Sara's health tips

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 194 I www.orissapost.com

Sara Ali Khan talks about the challenges of preserving mental well-being in the demanding world of entertainment

LEISURE | P2



Coup in Madagascar

Madagascar's military has taken charge of the Indian Ocean island, an army colonel said Tuesday, after President Andry Rajoelina fled abroad

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Markets decline

Benchmark BSE Sensex falls by 297 points due to weak global cues in Asian and European markets and FII outflow

BUSINESS | P11



Series sweep

India outclass WI in the second Test, reaching the 121-run target with 7 wickets to spare to bag the series

SPORTS | P12

12 PAGES | ₹5.00

BHUBANESWAR | WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 15, 2025

HOMEWARD JOURNEY



A fisherman carries fishing net while walking with his bicycle on the bank of the Ganga river amid sunset in Prayagraj, Tuesday

SHORT **TAKES**

\$15bn: Google's biggest ever India investment in Andhra

NEW DELHI: In its biggest ever investment in India, tech giant Google on Tuesday said it will invest USD 15 billion in building an AI infrastructure hub in Andhra Pradesh, which would include a gigawatt-scale data centre in partnership with Adani Group. The project is expected to create 5,000-6,000 direct jobs and 20,000-30,000 total jobs in Andhra Pradesh. The AI hub at Visakhapatnam will be Google's largest outside the US and include a data centre fuelled by clean energy and a fibreoptic network. Business tycoon Gautam Adani said his company AdaniConneX would partner with Google on the project, along with Bharti Airtel, India's second-largest mobile operator. The amount will be invested over the next five years

₹ depreciates to 88.80

MUMBAI: The rupee depreciated 12 paise to revisit its all-time low of 88.80 (provisional) against the US dollar Tuesday, weighed down by negative domestic equities and overnight gains in the American currency. Forex traders said foreign fund outflows amid a risk-off mode globally further dented investor sentiment. However, a decline in crude oil prices and reports of RBI intervention supported the local unit and restricted the slide. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 88.73 against the greenback and fell to an intraday low of 88.81 and a high of 88.73. It finally closed the day at 88.80 against the greenback, registering a decline of 12 paise over its previous close of 88.68. On September 30, the rupee had fallen to an all-time low of 88.80 against the US dollar.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



says inflation has come downwe'll need to show it to the vegetable vendors!

20 burnt alive, 16 hurt as bus catches fire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaisalmer, Oct 14: Twenty passengers were burnt alive and 16 were critically injured when a private bus travelling from Jaisalmer to Jodhpur caught fire Tuesday, police said. Prime Minister Narendra

Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives and announced an ex gratia of ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of deceased.

According to police, the bus, carrying 57 passengers, left Jaisalmer around 3 pm. On the Jaisalmer-Jodhpur highway smoke began emerging from the rear portion. The driver stopped the bus along the roadside, but within moments, the

flames engulfed the vehicle. Locals and passers-by rushed to the spot and assisted in the rescue efforts. Army personnel also assisted in the operation.

informed, and the injured passengers were taken to Jawahar

Fire tenders and police were

Hospital in Jaisalmer for treatformed this agency about the ment. Police said 16 critically death toll of 20 passengers. He injured passengers have been resaid, "19 passengers died in the ferred to a hospital in Jodhpur. bus and one succumbed to burn

Prima facie, it appears that the fire broke out due to a short circuit, police said. BJP MLA from Pokran Pratap Puri in-

Following the accident, the district administration has issued an appeal for information to the kin of the victims to ascertain their identity. The bodies will be handed over to family members after DNA matching, officials said.

Jaisalmer.

Upon receiving information regarding the incident, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma reached Jaisalmer and was briefed by the officers.

injuries on the way to Jodhpur.'

He said that the bus caught

fire ten minutes after leaving

Global alert over Indian cough syrups

India's pharmaceutical reputation is again under fire after contaminated cough syrups-Coldrif, Respifresh TR, and ReLife—killed at least 24 Indian children this month. The syrups, manufactured by Sresan, Rednex, and Shape Pharma, contained up to 49 % diethylene glycol, an industrial poison. The WHO urged national regulatory authorities worldwide to immediately notify it if these are detected in their countries. Though the police arrested Sresan's owner and plants were shuttered, global alarm is rising because previous Indian syrups caused over 300 child deaths in Gambia, Uzbekistan and Cameroon during 2022-23

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued an alert against three 'substandard' oral cough syrups identified in India -- Coldrif, Respifresh TR and ReLife -- and urged national regulatory authorities worldwide to immediately notify it if these are detected in their country.

It has also advised healthcare professionals to report the detection of these substandard products and any incident of adverse effects, or lack of expected effects to their national regulatory authorities or National Pharmacovigilance Centre.

The alert comes after at least 22 children, mostly under the age of five, have died due to suspected kidney failure after being administered Coldrif in Madhya Pradesh. Besides, at least three children have allegedly died in Rajasthan after consuming cough syrup in different districts of the state.

The WHO has further called

inside the temple and its outer circles," Murmu told reporters.

stakeholders will be taken to

ensure that the proposed plan

does not put devotees and ser-

Sources said that the pro-

posed comprehensive security

plan is to ensure protection of

the temple's physical and digital

assets from all kinds of threats

from any sector. Therefore,

a policy and procedural plan

will be drawn up after making

risk assessment, vulnerability

management, physical security,

vitors in trouble.

He said that the views of all



diligence within the supply chains of countries and regions likely to be affected by these substandard products. "Increased surveillance of

the informal/unregulated market is also advised," the alert issued Monday said. The affected products are

oral liquid medicines containing active ingredients commonly used to relieve symptoms of common cold, flu, or cough

According to the alert, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) of India reported to WHO the presence of Diethylene Glycol (DEG) in at least three oral liquid medicines in October 8. This followed information identified by WHO September 30 of localised clusters of acute illness and child fatalities in India.

The CDSCO informed WHO that the contaminated products were reportedly consumed by the affected children and confirmed that relevant state authorities have ordered an immediate halt to production at implicated manufacturing sites and have suspended product authorisations. In addition, a recall of the contaminated products has been initiated by relevant state authorities.

5100 cough syrup P5 **bottles** seized

2 hours for bursting crackers this Diwali

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The Odisha State Pollution Control Board (OSPCB) Tuesday issued comprehensive guidelines ahead of Diwali celebrations, appealing to citizens to observe the festival in an environmentally responsible manner and in compliance with noise and air pollution norms.

As per the advisory, people have been urged to celebrate Diwali by lighting traditional lamps instead of fireworks and to limit the timing for lighting green crackers between 7 pm and 9 pm only. The use of all other types of firecrackers has been banned in accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The board has clarified that

only green crackers-environment-friendly fireworks that emit less smoke and soundare permitted. The permissible noise level must not exceed 125 decibels (dB). Firecrackers must not be used within 100 meters of hospitals, educational institutions, religious places, or other sensitive zones. The guidelines also stress several safety pre cautions including avoiding bursting crackers near trees shops, houses, crowded areas or on public roads, no noisy or explosive crackers for children below 10 years of age. The rules also mandate to

wear cotton clothing and protective evewear while lighting fireworks and keeping water or sand nearby for emergency use.

DURGAPUR GANGRAPE SURVIVOR'S FRIEND HELD

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Oct 14: Police Tuesday evening arrested a friend of the medical student of a private college, who was allegedly gangraped in West Bengal's Durgapur, taking the total number of arrests in the case to six, a senior police officer said.

The accused had accompanied the victim when she had gone outside the campus of the medical college to fetch food on the evening of the alleged crime, he said. The Malda res-

ident was arrested after police found his replies to be incoherent, the officer said.

West Bengal Police Tuesday afternoon took the five arrested accused and the friend of the Durgapur gang rape survivor to the crime spot for reconstruction of the crime as a part of their ongoing probe, a senior officer said. The six were taken to the scene adjacent to Paranaganj Kali Bari cremation ground, and asked to 're-enact' their respective roles when the alleged crime took place there Friday night.

Puri, Oct 14: A comprehensive security plan will be prepared soon for foolproof security of the 12th-century Shree Jagannath temple here, Girish Chandra Murmu, the head of the security sub-committee of the shrine, said Tuesday.

Murmu, a former Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir and Comptroller and Auditor General of India, said this after presiding over a meeting of the Shree Jagannath Temple's sub-committee on security aspects.

Puri District Collector and



SP, apart from senior servitors of the temple, are among the members of the security sub-committee.

"A comprehensive security plan is being made which will

take care of the safety of both

cybersecurity and others.

India's wild elephant numbers drop by 18% Ministry, Project Elephant and dung samples from across el-

New Delhi, Oct 14: India's wild elephant population has been estimated at 22,446, lower than the 2017 figure of 27,312, according to the country's first-ever DNA-based count.

The All-India Synchronous Elephant Estimation (SAIEE) 2025 puts India's elephant population between 18,255 and 26,645, with an average of 22,446. The government released the long-delayed report Tuesday, nearly four years af-

ter the survey began in 2021. Officials said the delay was due to the complex genetic analysis and data validation

involved in the exercise. Scientists collected 21,056

ephant landscapes and used DNA fingerprinting to identify individual animals, much like identifying humans through their genetic code. The total field effort covered nearly 6.7 lakh km of forest trails and included over 3.1 lakh dung plots.

Region-wise, the Western Ghats remain the biggest stronghold with 11,934 elephants, followed by the North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra floodplains with 6,559. The Shivalik Hills and Gangetic plains support 2,062 elephants, while Central India and the Eastern Ghats together have 1,891.

Karnataka continues to host the largest number of elephants at 6,013, followed by Assam



(4.159), Tamil Nadu (3,136), Kerala (2,785) and Uttarakhand (1,792).

Odisha has 912 elephants, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand together account for over 650. Smaller populations survive in northeastern states such as Arunachal Pradesh (617), Meghalaya (677), Naga land (252) and Tripura (153). In parts of central and eastern India, states like Madhya Pradesh (97) and Maharashtra (63) have tiny, fragmented herds.

The 2025 exercise, carried out jointly by the Environment the Wildlife Institute of India, establishes a new scientific baseline for future monitoring and conservation planning.

The new count used a threephase process combining ground surveys, satellite-based mapping and genetic analysis.

In the first phase, forest teams used the M-Stripes app to record elephant presence during extensive foot surveys.

The second phase assessed habitat quality and human footprint using satellite data.

The third phase involved DNA extraction from dung to identify 4,065 unique elephants, with scientists using the mark-recapture model to estimate the overall population.

eisure



BEN STILLER OPENS UP ON LIFE'S 'WORST DECISION'

Ben Stiller, 59, reflects on past regrets in his new documentary Stiller & Meara: Nothing Is Lost. Exploring his parents' influence on his life, he admits inheriting his father's perfectionism and confesses to his daughter Ella, 23, that cutting her from The Secret Life of Walter Mitty was his worst decision.

JENNIFER: I WANT MY OWN **DNA IN A LITTLE PERSON**

Jennifer Aniston opened up about her twodecade struggle to become a mother, revealing she underwent several unsuccessful IVF treatments. Speaking on a podcast, the Friends actress explained why she never chose adoption, saying she wanted a child with her own DNA, calling it a deeply personal and honest desire.





With your substantial inter-personal abilities, you will accomplish a great deal today, says Ganesha. Your power of expression will impress many people. Financial rewards are on the cards, but be cautious about minor accidents and illnesses.

TAURUS

You have a very pleasant are, by nature, restless and excitable you will be very steady and focused in whatever you do today. So says Ganesha. Later you will desire to enjoy the company of your friends and will call them over to chat and gossip with them. The evening will provide you lots of fun and laughter.

You will be lost in the memories of the past today. You will be in a nostalgic frame of mind. Intellectual pursuits will attract you. Do not let your past lay a shadow upon your present and your future, says Ganesha.

CANCER

In all likelihood, this is going to be a fairly easy day for you, says Ganesha. The only tough part of the day would be how to spend it. There will be hardly anything to do, anyone to talk to. Ideally, this is what you would call a perfect day. But not today. Today, you'll miss people. You will find yourself more at peace with the unbearable chaos of the outer world than the deafening calm of your solitude.

A lot of people will sing your praises, however you will not be satisfied with whatever is occuring. The answers to some questions that have been bothering you will remain elusive. You may become emotional owing to feelings of personal loss. You will also be bothered about the near future, says Ganesha.

VIRGO

Family affairs will predominate today. They will even control your thoughts to the exclusion of everything else. Things will look up on the business front. You may spend time elaxing in the evening. Ganesha says a trip to a place of worship is on the cards.

Health is always a key issue. and today, you may have to pay some special attention to the same. It may be some elderly person in the family, or even you. Take the time to give it your full attention in order to avoid any further complications. You may do well to undergo a physical examination you

SCORPIO

A cloud of emotions surrounds you today and you would like to spend the entire day in introspection and self-analysis. You will try to raise your bar at professional level. Your far sightedness and capability to understand human psychology promises a leader in you, says Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS Variety is the spice of life. Add variety of activities to your daily schedule and

nothing would seem boring any more, foretells Ganesha. Indulge in creative activities like writing, cooking, gardening or even reading. Catch up with friends and memories of old times; have a blast!

CAPRICORN

You'll have apparently no time for anything else, as partnerships and projects will keep you on your toes. You communication skills and diplomacy will fetch you accolades in meetings, and also enable you to judge a person or a situation correctly, and form the right opinion. The efforts you have in the past may come to fruition today, feels Ganesha.

AQUARIUS

You will be able to strike a balance between the emotional and rational side of your personality. You will find pleasure in your work and may successfully mix your personal life into your professional life. Financially, there are no major issues, but negligible matters may keep your mind occupied, feels Ganesha.

PISCES

You could find yourself re-establishing contact with long lost friends abroad, possibly on matters of business. You will also likely find yourself attending social events. There is a possibility that those who are unmarried, may find their match in these social settings. Long term personal or business relationships will likely be established today, says Ganesha.



Sara on prioritising

mental health

Mumbai: Bollywood actress Sara Ali Khan has

opened up about the challenges of maintaining

In a recent interview, she emphasised that

true strength lies not in handling everything

alone, but in recognising and addressing one's feelings. "I've always believed that strength

isn't about bottling up your emotions; it's about having the courage to acknowl-

edge them," she said. Sara highlighted that the pressures of the industry often

make actors feel they must manage ev-

erything independently, but taking care

of one's mind is as crucial as caring

for the body. She added, "Therapy

and mental health support aren't

signs of weakness; they're tools for growth, self-awareness, and

making sure you're truly okay."

Reflecting on a particularly

overwhelming period, Sara

recalled feeling mentally

and emotionally burdened.

During that time, simple

activities such as spend-

ing quality moments with

her mother, Amrita Singh, and enjoying light-heart-

ed entertainment provid-

ed solace. "Those small

acts really helped me

come back to myself,"

she noted. She also

stressed the need to

normalise conversa-

tions around men-

tal health, saying,

"Education, aware-

by example are key. When public figures,

workplaces, and fam-

ilies openly discuss

therapy, it helps break the fear of

judgement.

ness.

and leading

mental well-being in the demanding entertain-

ment industry, stressing the importance of ac-

knowledging emotions and seeking support.



The members of Sachi Das Memorial Trust presented Odia play Indrapurire Sachi at Rabindra Mandap Bhubaneswar, Tuesday. Written by Rabi Sahoo and directed by Gobinda Mahapatra, the play marked the 91st birth anniversary of eminent theatre and jatra director Sachi Das who passed away last year

Triptii's travel ritual Mumbai: Actress Triptii Dimri, who is currently in New York

shared a glimpse of her favourite travel ritual. Tritpii took to her Instagram stories, where she shared a string of images and clips from her visit to the Big Apple. The first was a glimpse of her onboard a flight and wrote: '6 hours..1 flight and a skin care routine later.' The actress then treated fans to a cosy cafe moment as

she captured her mid-sip, savouring a steaming cup of coffee against a warm, rustic backdrop and captioned it: "One of my favorite things to do when I travel is to find cute cafes sip on my coffee... and people watch. Best feeling." Triptii also shared an image of the iconic Manhattan Bridge York City taken from the famous Washington Street viewpoint in the Dumbo neighborhood of

Brooklyn, which is known as a popular photography spot for tourists. The Animal actress did not share details about her visit to the US. On the work front, she will next be seen alongside

Shahid Kapoor Romeo Vishal Bhardwaj.

Elli hits back at trolls

Mumbai: Elli Avrram has addressed the backlash following a widely circulated picture of her YouTuber Ashish Chanchlani, which sparked rumours about her "body count" and led to misogynistic comments targeting her personal life. In an interview, Elli admitted she was unaware Z friends explained it, calling it "nasty." She criticised the double standard in how society judges men and women, stating, "It always happens with women. It never happens with men. We are the demons... probably very hurt men; we can just pray for them, bless them with more light, and hope they become more mature, he-

of the term until her Gen

respect women. Elli clarified that "body count" refers to the number of people one has been physically involved with,

al, and understand how to

She also appreciated support from fellow actor Urfi Javed, calling her advocacy "really sweet." Ashish Chanch-

which she found distasteful

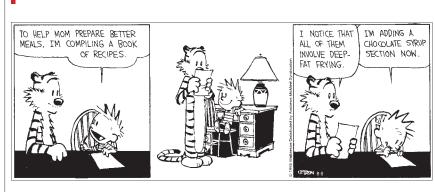
lani also responded, condemning the vitriol directed at Elli. He emphasised that many abusive comments were from in-

dividuals who don't follow him and do not reflect his audience or fans

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBES



BREVITY



DOST **CROSSWORD**

25

Copyright ©2025 PuzzleJunction.com 21 Curtain holder

23 Kitchen appliance

25 Went nowhere

26 Fantasise

Across 1 Spartan

- 5 Recipe direction
- 8 World record?
- 9 Nightclub 10 Roadhouse
- 11 Competent
- 12 Eyebrow shape
- 14 Lowlife

- 18 Declare openly
- 15 Kingdoms
- 20 Paltry

<u>Down</u> 1 Fine fiddle

27 Foes

- 2 Be quiet!
- 3 Delighted

- 4 Surpasses expectations
- less birds 24 Scottish cap

5 Blubber

6 Miscue

7 Fire starters

13 Broadcast

16 Siren of

14 Mapped out

17 Formal order

22 Extinct flight-

19 Pontificate

German legend

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

SUDOKU

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

1	\vdash	9	H		5	H	
5	2	0	7		5	8	4
	8			9			
	5		9	7			
			1		7	9	
			5		2		

SOLUTIONS

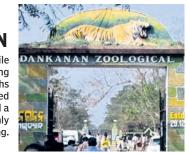
T A O T I D S C O L L I S I	E I R E	2 2 3 4						
A M P L I F I E R S S	R	2 3						
S	R	2 3						
H I P B R E A T H E R I L R R S E N S E D P E T R T O I G G G A N T I P A S T O R T A O T	Е	2						
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S E N S E D P E T R T O I G O A N T I P A S T O R T A O T								
T O I G O ANTIPASTOR T A O T I DS COLLISI								
A N T I P A S T O R T A O T I D S C O L L I S I								
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IDS COLLISI	U	1 0						
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2 4 1 5 8 3 7 9	1	6						

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

SUDOKU

owntown

BARANG: A hyena cub died at Nandankanan Zoological Park here Tuesday morning while undergoing treatment, six days after the zoo lost its last blue-and-green macaw. According to zoo officials, the baby hyena was one of the three rescued and released a few months ago into Enclosure No-25. The cub was found to be suffering from hernia and was moved to the veterinary unit on the zoo premises for treatment. Veterinarians had performed a surgery on the cub about 15 days ago. However, the surgical area became infected roughly a week later. Although dressing was being done regularly, the cub died Tuesday morning.



ODIA GIRL'S GANGRAPE

NCW report flags security lapses by Bengal Police

KEY FINDINGS



he crime scene was not cordoned off The crime scene was not see all by police by October 12, creating a high possibility of evidence tampering

No proper forensic examination was conducted at the place of occurrence, indicating gross negligence on the part of the local investigating

bsence of preventive security measures, inadequate surveillance and procedural lapses in investigation reflect serious governance shortcomings

TOTAL ABSENCE OF STREET LIGHTING AND SURVEILLANCE ON THE ROAD LEADING FROM THE HOSPITAL MAKES IT UNSAFE FOR PEDESTRIANS, PARTICULARLY WOMEN

PNN & AGENCIES

Kolkata, Oct 14: Even as the investigation into the gangrape of a medico from Odisha at medical college in Durgapur is underway, the National Commission for Women (NCW), in its fact-finding report, Tuesday flagged "security lapses" and "gross negligence" on the part of West Bengal Police during the probe.

In its fact-finding report, the NCW said, "It was further observed that the police had not cordoned off the crime scene even by October 12, creating a high possibility of evidence tampering. No proper forensic examination at the place of occurrence (POC) was conducted. These serious procedural lapses indicate gross negligence on the part of the local investigating authorities.'

The revelations came after NCW member Archana Majumdar submitted her preliminary report following her visit to Durgapur and holding talks with the victim, her parents and other stakeholders.

