Leading NRI industrialist Lord Swraj Paul passed awav London Thursday evening,

leaving behind a legacy in entrepreneurship and philanthropy. He was 94. Lord Paul, founder of UK-based Caparo Group of industries, had been taken ill and hospitalised recently, where he passed away surrounded by members of his family. PM Narendra Modi expressed anguish at the death of Paul and said his support for the UK's close ties with India

## Class II girl locked Free ride for school kids in govt buses government-run buses plying

Bhubaneswar, August 22: Residents in a village in Keonjhar district Friday rescued an eight-year-old girl student whose head got stuck in a window grill of a government school where she was left

The incident took place at the Government Upper Primary School at Anjar under Banspal block. The Class II student. Jvotsna Dehuri was left locked inside the classroom at school while she was sleeping on one of the benches, said Sanjita Das, one of the teachers.

said that their daughter did not return home from will always be remembered. school Thursday and they Born to Pyare Lal, who ran a searched for her all night. small foundry used to make However, they, along with ri Mahanta, steel goods, Lord Paul was ex- some villagers went to the posed to business early in his school early in the morning the District Education Offilife much before he went on and found that the girl's cer revealed that some Class to establish UK-based Caparo head had got stuck on the MORE P11 window grill and she was lock the school at 4 pm.



screaming for help.

"The villagers bent the

Singh suspended the headmaster (in-charge) Gouraha-

PARTYING PANDAS: Twin panda cubs Leni and Lotti, left, play at the Panda Garden during their first birthday party at the Zoo in Berlin,

Bhubaneswar, August 22: School and Mass Education Minister Nityananda Gond Friday announced that school students will be allowed to travel free in state government-run buses.

Speaking to media persons here, Gond said school students now can travel free of cost on

government-run buses plying under the 'Mukhyamantri Bus Seva' scheme, Gond, however, made it clear that students will have to be in school uniforms and must carry identity cards to avail the benefit. While previously only

SC&ST students received free textbooks, now all students will get the facility, the minister said

## **30K-km roads, 500** bridges in 5 yrs: CM

Bhubaneswar, August 22: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Friday said that the state has set a target to construct 30,000 km of roads and 500 bridges in five years.

The CM announced this while reviewing various programmes of the Rural Development department at Lok Seva Bhayan here. In the meeting, Majhi stated that it is the responsibility of the department to ensure all rural areas of the state are connected with all-weather roads.

He emphasised the optimal utilisation of funds received under various schemes to provide improved transportation facilities to the people. Majhi also directed that special attention be paid to the quality and maintenance of roads and bridges. The CM directed the authorities to take strict action against contractors and officials responsible for substandard work.

He advised the construction of high-quality roads in hilly areas for better connec-

tivity. Training programmes will be initiated to enhance the skills of contractors involved in construction.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Odisha has so far constructed 70,711.24 km of roads out of the approved 73,984.88 km, securing the fourth position in the country. Previously, the work was carried out under the first, second, and third phases of the PMGSY guidelines. The fourth phase has now been taken up.

In this phase, roads and bridges will be constructed in tribal-dominated areas, aspirational blocks, and Naxal-affected regions. Under this phase, proposals have been made to construct 942 roads and eight bridges to connect 1,021 unconnect-

Similarly, under the PN Janman Yojana, to connect more than 100 habitations of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups, approvals have been received for the construction of 66 roads and four bridges in 73 villages.

Under the Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana, 4,500.30 km of roads were constructed in the financial year 2024-25. In 2025-26, a provision has been made to construct 5.000 km of roads with an expenditure of ₹3,469.94 crore. Under the Setubandhan Yojana, 186 bridges were constructed in 2024-25, and a provision has been made for 300 bridges in

The Rural Development department is also continuing work to develop rural infrastructure, including the construction of hostels, college buildings, government offices, cyclone and flood shelters, and community halls. In the financial year 2024-25, 451 buildings were completed, and in 2025-26 1,229 construction projects are planned to be executed

## overnight in school

locked overnight, police said.

The family members



iron grill and rescued the girl. She was immediately rushed to the local hospital. Her condition was stable after treatment," said Sita Patra, the cook of the school. Keonjhar Collector Vishal

A preliminary inquiry by VIII students were told to

## Parl security breach:

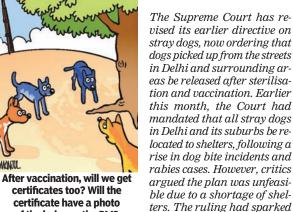
breach, a 20-year-old man attempted to scale a wall of Parliament Friday morning but was caught by security personnel and handed over to as Ram Kumar Bind, the man hails from Uttar Pradesh's

including the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Special Cell of Delhi Police, are questioning the man.

police, officials said. Identified Bhadohi and works in a factory in Surat, Gujarat, police said, adding that he appears to be "mentally incoherent." Sources said he tried to gain entry into Parliament by climbing a tree adjoining the boundary wall. Multiple central agencies,

#### 20-yr-old man held New Delhi: In a security

## SC modifies 'harsh' stray dog ruling



certificate have a photo of the judge or the PM?

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Dubai, August 22: Rich people are flocking to Dubai

in record numbers, drawn

to the desert city by its zero

income tax policy and easy luxury lifestyle that has

become harder to maintain

The United Arab Emirates

and particularly Dubai have

long welcomed wealthy peo-

ple from nearby countries,

and people helping million-

aires to move there told AFP

it is seeing more Westerners

Advisory firm Henley &

Partners estimates that the business environment and

UAE will attract an unpreceven easier access to luxury.

joining the fray.

elsewhere.

The Supreme Court has re- AGENCIES

vised its earlier directive on stray dogs, now ordering that dogs picked up from the streets in Delhi and surrounding areas be released after sterilisation and vaccination. Earlier this month, the Court had mandated that all stray dogs in Delhi and its suburbs be relocated to shelters, following a rise in dog bite incidents and rabies cases. However, critics argued the plan was unfeasible due to a shortage of shel-

an outcry by animal lovers

fering economic and political

stability with extremely low

crime rates, an easygoing

New Delhi, August 22: The Supreme Court Friday modified its direction prohibiting the release of vaccinated stray dogs from pounds in Delhi-NCR calling it 'too harsh' and ordered the canines to be released post sterilisation and de-worming.

A three-judge special bench headed by Justice Vikarm Nath expanded the scope of the stray dogs case beyond the confines of Delhi-NCR and directed all states

and union territories to be made parties in the matter.

While pronouncing the order, the bench remarked all similar matters pending in the high courts across the country would come to the top court for a 'final national policy or decision' on the issue.

The bench, however, said municipal authorities would continue to comply with the August 11 directions to pick up stray dogs from all localities of Delhi, Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad and Gurugram and create dog shelters or pounds.

## Late Shri Bhagaban Nayak

REMEMBRANCE ON SECOND

**DEATH ANNIVERSARY** 

15.08.1947 TO 23.08.2023

FOR US YOU HAVE BEEN THE SYNONYM OF LOVE AND SACRIFICE. TO GIVE AND FORGIVE HAS BEEN YOUR ETHOS. WE WERE FORTUNATE TO BE A PART OF YOU IN THIS LIFE AND WE MAKE BEST EFFORTS TO LIVE WITH YOUR TEACHINGS AND DIGNITY.

YOU REMAIN IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER!

Sairaj & Sairah Sonam and Shivdutt Das Shivdutt Das Charity Foundation





like success has become a li-

"They're being taxed more, scrutinised more, and offered less," he said, but in Dubai, "wealth isn't London, my clients whisper about their net worth. In

A top destination for flashy influencers. Dubai has become synonymous with over-

the world's tallest building, and the Palm -- an artificial island dotted with five-star

ability in their home coun-

hidden, it's normalised," "In Dubai, they can live freely."

the-top displays of wealth. It is home to an enormous mall with an indoor ski area,

Mike Coady, who heads Skybound Wealth Management, an advisory firm for high-net-worth individuals, said some of his clients "feel



## eisure



#### MARGOT ROBBIE ON **LIFE AS A NEW MOM**

Hollywood star Margot Robbie has talked about becoming a first-time mom last year and declared life as a new parent is 'the best'. The 35-yearold Hollywood actress welcomed her son with her husband Tom Ackerley, whom she married in 2016, in October.

#### **LIL NAS X CHARGED WITH BATTERY. MISDEMEANOR**

American rapper Lil Nas X faces legal trouble after being arrested in Los Angeles for allegedly assaulting a police officer. The incident occurred Thursday when officers responded to reports of a nude man on Ventura Boulevard, leading to his booking in county jail.

wood's most versatile stars, recent-

ly delivered an inspiring address that struck a powerful chord with aspiring actors.

Having ventured into production with *Do Patti* in 2024, she spoke candidly

Mum-



Your ability to let go things will reflect in your personal as well as your professional life. Today could be a significant day for you, and Ganesha advises you not to for get your special abilities. Make good use of them so that others too can benefit.

#### **TAURUS**

You will be very sensitive about the image you project socially and professionally. Ganesha sees you treating this very seriously and doing everything you can to make this right impression. Today, you will remain decent, dignified and fosussed in all that you do. Do not be too eager to please others. Focus on your own interests and concerns.

Routine work bores you, and today you will go all out to break free from the shackles of boredom. The results, however, may not be as dramatic. You will have to depend on your children, if any, to rescue you from the tyranny of routin

Don't meddle in others' affairs today, suggests Ganesha. For they will not take it kindly. Adopt the middle path. Ganesha feels that you must keep your bravado and

Your pride and self-confidence will help you to excel in whatever task it is that you take up today. Other people will also praise you. You will buy new clothes and other possessions that you have been desiring since a long time. savs Ganesha

You will be faced with serious financial problems today. You may even have to pay through your nose to get what you desire. Later in the evening, you might accomplish some short-term goals. Ganesha predicts that some vital business agreements will end your day in high spirits.

#### Ganesha says you will

be able to improve your relations abroad. There will be good news coming from friends or relatives living abroad. Your working ability and efficiency will make you popular in the office today.

Be vigilant; keep your eyes and ears open for all the events happening around vou, says Ganesha. Your intuition is trying to tell you something, trust it. Think and act positively, the rest would fall in place.

#### **SAGITTARIUS**

Work is likely to keep you on toes. At work place, you and your opinions will be in demand. Those who are associated with stock exchange and shares will be happy to gain profits during the afternoon. Wait and watch the end result in the evening.

#### **CAPRICORN**

You have projected yourself as a confused individual, and rightfully so, as the Lions are most of times in double mind. But, today you'll come up with a specific career plan that will surprise many of the people. Be clear about what you want to do in life, how you want your life to be and make sincere efforts to achieve that stage, guides Ganesha.

#### AQUARIUS

You will take the road to spirituality today and give a miss to materialism. You will visit temples, other religious places, and spiritual leaders to find answers for some of your questions. It will, however, take a while for you to distinguish between mysticism and materialism, and understand that you can have the best of both worlds.

#### PISCES

You will not take matters to heart needlessly today, and will instead calmly evaluate the bitter words of others to see if there is a grain of truth in them somewhere. This is a good practice and one that should be continued. While you won't be in the mood to tolerate any injustice, you will be able to forgive those who have wronged you and will thus be able to refrain from stoking further, the fires of enmity, says Ganesha.



Mumbai: Bollywood actress Ananya Panday agrees that constant public gaze can be overwhelming at times but staying connected to what matters keeps her balanced. She added that her confidence comes from self-acceptance and knowing it's okay to be imperfect.

Asked how she maintains self-worth and confidence amidst constant public gaze, Ananya told this news agency: "It's not always easy. There are days when things get to you."

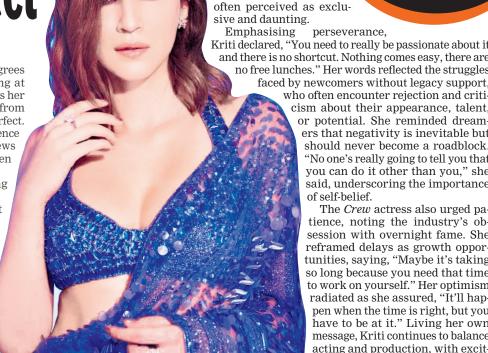
Over time she has learned to focus on valuing loved ones and meaningful work.

"But over time, I've learned to focus on what really matters, my friends, family, my dogs Astro and Riot, and the work I genuinely care about," Ananya, who has hosted Airbnb's Original

experience curated and led by the actress with her A-team, reminds herself that it's okay to be imperfect at times 'I try to stay grounded and remind myself

that it's okay to not be perfect. Confidence comes from being okay with who you are on the good days and the bad. It's as they say: 'Nobody's perfect!'," said the actress. Talking about her upcoming film, Tu Meri Main

Tera Main Tera Tu Meri, it also features Kartik Aaryan, Jackie Shroff, Neena Gupta and others in pivotal roles.





and there is no shortcut. Nothing comes easy, there are no free lunches." Her words reflected the struggles faced by newcomers without legacy support who often encounter rejection and criticism about their appearance, talent or potential. She reminded dreamers that negativity is inevitable but should never become a roadblock "No one's really going to tell you that you can do it other than you," she said, underscoring the importance of self-belief.

The Crew actress also urged patience, noting the industry's ob session with overnight fame. She reframed delays as growth opportunities, saying, "Maybe it's taking so long because you need that time to work on yourself." Her optimism radiated as she assured, "It'll hap pen when the time is right, but you have to be at it." Living her own message, Kriti continues to balance acting and production, with exciting projects like Tere Ishk Mein and Cocktail 2 ahead.

Sanya responds to criticism men's groups, including the Save Indian Family Foundation

sided feminist narrative. Defending the film, Sanya clarified that the story is not about rejecting domestic responsibilities. "The problem isn't that she didn't want to cook—she was cooking and serving it with care but received no appreciation," she explained. The conflict arose when the protagonist expressed her desire to pursue something beyond the household. Her refusal to be confined by expectations highlighted how women are often denied autonomy despite fulfilling traditional roles. "The story has reached the people it needed to reach," Sanya added, standing firm against the criticism.

On the professional front, Sanya has an exciting lineup. She will be seen in Dharma Productions' romantic comedy Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari (October 2025), Netflix's offbeat

comedy Toaster opposite Rajkummar Rao and an international action-comedy. Her film *Bandar* is slated to premiere at TIFF 2025



### **PEANUTS**

Shilpa shares her diet secrets

lefine fitness and wellness, proving that a healthy

for her timeless beauty and energy, focuses on

Her mornings begin with small yet powerful practices. She drinks lukewarm water, takes a few drops of Noni juice for energy, and

follows Ayurvedic oil pulling with coco-nut oil. These habits, she believes, set a

positive tone for the day. Breakfast is non-negotiable for Shilpa. She prefers a nourishing, light spread—muesli

with fruits and almond milk, or eggs, which she calls a complete meal.

Unlike many who fear fats, Shilpa

mbraces the right ones. Coconu

rice form part of her diet, which she says aid energy, skin elasticity, and overall vitality. Her approach is simple: eat wholesome foods that keep you full while enhancing nat-

neavy meals, finishing dinner by

7:30 pm, even on social evenings

Snacks like eggs, soups, and dry fruits keep her energised. Advocat-

ing balance over restriction, Shilpa suggests alternating between low

carb and no-carb days—a sustainable tip for those managing weight

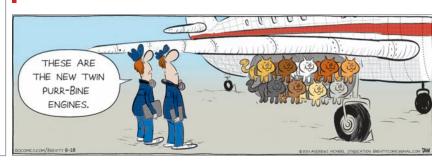
vithout sacrificing nourishment.



#### CALVIN AND HOBBES

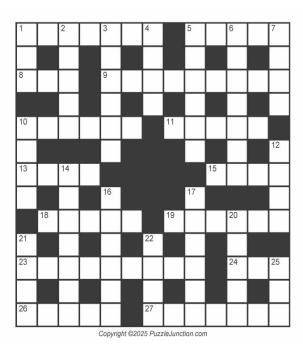


#### BREVITY



### DOST

#### **CROSSWORD**



| Acr | oss      |
|-----|----------|
| 1   | Prospect |

- tool
- 5 Fix firmly
- 8 Fancy neckwear
- 9 Small sofas
- (4,5)10 High hat
- 11 Hackneyed
- 13 Advantage

- 15 Bad day for Caesar
- 18 Sag

2 Fastener

**Down** 

19 Olio

23 Disjointed

27 Dangerous

snake

24 Vigour

26 Pizazz

3 Friends

1 Gin mill

- 4 Roof overhang
- - 21 Minor quarrel
- 5 Supplement
- 22 Lasting effect 25 Duffer's goal

pin

6 Blew up

7 Escritoire

10 Abound

12 Glimpse

14 Big ape

16 Scaleless

20 Place for a

17 Shot

marine eel

## SUDOKU

#### 3 9 4 6 4 3 2 8 6 8 1 3 8 2 3

3

1

4 8

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.

9

#### **SOLUTIONS**

SUDOKU

|     | _ | _  | _ | _ |   | _ | _  | _ |   | _ | _   |   |
|-----|---|----|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|-----|---|
| C   | Α | ٧  | Е | M | Α | Ν |    | С | Α | S | K   | S |
| 0   |   | T. |   | Α |   | 0 |    | 0 |   | Р |     | Т |
| W   | Н | 1  | R | L | Р | 0 | 0  | L |   | L | 1   | E |
| L   |   |    |   | Т |   | D |    | 1 |   | Е |     | Ν |
| S   | Ν | Α  | R | E |   | L | A  | С | 0 | Ν | 1   | С |
|     |   | В  |   | S |   | Е |    |   |   | D |     | 1 |
| D   | Е | U  | C | Е | S |   | R  | Е | С | 0 | 1   | L |
| Α   |   | Ν  |   |   |   | 1 |    | Х |   | U |     |   |
| S   | 1 | D  | E | Α | R | M |    | Т | Α | R | N   | S |
| Н   |   | Α  |   | S |   | Р |    | 1 |   |   |     | 1 |
| 1   | Ν | Ν  |   | S | С | 0 | U  | Ν | D | R | Ε   | L |
| N   |   | С  |   | E |   | R |    | С |   | 1 |     | K |
| G   | R | Е  | Е | Т |   | Т | Α  | Т | Т | 0 | 0   | S |
|     |   |    |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |     |   |
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| _ ~ |   | _  | _ |   |   |   |    | - | - | _ | - 1 | - |

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



## **CM launches BharatNetra**

ODISHA WILL SOON LAUNCH

POLICY TO ATTRACT

**GLOBAL INVESTMENTS** 

DIGITAL FINANCE AT NATIONAL

formulate a GCC Policy, the CM

said this will act as a strong

foundation for attracting global

financial institutions and new

necting Bhubaneswar to Singa-

pore is being established," he

said, adding that this would

help improve the state's digital

Majhi said that Odisha is

the first state to formulate an

AI Policy and the state is also

in the process of launching a

dedicated FinTech Policy and

GCC Policy as well to attract

building one of the strongest

talent pipelines in India as the

state produces about 1.8 lakh

graduates annually in various

engineering, polytechnics, and

IT streams, and skilled youths

ing, Odisha has established

He said in addition to skill-

The CM said that Odisha is

"A cable landing station con-

investments to the state.

infrastructure.

global investments.

owntown

Bhubaneswar, August 22: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Friday launched Integrated Global Financial Technology Capability Hub (I-GFTCH) - BharatNetra initiative – that aims to link India to the Asia Pacific Innovation Corridor

Majhi launched the initiative in presence of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Odisha Electronics & IT Minister Mukesh Mahaling and Global Finance & Technology Network (GFTN) CEO Sopnendu Mohanty and others.

Terming it a transformative initiative that will shape the future of finance in Odisha, Majhi said it will strengthen India's global leadership in the digital

Odisha will play a central role in making India a global economic leader, the CM said.

hub has been launched by Odisha government in collaboration with Singapore's GFTN, National University of Singapore (NUS) and Asian Institute of Digital Finance (AIDF).

Under the initiative, Majhi said over 7,000 students from all 30 districts of the state will get skill training, and it will run certification programmes designed by the AIDF at the NUS.

He said that this initiative was an outcome of the historic visit of Singapore President Tharman Shanmugaratnam to Odisha in January this year.

"The state will nurture startups and entrepreneurs by establishing a dedicated Centre of Excellence within I-GFTCH," he said, adding that the project will also establish a Global Capability Centre (GCC).

Stating that Odisha will soon

oratory and other Centres of Excellence.

"Our vision is to make Odisha the research capital of the east," the CM underlined.

On the occasion, Majhi thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the Central government's approval for two semiconductor fabrication units in Odisha.

He said semiconductors are the building blocks of the digital economy and Odisha is proud to play a leadership role in this national mission.

On the occasion, the CM launched BharatNetra Hackathon Website and a GCC + overall programme was also announced.

Pradhan said that Odisha's vision aligns with India's national priority to skill the state's youth for the global digital economy.

The BharatNetra initiative will not only open pathways for employment and entrepreneurship but also strengthen India's leadership in financial inclusion and innovation, he added.

The GFTN CEO said the BharatNetra initiative will redefine Odisha's role as India's strategic gateway to the Asia-Pacific financial technology corridor.

Mahanling said that the I-GFTCH in Odisha will focus on four pillars- Global Learning, Global Mindshare, Global Innovation, and Global Capability Hub - developed in partnership with Singapore-based GFTN.

Over the next five years, this initiative will equip 7,000 students statewide with vital skills in technology, regulation, and business for careers in financial technology, Mahaling said.

## Modern edu key to jumbo conservation: Satpathy



Baripada, August 22: "If elephants are protected alongside forests for future generations, the environment can remain secured," Dharitri and Orissa POST Editor of Tathagata Satpathy said Friday, emphasising the importance of modern education in elephant conservation.

Addressing 'Hatinka Gati', a meeting on elephant movement and conservation, at Khairi Resort in Bangiriposi of Mayurbhanj district, Satpathy appreciated the steps, including a special policy for protection of elephants, taken by the Mohan Charan Majhi government.

Organised by Sangram, a nonprofit working for conser-

was chaired by the organisation's secretary Bhanumitra Acharya, who highlighted recent steps taken to protect wild animals and forests.

Discussions also focused on fundamental questions like how to protect elephants while keeping humans safe. Participants at the meeting also welcomed these initiatives.

The newspapers' Chief Executive Adyasha Satpathy highlighted the necessary steps to secure elephant corridors. She suggested certain measures like ensuring natural food availability in forests, providing compensation for crop loss in a seamless manner, and monitoring elephant activities. Tools such roars, and the buzzing sound of honeybees can help guide elephants safely and reduce conflict with humans, she added. Locals can track the movement of elephants if they are provided with high-mast torch lights, she maintained.

Former MP and a Mayurbhani roval. Praveen Chandra Bhanjdeo, noted a recent decline in elephant population but said healthy elephants feed at various locations. Maharani Rashmi Ra-

jyalakshmi Bhanjdeo stressed that everyone must take responsibility for elephant safety. Other attendees included

Bangriposi ranger Maheshwar Singh and local volunteers from various villages

who have actively contributed to these initiatives. Local schoolchildren welcomed the guests with music, and the programme included presentations on the organisation's goals and updates on elephant conservation measures.

On this occasion, volunteers working in the field of forest and wildlife protection were honoured. Saudamini Mahakud from Punashia village, Ratnamani Shi from Manda village, Dillip Kumar Nayak from Jagannathpur village, Rajesh Marandi from Tulsibani village, and Bulu Nayak from Uania village were recognised for their exemplary work. Environmentalist Tara Prasad Das

offered a vote of thanks.

#### **City Hospital senior** clerk under Vig lens

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, August 22: Vigilance officials Friday unearthed assets including 19 high-value plots, deposits worth Rs 55 lakh, and 135 gram gold from the possession of a clerk in Health department.

On the allegation of possession of assets disproportionate to his known sources of income, the anti-corruption sleuths launched simultaneous house searches on the properties and office of Kishore Kumar Sahani, a senior assistant, City Hospital, office of Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO), Cuttack, at five locations, a statement said.

Two buildings, a poultry farm spanning over 2.5 acres of land, Rs 3.30 lakh in cash, one four-wheeler, three two-wheelers and household articles worth around Rs 10.57 lakh were also detected from the employee during the raid, it said.

