

MoUs inked to boost global skills & youth employment



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 24: Marking another step towards making Odisha a skilled talent hub, the Skill Development and Technical Education (SDTE) department, in the presence of Minister Sampad Chandra Swain, signed MoUs with three leading organisations here Wednesday.

MoUs with Global Access to Talent from India (GATI) Foundation, JustJobs Network, and the Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI) reaffirms the state's commitment to expanding global opportunities, strengthening evidence-based skill policies, and creating pathways in emerging industries.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Swain said, "Under

SDTE signs MoUs with GATI Foundation, JustJobs Network, and FDDI to boost global skills, research-led policies, and emerging industry training in Odisha

Minister Swain highlighted the initiatives as investments in youth, aiming to create a future-ready workforce for both national and international opportunities

the leadership of our Hon'ble Chief Minister, skill development has been placed at the heart of our journey towards 'Viksit Odisha'. Our youth must be equipped not only for opportunities in our state and country but also to succeed on the global stage."

"These MoUs are more than partnerships. They are investments for the future of Odisha's young people. We are not just creating jobs but we are shap-

ing futures and building the confident, future-ready Odisha of tomorrow," he added.

Partnership with GATI Foundation will prepare Odisha's youth for international markets, positioning the state as a hub of highly-skilled global professionals. Collaboration with JustJobs Network will strengthen research-led, inclusive skilling policies to align aspirations with opportunities and with FDDI (Hyderabad Campus), Odisha will pioneer non-leather footwear skilling, opening new avenues of employment and entrepreneurship in a high-growth sector.

The MoUs were signed by GATI Foundation CEO Arnab Bhattacharya, JustJobs Network founder and executive director Sabina Dewan, and FDDI Hyderabad Campus executive director Narasimhugari TL Reddy.

Officials from SDTE including Commissioner-cum-Secretary Bhupendra Singh Poonia, Skill Development-cum-Employment director and OSDA & WSC CEO Rashmita Panda were present on the occasion.



ENACTING A PLAY: Students from Shailabala Women's College Sanskrit department stage the play 'Vruksha Rakshati Rakshitah' at 'Dasharupakam-2025', a three-day Sanskrit theatre festival organised by 'The Catch' at Bhanjakala Mandap, Bhubaneswar, Wednesday

PIC: BIKASH NAYAK

India Maritime Week 2025 inaugurated

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 24: Paradip Port Authority (PPA), under Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) inaugurated Indian Maritime Week 2025 here Wednesday and organised a roadshow on the theme 'Navigating the Shift of Indian Maritime Sector: From Volume to Vision'.

The event was attended by Industries Minister Sampad Chandra Swain as chief guest, MP Bibhu Prasad Tarai, Industries department additional chief secretary Hemant Sharma and Housing and Urban De-



velopment principal secretary Usha Padhee, alongside industry leaders and stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Swain highlighted Odisha's vision to be India's eastern maritime gateway, aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047. He emphasised shipbuilding, ship-recycling, blue economy opportu-

nities, and inclusive skilling, while assuring state support for Bahuda Port and Kendrapara's shipbuilding initiatives under the 'Viksit Odisha 2036' vision.

Highlighting Odisha's roadmap, Padhee said, "We aim to expand capacity from 80 MTPA to 500 MTPA by 2047 through modernisation, infrastructure

and a proposed Odisha Maritime Board. Women's participation must rise to make growth inclusive." PPA chairman PL Haranadh said, "India Maritime Week, scheduled in Mumbai from October 27 to 31, 2025, would host over 100 maritime nations, 200 speakers, 500 exhibitors, and one lakh delegates.

"The Ministry targets MoUs worth ₹10 lakh crore, with Paradip Port aiming for over ₹1 lakh crore," he added, citing major projects like the proposed Bahuda Major Port (₹21,500 crore), Mahanadi shipbuilding hub (₹24,700 crore), and a cruise terminal at Puri.

NSIC, OYEA host MSME awareness workshop

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 24: The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd (NSIC), in association with the Odisha Young Entrepreneur Association (OYEA), Bhubaneswar, held an awareness workshop on the MSME TEAM Initiative at Gita Govinda Sadan Wednesday, drawing strong participation from micro and small enterprises across the region.

The workshop highlighted NSIC's efforts to empower entrepreneurs through digital platforms and partnerships, focusing on facilitating trade via the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).

Inaugurating the event, Kamal Lochan Nayak, DGM-NSIC, said, "The TEAM Initiative is a step towards making MSMEs digitally empowered and market-ready. By bringing them onto ONDC, we are creating opportunities for growth and competitiveness."

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

Before the Notary Public, Bargarh, Affidavit No.726,dt.12.06.2025 I, Sayara Begum, aged about 27 years, Daughter of Sekh Aslum, Resident of Bargarh, Word No.12, Church gali, P.O./P.S./ Dist.-Bargarh. That, originally my name is 'Sayara Begum' and my actual date of Birth is 27.06.1998 and the same is mentioned in my School Certificate, Birth Certificate, Resident Certificate etc. That, I have been issued with Aadhaar Card bearing No. xxxxxxxx8451 where in my name is inadvertently mentioned as 'Sayara Bibi' in place of "Sayara Begum", So also my date of Birth is mistakenly mentioned as '14.12.1990' in place of 27.06.1998. That, 'Sayara Begum' and 'Sayara Bibi' D/O Sekh Aslum is same and one person.

IDEATE 2025 calls for inclusive leadership to empower women

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar / New Delhi, Sept 24: The Bansidhar & Ila Panda Foundation (BIPF), in collaboration with FICCI, concluded the 14th edition of IDEATE on the theme "Margin to Mainstream: Empowering Women to Lead" FICCI Commission Hall, New Delhi Wednesday.

In her special address, Padma Shri Shobhana Bhartia, chairperson and editorial director of HT Media Ltd, said, "Empowering women is not charity- it is a necessity. A gender-inclusive approach is vital not only for fairness but also for India's economic future. Bridging the gender gap could add nearly a trillion dollars to our GDP."

Speaking on the occasion, BIPF founder & CEO Shaifalika Panda said, "As we move towards a Viksit Bharat 2047, Nari Shakti must be recognised not just as beneficiaries but as architects of change. Empowerment means both agency and access."

In a panel discussion on "Margin to Mainstream: Strategies for Empowerment," chaired by Sara Abdullah Pilot, founder and chairperson of



CEQUIN, speakers discussed key interventions in education, training, and mentorship. Pilot stressed a life-cycle approach to support girls and women at every stage of life.

Other panelists included Vijay Mahajan (Founder, BASIX) and Aradhana Rai Gupta (Co-Founder, Project Baala), with Roshika Singh (IFC India) moderating.

Later, Padma Shri Naina Lal Kidwai (Chairperson, Rothschild & Co India) and KARM Fellow Muskan Kushwaha held a candid conversation on building ecosystems for women's socio-economic independence.

Kidwai highlighted the need for women leaders to become enablers, saying, "Progress will come when both women and men commit to bringing equity and transforming lives together."

Keonjhar man sentenced to life for nephew's killing

Keonjhar: A Keonjhar court Wednesday sentenced Satrugghna Naik to life imprisonment and fined him ₹10,000 for killing his nephew Kamalakant Naik in May 2022. The incident occurred in Talapada village when Kamalakant, after returning home and asking for food, verbally abused his wife, prompting Satrugghna to intervene. An argument escalated, and Satrugghna struck Kamalakant with a stick, leaving him unconscious. Due to lack of transport, he could not be taken to a medical center and died the next morning. Based on the complaint by Kamalakant's wife, the police filed a case, leading to his conviction.

Odisha shines at PM Mementos e-Auction 2025

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi/Bhubaneswar, Sept 24: Odisha is making a mark at the ongoing PM Mementos e-Auction 2025, featuring 21 unique artifacts showcasing the state's rich heritage in textile craftsmanship, mythological art, and metalwork. The e-auction, running until October 2, invites citizens nationwide to bid on memorabilia presented to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Proceeds from the auction will support the Namami Gange Project, a flagship initiative for conserving and rejuvenating the River Ganga.

Among the highlights from Odisha is an exquisite collection of Pattachitra paintings, celebrated for their intricate detailing, vibrant natural colours, and rich mythological narratives. Crafted on traditional canvases and palm leaves, these artworks bring to life legendary tales of Lord Krishna, Radha, and Lord Ganesh, reflecting the state's centuries-old artistic heritage



and storytelling traditions. Each piece not only showcases technical mastery but also embodies the cultural and spiritual ethos of Odisha, preserving a legacy that has been passed down through generations of skilled artisans.

Equally striking is the Silver Peacock Memento, a testament to Odisha's celebrated filigree craftsmanship. The piece captures national symbolism while showcasing the state's exceptional skill in this delicate art form. Another remarkable highlight is the Tussar Silk Painting of Navagunjara, depicting the mythical nine-animal form of Lord Krishna.

This artwork masterfully combines mythology, wildlife, and textile artistry, exemplifying Odisha's unique ability to merge spiritual significance with artistic innovation. Both pieces reflect the state's rich cultural heritage and its enduring tradition of excellence in craft and storytelling.

Organised by the Ministry of Culture and showcased at the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi, the PM Mementos e-Auction 2025 features over 1,300 items, including paintings, handicrafts, tribal art, sports memorabilia, and ceremonial gifts presented to the Prime Minister. Since its

The state presents 21 unique artifacts at the auction, including Pattachitra paintings, a Silver Peacock Memento, and a Tussar Silk Painting of Navagunjara

Proceeds from the auction, running until October 2, support the Namami Gange Project, allowing citizens to own a piece of India's artistic legacy while contributing to a national initiative

inception in 2019, the auction has provided a unique platform for public engagement with India's national heritage while supporting important environmental and cultural initiatives, such as the Namami Gange Project.

Citizens can join the auction by visiting pmmementos.gov.in and placing bids until Gandhi Jayanti, October 2, 2025. Odisha's contribution highlights the state's rich legacy of craftsmanship, spiritual storytelling, and cultural pride, giving bidders a unique opportunity to own a piece of India's artistic heritage while supporting a project of national significance.

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Life hit as rain pounds Sambalpur

Sambalpur Collector Siddheshwar Baliram Bondar Wednesday inspected several waterlogged areas in the city



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Sept 24: Incessant rain during the past couple of days has thrown normal life out of gear in Sambalpur town, submerging several low-lying areas and leaving residents to cope with water entering homes and shops.

Though no loss of life or injuries has been reported, many households and business establishments suffered damage due to inundation. Localities like SIT Colony, Mudipada, Deulabandha, JMJ Hospital, NH-53 and adjoining service road near Anugulipada, Panchgachhia, Bareipali, Budharaja, Pradhanpada,

Lakshmi Talkies, Putibandha, Gumbesingha, Hirakud Colony, Charbati, Saraswat Colony, Chandan Nagar, and parts of Bada Bazaar were badly affected due to severe waterlogging.

Deulabandha residential area in Mudipada was completely submerged after the sluice gate of Dhubijora creek and the railway drain at Balibandha remained clogged for several hours, causing sewage water to backflow into homes.

While rain continued overnight, showers subsided briefly around 9:30am Tuesday, allowing water to drain naturally from some pockets. Meanwhile, with rising

water levels in Hirakud reservoir, 16 gates were opened to release excess water into the Mahanadi system. As a result, drainage channels in Chandan Nagar, Mandalia Jhupudipada, Narasingh Mandir Saheb Bangla area, Kumarapada, Housing Board Colony and Dashamati Colony failed to discharge water into Mahanadi leading to flood-like situation in these areas.