In the report, the NCW said, "The incident highlights deep-rooted systemic

Balasore MP meets victim in hospital

BJP MP from Balasore Pratap Chandra Sarangi Tuesday visited the gangrape victim at the private hospital in West Bardhaman district where she is undergoing treatment. Sarangi, who arrived in Durgapur in the afternoon with a team of BJP workers, was reportedly stopped by the hospital's security personnel, leading to an argument between the two sides. "The MP's visit to the hospital had been communicated to the West Bengal administration and the police. Despite that, we were stopped from entering. This is the state of affairs in Bengal," said Srinivas Pradhan, the BJP's media coordinator for Balasore district. Sarangi, along with a few party workers from Balasore, later met the woman in the hospital.

failures in ensuring safety and accountability within institutional and administrative structures. The absence of preventive security measures. inadequate surveillance and procedural lapses in investigation reflect serious governance shortcomings requiring immediate rectification.'

It further said, "The National Commission for Women will continue to monitor the progress of the investigation,

the medical care provided to

the victim, and her academic

rehabilitation until justice is

delivered.' As part of its observations, the NCW said the road leading from the hospital passes through a densely-wooded area that remains completely dark at night.

There is a total absence of street lighting and surveillance, making it unsafe for pedestrians, particularly women. This represents a grave administrative failure on the part of the state government, municipal authorities, and law enforcement agencies. It is alarming that such a major medical institution, employing and training over a thousand female students and healthcare professionals, lacks even basic security infrastructure," it said.

According to NCW, no evidence of regular police patrolling was found, despite the area being commonly known for "anti-social and criminal activities".

"The state government had previously announced the "Raatri'r Saathi" project following the RG Kar rape and murder incident to ensure the safety of women traveling at night; however, the initiative appeared to be non-functional in this region," it said.

Last week, the second-year medical student from Odisha was gangraped by five people in a forest area outside a private medical college and hospital in West Burdwan district's Durgapur.

Based on the complaint lodged by the victim, the police have arrested all the five accused persons in the case. They are currently in police custody. In addition, male friend of the victim is also detained. According to police sources, the he is cooperating in the investigation

4 held for AIIMS lab attendant murder

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: A day after a laboratory attendant of AIIMS-Bhubaneswar was shot dead under Khandagiri police limits, four persons were Tuesday arrested for their alleged involvement in the crime, police said.

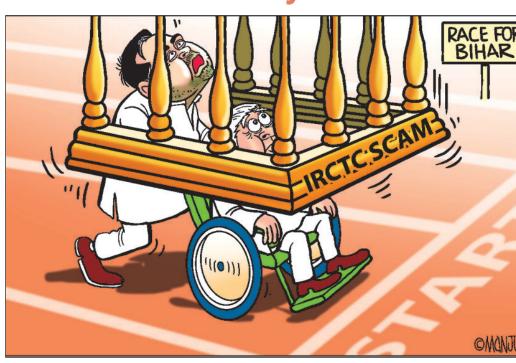
Sudhanshu Khuntia was shot dead Monday morning when he was on his way to the AIIMS.

The prime accused, however. is still absconding and efforts are underway to nab him, Bhubaneswar Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Tapas Chandra Pradhan said.

A prolonged land dispute is suspected to be the cause of the murder, Pradhan told reporters.

Khuntia was gunned down around 8am Monday near Ransinghpur area. Locals shifted him to the AIIMS, where doctors declared him dead, police had said.

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



STATE'S 2ND REGIONAL PRC IN KEONJH



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Odisha's second Regional Plant Resource Centre (RPRC) will come up at Sanaghagara in Keonjhar district, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi announced Tuesday.

The CM made the announcement during a meeting with officials of the Forest, Environment and Climate Change department and Keonihar district administration at Lok Se-

Envisioned as part of the Chief Minister's Manas Project, the facility will be developed as Odisha's second RPRC, covering approximately 134 acres at Sanaghagara, Majhi said. Currently, state has RPRC at Nayapalli in Bhubaneswar.

According to information shared during the meeting, the centre will serve as a hub for biodiversity conservation, community engagement. eco-tourism, research and education. It will offer visitors thematic garden experience. The centre will feature different species of orchids found

fruits, adding to the scenic beauty of the area. To make the site a major tourist attraction, the chief minister advised that it remain

across Odisha, along with ros-

es, bamboo, cactus, and wild

open year-round for tourists and the general public. Considering the prevalence of elephant movement in the

region, he also directed the dis-

trict administration to take ap-

propriate mitigation measures including the creation of deep trenches to prevent human-el ephant conflict.

Majhi further emphasised the need to ensure that the Machakandana river, which flows through the site, retains adequate water flow through out the year. The centre will include an

orchid conservation and display centre, lotus garden, wild edible fruit garden, fern garden, medicinal plant garden, flower market, and children's play area.

All infrastructure and furnishings will make use of locally available stone and wood The project is expected to be completed by 2027.

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja, Forest department Additional Chief Secretary Satyabrata Sahu, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force Suresh Panth, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Saswata Mishra, Keonjhar Collector Vishal Singh and Keonihar DFO Dhanraj Hanumant Dhamdere



DIWALI AHEAD: Terracotta lamps being dried under the sun at an expo at Exhibition Ground in Bhubaneswar, Tuesday

FISCAL DISCIPLINE

Internal audit wings in 10 more departments

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: In a bid to improve fiscal prudence and ensure transparency in public expenditure, the state government has created internal audit wings in 10 more departments. taking the total number of departments with such teams to 38, an official statement said.

Internal audit, an integral part of the state government, is functioning in 28 administrative departments in the Lok Seva Bhawan. Internal audit wings act as the watchdogs of public money and reports financial irregularities, in any, including misappropriation and embezzlement of public money. All internal audit personnel are centralised under the Finance department to ensure uniformity, professional oversight, and effective monitoring of public spending, the statement mentioned.

Official sources said the Fi-

created internal audit wings in 10 more departments with 85 audit personnel by bifurcating the present sanctioned strength of 510 in 28 departments.

The 10 departments where internal audit wings have now been created are: Water Resources, Rural Development, Works, Energy, Skill Develop ment & Technical Education, E&IT, Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts, Industries, Odia Language, Literature & Culture, and Tourism.

The new internal audit wings will help tighten financial sys tems, identify risks early, and reduce audit objections through continuous review and compliance checks.

This initiative marks a major stride toward institutionalising transparency, improving fiscal prudence, and ensuring better utilisation of public funds, reinforcing Odisha's commitment to good governance and respon-

sible financial management, the

Interest-free taxi loan for over 1K women

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The state government is set to launch 'Ama Su Vahak' scheme that aims at empowering women with entrepreneurial opportunities in the transportation sector by providing them interest-free loans to purchase four-wheeler taxis, Commerce and Transport Minister Bibhuti Bhushan Jena said Tuesday.

The initiative, tailored for women aged between 21 and 40 with an annual family income of up to Rs 3 lakh, has got the go-ahead from the state government. Jena said.

Under this scheme, 1,100 beneficiaries will receive interest-free loans of up to Rs 10 lakh each for purchasing four-wheeler taxis, while driving gender equality, economic independence, and ensuring safer mobility options for women. The loan will be repayable in five years, with the state government bearing the interest burden at an annual rate of 11 per

cent, he said. Stating that it is an extension of the 'Su Vahak' initiative launched in December 2023, the minister further noted that the scheme aims to help over 6,000 women trained at the four driving institutes in the state achieve financial independence over the next

four financial years 'The initiative will be rolled out in phases, with 200 women benefitting in the first year, 250 in the second, 300 in the third, and 350 in the fourth," the minister said, adding that priority will be given to those already engaged in driving govt buses,

members of self-help groups, and Subhadra beneficiaries.

To promote eco-friendly transport, women opting for electric vehicles (EVs) will receive a Rs 2 lakh incentive in line with the Odisha EV Policy, along with exemptions from road tax and registration fees, he added.

The estimated financial commitment for this initiative will be around Rs 46.66 crore, which is likely to be drawn from the budgetary allocations under the Mukhyamantri Sadak Surakshya Bhittibhumi Unnayana Yojana.

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Jay Dholakia, son of late BJD MLA Rajendra Dholakia, will file nomination for the November 11 Nuapada bypoll Thursday, though BJP has not yet officially announced his name, Rajya Sabha MP Sujeet Kumar said Tuesday.

"Accompanied by CM Mohan Charan Majhi and other senior leaders of the party, Jay Dholakia will file nomination October 16." Kumar said.

The Nuapada bypoll is necessitated due to the death of Rajendra Dholakia September 8. Though his son was tipped to become BJD candidate in the bypoll, he joined BJP October 11.

Nuapada: Jay Dholakia will file papers Oct 16, says BJP MP

Asked about the delay in official announcement of Jay Dholakia's name as the candidate for the bypoll, Kumar said, "The BJP is a huge party. His (Jay) candidature will be formally announced after the approval from the Parliamentary Board soon."

Kumar also said that the CM will lead a mega rally in Nuapada before accompanying Jay Dholakia to file nomination papers.

workers from the BJD and Congress are expected to join BJP during the CM's rally, he said

This apart, more than 2,000

Asked about Jay's electoral prospects in the bypoll after deserting his father's party, Kumar said, "The BJP candidate will win the bypoll by over a margin of 50,000 votes this time. His father was a four-time MLA and he is expected to get the blessings of the people.

On the other hand, senior BJD leaders have been camping in Nuapada to select a candidate.

Online-offline auto drivers' dispute disrupts City traffic



Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Members of the Smart City Online Auto Group (SCOAG) staged a protest Tuesday by parking their auto-rickshaws in front of the Capital police station, following a violent clash with members of the Station Auto Drivers' Association (SADA). The protest brought traffic to a standstill from AG Square to Raj Mahal Square.

According to reports, October 5, a member of the online auto association picked up a passenger near the City railway station, which was opposed by members of the offline auto association. The situation escalated when the offline drivers allegedly attacked the online auto driver, leaving him crit-

RDWU hosts film seminar

the films Nalanda University and

Money Mobile was organised by

Rama Devi Women's University's

Tuesday, celebrating cinema's

role as a medium of social and

cultural expression. The event

was inaugurated by in-charge

highlighted the power of films in

and shaping public perception.

Filmmakers Mohammad Shakeel

and Archana Nayak attended the

seminar and shared their creative

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

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Bhubaneswar: A seminar on

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llegedly attacked by offline

oth groups filed complaints, eading to arrests from later protested, claiming police

alleged harassment by offline drivers, saying they are barred from operating near the

ically injured and requiring hospitalisation.

Following the incident, both parties lodged complaints at the police station. During the investigation, arrests were

quently, the online auto association staged a protest, alleging that the police had arrested an innocent member from their association. The online auto association further alleged that its members are not being allowed to operate freely across the City by the offline auto association. They claimed that they are forced to stay 400-500 metres away from the Bhubaneswar railway station to pick up passengers, as offline auto drivers prevent them from approaching the station area.

Smart City Online Auto Group president Dinabandhu Nayak said, "When our member was attacked, we immediately lodged a complaint with the police. However, the police have arrested an innocent member of our association. We demand his immediate release and strict action against the real culprits. We also urge that we be allowed to serve passengers without any restrictions. The dispute between online and offline auto drivers has persisted for the past 10 years without any resolution."

Nayak added that a discussion is currently underway in the presence of police officials

Dy CM urges Centre to raise rice procurement target



Deputy CM Singh Deo also requests Union Minister Joshi to extend the CMR delivery deadline from October 31 to December 31

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Deputy Chief Minister KV Singh Deo has urged Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi to enhance the state's procurement target of Custom Milled Rice (CMR) and extend its delivery period under the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2024-25.

During his visit to New Delhi, Singh Deo called on the

his intervention for revising the CMR procurement target fixed by the Government of India at 50 lakh metric tonnes (LMT), noting that the actual resultant CMR from paddy in Odisha stands at 62.54 LMT.

He also requested an extension of the CMR delivery deadline from October 31, 2025, to December 31, 2025.

The Deputy CM, who also holds the Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment portfolio, urged the Union Minister to direct the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to expedite lifting and complete evacuation of the remaining stock within the extended period. saving it would help the state manage storage and distribution effectively.

AMA GOURAV, AMA COLLEGE

₹3.45cr for devpt of 9 colleges, 2 varsities

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: In a bid to ensure robust infrastructure and academic excellence, the Higher Education department has sanctioned ₹3.45 crore for nine colleges and two universities in the state under 'Ama Gouray, Ama College' scheme

The institutions that would benefit from this initiative are: Fakir Mohan University (Balasore), Ravenshaw University (Cuttack), Panchagarh Somanath Singh Jagadev Degree Mahavidyalaya (Angul), Jagannath Degree College, Jaleswar (Balasore), Mahanadi Vihar Women's (Degree) College



(Cuttack), Niali Degree College (Cuttack), Anchalika Degree Mahavidyalaya (Ganjam). Panchayat Anchalika Degree Mahavidyalaya (Jharsuguda), Tulasi Women's Degree College (Kendrapara), Jashipur Degree College (Mayurbhanj) and Sukra Behera Degree College (Nayagarh).

The funding aims to support infrastructure and academic development projects for the institutions. The sanctioned funds will be utilised for multiple development projects, including strengthening library resources, construction of sports and academic complexes, installation of Wi-Fi connectivity, and CCTV surveillance.

The project aims to modernise infrastructure, ensuring better opportunities for the

"'Ama Gaurav, Ama College' is a one-of-a-kind platform that aspires to build meaningful collaborative models for the Global Alumni Network of Odisha

students and resources, with the purpose of exchanging ideas on how to rediscover the joy of giving back to one's Alma mater," said an official.

It is a state government initiative that rebranded and restructured the "Mo College Abhijan" programme being implemented during the previous government. It aims to build a strong global alumni network to help improve colleges through collaboration, resource sharing and active participation in col lege development. The scheme encourages alumni to "give back" to their alma maters by fostering a deeper connection

with their colleges.

Govt issues new SOP for part plot registrations

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The Revenue and Disaster Management department has introduced a new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to streamline the registration of part plots across the state.

The resolution, released Monday, aims to address widespread confusion among Registering Officers. According to the department, many Registering Officers have not been fully conversant with provisions under the Registration Act, 1908. the Odisha Registration Rules. 1988, and the Registration (Odisha Amendment) Act, 2013.

The SOP was introduced by Revenue and Disaster Manage ment Minister Suresh kumar Pujari due to many Registering Officers lacking full knowledge of laws and procedures for part plot registrations, aiming to enhance uniformity and public convenience. The registration of part plots in rural areas is permitted without pre-conditions, except for Jalasaya Kissam plots, which must be transferred as full plots, with sub-divisions not exceeding 500 square meters. The Sub-division is permitted if the plot remains agricultural Kissam, supported by a self-declaration in 'Form D' confirming agricultural use only.

Governed by the Odisha Development Authorities and Town Planning Acts, with exemptions for family sub-divisions, small sub-divisions (under 500 square meters with no real estate use), and co-sharer divisions (with consent and proportionate shares). Sub-division of plots, under 500 square meters, recorded before the 2025 ODA & OTP & IT Second Amendment Rules. is allowed without prejudice to

Registering Officers must verify maps, boundaries, and declarations, ensure compliance with exemptions, and preserve self-declarations in

BJP holds workshop ahead of Sardar Patel's 150th birth anniv

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: The state unit of the BJP Tuesday organised a preparatory workshop at its party headquarters here ahead of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India and a prominent freedom fighter. Scheduled to be observed from October 31 to December 6, the initiativedrawing inspiration from Patel's ideals of unity and patriotism—aims to encourage youth to uphold national integration and civic responsibility.

The workshop was attended by BJP state president Manmo han Samal, Higher Education Minister Suryabanshi Suraj, MP Kavita Patidar, and several other senior party leaders.

State BJP vice president Golak Mohapatra said the celebration will be conducted in three phases. In the first phase (October 31–November 25), a three-day "Sardar at 150 Ekta Padayatra" will be organised in each parliamentary conThe programme, to be held from October 31 to **December 6, seeks to** inspire youth to uphold national unity and civic responsibility, drawing

stituency, covering 8-10 km daily with participation from students, youth groups, and the public. Cultural events, health camps, Swachh Bharat

ideals of patriotism and

from Sardar Patel's

integration

drives, and 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiatives will be held at 63 locations across Odisha, along with fairs promoting local products and pledges for a drug-free India under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

In the second phase (November 26-December 6), five selected participants from each of the 30 districts will visit Karamsad in Gujarat, Sardar Patel's birth place. The final phase will fea ture a 150 km padayatra from Karamsad to Kevadia, home to the Statue of Unity, marking the grand culmination of the celebrations.

Man held for posting obscene videos of public figures

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: A man was arrested in Cuttack Tuesday for allegedly posting morphed obscene videos of various public fig-

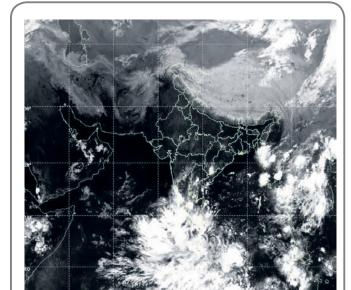
ures on social media, police said. The accused was identified as Biswaballabh Nanda, aka Kunmun, a resident of Salipur, they said. The videos he posted were found to be offensive, promoting obscenity, and outraging the modesty of women depicted

therein, they added. Among the items seized from him were a smartphone and some CDs, police said.

H&UD dept seeks stronger ADB partnership

Bhubaneswar: The Housing & Urban Development department held a detailed discus sion Tuesday to explore avenues for a deeper and more strategic collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the areas of urban development and mobility The meeting, chaired by H&UD department Principal Secretary Usha Padhee focused on accelerating Odisha's urban transformation through strengthened cooperation in infrastructure development, sustainable mobility, and resilient urban planning Both sides discussed the creation of joint committees for effective monitoring, data driven decision-making, and integrated project management—aimed at ensuring faster, smarter, and more transparent implementation of urban initiatives. A delega tion from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), comprising Sougat Dasgupta and Abhisek Mukhariee expressed ADB's commitment to a long-term partnership with the state of Odisha. The team shared their intent to extend technical and financial support beyond Urban Development and Mobility to allied sectors such as Commerce and Transport, thereby fostering inclusive and sustainable growth.





	WEATH	ER .	
	BBSR	СТС	FORECAST
Max Temp	33.2°	31.4°	Partly
Min Temp	22.8°	21.5°	cloudy sky
Humidity	77%	87%	•
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	

Push for climate-resilient WASH systems in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Emphasising the urgent need for stronger climate action, experts, youth leaders, and development professionals at a Pre-COP Dialogue in Bhubaneswar underscored the importance of boosting investment and fostering collaboration to build climate-resilient water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) systems across Odisha.

Organised jointly by the Odisha Development Innovation Alliance (ODeIA), Jeevan Rekha Parishad (JRP), and Unicef Odisha, the dialogue was held Tuesday ahead of the 30th **UN Climate Change Conference** (COP30) in Belém, Brazil. The event underscored the pressing need to strengthen critical infrastructure and enhance community preparedness in the face of intensifying climate impacts, including extreme rainfall, cyclones, and flooding.

SSIFIED AD

PRE-COP DIALOGUE



WASH systems-vital for public health, education, and livelihoods-are becoming increasingly vulnerable to the growing impacts of climate change. Participants stressed that disruptions to these essential services can have far-reaching consequences, affecting both rural and urban

populations. Chief of Field Office, Unicef Odisha, William Hanlon Jr. emphasised that COP30 should focus on translating global commitments into measurable local

ERTISEMENTS

erational climate resilience, with WASH systems placed at the centre of these efforts.

Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta from IIT Roorkee highlighted the need for climate risk-informed WASH planning to address social inequities in water and sanitation access.

Opportunities through government schemes like Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and BASUDHA were identified to integrate climate resilience in design and delivery.

Blended financing, green and blue bonds, and capacity-building at the local level (ULBs and GPs) were recommended as essential for sustainable WASH

systems.

Unicef WASH and climate specialist Shipra Saxena pointed out the potential for improved inter-departmental coordination and data-sharing to enhance climate resilience.

Environmentalist and climate expert Sudarshan Chhotoray sought to negotiate for more funds from Green Climate Fund and Climate Finance for states like Odisha, which, be ing a climate hotspot, need more funds to strengthen their Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector.

Subhrasima Mohanty from Youth4Water Plus said, "Resilient communities are built not only by policy but by everyday choices and youth leadership," highlighting efforts in pond conservation, menstrual hygiene, and plastic waste re-

all future purposes. actions and fostering intergenduction.

CONTACT

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

LACK OF STORAGE, MARKETING FACILITIES

Potato farmers short-changed as outside traders make hay

Nandapur, Oct 14: With a bumper potato production this year, one would think farmers must be having a good income this time around. However, farmers in Odisha are allegedly forced to distress sale the vegetable due to unavailability of sufficient storage facility and marketing efforts by the state government.

It is pertinent to mention that despite adverse monsoon conditions, kharif potato production in Odisha's Koraput district, including Nandapur block, has increased sixfold this year. However, the crop is being shipped to Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu and other states instead of being retained and sold within Odisha, as the state government and district administration have not developed adequate storage and marketing facilities under the Potato Mission

Sources said even as demand for potatoes remains high nationally, Koraput farmers are selling the tuber at ₹17 to ₹20 per kg to outside traders.