The senior assistant has served for more than two decades in City Hospital, Cuttack. He is alleged to have misappropriated government funds to the tune of Rs 1.24 crore during his tenure, the Vigilance said in its statement.

He allegedly withdrew the money from a government account, transferred it to personal accounts of himself and family members, and such other means. The misappropriated amount is under verification, the anti-corruption sleuths said.



## Bandh in small towns for NAC status hits life

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

in 950 ITIs.

Bhubaneswar, August 22: The demand to accord Notified Area Council (NAC) status to several small towns has intensified in the state following Chief Minister Mohan Charan Maihi's Independence Day announcement to create 21 new NACs in the state.

In his August 15 speech, the CM announced the formation of new NACs, after which the Housing and Urban Develop ment department issued draft notifications for 12 NACs across

However, as the government is yet to notify the remaining nine NACs, political outfits, citizens' forums, and local organisations have stepped up pressure for their respective

A 12-hour bandh was called in Borigumma (Koraput) from 6am Friday, while a six-hour shutdown was enforced in Be-



**H&UD Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra said** the government will announce the remaining nine NACs on local self-governance day August 31

gunia (Khurda) from 6am to noon. In both places, protesters blocked roads and national highways and forced the closure of shops and commercial establishments.

"Former chief minister Naveen Patnaik had announced Begunia as an NAC. However. its name is missing in the new NACs announced by the BJP government. So, we are observing the bandh without affecting the emergency services," a protester said.

In Jaipatna (Kalahandi), a

bandh was also observed with similar demands. Congress supporters took out

a protest march at Rajkanika in Kendrapara district, demanding NAC status for the town. They also demanded sub-di-

vision status for Aul block. The protesters submitted a memorandum to the CM through the local tehsildar. Housing and Urban Devel-

opment Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra said the government will announce the remaining nine NACs on local self-governance day (August 31).

In Rairakhol (Sambalpur), the Opposition BJD called a 12-hour bandh over various demands, including completion of the Sambalpur-Cuttack National Highway-55, construction of a bypass and waiver of toll tax.

BJD supporters blocked NH-55, leading to disruption of traffic, while shops and business establishments remained closed.

### 775 senior citizens to embark on pilgrimage

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 22: A total of 775 senior citizens from the state will embark on a spiritual journey to Ayodhya and Varanasi September 10, as part of the first phase of Senior Citizen Pil-WILL START FROM grimage Scheme for the current finan-

cial vear. According sources, as part of the preparations, a coordination meeting was held under the chairmanship of Additional District Magistrate

(ADM) of Khurda Pratap Chandra Beura at his office here Friday. The pilgrimage will be organised with full logistical and administrative support to ensure a safe and comfortable

journey for the elderly pilgrims. The journey will start from Bhubaneswar Station September 10, with visits to Avodhya and Varanasi, and the senior citizens will return to the Capital City September 15.

In the meeting, detailed discussions were held on safe ty, food and beverages **JOURNEY** health, and other

necessary arrange BHUBANESWAR STATION ments for the par-SEPTEMBER 10, WITH ticipating senior citizens. The pil-ARANASI, AND THE SENIOR grims will arrive CITIZENS WILL RETURN in Bhubaneswar TO THE CAPITAL CITY

from their respec-SEPTEMBER 15 tive districts September 9, and temporary accommodation will be arranged for them at various government institutions in Bhubaneswar.

> Beura instructed the officials concerned to ensure adequate measures for security. health checkups, food, water, and other logistics at these ac commodations.

## 2025 summer heatstroke deaths underreported: Study

ODISHA REPORTS THREE SUNSTROKE DEATHS, 348 CASES OF ILLNESS

AGENCIES

New Delhi/Bhubaneswar, August 22: At least three heatstroke deaths from Odisha were among the 84 recorded across India between February and July this year, according to a report released Friday.

The report, 'Struck by Heat: A News Analysis of Heatstroke Deaths in India in 2025' by non-profit HeatWatch, said of the at least 2,287 cases of heat-related illness across the country during the period, 348 were from Odisha.

The report claimed that India's true heat toll is being masked by diagnostic 'blind spots', weak enforcement of worker protections, and outdated heatwave alerts that fail to reflect the combined impact of temperature and humidity on human health.

In comparison, data obtained by PTI under the RTI Act showed that the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) reported 7,192 suspected cases of heatstroke and only 14 confirmed deaths between March 1 and June 24 this year.

The HeatWatch analysis, based on a systematic review of national and regional media reports in multiple languages. found that Maharashtra reported the highest number of deaths at 17, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Telangana with 15 each.

Gujarat recorded 10 deaths and Assam six, while Bihar, Punjab and Rajasthan recorded five deaths each. Odisha reported three deaths, while Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh reported one death each.

The report found that most of the victims were elderly, outdoor workers and daily wage labourers, with incidents ranging from farmers collapsing in their fields to children and teenagers succumbing during school trips or while playing

In total, the HeatWatch dataset captured 2,287 cases of heat-related illness across the country during the period. though it claimed the actual number is likely to be much



INDIA'S TRUE HEAT TOLL IS BEING MASKED BY DIAGNOSTIC 'BLIND SPOTS', WEAK ENFORCEMENT OF WORKER PROTECTION NORMS, AND OUTDATED HEATWAVE ALERTS THAT FAIL TO REFLECT THE COMBINED IMPACT OF TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY ON HUMAN HEALTH

higher due to 'underreporting'. Andhra Pradesh reported the highest number of illnesses at 700 cases, followed by Odisha

(348), Rajasthan (344) and Uttar

The findings echo the concerns flagged by experts and a PTI investigation in June, which revealed that India's re-

Pradesh (325)

porting of heat-related illnesses and deaths is fragmented with different agencies presenting widely varying figures. For 2015-2022, the NCDC

recorded 3,812 heat-related deaths, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported 8.171. and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) reported

3,436 deaths.

HeatWatch said that despite the new national forensic guidelines allowing autopsies to classify heatstroke as a cause of death even without direct temperature records, doctors rarely apply them.

As a result, many cases are attributed to cardiac arrest, dehydration or stroke, erasing the role of heat.

The report also criticised the IMD's heatwave warning system for being based almost entirely on air temperature thresholds while excluding the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT), which measures combined heat and humidity

It cited several instances of fatalities on 'non-alert' days, such as workers collapsing in Telangana, Gujarat and Maharashtra when no official warnings were in place.

"India's heat crisis is structural, not just seasonal. Early-warning and alerts are limited and offer no real protection to the workers who are col-

lapsing in fields, markets and construction sites without any protection. Our report makes clear that incremental fixes won't cut it. We urgently need robust, hyperlocal monitoring and effective early-warning sys tems coupled with enforceable worker protections," Apekshita Varshney, Founder, Heat-Watch, and the report co-author, said.

"We are recognising the dangers of rising heat, but recognition alone isn't enough. What's missing is a health-centred approach, one that counts every case, prepares hospitals, protects workers and builds cooler cities. These systemic steps are what will truly save lives in a warming climate," Shivani Das, report author, said.

The organisation called for a national legislation mandating mid-day work bans, shaded rest areas, hydration access and legally enforceable work-rest cycles, in line with countries such as France, Japan, Singapore and the UAE.

## Fresh low-pressure area over Bay August 25: IMD

According to the weatherman, various districts are likely to witness rainfall till August 27



Bhubaneswar, August 22: Amid heavy rainfall triggered by a low-pressure system battering various parts of Odisha over the past few days, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Friday forecast the formation of a fresh low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal off

"A fresh low-pressure area is likely to form over the northwest Bay of Bengal off Odisha-West Bengal coasts around August 25, 2025," informed IMD in its bulletin Friday.

Meanwhile, the IMD issued a red warning predicting heavy to very heavy rainfall with extremely heavy falls and thunderstorms to occur at one or two places over

Similarly, an orange warning has been issued for very heavy rainfall accompanying thunderstorms to occur at one or two places over the districts of Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, and Jharsuguda.

The IMD announced a yellow alert predicting heavy rain at one or two places over the districts of Deogarh, Angul, Kandhamal, Kalahandi, Balasore, Bhadrak, Rayagada, Ganjam, Gajapati, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Bargarh, Dhenkanal, Nuapada, Nabarangpur, Koraput, Malkangiri, Boudh, Subarnapur, and Bolangir.

According to the IMD, various districts are likely to wit**IMD** issued a red warning predicting heavy to very heavy rainfall with extremely heavy rain and thunderstorms to occur at one or two places over the district of Sundargarh

ness rainfall till August 27.

On the other hand, the residents in Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, and Jharsuguda have been advised to keep a watch on the weather for worsening conditions and be ready to move to safer places accordingly. The IMD also alerted about localised landslides, mudslides, and landslips due to the incessant rainfall in Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, and Jharsuguda districts.

The low-pressure area formed over the Bay of Bengal off the northern Andhra Pradesh and southern Odisha coasts Sunday later concentrated into a depression. The system brought intense rainfall to several areas across the state.



ENCHANTING MOVES: Odissi dancer Abhijita Panda performs during Under Sixteen Odissi Dance Festival organised by Odissi Dance Council at Bhanjakala Mandap in Bhubaneswar Friday

#### Local Radio 88.8 FM launched

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 22: A new community radio station, 'Local Radio 88.8 FM', was inaugurated by leading voluntary organisation Young India at the Press Club of Odisha here Friday. The event featured a special session on '15 Years of Community Radio in Odisha: Looking Back, Moving Forward with Local Radio 88.8 FM'.

Speaking on the occasion, dignitaries highlighted the role of community radio as a grassroot medium for promoting social change and civic par-

The inaugural session, moderated by Piramal Foundation senior programme manager BN Durga included senior journalist Satyaprakash Nayak, Samadrusti editor Sudhir Pattnaik, UNICEF education specialist Lalita Pattnaik, ActionAid associate director Debabrata Patra, and Rabindranath Bahinipati of Konark Sahitya Sansad.

Young India and Radio Namaskar founder, NA Shah Ansari shared the vision behind Local

Radio 88.8 FM, and said, "Loca" Radio 88.8 FM will be the true voice of the common people in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, am plifying issues that matter to them". On the occasion, NIPUN Odisha campaign report, pre pared by Radio Namaskar was released and researcher Andaz

Aaron presented findings from it In the second session, chaired by SA Safique, eminent speakers including journalists Sandeep Sahu and Sampad Mahapatra former Utkal University of Culture VC DN Jena, and PIB ADO Akhil Kumar Mishra formally launched the station's broadcast

Appreciation certificates were also presented to peer community radios such as Radio Outreach, Radio Juhar, Radio Sampark, and Radio Namaskar.

#### **RDWU hosts seminar on Home Science, NEP 2020**

Bhubaneswar: The department of Home Science, Rama Devi Women's University (RDWU), organised a national seminar on 'Higher Education in Home Science & NEP 2020' here Friday, with support from the department of Higher Education. The seminar brought together eminent academicians, policymakers, and researchers to deliberate on the National Education Policy's (NEP 2020) vision for holistic, multidisciplinary, and inclusive higher education, Inaugurating the seminar, RDWU VC (I/C) Chandi Charan Rath emphasised the relevance of Home Science education and called NEP 2020 as a milestone in India's educational reforms. Nearly 100 faculty members from the university and affiliated colleges took part in the seminar.

#### Dog census after rain: BMC Mayor

Bhubaneswar: Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Mayor Sulochana Das Friday announced that a dog census will be conducted in the City after the rainy season. Das welcomed the Supreme Court's revised directive on stray dogs, emphasising the importance of sterilisation and medical treatment over relocation. She said that the preliminary estimation suggests over 80,000 dogs in the Capital city. The dog census will be carried out across all 67 wards of the City, with support from 'Swachha Sathi' volunteers, overseen by BMC's veterinary officers. The Mayor urged residents to cooperate with municipal staff and dog-catching teams to ensure the success of the initiative and enhance public safety. The census aims to systematically tag and track both pet and stray dogs, recording details such as ownership details. sterilisation, vaccination status, and movement patterns.

### RSC to celebrate Nat'l Space Day

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 22: To commemorate the landmark milestone when India made history August 23, 2023, by becoming the first country to successfully soft-land on the South Pole of the Moon through its Chandrayaan-3 mission, Regional Science Centre (RSC), Bhubaneswar will observe the second National Space Day here Saturday.

On the occasion, RSC—a unit of the National Council of Science Museums, will inaugurate a special exhibition titled 'From Ancient Skies to the Modern Horizons'

Designed and developed by the National Council of Science Museums, Ministry of Culture, the exhibition will showcase country's rich heritage in astronomy and space

exploration. It also chronicles the nation's incredible jour-– from ancient Vedic shadow-measuring devices to the sophisticated design and launch of modern satellites post-independence. The exhibition highlights India's humble beginnings in space technology, including stories of rocket parts being transported by bicycles and bullock carts. The exhibition pays tribute to ISRO, founded by the visionary Vikram Sarabhai, widely regarded as the father of India's space programme.

From the launch of India's first satellite. Arvabhata in 1975, to the historic Chandrayaan-3 soft landing on the lunar South Pole, the exhibition celebrates the nation's path breaking feats powered by indigenous technology and

### Next decade is for urban devpt: Padhee **Urban transformation**

Bhubaneswar, August 22: The next decade belongs to Urhan Development, said Housing and Urban Development depart ment Principal Secretary Usha Padhee Friday, urging the engineers, MIS professionals, accountants, and team leads of ULBs and DUDAs undergoing orientation on the Mukhyamantri Sahari Bikas Yojana (MSBY), to dedicate themselves to the mission with dignity and responsibility.

Urban transformation is not merely about infrastructure. but about building dignified, inclusive, and sustainable cities, Padhee underlined. Stressing the importance of today's work in shaping tomorrow, she remarked, "Our present efforts will decide whether the



next generation faces challenges or inherits a better world. It is not positions but knowledge that gives true dignity."

Encouraging the participants, she said, "Each one of us is an integral part of the system. It is our prime duty to ensure that the system functions in the right direction.

Together, let us be partners in creating better cities and stronger urban futures.

The principal secretary highlighted that MSBY is a transformative initiative aimed at strengthening the capacity of ULBs and DUDAs, enabling them to deliver quality services and citizen-centric governance. She

dignified, inclusive, and sustainable cities, Padhee underlined urged participants to embrace in-

is not merely about

**but about building** 

infrastructure.

novation, adopt technology-driven practices, and nurture a sense of ownership while implementing urban programmes

The orientation session was held at the SUDA conference hall. Municipal Administration Director Arindam Dakua, SU-DA Director Rabindra Sahoo and senior officers were present in the programme.

#### AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Bhubaneswar on dtd. 21st August, 2025, I, Mrs. Suprava Behera, address At - FCI Chhak, PO - Arabinda Nagar, P.S. - Phulabani Town, Dist.: Kandhamal, Pin - 762001, Odisha have changed my name from "Suprava Sethi" to "Suprava Behera". Henceforth, I shall be known as "Suprava Behera" for all purposes.

I, Manmohan Dash, S/o- Gangadhra Dash, resident of Dashagoba, P.O./P.S.- Chandanpur, Dist-Puri, PIN-752012, Odisha declare by this affidavit No.- 40110, dtd-20.08.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as Manamohan Dash for all future purposes.

## Govt's Zero Accident Day drive in Keonjhar on cards

ARINDAM GANGULY, OP

Bhubaneswar, August 22: In a decisive step towards strengthening road safety under the 'Come Home Safe' vision of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, the state Commerce & Transport department has announced the launch of the second phase of Zero Accident Day (ZAD) campaign in Keonjhar.

The district, identified as one of Odisha's major accident hotspots, has also been recognised by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) and IIT Madras as part of the Top 100 districts for Data-Driven Hyperlocal Interventions (DDHI), underscoring

the urgency of this initiative. The ZAD initiative has already demonstrated encouraging results in Bhubaneswar, where fatal accidents have shown a declining trend due to data-driven interventions and community participation. Building on this success, the government is now extending the campaign to Keonjhar with a targeted and comprehensive action plan



A high-level strategy meeting chaired by the department's Principal Secretary Usha Padhee and Transport Commissioner Amitabh Thakur, and attended by the Collector of Keonjhar, finalised the roadmap to reduce accidents and fatalities in the district. The meeting brought together state nodal officers, the district administration, and technical experts from RBG Labs, IIT Madras, the department's technical consultant. During the meeting, IIT Madras presented a 14-day decentralised, data-driven ZAD action plan focusing on targeted interventions at identified accident-prone areas

As part of the campaign, a series of multi-layered initiatives will be rolled out across blocks and villages. These include community-level dialogues under the banner of "Cha Au Charcha" near

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT

accident-prone zones, training of 'Sahayaks' and 'Raahveers' as first responders, awareness sessions for schoolchildren to nurture them as future safe drivers. specialised training for drivers working in mining and industrial areas, and public messaging through All India Radio programmes, among other activities designed to promote road safety awareness at scale. Additionally, a teaser campaign on ZAD will be launched in the district at the earliest to highlight the importance of the initiative and sensitise citizens about road safety as a collective responsibility.

Speaking on the occasion, Padhee said the positive changes witnessed in the Capital City of Bhubaneswar following the observance of ZAD demonstrate the effectiveness of this campaign. She added that with Keonjhar witnessing high volumes of heavy vehicle movement, the focus must now be on driving behavioural change through sustained awareness. Road safety, she emphasised, is a shared responsibility, and the success of the campaign depends on collective participation and

#### Bhub-Junagarh Road **Exp upgraded to LHB**

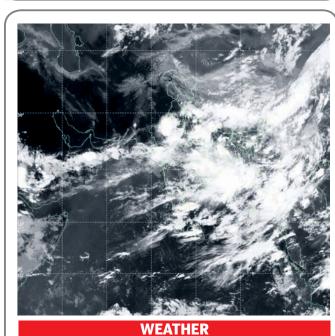
POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 22: In order to ensure enhanced safety, comfort, and travel experience for passengers, East Coast Railway (ECoR) upgraded the Bhubaneswar-Junagarh Road-Bhubaneswar Express (20837/20838) to modern Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coach.

The LHB-equipped service will commence journey from Bhubaneswar August 25 and from Junagarh Road August 26. The express train was operating with one LHB rake and one conventional ICF rake. With the upgrade, both rakes in the up and down directions will uniformly feature LHB coaches. The new train compo sition includes two Second AC coaches, four Third AC coaches, five Sleeper Class coaches, four Second Class seating coaches. one Guard-cum-Power Car, one Guard-cum-Second Class coach with facilities for Divyangjan

passengers. The conversion marks a major improvement in passenger amenities and operationefficiency, strengthening rail connectivity between the coastal and tribal regions of Odisha, major towns of Andhra Pradesh, and the state capital-

CURRENCY BOURSES INDEX VARIATION **INDEX** VARIATION **INDEX VARIATION** DOLLAR **87.53** ▲ 0.27 SENSEX **81306.85** ♦ 693.86 GOLD ₹100,265 **↑** ₹830 EURO **101.56 ♦** 0.17 NIFTY **24870.10 ♦** 213.65 SILVER ₹116,039 **↑** ₹2333



|          | WEATH | ER    |                                       |
|----------|-------|-------|---------------------------------------|
|          | BBSR  | CTC   | <b>FORECAST</b>                       |
| Max Temp | 28.6° | 27.6° | Generally cloudy                      |
| Min Temp | 25.8° | 24.2° | sky with one or<br>two spells of rain |
| Humidity | 92%   | 94%   | or thundershower                      |
| Rainfall | 4.0mm | 5.2mm |                                       |

#### Bhubaneswar. commitment OUR BOOKING STAT

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488 Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816 Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560. Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookieman-9439491273, Nigamananda Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-9438642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.

## Illegal fish farming threat to Bhitarkanika ecosystem

Kendrapara, August 22: Bhitarkanika National Park. a haven of biodiversity, is fast losing its ecological integrity with rampant illegal fish farming and exports overtaking protected forest zones.

Amid ongoing threats such as coastal erosion and forest land encroachment, both the coastal and interior regions of the sanctuary are now under pressure from commercial fish traders. The Gobari River near Kansapala in Baulakani panchayat of Mahakalapara block has become a major hub for fish exports, while unauthorised prawn farming continues unchecked within forested areas.

Local reports indicate that these activities are harming the region's fragile ecosystem. 'Every day, fish worth lakhs of rupees are transported from the Kansapala ferry point to Kolkata," said Laxmidhar Swain, a local resident. Trawlers from Kolkata, Balasore and other locations are routinely used for this illegal trade. The operations, carried out along the rapidly eroding banks of the Gobari River, are destroying mangrove forests essential to the area's ecological balance.

The site is barely 5 km from the Jambu forest and 5.5 km from the Marine Police Station, yet enforcement remains weak. According to Ramesh Sethi of Tantiapal, fish export operations are also conducted via a jetty at Jambu Lock. Despite a ban on the movement of large trawlers in the restricted zone, the Forest and Marine Police departments reportedly lack the necessary high-speed boats to monitor or intercept

"The Forest department



personnel themselves are complicit in the destruction,' said Pratyush Kumar Navak of Rajnagar. "They are promoting prawn gheries and are, in fact, partners with traders and fish

Ashok Kumar Samal echoed these concerns, saying that environmental protection in Bhitarkanika has collapsed. "While prawn enclosures continue to expand, Rupchandi fish farming has been going on inside protected areas for the past five years," he said. "Fish farming in the park's creeks and ponds is disrupting the natural ecological balance."

Bhitarkanika's vast mangrove forests, rare wildlife and coastal landscape attract tourists from across India and abroad. The park is a habitat for endangered species including Olive Ridley turtles, estuarine crocodiles and dolphins. However, environmentalists fear that the mushrooming of prawn gheries and rampant illegal fishing is enabling fish traders to gain control of protected forest areas.

Social worker Mahesh Kumar Padhi noted that several public interest litigations have been filed in the Orissa High Court to safeguard Bhitarkanika. "The court has issued directives for the removal of illegal prawn enclosures in and around the national park,' he said. He warned that waste discharged from fish farming activities is polluting the forest and damaging the environ-

Environmental scientist Prabhuprasad Mahapatra added that forest land within the national park is being misused for political gain. "Local political leaders are using forest areas as vote banks," he said. Encroachers are grabbing land, engaging in fish farming, poaching wildlife and destroying forest. If these intrusions are not curbed, Bhitarkanika could face irreversible damage."

An official from the district administration confirmed that access to Bhitarkanika's reserved forests has been restricted. "With administrative assistance, previously established prawn enclosures are being dismantled," the official said. "No permission has been granted for fish farming in

#### 60-yr-old awarded life term for raping disabled minor girl

Baripada, August 22: A court in Mayurbhanj district Friday sentenced a 60-year-old man to life imprisonment for raping a specially-abled girl last year.

Fast Track Special Court Judge Santosh Kumar Nayak pronounced accused Birasing Hansdah guilty of raping the 12-year-old girl, and also imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on the convict, with an additional six months of imprisonment in case of non-payment, Special Public Prosecutor Manaranjan Pattnaik said.

Hansdah was booked under sections of the POCSO Act.

The court also directed the Mayurbhanj District Legal Services Authority to pay Rs 4 lakh as compensation to the survivor to support her recovery and rehabilitation, Pattnaik said.

According to the case details, the convict, a resident of Kusumi village under Badampahar police station, abducted the victim May 28, 2024, while she was returning home from a nearby hospital.

Taking advantage of her vulnerability, Hansdah held the girl captive for two days and subjected her to sexual assault. After returning home, the victim confided in her family, who promptly lodged a complaint with the Badampahar police.

The police registered a case, recorded the victim's statement and arrested the accused, who was later presented in court.

In a similar case, the Ad-Hoc Additional District & Sessions Judge, Fast Track Special Court under POCSO Act in Baripada, Mayurbhani district, has sentenced a 60-year-old man to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for raping a differently-abled minor girl.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on the convict, with an additional six months of imprisonment in case of default.