However, waterlogging in some areas subsided after Sambalpur Municipal Corporation enforcement officer Sushant Singh reached Balibandha and the sluice gate at Dhubijora was opened.

Similarly, garbage was removed from a main drain at Charbati near Commissioner Colony, helping the stormwater to recede. In water had to be pumped out in Bada Bazaar, Mandalia Narasingh Temple and Saraswat Colony.

Sambalpur Collector Siddheshwar Baliram Bondar Wednesday inspected several waterlogged areas in the city.

Accompanied by Municipal Commissioner Rohan Khatri and other officials, the Collector

visited Housing Board Colony, Gopalmal, Shantinagar, Phatak Malipada, Putibandha and other localities. He directed authorities to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of residents and their properties.

Bondar said continuous downpour for about seven to eight hours led to waterlogging in several parts of the city as the rainwater could not be drained out immediately. Sambalpur city recorded 180mm rainfall, Dhankauda block 170 mm and Rengali 250 mm. The torrential rain caused water to enter houses in many areas. However, once the rain subsided, water receded from many places.

The Municipal Corporation officials, along with Fire Services personnel, carried out rescue operations in the affected areas. Around 120 people were evacuated and shifted to relief shelters, where they were provided with dry and cooked food, drinking water and other essential supplies.

The Collector said officials on duty have been instructed to maintain round-the-clock vigil on the situation.

Man kills son over family feud

Jajpur: A man allegedly killed his 30-year-old son over a family feud in Jajpur district, police said Wednesday. The incident occurred at Bichhakhandi Sabarsahi village under Jenapur police station Tuesday night. The deceased was identified as Sambhu Nayak. Police arrested the accused, Kanthia Nayak, 55, and seized the weapon used in the crime, an officer said. According to police, Sambhu, a daily wage earner, reached his house in an inebriated state and got into an ugly spat with his father over a domestic issue. In a fit of anger, Kanthia took an axe and hacked his son to death on the spot. Hearing screams, neighbours rushed to the spot and found Sambhu lying in a pool of blood in the courtyard of the house. Kanthia tried to flee after committing the crime but locals overpowered him. He was confined to a room, the officer added. After getting information, a team from Jenapur police station reached the spot and sent the body for post-mortem examination, he said. Kanthia was arrested under relevant sections of BNS and further investigation is underway, he informed.



Woman, 4-yr-old son die of snakebite

Lahunipada: A woman and her four-year-old son died after being bitten by a snake late Tuesday night at Barachhuan in Lahunipada block and Mahulpada police limits of Sundargarh district. The deceased were identified as Tulasi Kohl, 29, and her son Abinash. According to reports, Tulasi along with Abinash, and her two other children slept on the floor after having dinner, while her husband Rath was asleep on a cot. Around 2am, Rath woke up saw a snake attempting to climb onto the cot. He immediately killed it and went back to sleep. After a while, he woke up to find Tulasi and Abinash frothing at the mouth while still lying on the floor. With help from neighbours, he rushed them to the Bonai sub-divisional hospital. Doctors there declared Abinash dead, while Tulasi was referred to the government hospital in Rourkela, where she later died.

Train mows down two minor siblings

Rourkela: Two boys died when they were hit by a passenger train near Basanti Colony in Rourkela, police said Wednesday. The incident took place around 2:30am when they were crossing the railway track, they said. The deceased were identified as siblings Ranjan Patra, 17, and Debendra Patra, 15. The bodies were recovered from the railway track, and have been sent for postmortem, a police officer said.

Chandbali: 500-ft ship anchor chain found

POST NEWS NETWORK

Chandbali, Sept 24: A 500-ft long ship anchor chain was unearthed Wednesday from beneath the ground during an eviction drive in this historic port town of Chandbali in Bhadrak district.

The recovery was made when an earthmoving machine was demolishing encroachments by roadside shops near the old state port office. The chain was later shifted to the tehsildar's office premises.

Tehsildar Bhabatosh Malik and police officials were present at the site during the operation. A large crowd of curious locals was seen having a glimpse of the finding.

Residents and history enthusiasts said Chandbali was once



a flourishing trading port, and the recovered chain likely belonged to a large merchant vessel. They believe more ship parts, anchors and equipment might be buried in the area.

₹ 19L for Dhenkanal Laxmi Puja

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Sept 24: A In a maiden move, the state government has decided to provide a financial assistance of ₹19 lakh for the celebration of Gajalaxmi Puja in Dhenkanal district.

According to sources, altogether 38 medhas (tableaux) in Dhenkanal district will receive

financial assistance from the Odia Language, Literature & Culture department of the state government.

Each medha will be provided ₹50,000, amounting to a total grant of Rs 19 lakh.

This decision aims to encourage and support the traditional and cultural heritage of Gajalaxmi Puja in Dhenkanal.

Woman, daughter killed in mishap

Ghatagaon: A woman and her one-and-a-half-year-old daughter were killed, while her husband was critically injured in a road mishap at Kolimati Kumuda Chhak on National Highway 20 under Ghasipura police limits in Keonjhar district, Wednesday. The deceased woman was identified as Sukuti Munda of Chamui Colony near Naduan under Ghasipura police station and her daughter. Sukuti's husband, Redu Munda, sustained grievous injuries.Redu was returning home with his wife and daughter on a motorcycle from his in-laws' house when a Bolero coming from Ghasipura hit them.

Man gets 20-year RI for sodomising boy

Keonjhar: Additional District Judge-cum-Special POCOS Court Judge Monalisa Mohanty Wednesday sentenced a man of Nambira under Bamebari police station to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) and slapped a fine of ₹2,000 after convicting him of having unnatural sex with a 10-year-old boy. Non-payment of penalty will attract one-year more RI. The boy was going to take a bath in a nearby dam January 5, 2023 when convict Ranjit Sethi, who was also going to the dam, called him and took him to a secluded place where he committed the crime. Ranjit threatened him against disclosing the matter with anyone. However, a friend of the boy, who witnessed the incident, informed the victim's mother, leading to police case.

Dhenkanal papaya makes way to Ireland



PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Sept 24: From an importer to a vegetable exporter, the scenario in agriculture sector is showing signs of transformation with 100 kg colocasia and 320 kg green papaya from Dhenkanal district exported to far-off Ireland, state's Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment department claimed Wednesday.

This success has been possible under the strong leadership of the Directorate of Horticulture under

the Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment department, with the support of the Gates Foundation and the joint coordination by Palladium, a statement issued in this regard maintained.

Dhenkanal's 'Saptasajya Agro Producer Company', which has become a symbol of the collective strength of small and marginal farmers, owes credit for the export of agro produce through the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata.

Saptasajya Agro Producers Company is striv-

ing to build a prosperous agricultural economy, providing fair price to the farmers for their labour and increasing the demand for the state's agricultural products in the global market. This time, by exporting high-quality colocasia to Ireland for the first time along with papaya, this farmer-producer organisation (FPO) has added another milestone to its journey of success. This is not just an export, but an effort to give a global platform to the dreams of Odisha farmers, the statement said.

With continuous efforts in this direction, more than 140 tonne fresh vegetables and fruits have been exported to 10 international markets from 2024 by Palladium under the stewardship of the Agriculture Department. Through this export, the concerned farmers have been able to get 40 per cent to 62 per cent added value of their produce.

This initiative will not only provide fair prices to the farmers but also enable

them to become self-reliant and meet the demands of the global market. This export success has become a source of inspiration for other FPOs and farmers across the state, the statement concluded.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
e-Tender Notice No. 33-SBP-TRD-OT-2025-26, Dt. 17.09.2025
Name of the work: TRD RELATED WORK IN CONNECTION TO THE WORK OF "INTERLOCKING OF 02 LEVEL CROSSING GATES (LJ-06 & LJ-11) IN LANJIGARH ROAD-JUNAGARH ROAD SECTION OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION".
Approx cost of the work: ₹31,25,895.43, EMD: ₹62,500/-, Completion Period of the work: 09 Months.
Date & time of Tender Closing: 09.10.2025 at 1530 hrs.
No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-Tenders, even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration. Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-Tenders is available in website <http://www.reps.gov.in>
The tenderers/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered or IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant papers must have to be uploaded at the time of participating on e-tendering as per instruction.
Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website fifteen days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender.
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD)/ PR-628/Q/25-26 Sambalpur

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया

Bank of India

BOI

Zonal Office: Bhubaneswar Zone, 1/1D, Star House, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Mob.: 7978330922

E-AUCTION SALE OF VEHICLES

Applications are invited from interested bidders for purchase of following vehicles, seized by the Bank on "As is where is", "As is What is" & "Whatever there is" basis as per terms and conditions listed below. This public Notice will be treated as a notice to the Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagors of the loan. They are hereby advised to liquidate their entire dues before the auction date, failing which the vehicles will be auctioned and balance dues, if any will be recovered from them with interest and cost.

Sl. No.	Branch Name / Contact No.	Name of the Borrowers	Vehicle Details	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increment Amount	Parking Yard Details
1.	SAMANTARAPUR / Mob: 9437883406	Mr. Satya Ranjan Pradhan	MARUTI SUZUKI DZIRE ZXI+, Regd. No.: OD-02-BV-1043, Year of Manufacturing: 2021	₹4,48,000/- / ₹44,800/- / ₹5,000/-	M/s. City Investigation & Detective, At/Mouza: Sijua, Khata No.: 158/139, Plot No.: 394/605, Near King Club, PO: Patrapada, PS: Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda, Contact: 9337692882
2.	BIJU PATTNAIK PARK / Mob: 9692218310	Mrs. Priyanka Priyadarshini Jena	CITROEN C3, 1.2 PETROL, Regd. No.: OD-02-CD-9394, Year of Manufacturing: 2022	₹4,38,300/- / ₹43,830/- / ₹5,000/-	

Date of Auction: 30.10.2025 From 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M., E-Auction Portal- <https://baanknet.com>

Last Date of submission of EMD, Application & Documents: 25.09.2025 to 30.10.2025 from 10.00 A.M. to 02.00 P.M.

Terms and Conditions: Interested bidders can inspect the vehicles at the premises of the stock yard as mentioned above on 25.09.2025 to 29.10.2025 from 10.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M.. The successful bidder has to deposit 25% of bid amount within one day after bid is successful and the balance amount within 15 days failing which the money deposited by the successful bidder would be forfeited. The cost of transfer of ownership & statutory dues/all misc. charges, if any is to be borne by the successful purchaser. Successful Bidder is fully responsible for taking delivery of the vehicles from stockyard after full payment is made within a period of 15 (fifteen) days. Vehicles will be auctioned on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" & "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis. However the Bank reserves the right to accept /reject/cancel the auction sale process of the vehicle at its own discretion at any point of time. There will be bidding in the auction and the highest bidder will be declared as successful bidder. For further information & clarification contact: Mr. Rabindranath Behera, Mob.: 7978330922. This is also a 30 days sale notice to the Borrower(s)/Legal Heir(s) of the aforesaid loan accounts for settlement of their outstanding dues with the bank and to participate in the public auction/ e-auction on the above mentioned date.

Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 25.09.2025

Zonal Manager, Bank of India

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया

Bank of India

BOI

Zonal Office: Bhubaneswar Zone, 1/1D, Star House, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Mob.: 7978330922

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice Under Rule 8(6) of security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

(E-Auction) Sale of secured movable / immovable Assets under SARFAESI Act, 2002

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE / IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISIO TO RULE 8(6) / 9(1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Bank of India, the possession of which have been taken by the Authorised Officer of Bank of India, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on Auction Date mentioned hereunder, for recovery of balance due to the Bank of India from the Borrower as mentioned in the table. Details of Borrowers/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor, amount due, short description of the immovable properties and encumbrances known thereon, possession type, reserve price, earnest money deposit and Bid increment amount are also given as under.