As per the local farmers, traders from outside the states



arrive daily with trucks and purchase potatoes directly from Kharagapur, Khurji, Malibelgaon, Badel and Padua villages under Nandapur block. They alleged no local agency or trader is procuring their produce.

According to the information available from the office of the deputy director, horticulture, potato seeds totaling 39,295 quintals were supplied to 2,620 hectares of land for kharif cultivation this year. The total cultivated land includes 821 hectares in Nandapur block, 529 in Semiliguda, 512 in Lamtaput, 228 in Koraput, 204 in Pottangi, 165 in Dashmantpur, 100 in Lakshmipur.

40 in Narayanpatna

EAST COAST RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM NO.- 01 TO

Tender Notice No. ETCECONIBBS2025044

The following modification has been

made against above Tender Notice

Particulars Date & Time of Closing o

As Published Now To be Read A

For details please visit website

supply to Kunjakalika

OIPR-13053/11/0028/2526

砂UCO Bank

and its adjoining areas of dt.08.10.2025 Chandabali N.A.C.

07.11.2025

at 1200 Hrs.

28.10.2025

at 1200 Hrs.

www.ireps.gov.in

and 20 in Bandhugaon block.

The district has 51 solar-powered mini cold storages run by women self-help groups and three large cold storages with a capacity of 5,000 metric tons each in 14 blocks of the district. However, long term storage of the potatoes is not feasible due to high moisture content in the tuber harvested during the rainy season as part of kharif cultivation.

With the rabi harvest expected soon and prices likely to dip. many are harvesting early and selling off their crop, district horticulture deputy director Sudam Biswal said.

Experts say that the state government should fix procurement prices for both kharif and rabi potatoes and enable women's self-help groups, farmer producer organisations and voluntary outfits to purchase from potato growers, then sell according to market demand. They also suggest processing undersized potatoes to maximize profits for both farmers and producer groups.

5,100 bottles of cough syrup seized, 20 arrested in Sambalpur

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Oct 14: Police have busted a major illegal narcotic cough syrup racket in Sambalpur, seizing 5,100 bottles of Eskuf cough syrup and arresting 20 people. The contraband was seized during a raid near Machinkanta Square under Bareipali police limits.

According to Superintendent of Police Mukesh Kumar Bhamoo, the raid was conducted after a tip-off about a pickup van transporting a large consignment of banned syrup from Cuttack to Sambalpur. Police intercepted a van and a car, seizing the bottles along with ₹40,920 in cash, five mobile phones, and two vehicles.

The prime accused have been identified as Lokesh Pradhan alias Akash, Manish Singh, Mahendra Kisan alias Mantu, Prabhat Bhoi alias Titu, and Amod Karali. Police said the accused had been illegally procuring the syrup from Cuttack and distributing it across Sambalpur.

An excise case (195/25) has been registered under Section 21(c)/29, and all the accused have been forwarded to court. The SP said efforts are underway to trace the kingpin behind

SCBMCH medicos attacked at MKCG fest; event suspended

Berhampur, Oct 14: The inter-medical college fest at Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati (MKCG) Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur was suspended following an alleged assault on visiting students from Cuttack's SCB Medical College late Monday night.

According to reports, several MKCG students allegedly attacked the SCB medical students while they were entering the campus. The injured students later filed a complaint at Baidyanathpur police station, prompting police to register a case and begin an investigation.

In response to the incident. MKCG Dean and Principal Prof. Dr. Suchitra Das convened an emergency council meeting Tuesday afternoon,



where the attack was strongly condemned. Dr. Das expressed regret over the incident, saying such acts tarnish the college's reputation and dignity.

For security reasons, the dean ordered the suspension of the fest. Protesting the cancellation, MKCG students staged a sit-in in front of the dean's office, claiming that lakhs of rupees had already been spent on the event. The protest was later called off after discussions with college authorities.

The inter-medical fest, which began October 12, was scheduled to continue until October 19, with students from 14 medi cal colleges across Odisha par ticipating. Tension reportedly escalated around 1am when Burla Medical College students arrived; however the situation was under control by the time the dean reached the spot. The situation worsened when Cut tack students arrived around 2:30am and were allegedly pelted with stones, leaving several injured.

The injured were admitted to MKCG Medical College and Hospital for treatment before returning to Cuttack. Following the suspension of the event, all visiting students were asked to leave the campus.

Notably, two years ago, MK CG students attending a fest at Burla Medical College were similarly attacked under the pretext of a "welcome" event.

Youth electrocuted in Chikiti

Chikiti, Oct 14: A 26-year-old youth died Tuesday morning after coming in contact with a live electric wire at Soral village under Chikiti block in Ganjam district.

The deceased has been identified as Kalia Jani, a resident of Soral. According to reports, Kalia was removing bamboo poles from the roof of the Soral market complex when he accidentally touched a live wire, resulting in his instant death. Or being informed, Golonthara po lice reached the spot, recovered the body, and sent it to MKCO Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur for post-morten examination. Chikiti tehsildar Bishwaranjan Kanhar also vis ited the village and handed over ₹30,000 to the deceased's family.

Name of Work: (I) CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD OVER BRIDGE (ROB) OF SPAN 1X36.0M

COMPOSITE GIRDER + 3X24.0 M COMPOSITE GIRDER + 2x10.37M SOLID

SLAB + 1X14.0M T-BEAM GIRDER IN LIEU OF

IN BETWEEN MANDASA-SUMMADEV

STATIONS ON THE HOWRAH-VISAKHAPATNAM MAIN LINE IN KHURDA

ROAD DIVISION. (II) TECHNICAL SERVICES FOR UNDERTAKING FEASIBILITY STUDY,

DETAILED PROJECT REPORT AND DESIGN

NOS. LEVEL CROSSING THROUGH

BRIDGE/ROAD UNDER BRIDGE, FOOT

OVER BRIDGE, DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

AND REBUILDING WORKS ON EAST COAST

₹ 31,19,800/-, Period of Completion: 24

Gun-wielding miscreants spread panic in Deogaon village; probe on

POST NEWS NETWORK

Deogaon, Oct 14: Panic gripped Kacharapali village under Deogaon police limits in Bolangir district Monday evening after a group of armed miscreants reportedly went on a rampage, brandishing guns and swords.

According to reports, over 10 youths arrived on four motorcycles and stormed the Sahupara area, threatening residents with firearms and sharp weapons. They alleged ly hurled abuses and searched for a local youth to attack, leaving villagers terrified. As panic spread. residents rushed indoors while the miscreants continued to create chaos before fleeing the scene.

Locals later alleged that a person from another state, currently residing in Deogaon, had instigated the attack by bringing in outsiders. Around 8pm, members of the Sahupara Pragati Yuvak Sangha and villagers lodged a written complaint at Deogaon police station, submitting CCTV footage and photographs of the incident. The visuals have since gone viral on social media, sparking widespread outrage.

Acting on the complaint, police teams launched raids and seized one motorcycle allegedly used by the attackers. Police have detained four youths for questioning and are continuing raids to apprehend the remaining suspects.

Four arrested for tyre theft

Jharsuguda: The district police busted a four-member gang involved in tyre theft from a retail store under Badmal police limits Tuesday informed Jharsuguda SP, S Gundala Reddy Raghabendra in a presser. The accused have been identified as Ganesh Ketan Sahu (37) under Banarpal police limits in Angul district, Md Wasim (29) of Muzaffarpur district, Chin Ali (42) of Samastipur district and Md Rasid of Bauli district of Bihar. According to the reports, all the accused stole tyres of various makes from a tyre outlet under Badmal police limits in Jharsuguda district, Police also seized 56 new tyres of various brands, 25 old tyres, a truck, a pick-up van and a car used in the theft. All the accused were produced in the court Tuesday afternoon. They broke entered the outlet situated along the Biju Expressway late October 8 night and decamped with tyres worth several lakhs, the police said.

Social Responsibility Council (SRC) 114, 1st Floor Pratap Bhawan, 5 BSZ Marg, New Delhi 110002

Ref. No.: NSTFDC/CSR-EMRS Multiple Project-T2/2025-26 Dated: 15.10.2025

lotice Inviting Proposals for Selection of Vendors

for Implementation of Multiple CSR Projects in **Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)** The Tender document is available on the official website of the Social

Responsibility Council (SRC) at www.srcouncil.in from 15.10.2025. Interested Applicants are required to download the tender document from the SRC website www.srcouncil.in and submit their proposals via email to pro@srcouncil.in only on or before 30.10.2025, 11:00 hrs (IST). The technical bids will be opened on 30.10.2025, 17:00 hrs (IST). The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals at any stage without assigning any reason Note: For each category separate bids are to be submitted.

Availability of Bid

Bidding

11.00 Hrs.

16.10.2025

17.00 Hrs.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

Phone: 9438660004, e-mail- eephbls@gmail.com NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement (Online Mode)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION, BALASORE
Phone: 9438660004, e-mail- eephbls@gmail.com

Invitation for Bids (IFB) Dt.08.10.2025

No.C-1236:The Executive Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites

Period of

03 (Three

Calendar

Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid: The Superintending Engineer P.H. Division

Balasore, At- Samalpur, Post- Balia, Dist- Balasore, PIN- 756056, Odisha, Phone: 9438660004

Zonal Office, UCO Bank

Building, 2nd Floor, C-2, Ashok

Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751009

Value

of Work

Lakh)

26.71

authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Percentage Rate Bids in Single Bid System in ONLINE mode only.

SEPHBLS-10

Time of

Price Bid

Clarification

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER **MINOR IRRIGATION DIVISION, KHORDHA** Tel.No.(06755) 221502, E-mail:eemidkhurda@yahoo.co.in

Letter No.4463, Dt.10.10.2025 **Invitation for Bids**

he Superintending Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Khordha on behalf o the Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate Bids in Single and Double Cover System in Online Mode only for civil works in MIPs under MIPSP Scheme as detailed in the table below from the eligible Class of Contractors.

Nature of Work

Civil Works in MIPs under MIPSP Scheme in different Blocks of Khordha District 3 No. of Works 04 (Four) Nos. only

Documents Online receipt of Bids in the 9 Date of Opening of Bids : 11.30 A.M. of Dt.24.10.202 The bidders shall have to participate in online bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/corrigendum cancellation of Bid can also be seen in the said website. The Authority reserves

the right to defer/reject/accept any or all the bids without assigning any reason

soever. The Authority shall in no way be held liable for such action nor wil

make any obligation to inform the Bidder the ground for the same.

Sd./-Superintending Engineer Minor Irrigation Division, Khordha

EAST COAST RAILWAY

Name of the Work: ELECTRICAL WORKS IN NOS. OF LEVEL CROSSING GATES (RV-164 & ST-63) WITH TVU ABOVE 20K OF SAMBALPUR Approx cost of the work: ₹5,57,769.90, EMD/Bid

Security Deposit: ₹11,200/-, Completion period of the work: Six months from the date of issue of LOA. Tender closing date & time: at 1530 hrs. of No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in

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 ejected summarily without any consideration documents of the above e-tender is available in website www.ireps.gov.in The tenders/bidders must have Class-III digital

IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder participating on e-tendering as per instruction. revisit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender. Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G),

Months. date: 14.10.2025, Tender closi date & time: at 1530 hrs. of 28.10.2025.

tender and any such manual offer received shall vailable at website www.ireps.gov.in

Chief Administrative Officer (Con)/RSP/ PR-132/Cl/25-26 Bhubaneswar

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE E-Auction Sale Notice Under Rule 8(6) of

RAILWAY.

Bank of India Zonal Office: Bhubaneswar Zone, 1/1D, Star House, Jayadev

Vihar, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751015, Mob.: 7978330922

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 PROVISO 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 Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor/Legal Heirs 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 Borrower Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor/Legal Heirs, amount due, short description of the immovable properties and encumbrances known hereon, possession type, reserve price, earnest money deposit and Bid increment amount are also given as under

West: Vendee

GOPALPUR BRANCH, PH.: 9007488999 / Borrower: Mr. Sukanta Charan Sethy, S/o: Late Santilata Sethy / Guarantor: Mr. Basanta Kumar Sethy & Legal Heirs of Late Santilata Sethy (Mortgagor) are: 1) Mr. Sukanta Charan Sethy, 2) Mr. Basanta Kumar Sethy, 3) Mr. Bisanta Charan Sethy, 4) Mr. Hemant Kumar Sethy, 5) Mamita Sethy 6) Miss Meghana Priyadarshini Sethy (Grand Daughter of Late Santilata Sethy), 7) Mr. Soumya Ranjan Sethy (Grandson of Late Santilata Sethy), All are At: Elamapur, PO.: Ramakrishnapur, PS.:

Salipur, Dist.: Cuttack **/ Total Dues: ₹28,60,392/-** + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.

SASTRI NAGAR BRANCH, PH.: 9438456140 /

Borrower: Mrs. Prativa Das, W/o.: Mr. Narottam Mohanty, Address-1: At: Flat No.: 202, "Tridhara Enclave", Mahadev Nagar, Jharapada, Bhubaneswar Dist.: Khurda, Odisha-751006, Address-2: At: Flat No. 403, 4th Floor, "Maa Santoshi Enclave", Plot No.: 1050 Khata No.: 668/568, Mouza: Bhagabanpur Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda-751019 / Guarantor: Mr. Narottam Mohanty, S/o.: Muralidhar Mohanty, At: Flat No.: 202, "Tridhara Enclave", Mahadev Nagar,

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Flat No.: 403, 4th Floor, "Maa Santoshi Enclave Apartment" Plot No.: 1050, Khata No.: 668/568, Mouza: Bhagabanpur P.S./SRO: Khandagiri, Tahasil: Bhubaneswar, Dist. Khurda, Super Built up Area: 680 Sqft, standing in the name of Mrs. Prativa Das, Apartment is Bounded by North: BDA Land, South: Road, East: Sub Plot No.: B (Res Part of Plot No.: 1050). West: Land of GA Department Flat is Bounded by North: Community Hall, South: Flat No.: 401, East: Corridor, West: Open Space

Description of the Properties

All that part and parcel of Residential Land & Building

situated over Khata No.: 355/78, Plot No.: 810, Area

Ac.0.135 Dec., Kissam: Gharabari, Plot No.: 811, Area:

Ac.0.080 Dec., Kissam: Bagayat-3, Mouza: Elamapur

SRO: Salipur, Tahasil: Salipur, Tahasil No.: 451, P.S.

Salipur, P.S. No.: 75, Dist.: Cuttack, Odisha, Standing

n the name of Late Santilata Sethy, Plot No.: 810 is

Bounded by North: Road, South: Maheswar Bhoi, East:

Vendee, West: Road, Plot No.: 811 is Bounded by

North: Road, South: Ramachandra Bhoi, East: Road

₹29,00,000/-(excluding GST & other statutory dues) ₹2,90,000/-₹ 50,000/-

₹16,19,000/-

(excluding

GST & other

statutory dues)

Reserve Price

EMD / Bid

ncrement Amour

₹20,65,000/-

(excluding

GST & other

statutory dues)

₹2,06,500/-

₹ 50,000/-

Jharapada, Bhubaneswar, Dist.: Khurda, Odisha-751006**/Total Dues: ₹30,80,178.11** + interest, costs and expenses

CHANDAKA INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX BRANCH, PH.: 7008910582 Borrower: Mr. Rahit Behera, S/o: Mr. Raghunat

less any part amount repaid.

Behera / Co-Borrower & Mortgagor: Mr. Raghunath Behera, S/o: Late Fakira Behera, Both are at Plot No. 2109, Mansinghpur, Near Narayani Mandir, Kuhudi Chilika Road, PO: Sorana, Dist.: Khurda - 752027 Odisha / Total Dues: ₹8,78,887.59 + interest, costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.

ARB, CUTTACK, PH.: 8249067773 Borrower: M/s. Dandeswar Pharmaceuticals, Prop.

Mr. Ajit Kumar Sahu, S/o.: Gobinda Sahu / Guarantoi Mrs. Sarmista Sahu, W/o.: Mr. Ajit Kumar Sahu, Both are At: 101-A, Budheswari Colony, Laxmisagar, Cuttack Road, Bhubaneswar - 751006, Odisha / Total Dues ₹2,83,45,452/- + interest,costs and expenses, less any part amount repaid.

All that part and parcel of Residential Land and Building situated over Khata No.: 1002/194, Plot No.: 2109, Land Area: Ac. 0.030 Dec. i.e. 1306.80 Sqft, Kissam: Gharabari, Mouza: Mansinghpur, P.S.: Tangi (Thana No. 43), SRO: Tangi, Tahasil: Chilika (Tahasil No.: 457), Dist. Khurda - 752027, Odisha, Standing in the name of Mr. Raghunath Behera, S/o: Late Fakira Behera Bounded by North: Hadu Palai, South: Sanatan Behera East: Road, West: Road

Vacant Land at Khata No.: 797/196, Plot No.: 2099, Area Ac.0.295 Dec., Kissam: Gharabari, situated at Mouza Phasi, P.S.: Kodala, Tahasil: Kodala, Dist.: Ganjam Standing in the name of Mr. Ajit Kumar Sahu, S/o. Gobinda Sahu, Bounded by North: Plot of Laxmi Naravar Sahoo (Barren Land), South: Road, East: Plot of Laxmi Narayan Sahoo (Barren Land), West: Plot of Kabiraj Sahoo

₹1,61,900/-₹ 50,000/-₹37.47.000/-(excluding GST & other statutory dues) ₹3,74,700/-

₹ 50,000/-

Date & Time of E-Auction: 25.11.2025 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: 25.11.2025 upto 4.00 P.M.

Inspection will be provided to the prospective bidders on any working day before 24.11.2025 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: 15.10.2025

The bidders shall have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: http://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The Sd./- Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore BRANCH / Name & Address of Borrower/

GOLD AUCTION Co-Borrower / Guarantor/Mortgagor/Legal Heirs **Total Dues**

The following persons, who have availed loans against pledge of gold ornaments, from CONCERNED BRANCHES of UCO Bank, have not repaid the amount in spite of our demand notice. Therefore please take notice that if the principal, interest and other charges are not paid on or before Dt.29.10.2025, the pledge ornaments will be publicly auctioned on Dt.30.10.2025 at 12.00 Noon a the Respective Branch premises. The Bank reserves the right to cancel/postpone the auction to any other convenient date without assigning any reasons.

SI. No.		Balance Outstanding	Weight in (Grams)
	BADAKHOLI BRANCH, At/PO.: Badakholi, Via: As Name of the Manager: Alok Kumar Nayak,		
1.	R Gopal Patra, At/PO.: Pandiapathar, Berhampur / 11600610035238	₹ 42,000/- + Interest and Charges	14.14
2.	Sanjukta Sethi, At/PO.: Badakholi, Ganjam, Berhampur / 11600610025031	₹ 25,000/- + Interest and Charges	13.35
	CRPF BRANCH, C.R.P. Head Quarters, P.O.: Na Name of the Manager: Sitansu Sekhar Behera		
1.	Rajanikanta Pattanaik, At: LIG-17, Brit Colony, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar / 09280610031629	₹ 45,000/- + Interest and Charges	15.80
2.	Subrat Kumar Tripathy, At: L-311, Baramunda Housing Board Colony, Bhubaneswar / 09280610036815	₹ 2,40,000/- + Interest and Charges	56.35
	RANPUR BRANCH, At: Ranpur, PO.: Rajranp Name of the Manager: Gangadhar Behera,		
1.	Pramila Sahoo, At: Kendubania, Ranpur, Nayagarh / 04360610063132	₹ 27,000/- + Interest and Charges	11.10
	KONRAK BRANCH, At: Konark, Di Name of the Manager: Kishore Chandra Mahara		031638

Prakash Chandra Biswal, At Sarada, Konark, Puri / ₹ 21.500/- + 6.48 20060610039045 KHANDAGIRI BRANCH, At: Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar

Name of the Manager: Yogesh Kumar Pradhan, Mob.: 9938117377 Mamata Jena, At: Plot No.: 98, Kolathia, Bhubaneswar / ₹ 24,300/- + 18.50 Laxmipriya Tada, At: Plot No.: 1606, Aerodrome Area, ₹ 43,600/- + 13.10 ane-9, Bhubaneswar / 25420610020876

The intending bidders may participate in the auction by fulfilling the following terms: The Bank does not guarantee the weight or purity of the jewellery/coins, either of its gold contents or otherwise.

2. The jewel is available for inspection by the intending bidders during business hours on any working 3. The intending bidders have to contact the Respective Branch Head for the Reserve Price o each account.

4. The intending purchaser shall make an earnest money deposit of 25% of Reserve Price (to be computed as per the balance outstanding). 5. The jewel to be handed over to the highest bidder on payment of the balance amount within

24 hours or on the next working day of the bank during its business hours 6. If the successful bidder fails to pay the amount, the earnest money will be forfeited and the jewe may be resold within 30 days from the date of auction.

