



LEISURE | P2



INTERNATIONAL | P10



BUSINESS | P11



SPORTS | P12



Al Falah Univ: Govt orders forensic audit, ED probe

PROTECT THE OCEANS

**DHARITRI
YOUTH
CONCLAVE 2025**
CLIMATE CHANGE : FINDING SOLUTIONS

**23-24
NOV**

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FORTUNE FORECAST

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FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES
Your sportsman spirit will find its way into both your professional and personal life. Today may be an important day in your life, and Ganesha says you must not forget your special quality.

TAURUS
You will put your heart and soul into whatever you do today, says Ganesha. But there may still be dark clouds hovering over the results. Don't let that bother you. You must keep up the hard work throughout the day. Finally, you will hit the deck with a feeling of happiness and satisfaction, predicts Ganesha.

GEMINI
Today, your emotions will cloud your ability to reason. You may try to find a refuge in devotional and spiritual activities. A visit to a couple of religious places may help you restore your peace of mind. A laid-back mindset will work wonders for you today.

CANCER
Today is a fabulous day for your love life. Your happiness may make a few people go green with envy, but they can do you or your relationship no harm, so ignore them. However, it may be important for you to make sure that you safeguard your reputation.

LEO
Even an emperor, when struck with an ailment, is not a pretty sight. Bearing this in mind, today you shall make health your number one priority, says Ganesha. You will do wise to chart out some sort of a workout regime for yourself, and inculcate a sense of discipline in maintaining it, even if it is anything as simple as a thrice-a-week routine.

VIRGO
The day will bring unexpected changes and pleasant surprises. You may hit the road with your loved ones, and the journey will not only be exciting but also calm your nerves. Overall, a bright, happy day to make most of, says Ganesha.

LIBRA
It's time to take what is already good, and turn it into something better. Take this day as a day to bring about improvements in your life and yourself. You may also consider taking up some extra courses in the evening. Maybe it's time for a salsa lesson, or learn how to toss a few Italian delicacies.

SCORPIO
You might just blow your fuse today, warns Ganesha. Anger will melt all sense and sensibilities. But if logic does prevail eventually, things may just improve as the day passes. Ganesha says it is high time you awakened your softer side.

SAGITTARIUS
A demanding day today, as you find yourself in charge of arranging and attending high-voltage meetings. Those dealing in stock and share will have profitable returns in the afternoon. But don't count your chickens before they hatch, says Ganesha.

CAPRICORN
To many, you will seem to have got your senses back after a long time. Reason? You will finally have a definite career plan in mind. It's not really a big deal, but considering that you Leos are always in two minds about everything, it's quite an achievement, says Ganesha. Having a clear idea about what you exactly want from life will help you save a lot of your precious time, energy and money.

AQUARIUS
It's family time, and your near and dear will be mighty pleased. You will pamper and fuss over them, and will even pull funny faces to make them smile. Your love and affection will undoubtedly pay off, and come back to you in more ways than one. Ganesha says you deserve a pat on the back for being so devoted to family.

PISCES
You have been neglecting your health of late, a fact which is hammered home by your ill-fitting trousers today! So, while you ignored the adage of prevention being better than cure, you could still make a stitch in time to save nine! Head for the gym, and watch those calories, says Ganesha.



ADELE TO MAKE ACTING DEBUT

British singer-songwriter Adele will make her acting debut in *Cry to Heaven*, an upcoming feature film by former fashion designer Tom Ford. The movie, based on Anne Rice's 1982 novel, explores the 18th-century world of "castrati" - male singing stars who were castrated to preserve their high voices

GLEN POWELL SAYS NO TO REMAKES

Hollywood actor Glen Powell, known for his roles in *Top Gun: Maverick* and the *Twister* sequel, is done with remakes. His latest project is a new version of Arnold Schwarzenegger's 1987 hit *The Running Man*, but Powell is now committed to focusing on original films moving forward



YAMI GAUTAM CEMENTING HER PLACE

Mumbai: Yami Gautam is making waves with her performance in *Haq*, and it's not just because she's delivered a powerful portrayal, it's because she's finally being recognised for her true potential. In *Haq*, Yami fully inhabits her character. Every look, every pause feels deliberate and earned. There's a quiet intensity about her that pulls you in; she doesn't demand attention, yet she commands it effortlessly. Her performance is a rare kind of art: honest, unhurried, and deeply emotional. It's no wonder that many are now saying she deserves a National Award for this role.

What's even more striking is how organic this moment feels. Yami hasn't reached this point overnight. It's been a steady journey, with standout roles in films like *Vicky Donor*, *Badlapur*, *Uri*, *Bala*, *A Thursday*, and *Article 370*. Each performance has been a step forward, adding more depth to her craft. You can sense the confidence of someone who has grown in public, yet evolved in private.

With *Haq*, Yami ends the year on a high note. It's not a loud triumph, but a lasting one. A performance that lingers in your mind long after the credits roll. Yami reminds us that an actor doesn't need to shout to be heard; sometimes, quiet conviction is the most powerful force.

AGENCIES



Nikita's unusual journey

Mumbai: Actress Nikita Dutta recently reflected on her decade-long journey in the entertainment industry, marking 10 years since her debut. In an interview, Dutta spoke candidly about entering acting without any formal training and the unconventional way she learned her craft. "I hadn't taken any acting lessons or workshops before starting," she shared. "I was thrown directly onto a television set, working 14-15 hours a day, 63 days straight without a break. As tough as it sounds, I learned a lot from that experience."