FINAL TOUCH: Artists put the final touches on an idol of Lord Ganesh at Dharakote in Ganjam district, Friday

### Lover slits girl's throat, makes suicide attempt

Bolangir/Patnagarh, August 22: A 19-year-old woman was critically injured and left fighting for her life after her boyfriend allegedly slit her throat and later reportedly attempted suicide by consuming poison in Bolangir district early Friday morning.

The incident occurred in Mayabarha village under Bolangir Sadar police limits. According to police, 25-year-old Haldhar Bari visited the home of his romantic partner, whose family members welcomed him. After dinner, he stayed overnight at the house

Early Friday, while the woman's mother went out to fetch water, Bari allegedly attacked her with a sharp knife, slitting her throat, and fled.

The critically injured woman was rushed to Bhima Bhoi Medical College and Hospital in Bolangir by an ambulance. Due to the severity of her condition, she was later transferred to VIMSAR at Burla for advanced treatment.

On the other hand, Bari reportedly returned to his village Pandripani and consumed poison in an apparent suicide attempt. Villagers discovered him in a critical state and took him first to Patnagarh sub-divisional hospital and then to Bhima Bhoi Medical College and Hospital in Bolangir. He was also transferred subsequently to VIMSAR for specialised care.

Police said the motive behind the attack is unclear, but preliminary investigation suggests it may be related to a love affair. The woman's father has filed a complaint at Bolangir Sadar police station, and authorities have launched an inquiry.

#### CM halts merger of Nilagiri Sub-Jail

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, August 22: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Ma jhi assured Friday that the Nilagiri Sub-Jail would not be relocated, reversing an earlier government decision to merge it with Balasore District Jail.

The state government had planned the merger because of the sub-jail's low inmate count and proximity to the main jail, which is about 20 km away. Balasore MP Pratap Chandra

a meeting with the Chief Minis ter, citing local concerns. At his request, Majhi directed officials to withdraw the previous order. Sarangi thanked the Chief

Sarangi raised the issue during

Minister on behalf of Nilagiri residents, describing the move as a relief for the local community

Director General of Police YB Khurania and former DGF and Chief Minister's Adviser Prakash Mishra also attended the meeting.

### Ostracised over 'witchcraft', mother keeps vigil over son's body for 18 hrs

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jaleswar, August 22: A woman in Balasore district had to watch over her 26-year-old son's body for 18 long hours after villagers refused to help with his funeral because her family had been ostracised over witchcraft

Madan Besra, son of Raju Besra from Deulbar village in Nampo panchayat, collapsed during farm work and was left paralysed about 10 days ago. He died Thursday evening around 6pm due to his illness. Since then, his mother Champa had remained by the body as no villager came

The family has lived in isolation for more than 10 years after the woman as accused of practising witchcraft

forward to shoulder the bier.

Raju said his family has lived in isolation for more than 10 vears after his wife was accused of practising witchcraft. When his father Meghray Besra died three years ago, villagers had also stayed away from the funeral, which was conducted only after the Biju Yuva Vahini volunteer group came out to help

After Madan's death, Raju informed the Nampo police outpost and local sarpanch, Lopamudra Raul, but villagers still refused to assist. Residents Bula Marandi and Kalia Marandi claimed they had not been informed about the death or asked to help with the funeral.

With the intervention of

police, the sarpanch and the social group 'May I Help You', the cremation was eventually performed.

## Locals in Kalahandi demand opening of bauxite mines

Lanjigarh, August 22: A large number of people in Kalahandi district Friday staged a demonstration demanding immediate opening of bauxite mines to secure their livelihoods.

The villagers under the banner of Lanjigarh Anchalik Vikash Parishad (LAVP) took out a rally led by Sridhar Pesnia, president of the outfit. The tribals' rally also got support of the local people.

A number of district level leaders including Lanjigarh block vice-chairman, members of Zilla Parishad and others, said that there is no point to import bauxite when large deposits remain unexplored in Kalahandi. They urged the state government to act swiftly in unlocking the region's mineral wealth for local development.

The local leaders also alleged that continued inaction in opening the bauxite mines has led to affecting Kalahandi's

"Our villages are drowning in despair. Kalahandi has fought decades of hunger

and poverty. Now, when hope stands before us, why should we be denied our own resources," said a village elder.

#### GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER GANJAM (R&B) DIVISION NO.I, BERHAMPUR Phone/Fax:(0680) 2233683

e-mail:eernb1\_bam@yahoo.com@yahoo.com No.B-438: "e" Procurement Notice

Bid Identification No.SE R&B Divn.No.I Bam.05/2025-26 Lr. No.10286, Dtd.20.08.2025

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Last date/time for receipt of : Upto 16.00 hours of 06.09.2025 bids in the Portal Name & Address of the

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n suppression of the Vacancy Circular advertised in National Dailies on 06.08.2024 & in Employment News edition 17-23 August, 2024, applications are invited afresh for the post o Chairperson, National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), New Delhi (a non-statutory regulatory authority under administrative control of Ministry of Skil Development and Entrepreneurship).

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Sd./- Joint Director, Ministery of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Place : New Delhi

gy and six underwent laparoscopic surgery. In

pital from August 18 to 21. According to officials, 260 patients were treated in cardiology, 415 in neurology, 263 in gastroenterology, 229 in endocrinology, 231 in nephrolo-

Bhubaneswar/Malkan-

giri, August 22: A total

of 1,398 critical patients

from remote areas of Mal-

kangiri district received

free specialist and su-

per-specialist treatment

under the Mukhyaman-

tri Bayu Swasthya Seva

Yojana (MBSSY) during

a medical camp at the

district headquarters hos-

addition, 130 patients underwent ECG tests and 59 performed endoscopy.

MBSSY boon for 1,398

patients in Malkangiri

The camp was conducted by a team of specialists and consultants from Sriram Chandra Bhanja Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack. The team included Dr Kaibalya Ranjan Dash, assistant professor of gastroenterology; Dr Aujjwalya Kumar Jena, assistant professor of neurology: Dr Aruna Acharya, professor of nephrology; Dr Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, assistant professor of cardiology; Dr Bijay

Kumar Sahoo, assistant

professor of endocrinolo-

gy; Dr Jyotirmaya Nayak,

associate professor of surgery; and Dr Raj Mahapatra, assistant professor of anaesthesia at PGIMER Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar. They were assisted by

senior doctors Dr Dhirei Kumar Lenka (nephrology), Dr Sanghamitra Sahoo (neurology), Dr Sitakanta Panda (endocrinology) and Dr Avansh Taunk (cardiology). The assisting team arrived a day in advance to take patient histories and prepare them for clinical interventions

An ICU with modern equipment was set up at the hospital ahead of the camp to support diagnostic tests, procedures and treatment.

Local residents expressed satisfaction over the initiative. "Such high-level treatment for us in a remote rural area surrounded by hills and forests, which we could never dream of, has become a reality under the leadership of the Chief Minister," said several patients after their discharge.

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**SRI AUROBINDO** 



## CIC on Life Support

s of September 14, the Central Information Commission (CIC) may be headless. Chief Information Commissioner Heeralal Samariya retires, and unless the government acts at lightning speed (not its strong suit), the country's transparency watchdog will be leaderless yet again.

This isn't exactly uncharted territory. Back in 2023, when YK Sinha retired, the CIC post was left vacant until the Supreme Court had to step in and remind the Centre that the RTI law risks becoming a 'dead letter" without a functioning Commission. Clearly, the warning

It's not just the chief's chair that's emptying. Out of ten sanctioned Information Commissioners, only two are left. Eight seats have been vacant for nearly a year, even though 161 applications were received last August. Translation? A massive backlog of appeals and complaints, citizens waiting endlessly for decisions, and the RTI process quietly choking on delay.

Is this simply bureaucratic laziness, or a more deliberate attempt to starve transparency of oxygen? Either way, the outcome is the same. The citizens' right to know is being casually sidelined. If the CIC continues like this, India's most empowering democratic tool will be reduced to a paperwork graveyard.

Transparency delayed is transparency denied. And when the watchdog is asleep, or worse, missing, it's the public that ends up paying

#### Bihar denial, Bengal drama

The Election Commission of India is having one of those "look, but don't touch" moments. On one hand, it's vehemently denying any wrongdoing in Bihar's electoral rolls, brushing off opposition allega-



tions like a minor irritation. On the other hand, a very similar mess is unfolding in West Bengal, where Chief Secretary Manoj Pant had to rush to Delhi after the state dragged its feet on disciplining four officials caught handing out their login credentials for the voter database.

The ECI's language is stern: "grave lapses" and a clear deadline of August 21 to comply. And rightly so. This isn't just sloppy paperwork; in an era where data is currency, careless handling of electoral rolls is a direct threat to the integrity of elections.

The optics, however, are tricky. The Commission may be showing teeth in West Bengal, but the contrast with its vigorous denials over Bihar raises eyebrows. Opposition parties are quick to spot it, critics are ready with their tweets, and the public's trust, which is already wearing thin, takes another jolt.

At the end of the day, credibility is everything for the referee in a democracy. Suspensions and deadlines can plug holes, but they can't patch over the perception that the Commission is fighting fires selectively. Treat voter data carelessly in one state, deny problems in another, and suddenly the watchdog looks like it's running, rather than keeping the game fair.

#### **Cracking UPSC is just half the battle**

Every year, lakhs of hopefuls pin their dreams on the UPSC exam. Only a tiny fraction — around 1,000 — make it through, and an even smaller club of 200-250 land the IAS, IPS or IFoS. But here's the part outsiders often miss: clearing the exam doesn't make you a government officer. The real game begins with training and, more crucially,

Sounds simple, but in practice, it's a mix of merit, vacancies, reservation rules, and a healthy dose of luck. Even toppers don't always get what they want, some may recall Tina Dabi, the 2015 topper? Haryana was her first choice, but Rajasthan got her instead.

The system tries to balance insiders and outsiders using a 30-point roster, ensuring no cadre is overrun by locals while still giving states their share of homegrown officers. Add to that the five-zone grouping system, where candidates must rank their preferences. Skip this formality, and the UPSC decides for you, with no regard for dreams of a home state" posting

Why such complexity? To keep the services nationally integrated, spread talent across deficit states, and prevent bureaucratic fiefdoms. Noble goals, but for young officers, it often feels like fate being sealed by a spreadsheet.

In short, cracking UPSC is like winning a ticket to the big league. But where you play is decided in the quieter, less glamorous backrooms of cadre allocation. The steel frame of India, it seems, still bends first to the logic of rosters and quotas

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#### WISDOM CORNER

Clouds come floating into my life, no longer to carry rain or usher storm, but to add color to my sunset sky.

The world breaks everyone, and afterward, some are strong at the broken places.

That best portion of a man's life, his little, nameless, unre-

#### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

membered acts of kindness and love.

- **1572:** The Massacre of St. Bartholomew's Day, plotted by Catherine de' Medici against the French Huguenots, was carried out by Roman Catholic nobles and other citizens.
- **1814:** During the War of 1812, British forces captured Washington, D.C., and burned various government buildings, notably the Capitol and the Executive Mansion (now known as the White House).
- **1932:** American aviator Amelia Earhart took off from Los Angeles, and, when she landed in Newark, New Jersey, the following day, she became the first woman to complete a solo nonstop flight across the United States.

#### **MY WIFE IS MISSING**

he man approached the very beautiful woman in the large supermarket and asked, "You know, I've lost my wife here in the supermarket. Can you talk to me for a couple of minutes?' "Why?" "Because

every time I talk to a beautiful woman my wife appears out of nowhere."





## NO CEASEFIRE IN SIGHT

summits of world powers within days, the war in Ukraine continues unabated. Oddly enough, there is no ceasefire in sight as the international interlocutor and peace-maker Donald Trump prepares for a trilateral meeting between himself, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

In Washington summit on the 18th August, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz aptly remarked, "I cannot imagine that the next meeting could take place without a ceasefire". Let us recall the outcome

of both the summits in order to pontificate on the future course of action on this horrific war in Ukraine that started in February 2022. The attention of the whole world was fixed on the Alaska Summit on 15 August between Trump and Putin. This was so because the former claims to be a deal-maker and a peace-broker although there are divided opinions about this across his

Talking of the outcome of the Alaska Summit, there was no concrete conclusion to the war, starting with a ceasefire. In that sense, it did not yield a breakthrough. The European Union as well as USA would have liked to see a ceasefire during the course of negotiations towards a peace agreement. At the same time, Russian leadership had resisted the calls for a ceasefire. The points on the table at Alaska were mainly the Russian conditions for a ceasefire and eventual peace agreement. They were: recognition of the territories it has already annexed, 'Ukraine's neutrality'



The attention of the whole world was fixed on the Alaska Summit because US President **Donald Trump claims to be a deal-maker and** a peace-broker although there are divided opinions about this across his country

and 'demilitarisation' on the Russian borders. Trump's condition was only one; 'peace at any cost'.

At the meeting in Washington, the conditions put forth by Zelenskyy and European countries present, are not fully known yet. The European leaders included Emmanuel Macron, Keir Starmer, Giorgia Meloni, Mark Rutte (NATO Secretary General), Friedrich Merz, Finnnish President Alexander Stubbs and the EU Commission President Ursula von der Leven. All these leaders constitute, 'coalition of the willing'. At the end of the meeting, Trump called the Russian President and talked for 40 minutes mainly to fix a trilateral meeting sooner than later. He sounded out to the world that USA will extend security guarantees to Ukraine in a post-war scenario.

If the talks for a peace agreement in the aforesaid trilateral meeting fails, Trump did not rule out US involvement in the war with its 'unique aviation power', although he asserted that Europe will be the first line of defence and USA will not put the boots on the ground. Zelenskyy came out of the meeting with a 90 billion USD arms deal comprising aviation system and anti-missile system.

Some of us have been focusing on the involvement of Poland and India in the Ukrainian war. Both India and Poland are frontline states. (India against China) having a great deal of stakes in the war. Poland borders Russia as India has a long stretch of border with China. So reactions of these two countries, shaping their strategies are important for observers and analysts to watch. Both countries are rising world powers with a fresh set of principles for world politics, having undergone, unlike many other European countries, the agony of colonisation

Alaska did not bring any fresh winds for India. There was no change of American current policy towards India. High tariffs on Indian goods will continue for now. Indian foreign policy based recentbonhomie consisting of handshakes and embraces is being pushed to its limit

In Warsaw, there have been strong reactions to the Alaska

Poland has not been in favour of Ukraine giving away its territories. Prime Minister Donald Tusk had said, "State borders may not be changed

Also, Poland was left out of the high table in East Room at Oval where Trump met Zelenskyy and other European leaders. That was a conspicuous absence of Poland as Warsaw bears the brunt of Russian invasion, and now a continental military powerhouse. The foreign policy portfolio of Poland is split between the President and the government.

Interestingly, Trump wants the new Poland's President Karol Nawrocki, a MAGA (Make America Great Again) supporter to represent Poland not the Prime Minister, Donald Tusk. The Prime Minister is a robust pro-European with a nationalist bent of mind.

To reiterate, what I have been advocating in this column, India and Poland need to come closer in sharing and shaping their international outlook. Both countries can successfully contribute to a permanent peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine. Poland should mobilise Europe as India works on Russia. Europe must play a bigger role commensurate with its potential in international issues over which it currently has limited influence.

The writer is Professor of Practice, NIIS Group of Institutions.

#### **SPECTRUM**

Sourajeet Pradhani

THE DURABILITY

OF INDIA-CHINA

**CLOSENESS** 

WILL DEPEND

**ON SEVERAL** 

**LIKE THE US** 

**TENSIONS** 

AND GLOBAL

**ECONOMIC** 

**TRENDS** 

**POLICIES, BORDER** 

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**FACTORS** 

**THE RUSSIAN** 

THE TABLE AT

**ALASKA** 

WERE--

**CONDITIONS ON** 

**RECOGNITION OF** 

THE TERRITORIES

IT HAS ALREADY

**NEUTRALITY' AND** 

**ON THE BORDERS** 

'DEMILITARISATION'

ANNEXED,

**'UKRAINE'S** 

#### GEOPOLITICS

## **US tariffs and Sino-Indian closeness**

lobal trade dynamics are undergoing a significant transformation as the United States doubles down on tariffs and protectionist policies aimed at safeguarding its domestic industries. While the immediate targets of these measures have often been China and, in some cases, India, the ripple effects are shaping an unexpected realignment in Asia.

Ironically, US tariffswhich were designed to isolate China and counterbalance its global dominance—are slowly nudging India and China closer together. The critical question now is whether this closeness represents a sustainable long-term shift or merely a tactical, short-lived alignment of convenience. More importantly, does this trend signal the dawn of a truly multipolar

global order? Since 2018, when the United States initiated its trade war with China, tariffs have become one of Washington's principal geopolitical tools. US has largely continued this trajectory, expanding duties on Chinese technology, green energy products, and steel, while also scrutinizing Indian exports in sectors like pharmaceuticals, textiles, and IT services. These measures are part of a broader strategy to reshore manufacturing, protect US jobs, and reduce reliance on foreign supply chains.

However, such tariffs often create unintended consequences. For China, they have accelerated the search for alternative export markets and strategic partners. For India, while tariffs disrupt certain export channels, they also highlight the importance of diversifying economic ties beyond the US and Europe. In this shared environment of external pressure, both Asian giants find a rare common ground.

Despite political tensions, bilateral trade between India and China has continued to grow. The US tariffs have. in part, made Chinese goods more competitively priced in Indian markets, while Indian exporters look to plug gaps in China's supply chains disrupted by American restrictions.

Both nations are major consumers of energy and importers of advanced technologies. At international forums like BRICS, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), and G20, India and China are increasingly speaking in unison about the need for fairer Yet, it would be naïve to

assume that US tariffs alone can erase deep-seated distrust between India and China. The

tors in Asia, and several structural barriers continue to limit any long-term partnership. The Line of Actual Control (LAC) remains militarized, and incidents like Galwan in 2020 continue to cast a long shadow on bilateral trust.

two nations remain competi-

India's strategic partnerships with the US, Japan, and Australia through the QUAD directly counterbalance China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Indo-Pacific ambitions. China's economy is nearly five times the size of India's, creating an uneven playing field that complicates cooperation.

Thus, while the US tariffs might temporarily align their economic interests, political and strategic divergences could still override this newfound closeness. America's strategy of using

tariffs as a weapon has incentivized nations to explore alternative systems and alliances. India and China, despite their differences, both advocate for reforms in global institutions like the WTO, IMF, and World Bank. Their mutual push for settlements in local currencies, reduced dependence on the US dollar, and emphasis on South-South cooperation point towards an emerging multipolar order.

Multipolarity does not necessarily imply a permanent India-China alliance, but it does mean that both countries will increasingly have the leverage to chart independent paths while coordinating on specific issues where their interests align.

The durability of India-China closeness will depend on several factors like the US policies, border tensions and global economic trends. In all likelihood, their alignment will remain issue-based and pragmatic rather than ideological or permanent.

The US tariffs have unintentionally pushed India and China closer together, at least in certain spheres of trade and diplomacy. However, this closeness is not without its fragility. Structural rivalries and geopolitical mistrust continue to weigh heavily on their relationship.

Whether temporary or enduring, the current India-China engagement is a reminder that global power is no longer unipolar. As nations recalibrate their strategies in response to American protectionism, the world may well be entering a new era-messy, multipolar, and marked by fluid alignments.

The writer is Founder and CEO of fintech startup FinCist

#### Fading dominance

tling geopolitical reality: if the world gradually sheds its dependence on the dollar while alienating allies whose trust sustains it. The writing on the wall is clear: if alternatives solidify, America's most potent instrument of soft coercion will dull. For the US, the challenge now is to

the US dollar for trade and reserves, America's unrivaled leverage will erode. For decades, the dollar has functioned as the fulcrum of global commerce, enabling Washington to impose sanctions, dictate financial flows, and reinforce its dominance without firing a shot. Yet with rival powers promoting alternative mechanisms—China pushing the yuan, Russia favoring ruble-based energy trade, and even regional blocs exploring local currency settlements—the dollar's hegemony is no longer sacrosanct. Trump's tenure underscored both recognition of this vulnerability and attempts to delay the inevitable. His administration wielded sanctions aggressively, yet also railed against global institutions that indirectly upheld dollar primacy. The contradiction lay in weaponising

Sir, This refers to "A stealth target," Orissa POST, August 22. US Presi-

dent Donald Trump and his financial team appeared to grasp an unset-

recalibrate economic diplomacy, strengthening alliances and financial credibility before the world rebalances away from dollar dominance. N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

#### Power of courts

Sir, Apropos the report "Will courts be powerless: SC"( Orissa POST, August 22), I happily admit that my respect to Chief Justice of India BR Gavai gets reinforced when he did not wish to see courts to be powerless in the event of Governors sitting over Bills passed by state Assemblies. If Governors and the President are allowed to sit over important Bills for an indefinite period many social projects intending to develop the socio-economic condition of the state shall remain in suspended animation. The apex court has rightly opined that a Governor is not permitted to forward a Bill to the President for consideration a second time after it had been re-passed by a state Assembly. I am at a loss to understand why an elected government shall always have to remain at the mercy of the ruling party at the Centre to get all Bills passed. Why the judiciary cannot intervene when a state becomes aggrieved?

Arun Gupta, KOLKATA







## national



#### **Income Tax Act, 2025 receives President's assent**

**NEW DELHI:** President Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the Income-tax Act, 2025, which will replace the archaic Income Tax Act, 1961. The Income Tax Act, 2025, will come into effect from the next financial year, beginning April 1, 2026. The new Act will make tax laws simple and reduce wordage in the legislation, making it easy to understand. The Income Tax Bill, 2025, was passed by Parliament August 12. The new Act does not impose any new tax rate and only simplifies the language, which was required for understanding the complex Income Tax laws. The new law removes redundant provisions and archaic language and reduces the number of Sections from 819 in the Income Tax Act of 1961 to 536 and the number of chapters from 47 to 23.