7. The unsuccessful bidder shall be entitled for the refund of the earnest money immediately after the

8. It shall be lawful for the Bank to stop the auction at any stage without assigning any reason thereto in which case the earnest money shall be returned to whoever makes the deposit N.B.: For further details please contact Zonal Office Co-ordinator, Mob: 7873016821

Authorised Officer, UCO Bank Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: 14.10.2025

Authorised Officer, Bank of India



We have every one of us a role to fulfil, a work to do, a place which we alone can occupy





Historic Deal

here is no doubt the way fighting in Gaza was ended and a peace process set in motion in the presence of 20 top world leaders, including the US President Donald Trump, represented October 13 a historic moment. In Israel, the release of living hostages was greeted with elation surcharged with intense emotions by the entire population. In Gaza and the West Bank too there were celebrations since around 2,000 Palestinian detainees started to be released, though the uncertainty over who is being released and where they will be sent causes distress. In northern Gaza, people can finally return to piece together the remains of an estimated 10,000 missing people.

It was nothing sort of a miracle that things could turn out on such an optimistic note as even three weeks ago the possibility of a ceasefire appeared to be doomed with the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Nethanyahu expressing his resolve not to make any peace overtures till the Hamas and its terror network was razed to the ground. Hamas was equally belligerent and evasive. The main credit for making the impossible possible goes to President Trump, while leaders of prominent Moslem countries in the Middle East did their best to make Hamas see reason and accept peace as non-negotiable. It was in the fitness of things that Trump travelled from Jerusalem, where he was cheered in the Knesset, to Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt where he joined a high-powered peace summit. The peace process initiated in Egypt is to be continued at a conference in the UK. Trump can legitimately claim that he is the chief architect of this peace as he succeeded in making Netanyahu abandon his hawkish policy and work for the restoration of peace. It was not an easy task and Trump used both his military prowess and prodding to shun the path of war as a solution to the vexed problem festering for decades.

With this hopes for the deal being the first step toward Palestinian statehood have brightened, though the history of the region may make one circumspect about such an eventual outcome. There are reasons for expressing cautious optimism, since the deal does not offer a path to sovereignty for Palestinians. On the other hand, there are risks of splitting Gaza from the West Bank. The sheer scale of devastation in Gaza wreaked by this war with 60 million tons of rubble strewn all around makes the future very uncertain. The lack of any timeline for Palestinian self-determination in Trump's plan makes his glowing references in his Knesset speech to the "historic dawn" of a "golden age" sound rather rhetorical.

All the same it is reassuring the way Trump has vowed to use the power of his presidency to ensure that Israel accepts the fact that it has achieved "all that it can by force of arms" and begin an age of cooperation in the Middle East.

In a speech to the Israeli Knesset, made hours after the last remaining Israeli hostages were released from Gaza, Trump hailed what he called an end to the "long and painful nightmare" of the Gaza war. He used the occasion well to declare that this was also "the end of an age of terror and death." The most significant message that he gave to Israel was that it had won "with our help" all that it could by using the power of arms. He sounded like a true claimant for the world's highest honour for peace when he said now it is time to turn these victories against terrorists on the battlefield into the "ultimate prize of peace and prosperity for the entire Middle East.'

By repeatedly insisting that Israel's military victory was complete, Trump seems to have emphasised that his remarks were intended as a reassurance to Arab states that he would neither allow Israel to reopen the conflict with Hamas nor permit Hamas to reestablish

This is the real gain achieved at the cost of over 1,200 Israeli and 67,000 Palestinian lives. Now, it is the duty of the top leaders of the world to make sure that both Israel and Hamas or any other outfit using terror as a tool for negotiation bid farewell to arms and work for durable peace.

WISDOM CORNER

The degree of freedom from unwanted thoughts and the degree of concentration on a single thought are the measures to gauge spiritual progress.

Who are we? We find that we live on an insignificant planet of a humdrum star lost in a galaxy tucked away in some forgotten corner of a universe in which there are far more galaxies than people.

Your living is determined not so much by what life brings to you as by the attitude you bring to life; not so much by what happens to you as by the way your mind looks at what

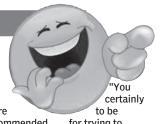
THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1844:** Classical scholar and philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, one of the most influential of all modern thinkers, was born in Prussia.
- 1917: Dutch dancer and courtesan Mata Hari was executed by the French near Paris, charged with spying for Germany during World War I.
- 1934: Chinese communists began the Long March, the 6,000-mile (10,000km) trek that resulted in the relocation of the communist revolutionary base from southeast China to northwest China and the emergence of Mao Zedong as the undisputed leader of the Chinese Communist Party.
- 1940: The comedy classic The Great Dictator premiered in New York City; Charlie Chaplin's biggest box-office success, it satirized Adolf Hitler and Nazism and condemned anti-Semitism.
- 1966: Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale founded the Black Panther Party, the mission of which was to protect African Americans from police brutality; it later developed into a Marxist revolutionary group that, among other things, called for the arming of all African Americans and the release
- **1987:** A military coup in Burkina Faso overthrew head of state Thomas Sankara, killing him and eight others.

CALM DOWN ALBERT

n the supermarket was a man pushing a cart which contained a screaming, bellowing baby. The

gentleman kept repeating softly, "Don't get excited, Albert; don't scream, Albert; don't yell, Albert; keep calm, Albert." A woman standing next to him said,



commended for trying to soothe your son, Albert.' The man looked at her and said, "Lady, I'm Albert."

FOCUS GENDER DISCRIMINATION

BAN GOES ONLINE

Taliban excluded girls and women in Afghanistan from secondary and higher education, the regime shut down the internet, depriving them of one of their last opportunities to learn. What started as a ban in a few provinces to "prevent immoral activities" escalated to a nationwide internet blackout on 29 September. While access was restored on 1 October, many Afghans say that service remains slow and unstable.

The nearly 2.2 million Afghan girls barred from attending school beyond the primary level now live in fear that they will lose their last lifeline to an education. Remote learning is one of the few available alternatives (together with underground and homeschooling) for these girls to receive a secondary education while remaining in the country.

Over the last four years, Education Cannot Wait (ECW), (which I used to chair), UNICEF, and strategic partners have provided an education to 160,000 Afghan girls excluded from the classroom by scaling up community-based and accelerated learning programmes in remote and underserved areas. But many of these programmes have an online component and thus are almost impossible to continue when the Taliban curtails access to the internet. While the regime has vet to give an official explanation for the recent shutdown, it knew that such a cut would deny Afghans - in particular, girls and women access to knowledge from the outside world.

The internet blackout is only the latest example of the Taliban's increasingly brutal assault on girls' and women's rights. After banning girls over the age of 12 from getting an education, the regime barred women from most forms of employment, exclud-



The nearly 2.2 million Afghan girls barred from attending school beyond the primary level now live in fear that they will lose their last lifeline to an education

ed them from nearly all public spaces, and prohibited them from travelling anywhere without a male chaperone. The Taliban's draconian dress code requires women to wear burgas covering them from head to toe.

By 2024, the Taliban's edicts became even more repressive. Women – already banned from speaking in public - were prohibited from praying aloud or reciting the Quran in the presence of other women. In 2025, as part of a broader ban outlawing the teaching of human rights and sexual harassment, the Taliban removed books written by women from universities. This included titles like Safety in the Chemical Laboratory, which the regime found to be of "concern" due to "anti-Sharia and Taliban policies."

Against this backdrop of tightening restrictions, access to the online world was one of the few freedoms Afghan girls and women were allowed. "The only hope left for us was the internet and online learning," one woman from the northern province of Takhar explained to the BBC. "When I heard that the internet had been cut, the world felt dark to me," she added. Another woman, who lives in an eastern province, described feeling "helpless" in the face of internet outages: "[My sisters and I] dreamed of finishing our education and helping our father financially, but now... we all sit at home doing nothing."

The Taliban's cruel policies and human-rights violations have long-term consequences not only for Afghan girls and women, but also for the country's economic growth. According to UNESCO, the lost income from the exclusion of women and girls from education will total \$9.6 billion equivalent to two-thirds of today's GDP - by 2066. Such a huge loss would be catastrophic for a country where roughly 85% of people live on less than \$1 a day, and around half the population needs humanitarian assistance to survive.

This is not the future Afghans want. A recent United Nations Women report found that 92% of the country's population supports girls' secondary schooling. Afghan girls continue to risk arrest by sharing their powerful testimonies and demanding the right to study in ECW's #AfghanGirlsVoices campaign.

Muslim-majority countries have vociferously criticised the Taliban's education ban. Qatar, which has long served as a mediator between the regime and the West, expressed deep concern about the policy. Saudi Arabia also condemned the decision, which it described as "astonishing in all Islamic countries" and as "contrary to giving Afghan women their full legitimate rights, foremost of which is the right to education." The United Arab Emirates pushed for the ban's swift reversal, denouncing it as a violation of "the teachings of Islam."

Although the Taliban's internet blackout was abruptly lifted, the expansion of its assault on girls' education into the online realm is a worrying development. The regime's leadership, in particular its religious leaders who reside in Kandahar, must be reminded as often as possible that there is no foundation in Islamic law for the Taliban's efforts to revoke the right to learn. And the international community must take steps to hold the Taliban accountable, especially as its activities penetrate well into Pakistan, and before it pushes its inhumane policy to yet another new extreme.

> The writer is a former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

IN JEST THIS

Gordon Brown

BLACKOUT

THE LATEST

EXAMPLE OF

ASSAULT ON

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WOMEN'S

RIGHTS

THE TALIBAN'S

INCREASINGLY

IS ONLY

BRUTAL

THE INTERNET

6 ways to lower your risk of brain diseases



Melvin Durai

TRUST ME, **YOU'LL BE MUCH HAPPIER IN YOUR OLD AGE IF YOU CAN STILL REMEMBER WHERE** YOU DEPOSITED **YOUR MONEY**

TO THE EDITOR

are most welcome to contribute letters

requested to send their contact

address/email ID. They may also send in

their valuable comments, opinion and

suggestions, preferably by email, to:

OrissaPOST

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Readers of Orissa Post

(100 words), articles and

numbers and full postal

columns (between 600-1000

etting regular exercise But what's the point in saving tion. Just like your muscles, is important, but many of us — especially older adults - focus too much on physical exercise and not enough on mental exercise. We exercise our bodies, but not our brains. We go for long walks, but not to the library. We participate in yoga, but not in chess.

Here's some good news though: physical activity does benefit our brain health, unless we're participating in a sport like boxing that involves our heads getting pounded.

A research study led by Dr. Sanjula Singh, a principal investigator at the Brain Care Labs at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, US, identified six factors that lower our risk of brain diseases. Assuming we're still able to use our brains, we'd better

pay attention to these factors. Not many of us are worried about preventing brain diseases (or dementia), especially since they mostly affect people in their eighties and nineties.

money for retirement if you haven't saved your brain? Trust me, you'll be much happier in your old age if you can still remember where you deposited your money.

If you want to be as mentally sharp as possible in your old age, you should not neglect these six factors:

1. Low to moderate alcohol intake. The biggest benefit to your brain comes from consuming less than one drink a day, but you can also lower your risk by staying under three drinks a day. Three drinks per day seems like a lot to me, but admittedly, the only time I ever feel like drinking is right after a presidential election. (To celebrate or drown my sorrows.)

2. Cognitive activity. This means that you should regularly participate in mentally stimulating activities such as playing chess, reading and solving puzzles. Give your brain some challenging work. Don't let it take a long vacathe more you use your brain, the stronger it becomes. I'm certainly guilty of not exercising my brain as much as I should. My favourite pastime, watching football, involves so little thinking that my brain goes into hibernation.

3. A diet high in vegetables, fruit, dairy, fish and nuts. Most people in middle-class households consume enough fruit, vegetables and dairy, but only a few make fish and nuts a priority. Fish is widely touted as a brain food, but if you're a strict vegetarian, you're probably saying to yourself, "That's very fishy.

4. Moderate or high levels of physical activity. A moderate level of exercise raises your heart rate or breathing, but not so much that you cannot have a conversation. Picture yourself running five kilometers with a partner and discussing inflation along the way. You'll have two reasons to sweat.

5. A sense of purpose in life.

it keeps you active, both phys ically and mentally. Having purpose means that you are always working toward something. Even if you're retired and your only purpose is to spend time with your grandchildren, you'll have a good reason to keep those neurons in your brain firing. Your brain will be challenged just answering questions from your grandkids, such as, "Why is it so hot outside?" and "Why is your hair so white?'

6. A large social network. No. this does not mean owning stock in Facebook. This means having enough people in your life that you do not feel lonely. You have friends who care about you and can help vou when vou're in need. As a result, you're less likely to be depressed, which enhances your brain health. Having friends also helps you keep your brain active. It's not much fun, after all, playing chess against yourself.

Statistical illusions

Sir, This refers to "Retail inflation slips to over 8-yr low," Orissa POST, Oct 14. India's retail inflation plunging to an eight-year low of 1.54% in September may look like a stroke of good fortune for households, but the headline figure hides more than it reveals. At first glance, it seems that prices are cooling and family budgets may finally ease. However, the decline largely stems from a technical base effect — a statistical distortion rather than genuine price moderation. Inflation is measured year-on-year, and July 2024 witnessed exceptionally high food prices. That inflated base now makes this year's reading appear deceptively soft. The reality is that most goods and services have not become significantly cheaper; rather, food prices are simply lower compared to the previous year. Meanwhile, core inflation, which strips out volatile food and fuel components, remains sticky, signaling persistent pressures in housing, healthcare, education, and other essentials. For households, these sectors dominate monthly expenses, leaving little room for comfort despite the headline decline. The apparent relief, therefore, is statistical rather than practical. Policymakers must look beyond numbers and focus on restoring real purchasing power. Sustainable comfort will come only when broad-based price stability accompanies income growth, not through fleeting statistical illusions.

 ${\it N}$ Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Hygiene first

Sir, Hand washing with soap is a significant step towards health care. Diarrheal disorders can be reduced to half the number and the possibility of developing respiratory infections is diminished by 15 per cent by proper hand wash. Studies indicate that a 15-second thorough washing of both hands together can approximately eliminate 90 per cent of germs. Since dampness of hands can facilitate spread of transfer of bacteria to the body, drying of hands is too vital to be sidetracked. Paper cloth, clean towel, air dryer or drying the hands under the fan are common ways. Hungarian physician Ignaz Semmelweis and the famous Joseph Lister were the pioneers in this field. October 15 is World Hand Hygiene Day with the theme "It might be gloves, it's always hand hygiene.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA



TWO STATES





UNVEIL THE UNSEEN

Arunachal discovers new Balsam species

Scientists at the BSI have been actively involved in discovering and documenting new balsam species, particularly in Northeastern region

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Itanagar, Oct 14: A team of the Botanical Survey of India has discovered 'Impatiens rajibiana', a new species of balsam flower found in the natural forests of Shergaon in West Kameng district of Arunachal Khandu said Tuesday.

The Botanical Survey of India (BSI) has identified many balsam species in India, including newly discovered ones from such as Impatiens godfreyi and Impatiens sashinborthakurii.

While the total number of Indian species is around 230. well-known examples like Impatiens balsamina (garden balsam or touch-me-not) are also native to India and are widely cultivated.

"Heartiest congratulations to Dr Krishna Chowlu and her



dedicated research team from the Botanical Survey of India for their remarkable discovery of Impatiens rajibiana- a new species of balsam found in the natural forests of Shergaon, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh," Chief Minister Khandu wrote on 'X' (social media platform).

He said this scientific milestone not only enriches India's floral diversity but also highlights the unmatched biodiversity of Arunachal Pradesh, a true treasure of the Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Hotspot.

'Such achievements reaffirm the importance of continued scientific exploration and conservation of our pristine natural heritage. Kudos to the entire team for bringing this new discovery from Arunachal to the world of science!" he said.

Scientists at the BSI have been actively involved in discovering and documenting new balsam species, particularly in Northeastern region.

Many of these species are endemic, meaning they are found only in the Northeast and often exist in very small numbers in their natural habitat.

India has about 230 known balsam species, with over 16 new ones discovered between 2013 and 2017 in Arunachal Pradesh alone.

Kolkata, Oct 14: Bharath

Missing army porter rescued from Arunachal's Upper Siang

Itanagar, Oct 14: An army porter who went missing for 20 days in Upper Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh was rescued after an extensive multi-agency search and rescue operation, police said.

The rescued porter, Unnot Taye, a resident of Akshipur village in Dhemaji district of Assam, went missing in the Midak area, about 25 km from Panggo village in the district, September 20, while returning from duty, the police said Monday.

Taye, along with 11 other porters from Assam, had been engaged on September 17 by a contractor for work along the Panggo-Jorging foot track in the Tengo-1 and Tengo-2 border areas. When Taye failed to return, a missing report was lodged at Tuting Police Station on September 23.

Following the report, a rigorous search and rescue (SAR) operation was launched under Tuting police station officer-in-charge Jumken Rina, with active participation

from NGOs, army porters, and villagers from Panggo and Migging, guided by head gaon burahs (village headman) and gram panchavat chairpersons (GPCs).

The joint team combed through the dense forests, steep hills, and riverbanks of the Shirapate river from September 21 to October 9, often under harsh conditions.

October 10, another army

HISTORY MAKER

porter from Kugging village spotted Taye in an unconscious

condition near Midak Camp.

Upon receiving the information, a rescue team comprising police personnel, a medical team, and villagers, including members of the Arunachal Pradesh Women Welfare Society (Panggo Unit), immediately reached the location.

Tuting medical officer Dr Maktel Yompang provided onsite medical aid, stabilising the victim before he was carried or foot for nearly 25 km through

rugged terrain to the nearest road point on October 11. From there, Taye was evacuated to District Hospital at Yingkiong, October 12, and later shifted to Bakin Pertin

13 for further treatment. After medical evaluation and stabilisation, he was reunited with his family the same day.

General Hospital at Pasighat, in

East Siang district on October

Expressing relief and grat itude, Upper Siang deputy commissioner Talo Jerang commended the dedication and teamwork of all those involved in the operation.

"The successful rescue of Unnot Taye is a result of tireless efforts, unity, and commitment shown by all teams and local volunteers," the deputy commissioner said.

Jerang extended appreciation to Upper Siang SP Token Saring, Tuting ADC Pandov Perme, SI Jumken Rina, Dr Yompang, and others for their coordinated action and human itarian spirit.

North Tripura to begin water conservation drive Andhra mountaineer becomes first Indian to summit nine 8,000m peaks



A soak pit is a porous underground chamber that allows water to slowly seep into the surrounding soil

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Agartala, Oct 14: The North Tripura district administration Tuesday announced the launch of a major water conservation drive - 'Uttar Jal Sanchay Yatra' - to construct 50,000 soak pits in two days in November. A soak pit is a porous under-

ground chamber that allows water to slowly seep into the surrounding soil.

The mission is scheduled to be launched on November 3 and 4, an official said.

"The district administration has already geared up to launch a historic mission, 50,000 soak pits in just 2 days! We will together make water conservation a people's movement," District Magistrate (DM), North Tripura, Chandni Chandran told reporters.

She laid emphasis that while soak pits may appear simple, their impact is powerful, they help rainwater seep into the ground, reduce the risk of flooding, and improve soil health and agriculture.

A demonstration of soak pit

prompt action against illegal transporters.

Andhra introduces rapid kits to

curb illegal transport of ration rice

AMARAVATI: Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Minister N Manohar

Tuesday said major reforms are being implemented in the Civil

Supplies Department, including the introduction of rapid kits to

curb the illegal transport of ration rice and strengthen monitor-ing mechanisms. The government has formulated a new strategy

to prevent smuggling networks and ensure swift action against those involved, the minister stated in a press release. The kits

contain Potassium Thiocyanide and Hydrochloric Acid solu-tions, which turn fortified ration rice red upon application,

while ordinary rice remains unchanged. With these rapid kits, officials can now conduct on-the-spot verification and take

construction was held at the DM's residence in the presence of senior officials, including Additional District Magistrate L Darlong Sunday

The demonstration video has been shared on social media to inspire citizens across the district to join the mission.

Chandran appealed to people to join hands in this campaign. "Now, we need you! Join this mission in your home, your village, your institution. Together, let's make Uttar Jal Sanchay Yatra a historic success.'

The initiative aims to make water conservation a mass movement and aligns with the national call to "catch the rain where it falls'

She said the district administration has partnered with several government departments and organisations, including Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM-G), MyGov Tripura, RD Department, and TRLM, to implement this campaign efficiently.

Chandran added local panchayats, schools, Self Help Groups (SHGs) and clubs will be involved in the mission to make the programme a grand success in the entire district.

"There will be special awareness campaign in each village and ward of municipal bodies and gram panchayats," he said.



ment, Thammineni had summited Mt Everest in May 2017, Mt Manaslu in September 2018, Mt Lhotse in May 2019, Mt Annapurna in March 2022, Mt Kanchenjunga in April 2022, Mt Makalu in May 2023, Mt Shishapangma in October 2024 and Mt Dhaulagiri in April 2025 - all 8,000 plus metre peaks, they said.

Five of the remaining top



peaks - Mt K2, Nanga Parbat, Gasherbrum I and II and Broad Peak -- are in Pakistan and are currently out of bounds for Indian climbers.

Thammineni reached the Cho Oyu base camp in China on September 30 and had to abandon initial attempts to climb the mountain on account of inclement weather and heavy

snowfall and had to stay put at the base camp, he told friends back in India who were monitoring his climb.