Sl. No.	BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrowers/ Co-Borrower / Guarantor/Mortgagor/ Total Dues	Description of the Properties	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increment Amount
1.	ARB, CUTTACK, PH.: 8249067773 / Borrower: M/s. Asian Trading Corporation, Prop.: Mr. Jogendra Swain / Guarantor: Mrs. Sona Swain, W/o: Mr. Jogendra Swain, Both are at HIG-43, Housing Board Colony, Madhuban, Paradeep, Dist.: Jagatsinghpur, PIN-754142 / Total Dues: ₹66,93,991.87 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	All that part and parcel of property consisting of Land and Building situated over Khata No.: 09, Plot No.: 03, Area: Ac.0.25 Dec. i.e. 10,890 Sqft., Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Sandhakuda, P.S: Paradeep, Tahasil/SRO: Kujanga situate within the Registration District of Jagatsinghpur, in the name of Mr. Jogendra Swain, Bounded by North: Govt. Land, South: Road, East: A.K. Lenka, West: Jitendra Swain	₹88,77,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹8,87,700/- / ₹ 50,000/-
2.	SAHID NAGAR BRANCH, PH.: 7008216628 / Borrower: Mr. Sadashiv Palatasingh / Co-Aplicant/ Mortgagor: Mrs. Dhanalaxmi Palatasingh, W/o.: Mr. Sadashiv Palatasingh, Both are at Rev. Plot No.: 1181/1910, Khata No.: 589/1374, Mouza: Pipili Sasan, P.S.: Pipili, P.S. No.: 84, Tahasil: Pipili (Tahasil: No.: 238), Dist.: Puri, Odisha, in the name of Mrs. Dhanalaxmi Palatasingh, W/o.: Mr. Sadashiv Palatasingh, Bounded by East: Sub Plot No.: 12, West: Sup Plot No.: 14, South: Jabar Mohammad & Others, North: Road	Residential Land and G+2 Building pertaining to Plot No.: 1181/1910, Khata No.: 589/1374, Land Area: Ac.0.030 Dec. i.e. 1306.8 Sqft., having Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Pipili Sasan, P.S.: Pipili (Thana No.: 84), Tahasil: Pipili (Tahasil: No.: 238), Dist.: Puri, Odisha, in the name of Mrs. Dhanalaxmi Palatasingh, W/o.: Mr. Sadashiv Palatasingh, Bounded by East: Sub Plot No.: 12, West: Sup Plot No.: 14, South: Jabar Mohammad & Others, North: Road	₹73,35,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹7,33,500/- / ₹ 50,000/-
3.	HARIPUR BRANCH, PH.: 7008788077 / Borrower: Mr. Bibhu Kishor Pradhan, S/o.: Mr. Digambar Pradhan, At: Kukudajhar Sahi, PO.: Haripur, Khordha, PIN-752034 / Total Dues: ₹9,74,663/- + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	Residential Land and Building pertaining to Plot No.: 223, Khata No.: 94, Land Area: Ac.0.040 Dec. i.e. 1742.40 Sqft, having Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Chhotarapur Sasan, P.S.: Banapur (Thana No.: 371), Tahasil: Chilika (Tahasil: No.: 371), Dist.: khurda, Odisha, in the name of Mr. Bibhu Kishor Pradhan, S/o.: Mr. Digambar Pradhan, Bounded by North: Binod Bihari Sahoo, South: Brundaban Maharana, East: Govt. Road, West: Govt. Road	₹10,89,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹1,08,900/- / ₹ 50,000/-
4.	TAMANDO BRANCH, PH.: 7008280080 / Borrower: Mrs. Sulochana Biswal, W/o.: Mr. Santosh Biswal, C/o.: K. Jyotibala Patra, Plot No.: 38/40, Jagannath Vihar, Baramunda, Bhubaneswar, PIN-751003 / Total Dues: ₹42,08,256/- + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	Vacant Land pertaining to Plot No.: 1470/2971/5403, Khata No.: 3288/268, Land Area: Ac.0.021 Dec. i.e. 914.76 Sqft, having Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Nayapalli, P.S.: New Capital (Thana No.: 1), Tahasil: Bhubaneswar, Dist.: khordha, Odisha, in the name of Mrs. Sulochana Biswal, W/o.: Mr. Santosh Biswal, Bounded by East: Rev. Plot No.: 2201, West: Rev. Plot No.: 3616, North: Manoj Kumar Sarangi, South: Road	₹44,02,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹4,40,200/- / ₹ 50,000/-
5.	GOPALPUR BRANCH, PH.: 9007488999 / Borrower: M/s. Harapriya Engineering and Fabrication Work, At: Plot No.: 2273/2985, Tarol, Tangi, Thana No.:45, Cuttack, Odisha-754021 / Managing Partner: Mr. Manas Ranjan Samantaray (Property Owner) / Partner: Mrs. Anitarani Das, Both are At: BN/7, Raja Bagicha Labour Colony, Telenga Bazar, Cuttack Sadar, Cuttack, Odisha-753009 / Total Dues: ₹41,23,235/- + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	All that part and parcel of Land and Building situated over Khata No.: 620/970, Plot No.: 2273/2985, Plot Area: Ac.0.075 Dec. i.e. 3267 Sqft, Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Tarol, P.S.: Tangi (P.S. No.: 72), Tahasil: Tangi-Choudwar, Dist.: Cuttack, Odisha, Standing in the name of Mr. Manas Ranjan Samantaray, Bounded by North: Alekha Swain, South: Babuli Barik & Ranjan Barik, East: Road, West: Ramakanta Biswal	₹50,99,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹5,09,900/- / ₹ 50,000/-
6.	BHUBANESWAR SME BRANCH, PH.: 9937640878 / Borrowers: 1) Mr. Jayasen Sahu, S/o: Mr. Gopinath Sahu, 2) Mrs. Sunita Sahu, W/o: Mr. Jayasen Sahu, Both are Address: Main Road, Athagada Patna, Patharapalli, Ganjam, Odisha-761105 / Total Dues: ₹41,82,404.75 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	Vacant Land situated over Khata No.: 134/21, Plot No.: 205, Area: Ac. 0.160 Dec., Plot No.: 207, Area: Ac. 0.415 Dec., Total Land Area: Ac. 0.575 Dec. i.e. 25,047 sqft. having Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Patharapalli, PS: Kabisuryanagar No.: 86, Tahasil: Kabisuryanagar No.: 107, Dist.: Ganjam, Odisha, Standing in the name of Mr. Jayasen Sahu, S/o: Mr. Gopinath Sahu, Bounded by East: Plot No.: 208, West: Plot No.: 183, 196, 197 & 204, North: Plot No.: 212 & 211, South: Road (Plot No.: 533) & Plot No.: 206	₹16,29,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹1,62,900/- / ₹ 50,000/-
7.	BHUBANESWAR SME BRANCH, PH.: 9937640878 / Borrower: Mr. Prakash Chandra Pradhan, S/o.: Basudev Pradhan / Co-Borrower: Mrs. Kunilata Pradhan, W/o.: Mr. Prakash Chandra Pradhan, Both are At: Baghamara, P.O.: Pahanga, Niali, Cuttack-754004 / Total Dues: ₹33,04,220.23 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.	G+1 Storied RCC Residential Building situated over Khata No.: 219/53, Plot No.: 410/678, Land Area: Ac. 0.150 Dec., i.e. 6534 sqft. having Kissam: Gharabari At Mouza: Baghamara, PS: Gobindpur, Tahasil: Niali, Dist.: Cuttack, Odisha in the name of Mrs. Kunilata Pradhan, W/o: Mr. Prakash Chandra Pradhan, Bounded by East: Kunilata Pradhan, West: Sanjay Biswal, North: Accesible through Govt. Plot No.: 369 (Kissam: Gochar) & Plot No.: 368 (Kissam: Chakanala) to connected village Road, South: Maa Barunei Land	₹34,44,000/- (excluding GST & other statutory dues) / ₹3,44,400/- / ₹ 50,000/-

Date & Time of E-Auction: 30.10.2025 From 11.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. with unlimited extension of 10 (Ten) minutes each.

Last Date & Time for submission of EMD & Documents: 30.10.2025 upto 4.00 P.M.

Inspection will be provided to the prospective bidders on any working day before 29.10.2025 with prior appointment of the authorised officer

***Successful Bidder to deposit 25% of the bid amount by next working day which includes EMD money. The balance amount to be paid on or before 15th Day of confirmation of sale.**

The sale shall be subject to the terms and conditions and provisions prescribed in the SARFAESI Act 2002 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. This is also a 30 days sale notice to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) of the aforesaid loan account for settlement of their outstanding dues with the Bank and to participate in the public auction on the above mentioned date. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://baanknet.com>

Place: Bhubaneswar Date: 25.09.2025

Authorised Officer Bank of India

FOCUS URBAN PLANNING

HIMALAYAN CATASTROPHE



Since its inception in 2000, Uttarakhand has lost 50,000 hectares of rich natural forest, a hundred million-odd trees, to projects such as highways, dams and mines which offer little benefit to the locals

The Himalayan states of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir have been ravaged by floods and landslides this year. It’s a known fact the Himalayas are not only ecologically fragile, but urbanistically vulnerable. Sadly, planners have ignored the terrain, hydrology and the culture of the mountains. The result is there for all to see -- towns expanding without direction, concrete spreading across springs and water heads and infrastructure built as if the land beneath was inert.

The tragedy in Uttarakhand’s Dharali, a popular stopover on way to Gangotri, is still fresh in our minds. At same time, many major centres, including Shimla and Nainital, sit on waterheads. With rapid concentration, rainfall that once soaked into the soil now rushes unchecked over hard surfaces, intensifying floods and landslides. In one of the worst disasters to hit the Doon valley in recent times, around 15 people died in rain-related incidents while a similar number were missing as torrential downpour across Dehradun district was reported earlier last week. It is estimated that over a thousand people have died in such calamities in Uttarakhand in a decade while there has been extensive loss of property.

Despite known environmental risks to the fragile Himalayan terrain, the government has been pushing for construction of all-weather roads or the widening of the existing ones. A major example is that of the Char Dham project in Uttarakhand. Costing Rs 12,595 crore, it aims to upgrade or develop 835 km of national highways linking Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri and Gangotri. Of this, over 600 km have already been completed. Experts believe it’s the most dangerous of various projects and should not have been planned or given green signal.

It’s distressing to note that successive state governments in Uttarakhand aided by the Centre have mounted a savage assault on the hills by constructing poorly designed roads, ill-conceived dams and other large projects that claim to promote so-called ‘development’ which has led to devastation. Since its inception in 2000, Uttarakhand has lost 50,000 hectares of rich natural forest, a hundred million-odd trees, to projects such as highways, dams and mines which offer little benefit to the locals.

There is need to focus on warning systems in place. The absence of an extensive network of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) and real-time monitoring means authorities are often react late, unable to evacuate or alert populations in time. According to a 2020 report by the India Meteorological Department, only 150-odd AWSs are operational across the Himalayan region, far short of the needs dictated by a vast and fragile landscape. The likes of the Char Dham project and the Joshimath eco-tourism corridor focus on infra - roads, highways, embankments, dams, and concrete channels, despite these being ecologically degrading. What takes a back seat is building retention ba-

sins, restoring natural slopes, integrating sponge zones - all of which are needed to absorb, store, slow down water and reduce flood risks.