#### India push for home-grown satellite constellation

**NEW DELHI:** India is mulling its own constellation of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites to provide space-based broadband internet across the country, in an apparent attempt to catch up in an area dominated by global players such as SpaceX and OneWeb. The demand for a sovereign LEO constellation came up during the consultation the Department of Space had with different government departments to assess their requirements from the space sector."It is high time that India goes for its own LEO constellation, whether for civilian or for strategic sector," Nilesh Desai, director of ISRO's Satellite Application Centre, said, summing up the

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| 13         | 107273939              | Akrura Kumar Sahoo                             | Nayagarh                      | 130             | 101465638<br>104630599         | Deepak Kumar Jaysingh<br>Dhananjaya Dehuri   | Bijipur<br>Bhubaneswar              | 248<br>249          | 107649287<br>103475951 | Laxmi Oram<br>Laxmi Nayak                     | Sundar Garh<br>Palla                  |
| 14<br>15   | 107496325<br>102871804 | Alok Samantaray Alok Chandra Meher             | Bijipur<br>Redhakhol          | 132             | 107600929<br>104641504         | Dhanasae Gingara<br>Dhiraj Kumar Bagh  | Bargarh<br>Jeypore                  | 250<br>251          | 107023526<br>106633146 | Laxmidhar Barad<br>Laxmikanta Mishra          | Nayagarh<br>Deogarh                   |
| 16<br>17   | 106029218<br>103629912 | Alok Kumar Swain<br>Amar Sil                   | Jagatsinghpur<br>Jeypore      | 134<br>135      | 105161934<br>105963573         | Dhruba Charan Disiri<br>Dibakar Naraji   | Bhubaneswar<br>Jeypore              | 252<br>253          | 107377191<br>107603383 | Lijarani Dalei<br>Lingam Nanaji               | Dhenkanal<br>Paralakhe Muni           |
| 18<br>19   | 104589923              | Amaresh Barai<br>Amaresh Chandra Panaka        | Jeypore<br>Berhampur          | 136             | 106157730                      | Dibakar Sahu   | Bhubaneswar                         | 254                 | 102932081              | Lipak K Das                                   | Palla                                 |
| 20         | 102335838              | Ambuja Kumar Nayak                             | Redhakhol                     | 137             | 101505913<br>104424896         | Dillip Kumar Paikaray<br>Dillip Kumar Sahu   | Raghunathpur<br>Bhubaneswar         | 255<br>256          | 102071160<br>104291615 | M Srinivas Rao<br>Madhab Jani                 | Jeypore<br>Jeypore                    |
| 21         | 105936951<br>106764560 | Amiya Kumar Panigrahi<br>Anadi Charan Padhan   | Khariar Road<br>Keonjhar      | 139             | 102830636<br>103106467         | Dinesh Debasis Biswal<br>Dipti Ranjan Samal  | Cuttack<br>Jagatsinghpur            | 257<br>258          | 105194776<br>104314946 | Madhaba Nag<br>Madhusudan Pati                | Jeypore<br>Bhadrak                    |
| 23         | 106767309<br>105113931 | Anandini Barada<br>Ananta Bagha                | Balangir<br>Jeypore           | 141             | 102873044<br>105993708         | Dolamani Bhue<br>Dora Sidhant Kumar  | Patnagarh<br>Bhawani Patna          | 259<br>260          | 106197518<br>102845875 | Madili Bhimaya<br>Mahadeb Mali                | Dhanaghar<br>Jeypore                  |
| 25<br>26   | 104462055<br>105086708 | Anjali Sandha<br>Anjan Sahoo                   | Redhakhol<br>Jagatsinghpur    | 143             | 106349486                      | Draupadi Behera  | Nayagarh                            | 261                 | 103462786              | Mahendra Meher                                | Bhubaneswar                           |
| 27         | 101806217              | Anjan Kumar Mahakud                            | Keonjhar                      | 144             | 105143990<br>107890434         | Dumari Jagataray  Dunna Bhumika  | Jeypore<br>Dhanaghar                | 262<br>263          | 102372949<br>107792671 | Maheswar Pandu<br>Mamali Naik                 | Khaliguda<br>Deogarh                  |
| 28<br>29   | 104551950<br>107581937 | Anjana Dalai<br>Anmaya Sahu                    | Jeypore<br>Balangir           | 146             | 105115140<br>104190469         | Durga Charan Singh<br>Duryadhan Baidya   | Sundar Garh<br>Jeypore              | 264<br>265          | 107623075<br>107629446 | Mamata Sana<br>Mami Das                       | Jeypore<br>Deogarh                    |
| 30         | 104266428<br>106126540 | Ansuman Thanapati<br>Anup Kumar Das            | Sambalpur<br>Berhampur        | 148             | 107515665<br>101020430         | Elio Mandal<br>Em Durgainibas Rao  | Bhawani Patna<br>Attabira           | 266<br>267          | 106209873<br>107032432 | Mana Bisoi<br>Manaranjan Kanhar               | Jeypore<br>Bhubaneswar                |
| 32<br>33   | 105872025<br>107223749 | Anusuya Dehuri<br>Apasari Sahu                 | Redhakhol<br>Bhubaneswar      | 150             | 102896482                      | Gadadhara Beherua  | Jeypore                             | 268                 | 106083188              | Mandeep Samantaray                            | Bhubaneswar                           |
| 34         | 104148839              | Arjun Bisoi                                    | Jeypore                       | 151<br>152      | 103312988<br>105013379         | Gajanan Mesua<br>Gajendra Kumar Nayak  | Balangir<br>Jeypore                 | 269<br>270          | 107933538<br>107694695 | Mangala Santa<br>Mangala Prasad Choudhu       | Jeypore<br>n Dhanaghar                |
| 35<br>36   | 104210052<br>106771070 | Arjun Gond<br>Arun Kumar Sahoo                 | Berhampur<br>Rourkela         | 153<br>154      | 107592954<br>105134516         | Ganga Harijan<br>Gangadhar Harijan   | Jeypore<br>Jeypore                  | 271<br>272          | 103647779<br>105064350 | Manini Rani Badu<br>Manohar Sunani            | Jeypore<br>Khariar Road               |
| 37<br>38   | 107741707<br>102918327 | Aruna Kumar Behera<br>Ashim Kumar Biswas       | Langarasahi<br>Jeypore        | 155             | 106216059                      | Gangotri Priyadarshini   | Bhubaneswar                         | 273                 | 107286061              | Manoj Pradhan                                 | Bhubaneswar                           |
| 39<br>40   | 105471251<br>107708843 | Ashis Kumar Baikar<br>Ashisa Kumar             | Bargarh<br>Palla              | 156<br>157      | 106659937<br>106664602         | Gaurang Naik<br>Geeta Gouda  | Patnagarh<br>Rourkela               | 274                 | 108022563<br>102868068 | Manoj Kumar Mohanty<br>Manoj Kumar Negi       | Bhubaneswar<br>Sundar Garh            |
| 41         | 107762171              | Kodamasingh<br>Ashok Mahar                     | Redhakhol                     | 158<br>159      | 104466017<br>102843525         | Giridhar Santa<br>Girish Chandra Barik   | Berhampur<br>Nayagarh               | 276<br>277          | 102731528<br>102206832 | Manoranjan Dalai<br>Manu Khan                 | Nayagarh<br>Bhubaneswar               |
| 42         | 104467413              | Ashok Kumar Karna                              | Dunguripali                   | 160<br>161      | 106244009<br>105531026         | Gita Majhi<br>Gobinda Jani   | Jeypore<br>Jeypore                  | 278<br>279          | 102742520<br>107687300 | Md Sahil<br>Md Soheb Alam                     | Cuttack<br>Rourkela                   |
| 43<br>44   | 107455741<br>107914056 | Ashok Kumar Naik<br>Asilam Khan                | Keonjhar<br>Bhubaneswar       | 162             | 106107617                      | Gomati Naik  | Deogarh                             | 280                 | 105773038              | Meena Patra                                   | Jeypore                               |
| 45<br>46   | 103376579<br>105323801 | Asim Mandal<br>Babita Rautaray                 | Jeypore<br>Bijipur            | 163<br>164      | 105764356<br>102862777         | Gopal Nayak  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore                  | 281                 | 101338092<br>107249562 | Metta Murali Rao<br>Mili Dalbehera            | Bhubaneswar<br>Deogarh                |
| 47<br>48   | 105496068<br>106263811 | Babita Lima<br>Babli Pattanaik                 | Bhawani Patna<br>Khariar Road | 165<br>166      | 103596744<br>105695904         | Gopal Pradhan<br>Gopinath Budaek   | Berhampur<br>Bhubaneswar            | 283                 | 106201029<br>101845896 | Mili Patra<br>Mitanjali Mirdha                | Redhakhol<br>Redhakhol                |
| 49         | 105428642              | Babula Bangari                                 | Jeypore                       | 167<br>168      | 106309454<br>105754152         | Gottipalli Ramaraju<br>Goutam Bhatra   | Paralakhe Mundi<br>Berhampur        | 285<br>286          | 102826845<br>103814376 | Mohammed Sajid<br>Mohan Bissoyi               | Sambalpur<br>Jeypore                  |
| 50<br>51   | 107890897<br>107401924 | Babula Gouda<br>Baburam Swain                  | Khaliguda<br>Jeypore          | 169             | 104275170                      | Gujuri Balaji  | Bhubaneswar                         | 287                 | 105975028              | Monalisa Pattanaik                            | Bijipur                               |
| 52<br>53   | 104151733<br>107289576 | Badal Malakar<br>Baichandra Podh               | Jeypore<br>Balangir           | 170             | 102204339<br>105618478         | Gupteswar Sahu<br>Gurubaru Bachha  | Khaliguda<br>Sambalpur              | 288                 | 107582853<br>104944504 | Monoj Harijan<br>Montu Sarkar                 | Berhampur<br>Jeypore                  |
| 54<br>55   | 103400194<br>105734491 | Baladeb Rath<br>Balaram Meher                  | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhubaneswar    | 172             | 107821766<br>105294772         | Hareram Gahir<br>Hari Murmu  | Dharamgarh<br>Bhubaneswar           | 290<br>291          | 103857932<br>106041251 | Mukesh Kumar Ojha<br>Mulia Dehury             | Bhubaneswar<br>Sambalpur              |
| 56         | 107934379              | Balaram Rout                                   | Jagatsinghpur                 | 174             | 104258898                      | Harichandan Satapathy  | Bhubaneswar                         | 292                 | 105252606              | Muna Majhi                                    | Jeypore                               |
| 57<br>58   | 106143554<br>105137178 | Balaram Santa<br>Balaram Seth                  | Berhampur<br>Bargarh          | 175<br>176      | 103273297<br>104624406         | Harihar Kurumi<br>Hariranga Patro  | Jeypore<br>Dhanaghar                | 293<br>294          | 106809781              | Muni Khillo<br>Musleha Begum                  | Jeypore<br>Dhenkanal                  |
| 59<br>60   | 105609536<br>106286596 | Banamali Bhuyan<br>Bandana Behera              | Jagannathpur<br>Keonjhar      | 177             | 102886808<br>106905583         | Hasmat Alli<br>Hemanta Kumar Swain   | Berhampur<br>Cuttack                | 295<br>296          | 107027482<br>107176188 | Naba Kishor Jhankar<br>Nanda Kishore Barik    | Deogarh<br>Joda                       |
| 61<br>62   | 104990976<br>107875847 | Bandana Mahananda<br>Bandana Pradhan           | Rourkela<br>Cuttack           | 179             | 107708739                      | Himansu Sekhar<br>Pattanayak   | Jeypore                             | 297<br>298          | 102104581<br>107521957 | Narayan Pradhan<br>Narayani Jagat             | Redhakhol<br>Khariar Road             |
| 63         | 102548790              | Barada Prasanna Mohanty                        | Bhubaneswar                   | 180<br>181      | 105497037<br>105689739         | Hrushikesh Tripathy<br>Indu Das  | Bhadrak<br>Deogarh                  | 299                 | 103832279              | Naresh Naik                                   | Sundar Garh                           |
| 64<br>65   | 106005271<br>104285063 | Basanti Apat<br>Basanti Naik                   | Sundar Garh<br>Jeypore        | 182             | 106748660                      | Iswar Majhi  | Khariar Road                        | 300                 | 101423942<br>101712983 | Naresh Kumar Sahoo<br>Nayana Dalei            | Cuttack<br>Bhubaneswar                |
| 66<br>67   | 107287993<br>104848013 | Batakrishna Bhoi<br>Batakrushna Pattnaik       | Deogarh<br>Bhubaneswar        | 183<br>184      | 103562103<br>105750801         | Iswar Sahu<br>Itishree Sahoo   | Bargarh<br>Jagatsinghpur            | 302                 | 105745652<br>102901414 | Nepala Chakrabartti<br>Netinti Sanjay Reddy   | Jeypore<br>Jagannathpur               |
| 68<br>69   | 103554652<br>105008846 | Belalasen Khila<br>Bhabani Dhal                | Jeypore<br>Bhubaneswar        | 185<br>186      | 103377822<br>103757725         | J Rabi<br>Jagabandhu Pandey  | Jagannathpur<br>Dunguripali         | 304<br>305          | 106646260<br>107318832 | Netrananda Seth<br>Nihar Ranjan Takri         | Bargarh<br>Jeypore                    |
| 70         | 105587041              | Bhagban Biswal                                 | Jagatsinghpur                 | 187<br>188      | 104214517<br>102303492         | Jagadish Mali<br>Jaganath Behera   | Jeypore<br>Dhanaghar                | 306                 | 102843552              | Nila Gemel                                    | Jeypore                               |
| 71<br>72   | 105598951<br>101964255 | Bhagiratha Sahoo<br>Bhagirathi Behera          | Jagatsinghpur<br>Jarasingha   | 189             | 103244289                      | Jagannath Lenka  | Rourkela                            | 307                 | 106037230<br>105063627 | Nilamani Sahu<br>Niranjan Maharana            | Jeypore Jeypore                       |
| 73<br>74   | 107910727<br>103640750 | Bhaskar Harijan<br>Bhishmadev Dunget           | Jeypore<br>Sundar Garh        | 190<br>191      | 106916753<br>101630918         | Jagannath Majhi<br>Jagannath Barik   | Berhampur<br>Pathara Pada           | 309<br>310          | 104770928<br>107173308 | Nirmal Bhatra<br>Nrupen Mandal                | Jeypore<br>Jeypore                    |
| 75<br>76   | 102935902<br>101671077 | Bhogi Goldar<br>Bibekananda Sahu               | Berhampur<br>Jarasingha       | 192<br>193      | 106976854<br>105567609         | Jagyanseni Bhukta<br>Jangyaseni Naik   | Deogarh<br>Deogarh                  | 311                 | 106415591<br>102626481 | Pabitra Sabar<br>Pabitra Kumar Sahoo          | Khariar Road                          |
| 77         | 105509388              | Bibekananda Sana                               | Jeypore                       | 194<br>195      | 105017722<br>107887582         | Jasobanta Suhula<br>Jaya Krushna Panigrahi   | Deogarh                             | 312                 | 106190868              | Padam Samaratha                               | Cuttack<br>Jeypore                    |
| 78<br>79   | 104218910<br>105122762 | Bibhishan Kakalpadia<br>Bibhu Prasad Behera    | Jeypore<br>Bhubaneswar        | 196             | 107848257                      | Jayanti Meher  | Bhawani Patna<br>Bargarh            | 314                 | 102760578<br>101851632 | Padman Majhi<br>Paili Mohan Reddy             | Jeypore<br>Dhanaghar                  |
| 80         | 107537921<br>105761756 | Bibhuti Meher<br>Bibhuti Bhushan Dhal          | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhubaneswar    | 197             | 103413250<br>104196366         | Jayaprakash Adhikary<br>Jayaram Tripathi   | Berhampur<br>Dunguripali            | 316<br>317          | 101166628<br>102856036 | Palikurtti Maleswar Rao<br>Pana Patra         | Attabira<br>Deogarh                   |
| 82<br>83   | 103437108<br>101062955 | Bibhuti Sethi<br>Bideshi Nanda                 | Deogarh<br>Attabira           | 199<br>200      | 104950632<br>106955658         | Jharana Nag<br>Jharana Penthei   | Balangir<br>Deogarh                 | 318                 | 100947730              | Panchanan Lohara                              | Jagannathpur                          |
| 84         | 106746739              | Bijay Kumar Das                                | Rourkela                      | 201             | 102438751                      | Jharana Samal  | Bhubaneswar                         | 319<br>320          | 102652415<br>104899814 | Parikhsita Das<br>Parwana Batul               | Cuttack<br>Pathara Pada               |
| 85<br>86   | 102299652<br>106660027 | Bijaya Kumar Naik<br>Biki Ray                  | Sundar Garh<br>Sambalpur      | 202             | 104944711<br>102927510         | Jharana Bhoj<br>Jhasketan Naik   | Deogarh<br>Sambalpur                | 321                 | 104218708<br>107300159 | Pasinapilli Usha Rani<br>Patitapaban Satpathy | Jeypore<br>Bhadrak                    |
| 87<br>88   | 103743146<br>105133041 | Bikram Kumar Mallick<br>Bimal Kumar Tripathy   | Jagatsinghpur<br>Dhenkanal    | 204             | 103131484<br>106260954         | Jhumpa Duria<br>Jhunubala Suhula   | Jeypore<br>Deogarh                  | 323<br>324          | 106985814<br>107761595 | Phulasingh Bhatra<br>Pinkina Sahu             | Berhampur<br>Cuttack                  |
| 89<br>90   | 107766709<br>107854624 | Birnala Bhati<br>Biranchi Budek                | Sambalpur<br>Dunguripali      | 206             | 107335080<br>106437123         | Jit Jayaprakash Parida<br>Jitendra Nayak   | Raghunathpur<br>Raghunathpur        | 325                 | 104175129              | Pinky Acharya                                 | Deogarh                               |
| 91         | 102818155              | Birendra Bhokta                                | Bhubaneswar                   | 208             | 101319489                      | Jitendra Kumar Majhi   | Redhakhol                           | 326<br>327          | 106245887<br>106138157 | Pintu Maharana<br>Pintu Ray                   | Jagannathpur<br>Jeypore               |
| 92<br>93   | 103281210<br>107932888 | Birupakshya Naik<br>Bishu Hantala              | Bhubaneswar<br>Jeypore        | 209             | 106413258<br>103316272         | Jitendra Kumar Panda<br>Jitendriya Pujari  | Bhubaneswar<br>Jeypore              | 328<br>329          | 101503504<br>105772879 | Pita Arjun Piyush Gobardhan                   | Dhanaghar<br>Khariar Road             |
| 94<br>95   | 107802961<br>104328593 | Biswabijayani Bhoi<br>Biswajit Behera          | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhubaneswar    | 211             | 107929040<br>101486921         | Johan Mahanandia<br>Josobanta Biswal   | Jeypore<br>Redhakhol                | 330                 | 107956398              | Prabhakar Patika                              | Bhawani Patna                         |
| 96         | 104911775              | Biswajit Meswa                                 | Bhubaneswar                   | 213             | 106773383                      | Jyotiranjan Patra  | Cuttack                             | 331                 | 105776325<br>103008515 | Prabir Kumar Bagh<br>Prabir Kumar Behera      | Jeypore<br>Jeypore                    |
| 97<br>98   | 102588340              | Biswajit Saha<br>Biswamohan Lenka              | Jeypore<br>Jagatsinghpur      | 214             | 107504514                      | Jyotirmayee Ray  Jyotsnamayee Moharana   | Jagatsinghpur<br>Jarasingha         | 333<br>334          | 107850862<br>104466747 | Pradeep Meher Pradeep Kumar Sahoo             | Redhakhol<br>Redhakhol                |
| 99<br>100  | 104284932<br>107961434 | Biswanath Gouda<br>Braja Kishore Swain         | Berhampur<br>Bhubaneswar      | 216<br>217      | 103949007<br>102873444         | Kahnu Meher<br>Kailash Khinbudi  | Bargarh<br>Jeypore                  | 335<br>336          | 103852683<br>105992539 | Pradip Samal<br>Pradip Kumar Mishra           | Dhenkanal<br>Deogarh                  |
| 101<br>102 | 107600764<br>107607135 | Burusa Pangi<br>Chain Mahakhud                 | Jeypore<br>Bhubaneswar        | 218<br>219      | 107392597<br>107864401         | Kailash Chandra Bal<br>Kailash Chandra Sahoo                                       | Cuttack<br>Cuttack                  | 337                 | 106972799              | Pradyumna Naik                                | Bhubaneswar                           |
| 103        | 107650711              | Champeswar Meher                               | Bhubaneswar                   | 220             | 107888448                      | Kakarla Bhaskar Rao  | Khaliguda                           | 338<br>339          | 101869527<br>104162283 | Pradyumna Kumar Swain<br>Praful Majhi         | Bhawani Patna<br>Jeypore              |
| 104        | 106093558<br>106129409 | Chandan Sarabu<br>Chandaneshwar Jhankar        | Jeypore<br>Bhubaneswar        | 221             | 105068046<br>104775150         | Kalakanhu Mahananda<br>Kamakshi Joshi  | Balangir<br>Khariar Road            | 340<br>341          | 105625062<br>104311166 | Pragjnyajeet Mohanty<br>Prakash Kumar Mahakud | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhubaneswar            |
| 106<br>107 | 106496573<br>107972704 | Chandramani Behera<br>Chandrasekhar            | Nayagarh<br>Paralakhe Mundi   | 223<br>224      | 105113979<br>107645650         | Kamala Lochan Golari<br>Karan Tripathy   | Jeypore<br>Rourkela                 | 342                 | 103013769              | Prakash Kumar Rana                            | Bhubaneswar                           |
| 108        | 107695036              | Paspureddy<br>Chintamani Bhue                  | Patnagarh                     | 225             | 104762026                      | Karunakar Behera   | Cuttack                             | 343<br>344          | 105581509<br>105429020 | Prakash Ranjan Patra<br>Prakash Swain         | Cuttack<br>Hinjlicut                  |
| 109        | 104326290              | Chitan Behera                                  | Dhanaghar                     | 226             | 105951393<br>107946836         | Kautubhamani Das<br>Kesari Prasad Bhainsal   | Jagatsinghpur<br>Sundar Garh        | 345<br>346          | 107520617<br>102915735 | Pramila Panigrahy Pramila Pradhan             | Bhawani Patna<br>Bijipur              |
| 110        | 107401868<br>106300302 | Chitaranjan Rana<br>Chittaranjan Singh         | Jarasingha<br>Bhubaneswar     | 228<br>229      | 102815062<br>107787781         | Keshab Pujari<br>Khemasagar Gahir  | Jeypore<br>Khariar Road             | 347                 | 102441729              | Pramila Dehury Prasad Lama                    | Redhakhol                             |
| 112<br>113 | 103362697<br>104500474 | Chudamani Harijan<br>Chudamani Padhan          | Jeypore<br>Patnagarh          | 230             | 107593383                      | Khiramani Palo   | Paralakhe Mundi<br>Puri             | 349                 | 106200758              | Prasanna Kumar Malick                         | Jeypore                               |
| 114        | 102754113              | Chudamani Rana                                 | Khariar Road                  | 232             | 103504662                      | Khulana Sundari Pradhan<br>Kiran Sethi   | Berhampur                           | 350                 | 101705224              | Prasanna Kumar<br>Mohapatra                   | Pathara Pada                          |
| 115<br>116 | 105471081<br>104314580 | Daitari Bhoi<br>Dambaru Mali                   | Deogarh<br>Jeypore            | 233             | 104668924<br>103349140         | Kishore Chandra Paule<br>Kkiran Kumar  | Sundar Garh<br>Jeypore              | 351<br>352          | 106105179<br>106287290 | Prasanta Mistry Pratap Gedi                   | Berhampur<br>Jagatsinghpur            |
| 117<br>118 | 106838717<br>106813875 | Damburudhara Disari<br>Damodar Muduli          | Jeypore<br>Jeypore            | 235<br>236      | 102446170<br>105465141         | Koilas Chandra Nayak<br>Krushana Bhatra  | Pathara Pada<br>Berhampur           | 353<br>354          | 103921672<br>105779647 | Pratima Bhoi<br>Pravas Naik                   | Deogarh<br>Nayagarh                   |
| 110        |                        |  | Jhoro                         | 200             | .50400141                      |  | - amampur                           | 334                 | .50113047              | Z. TATUS (NAIN)                               | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |

|           | S. No.   | 1 - 1 - 2 - 2 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -  | Customer Name  | Location   | S. No.  | Cust ID  | Customer Name  | Location  | S. No.   | Cust ID   | Customer Name  | Location  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| -         | 355<br>356   | 103251794<br>107572343   | Pravasini Pradhan<br>Pritesh Mahakur   | Redhakhol<br>Attabira  | 473<br>474  | 104406310<br>103489750   | Sibaram Kalar<br>Siddharth Sankar Paikray  | Berhampur<br>Bhubaneswar  | 591<br>592   | 105470666<br>104450013  | Chahata Naik<br>Chandan Kumar  | Deogarh<br>Jeypore  |
|           | 357  | 106880916  | Priti Haldar   | Jagatsinghpur  | 475   | 106905968  | Sidhanta Bag   | Patnagarh   | 288  | 100 to 100 to 100   | Choudhury  | Tomacou.  |
|           | 358<br>359   | 107382682<br>107953062   | Priya Jatarma<br>Priya Ranjan Jena   | Sundar Garh<br>Bhubaneswar   | 476<br>477  | 103619975<br>107771890   | Sila Tanden<br>Simadri Santun Achary   | Sambalpur<br>Paralakhe Mundi  | 593<br>594   | 101626042   | Chittaranjan Patra<br>Dambaru Shisa  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  |
|           | 360  | 101045952  | Priyaranjan Mohapatra  | Dhenkanal  | 478   | 101945577  | Sirish Kumar Sahu  | Keonjhar  | 595  | 107708871   | Debashis Baliarsingh   | Palla   |
| -         | 361<br>362   | 106940832<br>106746117   | Purandar Urma<br>Purandrar Pradhan   | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhubaneswar   | 479<br>480  | 106981158<br>106200663   | Situ Sethi<br>Sk Hasim   | Jarasingha  | 596  | 106416687<br>106513335  | Debasish Choudhury  Dibaraj Bisoi  | Jeypore<br>Berhampur  |
| 1         | 363  | 107696181  | Purna Randhari   | Jeypore  | 481   | 105232710  | Someswar Mohapatra   | Jagatsinghpur<br>Jagatsinghpur  | 598  | 101380382   | Dr. Ashok Kumar  | Bhubaneswar   |
|           | 364<br>365   | 105655532<br>106933739   | Puspa Padhan<br>Puspanjali Subudhi   | Deogarh<br>Palla   | 482<br>483  | 105577431  | Soudamini Sahu   | Dunguripali   | 599  | 101012307   | Mohapatr<br>Dunna Appa Rao   | Dhanaghar   |
| ][        | 366  | 105355538  | Puspanjali Nachika   | Jeypore  | 484   | 103872563<br>105210516   | Soumya Ranjan Dash<br>Soumyajit Paikaray   | Palla   | 600  | 103940263<br>104990968  | Gadadala Pramila   | Khaliguda   |
|           | 367<br>368   | 105175304<br>106078331   | Pusparaj Pattanaik<br>R Ganapati   | Dhenkanal<br>Dhanaghar   | 485   | 103821514  | Srajesh Mahalad  | Jeypore   | 601  | 106866190   | Gashok Kumar Rao<br>Golakh Bagh  | Jeypore<br>Deogarh  |
|           | 369  | 103215208  | Rabi Bhatra  | Jeypore  | 486   | 106013662<br>107733943   | Sribatsa Mahakul<br>Srikanta Choudhury   | Deogarh<br>Dhanaghar  | 603  | 105179767   | Gulapsa Naz  | Sundar Garh   |
| -         | 370  | 105642866  | Rabi Bhoi  | Jeypore  | 488   | 102220280  | Srimanta Swain   | Sambalpur   | 604  | 102866385<br>107581932  | Guru Khinabudi<br>Hemanta Kumar Pradhan  | Jeypore<br>Deogarh  |
|           | 371<br>372   | 107907128<br>103223959   | Rabidra Swain Rabinarayan Panda  | Palla<br>Pathara Pada  | 489   | 105919620  | Sripati Badi<br>Subhasini Pal  | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhawani Patna  | 606  | 106025228   | Jay Kumar Singh  | Sundar Garh   |
| 4         | 373  | 103949646  | Rabindra Kurnar Sahu   | Berhampur  | 491   | 107868034  | Subhasish Kumar Sahu   | Deogarh   | 607  | 104188791   | Jayadas Harijan<br>Jayanta Sardar  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  |
| $\exists$ | 374<br>375   | 101694507<br>107863816   | Radha Raman Bhadra<br>Rahul Rakshit  | Keonjhar<br>Sambalpur  | 492   | 105640970  | Subhranta Mahanandia<br>Subir Barman   | Bhubaneswar<br>Jeypore  | 609  | 107442367   | Jnan Ranjan Dwivedi  | Cuttack   |
| ]         | 376  | 105284689  | Raj Baitharu   | Junagarh   | 494   | 105952056  | Subrat Mahunta   | Dhenkanal   | 610  | 106271789<br>105414973  | Jyotiram Mirddha<br>K Kusuma   | Kantabanji<br>Berhampur   |
| di        | 377<br>378   | 102913087<br>102220349   | Rajat Kumar Sahoo<br>Rajesh Panda  | Jagannathpur<br>Sambalpur  | 495<br>496  | 105019037  | Subrat Kumar Mallia<br>Subrat Kumar Pradhan  | Raghunathpur<br>Bhubaneswar   | 612  | 103779129   | Kabita Mohanty   | Jeypore   |
|           | 379  | 103540654  | Rajesh Kumar Patra   | Dharamgarh   | 497   | 107962054  | Suchitra Biswal  | Cuttack   | 613<br>614   | 102250814<br>102725395  | Krushna Chandra Das<br>Lambodar Jena   | Keonjhar<br>Paralakhe Mui   |
| -1        | 380<br>381   | 102805356<br>105393143   | Rajib Kumar Sahoo<br>Raju Behera   | Jarasingha<br>Dhenkanal  | 498   | 101994009  | Sudarshan Swain  | Bijipur   | 615  | 102723395   | Laxmi Swain  | Jagatsinghpur   |
|           | 382  | 107177442  | Rakesh Kumar Badhei  | Bargarh  | 499<br>500  | 101623446  | Sudhir Kumar Dwibedy<br>Sudhira Kumar Mirdha   | Bhadrak<br>Redhakhol  | 616  | 102834596   | Lokanath Meher   | Bhubaneswar   |
| ١,        | 383  | 107528442  | Rakesh Kumar Sahu  | Jagatsinghpur  | 501   | 106852891  | Sujay Bagh   | Deogarh   | 617  | 104551908   | Mahendra Naik<br>Mallikarjuna Mohanty  | Khaliguda<br>Gualsing   |
| +         | 384  | 106173664<br>102841493   | Rakhi Mallick<br>Rama Chandra Rana   | Jeypore<br>Bhubaneswar   | 502   | 107382904  | Sujit Adhikari<br>Sukadev Majhi  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  | 619  | 105619903   | Mamata Sahu  | Deogarh   |
|           | 386  | 107705457  | Ramesh Bisoyi  | Jeypore  | 504   | 101999273  | Sukanta Kumar Dash   | Dunguripali   | 620<br>621   | 103764528<br>104583203  | Manas Kanhar<br>Manoj Kumar Panda  | Bhubaneswar<br>Berhampur  |
| -         | 387  | 101742775<br>106169244   | Ramesh Aran<br>Ramesh Ranjan Rana  | Pathara Pada<br>Keonjhar   | 505   | 102325939<br>106767436   | Sukanta Pradhan<br>Sukanti Sunani  | Bijipur<br>Sundar Garh  | 622  | 107716405   | Nandita Rath   | Jeypore   |
|           | 389  | 102618222  | Rameswar Rout  | Khariar Road   | 507   | 106030349  | Sukanti Mahankud   | Dhanaghar Dhanaghar   | 623<br>624   | 105975129<br>106205074  | P Kumar Choudhury P Mohan Reddy  | Jeypore<br>Jagannathpur   |
|           | 390<br>391   | 103667489<br>106679160   | Ranjit Bagh<br>Ranjit Bisoyi   | Jeypore<br>Berhampur   | 508   | 104147019  | Sukesh Mandal  | Jeypore   | 625  | 107817185   | Pankaj Karakaria   | Khaliguda   |
|           | 392  | 106767140  | Ranjit Karna   | Bhubaneswar  | 510   | 103277626<br>106514763   | Sukumari Sethy<br>Sulata Pani  | Bhubaneswar<br>Paralakhe Mundi  | 626<br>627   | 102584802<br>107597807  | Prabhakar Dash<br>Pradeep Kumar Patra  | Khaliguda<br>Joda   |
| 4         | 393<br>394   | 105983434  | Ranjita Behera<br>Rasananda Parida   | Jarasingha<br>Dhenkanal  | 511   | 103772315  | Suman Bain   | Bhubaneswar   | 628  | 107397607   | Prakash Mohanty  | Ganeswarpur   |
| 1         | 395  | 106505286  | Rashmita Sahoo   | Deogarh  | 512<br>513  | 106979753<br>107217124   | Sumit Kumar Agarwalla<br>Sumit Kumar Pattanayak  | Jarasingha<br>Jeypore   | 629<br>630   | 106158530<br>106015933  | Prakash Kumar Prusty<br>Pramila Nahak  | Nayagarh  |
| ]         | 396<br>397   | 102912928<br>107951574   | Rasmikanta Sahu<br>Rasmita Kumari  | Dunguripali<br>Langarasahi   | 514   | 102613044  | Sumitra Guru   | Bhubaneswar   | 631  | 101584026   | Prasanta Kumar Nayak   | Jarasingha<br>Gualsing  |
| -         | 200  | 7540 (250h)  | Mahapatra  |  | 515<br>516  | 102929463<br>106985053   | Sumitra Meher<br>Sundar Kisan  | Deogarh<br>Deogarh  | 632  | 101745200   | Pratima Rani Jena  | Bhubaneswar   |
| =         | 398<br>399   | 103781665<br>106663822   | Reena Maharana<br>Rinki Barik  | Jagannathpur<br>Jeypore  | 517   | 105617664  | Sunil Kumar Bisoi  | Jeypore   | 633  | 103552266<br>103410681  | Pratish Ray Priya Ranjan Mallick   | Jeypore<br>Raghunathpur   |
| -         | 400  | 105565011  | Rohit Chandania  | Jeypore  | 518<br>519  | 105161618  | Sunil Kumar Sethy Sunil Pattanaik  | Bhubaneswar<br>Palla  | 635  | 102636129   | Priyanka Parida  | Raghunathpur  |
| 1         | 401  | 103091176  | Rohit Kaanr<br>Roshan Kumar Harijan  | Bhubaneswar<br>Jeypore   | 520   | 107677137  | Sunita Barik   | Joda  | 636  | 103310038   | Purna Chandra Nayak<br>Rabindra Kumar Jena   | Jeypore<br>Nayagarh   |
| 4         | 403  | 106975957  | Rudramadhab Behera   | Khaliguda  | 521<br>522  | 103553269  | Sunita Behera<br>Suravi Sagadia  | Deogarh<br>Jeypore  | 638  | 105181872   | Rabindra Nath Mandal   | Jeypore   |
| 1         | 404  | 106967454<br>103453166   | Rukmini Patra<br>Ruksana Bibi  | Deogarh<br>Pathara Pada  | 523   | 106646250  | Surendra Gupta   | Berhampur   | 639  | 107780243   | Rajkumar Budek<br>Rakesh Kumar Moharana  | Dunguripali<br>Bhubaneswar  |
| ]         | 406  | 106656125  | Rupamanjari Mallik   | Patnagarh  | 524   | 102929669  | Surendra Kallar  | Berhampur   | 641  | 106440664   | Rama Khil  | Jeypore   |
|           | 407<br>408   | 105430349<br>102127102   | Rupeli Pradhan<br>S Ramesh Rao   | Deogarh<br>Sambalpur   | 525<br>526  | 102924785<br>105905063   | Surendra Rana<br>Suresh Praska   | Bhubaneswar<br>Khaliguda  | 642  | 106950024   | Ramesh Mahanandia  | Bhubaneswar   |
|           | 409  | 103644198  | Sabita Sandha  | Bhubaneswar  | 527   | 105474116  | Suresh Kumar Behera  | Jarasingha  | 643  | 107808305<br>101970609  | Ranjit Mukhi<br>Ranjita Dalei  | Deogarh<br>Bhubaneswar  |
| -[        | 410  | 105863568  | Sabitri Pujari   | Jeypore  | 528<br>529  | 107082285  | Sureshini Pasayat<br>Susanta Malik   | Sundar Garh<br>Cuttack  | 645  | 107573470   | Ranjita Meher  | Bhubaneswar   |
| 1         | 411  | 104200194<br>103381364   | Sacchikanta Maharana<br>Sadashiba Samarath   | Redhakhol<br>Jeypore   | 530   | 107950248  | Sushanta Chhatar   | Dunguripali   | 646  | 107742735<br>104683057  | Rasmikanta Nayak<br>Rukmani Mohanty  | Joda<br>Bhawani Patna   |
| -         | 413  | 104997183  | Sadasiba Pujari  | Jeypore  | 531   | 106245768<br>104296596   | Sushanta Parida Sushen Kumar Mandal  | Cuttack<br>Berhampur  | 648  | 106788637   | Runeli Pritiusha Kuladeep  | Jeypore   |
| 1         | 414  | 101691653<br>108001854   | Sadhu Kalaka<br>Sagar Kumar Sethi  | Khaliguda<br>Berhampur   | 533   | 107821808  | Sushila Hati   | Sundar Garh   | 649  | 107408727<br>105435622  | Sangita Barla<br>Sangram Barik   | Sundar Garh<br>Dhenkanal  |
|           | 416  | 107991164  | Sahadev Mohapatra  | Berhampur  | 534   | 107169559  | Swadhin Budaik<br>Tanmay Behera  | Bhubaneswar<br>Jeypore  | 651  | 102844170   | Sankar Kumar Swain   | Khaliguda   |
| -         | 417  | 106365657<br>102644683   | Sajida Bibi<br>Sajis Kumar Naik  | Jagatsinghpur<br>Keonjhar  | 536   | 107690576  | Tapan Luha   | Deogarh   | 652<br>653   | 102887077   | Santosh Kumar Achary<br>Santoshini Behera  | Jeypore<br>Rourkela   |
| 1         | 419  | 107733772  | Sakuntala Sahu   | Hinjlicut  | 537<br>538  | 107729569  | Tapas Kumar Pradhan  | Jarasingha  | 654  | 107832736   | Santosini Kua  | Sundar Garh   |
| - 1       | 420<br>421   | 104955274<br>104390133   | Samarendra Rout<br>Sambit Das  | Jagatsinghpur<br>Cuttack   | 539   | 106888121<br>108007000   | Tapaswini Swain<br>Tapoban Kanhar  | Jeypore<br>Langarasahi  | 655<br>656   | 107296274   | Saraswati Parida   | Sambalpur   |
|           | 422  | 106839792  | Samir Kumar Anand  | Cuttack  | 540   | 107592810  | Tarini Behera  | Bhubaneswar   | 657  | 101806476<br>107950971  | Saraswati Nayak<br>Sarthak Kumar Pradhan   | Baripada<br>Cuttack   |
| -         | 423<br>424   | 105625073<br>101364064   | Samita Mohanty Sanatan Mahanta   | Bhubaneswar<br>Keonjhar  | 541<br>542  | 106885745<br>103715465   | Tejaswini Nayak<br>Tekchand Sandha   | Deogarh<br>Sundar Garh  | 658  | 103482825   | Satrughan Jena   | Berhampur   |
| 1         | 425  | 107822200  | Sandhyabati Swain  | Cuttack  | 543   | 104238722  | Thankadhar Bhatara   | Jeypore   | 659<br>660   | 103553229<br>103387195  | Sesadeb Bagartti<br>Shankarshan Sahu   | Bhubaneswar<br>Jarasingha   |
| -         | 426<br>427   | 103010321<br>102865305   | Sangeeta Pattnaik<br>Sangita Bagha   | Bhubaneswar<br>Redhakhol   | 544<br>545  | 107349953<br>102860087   | Tikeswari Deo<br>Tikeswari Bhoi  | Deogarh<br>Redhakhol  | 661  | 107432822   | Shreya   | Bhubaneswar   |
|           | 428  | 102154712  | Sanjay Kumar Sahoo   | Redhakhol  | 546   | 104664245  | Trinath Jani   | Jeypore   | 662  | 107404211   | Somanath Pujari<br>Subash Chandra Das  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  |
| -         | 429  | 101759617  | Sanjay Kumar Sahu  | Keonjhar   | 547   | 104409514  | Trinatha Seth Tuhin Tushar Biswas  | Kantabanji<br>Jeypore   | 664  | 103009291   | Subash Harijan   | Jeypore   |
| +         | 430<br>431   | 101620271<br>104235016   | Sankarsan Das<br>Santosh Mahapatro   | Jarasingha<br>Jeypore  | 549   | 107633019  | Tulsiram Mallik  | Kantabanji  | 665<br>666   | 103465384<br>107582956  | Subrat Kumar Jena<br>Sujata Mohapatra  | Berhampur<br>Jeypore  |
|           | 432  | 101374160  | Santosh Kumar Agarwal  | Bhubaneswar  | 550<br>551  | 105445950  | Tupakula Gopal<br>U Gangadhar  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  | 667  | 107624073   | Sujata Sarangi   | Balangir  |
| -         | 433  | 103294607<br>104339116   | Santosh Kumar Behera<br>Santosh Kumar Bisoi  | Redhakhol<br>Jeypore   | 552   | 106968013  | Uchhab Dehuri  | Bhubaneswar   | 668<br>669   | 101110993   | Sujata Bhoi<br>Sunita Sahu   | Raghunathpur<br>Deogarh   |
| ][        | 435  | 105975125  | Santosh Kumar Palo   | Paralakhe<br>Mundi   | 553<br>554  | 107813533<br>106961544   | Umesh Dhanphul<br>Umesh Mandal   | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  | 670  | 104775956   | Sunitarani Patnaik   | Jeypore   |
| -11       | 436  | 105165394  | Santosh Kumar Parida   | Bhubaneswar  | 555   | 106195943  | Umesh Nayak  | Jeypore   | 671<br>672   | 107259419   | Surjyakanti Bal<br>Susant Kumar Mohanty  | Bijipur<br>Raghunathpur   |
| - 1 +     | 437<br>438   | 106321046<br>107001449   | Santosh Kumar Sahu<br>Santosini Behera   | Bhubaneswar<br>Bhubaneswar   | 556<br>557  | 105934903<br>103612207   | Umesh Swaro<br>Umesh Chandra   | Jeypore<br>Berhampur  | 673  | 106305156   | Sushil Kalta   | Balangir  |
| - 1 1     | 439  | 105935997  | Saraswati Lohora   | Jagannathpur   | 10000   | ESPATATION PARTY TO  | Lachhaman  |   | 674<br>675   | 106866947<br>107721016  | Tejram Ahir<br>Upa Majhi   | Khariar Road<br>Jeypore   |
| 1 1       | _  |  | Sarathi Nayak  | Bhubaneswar  | 558   | 102834512  | Upendra Pradhan Upendra Sahu   | Deogarh<br>Bargarh  | 676  | 107721016   | Abdul Qaiyum Khan  | Jagatsinghpur   |
| - 1 1     | 440  | 106942500  | Carita Malik   | Cuttack  | 559   | 10/953943  |  | Daiyaiii  |  | 40400000  | The state of the s | Part .  |
| $\exists$ | _  | 106942500<br>106967647<br>106842679  | Sarita Malik<br>Sarmistha Das  | Cuttack<br>Palla   | 560   | 107953943  | Upendra Santa  | Berhampur   | 677  | 101086207   | 152 75 35056   | .levnore  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596  | Sarmistha Das<br>Saroj Nandi   | Palla<br>Cuttack   | 560<br>561  | 107817072<br>106445647   | Upendra Santa<br>Ushattam Das  | Berhampur<br>Pathara Pada   | 677<br>678<br>679  | 101086207<br>106647230<br>103221554   | Ambika Prasad Satapathy<br>Archana Naik<br>Bhima Harijan   | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442  | 106967647<br>106842679   | Sarmistha Das  | Palla  | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563  | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755   | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu   | Berhampur<br>Pathara Pada<br>Bhubaneswar<br>Sambalpur   | 678<br>679<br>680  | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327   | Archana Naik<br>Bhima Harijan<br>Dillip Kumar Behera   | Jeypore<br>Jeypore<br>Jarasingha  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446  | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665   | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima   | Palla<br>Cuttack<br>Dhenkanal<br>Bhubaneswar<br>Bhawani Patna  | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564   | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718  | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu  | Berhampur<br>Pathara Pada<br>Bhubaneswar<br>Sambalpur<br>Jeypore  | 678<br>679   | 106647230<br>103221554  | Archana Naik<br>Bhima Harijan  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943  | Sarmistha Das<br>Saroj Nandi<br>Saroj Sahoo<br>Saroj Kumar Danga   | Palla<br>Cuttack<br>Dhenkanal<br>Bhubaneswar   | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563  | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755   | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu   | Berhampur<br>Pathara Pada<br>Bhubaneswar<br>Sambalpur   | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683   | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126  | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra   | Jeypore<br>Jeypore<br>Jarasingha<br>Sambalpur<br>Redhakhol<br>Jagatsinghpur   |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448<br>449   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211<br>105844542  | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash Sasmita Barik  | Palla Cuttack Dhenkanal Bhubaneswar Bhawani Patna Joda Nayagarh Dhenkanal  | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567  | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021   | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar  | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur  | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682  | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770   | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore<br>Jarasingha<br>Sambalpur<br>Redhakhol  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448  | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211   | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash  | Palla<br>Cuttack<br>Dhenkanal<br>Bhubaneswar<br>Bhawani Patna<br>Joda<br>Nayagarh  | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567<br>568<br>569  | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021<br>106751656<br>102868719<br>101651975<br>105072871   | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar Amiya Kumar Jena Anita Mandal  | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur Keonjhar Jeypore   | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683<br>684<br>685<br>686  | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126<br>104436864<br>102845422<br>102851738   | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra Narottam Sahu Nilakantha Nayak Niranjan Prusti  | Jeypore Jeypore Jarasingha Sambalpur Redhakhol Jagatsinghpur Dunguripali Jeypore Bhubaneswar  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448<br>449<br>450<br>451<br>452  | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211<br>105844542<br>103650183<br>106867846<br>106226653   | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash Sasmita Barik Sasmita Jena Sasmita Nayak Sasmita Sahu  | Palla Cuttack Dhenkanal Bhubaneswar Bhawani Patna Joda Nayagarh Dhenkanal Jarasingha Jeypore Sambalpur   | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567<br>568<br>569<br>570   | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021<br>106751656<br>102868719<br>101651975<br>105072871<br>106238592  | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar Amiya Kumar Jena Anita Mandal Anita Kumari Nayak   | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur Keonjhar Jeypore Jeypore   | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683<br>684<br>685   | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126<br>104436864<br>102845422<br>102851738<br>103258194  | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra Narottam Sahu Nilakantha Nayak  | Jeypore<br>Jeypore<br>Jarasingha<br>Sambalpur<br>Redhakhol<br>Jagatsinghpur<br>Dunguripali<br>Jeypore   |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448<br>449<br>450<br>451   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211<br>105844542<br>103650183<br>106867846  | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash Sasmita Barik Sasmita Jena Sasmita Nayak   | Palla Cuttack Dhenkanal Bhubaneswar Bhawani Patna Joda Nayagarh Dhenkanal Jarasingha Jeypore   | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567<br>568<br>569  | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021<br>106751656<br>102868719<br>101651975<br>105072871<br>106238592<br>103122981<br>107756139  | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar Amiya Kumar Jena Anita Mandal  | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur Keonjhar Jeypore   | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683<br>684<br>685<br>686<br>687<br>688  | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126<br>104436864<br>102845422<br>102851738<br>103258194<br>103137326<br>104481759  | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra Narottam Sahu Nilakantha Nayak Niranjan Prusti P Prabin Patro Prasant Kumar Sahu Priya Pradyut Suna   | Jeypore Jeypore Jarasingha Sambalpur Redhakhol Jagatsinghpur Dunguripali Jeypore Bhubaneswar Jeypore Rourkela Jeypore   |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448<br>449<br>450<br>451<br>452<br>453<br>454<br>455   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211<br>105844542<br>103650183<br>106867846<br>106226653<br>101888674<br>106289542<br>105479649  | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash Sasmita Barik Sasmita Jena Sasmita Nayak Sasmita Sahu Sasmita Sahu Satya Ranjan Sahu Satya Ranjan Sahu   | Palla Cuttack Dhenkanal Bhubaneswar Bhawani Patna Joda Nayagarh Dhenkanal Jarasingha Jeypore Sambalpur Sundar Garh Junagarh Bhubaneswar  | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567<br>568<br>569<br>570<br>571<br>572<br>573  | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021<br>106751656<br>102868719<br>101651975<br>105072871<br>106238592<br>103122981<br>107756139<br>105192635   | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar Amiya Kumar Jena Anita Mandal Anita Kumari Nayak Anup Kumar Mahapatra Anupa Gain Asher Khara   | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur Keonjhar Jeypore Jeypore Sundar Garh Jeypore Jeypore   | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683<br>684<br>685<br>686<br>687   | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126<br>104436864<br>102845422<br>102851738<br>103258194<br>103137326   | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra Narottam Sahu Nilakantha Nayak Niranjan Prusti P Prabin Patro Prasant Kumar Sahu  | Jeypore Jeypore Jarasingha Sambalpur Redhakhol Jagatsinghpur Dunguripali Jeypore Bhubaneswar Jeypore Rourkela Jeypore   |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448<br>449<br>450<br>451<br>452<br>453   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211<br>105844542<br>103650183<br>106867846<br>106226653<br>101888674<br>106289542   | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash Sasmita Barik Sasmita Jena Sasmita Nayak Sasmita Sahu Sasmita Sahu Satya Ranjan Sahu   | Palla Cuttack Dhenkanal Bhubaneswar Bhawani Patna Joda Nayagarh Dhenkanal Jarasingha Jeypore Sambalpur Sundar Garh Junagarh  | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567<br>568<br>569<br>570<br>571<br>572   | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021<br>106751656<br>102868719<br>101651975<br>105072871<br>106238592<br>103122981<br>107756139  | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar Amiya Kumar Jena Anita Mandal Anita Kumari Nayak Anup Kumar Mahapatra Anupa Gain   | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur Keonjhar Jeypore Jeypore Sundar Garh Jeypore   | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683<br>684<br>685<br>686<br>687<br>688<br>689<br>690  | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126<br>104436864<br>102845422<br>102851738<br>103258194<br>103137326<br>104481759<br>101588305<br>101944436<br>101705196   | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra Narottam Sahu Nilakantha Nayak Niranjan Prusti P Prabin Patro Prasant Kumar Sahu Priya Pradyut Suna Santosh Kumar Prusty Shivshankar Patra Sk Sakhawat Ali  | Jeypore Jeypore Jarasingha Sambalpur Redhakhol Jagatsinghpur Dunguripali Jeypore Bhubaneswar Jeypore Rourkela Jeypore Raghunathpur Baripada Pathara Pada  |
|           | 440<br>441<br>442<br>443<br>444<br>445<br>446<br>447<br>448<br>450<br>451<br>452<br>453<br>454<br>455<br>456<br>457<br>458   | 106967647<br>106842679<br>106793596<br>104660392<br>106874943<br>107957665<br>107646174<br>101750211<br>105844542<br>103650183<br>106867846<br>106226653<br>101888674<br>105289542<br>105479649<br>101416857<br>107661259<br>102852435   | Sarmistha Das Saroj Nandi Saroj Sahoo Saroj Kumar Danga Saroj Kumar Lima Sarojini Barik Sarojini Dash Sasmita Barik Sasmita Jena Sasmita Nayak Sasmita Sahu Sasmita Sahu Satya Ranjan Sahu Satya Ranjan Sahu Satyabhama Meher Satyananda Patra   | Palla Cuttack Dhenkanal Bhubaneswar Bhawani Patna Joda Nayagarh Dhenkanal Jarasingha Jeypore Sambalpur Sundar Garh Junagarh Bhubaneswar Keonjhar   | 560<br>561<br>562<br>563<br>564<br>565<br>566<br>567<br>568<br>569<br>570<br>571<br>572<br>573<br>574<br>575<br>576   | 107817072<br>106445647<br>106838765<br>101068755<br>104483718<br>102615021<br>106751656<br>102868719<br>101651975<br>105072871<br>106238592<br>103122981<br>107756139<br>105192635<br>106232480<br>107720139<br>103665824  | Upendra Santa Ushattam Das Uttar Bhokta V Venkena Babu Veeti Praveen Babu Vibekananda Behera Alekha Kumar Sahu Alok Malakar Amiya Kumar Jena Anita Mandal Anita Kumari Nayak Anup Kumar Mahapatra Anupa Gain Asher Khara Ashim Chandra Nayak Ashish Kumar Dash Ashok Kumar Dash  | Berhampur Pathara Pada Bhubaneswar Sambalpur Jeypore Bhubaneswar Deogarh Berhampur Keonjhar Jeypore Jeypore Sundar Garh Jeypore Jeypore Jeypore Jeypore Jeypore Jarasingha Sundar Garh  | 678<br>679<br>680<br>681<br>682<br>683<br>684<br>685<br>686<br>687<br>688<br>689<br>690<br>691<br>692  | 106647230<br>103221554<br>105788327<br>103344348<br>102866770<br>102291126<br>104436864<br>102845422<br>102851738<br>103258194<br>103137326<br>104481759<br>101588305<br>101944436<br>101705196<br>101506014  | Archana Naik Bhima Harijan Dillip Kumar Behera Fiza Fatima Jagadish Meher Jyotishmayee Mohapatra Narottam Sahu Nilakantha Nayak Niranjan Prusti P Prabin Patro Prasant Kumar Sahu Priya Pradyut Suna Santosh Kumar Prusty Shivshankar Patra Sk Sakhawat Ali Srimanta Kalas   | Jeypore Jeypore Jarasingha Sambalpur Redhakhol Jagatsinghpur Dunguripali Jeypore Bhubaneswar Jeypore Rourkela Jeypore Raghunathpur Baripada Pathara Pada Bijipur  |
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By way of this publication, the concerned Borrowers/Pledgers are hereby given final notice and last opportunity to pay the facility recalled amount in full, with all interest and charges forthwith or anyhow before the scheduled auction date failing which the Jewellery will be auctioned. Items not auctioned to the highest bidder on the scheduled auctioned date shall be auctioned on any other day(s) without further notice. Participation in the auction and acceptance of bids shall be at the sole discretion of **DCB Bank**.