"We waited till October 12 and then decided to make a quick summit push. I made it to the top this morning at 6.55 am. China time and 8.55 am IST,' the climber said, after descending to the summit camp after

his successful assent. Thammineni's climb as-

sumed further significance since his push to the summit from base camp had no Sherpa support. Founder of Boots & Cram-

pons, a mountaineering company, Thammineni has already won the recognition as India's one of most accomplished high-altitude climbers, sources close to the climber claimed.

"Over the last decade, Bharath has guided expedition teams across six continents and inspired a new generation of Indian climbers. Under his leadership, the Everest 2025 expedition achieved landmark milestones after Chhonzin Angmo from Himachal Pradesh became the world's first blind woman to summit the world's highest peak and Vishwanath Karthikey, then a 16-year old became the youngest Indian to complete the Seven Summits challenge," said Dipanjan Das, a friend of Thammineni who has closely monitored the mountaineer's career, said.

In a recorded message from the

summit camp, the climber dedi-

cated his achievement to the new-

er generation of adventure sports enthusiasts in this country. "This is not just a personal

achievement, but a testament to the potential of Indian adventure sports," he said.

"The mountains demand respect, perseverance, and patience. Standing on the summit of Cho Oyu today, I feel immense gratitude for the journey and hope this inspires a new generation of Indian climbers to aim for the highest peaks," he added.

Meghalaya, NorthEast United FC to promote Football in shillong

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shillong, Oct 14: The Meghalaya government has signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NorthEast United FC aimed at boosting football development and promote Shillong as the 'Football Capital' of India, officials said Tuesday.

The partnership, effective from 2025 to 2028, brings together NorthEast United FC, the Department of Tourism, and the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs in a joint effort to promote football culture, encourage youth participation, and strengthen Meghalaya's image as a key tourism destination, they said.

The MoU was signed by representatives of NorthEast United FC, Department of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya, and the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Meghalaya. Under the MoU, the parties will collaborate on football camps, coach education programmes, fan parks, and youth-focused awareness initiatives.

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPALITY, KENDRAPARA

No. 4676, Dt: 14.10.25

1st Corrigendum Notice

No. C-1267:- In pursuance to tender call notice no.4359

dt.26.09.25 following changes have been done while other

2. At Point 3, word "including" may be replaced as

Date and time of bidding has been extended from 5 PM,

Sd./- Executive Officer,

Kendrapara Municipality

OFFICE OF THE CDM & PHO & 🚮 DISTRICT MISSION DIRECTOR, BHADRAK 🕼 **DISTRICT HEALTH MISSION**

(Department of Health & FW, Govt. of Orissa)

Date: 13.10.2025

Ref.: RFP No. Nirmal/Mechanised Laundry/Bhadrak/22/2025 dated 18.09.2025

Corrigendum

ubmission of RFP regarding outsourcing of Mechanized Laundry service for Bhadrak District under NIRMAL is hereby extended upto 24.10.25 (05.00 PM). Bidders who have already applied need not apply further. Al other terms & conditions will remain unchaged. The Technical Bid will be opened on 28.10.2025 at 11.00 AM at O/o the CDM & PHO, Bhadrak. OIPR-10123/11/0027/2526 Sd./- CDM & PHO, Bhadrak

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA PANCHAYAT SAMITI OFFICE, DEOGAON



INVITATION FOR BIDS THROUGH e-Procurement TENDER CALL NOTICE NO.-01/2025-26/DGN

Invitation for Bids 1. The BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, DEOGAON, BALANGIR on behalf

	==================================	•	
	of Governor of Odisha invites p	oei	rcentate rate bids in single cover syste
	ONLINE MODE only for Constru	ict	ion of Building work as detailed below.
2.	Nature of work	:	Civil & El works
3.	No. of work	:	5 nos.
4.	Bid Cost.	:	₹ 6,000/-
5.	Class of Contractor	:	"D" & "C" and "C" & "B"
			(Registered with CDMS)
6	Availability of Rid Documents in		From 10 00 AM of 14 10 2025 to 5 00

the website of 28.10.2025 Date of opening of Bid : Dt.29.10.2025 at 11.00 AM.

The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum corridendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in Any corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above website only Sd./- Block Development Officer, Deogaon

Fisheries & ARD Department Government of Odisha

Dated:15.10.2029 Corrigendum No.1

Extension of deadline in EOI for the design, construction, exhibit development and operation of a State-of-the Art-Marine Aquariun and under water zoo at/near Puri Sea Beach

No.M-31:1. With reference to EOI for the design, construction exhibit development and operation of a State-of-the Art-Marine Aguarium and under water zoo at/near Puri Sea Beach dated 12.09.2025 issued by Fisheries & ARD Department all prospective developers/ companies are hereby informed that, it has been decided to revise the last date and time for submission of proposal review of the proposal and the final decision announcement. The revised dates are given below.

: 25.10.2025, 5 PM Proposal submission deadline Proposal review period 04.11.2025, 5 PM Final Decision Announcement : 15.11.2025. 5 PM

2.All other conditions in the EOI document remain the same Developers/ Companies / Firms are advised to submit the proposal well in advance in PDF format to pmufard@gmail.com by 25.10.2025, 5 PM. Detailed EOI document is available in the

website of F& ARD Department, Government of Odisha.

Sd./- Principal Secretary Fisheries & ARD Department, Lok Seva Bhawan Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar, Odisha OIPR-52014/11/0002/2526 No. 4530 Sub Store, Puri Dated 14.10.25
FOR SUPPLY OF DRUGS & MEDICAL CONSUMABLES, **LABORATORY REAGENTS & KITS FOR PURI DISTRICT**

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF BID Dt.15.10.25 from 11.00 A.M. AST DATE & TIME OF RECEIPT Dt.06.11.25 upto 04.30 P.M OF BID DOCUMENTS DATE & TIME OF OPENING OF Dt.07.11.25 at 11.00 A.M

Office of the Chief District Medical & Public Health Officer. Puri

TENDER CALL NOTICE

Grand Road, Medical Square, Puri, Pin No.-752002 Phone No.-06752-222124 (O) & 232294 (C.S), E-mail- cdspuri@gmai

TENDER (Cover-A) D.T.U.-1, O/o- CDM & PHO, Puri Venue For detail regarding this tender call notice please visit the website www puri.nic.in or contact office of the undersigned during the office hour in all working days

Sd./- Chief District Medical & Public Health Officer, Puri OIPR-10021/11/0023/2526



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT FISHERIES OFFICER. CUTTACK

Email: dfocuttack@gmail.com EOI No.4416, Dt.10.10.2025

EOI FOR ERECTION OF FISHERIES STALL (5000 Sq. Ft.) ON THE OCCASION OF **HISTORIC BALIYATRA- 2025 FROM 05TH NOVEMBER TO 12TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT BALIYATRA GROUND, CUTTACK.**

No. M-32:- The District Fisheries Officer, Cuttack intends to invite sealed EOI from reputed, registered and experienced Event Management Organizations for erection of Fisheries Pavilion to display the Departmental activities in the Baliyatra Ground, Cuttack from 05th November to 12th November 2025. Bidder fulfilling the prescribed eligibility criteria of the EOI can access and download the complete EOI document and other details from www.cuttack.odisha.gov.in

SI.	List of Critical Events	Key Dates
1	Date of Issue of EOI	10.10.2025
2	Bid Processing Fee	EMD of Rs 40,000/- in shape of
	_	bank draft
3	Last Date of Submission of EOI	27.10.2025, 11.00 A.M
4	Technical Bid Opening Date	27.10.2025, 12.00 P.M
5	Financial Bid Opening Date	27.10.2025, 03.30 P.M
6	EOI Submission and opening at	Office Chamber of District
	(Address)	Fisheries Officer, Jobra, Cuttack
The	EOI has been invited under du	ial bid system as Technical Bid

and Financial Bid. The bid complete in all respects should reach before the undersigned by Speed Post/ Registered post latest by 27.10.2025 before 11.00 A.M in sealed envelopes clearly mentionic "EOI FOR ERECTION OF FISHERIES STALL (5000 Sq. Ft.) ON THE OCCASION OF HISTORIC BALIYATRA-2025" in which two separate sealed envelope super scribed as Technical and Financial bid shall be kept. The financial bid processing fee EMD of Rs 40,000/- (Rupees Forty thousand only) shall be in shape of bank draft in favour of District Fisheries Officer, Cuttack drawn in any scheduled commercial bank payable at Cuttack. The proposals received beyond the last date and time shall not be entertained. The District Fisheries Officer, Cuttack reserves the right to alter the date of opening of EOI and also to reject any or all the EOI without assigning any reason thereof OIPR-06075/11/0003/2526 Sd./- District Fisheries Officer, Cuttack

Arunachal CM unveils railway expansion plan

ITANAGAR: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu Monday said his government was committed to transforming the state through railway connectivity, describing the ongoing projects as a "giant leap" towards economic growth. In a post on X, the CM shared updates about the railway projects that are underway in the state. "Transforming Arunachal through Rail Connectivity! Major strides are being made to link every corner of our state with the national railway network," he said.

"excluding".

OIPR-13185/11/0015/2526

Letter No. 876

Procurement Officer	Bid Identifica- tion No.		of Tender or bidding	Last Date seeking clarifie	tender	Date & Time of opening of		ening of te	tender	
		T	o .			Techni	cal Bid	Financ	ial Bid	
1	2		3 4 5		5	6				
Superintending	Building	Previously	Presently	Previously	Presently	Previously	Presently	Previously	Presently	
Engineer, Rural	Online	fixed on	Modified on	fixed on	Modified on	fixed on	Modified on	fixed on	Modified on	
Works Division.	NCB No.	17.10.2025	18.10.2025	16.10.2025	17.10.2025	18.10.2025	18.10.2025	Will be	Will be	
Banspal	02	to	to	up to	up to	at	at	intimated	intimated	
Danopai	V2	05.00 P.M.	09.00 A.M.	05.00 P.M.	09.00 A.M.	11.00 A.M.	11.00 A.M.	later	later	

Encl:- Copy of NIT enclosed. Sd./- Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Banspal OIPR-25198/11/0004/2526

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, BANSPAL

terms and conditions remain same.

Dt.26.10.2025 to 5 PM, Dt.27.10.2025.

E-mail-eerwbansapal@gmail.com 1st Corrigendum Notice Date: 10.10.2025 1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Building online NCB No.02 invited this office letter No.787 Dt.25.09.2025.

Procurement Officer	Identifica- tion No.	on-line for bidding		Last Date seeking clarifi	tender	Date &	Date & Time of opening of tender			
		T	ō			Techni	cal Bid	Financ	ial Bid	
1	2		3	4		5		6		
Superintending	Building	Previously	Presently	Previously	Presently	Previously	Presently	Previously	Presently	
Engineer, Rural	Online	fixed on	Modified on	fixed on	Modified on	fixed on	Modified on	fixed on	Modified on	
Works Division, Banspal	NCB No.	17.10.2025	18.10.2025	16.10.2025	17.10.2025	18.10.2025	18.10.2025	Will be	Will be	
		to	to	up to	up to	at	at	intimated	intimated	
Вапора	OL.	05.00 P.M.	09.00 A.M.	05.00 P.M.	09.00 A.M.	11.00 A.M.	11.00 A.M.	later	later	

national

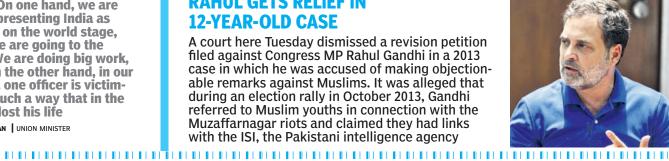


On one hand, we are presenting India as a power on the world stage, today we are going to the moon. We are doing big work, while on the other hand, in our country, one officer is victimised in such a way that in the end, he lost his life

RAHUL GETS RELIEF IN 12-YEAR-OLD CASE

A court here Tuesday dismissed a revision petition filed against Congress MP Rahul Gandhi in a 2013 case in which he was accused of making objectionable remarks against Muslims. It was alleged that during an election rally in October 2013, Gandhi referred to Muslim youths in connection with the Muzaffarnagar riots and claimed they had links with the ISI, the Pakistani intelligence agency





from Jammu and Kashmir leaves the region in its raw form,

processing or value addition being done locally. This opens significant opportunities for industrial growth, both on the Jammu side and the Kashmir side

OMAR ABDULLAH | CHIEF MINISTER.

I hope with time, the government will restore the clean Yamuna river. The Delhi

Jal Board and Water Minister are working hard. I can assure that Delhi people will not see any froth on the Yamuna

REKHA GUPTA | CHIEF MINISTER, DELHI

₹1.60 lakh per family has been approved for the reconstruction of 36,703 damaged

houses, including ₹1.20 lakh for the construction of houses, and ₹40,000 for labour and toilet facilities

SHIVRAL SINGH CHOUHAN I UNION AGRICULTURE MINISTER

SHORT **TAKES**

2 terrorists killed in **Army infiltration bid**

Srinagar: Two unidentified terrorists were killed as Army troops foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials here said Tuesday. The troops noticed suspicious movement along the LoC in Kupwara late Monday night and challenged the intruders. There was a brief exchange of fire between the two sides, the officials said. "Based on specific intelligence input by JKP & corroborated by sources and agencies, regarding likely infiltration attempt, a joint operation was launched by #IndianArmy and @JmuKmrPolice in Machhal Sector, Kupwara 13 Oct 2025.

Detained AAP MLA seeks HC nod to vote

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir AAP president and MLA Mehrai Malik, who was detained under Public Safety Act (PSA) last month, has moved the High Court of J&K and Ladakh seeking permission to participate in the upcoming Assembly session and to cast his vote in Raiva Sabha elections. The I&K Assembly session is scheduled to start on October 23 and the biennial elections to fill the four Raiva Sabha seats of the Union Territory. lying vacant since 2021, would be held October 24. Admitting the application of Malik. Justice Saniav Dhar directed the government to file its reply. He was hearing the main habeas corpus petition filed by the politician who was detained September 8 for allegedly disturbing public order and was subsequently lodged in Kathua jail.

Afghan Sikh, Hindu envoy meets Muttaqi

New Delhi: A delegation of Afghan Sikhs and Hindus, who left that country over the past few decades and are currently living in India, met visiting Afghanistan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi here and sought restoration and maintenance of historica gurdwaras and other shrines located there. The delegates met the minister at the Afghan Embassy in New Delhi Monday. The Taliban-ruled nation's foreign minister is currently on a week-long visit to India. During the meeting, the Afghan Sikh members of the delegation discussed about the properties of gurdwaras and the land they stand upon in Afghanistan. They requested Muttaqi that the land be restored to the Sikhs for upkeep and proper maintenance.

SAU student sexually assaulted on campus

The first-year B.Tech student was found injured, with her clothes torn, on campus October 13, a day after she was reported missing

New Delhi, Oct 14: An 18-yearold student of Delhi's South Asian University (SAU) was allegedly sexually and physically assaulted, stripped of her clothes and forced to consume an abortion pill by four people, including a security guard, on the campus premises, according to an FIR lodged by the Delhi Police where the victim gives details about harrowing incident. The first-year B.Tech stu-

dent was found injured, with her clothes torn, on campus October 13, a day after she was reported missing, the police said Tuesday. According to the police, an

FIR was registered in the matter today. While the victim's statement has been recorded before the district magistrate, the four accused are absconding.

The young woman, in the FIR, alleged that she received sexually explicit and threatening messages over email and social media from a person identified as Aryan Yash in the days leading up to the incident.

The messages included morphed obscene images of the victim and instructions to meet the sender at various locations on campus, according to her statement.

According the victim, the instructions read, "I am standing outside your gate, you will see a girl in B-1 Block, Compound, come with her to Gate 3 of the University.

The FIR added that the victim left the hostel and went to



The alleged assault triggered protests on campus, with students staging a sit-in at the administrative block for over eight hours, accusing the university of delaying police notification and being insensitive to the victim's safety concerns

C-Block, where she could see a crowd.

"I was avoiding going among the people. I thought it might be one of them, so I went behind the building. Then I went straight towards the convocation center. Construction work was underway there earlier, but it's closed at night, and no one goes there. After walking a little distance, a guard asked me what was wrong," it read.

The guard then called a middle aged man and two boys also joined them, the woman claimed. "I was sitting on the

stairs. Then all four of them came to me and asked, 'Why aren't vou leaving?" she said in the FIR. They physically assaulted her, striped her clothes, pressed an abortion pill against her tongue, and threatened her life, the victim alleged in the FIR, adding that while one man was grabbing and pulling her t-shirt, the other was trying to pull her pants down as she resisted.

"Then he put his foot on my thigh, someone was holding my eyes, and someone came near kill your child, don't worry about him," it said.

The FIR also mentioned that one of them kept a leg on her thighs, hit her on her head and poked fingers in her eyes.

The attackers fled when a university staff member appeared on the scene, leaving the victim injured and disoriented. She was later found by fellow students and taken to a hostel room, where she was counselled

A PCR call regarding the incident was received around 3 pm on Monday.

The South Asian University has also constituted a probe committee to look into the incident and asked to submit a detailed report within 10 days.

SAU officials said the victim is receiving counselling and that the institution has a zero-tolerance policy on sexual harassment and all forms of violence against women.

India reliable partner in Mongolia's devpt: Modi

New Delhi, Oct 14: India has been a "reliable partner" in Mongolia's development and both the nations support a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Tuesday after holding wide-ranging talks with Mongolian President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa

Ukhnaa landed in New Delhi Monday on a four-day visit to India, his first to the country as president. Following his talks with the

visiting leader, Modi said India will extend free e-visas to people from Mongolia. "The oil refinery project,

supported by India's \$1.7 billion line of credit, will strengthen Mongolia's energy security, the prime minister said. It is India's largest develop-

ment partnership project globally, with over 2,500 Indian professionals working alongside their Mongolian counterparts to make it a reality, he said. "We stand as close partners in international forums, sup-

porting a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based Indo-Pacific. Together, we also work to amplify the voice of the Global South," Modi said. On his part, the Mongolian

president hailed India's leading role in the clean energy sector and specifically referred to the New Delhi-led International Solar Alliance. In his media statement, Modi

also noted that the engagement between India and Mongolia is more than just a diplomatic re-

"It is a deep, soulful, and spir-



itual bond. The depth and scope of our partnership is reflected in our people-to-people ties, he said.

"Both our countries share the age-old bond of Buddhism which is why we are also called spiritual siblings," he added.

The prime minister said sev eral important decisions were taken in the talks he had with Ukhnaa to further strengthen this tradition and historic ties between the two nations.

"We have decided to soon launch a project to digitise one million ancient manuscripts Nalanda University has played a vital role in Buddhism in Mon golia, and today we have agreed to strengthen this historic con nection by linking Nalanda with Gandan Monastery," he said. "The MoU signed today be tween the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council and Mongolia's Arkhangai Province will give a fresh boost to our cultural ties," he said.

The prime minister de scribed India as a "steadfast and reliable" partner in Mongolia's development story.

The partnership between the two countries spans across sectors such as defence and security, energy, mining, information technology, education, healthcare, and cultural cooperation

LAB, KDA announce

Cong jabs PM after US **President praises Munir**



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: The Congress Tuesday attacked the government over US President Donald Trump's praise for Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir, saying what kind of signal is the American leader sending to India, in spite of PM Narendra Modi's "desperate attempts" to ingratiate himself with him.

What sort of friendship is this between Trump and Modi, the Opposition party asked, citing instances of Trump's praise for Munir and past meetings between the two. Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said Prime Minister Modi keeps calling President Trump his good friend and to be fair the American leader also keeps calling Modi his good friend. "But what sort of friendship is this? President Trump hosted Field Marshal Asim Munir to an unprecedented lunch in the White House June 18, 2025. This was the Field Marshal whose inflammatory and communally poisonous remarks provided the backdrop to the Pahalgam terror attacks orchestrated by Pakistan April 22, 2025," Ramesh said on X.

Then President Trump met with with the Field Marshal a second time in the White House September 26, 2025, when the Field Marshal presented President Trump with a box of rare earths, he said. "Now in Egypt yesterday, President Trump calls Asim Munir as 'my favourite Field Marshal' and gives special place to the PM of Pakistan. What kind of signal is President Trump sending to India, in spite of Mr. Modi's desperate attempts to ingratiate himself with the US President?" Ramesh said.

Nitish gives away JD(U) tickets amid BJP rift buzz

Patna, Oct 14: Amid intense speculations that the NDA seat-sharing deal has left him infuriated, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar Tuesday gave away JD(U) tickets, by-passing the party's earlier practice of announcing the names of candidates at a press conference

On the other hand, the BJP which has been put on the same pedestal as the JD(U) for the first time in an Assembly election, announced its first list of 71 candidates. Springing surprises, it denied a ticket to Speaker Nand Kishore Yadav, a seven-term MLA, while fielding Deputy CM Samrat Choudhary in a direct election after over

a decade. Health and Law Minister Mangal Pandey, a member of the legislative council, has also been fielded by the party for the Assembly polls.