Scientists have repeatedly warned against the indiscriminate and unplanned construction often directly in the path of potential flash floods, leaving both people and property vulnerable. But state governments have ignored such warnings and allowed construction activities to continue. Importantly, the Supreme Court has taken up cudgels in protecting a fragile ecosystem from the depredations of a fragile state. Recently, it expressed serious concern about the unregulated tourism industry in the Himalayan region, warning a state like Himachal Pradesh might just disappear altogether if infrastructure kept receiving priority over nature. Immediate ameliorative steps must include banning all constructive activity near riverbanks, moving populations away from them and disposing of large boulders and construction debris in a way these are not easily swept by rivers.

Unfortunately, current indications reveal road building in the hills is unlikely to slow down. Under Phase IV of the PMGSY launched last year, 250 habitations are likely to

be connected in the Northeast and other hill areas, indicating road construction shall accelerate in the years ahead. Additionally, unchecked growth of hotels and lodges near riverbanks, shall compound the devastation unleashed during monsoon months.

As has repeatedly been argued urban planning in the Himalayan terrain must account for slope gradient, soil stability and hydrology. But it’s not being followed. In fact, the highways authority has identified over 600 slope failure zones on Himalayan roads. Heavy tourist traffic in Himachal and Uttarakhand adds to the problem. While it can’t be denied that tourism sustains economies, its current form overwhelms fragile systems. In Uttarakhand, the tourist influx rose by more than 60% between 2022 and 2024. Along with Himachal, it struggles to integrate geo-hydrological risks into their master plans. Finally, it needs to be asserted the Himalayas can’t be treated as a land bank for construction.

It’s also important to note the guidelines issued by the Central Water Commission, which monitors 902 glacial lakes between June-October through remote sensing techniques. It stresses integrating glacial lake outburst flood considerations into infrastructure planning and risk reduction strategies. Is the government listening?

Given the topography and soil gradient of the Himalayan terrain, a judicious approach must be adopted. Coordinated efforts across states to implement upstream flood control, forest conservation, and eco-sensitive development are imperative in their desire for development and facilitating religious tourism. Ecological restoration and creation of natural buffers must become standard practices in all development projects. Anything short of this shall invite tragedies.

INFA



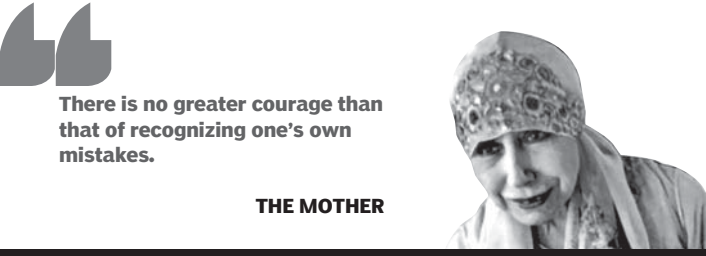
Dhurjati Mukherjee

AS HAS REPEATEDLY BEEN ARGUED URBAN PLANNING IN THE HIMALAYAN TERRAIN MUST ACCOUNT FOR SLOPE GRADIENT, SOIL STABILITY AND HYDROLOGY



Bertrand Badré

Today, tariffs, subsidies, industrial policies, refugee crises, and the new arms race all attest to a world where cooperation has lost its lustre



There is no greater courage than that of recognizing one’s own mistakes.

THE MOTHER

Globalization Is Dead

In November 1985, during their first summit in Geneva, US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev slipped away from the official proceedings to speak privately. Only years later did we learn what they discussed. Gorbachev told the broadcaster Charlie Rose that Reagan had asked him a startling question: “What would you do if the United States were suddenly attacked by someone from outer space? Would you help us?” Gorbachev replied, “No doubt about it,” to which Reagan responded: “We, too.” Although the two superpowers were locked in a nuclear arms race and staring each other down across Europe, they could still imagine uniting against a common existential threat.

Four decades later, humanity finds itself locked in another arms race. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute reports that global defense spending reached a record \$2.7 trillion in 2024 – an inflation-adjusted increase of 9.4% over the previous year. After nine consecutive years of such spending increases, this surge is unprecedented since the end of the Cold War, with little indication that it will slow. Dozens of countries are expanding their militaries, and more governments are making long-term commitments to boost their defense budgets.

The reasons are many, and some are understandable. In addition to Russia’s war in Ukraine, there are rising tensions in East Asia and the Middle East, as well as vulnerabilities in cyberspace and space. But more fundamentally, this escalation reflects the collapse of globalization as we knew it – meaning a rules-based order anchored in multilateralism, open trade, and international cooperation.

It is easy to forget how different the mood was just a decade ago. In 2015 – the high-water mark for the most recent wave of globalization – world leaders delivered three landmark agreements: the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on development financing, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris climate agreement. Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Barack Obama shook hands in Washington, signaling – at least to many observers – that a new era of sustainable, inclusive, and resilient globalization was at hand.

But the resulting optimism proved short-lived. Within a few years, trade wars, nationalist and nativist politics, and geopolitical rivalries had undermined the previous consensus. Today, tariffs, subsidies, industrial policies, refugee crises, and the new arms race all attest to a world where cooperation has lost its lustre. As the French historian Arnaud Orain argues, the “end of history” thesis has given way to a world once again conceived as finite – as a pie to be divided, rather than expanded. According to this mindset, what’s mine is mine, and what’s yours is negotiable.

But the existential threats that inspired Reagan’s thought experiment are still here, and they are more pressing than ever. Climate change, ecosystem collapse, and widening social inequalities endanger us all. They have been thoroughly documented, their consequences are already visible, and strategies to confront them have been elaborated in countless policy documents and experts’ reports. Yet they are perpetually treated as secondary to the immediate fear of aggression by one’s neighbours or rivals.

Future historians – if the profession still exists – will wonder why, in the mid-2020s, Homo sapiens poured unprecedented resources into preparing to fight each other, while neglecting collective action against obvious planetary threats. The sums involved are staggering. The nearly \$3 trillion devoted annually to defense could cover a significant portion of the investments needed to decarbonize our economies, adapt to climate change, and preserve biodiversity.

Instead of extending the cooperative logic of globalization to planetary survival, we are re-engineering it with walls, tariffs, and weapons. Call it “barbed-wire globalization.” Humanity will remain interdependent, but relations will be managed not with common institutions but through spheres of influence. Meanwhile, the planet will recede from political consciousness.

As Sophocles warned, “Evil can sometimes seem good to the one whose mind the gods are leading to ruin.” It is mad to obsess over relative geopolitical power while ignoring the absolute reality of planetary boundaries. If there is to be any hope, we must invent something new: not globalization, but “planetarization” – the recognition that preserving our fragile world is the precondition for everything else. Upcoming gatherings, such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Belém, Brazil, offer opportunities to advance such a perspective, even after this year’s disappointing negotiations to address plastics in our oceans. But the window is closing.

Some will argue that the picture is not so bleak, because humanity is living through an extraordinary period of scientific and technological innovation. Given the progress in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, renewable energy, and advanced materials, why not place our trust in human ingenuity to see us through?

The counterargument is sobering. A century ago, revolutionary discoveries in physics, chemistry, and medicine also promised a golden future, ultimately leading to what the French called the “30 glorious years” after World War II. But before getting there, the world endured a devastating depression, fascism, and a global war waged with those new technologies. The Manhattan Project produced nuclear weapons before the energy contained within the atom had been put to civilian use; the science that gave us modern fertilizer also created chemical weapons.

Today, AI and other breakthroughs may likewise transform society. But if history is any guide, military applications will outpace civilian uses. As ever, we should “follow the money”: defense budgets dwarf climate investments. The danger is not that the technology will fail, but that it will be harnessed first for conflict, not collective survival.

Unlike earlier historical turning points, this one offers no second chances. Resources are finite, the carbon budget is shrinking fast, and planetary boundaries are strained. The choice is stark: Globalization can be reorganized into a militarized array of political blocs, where resources are consumed by trade wars, culture wars, and real wars, or we can embrace “planetarization” and start pursuing strategies to survive together with dignity.

The writer, a former managing director of the World Bank, is Chair of the Project Syndicate Advisory Board.

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WISDOM CORNER

- Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow.

HELEN KELLER
- Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.

DALAI LAMA
- Every blessing ignored becomes a curse.

PAULO COELHO

SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

The pitfalls of fast fashion

Everything is getting ‘fast’ – food, communication, transport and what not. Fast fashion is the latest buzzword that refers to fast production of inexpensive clothing following the latest trends. The materials used in fast fashion are chosen primarily for their low cost, ease of manufacture and ability to mimic more expensive fabrics – the ‘look’ part of ‘look and feel’. Synthetic fibres like polyester and nylon are petroleum-based products that allow producing cheap, durable and stretchy garments but are skin unfriendly, non-biodegradable and shed microplastics in water systems during each wash. Among other types, acrylic is an ersatz for natural and more expensive wool and elastane or spandex based lycra provides comfort when blended with natural fibres like cotton, linen or silk. Mixed fabrics like polycotton, viscose or rayon, generally, outperform natural fibres in retaining the shape apart from cost advantage but often require chemical-heavy processing. These fibres not only leave a heavy carbon footprint during their production cycle or the supply chain, they create a greater negative impact on disposal. The fashion industry accounts for about 10% of the

world’s pollution, second only to the oil industry. Fast fashion accounts for about 10% of global carbon emissions, more than all international flights and maritime shipping combined! The industry produces over 92 million tons of textile waste annually, much of which ends up in landfills or is incinerated and generates 20% of all global wastewater through washing and disposal! Overconsumption of fast fashion is directly or indirectly impacting at least four Sustainable Development Goals in India, namely, Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), Climate Action (SDG 13).

Unfortunately, most fast fashion productions are happening in developing countries across Asia, such as India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, China, Indonesia and Cambodia. The global fast fashion market is projected to grow to \$291.1 billion at 10.7% CAGR between 2024 and 2032. India is hit from all possible sides - production, supply chain and consumption. Regrettably, the proliferation of fast fashion is less triggered by durability or cost advantage – a natural for an impoverished country like

India – but is more influenced by impulse buying to mitigate ‘fear of missing out’ (FOMO). Indian populace has shifted from need-based buying to crave-laden consumption seeking instant delight from purchases rather than delayed gratification. Technologies like Facebook and Instagram Live have been a great stimulant. A recent survey has shown that 57.8% of Facebook users (216 million) have purchased a product on Facebook during a live streaming event. The method of selling via Facebook and Instagram Live is simple. The seller turns on the function of live streaming in public which anyone having Facebook account can join and purchase product during the live sales. The payment is mainly paid by transferring money to the seller’s bank account. Once the seller receives the payment notification, they deliver the ordered product to the buyer via courier. While there is lack of awareness on sustainable practices or poor recycling infrastructure in India, can producers or supply chain components including Facebook and Instagram Live evade all responsibilities? Looking from the production side, average fibre mix of global popular brands like

Shein, Boohoo and H&M contains around 70% synthetics. In 2023, Shein emitted 16.7 million metric tons of CO2, contributing to 20% of global freshwater pollution and 35% of microplastics in the environment. Likewise, other global brands Zara, Fashion Nova, Primark or local brand MM Fashions augment a huge amount of non-biodegradable. They care a little to furnish the details regarding how the products are made, whether materials used are eco-friendly or what happens to returned or unsold items. The online platforms are reticent about pitfall related warnings and even misled by greenwashing. If one adds footwear, accessories, jewellery, purses, and other fashion accessories to clothing, the problem of fast fashion only manifolds. Apart from consumer education and policy interventions, efforts must go into finding out less polluting alternatives or better recycling methods considering the volume of livelihoods the industry generates.