Please note that the auction shall be on an "as is where is basis", "as is what is basis", "whatever there is basis" and "no recourse basis" and DCB Bank shall not be responsible and liable in any manner for any claims, disputes, objections related to the Jewellery or the auction thereof. Bidders may kindly visit https://gold.Samil.in for detailed terms & conditions for participation in

Berhampur

Sd/-Authorized Officer DCB Bank Limited

Date: 23.08.2025

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## national



minister will neither be scared, nor tired and defeated. I will continue to struggle alongside you till Delhi gets its rights. This is my unwavering resolve

#### FIJIAN PM SITIVENI RABUKA TO VISIT INDIA

Fijian Prime Minister Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka is scheduled to visit India from August 24-27 during which he will meet President Droupadi Murmu and his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi, the Ministry of External Affairs said Friday. In an advisory, the MEA said the prime minister of the Republic of Fiji, Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, and his spouse, Suluweti Rabuka, will visit India from August 24-27



life, never such an incident took place. I had nev er seen 11 people dying in a stampede. I am pained. I expressed my sorrow

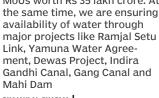
the same day SIDDARAMAIAH |

CHIEF MINISTER, KARNATAKA

YSRCP has once again been unmasked, clearly proving itself to be nothing more than the B-team



promoted investment through the 'Rising Rajasthan Summit', signing MoUs worth Rs 35 lakh crore. At



BHAJANLAL SHARMA CHIEF MINISTER, RAJASTHAN

#### SHORT **TAKES**

#### **Drugs worth over** ₹75 crore seized

Aizawl: In a major drug haul, huge quantities of Methamphetamine tablets and heroin worth over Rs 75 crore were seized and eight people arrested in Mizoram in a special joint operation launched by BSF, NCB and Mizoram Excise and Narcotics department, the paramilitary force said in a statement Friday. The special operation was planned and launched Thursday based on specific intelligence developed by BSF, it said. The joint team intercepted four suspected vehicles on the Aizawl-Champhai highway (NH-6), between Keifang and Seling villages, approximately 60 km from Aizawl, During the search. three plastic bags containing 50 kg (5 lakh tablets) of methamphetamine (Yaba) were seized, the statement

#### Tiger found dead in **MP's Satpura reserve**

Narmadapuram (MP): A tiger was found dead in the Satpura reserve in Madhya Pradesh's Narmadapuram district Friday with one of its paws of a right leg missing, a forest department official said. The missing paw led to suspicion that the tiger was killed by poachers, but forest department officials did not confirm the same. This was the second feline to have been found dead in the Satpura Tiger Reserve (STR) in the last 10 days. STR deputy director Risibha Netam said the wild animal's carcass was spotted by a motorboat patrolling team in the backwaters of the Tawa river near Badh Chapda village in the reserve.

### 2 workers die after

inhaling toxic gas Anand (Guj): Two workers died and as many were hospitalised after they inhaled toxic gas while cleaning the tank of a food processing factory in Gujarat's Anand district Friday, police said. Two workers suffocated to death after entering a tank of an effluent treatment plant at Ekta Fresh Food Company in Sokhada village of Khambhat taluka, an official said. Two other workers were shifted to a hospital in a critical condition and were undergoing treatment, he said.

## ISRO unveils model of Bharatiya Antariksh Station

*India plans to launch the* first module of the BAS, its own home-built space station, by 2028, marking its entry into the group of a handful of nations

that operate orbital laboratories

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: ISRO Friday unveiled a model of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) module during the twoday National Space Day celebrations that began here.

India plans to launch the first module of the BAS, its own home-built space station, by 2028, marking its entry into the group of a handful of nations that operate orbital laboratories.

Presently, there are two orbital laboratories -- the International Space Station operated by five space agencies, and the Tiangong space station of China.

India plans to have five modules of the Bhartiya Antariksh Station in place by 2035 as part of its ambitious plans for the space sector.

The BAS-01 module is expected to weigh 10 tonnes and will be placed in a low earth orbit at 450 km above the earth.

Salient features of the BAS include, indigenously developed Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS), Bharat Docking System, Bharat Berthing Mech-



anism, automated hatch system, platform for microgravity research and technology demonstration, viewports for scientific imaging and crew recreation.

The BAS will also have provision for refilling of propulsion and ECLSS fluids, radiation, thermal and Micro Meteoroid

Orbital Debris (MMOD) protection, space suits, airlocks to support extra vehicular activity and plug and play integrated avionics.

The BAS is expected to serve as a research platform for studying various aspects of space, life sciences, medicine, and interplanetary exploration.

It will provide an opportunity to study the effects of microgravity on human health and test essential technologies needed for long-term human presence in space. The space station will sup-

port space tourism, with India entering the commercial space sector by leveraging the orbital lab's resources

The BAS will contribute to ongoing international collaborations and serve as a hub for scientific research and also inspire younger generations to consider careers in space science and technology.

The massive 3.8 meter x 8 meter BAS-01 model was the center of attraction among those attending the National Space Day celebrations at the Bharat Mandapam here.

#### PM to visit Japan, **China from August** 29 to September 1



New Delhi, August 22: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a four-day visit of Japan and China August 29, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced Friday.

In the first leg of his trip, Modi will be in Japan on a two-day

From Japan, he will travel to China, primarily to attend the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation The announcement of the

two Asian countries came just days after Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's trip to In The MEA said Modi will be in Japan August 29 and 30 to par-

prime minister's visit to the

ticipate in the 15th India-Japan annual summit. This will be Modi's eighth visit to Japan as the prime

minister. The ministry said Modi and his Japanese counterpart,

Shigeru Ishiba, will review the Special Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan. It said the two prime ministers will deliberate on coopera-

tion in the areas of defence and security, trade and economy technology and innovation, and people-to-people exchanges, as well as discuss issues of regional and global importance. "The visit will reaffirm the

longstanding special bond of friendship between the two countries," the MEA said in a

In the second leg of his visit, Modi, at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, will travel to the neighbour ing country from August 31 to September 1 to attend the SCO summit to be held in the Chinese city of Tianjin August 31 and September 1.

summit, the prime minister is expected to hold bilateral meetings with several leaders," the MEA said.

"On the sidelines of the

### **STRAY DOGS ROW**

# Animal rights activists laud top court order



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: Animal rights activists and several politicians including Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Friday welcomed the Supreme Court's revised directions on stray dogs, even as various residents welfare associations (RWAs) in the city expressed concern over the proposed feeding points in every municipal ward, calling it "impractical and difficult to implement".

Mayor Raja Iqbal Singh said that the MCD will implement the direction with "full strength" and pick up only those dogs that are aggressive or have attacked people, while other canines will remain "undisturbed" after vaccination and sterilisation.

The Supreme Court Friday modified its recent direction prohibiting the release of vaccinated stray dogs from pounds in Delhi-NCR, calling it "too harsh" and ordered the canines to be released post sterilisation and deworming.

The top court, however, said municipal authorities would continue to comply with the August 11 directions to pick up stray dogs from all locali-

ties of Delhi, Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad and Gurugram and immediately create dog shelters or pounds.

Rahul Gandhi welcomed the revised direction and said it marks a progressive step towards balancing animal welfare and public safety

In a post on X, the leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha said, "I welcome the Supreme Court's revised directions on stray dogs, as it marks a progressive step toward balancing animal welfare and public

"The approach is both compassionate and rooted in scientific reasoning," he said.

Hailing the top court's order "scientific", former Union minister Maneka Gandhi said, "We are very happy with it.'

"Until now, dogs were picked up, sterilised and thrown in another place. There was no benefit to sterilisation because when a dog is left in a strange area after a major operation, it is scared, in pain and does not know who will feed it. That is when it bites," she told PTI

Soon after the pronouncement, animal lovers broke into celebrations at Jantar Mantar and hugged each other and raised celebratory slogans. Some thanked God with "Har Har Mahadev". Many described the ruling as a "victory" of com-

"Now we will not have to send our kids anywhere," said one of the celebrants.

"This is a historic day. The court has upheld the right way of caring for community animals. Our 'street kids' will remain with us, and we will continue to take care of them, the person said.

Another activist said the judgment brought "immense relief" to those who share a close bond with stray dogs.

Meanwhile, a group of animal welfare groups and activists demanded that they must be included as official "stakeholders" in all decisions related to stray animals.

Various RWAs in the city have expressed concern over the court's directive to set up designated feeding points for stray dogs in every locality, calling the move "impractical and difficult to implement".

They maintained that such feeding points may create disturbances in the residential

## USAID denies \$21mn for India voter turnout

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: The US Embassy has said that "US-AID/India did not receive or provide funding of \$21 million for voter turnout in India" from fiscal years 2014 to 2024, nor has it implemented any voter turnout-related activities in India, the Centre has told Rajya The government said this in

a written response to a query from CPI(M) MP John Brittas Thursday, asking the status of the actions taken by it on the reports suggesting the utilisation of United States Agency for International Development (US-AID) funds" to "increase voter turnout in Indian elections". Minister of State for External

Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh, in his response said, February 28, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) requested the US Embassy in New Delhi to "urgently furnish details" of expenditure incurred on all USAID-assisted or funded projects in India over the last ten years (other than those being implemented under the seven Partnership Agreements with the government of India).

The MEA also sought a list of NGOs or implementing partners through which such initiatives were executed.

The US Embassy shared da-



2014 to 2024", including details of implementing partners, objectives, and key accomplishments of each activity undertaken, he said. In his response, the MoS further said, "The Embassy also maintains that 'USAID/ India did not receive or provide

years 2014 to 2024, nor has it implemented any voter turnout-related activities in India." The US Embassy conveyed to the MEA July 29 that it plans to bring all USAID operations to a close "by 15 August 2025," the Centre told Rajya Sabha.

funding of \$21 million for vot-

er turnout in India from fiscal

The US Embassy in New Delhi August 11, in a letter to the Department of Economic Affairs, "conveyed that all seven Partnership Agreements signed with the government of India would stand closed with effect from 15 August 2025", the minister said.



Volunteers decorate the Golden Temple with flowers ahead of the anniversary of the Sikh holy book Guru Grantl Sahib's installation, also known as Guru Granth Sahib Parkash Utsav, in Amritsar, Friday

## India, Bangladesh to hold DG-level border talks in Dhaka

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: India and Bangladesh will hold their bi-annual border talks in Dhaka beginning August 25, officials

The two sides will discuss measures to curb cross-frontier crimes with the Border Security Force (BSF) expected to raise issues related to attacks on Indians and its personnel by miscreants from the neighbouring country.

This will be the first time that the Indian delegation will travel to Dhaka post the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government

last year. The two countries share a



4,096 km long international border. The BSF is designated

as the lead security and intelligence-gathering agency for

this front. These talks are held between the border guarding forces of the two countries -- BSF and its counterpart the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) - twice a year. A BGB delegation visited India for the talks from February 17-20.

'The 56th director general level border co-ordination conference between the BSF and BGB will be organised by the BGB in Dhaka between August 25 and 28," a BSF spokesman said.

The Indian delegation will be led by BSF Director General (DG) Daljit Singh Chawdhary, while the Bangladesh side will be headed by BGB DG Major General Mohammad Ashrafuzzaman Siddiqui.

"The conference is being or-

ganised to discuss border-re lated issues and for better coordination between the border guarding forces," the spokes man said Discussions will be held on

prevention against attack/ assault on BSF personnel and Indian civilians by Bangladesh-based miscreants/nation als, how to prevent trans-border crimes, construction of single row fence, action against Indi an Insurgent Groups (IIGs) in Bangladesh, issues related to border infrastructure, joint ef forts for the effective implemen tation of the Coordinated Bor der Management Plan (CBMP) Confidence Building Measures (CBM) and other issues, he said.

## national



**Chief Minister MK Stalin does not have** any right to dub the **130th Constitutional Amendment Bill as** black bill

AMIT SHAH | UNION HOME MINISTER

#### 696 DISTRICTS DECLARED MANUAL SCAVENGING-FREE

Social Justice Minister Virendra Kumar said 696 districts are now manual scavenging-free. At a central committee meeting, the Centre urged states to adopt mechanised sewer and septic tank cleaning swiftly and ensure zero deaths during such hazardous cleaning work





nostalgic today. As the Railways Minister of India, I was fortunate in planning and sanctioning a series of Metro Railway corridors in metropolitan Kolkata. Later, as the Chief Minister of West Bengal, I had the additional privilege of taking part in execution of the projects MAMATA BANERJEE | CM, WEST BENGAL

It's not that the current momentum of change and interaction that is taking place

and China is something that has been forced upon us due to some events. We always wanted good relations with China

GEN MM NARAVANE | FORMER ARMY CHIEF



areas along the inter-state border, which we have already discussed earlier

LALDUHOMA | CM, MIZORAM



many politicians

& journalists in last few months, anger against politics is brewing. They won't admit it publicly, but in private

they are vocal. Change has begunslow, but real. By 2029, General Category will be a strong voting bloc.

#### SHORT **TAKES**

#### Fake CBI gang **busted in Delhi**

New Delhi: Three people, director of an NGO, have been arrested for allegedly posing as CBI officers and robbing a businessman of more than Rs 2.5 crore in Delhi's Vivek Vihar area, police said Friday. Police raided the NGO's office in Saidulajab, near the Saket metro station, and caught two accused, identified as Papori Baruah (30), the secretary of the NGO named Crime Bureau of Investigation and a resident of Assam, and Deepak (32) from Tughlakabad. Later, the NGO's director, Ram Singh Meena (62), was also arrested, officials said.

#### Al Mumbai-Jodhpur flight aborts takeoff

Mumbai: Air India flight flight from Mumbai to Jodhpur aborted takeoff and returned to the bay Friday due to "operational" reasons. Alternative arrangements were made to fly the passengers to their destination, Tata-owned Air India said in a statement, without sharing further details, "Flight AI645 operating from Mumbai to Jodhpur August 22 returned to bay due to an operational issue. The cockpit crew decided to discontinue the take-off run following standard operating procedures and brought the aircraft back." the statement added.

#### Rajasthan deluge: Man swept away

Jaipur: A 20-year-old man died after his car was swept away in a spate of water in the Swai Madhopur district, which witnessed heavy rain Friday. Monty Tanwar from Indore drowned in the strong water flow on National Highway 552 at Kushalidarra. Torrential rain since last night has thrown life out of gear in Sawai Madhopur, causing a flood-like situation.



## **Excluded voters to submit** claims with Aadhaar: SC

The court asked the political parties to file the status report by the next date of hearing on the claim form they had facilitated in the filing by excluded voters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: The Supreme Court Friday directed the Election Commission to allow excluded voters to submit their claims online or physically with Aadhaar card or any one of the 11 prescribed documents in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar.

Emphasising that the entire enumeration exercise has to be voter friendly, a bench of Justices Surva Kant and Joymalya Bagchi at the same time expressed surprise over political parties not coming forward to assist the voters, who have been excluded from the draft list published August 1, in filing objections, It then directed the chief electoral officer of Bihar to implead the political parties in the court proceedings.

Senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the EC, submitted that the poll panel has put the entire list of 65 lakh excluded voters in public domain with reasons by displaying it at the office of district returning officer, chief electoral officer office, Panchayat and block level office, websites and social media handles. The lists have been put up at every polling booth also, he added.

The court asked the political parties to file the status report



Today, the ECI stands totally exposed and discredited. Its G2 puppeteers stand decisively defeated

JAIRAM RAMESH | CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY IN-CHARGE COMMUNICATIONS

by the next date of hearing on the claim form they had facilitated in the filing by excluded voters. It posted the matter for further hearing September 8.

It directed the recognised political parties to issue specific directions to their over 1.60 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to facilitate filling of the claim forms of 65 lakh excluded voters except for those who are dead and those who have voluntarily migrated to other constituencies

The top court noted that since August 1 only two objections with regard to excluded voters were filed by BLAs, a figure which was disputed by RJD MP Manoj Jha, who claimed through his lawyer Fauzia Shakil that booth level agents were not given acknowledgement receipts when they went to submit such forms physically.

It directed the election officials to furnish an acknowledgement receipt to the booth level agents of the political parties, who submit the claim forms of excluded voters physically but clarified that such a receipt would not mean that the form is complete.

The top court, which was hearing a batch of pleas challenging the June 24 decision of the EC to conduct SIR exercise in Bihar, was told by Advocate Dwivedi that the EC has complied with earlier directions of the court in "letter and spirit".

He urged the court to give the EC a 15-day window to show there was no exclusion and said, "Give us some time, we will ensure that not one voter will fall through the cracks."

"These political parties are making hue and cry but things are not that bad. Repose faith in us and give us some more time. Crores of documents are being filed. We will be able to show you there are no exclusions, Dwivedi said.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications, Jairam Ramesh, said the party welcomes the court directive.

"Democracy has survived a brutal assault from the Election Commission of India," he claimed.

#### COURT CORNER

#### **Defamation case against Rahul: UP court adjourns hearing till Sept 9**

Sultanpur (UP): An MP-MLA court in Sultanpur Friday adjourned the hearing in a defamation case against Rahul Gandhi over his alleged objectionable remarks against Amit Shah till September 9 after the advocate appearing for the Congress leader sought more time. Santosh Kumar Pandey, the advocate appearing for the petitioner and BJP leader Vijay Mishra, said the witness was present in the court to give his statement but the hearing couldn't take place as Rahul Gandhi's advocate, Kashi Prasad Shukla, who was not present in the court, sought more time. The court has fixed September 9 as the next date of hearing, Pandey said.

#### **SC protects journalists Siddharth, Karan Thapar booked in Assam**

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday protected from arrest The Wire's founding editor Siddharth Varadarajan and Consulting Editor Karan Thapar in connection with an FIR registered by Assam Police against them over a news article. A bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi passed the order on a plea filed by the Foundation for Independent Journalism (FIJ), which owns The Wire along with Varadarajan. Senior advocate Nitya Ramakrishnan, appearing for the journalists, said Assam Police was circumventing the orders passed by the court. She argued despite the court's order granting interim protection in an FIR by Morigaon Police, summons were issued to the journalists in another case filed by the Guwahati Crime Branch. The senior lawyer said the journalists were summoned Friday for recording statements in an old FIR lodged in May and they apprehended they might be arrested.

#### **Dhotiya kand: Gujarat court allows** withdrawal of case against BJP ex-MP

Ahmedabad: Over 29 years after an incident where then-Gujarat minister Atmaram Patel's dhoti was pulled during a BJP event, an Ahmedabad court has allowed the prosecution to withdraw the criminal case against party member and former Union minister Amritlal Patel. Additional Sessions Judge Hemang Kumar Pandya Thursday allowed the plea to withdraw the case after observing the matter involved internal conflicts within a political party, and noted the prosecution's intention appears to be bona fide. The incident, widely known as 'dhotiya kand', took place in May 1996 after a public rally, where the then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had addressed a gathering of BJP leaders. Opposition Congress, a party Atmaram Patel joined later in his political career, slammed the BJP over the prosecution plea, saying this reflects the ruling party's "mentality" and it is no surprise they have decided to withdrew the case now.

#### SC orders status quo in Sambhal mosque row, issues notice

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday ordered status quo till August 25 in the Sambhal mosque row and issued notice to the Hindu petitioners. A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and A S Chandurkar passed the orders. The top court was hearing an appeal filed by Masjid committee challenging an order of the Allahabad High Court which dismissed its plea against the survey ordered by a Sambhal court in the Shahi Jama Masjid and Harihar Temple dispute, upholding the civil court's direction for the survey. The high court said the order to appoint a court commissioner and the suit were maintainable. The mosque committee had moved the high court against the November 19 last year order of the civil judge directing the Mughal-era mosque' survey which took place the same day.