It was not immediately known how many JD(U) candidates were given tickets during the day, as the CM's residence kept bustling with activity, with aspirants turning up after receiving a call from the party

However, prominent among those who did are minister Bijendra Prasad Yadav, state JD(U) president Umesh Singh

Kushwaha (Mahnar) and gangster-turned-politician Anant Kumar Singh (Mokama). Many of them also filed their nomination papers.

There was some drama. too, as Gopalpur MLA Gopal Mandal, who is said to have angered Kumar by remaining in the news for all the wrong reasons, turned up at the CM's residence without seeking an appointment. When security personnel tried to prevent him from entering the restricted area, he sat on a dharna, only to be bundled away into a police vehicle hours later.

Mandal's constituency falls in the Bhagalpur district, where he is also known to have a running feud with local JD(U) MP Ajay Mandal, who sought to resign from the party around the same time, alleging that tickets were being given in his area without heeding to his

fresh protest PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Leh, Oct 14: Announcing fresh protests in support of and constitutional safeguards, Ladakh representatives Tuesday reiterated their condi tions including judicial inqui ry into last month's violence for resuming talks with the

The Leh Apex Body (LAB) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) said they will soon hold a two-hour silent march from 10 am followed by three-hour blackout from 6 pm same day in the entire Ladakh in support of the demands for statehood and Sixth Schedule status for the Union Territory

"The decision was taken in a joint meeting of the core committee of the two bod ies. The date for the protest will be made public shortly but the protest will be held within days," co-chairman of KDA Asgar Ali Karbalai told reporters here.

Tourism dept gears up for commercial paragliding in Jammu by next year

The project is also a story of personal courage and empowerment led by Dolly Sharma, the only woman pilot among the 20 trainees preparing to fly professionally

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Aitham (JK), Oct 14: The Jammu Tourism Department is preparing to give the region's skies a new identity by introducing commercial paragliding near here by early next year.

The project is also a story of personal courage and empowerment led by Dolly Sharma, the only woman pilot among the 20 trainees preparing to fly professionally.

Aitham is a paragliding location near Jammu that has undergone trials and is being developed by the tourism department to boost adventure tourism. The take-off point is about 19 km from Jammu city

and the landing zone is the sand bed of the Sardhan stream. The trial flight is approximately four minutes. "This is the only site that is

recommended for paragliding and we want to operationalise it in the next five to six months before the end of the current financial year," Joint Director, Jammu Tourism, Aijaz Qaiser told PTI on the concluding day of the six-day refresher course for the 20 paragliding pilots here. The refresher course is part

of advanced training for the pilots who have already completed their P1, P2 and P3 courses from the National Institute of Mountaineering and allied sports. They will be undergoing P4 training courses at Bilaspur (Govind Sagar lake) and Bir-Billing (Himachal Pradesh) which is considered Asia's bestin-class institute for paragliding and related activities.

These 20 pilots have just completed their SIV course from Himachal Pradesh and will be leaving in two batches

for Bir-Billing for P4 shortly.

Aitham is a paragliding location near Jammu that has undergone trials and is being developed by the tourism department to boost adventure tourism

Mountaineering and Allied Sports, Manali, and have one instructor from there with a two-member technical team from Himachal Pradesh that supervised the training schedule," Qaiser said. On the completion of the pi-

the A B Vajpayee Institute of

lots' advance training, he said, the department plans to make them fly regularly so that they can complete their mandatory flying hours to conduct solo and tandem flights with passengers.

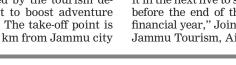
"This is a 190 sq km area with ideal take-off slopes, conpanoramic views. We are in the process of taking over this land to raise necessary infrastructure, including an uphill track, multi-cuisine restaurants, a sunset point and a yoga platform," he added.

The officer said the initiative is part of a broader push to develop adventure tourism in the region and make Jammu a vear-round destination for visitors seeking more than pilgrimages and heritage trails

Sharma, the only woman among the trainees, who has been pursuing adventure sports for the past five years, said this opportunity represents both professional growth and a step forward for women in the re

"The experience has been very good. Being a woman is not a weakness — there is nothing that a woman cannot do," she said, brimming with confidence before taking flight and making a perfect landing.

For Sharma, the project represents something deeper than tourism or business.







national



India's governance framework embedded DRR within its National Adaptation Plan, sectoral policies, and financing windows, ensuring that resilience, inclusivity and sustainability were woven into every level of development planning

DELHI FATAL ACCIDENTS DECLINE BY 2.9%

Fatal road accidents in the national capital have declined by 2.9 per cent and deaths due such crashed have also reduced by 2.5 per cent till September, as compared to the corresponding period last year, according to data shared by the Delhi Police Tuesday





attempt to divert the world's attention from the grave abuses against children within their borders, as evidenced by the Secretary-General's report on CAC 2025, as well as ongoing cross-border terrorism NISHIKANT DUBEY | BJP LEADER

Every district has its own remarkable solutions and innovations shaped by local realities. The Peyjal Samvad is an opportunity to identify such scalable and replicable models that can inspire cross-learning and guide policy improvement

ASHOK KK MEENA | JAL SHAKTI SECRETARY





MINISTER, UTTAR PRADESH





a pothole problem too but DK Shivakumar instead of playing blame game accepted it and released a special fund of INR 1100 Crore to make Bengaluru Pothole free. This is the difference between a politician and a leader.

@RoshanKrRaii

HARYANA MYSTERY DEEPENS

ASI shoots himself dead, implicates Puran Kumar

ASI Sandeep Kumar's alleged suicide comes in the backdrop of the escalating row over Puran Kumar's death, which has led to a shakeup of the police brass and also become a huge political issue

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, Oct 14: A Haryana assistant sub-inspector in Rohtak shot himself dead Tuesday and purportedly levelled corruption allegations against the late Inspector General Y Puran Kumar, adding a murky twist to the suspected suicide of the senior Dalit officer who served in the same district.

ASI Sandeep Kumar's alleged suicide comes in the backdrop of the escalating row over Puran Kumar's death, which has led to a shakeup of the police brass and also become a huge political issue.

Earlier in the day, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi visited the senior officer's family and called for the respect of all Dalits. He asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the state government to take immediate action and arrest the officials responsible.

With IPS officer Y Puran Kumar's family refusing to give consent for his autopsy, the Chandigarh Police Tuesday moved a court seeking seek directions to the senior officer's kin to identify the body for a post-mortem.

Consequently, the court issued a notice to Kumar's wife -- IAS officer Amneet P Kumar -- to file a reply either personally or through counsel October 15, failing which the application will be decided on merits.

Amid the churnings, the second suicide of the Haryana ASI has muddied the waters even more, the questions becoming louder, the mystery deeper.

Sandeep Kumar's shock death



came hours after the state government late Monday night sent state DGP Shatrujeet Kapur on leave. Before that, the government transferred Narendra Bijarniya, former Rohtak superintendent of police. The two were among the eight officials named by Puran Kumar in a note he left behind.

OP Singh, a 1992-batch IPS officer of DGP rank, has been assigned" additional charge of DGP Haryana during the leave period of Shatrujeet Kapur", according to an official order.

Sandeep Kumar, who was posted in the cyber cell and whose body was recovered from his Rohtak home, left behind a six-minute purported video and a three-page suicide note naming Puran Kumar. The veracity of the video and the statement could not be immediately verified.

Police sources said the ASI played a role in the arrest of head constable Sushil Kumar, an aide of Puran Kumar who was found with a gunshot wound in his Chandigarh home October 7. "Sandeep shot himself," said a senior police official from Rohtak. Sandeep Kumar levelled se-

rious allegations against Puran Kumar in the purported video, saving even Bhagat Singh made sacrifices and walked a difficult path after which the country awakened.

"And today, this country will awaken when we sacrifice ourselves on the path of truth," he is heard as saying while claiming that"honest officer" Bijarniya had confronted Puran Kumar. Puran Kumar's name had cropped up in a bribery scandal recently. A liquor contractor in Rohtak filed a bribery case against head constable Sushil Kumar. He alleged Sushil Kumar sought a bribe of Rs 2.5 lakh in Puran Kumar's name (when he was posted there).

Puran Kumar's wife, senior IAS officer Amneet P Kumar, has demanded that Kapur and Bijarniva be named in the FIR for allegedly abetting her husband's suicide. The officer's family is also seeking their arrest and has refused consent for post-mortem and cremation until their demands are met.

Govt to set up hub of **'Black Cat' commando** force NSG in Ayodhya

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Manesar (Haryana), Oct 14: The government will set up another regional hub of the 'Black Cat' commando force NSG in Uttar Pradesh's temple town Ayodhya, Union Home Minis ter Amit Shah said Tuesday.

This will be the sixth regional hub of the National Security Guard (NSG) after the existing hubs of Mumbai, Chennai, Kol kata, Hyderabad and Gandhinagar. The force also has a small unit called 'task force' in Jammu.

NSG hubs in different parts of the country enable its commandos to reach any emergency immediately and effectively.

Addressing the 41st Raising Day of the anti-terror commando force at its headquarters here. Shah said the Modi government is set to bring about a major change in the functioning of the NSG in the coming days.

"So far, five hubs of the NSG have been established in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad (Gandhi nagar). In addition, a new hub is also going to be set up in Avodhya. Here, the NSG personnel will be deployed and available round the clock," he said.

The government operationalised four regional hubs of the NSG in Mumbai, Chennai. Hyderabad and Kolkata June 30 and July 1, 2009. The decision to set up these hubs was taken following the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks of 2008 to reduce the time for elite commandos to reach an attack site.

The NSG unit serves as a specialised backup force for prolonged, high-risk anti-terror operations. The hubs help in honing the professional acumen of the NSG commandos and also contribute significantly to capacity building of the first responders, police forces of the states.

Senior Naxalite Bhupathi, 60 other cadres surrender



One of the influential strategists in the banned organisation, Bhupathi, a member of the central committee and Politburo, carried a bounty of ₹6 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gadchiroli (Maharashtra), Oct 14: Senior Naxalite Mallojula Venugopal Rao alias Bhupathi surrendered before police along with 60 other cadres in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district, officials said Tuesday.

One of the influential strategists in the banned organisation, Bhupathi, a member of the central committee and Politburo, carried a bounty of Rs 6 crore, an official said.

He said the Naxals turned themselves in before the police around 10 pm Monday. The cadres were brought to the Gadchiroli police headquarters in police vehicles from Hodri village, where they surrendered with 54 weapons, he said.

The seized weapons include seven AK-47s and nine INSAS rifles, the official said.

The surrendered cadres include a member of the central committee, three Dandkaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC) members and 10 members of a divisional committee of the outlawed CPI (Maoist), he said.

According to sources, Venugopal, alias Bhupathi alias Sonu, was considered one of the most influential strategists in the Maoist organisation and had long supervised platoon operations along the Maharashtra-Chhattisgarh border.

However, growing differences between him and the top Naxal leadership in the recent months led to an internal conflict, they said.

Bhupathi had claimed that the armed struggle failed and appealed for a shift towards peace and dialogue, citing di minishing public support and the loss of hundreds of cadres.

His stand was met with resistance from other senior cadres who decided to continue the fight under another leader sources said. Under pressure from the central Naxal leadership, Bhupathi eventually agreed to lay down arms, announced his exit from the out fit, and surrendered with his followers before the Gadchiroli police, they said.

In recent months, Gadchiroli district has witnessed a steady stream of Naxalites surrendering before the police.

Bhupathi's surrender, along with 60 Naxals, is considered a major setback for the Maoist movement in the state.

Earlier this year, Bhupathi's wife, Tarakka, also surrendered. She was a member of the Dandkaranya special zonal committee of the outlawed

SHORT **TAKES**

Ladki Bahin scheme: e-KYC deadline extended

Thane: Maharashtra minister Aditi Tatkare has said the November deadline for completing e-KYC for the 'Ladki by 15 days for women residing in the flood-affected regions. Significant improvements were being made to the e-KYC server system under the 'Ladki Bahin Yojana' to ensure smoother and faster processing for beneficiaries, the women and child development minister told reporters here Monday evening. Under the government's flagship 'Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana', eligible women receive Rs 1,500 every month. Tatkare said the government has prioritised resolving the technical issues faced during e-KYC verification, which had slowed down the process in

Cleric Taugeer Raza appears before court

Bareilly: Cleric Maulana Taugeer Raza appeared virtually before a Bareilly court Tuesday in connection with the September 26 violence in the city. The court has fixed October 28 as the next date for his remand hearing, a court official said. Senior Prosecution Officer (SPO) Lavlesh Singh said Raza appeared before Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Alka Pandey through video conferencing from Fatehgarh Central Jail, where he is currently lodged. Besides him, 39 other accused were produced before the court in person, he added. The CIM extended the judicial custody of Ittehad-e-Millat Council (IMC) chief by another 14 days and directed that he be produced again October 28. Police have described Raza as the main accused in the September 26 violence in Bareilly, where his followers allegedly clashed with police

and damaged public property.

LADAKH VIOLENCE

SC adjourns hearing on plea of Wangchuk's detention

New Delhi, Oct 14: The Supreme Court Tuesday adjourned to October 15 the hearing on a plea filed by Sonam Wangchuk's wife Gitanjali J Angmo challenging the climate activist's detention under the National Security Act and seeking his immediate release.

A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria posted the matter for hearing Wednesday after senior advocate Kapil Sibal sought adjournment.

"The matter was called out. It was passed over at the request of counsel for the petitioner. Again the matter is called and a request is made by the counsel for the petitioner to adjourn the same for tomorrow with a further request to list on top of the board. List tomorrow, i.e.,

October 15, 2025 at the top of the

The top court on October 6 issued notices to the Centre and the Union Territory of Ladakh. It, however, had refused to pass any order on Angmo's plea for providing her the grounds of detention and posted the matter

for hearing October 14. In her plea, Angmo has also questioned the decision to invoke the NSA against Wangc-

Filing the habeas corpus (bring the person) writ, the spouse of the detained activist sought urgent listing of the plea and a direction to the Ladakh administration to "produce Sonam Wangchuk before this court forthwith". It also sought immediate access to the detenu, and quashing of the preventive detention order.



A National Security Guard (NSG) commando with a sniffer dog during the 41st Raising Day ceremony of NSG at the NSG Garrison, Manesar in Gurugram, Haryana, Tuesday

India urges COP30 to focus on lack of funds for developing nations

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav reaffirmed India's full support for making COP30 successful through collective and inclusive climate action

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: India has said the United Nations climate conference in Belém, Brazil, should focus on tackling the critical shortage of resources that developing countries need to adapt to climate change and curb greenhouse gas emissions.

Addressing the Global Stock Take (GST) breakout session during the pre-COP30 meeting in Brasilia Monday, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said the time for continuous reviews without action has passed.

"Dialogue is important, but action is imperative," he said. "We must now focus on im-

plementing ambitious climate measures and, above all, addressing the most pressing challenge: the urgent lack of resources for developing countries to deliver adaptation and mitigation," Yadav said.

The GST is a periodic review under the Paris Agreement 2015 that assesses the world's collective progress toward limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Held every five years, it examines countries' actions on mitigation, adaptation and finance and guides them to strengthen their future climate commitments. This year marks 10 years since the adoption of the Paris Agreement.

The first GST was completed at COP28 in Dubai. Yadav said GST is designed to strengthen

For future GSTs, he proposed that there should be no rushing for the inclusion of scientific assessments without proper discussion on their global relevance.

Science, he said, must follow rigor, accuracy and robustness, with due consideration from all relevant sources.

Yadav met UN climate chief Simon Stiell, COP30 President-Designate André Corrêa do Lago and EU Commissioner for Climate Action Wopke

Hoekstra on the sidelines of the pre-COP meetings.

Yadav said his discussion with Stiell focused on 'strengthening multilateral cooperation to enhance global climate action".

"Appreciate his acknowledgment of India's leadership and remarkable progress in renewable energy," Yadav posted on X. He said his meeting with Corrêa do Lago focused on strengthening climate cooperation, energy security and adaptation measures to deliver tangible outcomes on the implementation of the Paris

Yadav reaffirmed India's full support for making COP30 successful through collective and

inclusive climate action. In the meeting with Hoekstra, the two leaders discussed ways to advance the India EU climate partnership and en-

hance energy security. They also underlined the importance of climate finance, technology transfer and cooperative solutions for sustainable

growth, Yaday said. The two-day pre-COP brings together environment and climate ministers, senior negotiators and observers to narrow differences on politically sensitive topics and build ministerial consensus ahead of the UN climate conference in Belém. Pre-COPs are not formal UN

FCCC events but have become routine host-country platforms to focus ministerial attention on a short list of political ques tions that negotiators other wise take weeks to resolve.

COP30 is taking place against a complex geopolitical backdrop, with several developed countries reassessing their climate strategies amid economic and energy security pressures

In the run-up to the annual climate meeting, disagreements over climate finance, the pace and responsibility for the energy transition, and the burden on developing countries remain sharp.

international



We have a once-in-a-lifetime chance to put the old feuds and bitter hatreds behind us DONALD TRUMP

BELGIUM PROTESTS

Belgian police fired tear gas in an attempt to disperse tens of thousands of people who flooded Brussels Tuesday to protest Prime Minister Bart de Wever's proposed austerity measures. Minor scuffles broke out between police and protesters, some of whom played drums and horns and set off flares and smoke bombs, while chanting against cuts to social welfare programmes.





growing force on the world stage, on track to have the third



KEIR STARMER | BRITISH PRIME MINISTER



exemptions, Most countries refrained from retaliation, keeping instead the trading system largely open PIERRE-OLIVIER GOURINCHAS





SHABANA MAHMOOD | UK HOME SECRETARY

SHORT **TAKES**

China making 4th aircraft carrier

Beijing: China is reportedly building its fourth aircraft carrier even as it is set to launch the third one called Fujian which has completed its sea trials. The building of the fourth aircraft carrier is under progress at a shipyard in Dalian, Liaoning province, Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported Tuesday posting the satellite images of the hull. China, which was the last among the major countries to opt for the aircraft carriers for of them, the Liaoning, a refit of the Soviet-era ship commissioned in 2012 and built second aircraft carrier operationalised in 2019. The third aircraft carrier, the Fuijan, which has been successfully conducting tests and training will be commissioned soon, Chinese military spokesperson Zhang Xiaogang said last month. He said that carrierbased aircraft J-15T, J-35 and KongJing-600 have catapult-assisted take-off and arrested landing training aboard the Fujian aircraft carrier. All the three carriers are conventionally powered. The fourth carrier, however, could be powered by nuclear propulsion, which would increase its endurance and global reach and provide significantly more power to

B'desh: 16 killed

Post report said.

run advanced systems, the

in factory fire Dhaka: At least 16 workers were killed and several others iniured Tuesday in a fire that broke out at a garment factory and a chemical warehouse in the Bangladeshi capital, officials said. The devastating fire broke out at a chemical warehouse next to the garment factory in Dhaka's Rupnagar area, Talha Bin Jasim, an officer at the Fire Service and Civil Defence Media Wing, was quoted as saving by the state-run BSS news agency. "During the search campaign, 16 bodies were recovered from the garment factory alone." Fire Service spokesman Anwarul Islam told the agency. He said fire was suspected to have broken out from the chemical warehouse and spread to the garments unit - Anwar Fashion Garments Factory and Shah Alam Chemical Warehouse. "We have extinguished the fire at the four-storey garment factory, but efforts are still underway to douse the blaze at the chemical depot.' Islam said. Fire Service and Civil Defence Director (Operation and Maintenance) Lt Col Mohammad Taiul Islam Chowdhury confirmed the toll.

but said the victims have not

yet been identified.

Hamas fighters tighten grip in Gaza

Cairo/Jerusalem, Oct 14: Hamas fighters tightened their grip in Gaza Tuesday after carrying out public executions, defying Israel's assertion that war cannot end under US President Donald Trump's plan until the militants are disarmed.

In a stark assertion of the group's return, fighters executed men they accused of collaborating with Israeli forces. In one video circulated late Monday, Hamas fighters dragged seven men into a circle of people in Gaza City, forced them to their knees and shot them from behind. A Hamas source confirmed the authenticity of

Gaza residents said fighters were increasingly visible Tuesday, deploying along routes needed for aid deliveries. Palestinian security sources say dozens of people have been killed in clashes between Hamas fighters and rivals in recent days.

Although Israeli troops have withdrawn from urban areas in Gaza under the ceasefire that began last week, drone fire killed five people as they went to check on houses in a suburb east of Gaza City and an air strike killed one person and injured another near Khan Younis, Gaza health authorities said.

Hamas accused Israel of violating the ceasefire. The Israeli military said it had fired on people who crossed truce lines and approached its forces after ignoring calls to turn back.



Hamas' resumption of power in Gaza and continued flashes of violence underscore the daunting hurdles facing efforts to move Trump's ceasefire plan towards a longer-term resolu-

tion of the conflict. While Trump proclaimed the 'historic dawn of a new Middle East" to Israel's parliament on Monday, some of the most difficult elements of his plan have yet to be negotiated to resolve issues that wrecked previous efforts to end the war.