Subhasis Ray, a management consultant, teaches at IISWBM. Srijoni Das is a consulting manager at Cognizant Technology Solutions.



Subhasis Ray & Srijoni Das

THE FASHION INDUSTRY ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 10 PER CENT OF THE WORLD’S POLLUTION, SECOND ONLY TO THE OIL INDUSTRY

Letters TO THE EDITOR

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

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

Undermining science

Sir, This refers to “Dr Trump: US Prez shares unproven medical advice on autism,” Orissa POST, Sept 24. Acetaminophen, also known as Tylenol or paracetamol, is among the most widely used painkillers. Like all other medicines, it should be taken under a physician’s care. But US President Donald Trump has said doctors in the country will soon be advised not to prescribe the pain reliever to pregnant women, linking the drug with autism. Medicines should, indeed, undergo review, and a section of scientists has cited rigorous studies to rule out the links between acetaminophen and autism. Another group of scientists has taken a somewhat more nuanced view on the causes of autism — they argue against singling out a medicine or a vaccine, and instead underline factors such as genetic predisposition and environmental exposure. The problem with the Trump approach is not just the refusal to engage with scientific knowledge. The US President seems to be playing on the legitimate anxieties of the American public over the growing cases of autism to target acetaminophen. Their focus on an unproven link could be a distraction in the fight against the developmental disorder. The clampdown on acetaminophen is the latest in a series of measures that could dent the credibility of American science.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Umpiring legend

Sir, In Harold ‘Dicky’ Bird’s demise the cricketing world and sports in general has lost one of the most legendary and beloved umpires. The Yorkshire county cricket club with which he was closely associated has rightly stated that Bird has left behind a legacy of sportsmanship, personality and joy in the cricketing world that will be remembered for generations. Bird began as a cricketer and later switched onto umpiring and became an umpire par excellence. He officiated in 66 Test matches and 69 One Day Internationals, including three World Cup finals. Bird truly embodied the spirit and soul of cricket and his passing marks the end of an era.

M Pradyu, KANNUR



RAVAN WARS LIGHT UP DELHI DUSSEHRA

TOWERING EFFIGIES, SPECIAL EFFECTS, CELEBRITY GUEST LISTS TURN RAMLEELAS SPECTACULAR IN THE CAPITAL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 24: Several Ramleela committees in the city are competing to make their Ravan effigies stand out in terms of size and special effects this Dussehra.

Some have created elaborate stage arrangements and invited an equally spectacular list of guests, including film personalities and political leaders

With its towering effigies, a magnificent stage, a guest list of film stars and glittering devotional performances, the famous Luv Kush Ramleela at the Red Fort grounds is set to remain one of the biggest attractions in the capital this festival season.

The Luv Kush Ramleela Committee said it will install a 100-foot Ravan, along with a

90-foot Kumbh Karan and an 80-foot Meghnath.

These effigies, being set up at a cost of over Rs 1 lakh, will have mechanical movements and sound effects.

"Our effigies will have moving hands with swords in them and rotating eyeballs that will make look more life-like. We will also play the sound of 'Hey Ram' from loudspeakers," Arjun Kumar, the committee's president, told PTI.

The committee has lined up a glittering cultural programme this year.

In the previous years, popular film personalities including Kangana Ranaut, Prabhas, Ajay Devgn, Akshay Kumar, Rohit Shetty, Vivek Oberoi, Janhvi Kapoor, Arjun Kapoor, Govinda and Hema Malini have performed here, Kumar said.



Several Bollywood personalities have been invited this year as well. The invitation cards have been designed as a tribute to the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force, showcasing their valour and sacrifice, the committee president said.

Kumar said the stage itself will be a spectacle. The committee has constructed a massive Somnath temple replica, which is 150-feet wide and 45-feet high. This was prepared by artisans

from Rajasthan and Gujarat over three months.

The set will be illuminated with special lighting and visual effects to give the audience an immersive experience of Ram's story.

He said preparations were in the final stage, with the use of traditional art as well as modern digital technology. Artificial Intelligence will also play a role in enhancing the visual presentation this year, he added.

The Ramleela Committee, which will erect the effigies at Ramlila Maidan, said it is preparing a 90-foot Ravan, 80-foot Kumbh Karan and 70-foot Meghnath. The committee said it has spent about Rs 2 lakh on the effigies, which they manufactured themselves.

Meanwhile, the Shri Dhar-

mic Leela Committee will present a slightly smaller set -- 80 feet, 70 feet and 60 feet respectively -- at Madhavdas Park near Red Fort grounds.

Built at a cost of Rs 1 lakh, their effigies will be filled with green firecrackers to reduce pollution.

"We have invited the Prime Minister, the President, the Vice-President and other leaders including Sonia Gandhi to our Ramleela event," said Dheeraj Dhar Gupta, who heads the Shri Dharmic Leela

"With such esteemed guests, we also have to ensure strict security arrangements. That is why our effigies are relatively smaller in size. But they will be filled with green firecrackers, the bursting sounds will be played through speakers," he said.

Sports boost for kids with special needs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 24: Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood inaugurated the Special Olympics India National Powerlifting Championship at Maitreyi College Wednesday and announced that the city government will build a dedicated stadium and residential sports facility for children with special needs.

Speaking at the event, organised by Special Olympics Bharat-Delhi in association with the Sports Authority of India and the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Sood said the Delhi government will provide cash awards of up to Rs 15 lakh to winners of Special Olympics events.

"Special Olympics winners will now be honoured with separate recognition and not clubbed under Paralympics. In-



dividual gold medalists will be given Rs 15 lakh, silver medalists Rs 12 lakh and bronze medalists Rs 8 lakh. In team events, winners will get between Rs 20 lakh and Rs 2 lakh depending on their performance," he said.

The minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to reduce GST on sports equipment from 12 per cent to five per cent has provided financial relief to athletes.

"His guidance, along with Chief Minister Rekha Gupta's leadership, will ensure no talented player is held back due to lack of resources," he added.

PAINTING FUTURES

Latur shelter walls come alive with stories, dreams



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Latur, Sept 24: In a bid to ignite a love for learning among underprivileged children, the walls of a shelter home in Maharashtra's Latur district have been transformed into vibrant storytellers.

The walls have become like a canvas of knowledge, covering a wide range of subjects - Marathi alphabets, English grammar and vocabulary,

mathematical applications, the solar system, alongside maps of Maharashtra and India and parts of the human body, the shelter home's founder said Tuesday. Various environmental themes, animals and birds have also been vividly illustrated at 'Majha Ghar', an ashram run by Manus Pratishthan at Budhoda-Wangjewadi in the district, he said.

Cultural knowledge, too, has been woven in, with musical instruments like tabla, harmonium, dholki, and veena painted on the walls to connect children with India's rich artistic heritage, said Sharad Zare, who runs the ashram with his wife.

The walls have transformed into interactive guides, sparking curiosity and strengthening learning. Students now, without teachers, engage more deeply with their lessons, he claimed.

Witnesses can testify virtually in Maharashtra

Govt offices, banks and hospitals notified to facilitate virtual witness statements

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Sept 24: All government and semi-government offices in Maharashtra, including public hospitals and nationalised bank branches, have been notified as 'designated places', where witnesses in criminal cases can record their statements virtually, officials said.

The move is aimed at delivering speedy justice, they said.

Witnesses will also be able to attend online court proceedings from these designated places, a senior home department official told PTI.

Last year, the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was replaced by the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) by the



Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Indian Evidence Act by Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA).

Considering the changes in the system, which expects speedy justice for the victims, the Maharashtra government is preparing the infrastructure to fulfill the needs of the time.

While undergoing changes, the state government has taken steps to adopt modern technology in the criminal justice system, the official said.

Many times, when a witness staying in a village is unable to reach the court in time or the witness is unavailable, the judge gives the next date for

hearing, he noted.

Such things can be avoided in the near future by the use of technology, and the instances of giving the next date for the hearing can easily be avoided, the official said, adding that it will help the victim get justice in a time-bound manner.

Considering the situation, the witnesses involved in any criminal case, who are not able to attend the court hearings physically, can depose through video conferencing (VC) facility, which has been created at the "designated places", he said.

In the new setting, not only the witnesses, but the accused persons, who are on bail, and the police officials will also be able to record their statements through VC from these designated places, he said.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, SAMBALPUR FOREST DIVISION

Near Jail Chowk e-mail id - dfso.sambalpur@odisha.gov.in

Tender No. 03 Dated - 23.09.2025

NOTICE TO INVITE APPLICATION FOR LEGAL EXPERT

No.MM-204 : Sambalpur Forest Division requires qualified candidates with degree in Law (LL.B)/LL.M (preferable) from a recognized university/Institution for temporary engagement as **Legal Expert** for handling forest/wildlife offence cases in this division. The interested candidates are requested to send their C.V (curriculum vitae) and other documents as proof of eligibility for the above post to this office by **10.10.2025**. The selected candidates will be called personally by this office for interview after verification of their curriculum vitae. The interview is scheduled on **15.10.2025 at 11:00 AM** at Chamber of Divisional Forest Officer, Sambalpur Forest Division. Candidates are requested to submit a CV in the mail ID- dfso.sambalpur@odisha.gov.in

The application form along with detail terms and conditions shall be available on the website www.sambalpur.odisha.gov.in from **26.09.2025**.

Sd./- Divisional Forest Officer,
Sambalpur Forest Division

OIPR-08104/11/0025/2526



REGIONAL OFFICE: SAMBALPUR
1st Floor, Balaji Midtown, Budharaja,
Sambalpur - 768004

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

[RULE 8(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES - 2002]
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Union Bank of India, Deogarh Branch** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 (Act. No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices calling upon the Borrowers in loan A/c mentioned below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice plus interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Possession** of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The Borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the **Union Bank of India** for an amount mentioned below & interest thereon. **The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.**

DEOGARH BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrowers	Liabilities Due as per Notice	Demand / Possession Notice Date	Description of Secured Assets
Borrowers: 1) Mr. Sudam Kumar Pradhan, S/o.: Mr. Bengali Pradhan, 2) Mrs. Sumitra Samal, W/o.: Mr. Sudam Kumar Pradhan, 3) Mr. Bengali Pradhan, S/o.: Mr. Harihar Pradhan, All are At: Bhukabeda, Tainsir, Deogarh - 768108	₹ 4,44,592.89 as on 08.04.2025 + Interest & expenses thereon	08.04.2025 / 22.09.2025	Land and Building bearing Khata No.: 36, over Plot No.: 266, Area: Ac.0.04 Dec., Plot No.: 267, Area: Ac.0.08 Dec., Plot No.: 269, Area: Ac.0.08 Dec., Plot No.: 270, Area: Ac.0.14 Dec., Plot No.: 308, Area: Ac.0.06 Dec., Plot No.: 310, Area: Ac.0.05 Dec., Plot No.: 311, Area: Ac.0.01 Dec., Plot No.: 312, Area: Ac.0.01 Dec., Plot No.: 324, Area: Ac.0.04 Dec., Measuring Total Area: Ac.0.51 Dec. , Kissam: Gharabari, situated at P.S. No.: 160, at Mouza: Bhukabeda, District: Deogarh, Odisha - 768108, in the name of Mr. Bengali Pradhan , Bounded by North: Govt Land, South: Ramesh Pradhan, East: Hemanta Pradhan, West: Road

Place: Sambalpur, Date: 24.09.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India

Monsoon exits Delhi early

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 24: The southwest monsoon has officially withdrawn from Delhi and adjoining regions a day ahead of its usual schedule, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said Wednesday.