#### Direct contest between NDA, Oppn for VP's post

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: The stage is set for a direct contest between ruling NDA nominee CP Radhakrishnan and joint Opposition candidate B Sudershan Reddy for the September 9 vice-presidential election.

After a scrutiny of the nominations filed for the vice-pres idential poll, all four sets of nomination papers of both the candidates were found to be in order, the office of the returning officer for the election said



general is the returning offi cer for the vice-presidential election. According to a statement from the Rajya Sabha secretary general, the process of the vice-presidential election commenced August 7 with the issuance of a notification.

The last date for filing nominations was August 21, while the date for a scrutiny of the nominations papers was August 22

"During the period from the 7th to 21st August, 2025, the Returning Officer for the Vice-Presidential Election, 2025 and Secretary-General, Raiva Sabha, received a tota of 68 nomination papers filed by 46 candidates. Out of these 68 nomination papers, 28 nomination papers filed by 19 candidates were summarily rejected in terms of section 5B(4) of the Presidential and Vice-Presi dential Elections Act, 1952,' the statement said

Forty nomination papers of 27 candidates were taken for scrutiny at 11 am Friday and rejected under sections 5B(1) (b), 5B(1)(b) and 5C of the Pres idential and Vice-Presidential Election Act, it added.

### 40% of chief ministers face criminal cases: ADR



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: Of the 30 chief ministers in the country, 12 of them, or 40 per cent, declared criminal cases against themselves, according to a new report by poll rights body ADR.

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy has declared 89 cases against him, the highest, followed by Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin, who declared 47.

Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu declared 19. Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah declared 13, and Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren declared

Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh chief ministers Devendra Fadnavis and Sukhvinder Singh declared four cases each, Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan declared two, and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann declared one case.

The report comes as the government brings three bills that seek the removal of the prime minister, chief ministers, and ministers arrested for 30 days on serious criminal charges.

According to the report by the Association for Democratic Reforms, 10, or 33 per cent. of the chief ministers have declared serious criminal cases, including cases related to attempt to murder, kidnapping, bribery, and criminal intimidation against them.

The ADR said it analysed the self-sworn affidavits of all 30 sitting chief ministers in state Assemblies and Union Territories.

This data is from affidavits they filed prior to contesting their last elections.



An idol of Lord Ganesh being taken to a 'pandal' ahead of 'Ganesh Chaturthi' festival, in Navi Mumbai, Friday

## Extreme heat threatening worker safety, productivity globally

Extreme heat events around the world occur more often and have become intense, increasing risks for both outdoor and indoor workers, authors of the report say, adding that related health risks include heatstroke and dehydration, and brain and kidney disorders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: The productivity of workers in extreme heat drops by two to three per cent for every degree above an ambient temperature of 20 degrees Celsius, highlights a report brought out by the United Nations' health and climate agencies.

Analysing evidence from studies from past five decades that "have provided conclusive evidence that workplace heat stress directly threatens workers' ability to live healthy and productive lives", the World Health Organization (WHO) and

World Meteorological Organization (WMO) have also outlined guidance on how the growing risks of heat can be mitigated in the section of society.

Extreme heat events around the world occur more often and have become intense, increasing risks for both outdoor and indoor workers, authors of the report say, adding that related health risks include heatstroke and dehydration, and brain and kidney disorders.

All of this can impact the long-term health and economic security of the workers' population, they said.

Vidhya Venugopal, professor



of occupational hygiene and health at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education

and Research's faculty of public health. Tamil Nadu, and an author on the report, told PTI, "The report acknowledges that extreme heat affecting workers worldwide has emerged as a significant and growing occupational crisis requiring urgent intervention.

Venugopal was the lead author on a 2023 study which found that pregnant women exposed to extreme heat at work could be at double the risk of a miscarriage. The findings are published in the British Journal of Obstetrics and Gy-

According to the WMO, the vear 2024 was the hottest on record and daytime temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius and 50 degrees Celsius are becoming increasingly common. The WHO-WMO report fur-

ther pointed out that about half the world's population suffers adverse consequences of high temperatures.

The figures call for immediate action to address the worsening impact of heat stress on workers worldwide, the authors said. Measures recommended under the guidance include developing policies related to the health hazard of heat at the workplace, with plans and advisories tailored to local weather, specific worker roles and vulnerabilities.

## international



The gates of hell will soon open on the heads of Hamas' murderers and rapists in Gaza until they agree to **Israel's conditions for** ending the war

#### FIRST EVER ECONOMIC CENSUS

There are over 6.00.000 mosques and 36,000 religious seminaries in Pakistan as compared to 23,000 factories, according to the country's first ever economic census report. The report comes at a time when the cash-strapped country continues to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund for the second review of the \$7 billion bailout package





workers from extreme heat is not just a



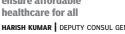
KO BARRETT DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL, WMC





GILBERTO TEODORO | DEFENSE SECRETARY,





#### SHORT **TAKES**

#### Thai clears ex-PM in royal insult case

Bangkok: A court in Thailand dismissed a royal insult case Friday against influential former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, clearing the first hurdle in a series of highstakes court rulings involving the powerful Shinawatra political dynasty. The court said the case, brought by the royalist military stemming from a 2015 Thaksin interview with foreign media, lacked sufficient evidence to prove he had insulted the powerful monarchy, an offence punishable by up to 15 years in prison. "Evidence from the plaintiff showed the interview by the defendant did not defame, insult or threaten the king, therefore the defendant is not guilty," the criminal court in Bangkok said. The divisive 76-year-old tycoon remains a major force in Thai politics despite being retired and having previously spent 15 years in self-imposed exile

#### Largest SCO summit

before his return in 2023.

Beijing: China Friday said Organisation (SCO) summit to be held in Tianjin later this month will be the largest in the bloc's history, with 20 world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, attending it. The Tianjin meeting of the 10-member grouping from Aug 31-Sept 1 is the fifth summit being hosted by China. It will be the largest in SCO history, China's Assistant Foreign Minister Liu Bin told a media briefing here. Besides Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, the summit will be attended by PM Modi and a host of world leaders, Liu said. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, his Indonesian counterpart Prabowo Subianto, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh are other prominent leaders to attend the summit, he said.

#### 

Imran's nephews held Lahore: Two nephews of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan have been arrested by Pakistan's Punjab police for their alleged involvement in the May 9, 2023, riots. In a statement, police said that they have arrested Shahrez Khan and Shershah Khan -sons of Aleema Khan -- for their involvement in the May 9 riots. Shahrez was arrested Thursday during a raid at his house in Lahore, while Shershah was nabbed on the way to his home Friday afternoon. The Lahore anti-terrorism court (ATC) handed over Shahrez to police for an eight-day physical remand in connection with a May 9 riots case, more than two years after his name surfaced in the investigation.

## No food, no hope: Gaza's descent into famine

Famine has officially struck Gaza, says global hunger monitor

United Nations, August 22: Gaza City and surrounding areas are officially suffering from famine, and it will likely spread, a global hunger monitor determined Friday, an assessment that will escalate pressure on Palestinian enclave.

The Integrated Food Securitv Phase Classification system said 514,000 people - nearly a quarter of Palestinians in Gaza - are experiencing famine, with the number due to rise to 641,000 by the end of September. Some 280,000 of those people

are in a northern region covering Gaza City - known as Gaza governorate - which the IPC said was in famine following nearly two years of war between Israel and Palestinian militants Hamas.

It was the first time the IPC has recorded famine outside of Africa, and the global group predicted that famine conditions would spread to the central and southern areas of Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis by

**ILLEGAL U-TURN** 

PIO truck driver faces

homicide allegations

New York, August 22: An Indi-

an-origin truck driver is facing

charges of vehicular homicide

in the US after three people

were killed when he allegedly

took a wrong turn while driving

a truck on a Florida highway,

to California after the incident.

has been brought back to Flor-

ida following arrest, the New

York Post reported Thursday.

GovRonDeSantis and I brought

him back to face justice." Lt

Governor Jay Collins said

"He thought he could run. @

Singh faces three counts of

vehicular homicide for alleged-

ly making an illegal U-turn

across a busy Florida highway

in his tractor-trailer August 12,

A viral video shows Singh

driving the massive truck

through an "Official Use On-

ly" cut-through on a highway

and blocking nearly all lanes of

traffic - resulting in a minivan

crashing into it, leaving three

occupants dead, the report said.

dent, US Secretary of State Mar-

co Rubio announced a pause

to all issuances of commercial

truck driver work visas. "The

increasing number of foreign

drivers operating large trac-

tor-trailer trucks on US roads

is endangering American lives

and undercutting the liveli-

hoods of American truckers.'

Rubio posted on social media.

The report said that Singh

entered the US illegally in

2018 and somehow managed

to obtain commercial driver's

licenses in both California and

Over a week after the inci-

the report added

Harjinder Singh, 28, who fled

according to a media report.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



People are starving. Children are dying. And those with the duty to act are failing ... We cannot allow this situation to continue ANTONIO GUTERRES | SECRETARY-GENERAL, UN

the end of next month.

It added that the situation further north could be even worse than in Gaza City, but said limited data prevented any precise classification.

Israel dismissed the report as false and biased, saving the IPC had based its survey on partial data largely provided by Hamas, which did not take into account a recent influx of food. 'There is no famine in Gaza. the Israeli foreign ministry said in a statement

For a region to be classified as in famine at least 20% of people must be suffering extreme food shortages, with one in three children acutely malnourished and

IPC reports 514,000 Gazans in famine, rising to 641.000 by end of September

Israel disputes famine claims, accuses Hamas of false starvation campaign

First time the IPC has determined a famine outside of Africa

two people out of every 10,000 dving daily from starvation or malnutrition and disease.

reviously, the IPC has only registered famines in Somalia South Sudan and Sudan. Even if a region has not yet

been classified as in famine because those thresholds have not been met, the IPC can deter mine that households there are suffering famine conditions, which it describes as starvation, destitution and death.

UN Secretary-General An tonio Guterres said in a state ment that the Gaza famine was a "man-made disaster, a moral indictment, and a failure of humanity itself".

He called for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all hostages still held by Hamas and unfettered humanitarian access The IPC analysis comes af-

ter Britain, Canada, Australia and many European states said the humanitarian crisis had reached "unimaginable levels".

US President Donald Trump last month said many people there were starving, putting him at odds with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has repeatedly said there was no starvation and blamed Hamas for creating food shortages.

It is the fifth time in the past 14 years that a famine has been determined by the IPC - an initiative involving 21 aid groups, United Nations agencies and regional organizations that is funded by the European Union, Germany, Britain and Canada.

The war in Gaza was triggered October 7, 2023, when Hamas killed 1,200 people in southern Israel and took some 250 hostages, according to Israeli tallies. Since then, Israel's military campaign has killed more than 62,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza health

Lanka's prime minister a record six times, Wickremesinghe was made president in 2022 during the Indian Ocean island nation's debilitating financial crisis.

later resign

#### Pak ready for dialogue with India to discuss Kashmir, says FM Dar

stan was ready for a compre-

be not just Kashmir but on all issues," Dar said while talking to journalists outside the parliament in Islamabad, where he was asked about talks with

India has made it clear that it will only have a dialogue with Pakistan on the return of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and the

Dar, who is also the Deputy Prime Minister, emphasised that Pakistan had made it clear from the outset that discussions with India would not take place

He said Pakistan had not requested any mediation but was offered a meeting at a neutral venue. "We were told to sit down at a neutral location, and I said if that is the case, we are

from the US for a ceasefire with India. "I received a call from the US for a ceasefire," Dar said. "I had made it clear that Pakistan did not want a war.'

## **Putin demands Donbas, no NATO, no West**

Russian forces currently control a fifth of Ukraine, an area about the size of the American state of Ohio

REUTERS

Moscow, August 22: Vladimir Putin is demanding that Ukraine give up all of the eastern Donbas region, renounce ambitions to join NATO, remain neutral and keep Western troops out of the country, three sources familiar with top-level Kremlin thinking told Reuters.

The Russian president met Donald Trump in Alaska Friday for the first Russia-US summit in more than four years and spent almost all of their threehour closed meeting discussing what a compromise on Ukraine might look like, according to the sources who requested anonymity to discuss sensitive

Speaking afterwards beside Trump, Putin said the meeting would hopefully open up the road to peace in Ukraine - but neither leader gave specifics

about what they discussed. In the most detailed Russian-based reporting to date on Putin's offer at the summit, Reuters was able to outline the contours of what the Kremlin would like to see in a possible peace deal to end a war that has killed and injured hundreds of

thousands of people. In essence, the Russian sources said, Putin has compromised on territorial demands he laid out in June 2024, which required Kviv to cede the entirety of the four provinces Moscow claims as part of Rus-



Ukraine cede Donbas region, Russian sources say

**≪** Russia could Kherson

freeze front lines in Zaporizhzhia and

Source close to Kremlin: if Kyiv refuses deal, war will go on

countenance Western peacekeeping troops in Ukraine

sia: Donetsk and Luhansk in eastern Ukraine - which make up the Donbas - plus Kherson and Zaporizhzhia in the south. Kyiv rejected those terms as

tantamount to surrender.

In his new proposal, the Russian president has stuck to his demand that Ukraine complete ly withdraw from the parts of the Donbas it still controls, according to the three sources. In return, though, Moscow would halt the current front lines in Zaporizhzhia and Kherson.

they added. Russia controls about 88% of the Donbas and 73% of Zaporizhzhia and Kherson, according to US estimates and opensource data.

Moscow is also willing to hand over the small parts of the Kharkiv, Sumy, and Dnipropetrovsk regions of Ukraine it controls as part of a possible deal, the sources said.

Putin is sticking, too, to his previous demands that

Ukraine give up its NATO ambitions and for a legally binding pledge from the US-led military alliance that it will not expand further eastwards, as well as for limits on the Ukrainian army and an agreement that no Western troops will be deployed on the ground in Ukraine as part of a peacekeeping force, the

Yet the two sides remain far apart, more than three years after Putin ordered thousands of Russian troops into Ukraine in a full-scale invasion that followed the annexation of the Crimean peninsula in 2014 and prolonged fighting in the country's east between Russian-backed separatists and Ukrainian troops.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has repeatedly dismissed the idea of withdrawing from internationally recognised Ukrainian land as part of a deal. and has said the industrial Donbas region serves as a fortress

we cannot do that," he told reporters in comments released by Kyiv Thursday. "It is a matter of our country's survival, involving the strongest defen-

holding back Russian advances

ply withdrawing from the east,

"If we're talking about sim-

deeper into Ukraine.

Joining NATO, meanwhile, is a strategic objective enshrined in the country's constitution and one which Kviv sees as its most reliable security guarantee. Zelenskiy said it was not up to Russia to decide

on the alliance's membership. The White House and NATO didn't immediately respond to requests for comment on the Russian proposals

Political scientist Samuel Charap, chair in Russia and Eurasia Policy at RAND, a U.S.-based global policy thinktank, said any requirement for Ukraine to withdraw from the Donbas remained a non-starter for Kyiv, both politically and strategically.

"Openness to 'peace' on terms categorically unacceptable to the other side could be more of a performance for Trump than a sign of a true willingness to compromise," he added. "The only way to test that proposition is to begin a serious process at the working level to hash out those details.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Thursday that Putin was prepared to meet Zelenskyy but that all issues had to be worked through first and there was a question about Zelenskiy's authority to sign a peace deal.

The leaders of Britain, France and Germany have said they are sceptical that Putin wants to end the war.

#### Lanka arrests former

MISUSE OF STATE FUNDS

### prez Wickremesinghe



Colombo, August 22: Former Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe was arrested by the Criminal Investigation Department Friday in connec tion with allegations of misuse of state funds, local television channel Ada Derana reported. Wickremesinghe, 76, was tak-

en into custody after arriving at the CID office in the capital Colombo to record a statement in an investigation into his visit to London to attend his wife's graduation ceremony, the report said A Sri Lankan police spokes person did not immediately

confirm the arrest. Wickrem esinghe's office did not respond to a request for comment from Reuters. He was due to appear in court later Friday. A lawyer who served as Sri

Wickremesinghe, who is the leader of the United National

Party (UNP), took over after widespread protests caused by a economic meltdown forced his predecessor Gotabaya Ra japaksa to flee the country and

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA Islamabad, August 22: Paki-

hensive dialogue with India to discuss Kashmir and all other pending issues, Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said Friday. "Talks, whenever held, will

issue of terrorism.

on any single-point agenda.

willing to meet," he claimed.

Dar said he received a call

## Matcha madness leaves Japan's tea ceremony pros skeptical

The concern is that with labour shortages as aging farmers leave their fields, the matcha crunch may worsen in coming years

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington.

Tokyo, August 22: Clad in an elegant kimono of pale green, tea ceremony instructor Keiko Kaneko uses a tinv wooden spoon to place a speck of matcha into a porcelain bowl.

She froths up the special powdered Japanese green tea with a bamboo whisk after pouring hot water with a ladle from a pot simmering over hot coal.

Her solemn, dance-like movements celebrate a Zenlike transient moment, solitude broken up by the ritualistic sharing of a drink. No wonder Kaneko and others serious about "sado," or "the way of tea," are a bit taken aback by how matcha is suddenly popping up in all sorts of things, from lattes and ice cream to cakes and chocolate.

No one knows for sure who started the global matcha

boom, which has been going on for several years. But it's clear that harvests, especially of fine-grade matcha, can't keep up with demand.

#### A booming market

Matcha is a type of tea that's  $\,$ grown in shade, steamed and then ground into a very fine powder. It's processed differently from regular green tea, with the best matcha ground using stone mills, and switching from one to the other takes time. No farmer wants to switch and then find that matcha fever has died.

The Japanese agricultural ministry has been working to boost tea growth, offering help for farmers with new machines, special soil, financial aid and counselling to try to coax tea growers to switch to matcha from regular green "sencha" tea.

"We don't want this to end up just a fad, but instead make



works at the tea section of the agricultural ministry. Production of "tencha," the

kind of tea used for matcha, nearly tripled from 1,452 tons in 2008, to 4.176 tons in 2023, according to government data. Japan's tea exports have more

than doubled over the last decade, with the US now accounting for about a third. Much of that growth is of matcha, according to government data. Other countries, including

China and some Southeast Asian countries, also are producing matcha, so Japan is racing to establish its branding as the origin of the tea.

### An art form turned into a global

Tea ceremony practitioners aren't angered by the craze, just perplexed. They hope it will lead to people taking an interest in sado, whose followers have been steadily declining. But they aren't counting on it.

The tea ceremony is "reminding us to cherish every encounter as unique and unrepeatable," said Kaneko, who is a licensed instructor.

She pointed to the special small entrance to her tea house. Noble samurai had to stoop to enter, leaving their swords behind them. The message: when partaking of tea, everyone is equal.

The purity and stillness of the ceremony are a world apart from the hectic and mundane, and from the craze for matcha that's brewing outside the tea house. The Matcha Crème Frappuccino is standard fare at the Starbucks coffee outlets every where. While matcha, a special ingredient traditionally used in the tea ceremony, isn't meant to be drunk in great quantities at once like regular tea or juices it's suddenly being consumed like other fruit and flavours. Matcha drinks have become

popular at cafes from Melbourne to Los Angeles. Various cookbooks offer matcha recipes, and foreign tourists to Japan are taking home tins and bags of matcha as souvenirs. It's a modern take on tra-

ditions perfected by the 16th century Buddhist monk Sen no Rikyu in Kyoto, who helped shape the traditions of tea ceremony and of "wabi-sabi," the rustic, imperfect but pure and nature-oriented aesthetic often seen as synonymous with highclass Japanese culture.

## business



Under ₹ 76,000 crore India Semiconductor Mission, ₹ 65,000 crore was allocated for chip production, ₹10,000 crore for the modernisation of the Semiconductor Laboratory in Mohali and ₹ 1,000 crore for the design-linked incentive scheme S KRISHNAN | ELECTRONICS AND IT SECRETARY

#### TAXBUDDY LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST AI-POWERED TAX FILING PLATFORM

TaxBuddy, India's most trusted tax filing platform, has announced the launch of the country's first AI-powered tax filing system, a move set to change the way millions of Indians file their income tax returns. With this new platform, taxpayers can now file returns in just three minutes while getting their doubts resolved instantly. Just with sign up, answer a few guided questions and the AI will auto-prepare the return



aging to see that 72 per force expansion replacement hiring

iob creation, rather than just

PAWAN GOYAL | CBO, NAUKRI

greater participation of women in mutua funds, markets regulator Sebi is duce additional incentives for investments by first-time

female investors TUHIN KANTA PANDEY | SEBI CHIEF Rupee continued to

weaken for a second day against **US dollar mainly** on account of the strength of the US dollar ahead of the speech of Fed **Chairman Powell and renewed** 

concerns over steep US tariffs on Indian exports ANIL KUMAR BHANSALI | HEAD OF TREASURY,

FINREX TREASURY ADVISORS LLP

#### SHORT **TAKES**

#### SIB launches product offering loans

New Delhi: Private sector lender South Indian Bank (SIB) Friday said it launched a new gold loan product, SIB Gold Xpress, designed to offer customers quick and convenient access to credit. With this scheme, borrowers can unlock up to 90 per cent of their gold's value, availing loans ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs 25 lakh with a flexible tenure of up to three years, the bank said in a statement. Targeted at MSMEs, non-MSMEs, and small businesses. the product enables customers to fund business expansion, working capital needs, or nersonal ventures with ease. it said, adding that the loan comes with zero hidden costs, ensuring complete transparency for borrowers. The eligibility process for SIB Gold Xpress is simple, hasslefree, and the whole end-to-end process can be completed digitally, allowing even new-tocredit customers to avail loans Customers can pledge their iewellery with complete safety assurance and benefit from South Indian Bank's PAN India network, it added.

#### PNB, CRPF to offer insurance

New Delhi: State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) Friday said it has signed an agreement with Central Reserve Police Force to offer enhanced insurance coverage and other benefits to all CRPF personnel as well as pensioners. PNB is offering a bouquet of services with enhanced insurance coverage and other benefits to all the serving personnel and pensioners of the CRPF under the bank's flagship scheme of 'PNB Rakshak Plus', the bank said in a statement. In addition, several benefits are being offered to the dependents and families of Rakshak Account Holder, it said. The agreement was signed by PNB

Chief General Manager Binay Kumar Gupta and Zaki Ahmad, Inspector General of Police (Adm), Directorate General, CRPF, New Delhi

#### E-scooter Chetak supplies resumed

New Delhi: Bajaj Auto Friday said it has resumed supplies of its electric scooter, Chetak, across all dealerships after overcoming constraints caused by global rare earth magnet availability. In recent weeks, temporary supply constraints linked to international component availability had moderated deliveries. The sustained and growing demand for Chetak added further pressure on supply, Bajaj Auto said in a statement.

## BAN HITS BUSINESS OpenAI to set up first

ACCORDING TO THE INDIA GAMING REPORT 2025. INDIA HOLDS 20 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S GAMING USER BASE AND 15.1 PER CENT OF GLOBAL GAMING APP DOWNLOADS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: Online gaming platforms WinZO and Nazara Technologies-backed Moonshine Technologies (PokerBaazi) Friday said that they have suspended their real-money online gaming operations in the wake of the Online Gaming Bill, 2025, passed in the Parliament Thursday.

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, enforces a blanket ban on all forms of real-money online games, while encouraging the growth of e-sports and free-toplay social games. In a regulatory filing, Nazara

Technologies said that its associate company Moonshine Technologies Pvt Ltd, which owns and operates PokerBaazi, has suspended its real-money offerings in line with the new legislation. "Pursuant to the Promotion

and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, passed by the Parliament on August 21, 2025 and pending enactment, we wish to inform that, as a matter of abundant caution and in due respect of the government's mandate, Moonshine Technologies Private Limited, an associate company in which Nazara Technologies Limited holds a 46.07 per cent stake, has ceased offering real money online gaming operations," it said.