Israeli forces remain entrenched across much of Gaza after their partial pullback inside the tiny, crowded territory. Promised increases in aid deliveries have not yet materialised for a population of 2.2 million people, many facing famine. A summit co-hosted by

Trump in Egypt on Monday ended with no public announcement of major progress towards establishing an international military force for Gaza, or a new governing body. The remains of at least 23 dead hostages remain in Gaza.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has consistently maintained that the war cannot end until Hamas gives up its weapons and ceases to control Gaza, a demand that the fighters have rejected, torpedoing all previous

When Hamas fighters ap-

Body of Nepali hero reaches Israel

Kathmandu: The body of a Nepali hero who saved several lives during the October 7 Hamas attack in Israel has been brought back to Tel Aviv and will soon be returned to his family for proper burial, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said in a statement. Bipin Joshi, 23, was abducted from a shelter in Kibbutz Alumim by Hamas October 7 along with several others. "Bipin was abducted at the age of 23 from a shelter in Kibbutz Alumim by Hamas. It is assessed that he was murdered in captivity during the first months of the war," IDF said in a statement on social media Tuesday. The IDF said it will make necessary arrangements to return the body of the victim to his family for proper burial.

peared in the streets during the last ceasefire in January-March, Israel abandoned the truce and called off negotiations on an end to the war. But Trump, having announced that the war is now over, said on Monday Hamas still had a temporary green light to keep order.

They do want to stop the problems, and they've been open about it, and we gave them approval for a period of time,' he said.

Hamas sources told Reuters Tuesday the group would tolerate no more violations of order in Gaza and would target collaborators, armed looters and

French PM suspends flagship pension reform



REUTERS

Paris, Oct 14: French Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu Tuesday suspended a landmark 2023 pension reform until after the 2027 presidential election, bowing to pressure from leftist lawmakers who had demanded such a move to ensure his political survival.

Lecornu, who is facing an uphill battle to survive at least two no-confidence votes later this week, made the announcement in parliament as part of a last-ditch attempt to forge the conditions for passing a slimmed-down 2026 budget.

Lecornu's decision rep resents an acknowledgment by French President Emmanuel Macron that mothballing the pension reform - which he considers to be one of his main economic legacies - was the only way to ensure the survival of Lecornu, his sixth prime minister in less than two years.

France is in the midst of its worst political crisis in decades as a succession of minority governments seek to push deficitreducing budgets

"I will propose to parliament, starting this autumn, that we suspend the 2023 pension reform until the presidential election," Lecornu told lawmakers. "No increase in the retirement age will take place from now until January 2028.

France is in the midst of its worst political crisis in decades as a succession of minority governments seek to push deficit-reducing budgets through a truculent legislature split into three distinct ideological blocs

Russian aerial attack MILITARY COUP IN MADAGASCAR hits Ukrainian hospital

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyiv, Oct 14: Russian forces launched powerful glide bombs and drones against Ukraine's second-largest city in overnight attacks, hitting a hospital and wounding seven people, an official said Tuesday, as European military aid for Kyiv dropped sharply and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy prepared to ask US President Donald Trump for Tomahawk missiles.

The Russian attack on Kharkiv in Ukraine's northeast hit the city's main hospital, forcing the evacuation of 50 patients, regional head Oleh Syniehubov said. The attack's main targets were energy facilities, Zelenskyy said, without providing details of what was hit.

"Every day, every night, Russia strikes power plants, power lines, and our (natural) gas facilities," Zelenskyy said on Telegram.

Russian long-range strikes on its neighbour's power grid are part of a campaign since

Moscow launched a full-scale invasion in February 2022 to disable Ukraine's power supply, denying civilians heat and running water during the bitter winter.

The Ukrainian leader urged

foreign countries to help blunt Russia's long-range attacks by providing more air defence systems for the country, which is almost the size of Texas and hard to defend from the air in "We are counting on the

actions of the US and Europe, the G7, all partners who have these systems and can provide them to protect our people," Zelenskyy said. "The world must force Moscow to sit down at the table for real negotiations."

But the latest data on foreign military aid to Ukraine showed a sharp drop-off in recent help.

Military aid in July and August plunged by 43% compared to the first half of the year, Germany's Kiel Institute, which tracks support to Ukraine, said Tuesday

Antananrivo, Oct 14: Madagascar's military has taken charge of the Indian Ocean island, an army colonel said Tuesday, after President Andry Rajoelina fled abroad during a standoff with youth-led protesters and security forces.

"We have taken the power, Colonel Michael Randrianirina, who led a mutiny of soldiers joining anti-government Gen Z demonstrators, said on national radio. Randrianirina added that the military was dissolving all institutions except the lower house of parliament or National Assembly, which voted to impeach Rajoelina minutes earlier. In a day of turmoil for the nation off east Africa, the 51-year-old leader had sought to dissolve the assembly by decree.

Despite flying out on a French military jet, Rajoelina is refusing to step down in defiance of weeks of Gen Z protests demanding his resignation and widespread defections in the

The presidency did not immediately react to Randrianirina's comments but earlier



said the assembly meeting was unconstitutional and thus any resolution "null and void."

Rajoelina has said he has moved to a safe place because of threats to his life. An opposition official, a military source and a foreign diplomat told Reuters he had fled the country on Sunday aboard a French military plane.

Demonstrations erupted in the country on September 25 over water and power shortages and quickly escalated into an uprising over broader grievances, including corruption, bad governance and a lack of basic services.

The anger mirrored recent

protests against ruling elites elsewhere, including Nepal and Morocco.

Tuesday, at Antananarivo's 13 May Square, along the main drag lined with palm trees and French colonial buildings, thousands of protesters danced, marched, sang songs and waved banners denouncing Rajoelina as a French stooge because of his dual citizenship and support from Madagascar's former coloniser.

Many were waving Malagasy flags and the signature Gen Z protest banner of a skull and crossbones from the Japanese 'One Piece" anime series.

At one point, Randrianiri-

na took stage and asked: "Are you ready to accept a military takeover?," drawing cheers of approval from the crowd.

Earlier, French President Emmanuel Macron had said that constitutional order must be preserved and that while France understood the griev ances of the youth, they should not be exploited by military factions. Rajoelina had appeared isolated after losing the support of CAPSAT, an elite unit which had helped him seize power in a 2009 coup. Randrianirina is a well-known commander in

The unit had joined the protesters over the weekend, say ing it would refuse to fire on them and escorting thousands of demonstrators in the main square of the capital Antanan-

The paramilitary gendarmerie and the police also broke

ranks with Rajoelina. Madagascar, where the average age is less than 20, has a population of about 30 million. three-quarters of whom live in poverty. GDP per capita plunged 45% from the time of independence in 1960 to 2020,

according to the World Bank.

Cyprus: The island of cats has a cat problem

Nicosia, Oct 14: Officials in Cyprus, the small island nation in the eastern corner of the Mediterranean, estimate there is roughly one feral cat for every one of its 1 million inhabitants though activists contend the actual population is hundreds of thousands higher.

In late September, the island's parliamentary committee on the environment was told that an existing sterilisation programme is too limited to contain the burgeoning cat population. "It's a good programme, but

it needs to expand," said Environment Commissioner Antonia Theodosiou, noting that the programme conducts only about 2,000 sterilisations annually on a budget of just 100,000 euros (USD 117,000).

While there is no official comparative data, Theodosiou said Cyprus has gained a reputation for having a cat population that is exceptionally large relative to its human inhabitants.

Change might be on the way,

but funding alone won't solve Cyprus's cat problem.

Appearing to heed calls for more funding, Environment Minister Maria Panayiotou announced on October 4 -World Animal Day — that the government would raise cat sterilisation funding to 300,000 euros annually. The decision was hailed as a significant step forward. However, Charalambos Theopemptou, chairman of the Parliamentary Environment Committee, warned against relying on money alone. "There has to be a plan," he said. "We can't just go ahead with sterilisations

Given cats' predatory nature. a large population not only has the potential to wreak havoc with the island's ecosystem, but it could cause undue suffering for feral felines roaming carchoked streets in search of food and shelter.

without having a plan," he said.

Cyprus has a long history as a cat-loving nation where cat food dispensaries and clusters of tiny houses are a regular sight along popular footpaths. Two decades ago, French ar-

chaeologists unearthed what they believed to be the earliest evidence of a domesticated cat in a 9,500-year-old neolithic village. They found the bones of a cat close to the skeletal remains of a human, suggesting that they were buried together.

Adding to this long history of human-feline connection is the 4th century legend of Saint Helen who, after finding the True Cross in the Holy Lands, brought over a couple of boatloads of cats to deal with a snake infestation.

feline safe haven, St. Nicholas of the Cats, still exists today.

A monastery that serves as a

With tourism a key economic driver for Cyprus, the island's cats have become a major attraction for the millions of vacationers who descend on the

island every year. The well-fed felines are a common sight, of ten seen feasting on leftovers provided by visitors at the plethora of restaurants where they like to hang out. Demetris Epaminondas, president of the Veterinary Association, attributes the exploding popu lation to unchecked breeding, particularly in high-concentration urban areas, and to more kittens surviving birth, thanks to ordinary folks offering care

The current government-run program disburses its budget to municipalities which, in turn, fund private veterinarians to sterilise cats brought in by animal conservation groups.

Authorities acknowledge the program is ineffective. The country's state-run Veterinary Services, which is in charge of sterilisations, conceded that the program's capabilities are "lesser than the real need." To reassess where available funding could be redistributed, it has asked local government authorities to submit reports on locations with large feral cat concentrations.

business



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NPCI INT'L SIGNS MOU WITH NTT DATA JAPAN

NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) Tuesday said it has signed a pact with NTT DATA Japan for acceptance of UPI in the Japanese market. In a statement National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) said following the introduction of UPI in the Japanese market, Indian tourists will be able to make seamless payments at merchant locations acquired by NTT DATA by scanning QR codes using their familiar UPI applications. NTT DATA Japan is a leading player in the payments ecosystem and operates CAFIS® -- Japan's largest card payment processing network





Deliver-E Coalition is to leverage the power of knowledge-shar-



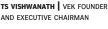
ANJALLI RAVI KUMAR | CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER, ETERNAL LIMITED

India's new default is smart luxury, with savings on the bed, splurge on the day. With travel feeling slightly

more affordable, people are more open to taking that extra trip or upgrading their stay. This is a healthy sign for both travellers and hospitality operators in emerging leisure destinations ABHISHEK DAGA | CO-FOUNDER, THRILLOPHILIA







SHORT **TAKES**

Maruti Suzuki. TN govt sign pact

Chennai: Automaker Maruti Suzuki India has signed a memorandum of agreement with the Tamil Nadu government towards automation of driving testing tracks in the state, the government said Tuesday. The initiative aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and uniformity in the conduct of driving tests across Tamil Nadu by leveraging advanced technology and automation, thereby contributing to improved road safety standards in the state.

LTSCT, HYS partnership

New Delhi: L&T Semiconductor Technologies (LTSCT) Tuesday announced a partnership with Foxconn subsidiary Hon Young Semiconductor (HYS) to jointly develop and produce high-voltage semiconductor wafers of 650-3300V, LTSCT will leverage HYS's Taiwan facilities to design and manufacture wafers built to strict specifications for automotive and industrial use, catering to the surging demand for high-efficiency, durable power components in electrification platforms, the company said in a statement.

BOM Q2 profit rises

New Delhi: Public sector lender Bank of Maharashtra Tuesday reported a 23 per cent growth in its standalone net profit to ₹1,633 crore in the September quarter of the current fiscal (FY26), driven by a decline in bad loans and a rise in interest income. The bank had posted a net profit of ₹1,327 crore in the same quarter preceding fiscal (FY25). The state-owned bank earned interest income of ₹7,128 crore during the quarter, compared to ₹6,017 crore in the same period a year ago, Bank of Maharashtra

Soch enters Malaysia

said in a regulatory filing.

New Delhi: Women's ethnic wear player Soch Apparels Pvt Ltd Tuesday announced its foray into the Malaysian market with the opening of three retail stores in the Southeast Asian country as part of its international expansion.

IREDA posts profit

New Delhi: IREDA Tuesday posted a 41 per cent yearon-year rise in standalone net profit to ₹549 crore in the September quarter, backed by higher income. It had clocked a net profit of ₹388 crore in the July-September period of FY2024-25, IREDA said in a statement.

Google's big bet on India Weak global trends

New Delhi, Oct 14: In its biggest ever investment in India, tech giant Google Tuesday said it will invest \$15 billion in building an AI infrastructure hub in Andhra Pradesh, which would include a gigawatt-scale data centre in partnership with Adani Group. The project is expected to

create 5.000-6,000 direct jobs and 20,000–30,000 total jobs in Andhra Pradesh. The AI hub at Visakhapat-

nam will be Google's largest outside the US and will include a data centre fuelled by clean energy and a fiber-optic network. Business tycoon Gautam Adani said his company AdaniConneX would partner with Google on the project, along with Bharti Airtel India's second largest mobile operator.

The \$15 billion will be invested over the next five years (2026-2030)

Google joins a growing list of US tech giants ramping up investments in India amid the country's accelerating AI boom. Amazon.com Inc has announced plans to invest \$12.7 billion in cloud infrastructure hv 2030, while OpenAI, the maker of ChatGPT, is preparing to establish a 1-gigawatt data centre in the region.

Microsoft is also expanding its data centre footprint in India, a key growth market with nearly a billion internet users. Billionaires Gautam Adani and Mukesh Ambani have similarly announced significant investMILLION DOLLAR DEAL



ments to boost data centre capacity in the country.

Analysts project India's data centre market to top \$100 billion by 2027.

While Google has committed to spend about \$85 billion this vear to build out data centre capacity worldwide, the one planned at Visakhapatnam will have an initial capacity of 1 gigawatt (GW).

In the Visakhapatnam hub, Adani Group and Airtel have partnered with Google to build the infrastructure for its new project, which also includes construction of a new international subsea gateway. The rapid advancement of AI.

which demands massive computing power, is fuelling the need for high-performance data centres that connect thousands of chips into powerful comput-

Calling it a "landmark development", Pichai said, "This hub combines gigawatt-scale compute capacity, a new international subsea gateway, and large-scale energy infrastructure. Through it we will bring our industry-leading technology to enterprises and users in India, accelerating AI innovation and driving growth across the country.'

An analysis commissioned by Google suggests that the AI hub is expected to generate at least \$15 billion over five years (2026-2030) in American gross domestic product because of new economic activity from increased cloud and AI adoption, as well as the American talent and resources involved in developing and operating

decline stocks

Mumbai, Oct 14: Benchmark BSE Sensex fell by 297 points Tuesday in its second straight day of losses due to selling in metal, select auto and pharma shares amid weak trends in Asian and European markets.

Reversing its early gains, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 297.07 points or 0.36 per cent to settle at 82,029.98 as 23 of its constituents closed lower and seven with gains. During the day, it dropped 545.43 points or 0.66 per cent to 81,781.62.

The 50-share NSE Nifty went lower by 81.85 points or 0.32 per cent to 25,145.50

Stock markets started the day on a high note but failed to hold momentum due to weak global trends and trade-related concerns, analysts said, adding that foreign fund outflows also impacted the sentiment.

Bajaj Finance was the biggest loser among Sensex stocks. dropping by 1.8 per cent. Tata Motors, TCS, Tata Steel, Bharat Electronics, NTPC, Trent, Asian Paints and Axis Bank were also among the laggards.

However, Tech Mahindra, ICI-CI Bank, Power Grid, Hindustan Unilever and Reliance Industries were among the gainers.

"Equity markets saw broadbased profit-booking amid a lack of fresh domestic triggers, as weak cues from Asian and European peers dampened investor sentiment. Renewed US-China trade tensions reignited risk

aversion, prompting a shift toward safe-haven assets such as gold and US Treasury bonds, while equities came under pressure on concerns of escalating global trade uncertainty," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said. Ajit Mishra, SVP, Research,

Religare Broking Ltd, stock markets opened on a positive note but failed to sustain early gains, ending marginally lower as trade-related concerns overshadowed favorable domestic cues The BSE smallcap gauge

dropped 0.95 per cent and midcap index declined 0.74 per cent.

All sectoral indices ended Telecommunication dropped the most by 1.39 per cent, followed by oil & gas (1.01 per cent), realty (0.96 per cent), metal (0.95 per cent) and services (0.87 per cent). As many as 2,870 stocks de-

clined, 1,337 advanced and 127 remained unchanged on the BSE.

In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index, Shanghai's SSE Composite Index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended lower. Markets in Europe were trading lower. US markets ended sharply

higher Monday.

Global oil benchmark Brent crude dropped 1.82 per cent to \$62.17 a barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹240.10 crore on Monday, according to

India to resume postal services to US from Oct 15

New Delhi, Oct 14 (PTI) India Post will resume international postal services of all categories to the US from October 15, according to an official statement

The Department of Posts said

is pleased to announce the resumption of all categories of international postal services

services to the US were earlier suspended through an office memorandum dated August 22, following Executive Order 14324 issued by the US Admin

cessitated by new regulatory requirements introduced by the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for the collection and remittance of import duties." India Post said. Unlike courier or commer

ers, making the postal channel a more affordable and compet itive logistics option for MS and e-commerce exporters. the statement said.

levy any additional charges on customers for facilitating DDP (delivered duty paid) and qualified party services.

the statement said.

Ethanol industry urges govt for roadmap beyond E-20 blending panies' requirement of 10.50

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: The country's sugar and biofuel industry bodies Tuesday urged the government to establish a national ethanol mobility roadmap beyond the current E-20 blending target and reduce taxes on flex-fuel vehicles to sustain the country's biofuel push.

The Indian Sugar & Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) and Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE) sought GST rationalisation on flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs) and smart hybrid vehicles, along with consumer incentives similar to those offered for electric vehicles under the FAME scheme.

The appeal comes after India achieved its E-20 ethanol blending target - mixing 20 per cent ethanol with petrol - five years ahead of schedule, ISMA said in a statement.

"India's sugar sector has risen to the challenge and delivered on its ethanol promise ahead of schedule," ISMA Director General Deepak Ballani said adding the industry believes that sustaining this ethanol revolution now depends

The ethanol industry has offered 17.76 billion litres against oil marketing com-

billion litres, demonstrating readiness to support 27 per cent ethanol blending, Ballani

Without a defined roadmap beyond E-20, production capacities could remain underutilised, leading to idle investments and reduced mill revenues, he added.

The sugar industry has invested about ₹40,000 crore to create ethanol production capacity exceeding 900 crore litres per annum, ISMA said.

The industry also flagged financial pressures from stagnant ethanol procurement prices from B-heavy molasses and sugarcane juice over the past three years.

IFGE President Pramod Chaudhari said India must declare a National Ethanol Mobility Roadmap 2030 with clear targets beyond E-20, integrating vehicle adaptation norms and promoting advanced biofuels.

The current 43 per cent GST on FFVs and smart hybrids remains a "major disincentive" compared to the 5 per cent rate on electric vehicles, the groups said.

With appropriate policy support for FFVs, India could reduce its annual oil import bill by ₹50,000-75,000 crore,

UNSTOPPABLE GOLD, SILVER RALLY BREAKS ALL RECORD

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Oct 14: Gold prices Tuesday surged by ₹2.850 to reach an all-time high of ₹1,30,800 per 10 grams in the national capital, driven by heavy festive buying by retailers and jewellers ahead of 'Dhanteras'.

According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity had closed at ₹1,27,950 per 10 grams Monday. Gold of 99.5 per cent purity also advanced by ₹2,850 to hit a record ₹1,30,200 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes), from the previous close of ₹1,27,350 per 10 grams. So far this year, gold prices have increased by ₹51.850 or 65.67 per cent from ₹78,950 per 10 grams on Decem-



ber 31, 2024.

Silver also surged by ₹6,000 to hit a lifetime high of ₹1,85,000 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes), marking its fifth consecutive day of gains. The white metal had settled at ₹1,79,000 per kg in the previous market session.

Traders attributed the sharp rise in bullion prices to sustained demand from jewellers and retailers in the run-up to the festive and wedding seathat slipped 12 paise to revisit its all-time low of 88.80 against the US dollar Tuesday. Spot gold, having risen for

son, along with a weaker rupee

eight straight weeks, surged to a fresh record high of \$4,179 per ounce. Spot silver also pulled back after hitting a lifetime high of \$53.54 per ounce and was trading 3.15 per cent lower at \$50.72 per ounce. Riya Singh - Research Ana-

lyst, Commodities and Currency, Emkay Global Financial Services pointed out that silver is likely to maintain its upward trajectory toward ₹1,94,639 per kilogram level for the domestic markets, while on the international front, it could test with an upside potential of \$59.89 per ounce.

India's million dollar energy transition deal New Delhi: EIB Global, the development arm of the European Investment Bank (EIB), Tuesday committed \$60 million

investment in the India Energy Transition Fund managed by EAAA Alternatives, which is targeting \$300 million equity funding in the domestic renewable energy sector. A formal agreement was signed between EAAA Alternatives and EIB in the national capital. EIB Global is investing up to \$60 million in the India Energy Transition Fund, which is a new greenfield infrastructure fund that will accelerate private capital investment and support decarbonisation efforts in India, EIB Vice-President Nicola Beer said. It is India's first energy transition fund managed by a domestic fund manager, she said. The fund has a target size of \$300 million and will channel equity and quasi-equity into greenfield infrastructure projects and growth-stage companies. Most commitments will go to climate action and environmental sustainability, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, transmission, battery energy storage and electric vehicles, including potentially supporting circular economy sectors, such as recycling and wastewater management, EAAA Alternatives CEO Subahoo Chordia said. EAAA Alternatives looks to raise the entire \$300 million over the next 4-5 years, Chordia said, adding that another \$200 million will be raised later.