This marks its earliest withdrawal from the capital since 2002, when the season ended September 20. In 2024, the withdrawal took place October 2, according to the data.

Despite the early exit, Delhi recorded a significantly wet season.

At Safdarjung, the city's base observatory, the seasonal total stood at 902.6 mm -- about 41 per cent above normal.

On a citywide scale, Delhi averaged 736.2 mm of rain, 37 per cent higher than the long-period normal of 536.3 mm. The IMD calculates monsoon rainfall between June and September.

"The southwest monsoon has further withdrawn from Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, parts of Gujarat and Rajasthan, and sections of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir as of September 24," the IMD said.

The capital's seasonal tally was lower than 2023, when Delhi logged 1,029.9 mm, its seventh wettest monsoon on record.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, KALAHANDI
Email : eemikldbpt@gmail.com

e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification Notice No. : SE MID BPT-03/2025-26
Lt No. : 3408 Dt. : 23.09.2025
No.A-670 : The Superintending Engineer, M.I. Division, Kalahandi, District-Kalahandi on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate Bids in Single Cover System through e-procurement to be received in online mode only for the works as detailed in the table below. The bid should be submitted online in the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in by eligible contractors.

1. Name of the work	: Improvements to MIP under M.I. Division, Kalahandi
2. Total No. of works	: 01 (One) No. Only
3. Estimated cost	: Rs.39.64 Lakhs Approximately
4. Class of Contractor	: "C" & "B"
5. Period of completion	: 04 (Four) Calendar Months
6. date and time of availability of Bid Document in portal	: From 10:00 A.M. on 27.09.2025 and up to 5:30 P.M. on 09.10.2025
7. Last date / time for receipt of Bid Document in portal	: Up to 5:30 PM on 09.10.2025
8. Date / Time of opening of Bid	: From 11:00 A.M. on 10.10.2025 At O/o M.I. Division, Kalahandi, Bhawanipatna
9. Name and Address of Tender Inviting Officer	: Superintending Engineer, M.I. Division, Kalahandi, Officer inviting the Bid
10. Mode of Payment of Bid cost and Bid security	: Online
11. Date of Lottery (If required)	: On 15.10.2025 at 11.00 A.M.

Sd./- Superintending Engineer
M.I. Division, Kalahandi

OIPR-32531/11/0002/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
KEONJHAR IRRIGATION DIVISION, KEONJHAR
Notice Invitation of Tenders
e-Procurement Notice No. - 05 (NCB) / 2025-26 on dated 24.09.2025
Email Id : eekjrirrdv@gmail.com

1 Nature of the work	: Instruments
2 No. of Works	: 1 (One) no
3 Value of Works	: Rs. 21.18 lakhs
4 Tender paper cost	: Refer to Table-1
5 EMD/Bid Security	: Refer to Table-1
6 period of Completion	: Refer to Table-1
7 Class of Contractors	: Refer to Table-1
8 Procurement officer	: Executive Engineer, Keonjhar Irrigation Division, Keonjhar
9 Bid Identification No.	: KIDN-07/2025-26
10 Availability of Tender for Online Bidding	: From 11.30 A.M. Dt.26.09.2025 to 5.00 P.M. Dt.14.10.2025
11 Date and Time for Tender Opening	: Dt.15.10.2025 @ 11.30 A.M. onwards in O/o the Executive Engineer, Keonjhar Irrigation Division, Keonjhar
12 Date and Time for seeking clarification	: Dt.26.09.2025 @ 11.30 A.M. to Dt.08.10.2025 @ 5 P.M. in O/o the Executive Engineer, Keonjhar Irrigation Division, Keonjhar

The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal : www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tenders can be seen from the above portal.

Sd./- Executive Engineer
Keonjhar Irrigation Division
Keonjhar

OIPR-32476/11/0024/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
GANJAM (R&B) DIVISION NO.II, BERHAMPUR
Phone/Fax : 0680-2233996, e-mail : sernb2.ganjam@gmail.com
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) [e-Procurement]

TENDER CALL NOTICE
Bid Identification No. SC (R&B)-GM-II-15/2025-26 No.8368 Dated.16.09.2025

1) The Superintending Engineer, Ganjam (R&B) Division No.II, Berhampur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **percentage rate bid** in single cover system to be received in **ONLINE MODE** only for the work as detailed below :

2) Nature of Work : Electrical work
3) No. of work : 09 Nos.
4) Tender Cost : Rs.6,000/-
5) Class of Contractor : Authorised dealer / Distributor (specialized agency for fire work must with MOU with ELBO) Electrical Contractor
6) Availability of bid documents in the website : From 23.09.2025 10:00 A.M. to 10.10.2025 4:00 P.M.
7) Date of opening of Bid : 13.10.2025 at 11.30 A.M.
8) The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website <https://tendersorissa.gov.in>

Sd./- S. Panigrahi
Superintending Engineer
Ganjam (R&B) Division No.II

OIPR-34080/11/0032/2526

Government of Odisha "e" procurement Notice
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
KORAPUT (R&B) DIVISION, KORAPUT
Bid Identification No. S.E (R&B)KPT - 14/2025-26

1. Name of the work : **Building works**
2. Total No. of works : **03 Nos.**
3. Estimated cost : **Rs.58.89 to 89.68 Lakhs**
4. Period of completion : **06 (Six) Months to 07 (Seven) Months**
5. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal : **From 26.09.2025 at 11.00 hours to 10.10.2025 upto 17.00 hours**
6. Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal : **10.10.2025 upto 17.00 hours**
7. Date of opening of Tender : **13.10.2025 at 12.00 hours**
8. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Superintending Engineer, Koraput (R&B) Division

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal
<https://tendersorissa.gov.in>

Sd./- Superintending Engineer
Koraput (R&B) Division

OIPR-34096/11/0031/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
GANJAM (R&B) DIVISION NO. I, BERHAMPUR
Phone / Fax : (0680) 2233683, e-mail : sernb1.ganjam@yahoo.com

"e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. SE R&B Divn. No.I Bam. 13/2025-26
Lr. No. 11142 Dated : 18.09.2025

Name of work : Building work
No. of works : 01 (One) No
Estimated Cost : Approximately Rs.69.26 Lakh
Period of Completion : Four Calendar months
Date and time of Availability of bid document in the portal : From 10.00 hours of 25.09.2025 to 16.00 hours of 09.10.2025
Last date / time for receipt of bids in the portal : Upto 16.00 hours of 09.10.2025
Name and address of the Officer inviting Bid : Superintending Engineer, Ganjam (R&B) Division No.I, Berhampur

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal
<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>

Sd./- Superintending Engineer
Ganjam (R&B) Division No.I
Berhampur

OIPR-34109/11/0047/2526

Department of Telecommunications
Ministry of Communications
Government of India

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya
Telecom Excellence Award 2025
Inviting Applications

The Department of Telecommunications (Ministry of Communications, Govt of India) invites online nominations for **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Telecom Excellence Award 2025** from the citizens of India and organisations/institutions registered in India or created by the Central/ State governments/ Union Territories for their notable and exceptional contributions in the area/ areas of Telecom Innovations, Telcom Skilling, Telecom Services, Telecom Manufacturing, or Telecom Applications in deploying telecom dependent sectoral solutions for different fields such as agriculture, commerce, health, education etc. Preference shall be given for the works done in rural / remote areas and aspirational districts.

2. Each Award shall carry a shawl, citation/ plaque and a cash amount of rupees Two Lakh per awardee. Not more than five Awards shall be given, subject to suitable candidate/s being selected by the Award Committee.

3. The awardees will be reimbursed airfare towards travelling to/from his place to the station where the Award Function is held and will also be paid a lump sum amount of 7500 Rs. towards incidental expenses.

4. **Applications can be submitted online at National Award Portal, i.e., <https://www.awards.gov.in>.** The last date of receipt of nominations is 30th October, 2025 up to 23:59 hours.

5. For more details, please refer the 'Regulations' at the website <https://www.awards.gov.in>

For more information please contact :
Director (SD), DOT, Room No 201, 2nd floor, Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Old Minto Road, New Delhi- 110002,
Mobile: 9414001442, email : dirdsde-dot@gov.in

cbc 06201/11/0001/2526

international

of the day quote

The positive part of this is that I woke up happy, I woke up hopeful. Because again the country respected the great majority of Costa Ricans who clamor to erase the historic error of some who tried to intimidate the president of the republic, and as a result, the enormous majority of the people who support me

RODRIGO CHAVES | PRESIDENT, COSTA RICA

In South Asia, we consider the preservation of peace and stability to be of utmost importance. We are pleased with the ceasefire achieved following the tensions last April between Pakistan and India, the tension which had escalated into a conflict

TAYYIP ERDOGAN | PRESIDENT, TURKEY

Our international order is being slowly eroded by the irresponsible actions of those who should know better. The world is turning into a much more dangerous place. We have seen this before

GITANAS NAUSEDA | PRESIDENT, LITHUANIA

SHORT TAKES

Shehbaz to meet Trump today

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will travel from New York to Washington to meet US President Donald Trump Thursday, as the two sides made a renewed push to reset their bilateral relations. Shehbaz, who is in New York to attend the UN General Assembly session, had an "informal exchange" with Trump Tuesday after a dialogue between the President and leaders of eight Islamic-Arab countries, including Pakistan, the foreign ministry said. The Prime Minister will briefly travel from New York to Washington to meet President Trump, The Express Tribune newspaper reported Wednesday, citing diplomatic sources. He will return to New York on the same day to continue his UNGA engagements, it added.

2 killed, another hurt in Dallas ICE facility

Dallas: A gunman who wrote "ANTI-ICE" on an unused bullet killed two detainees and wounded another Wednesday at an Immigration and Customs Enforcement field office in Dallas before taking their own life, officials said. FBI Director Kash Patel posted a photo on X of what he said were the suspect's unspent shell casings that showed one with the words "ANTI-ICE" written along the side. "While the investigation is ongoing, an initial review of the evidence shows an ideological motive behind this attack," Patel wrote. In a statement, the Department of Homeland Security said the suspect fired "indiscriminately" at the ICE building, including at a van in the building's secured entryway where the victims were shot.

Syrian Prez addresses UN after 6 decades

United Nations: Turning the page on decades of distance, Syria's President Ahmad al-Sharaa addressed the UN General Assembly, marking the first time any Syrian president has done so in almost 60 years. "Syria is reclaiming its rightful place among the nations of the world," he told the assembly's annual gathering of world leaders. The Assad family dynasty's autocratic, repressive 50-year rule in Syria abruptly collapsed in December, when then-President Bashar Assad was ousted in a lightning insurgent offensive led by al-Sharaa.



It is necessary to make every effort to maintain the overall social stability of Xinjiang. Build a solid people's defence line against terrorism ... and guide cadres and people of all ethnic groups to establish a correct view of the country, history, ethnicity, culture and religion

XI JINPING | PRESIDENT, CHINA

TRIO OF SPACE WEATHER SATELLITES BLAST OFF TOGETHER

A cluster of space weather satellites blasted off Wednesday morning to cast fresh eyes on solar storms that can produce stunning auroras but also scramble communications and threaten astronauts in flight. The three satellites soared from Kennedy Space Centre shortly after sunrise on the same SpaceX rocket



Trump's Ukraine shift mistaken: Kremlin

REUTERS

Moscow, Sept 24: The Kremlin Wednesday flatly rejected what Donald Trump said was the rationale behind his rhetorical U-turn on the war in Ukraine, saying it appeared that the US president had been influenced by Ukraine's leader and was mistaken.