WinZO, which holds a portfolio of over 100 real money games, said it is "responsibly

withdrawing impacted offerings" in full compliance with the law of the land, effective immediately.

Its real-money gaming portfolio included titles like Rummy, Solitaire, Dehla Pakad, Fantasy Cricket, and Poker. Mobile Premier League

(MPL) has also suspended all of its real-money gaming offerings in India. "Effective immediately, we

are suspending all gaming offerings involving money on the MPL platform in India. "Our foremost priority is our

users. While new deposits will no longer be accepted, customers will be able to withdraw their balances seamlessly. However, online money games will not be available on the MPL platform anymore," it said in a LinkedIn post on Thursday.

MPL has over 120 million registered users across Asia, Europe, and North America.

Similarly, Zupee announced that it has discontinued all paid games, though its free titlesincluding Ludo Supreme, Ludo Turbo, Snakes & Ladders, and Trump Card Mania—will continue to remain available.

According to the India Gaming Report 2025, India holds 20 per cent of the world's gaming user base and 15.1 per cent of global gaming app downloads.

The domestic gaming sector, valued at \$3.7 billion in 2024, is projected to touch \$9.1 billion by 2029, growing at a CAGR of 19.6 per cent.

Over the past five years, the country has attracted nearly \$3 billion in foreign direct investment and is home to more than 1,800 gaming startups.

Industry reactions to the new legislation have been mixed. While many view it as a positive step toward safeguarding the integrity of the gaming ecosystem, critics argue that blanket restrictions could harm certain revenue-generating segments.

Ananay Jain, Partner at Grant Thornton Bharat, described the legislation as both an enabler and a challenge. 'By setting clear boundaries

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

its fastest-growing.

ed local team.

New Delhi, August 22: Ope-

nAI Friday said it will set up its

first India office in New Delhi

later this year, underlining the

swift uptake of its AI tools in a

market that is ChatGPT's sec-

ond-largest after US and among

OpenAI said it has officially

established an entity in India

and has begun hiring a dedicat-

Opening an office in India re-

flects OpenAI's support for In-

diaAI mission and commitment

to partnering with the govern-

ment to build AI for India, with

The move will also enable OpenAI to better serve its us-

ers in India, including millions

of students, educators, profes-

sionals, and developers who

use its tools to learn, be more

creative, and solve problems for

This expansion, it said, un-

derscores India's global leader-

ship in AI, its thriving ecosys-

tem, and the growing demand

for OpenAI's advanced tools

**ADVANCE AUTO** 

themselves and others.

India, it said in a statement.

and imposing strict penalties on operators, advertisers, and financial intermediaries associated with prohibited games it enforces accountability and safeguards users. However, there are challenges and potential negative impacts," he said.

Calling the bill a double-edged sword, Jain said the blanket restrictions on certain real-money games may stifle segments of the gaming market that were previously generating significant revenue, particularly in mobile gaming and tournament-based platforms.

Meanwhile, industry bodies such as the All India Gaming Federation (AIGF), the E-Gaming Federation (EGF), and the Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS) expressed concerns in a joint letter to Home Minister Amit Shah earlier this week.

They highlighted that the online skill gaming sector is a sunrise industry with a valuation exceeding Rs 2 lakh crore and annual revenue of over Rs 31,000 crore.

among people, developers, and businesses across the country

India office in Delhi

Data cited by OpenAI highlighted India as a leading country for AI adoption.

Weekly active users of ChatGPT in India increased more than four times in just the past year. The country also ranks among the top five developer markets globally on the OpenAI platform.

India also has the largest population of students on ChatGPT worldwide.

"The level of excitement and opportunity for AI in India is incredible. India has all ingre dients to become a global Al leader, amazing tech talent, a world-class developer ecosys tem, and strong government support through the IndiaAI Mission," OpenAI CEO Sam Altman said.

He added, "Opening our first office and building a local team is an important first step in our commitment to make advanced AI more accessible across the country and to build AI for In dia, and with India.

The local team will also focus on strengthening relationships with local partners, governments, businesses, developers and academic institutions.

"Through this local presence OpenAI is committed to listening closely to users, customers. and partners across India, and to building features and tools specifically for India, designed to make advanced AI more affordable and accessible to people throughout the entire country," the company said.

#### Taneira Cuttack showroom celebrates first anniversary



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, August 22: Taneira, the ethnic wear brand from the Tata Group, is celebrating the first anniversary of its Cuttack store at CDA Sector-6 from August 21 to 25 with attractive offers for customers. To mark the occasion, the

brand has announced a special anniversary offer — customers will receive gold coin and exciting offers on purchase of 20 000 or above. The limited-period offer is aimed at sharing festive joy and gratitude with patrons.

Within a year the Cuttack outlet has become a trusted destination for handwoven saree lovers, offering India's finest weaves under one roof Customers can choose from a wide range of authentic collections, including Ikat, Sambalpuri, Jamdani, Banarasi, Tussar,

Kanjivaram, South Silk, Kota Doria, Vegan Silk, Maheshwari, and Chanderi. The store also offers ready-to-wear dresses, blouses, unstitched kurta sets, and more, all crafted from pure and natural fabrics. Each Pure Silk Saree comes with a seal mark ensuring authenticity and quality. Launched in 2017, Tanei-

ra works closely with India's weaving communities and runs 'Weavershala,' an initiative to modernize weaving technology while preserving traditional handloom methods. Currently, 18 such centres are active across the country.

With over 80 stores in 41 cities and a growing online presence. Taneira continues to blend tradition with modernity, offering the progressive Indian woman timeless ethnic fashion for festivals, weddings, and every day wear.

#### **TOLL OPERATORS** TO GET PAYOUTS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: Highway toll plaza operators will get compensation from NHAI for three months for difference in user fee collections due to introduction of FASTag annual pass for private non-commercial vehicles beginning August 15.

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) said in a circular that continuation of

the implemen-**FASTAG** tation of the annual pass for cars/van/ jeep with effect from August 15, it

has been decided to adopt a uniform compensation mechanism for user fee collection agencies. NHAI collected Rs 72,931 crore in toll in 2024-25.

"This mechanism will be for existing contract agreements as well as for bids invited in next three months period. After three months i.e. when the annual pass usage at each toll plaza is available, the bidders will be intimated about these annual pass figures in bids document and will be asked to bid duly accounted for the annual pass and thereafter no compensation will be given," the state-

owned agency said.

## Hyundai, Kia partner with

Seoul, August 22: Hyundai

At Hyundai and Kia's Namyang research and development (R&D) centre in Hwaseong, south of Seoul, the companies unveiled the results of a yearlong collaboration with the battery makers on EV battery safety and signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to expand their cooperation going forward, reports Yonhap news agency.

The ceremony was attended by Hyundai-Kia R&D chief Yang Hee-won, LG Energy Solution chief executive officer (CEO) Kim Dong-myung, Samsung SDI CEO Choi Jooseon and SK On CEO Lee Seok-hee, as well as officials from the transport and industry ministries.



Motor and Kia have partnered with South Korea's leading battery producers -- LG Energy Solution Ltd, Samsung SDI Co and SK On Co -- to advance electric vehicle (EV) safety technologies, the companies said Friday



fire incident. Friday's MOU calls for the companies to continue joint research, share patent rights and develop new safety technologies, with the aim of setting industrywide safety benchmarks.

scare prompted by a massive

The companies have identified five priority projects covering safety-related patents, digital battery passports, design quality, manufacturing quality and firefighting technology.

"This collaboration was possible thanks to the determination of our leadership, the dedication of our researchers and support from government ministries," said Yang. "We will continue to work closely with battery makers to deliver safer and more reliable EVs.

LG Energy Solution's Kim said, "With the government and industry working as one team, LG Energy Solution will keep pushing to secure Korea's

future competitiveness. Choi of Samsung SDI called the initiative "a breakthrough that redefines industry safety standards and technological direction," pledging further work on sustainable battery technologies.

"This collaboration will take battery safety quality to the next level," SK On's Lee added

## Lord Swraj Paul leaves behind legacy in entrepreneurship, philanthropy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, August 22: From the bylanes of Jalandhar to a regular name in the annual 'Sunday Times Rich List', Lord Swrai Paul, who died Thursday evening in London aged 94, was one of the most well known NRI entrepreneurs and philanthropists.

Born to Pyare Lal, who ran a small foundry used to make steel goods, including buckets and other farming equipment, Lord Paul was exposed to business early in his life much before he went on to establish UK-based Caparo Group, a diversified businesses entity with interests predominantly in design, manufacture, marketing and distribution of value-added steel and niche

engineering products. Born February 18, 1931, he completed high school education at Jalandhar and Bachelors in Science from Punjab University in 1949. Then he went to the US to pursue his bachelors & masters degrees in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). After completing his studies

at MIT, he returned to India to join the family business, Apeejay Surrendra Group -- one of India's oldest business conglomerates. But as fate would have it, he

relocated to UK in 1966 in pursuit of treatment for his daughter Ambika who was suffering from leukemia. Unfortunately, she died aged four. Later, he set up the Ambika

Paul Foundation as a charitable trust that went on to donate millions to promote the wellbeing of children and young people all over the world through education and health initiatives



The Ambika Paul Children's Zoo in London is one of the major beneficiaries of the foundation

Lord Paul laid the foundation to set up Caparo in 1968 with headquarters in London and it went on to become one of the largest steel conversion and

Today, Caparo, which has a turnover of over \$1 billion, is

managed by his three children - Ambar, Akash and Anjli Paul -- and operates internationally from over 40 sites. serving customers globally, primarily from operations based in UK, North America, India, and the Middle East.

While he was blessed with success in business, his life had a fair share of tragedies. Besides the loss of daughter Ambika at a very young age, he lost his son Angad Paul, who was Caparo Group's CEO in 2015 and his wife Aruna in 2022.

The personal losses drove him to undertake more philanthropic endeavours in their memory

After the death of his wife the Ambika Paul Foundation was renamed as Aruna and Ambika Paul Foundation to honour her memory and to recognise her support and contributions to the many causes which the foundation supported during

He founded the Indo-British Association in 1975 to promote better understanding between India and Britain and served as its Chairman. He was knight ed by the British Queen in 1978 and became Lord Paul of Marylebone and a member of the House of Lords. He was sworn as a Privy Councilor in October 2009.

House of Lords peer Lord Paul was conferred with the prestigious civilian award Padma Bhushan by the Government of India in 1983.

In the Indian business landscape, late Lord Paul is also re membered for his hostile bids to take over Escorts Group and the DCM Group in the early 80s which required the intervention of then government after legal battles.

He was a regular in the annu al 'Sunday Times Rich List', this year he was ranked 81st with an estimated wealth of GBP 2 billion, largely derived from the steel and engineering multinational Caparo Group.

#### **ORPHANED BY FATE, CROWNED BY DETERMINATION**

## **ODISHA'S RASMITA BAGS CANOEING GOLD**

It was the culmination of years of hard work that fetched the 23-year-old top honours when she clocked 53.53 seconds in Srinagar's iconic Dal Lake

at Khelo India Water Sports Festival 2025

INDO-ASIAN NEWS

Srinagar, August Two road accidents had brought devastation in the life of Odisha's Rasmita Sahoo, but her gold medal in the women's 200-metre canoe singles at Khelo India Water Sports Festival 2025 was no accident.

It was the culmination of years of the hard work that fetched the 23-year-old top honours when she clocked 53.53 seconds, ahead of athletes from Kerala and Madhya Pradesh in Srinagar's iconic

Rasmita, who hails from a fishing community of Choudwar, Cuttack, was just nine years old when her father, a fisherman, met with a motor accident in 2011, leaving him critically injured, and their five-member family without livelihood. Four years later.

in 2015, her mother met with

a similar road accident, but, unlike Rasmita's father, she could not battle her injuries and passed away.

This left Rasmita shattered, and the family desolate.

It was not until a friend, who used to swim with Rasmita in the Mahanadi River, suggested that enrolling in the Sports Authority of India's National Centre of Excellence at Jagatpur, Odisha, and training in canoeing, kayaking, and rowing would provide her with a stipend that she took water sports seriously. "We had financial constraints and did

underwent a trial in canoeing and got selected.' Rasmita has never looked back ever since.

not think twice before making

the decision," Rasmita said. "I

Having won a gold medal at a national event, Rasmita became eligible for recruitment in Odisha Police and has now been an officer since 2024, and takes care of a four-member family.

**INDIA IN AN EVENT AND WOULD** DO MY BEST TO **FULFILL THIS DREAM RASMITA SAHOO** 

Recalling her struggles, Rasmita said, "We lived in a shack and my father was not able to earn much as a fisherman, but my career in water sports changed that. Now we live comfortably, and I am building a

house for my family.' She credits Laishram Johanson Singh, the Odisha water sports team coach, for her success. "When I started participating in national-level events, I

didn't have money to travel and diet. My coach used to pay money to me so that I could travel. have good food, and excel at these events," Rasmita said.

She is now preparing for the 2026 Asian Games set to be held in Japan from September 19, 2026, to October 4, 2026. "I want to represent India in an international event and would do my best to fulfill this dream," Rasmita said. "Recently, we practiced in a water body inhabited by crocodiles. I also practiced in the water body, which had a high water flow due to the outlet of the HiraAsian Shooting Championship

## Ela shoots down air rifle gold

Shymkent (Kazakhstan), August 22: Indian shooter Elavenil Valarivan clinched the gold medal in the women's 10m air rifle competition of the 16th Asian Championships here Friday with a characteristically composed performance in the final

The 26-year-old from Tamil Nadu, who has won multiple gold medals in World Cups, shot a score of 253.6 to finish on top in the final and claim her second gold in the continental showpiece. the first coming way back in 2019 when she was honing her skills under the tutelage of Olympic medallist shooter Gagan Narang at his Gun for Glory Academy.

The silver went to China's Xinlu Peng with a score of 253, while Korea's Eunji Kwon (231.2) took home the bronze.

In the skeet mixed team, Abhay Singh Sekhon (65) and Ganemat Sekhon (73) shot 138 in qualification to make the second bronze medal match against Kuwait's Abdullah Alrashidi, a 62-year-old legend of the sport and a double Olympic bronze medallist, partnering Afrah Almohammad.

The Indians prevailed 39-37 in the 48-shot team contest, going into the final station just a point ahead. However, Afrah missed a couple while the other three missed just one of the last four, to give India another senior medal.

Coming back to the women's rifle final, this was Valarivan's first individual podium finish in the ongoing event having won a silver and bronze in the team events previously.

Another Indian in the fray, Mehuli Ghosh, signed off in fourth position after scoring 208.9 in the eight-shooter final. Valarivan had qualified



of 630.7. Ghosh had originally which is not an uncharted ter finished 10th in the event with a ritory for the Indian ace, having score of 630.3 but made the final once achieved the world num as two other higher-placed Inber one ranking in her category dians -- Arya Borse (633.2) and Known for her unwavering Sonam Maskar (630.5) -- stepped focus and mental fortitude un der pressure. Valarivan is nov aside since they were competaiming for glory at next year's

ing only for ranking points. Meanwhile, Valarivan and Mehuli combined with Ananya Naidu (630.0) to win the team bronze in the women's 10m air rifle event with a total score of 1891. China won gold while Korea took silver. Valarivan's medal was only the second senior individual gold for India in the continental showpiece, where the country is topping the charts thanks to a strong showing by its junior shooters.

#### CONSISTENT VALARIVAN

One of India's most consistent woman rifle shooters for some years now, Valarivan has time and again proven her mettle against the best in the world be it in the World Cup, the season-ending World Cup Finals. or the Asian Championship. Currently ranked 11th, she is

DOMINATE

test for the top prize. The trio of Shambhavi Shravan, Hrudya Shri Kondur and Isha Anil won the gold medal in the team gold in the women's junior 10m air rifle competition with a combined total of 1896.2 which is a junior world and

Asian Games but before that

she will want to do well at the

ISSF World Championships,

where she has a team bronze

JUNIORS CONTINUE TO

Harmehar Singh Lally combined with Yashasvi Rathore to

win the gold medal in the junior

skeet mixed team competition

defeating Kazakhstan's Maxim

Basharova 39-36 in the con-

Pochivalov and Lidiya

but no individual honours.

Future of ISL

#### AIFF, FSDL to hold negotiations after SC go-ahead amid crisis



New Delhi, August 22: The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Friday said that it will "endeayour to arrive at mutually agreeable measures" with the Indian Super League (ISL) organisers to enable timely commencement of the event. having got the go-ahead from the Supreme Court to have discussions on the matter.

A SC bench of two judges allowed the AIFF and ISL organisers FSDL to start discussions on the Master Rights Agreement (MRA) and try to find a solution so that the upcoming ISL season goes ahead. The next hearing is scheduled for August 28.

"Pursuant to the proceedings in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India this afternoon, the AIFF will enter into good faith negotiations with Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL) in respect of the Master Rights Agreement that is set to expire on December 8, 2025," AIFF President Kalyan Chaubey said.

"The parties will endeavour to arrive at mutually agreeable measures to enable timely commencement of the 2025-26 football calendar so that the same may be presented for the consideration of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India at the next hearing, i.e., August 28, 2025," he added.

#### **Odisha relay team** sets new meet record



Chennai: On the third day of the ongoing 64th National Inter-State Senior Athletics Championships, Odisha Men Relay team comprising Sarun Payasing, Animesh Kujur, Lalu Prasad Bhoi and Amiya Mallick secured gold medal in 4x100m Relay with new meet record of 39.52 seconds. The old record was 39.88 seconds in the name of Tamil Nadu team in the year 2022.

## Young Tigresses continue winning ways

India beat Bangladesh 2-0 for second straight win in SAFF U17 Women's Championship

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Thimphu, August 22: A dominant India scored once in each half to blank Bangladesh 2-0 and record their second straight win in the SAFF U-17 Women's Championships here Friday, Pearl Fernandes (14th) and Bonifilia Shullai (76th) were the scorers for India, consolidating their top position in the group with six points from two victories. Both sides came into the con-

test with a rich history of rivalry in the competition -- four finals contested, two titles apiece. Yet, the match never truly lived up to the expectations.

India's clinical performance ensured that Bangladesh were always playing catch-up.

From the outset, the Young Tigresses looked focused and alert. Their defence was rock-solid, denying Bangladesh even the faintest sniff of goal. The central defensive pairing stayed compact, while full-backs tracked runs diligently. Whenever the line was breached, goalkeeper Munni was in the perfect position to

With such defensive assurance, the midfielders took charge, spraying passes wide



and keeping Bangladesh constantly on the turn. India's early pressure paid off swiftly.

In the 14th minute, centre-back Divyani Linda made an inspired run from the deep after picking up a loose ball and bulldozed her way through the midfield.

As defenders converged on her, she smartly laid it off to Pearl Fernandes, who had been left unmarked at the edge of the box. Given the time and space, Fernandes unleashed a powerful left-footed effort. Though Bangladesh keeper Yearzan Begum got her gloves to it, she

couldn't keep it out.

India nearly doubled the lead in the 25th minute when Pritika Barman broke down the right and whipped in a teasing low cross. But Fernandes' heavy first touch let the opportunity slip. Bangladesh tried to find

a response mostly through set-pieces. Sauravi Akanda Prity's free-kick landed straight into Munni's hands, while a Mamoni Chakma header from a corner went wide.

Their brightest moment came in the 37th minute when Fatema Akter found herself in

open space at the top of India's box. Her fierce strike was on target, but Munni's positioning was flawless, and she collected the ball safely.

The second half followed a similar rhythm with India dictating possession and Bangladesh defending deep. Although chances were rare. India never looked in danger.

India nearly added a second in the 72nd minute, when Nira Chanu Longjam pounced on a loose ball and let fly from the edge of the box. This time, Begum made a fine save

### Wrestler Kajal wins India's second gold at U20 World Championships

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Samokov (Bulgaria), August 22: Young wrestler Kajal won the second gold at the U20 World Championships while Shruti and Saarika grabbed bronze medals, helping India secure runner-up trophy in the women's event, here Friday. Kajal, the 2024 Cadet world

champion and reigning U20 Asian champion, battle past China's Yuqi Liu 8-6 in a stiff 72kg final. Also cashing on the medal opportunities were Shruti (50kg) and Saarika (53kg). Shruti was in complete con-

trol in the bronze play-off against Germany's Josephine Wrensch, winning 6-0, and Saarika too was impressive, winning by technical superiority (11-0) against Poland's Ilona Valchuk. India's first gold medal

in women's event had come through Tapasva while Reena (55kg), Srishti (68kg), and Priya (76kg) had won silver medals. The women's team won the

runner-up trophy behind powerhouse Japan after securing a total of seven medals. Prince (82kg), though, could

not utilise the opportunity. He lost by technical superiority to Japan's Taizo Yoshida. Anuj (67kg) and Naman

(97kg), though, bowed out early in the day after losing their



qualification rounds.

Anuj lost his bout by technical superiority (0-9) to China's Zhaoyan Liu while Naman was ousted by Croatia's Andrei Rodin. Liu later lost his quarterfinal by fall to shut the repechage door on the Indian.

Naman lost his pre-quarterfinal 1-2 to Rodin to make an exit as the Croat failed to advance to the title clash.

Also making an exit from the competition was Vinit who lost by technical superiority to Egypt's Mohamed Shabaam

Ibrahim in the 72kg competition. Anil Mor (55kg) fought a brilliant pre-quarterfinal bout against Azerbaijan's Turan Dashdamirov but lost 9-9 on criteria. He had won 8-0 against Bulgaria's Yordan Topalov.

## NEUFC seek dominance, Diamond Harbour FC chase history

THE WINNERS OF THE 134TH EDITION OF THE DURAND CUP WILL WALK AWAY WITH A PRIZE MONEY OF ₹1.21 CRORE. THE HIGHEST CHAMPION'S PURSE IN THE 137-YEAR HISTORY OF ASIA'S OLDEST FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, August 22: A dominant NorthEast United FC are standing in the way as giant-killers Diamond Harbour FC look to script history by becoming the first debutant team to win the Durand Cup title here Saturday.

This edition's summit showdown is more than just a title decider, it carries the weight of history on both sides.

For NorthEast United, victory would not only bring them their second successive Durand Cup crown but also etch their name alongside giants of Indian football, as no team has managed to retain the title in the last 34 years. The last to do so was East Bengal, who completed a hat-trick of wins in 1989.

favourites in the final. This is a very psychological who is strong mentally will win the game JUAN PEDRO BENALI I HEAD COACH, NORTHEAST UNITED

1990 and 1991.

For Diamond Harbour, the stakes are equally high. Having already enjoyed a dream run by reaching the final in their very first appearance, the Kibu Vicuna-coached side now stands on the cusp of creating history.

Should they overcome the Highlanders, they would become the first debutant team in the modern era to lift Asia's oldest football trophy.

The clash at the Vivekanan-

the champions who team. We are prepared but starting with humility. Pressure is a privilege. We don't have additional pressure

COACH, DIAMOND HARBOUR FC

da Yuba Bharati Krirangan pits the reigning champions' pedigree and consistency against the newcomers' fearless run. CLASH OF

STYLES The show-CUP FINAL down promises

a fascinating clash of styles. NorthEast United rely on structured build-up, midfield control through Andy Rodríguez and Chema Núñez, and the ruthless finishing of

Ajaraie. In contrast, Diamond Harbour thrive on unpredictability, blending Majcen's hold-up play with Jobby's direct runs

and the midfield work rate of Samuel and Paul.

Defensively, the Highlanders look the more settled, having conceded just four goals en route to the final. But DHFC have shown a knack for timely interventions, with Mirshad between the posts and veterans like Melroy Assisi providing composure when it matters

The Highlanders return to the final for the second successive year, showcasing resilience, discipline, and flashes of brilliance throughout the campaign.

Highlanders' captain Zabaco summed up the mood well.

"We have to be very careful and at our best to win the finals. They have beaten many strong teams," he said.

If NorthEast United's journey has been about defending their crown, Diamond Harbour's story has been nothing short of a fairy tale. Making their Durand Cup debut, Kibu Vicuna's men have torn up the script at every stage and they would not want to stumble at the last hurdle.

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