Madhukunj Gold & Diamonds unveils 'ShubhDhanteras' offer



Bhubaneswar: Madhukuni Gold & Diamonds has announced its grand "ShubhDhanteras" offer, adding extra sparkle to the festival of prosperity for its valued customers. As part of this festive celebration, the brand is offering a flat 40 per cent discount on the making

charges of gold, diamond, and silver iewellery, The special offer period will be valid from October 10 to November 2, 2025. In addition, customers stand a chance to receive free gold and silver coins with their purchases, making the festive shopping experience even more rewarding. Reinforcing its commitment to quality and customer trust. Madhukuni Gold & Diamonds assures a lifetime buyback guarantee, 100 per cent 916 BIS hallmarked gold jewellery, 100 per cent IGI-certified diamond iewellery, free lifetime maintenance and repair, and zero deduction on old gold exchange. The company invites everyone to celebrate Dhanteras by investing in certified, high-quality jewellery that combines tradition, trust, and timeless elegance.

Fabindia opens new store



The ribbon cutting ceremony at Fabindia Balasore featured Bollywood star Sonu Sood, store owner Sanjib Mohanty along with his mother, both partners Monasish Das, and Nibedita Das with special guest Mitesh Khimji, owner of Khimji Jewellers

Balasore: Fabindia, India's leading lifestyle brand known for its celebration of traditional craftsmanship and commitment to sustainable fashion, has inaugurated its new store at ITI Chhak, Balasore. The store was formally opened by renowned Bollywood actor SonuSood. The apparel section offers traditional and modern clothing for men, women, and children, including kurtas, sarees, tunics, shirts, and festive collections. The home décor section features handcrafted furniture, bed linen, curtains, rugs, and decorative items. In the wellness and personal care segment, customers will find naturally made skin and body care products. The organic food section offers a selection of pulses, spices, tea, oils, and other natural food products. In addition, the jewellery, scarves, bags, and accessories collection adds a touch of modern elegance and sophistication. Speaking on the occasion Sanjib Mohanty franchise owner and store partner of Fabindia Balasore said "We are proud to bring Fabindia's harmony of tradition and modernity closer to the people of Balasore. This store will offer customers a warm, welcoming, and family-friendly shopping environment."

IIM Sambalpur launches Delhi Chapter of I-Hub Foundation

New Delhi: IIM Sambalpur, one of India's premier management institutes, inaugurated the Delhi Chapter of its I-Hub Foundation - a business incubator aimed at fostering innovation-driven entrepreneurship in line with Viksit Bharat 2047. The launch took place during the curtain raiser of Marmagya 10.0, the institute's annual business conclave, held at its Delhi campus. The event was graced by Vibhor Jain, Acting CEO & CFO of ONDC, as Chief Guest; Altaf Hussain, Head of HR at ITC Ltd., as Guest of Honour; and Farhana Haque, Senior Director - Customer Consulting, Microsoft Asia, as Keynote Speaker. IIM Sambalpur Director Mahadeo Jaiswal said the new chapter will create a "connected, collaborative ecosystem for innovation," empowering alumni and entrepreneurs to contribute to national progress. The I-Hub Foundation also announced its Alumni Incubation Scheme, designed to support startups founded by IIM Sambalpur alumni through mentorship, funding, and investor networks. AtulPrashar, CEO-in-Charge of I-Hub, described the scheme as a commitment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

"The Department of Posts

to the United States of America (USA) with effect from 15 Octo ber 2025," an official statement India Posts said the postal

cial consignments, no additional base or product-specific duties are levied on postal items, it added. "This favourable duty struc-

ture substantially lowers the overall cost burden for export

main unchanged, ensuring that exporters continue to benefit from affordable international delivery rates while complying with the revised US import requirements. This measure has been introduced to main tain affordability, support MS-MEs, and boost India's exports through the postal channel,

EPFO extends final

New Delhi, Oct 14: Unemployed members of retirement fund body EPFO will now be able to avail final settlement or full withdrawal of funds from provident fund as well as pension accounts after 12 months and 36 months of un

on policy continuity.

to "turning ideas into impact." Alumni such as Aryan Kushwaha praised the initiative for supporting next-generation ventures like Agentic AI.

issued Tuesday.

that, as per the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) guide shipments from India to the US is applicable at a flat rate of 50 per cent of the declared consignment value under the nev tariff rule.

istration. "The suspension was ne

MEs, artisans, small traders, The DoP said that it will not

"The postal tariffs will re-

settlement period

employment, respectively.

The decision to amend the scheme was taken by apex decision making body of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), the Cen tral Board of Trustees headed by Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, in a meeting held on Monday.

Presently, the scheme provides for withdrawal of all funds from the provident fund as well as pension account after two months of continuous unemployment. A senior official explained

that the decision was taken to ensure social security benefits to the formal sector workers in the country who generally exit the ambit of the EPFO af ter two months of unemploy-He explained that most

of these unemployed youth are required to enrol again with the EPFO when they get another jobs and they lose chances of getting pension and other benefits as the account becomes pensionable only after combined service of 10 years or more. The ministry in a statement

on Monday said that it is also decided to change the period for availing premature final settlement of EPF from the existing 2 months to 12 months and final pension withdrawal from 2 months to 36 months.

India sweep series against WI Focus shifts to trap events as India renew medal hunt



New Delhi, Oct 14: India needed exactly an hour day five to complete a seven-wicket win over West Indies and seal a 2-0 series sweep at the Arun Jaitley Stadium Tuesday. KL Rahul anchored the chase with an unbeaten 58 off 108 balls, hitting six fours and two sixes to help India easily hunt down 121.

The victory marks India's first Test series win under Shubman Gill's captaincy, following the drawn 2-2 result in England earlier this year. Though the margin suggests an easy victory, India were to earn it in New Delhi and defeat West Indies for the tenth straight time in Tests.

West Indies, asked to follow on, refused to fold easily,

thanks to John Campbell and Shai Hope's twin centuries and a defiant last-wicket 79run stand which led to the contest stretching to day five. But once play resumed, India made quick work of the chase despite an early wobble and earn 12 valuable points to their World Test Championship tally, where they are still at number

and B Sai Sudharsan playing out four maidens before the latter broke the shackles by dancing down the pitch to loft Jomel Warrican through the line over mid-off for four.

Pierre, Rahul kept India steady

by dancing down the pitch again - this time off Pierre -

Sudharsan added only nine

Rahul continued to be at his pristine best by sweeping Warrican for a flat six over square leg fence, while Shubman Gill stepped down the pitch to loft Chase over long-on for another maximum.

A ball later, Gill went back in the crease to pull Chase through square leg for four, before miscuing a loft to mid-wicket off the West Indies' skipper. Rahul, though, got his fifty through a sweep fetching him required two runs and followed it up by reverse-sweeping Warrican through backward point for a boundary.

After some rock solid for ward defence, Dhurv Jurel got off the mark with a late dab off Chase going through third man for four, before Rahul finished off the chase with a backfoot punch fetching him a boundary and seal a comfortable win for India.

Brief Scores: India 518/5 dec and 124/3 in 35.2 overs (KL Rahul 58 not out, B Sai Sudharsan 39; Roston Chase 2-36. Jomel Warrican 1-39) beat West Indies 248 and 390 in 118.5 overs (John Campbell 115, Shai Hope 103; Jasprit Bumrah 3-44, Kuldeep Yadav 3-104) by seven

Taipei.

cludes world No 1 Lada Denisova, world No 2 Silvana Stanco, world No 3 Alessandra Perilli, and world No 4 Carey Jeana Garrison. Other leading names include Paris Olympic champion Adriana Ruano.

be Asian champion and world No 8 Dhanda, who has been in consistent form this season with a fourth-place finish at the Lonato World Cup and a top-six performance in the Buenos Ai-

She will be joined by Ahla-



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Athens, Oct 14: Indian shooters will renew their medal hunt in the ISSF World Cup for Shotgun when the skeet events' qualifications begin here Wednesday with six contestants from the country in

Neeru Dhanda, Aashima Ahlawat, and Kirti Gupta in women's category and Zoravar Singh Sandhu, Vivaan Kapoor, and Bhowneesh Mendiratta in men's trap will take to the Malakasa Shooting Range for the first 50 targets of the qualification round.

The women's trap event promises a competitive line-up, led by defending world champion Lin Yi-Chun of Chinese

The 80-athlete field also in-

Leading India's charge will res mixed team event.

wat, an Asian championship bronze medallist, and Gupta, who completes the Indian women's trio.

In the men's section, veteran Sandhu, currently ranked world No 12, will spearhead the Indian challenge alongside former junior world champion Kapoor and Mendiratta, who claimed silver at the Asian Championship in Kazakhstan

The men's trap event will see participation from 141 athletes, including reigning world champion Giovanni Cernogoraz of Croatia, who will be joined by his 2023 podium companions Marián Kovacócy of Slovakia and Khaled Al-Mudhaf of Ku

Paris Olympic gold medallist Nathan Hales of Great Britain and bronze medallist Jean Pierre Brol of Guatemala (world No 4) are also among the top guns in a stacked field.

The competition will also feature top-ranked shooters including world No 1 Mauro De Filippis (Italy), William Hinton (USA, world No 2), Walton Eller (USA, world No 3), and Giovanni Pellielo (Italy, world No 5) ensuring a high-calibre battle for the podium.

The trap qualification rounds will begin Wednesday with 50 targets each for men and women, followed by another 50 Thursday, and a final 25 Friday.

After 125 targets in qualifica tion, the top six from each category will move to the finals for World Championship medals

ANI SALBAM BAGS BRONZE



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: Odis ha's Ani Salbam won the U16 Boys 600m run at the 40th National Junior Athletics Championships (NJAC) 2025, breaching the previous meet record with his remarkable performance.

The 40th NJAC here at Kalinga Stadium concluded Tuesday with Tamil Nadu bagging as many as 289 points to edge past Haryana whose overall points tally was 287.

A meet record by Tamil Nadu sprinters in the U20 men and women's 4x400m relay was icing on the cake as the team walked away with the overall trophy. Tamil Nadu also walked away with the overall team title in U16 boys' and girls' section, while Haryana dominated the U18 boys' and girls' group.

As Tamil Nadu and Haryana battled for supremacy the final day, the men's U20 jayelin throw too was eagerly awaited. However, the meet record of 80.14 m set by Rajesh Kumar Bind in 2012 and national record of 86.48m by Neeraj Chopra in 2016 remained

Monali shines at Asian Inclusive Sailing Series

Bhubaneswar: Odisha's para sailor Monali Swain brought laurels to state and nation by winning two medals at the Asian Inclusive Sailing Series for Parasailors recently. Swain clinched the Silver Medal in the Para Sailing category and the Bronze Medal in the Inclusive category, marking a proud moment for the Odisha Yachting Association and the Indian sailing fraternity. The Odisha Yachting Association team was led by renowned scuba diver and adventurer Sabir Bux, who guided and mentored Monali during the championship. The association also extended heartfelt gratitude to the Sports department and the Minister Suryabanshi Suraj for their unwavering support and full financial assistance to the team. Notably, the department facilitated 20 days of advanced coaching in Langkawi prior to the championship, which proved instrumental in Monali's success.

three and their points percentage now at 61.9. The day began with KL Rahul

Though it was followed by a bit of prodding and defending against Warrican and Khary

and loft over long-on for six, before whipping the spinner off his wrists through mid-wicket for four more.

runs to his overnight total, before his outside edge on an attempted drive was caught by a sharp one-handed diving catch from Shai Hope at slip off Ros-

New Delhi: India Test captain Shubman Gill Tuesday said he does not hesitate in taking "bold decisions" to extract the best out of his players as he gets used to the highly-scrutinised role. Gill's first Test assignment as leader was the marquee five-match away series against England which was ended in a 2-2 draw, before he led the side to a 2-0 clean sweep over the West Indies following a seven-wicket win in the second match here Tuesday. "I try to make the most probable decision in the given situation that we're in that game. And sometimes you have to take a little bit of bold decisions and that X factor depending on which player can get you certain runs or can get you those wickets," he said. "I would say I am kind of getting used to it, managing all the players in this side," the 26-year-old Gill answered when asked about his evolution as a leader. "I enjoy responsibility. I like to be the guy out there and I do it my way. Being involved in some of the key decisions is something that I really like and I think it brings out the best in me. I think that's what's happening in my life." Gill performed well with the bat during the series, hitting a hundred and a fifty in the two matches, and he said he had to separate the roles concerning his batting and captaincy. Gill will captain senior players Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma in the upcoming three-match ODI series in Australia beginning Sunday, and he said he is looking forward to it.

Shuttlers falter at Denmark Open

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Odense, Oct 14: Young Indian shuttler Ayush Shetty put up a spirited fight before going down in three games against France's Toma Junior Popov on a disappointing day for the Indians at the Denmark Open Super 750 badminton tournament here

World No 30 Shetty, who bagged his maiden Super 300 title at the US Open earlier this year, matched the 15th-ranked Frenchman shot for shot in a gruelling one-hour 17-minute contest before losing 19-21, 21-17, 15-21.

The 20-year-old Indian had his moments, especially in the second game where he kept up a steady rhythm to force a decider. However, Popov's experience and sharper net play made the difference in the closing stages.

This was Shetty's second consecutive defeat to Popov after losing to him in the prequarterfinals of the Malyasia Masters

In women's singles, India's

Anmol Kharb, ranked 46th in the world, went down to seventh seed Putri Kusuma Wardani of Indonesia 9-21, 14-21 in just 34 minutes.

The Indonesian dominated throughout with her superior court coverage and sharp attacking skills.

It was also a disappointing outing for the Indian doubles

The men's duo of Pruthvi Krishnamurthy Roy and Sai Pratheek K lost 13-21, 17-21 to the Chinese Taipei pair of Liu Kuang Heng and Yang Po Han in 34 minutes.

In women's doubles, Kavipriya Selvam and Simran Singhi were no match for Bulgaria's seasoned Stoeva sisters, Gabriela and Stefani, who cruised to a 21-4, 21-11 win in just 24 minutes. Panda sisters - Rituparna and Swetaparna -- will be the only Indians in action later in the day.

All eyes will now be on topranked Indian Lakshya Sen and Indian doubles ace Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty who will begin their campaign Wednesday.

Bhubaneswar, Oct 14: India's men's team concluded their campaign in the Asian Table Tennis Team Championships in sixth place after a 0-3 loss to the Republic of Korea in the second classification match here Tuesday.

In the first classification match, India had defeated DPR Korea 3-2.

But despite its sixth place finish, India ensured its spot in the prestigious Champions Division tournament in 2027.

In the 5-6 playoff, Snehit Suravajiula and Pavas Jain were fielded as senior Manush Shah and Ankur Bhattacharjee After Manav Thakkar lost

the opening tie 1-3 to Oh Junsung, Snehit fought hard but fell to Park Gyuhyeon despite claiming a game.

Junsung defeated Thakkar 11-7, 9-11, 11-3, 11-7, while Junsung edged Manav Thakkar 11-7, 9-11, 11-3, 11-7.

Payas began promisingly

ASIAN TT TEAM C'SHIPS

Indian men finish sixth, women eighth



against An Jaehyun, even tak-

ing an early lead in the first. He also won the third game. but the seasoned Korean fought back strongly to clinch

the contest and secure victory for his side. He won 12-10, 11-8, 7-11, 11-8. Indian women on 8th

Meanwhile, the Indian women's team went down 2-3

to Hong Kong and ended their campaign in the event at the eighth spot. They will now be relegated to Division One from

the Champions Division. With senior player Manika Batra rested to give youngsters a chance, debutant Swastika Ghosh and Dia Chitale impressed with 3–1 wins over NG Wing Lam and Kong Tsz Lam,

However, Yashaswini Ghorpade went down in a five-game thriller to Su Tsz Tung, and Swastika lost to Su by the same margin in the reverse singles.

Then Yashaswini lost to Lam 11-8, 11-7, 8-11, 5-11, 6-11 to seal India's fate.

Earlier, the women's team lost 1-3 to DPR Korea, led by the outstanding Kim Kum Yong. whose rock-solid defence and sharp counterattacks dominat ed the tie.

Both Chitale and Batra struggled for rhythm, with Manika losing her singles to Cha Su Yong (1-3) and Kim in straight

Yashaswini Ghorpade once again shone brightly, overcoming Pak Su Gyong 7-11, 11-9, 11-6, 7-11, 11-6 to provide a flicker

of hope. However, Manika's 8-11, 5-11 4-11 defeat to Kim in the reverse

singles sealed India's exit. Earlier, Hong Kong edged out

Chinese Taipei 3-2 in a thrilling men's team semifinal to book their place in the final.

India fail to qualify 2027 AFC Asian Cup

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Margao, Oct 14: India failed to qualify for the 2027 AFC Asian Cup after going down 1-2 to Singapore who rallied to humble the hosts with a brace from Korea-born attacking mid-fielder Song Ui-young in the third round qualification match here Tuesday. Lallianzuala Chhangte's 14th

minute strike was cancelled out by Song's equalizer in the 44th minute, and then he struck what proved to be the winner, in the 58th minute as India were left to rue many missed chances. The two teams were locked

1-1 at the half-time break at the Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, having played a 1-1 stalemate in the first leg in Singapore October 9. In the day's other Group C

match, Hong Kong and Bangladesh shared the spoils after a 1-1 draw in Hong Kong, a result that did not help India's cause who entered the game with two points from three matches.

India were the dominant team in the first half and enjoyed long spells of possession, and it was appropriate that the Blue Tigers



scored the opening goal in front of a lively home crowd.

Chhangte received the ball some distance away from the edge of the box and unleashed a screamer with his left foot that beat the Singapore goalkeeper on its way to the back of the net.

However, Song had other ideas as he struck twice in ether side of the break to dash Indian hopes.

Just before the interval, Singapore struck back against the run of play courtesy Song, who found space inside the Indian box and kept his composure to level the score at 1-1, the equaliser leaving the Indian players distraught for they were the

ones dictating play for most parts of the first half.

Desperate for an equaliser, India head coach Khalid Jamil made plenty of substitutions hoping to inject some pace and urgency, bringing Rahim Ali and Udanta Singh in place of Liston Colaco and Sunil Chhetri. But all these changes did not work as India ended on the wrong side of the result.

Brandon Fernandes missed out on a great chance to restore parity for India on the 90th minute after excellent work from Udanta Singh and Rahul Bheke. He hit the ball wide with his weaker foot with the goal at his mercy.

SULTAN OF JOHOR CUP India play out 3-3 draws against Pak

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Johor (Malaysia), Oct 14: The Indian junior men's hockey team played out a thrilling 3–3 draw against Pakistan in their third group-stage match of the Sultan of Johor Cup here Tuesday.

In a pulsating clash that swung both ways, India fought back from a two-goal deficit to take the lead, only for Pakistan to strike late and ensure the points were shared. The result also means that India are still undefeated in the tournament.

For India, Araijeet Singh Hundal (43'), Sourabh Anand Kushwaha (47'), Manmeet Singh (53') netted the goals, while Pakistan struck through Hannan Shahid (5') and Sufyan Khan (39', 55').



World Junior C'ships: Tanvi, Unnati register easy wins

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Oct 14: Medal hopefuls Tanvi Sharma and Unnati Hooda were among seven Indian shuttlers to advance to the next round of the singles event at the BWF World Junior Championships here Tuesday.

Top-seeded Tanvi thrashed Poland's Wiktoria Kaletka 15-2, 15-1 in just 11 minutes while eighth seed Unnati eased to a 15-8, 15-9 win over Hong Kong's Liu Hoi Anna in 23 minutes.

Rakshitha Sree R then overcame the challenge of Lucy Yang of Canada 15-5, 15-9 to get her campaign going.

In the boys' singles category, 11th seed Rounak Chouhan defeated Sri Lanka's Thisath Rupathunga 15-3, 15-6, 15th seed Suryaksh Rawat beat Yigitcan Erol of Turkiye 15-5, 15-8 while Lalthazuala Hmar got the better of Rylan Tan of USA 15-11, 15-5.

A few hours later, Gnana Dattu TT joined his teammates in the round of 32, beating Brazil's Joaquim Mendonca 15-10, 15-13.

In the next round, Gnana Dattu will face Survaksh for a



place in the pre-quarterfinals The only reversal for India in the singles category came when Asian Junior championships bronze medallist Vennala K could not find her rhythm and went down 6-15, 5-15 against fifth seed Tonrug Saeheng of Thailand in the second round.

In the mixed doubles events, 14th seed Bhavya Chhabra and Vishakha Toppo and C Lalramsanga and Taarini Sur advanced to the next round in contrasting manner, while two Indian pairs were knocked out.

Bhavya and Vishakha struggled to drive home the advan tage in the second game but recovered well to beat Indone sia's Ghian Sofyan and Salsabi la Aulia 15-4, 13-15, 15-5 while C Lalramsanga and Taarini Suri dominated the second game to win 15-12, 15-5.

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