In an abrupt shift in Ukraine's favour, Trump said Tuesday after meeting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that he believed that Kyiv could recapture all of its land taken by Russia - which controls around one-fifth of the country - and that it should act now, with Moscow facing economic problems.

The Trump flip-flop was seen by some Russian nationalists as a sign he was washing his hands of the war in Ukraine after his unsuccessful attempts to broker a quick peace deal, noting he had not promised any more US help to Kyiv but had rather placed the onus on Ukraine and the European Union.

The Kremlin, which says it is keen for better ties with Washington, countered that the Russian economy was stable, despite some problems caused by Western sanctions, and that Russian forces' slow but steady advance in Ukraine was part of a deliberate strategy, with Kyiv, not Moscow, on the back foot.

"As far as we understand, President Trump's statements were made after communicat-



- Kremlin says Trump is wrong on army and economy
- Says Russia's top diplomat will update US Wednesday
- Kyiv, not Moscow, is struggling on battlefield, Kremlin says
- Nationalists believe Trump is washing hands of Ukraine

ing with (Ukrainian President) Zelenskyy and, apparently, under the influence of a vision set out by Zelenskyy. This vision contrasts sharply with our understanding of the current state of affairs," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"The fact that Ukraine is being encouraged in every possible way to continue hostilities and the argument that Ukraine can win something back is, in our view, a mistaken argument. The dynamics on the front lines speak for themselves," he said.

Though Russia has continued to grind forward in many areas, it has not made a major breakthrough in Ukraine for some time. Dmitry Rogozin, a nationalist Russian senator,

said he believed that the front lines were at an impasse, as parity in equipment, training and morale stalled momentum on both sides.

RUSSIA REJECTS TRUMP'S 'PAPER TIGER' COMMENT

Peskov said Russia's macro-economic situation was stable, though data released by the Russian economy ministry Wednesday showed that the GDP growth forecast for this year had been cut to 1% from 2.5%.

The finance ministry proposed raising value-added tax to fund military spending.

I think, you know, President Trump has shown he is racist, he is sexist, he is misogynistic and he's Islamophobic.

ZELENSKY TELS UN: STOP RUSSIA'S WAR OR FACE DESTRUCTIVE ARMS RACE

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called on world powers Wednesday to work together to stop Russia's war in his country, accusing Russian President Vladimir Putin of



A massive sinkhole opens in Samsen Road near Vajira Hospital, in Bangkok, Thailand, Wednesday

PTI PHOTO

Prez Paudel issues ordinance related to voter name list

Kathmandu: President Ramchandra Paudel Wednesday issued an ordinance related to an amendment to the voter registration act paving the way for names of new voters to be registered ahead of the March 2026 general election. The development comes after Prime Minister Sushila Karki met President Paudel to discuss matters relating to the timely conduct of the general elections. The President has issued the ordinance Wednesday in accordance with section (1) of Article 114 of the Constitution of Nepal based on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers, according to a source at the President's Office. The amendment to the Voter Registration Act, 2073 Bikram Samvat will pave the way to register the names of new voters for the upcoming election scheduled to be held March 5, 2026. Karki's meeting with President Paudel at the President House, Sheetal Niwas, came a day after the prime minister discussed preparations for the general election with the Election Commission (EC) officials here. "During the meeting with Paudel, Karki discussed the current political and security situation, the upcoming House of Representatives election March 5, 2026 and the security situation prevailing in the country," a source close to the President's Office said.

Scientists discover new dinosaur with crocodile bone in mouth

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Sept 23: Scientists have discovered a new dinosaur from Argentina with powerful claws, feasting on an ancient crocodile bone.

The new find was possibly 23 feet (7 metres) long and hailed from a mysterious group of dinosaurs called megaraptorans. They prowled across what's now South America, Australia and parts of Asia, splitting off into different species over millions of years.

Megaraptorans were known for their stretched-out skulls

and "huge and very powerful claws," said Lucio Ibiricu with the Patagonian Institute of Geology and Paleontology, who was part of the discovery team.

But it's not yet clear how these creatures hunted and where they fall on the evolutionary timeline — mainly because the fossils recovered so far were incomplete.

In a new study, researchers said they uncovered part of a skull as well as arm, leg and tail bones from the Lago Colhué Huapi rock formation in Patagonia. They noticed



unique features in the bones that made them realize this

could be a new species. This latest member of the

Typhoon Ragasa bears down on southern China after killing 17 in Taiwan



REUTERS

Hong Kong/Shenzhen, China, Sept 24: Typhoon Ragasa, the world's most powerful tropical cyclone this year, struck the southern Chinese city of Yangjiang Wednesday after killing 17 people in Taiwan and lashing Hong Kong with ferocious winds and heavy rains. The typhoon was tracking towards Maoming, one of China's biggest oil refining cities, in Guangdong province.

In Taiwan, 17 people were missing in the eastern Hualien county after a barrier lake overflowed and sent a wall of water into a town, while Ragasa brought Hong Kong to a standstill.

More powerful typhoons are likely to hit southern China due to climate change, said Benjamin Horton, dean of the School of Energy and Environment at the City University of Hong Kong, after a summer of record-breaking rainfall.

"The weather experienced in Hong Kong this summer is only a taste of what is to come," Horton said.

GUANGDONG GIVEN RED STORM SURGE WARNING

Officials in Taiwan are used to moving people out of potential danger zones swiftly as the island is frequently hit by typhoons, but many residents in the tourist town of Guangfu said they were given insufficient warning when a lake overflowed during Tuesday's torrential rains brought by Ragasa.

In Hong Kong, where huge waves crashed over areas of the Asian financial hub's eastern and southern shoreline, some roads and residential properties were submerged.

At the Fullerton Hotel on the island's south, videos on social media showed seawater surging through glass doors. No injury has been reported,

■ 17 people dead in Taiwan, 17 missing after lake overflows

■ Roads, beaches, hotel flooded in Hong Kong

■ Hundreds of south China flights cancelled, shelters opaeen

■ Ragasa to hit China's Guangdong Province

the hotel told Reuters.

China's marine authority issued its highest red wave warning for the first time this year, forecasting storm surges of up to 2.8 metres (9 feet) in parts of Guangdong province, as Ragasa headed towards the densely populated Pearl River Delta.

It has since weakened, but was still powerful enough to bring down trees and power lines.

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN STORM'S PATH

After passing around 100 km (60 miles) south of Hong Kong, Ragasa made landfall along the south Chinese coast. Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Foshan and Dongguan, the largest cities in the storm's path, are home to around 50 million people.

More than 2 million people have been evacuated across Guangdong and the ministry for emergencies dispatched tens of thousands of tents, folding beds, lighting equipment and other rescue supplies, Chinese state media reported.

Some shops and restaurants in the province parked large rented trucks in front of storefronts in a bid to shield them from the storm, local media reported.

A crowd chasing the storm under Shenzhen Bay Bridge was moved on by traffic police.

China's marine authority warned of a high risk of flooding in Shenzhen, especially in low-lying areas, with a storm surge alert expected to remain in effect until Thursday.

France's town halls told to remove Palestinian flags

REUTERS

Nanterre, France, Sept 24: As French President Emmanuel Macron recognised Palestine statehood earlier this week, dozens of town halls across France hoisted the Palestinian flag in celebration - defying instructions by Macron's interior ministry not to do so.

By Wednesday, some had taken the flag down after regional authorities initiated legal proceedings - an episode which some mayors said undermined the message of solidarity Macron sought to make with his largely symbolic recognition.

"For me it's a complete misunderstanding," Raphael Adam, mayor of Nanterre outside Paris, told Reuters. "You can't have a government asking its representatives to oppose raising a flag at the same time it's recognising the state."

The city raised the flag in a ceremony Monday but a day later, the Nanterre administrative court ruled it should be removed after the city defied an order by the regional representative, known as the prefect, to take it down.

Under French law, public buildings cannot be used as platforms for expressing polit-



ical, religious or philosophical opinions. Local officials noted, however, that Ukrainian flags have been displayed and even projected on the Eiffel Tower.

"When we raised a Ukrainian flag, no one told us anything!"

said Gilles Poux, mayor of La Courneuve, northeast of Paris, who planned to take down the flag late Tuesday after his administration was fined for flying one earlier this year.

"Speaking of neutrality is hypocritical. Liberty, equality, fraternity: there's nothing neutral about these values," he said.

Asked about the allegations of double standards, the interior ministry told Reuters the Gaza war had provoked protests and tensions in France, and that displaying Palestinian flags on public buildings could trigger public unrest.

Unbeaten India storm into final

ABHISHEK, SPINNERS HELP MEN IN BLUE BEAT BANGLADESH BY 41 RUNS, REACH ASIA CUP SHOWDOWN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dubai, Sept 24: Abhishek Sharma's scintillating 75 was beautifully complemented by Kuldeep Yadav and Varun Chakravarthi as India comfortably hammered Bangladesh by 41 runs to enter the Asia Cup final here Wednesday.

Despite a mediocre batting show that limited India to 168 for six in their second Super 4 match, Bangladesh's batting never had the wherewithal to chase down a gettable total and were bowled out for 127 in 19.3 overs.

Opener Saif Hassan (69 off 51 balls) did his bit with some lusty hitting but most of the other batters failed to even reach double digits. Having said that, Saif was lucky to get as many as five reprieves.

Kuldeep Yadav's (3/18 in 4 overs) craft was too much for them to decode while Varun Chakravarthi (2/29 in 4 overs) also got his share of wickets on a day when Axar Patel (1/37 in 4 overs) was blasted for four sixes.

Jasprit Bumrah (2/18 in 4 overs) also had a good day in office. While some of the other Bangladeshi batters didn't measure up, right-handed Saif muscled the likes of Axar and Chakravarthi for five huge sixes to keep his team interested but had no support at the other end. Earlier, Abhishek Sharma



blended power with copious amount of grace to smash a 37-ball-75 before indiscreet cricket from the other batters restricted India to a par 168 for six.

Abhishek, who is in the middle of a dream phase, hit six fours and five huge sixes in his sizzling effort.

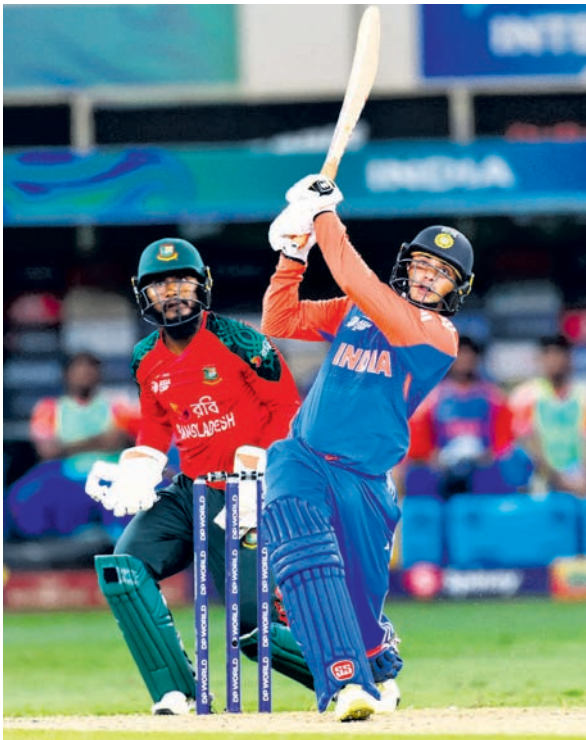
He looked good for a century but a fantastic one handed stop and quick action throw

Big clash loading: Thursday's Super 4s game between Bangladesh and Pakistan is a 'virtual semi-final' and will decide India's opponent in the summit clash. If Bangladesh's batting show is any indicator, a third mouth-watering India versus Pakistan contest for the biggest continental prize is very much on the cards

from Rishad Hossan stationed at short third-man sent him back to the dugout.

At the other end, Indian batters played some poor strokes--whether it was Shubman

Gill, Tilak Varma or skipper Suryakumar Yadav, who was caught brilliantly down the leg-side by stand-in captain and keeper Jaker Ali. Team management's inabil-



ity to fit Sanju Samson was apparent as he couldn't be fitted into the top seven.

Having scored 96 in first 10, India managed only 72 in next 10 overs with Axar Patel (10 off 15 balls), promoted ahead of Samson, looking out of place.

Bangladesh's most experienced T20 bowler Mustafizur was greeted by Abhishek with a six over long-on that landed

near the Indian dugout and bounced into the middle tier.

BRIEF SCORES

India: 168/6 in 20 overs (Abhishek Sharma 77, Shubman Gill 29, Hardik Pandya 38) beat **Bangladesh:** 127 all out in 19.3 overs (Saif Hassan 69; Kuldeep Yadav 3/18, Varun Chakravarthi 2/29, Axar Patel 1/37) by 41 runs

SHORT TAKES

Suryavanshi shines

Brisbane: Powered by standout batting performances from Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Vihaan Malhotra, and Abhigyan Kundu, along with skipper Ayush Mhatre taking a three-fer, India clinched an unassailable lead in the Youth ODI series against Australia with a commanding 51-run victory at the Ian Healy Oval here Wednesday. Pushed into batting first, Kundu top-scored with 71 off 64 balls, while Suryavanshi and Malhotra hit knocks of 70 each for India to post 300 in 49.4 overs. The innings also saw Suryavanshi break the record for most sixes in Youth ODIs, surpassing Unmukt Chand's tally of 38. Suryavanshi, 14, now has 41 sixes from just 10 innings, after establishing himself as the youngest and fastest centurion in Youth ODIs earlier this year.

Shreyas takes break

New Delhi: Ignored by the selectors for the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy series and put in charge of the India A team, middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer has reportedly requested a break from red-ball cricket, ruling himself out of the upcoming two-match home Test series against the West Indies. The decision came shortly after Iyer stepped down as India A captain and left the Lucknow camp midway through the ongoing series against Australia A. According to reports, Iyer informed the BCCI that he is unable to play four or more consecutive days due to recurring physical issues.

Ashwin to join Big Bash

New Delhi: Indian off-spin veteran Ravichandran Ashwin is reportedly set to join Sydney Thunder for the upcoming Big Bash League, becoming the first highest-profile Indian player to feature in the Australian T20 tournament. On Tuesday, the 39-year-old, who recently retired from international cricket and the IPL, listed himself in the ILT20 auction with a base price of \$120,000, the highest for any player. He will join the Thunder after the ILT20 concludes in early January, playing alongside David Warner and Sam Konstas, according to Fox Sports.

Tiafoe smashes racket

Tokyo: Frances Tiafoe smashed his racket as he lost to qualifier Marton Fucsovics in the first round of the Japan Open Wednesday, while Denis Shapovalov also suffered an upset loss. The eighth-seeded Tiafoe struggled with his first serve in a 3-6, 6-1, 7-5 loss to Fucsovics and smashed his racket against the court surface just after the Hungarian sealed victory with a forehand winner. Tiafoe has slipped to 29th in the rankings. It was the fourth consecutive loss for the American.

Bhubaneswar Tigers enter semis

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Sept 24: The rain-delayed match between Rourkela Steelers and Bhubaneswar Tigers was reduced to 15 overs per side. Bhubaneswar Tigers defeated Rourkela Steelers by 5 wickets with 20 balls to spare, thereby sealing their berth in the semifinals of the Odisha Pro T20 League 2025 at the Barabati Stadium Wednesday.

Chasing a target of 92, Satyakam Bharadwaj and Gaurav Choudhary opened the innings for Bhubaneswar Tigers. Despite an early setback with the score at 5, Satyakam anchored the chase with a brilliant unbeaten knock of 65 runs off 34 deliveries, guiding his team to victory. The Tigers reached 92/5 in 11.4 overs.

For Rourkela Steelers, Pradeep Pradhan (2/24) and Asutosh Marndi (2/17) were the only wicket-takers.

After winning the toss, Bhubaneswar Tigers chose to bowl first. For Rourkela Steelers, Akash Mohapatra and Aashirwad Swain came to open the innings. Aashirwad made



22 in 17 balls. Swoop Bhuyan remained the top scorer for his side as he remained unbeaten on 31* in 18 balls. Saswat Mohanty made a valiant contribution of 16 in 17 balls to help his team post a total of 91/8 at the end of 15th over.

For Bhubaneswar Tigers, Debabrata Pradhan(2/15), Suryakant Pradhan(2/13) and Badal Biswal(2/15) picked two

wickets each in the innings. Jayanta Behera(1/26) and Subham Priyadarshi(1/16) grabbed one wicket each in the innings.

Player of the Match Satyakam said, "This was a do or die match for us. I used to bat in lower order. But today we had a different plan and executed it quite well to register a win."

DEFYING ALL ODDS

Afghan women's refugee team ready for int'l debut



REUTERS

Zurich, Sept 24: The Afghan women's refugee team will take the field for the first time in an international tournament when they compete in a four-team friendly competition in the United Arab Emirates next month, world governing body FIFA said Wednesday.

The team's creation stems from the Taliban's ban on women's sports following their takeover of Afghanistan in 2021, prompting players to flee the country fearing persecution.

The "FIFA Unites: Women's Series" tournament will run from October 23-29 in Dubai and feature the nearly-formed Afghan refugee squad alongside the UAE, Chad and Libya's regular teams.

"Ensuring that all women

have access to football is a priority for FIFA and a key element in shaping the future of our sport," FIFA president Gianni Infantino said in a statement.

"We are aware of the potential the game has both on and off the pitch. These friendly matches represent more than just a competition; they are a symbol of hope and progress for women all over the world."

HIL AUCTION

Kalinga Lancers pick three Indians, 4 overseas players

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 24: Australian duo of Liam Henderson and Cooper Burns emerged as Vedanta Kalinga Lancers' costliest buy as the side added three Indians and four overseas players to its squad ahead of the new Hockey India League (HIL) season scheduled in January 2026.

Henderson and Burns were bought for 42 lakhs and Rs 34.5 lakhs respectively.

Kalinga Lancers began proceedings by acquiring Australian goalkeeper Snowden for ₹10 lakh. The 24-year-old made his senior team debut earlier this year and was part of Australia's recent Oceania Cup title-winning team.

The franchise then picked up local talent Amit Kumar Toppo at his base price of Rs. 2 lakh. He was a member of Odisha's maiden title-winning team at the Senior Hockey National Championship last year.

After a competitive bidding war with Delhi SG Pipers, the Lancers secured Australian forward Burns, 23, who was named Most Valued Player in Hockey Australia's League. He made his senior team debut in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2024-25.

KOREA MASTERS

Shuttlers bow out easy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Suwon, Sept 24: HS Prannoy's campaign ended in disappointment as he retired hurt due to an injury, while Ayush Shetty also bowed out as India's challenge at the Korea Masters Super 500 concluded on the opening day of the main draw here Wednesday.

Prannoy, 33, was trailing 5-8 against Indonesia's Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo when he suffered an injury after playing a cross-court smash and clutched his right ribs. After taking a medical timeout, he

resumed play but appeared uncomfortable and was forced to retire at 8-16.

Ayush Shetty, the only Indian to claim a BWF title this season at the US Open Super 300, was outplayed by Chinese Taipei's Su Li Yang 18-21, 18-21 in a 47-minute encounter.

Kiran George put up a spirited fight before succumbing 14-21, 22-20, 14-21 to former world champion Loh Kean Yew of Singapore.

In the women's singles, Anupama Upadhyaya lost 16-21, 15-21 to fourth seed and world No. 8 Putri Wardani of Indonesia.



Legends relive T20 WC fairytale

SEPTEMBER 24 IS A SIGNIFICANT DATE IN INDIAN CRICKET HISTORY. ON THIS DAY IN 2007, INDIA LIFTED THE INAUGURAL T20 WORLD CUP, DEFEATING THEIR ARCH-RIVALS PAKISTAN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 24: On the occasion of the 18th anniversary of India's 2007 T20 World Cup win former India cricketers Yuvraj Singh, Irfan Pathan and Robin Uthappa shared special messages to relive the historic triumph.

In the summit clash held in Johannesburg, Misbah-ul-Haq threatened to drag Pakistan back from the brink, but MS Dhoni-led side held their nerve to clinch a five-run victory and the inaugural ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

Pathan, who won the player of the match award in the final for his clutch spell of 3-16, shared throwback pictures from the game on his X handle, captioning, "What a day it was back in 2007. Where our World Cup dream was fulfilled. Beating Pakistan on regular basis started there in t20 cricket."

Uthappa, who was also part of India's playing XI alongside Pathan, wrote, "September 24th, 2007 - a day etched in my memory forever. Being part of the team that lifted the T20 World Cup was truly magical. The belief, unity, and energy we shared still feels alive today. I'm forever grateful to have repre-



sented India and cherished those unforgettable moments with my teammates."

Yuvraj, who scripted history by smashing six sixes in an over, shared a couple of pictures of the Indian team's trophy celebrations on his Instagram handle and wrote, "Some memories never fade and this is definitely one of them! A proud moment that united a nation in joy and pride. Throwback to this memorable 2007 World Cup win."

Speaking of the game, India won the toss and chose to bat

Ministry bans addl support staff for 2026 Asian Games

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Sept 24: Athletes with "real chance of winning medals" will be the only ones considered for inclusion, stated the Sports Ministry as it unveiled a stringent selection criteria for the 2026 Asian Games, which focusses on continental rankings and bars additional coaches and support staff even at no cost to government.

The five-page document uploaded on the ministry's website Wednesday makes it clear that only those among the top-six in individual and top-eight in team sports at the Asian level would be eligible for nomination from the national federations.

The Asian Games will be held in Nagoya, Japan from September 19 to October 4 next year.

"The aim is to ensure that the athletes who have real chance of winning medal are only considered for participation in multidisciplinary sports events," stated the ministry, tightening the process that has been criticised for being haphazard and lacking in clarity in the past.

"If it comes to notice of the Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) that the aim is just for participation and not aiming for excellence (medal winning), names of such sportspersons and teams will not be approved after giving proper justification," it stated.

The selection criteria would also cover the Commonwealth Games (July-August, 2026), Para Asian Games, Asian Indoor games, Asian Beach Games, Youth Olympics, Asian Youth Games, and the Commonwealth Youth Games. Performances of the past 12 months will form the basis of selection.

However, the new policy excludes the Olympics and other such international competitions where athlete or team participation is determined by qualification standards set by the respective international federations.

"The NSF (National Sports Federation) will be eligible to nominate an athlete if the athlete has matched or bettered the 6th-place performance from the last Asian Games at a competition recognised by the international sports federation for that sport, held within the 12 months preceding the upcoming Asian Games," it stated.

For events that were not contested at the last Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, the criteria would be a top-six finish at the Senior Asian Championships of that discipline event "within 12 months preceding the upcoming Asian Games".

India had recorded their best-ever Asian performance in the Hangzhou Games in 2023, clinching 106 medals, including 28 gold.