Starting her career in television before transitioning to films and streaming projects, Dutta described her early years as her acting school. "Being on a set and in front of the camera every day was where I truly learned how to act," she explained. "I was surrounded by people who had formal training from places like the New York Film Academy, and I often felt out of place. But I soon realised that while they had the training, they weren't working anymore. What I picked up was through hands-on experience."

Having worked across television, films, and OTT platforms, Nikita has steadily built a diverse portfolio of roles. Her recent release was *Jewel Thief*, a direct-to-OTT film. Reflecting on her journey, Dutta emphasises that acting is a craft learned through practice rather than formal instruction.

AGENCIES



Maddy talks about evolving Indian stereotypes

Mumbai: Actor R Madhavan recently reflected on how perceptions of Indian men abroad have evolved over the years, sharing a humorous anecdote about how white women now often assume Indian men are entrepreneurs rather than flirtatious. During his appearance on BookMyShow's *Unscripted* YouTube show, alongside his *De De Pyaar De 2* co-stars Ajay Devgn, Rakul Preet Singh, and Meezaan Jafri, Madhavan recalled, "A few years ago, when we went abroad, all the white women would look at us like we were there to hit on them. Now, when an Indian enters a space, four white women walk up thinking we are entrepreneurs." He joked, "I have not seen that Indian in the movies yet."

Madhavan also spoke about his desire to work with new directors, blending his experience with fresh storytelling techniques.

"The thing that's getting in my way right now is the film industry's mindset. They make stories to please their mentors," he said.

Madhavan will soon be seen in *De De Pyaar De 2*, directed by Anshul Sharma, alongside Ajay Devgn and Rakul Preet Singh. The sequel to the 2019 hit releases November 14, 2025. He is also starring in *Dhurandhar*, directed by Aditya Dhar, alongside Ranveer Singh, Arjun Rampal, and Sanjay Dutt, releasing December 5, 2025.

AGENCIES

Kritika sparks romance rumour

Mumbai: Kritika Kamra has always kept her personal life under wraps, but recent social media updates have sparked fresh speculation about a possible new romance. It all began with her Diwali post, where she shared a festive photo holding a man's arm, intentionally cropping his face from the frame. The mysterious image immediately caught the attention of her followers, who began speculating about the identity of the person in the photo.

The intrigue deepened with her birthday post a week later, which featured a mix of celebratory moments and snapshots of friends and food. However, it was one particular picture that drew attention, a

subtle fifth image that had fans and even her colleagues buzzing. Soha Ali Khan commented, "Hbd KK... I see what you did there!" while Pooja Gor cheekily added, "Ahem ahem." Fans joined in, with one asking, "Is it a soft launch?" and others eagerly discussing the mystery.

Kritika added fuel to the speculation with a minimalist mirror selfie shared on her Instagram Story, where she posed alongside someone, both faces intentionally left out. Through these playful yet private glimpses, Kritika seems to be keeping things coy, leaving just enough to spark curiosity. While the identity of the mystery man remains unclear, sources suggest that love is no longer just a possibility for Kritika; it's very much in her life now.

AGENCIES



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

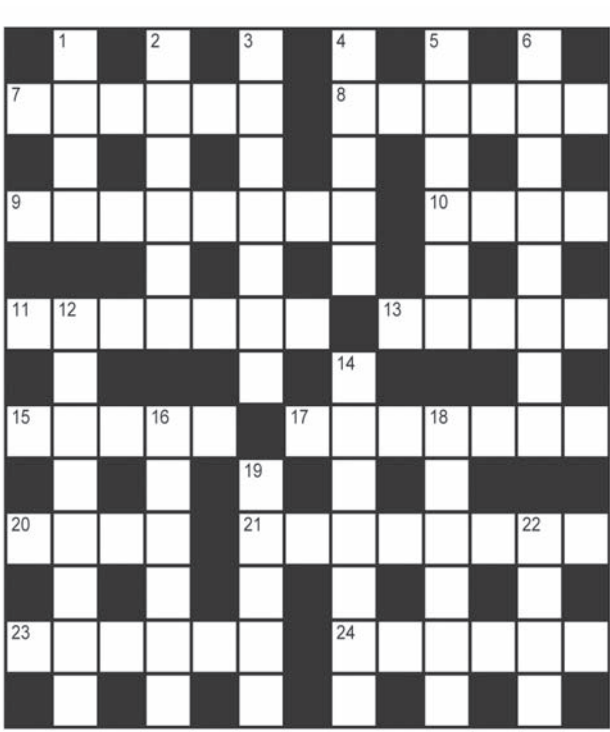


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



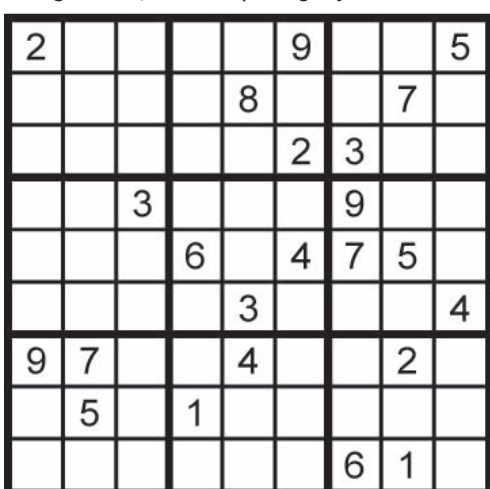
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|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Across | 20 Bread maker | 4 Title holder |
| 7 Auto body part | 21 Barren ground | 5 Outbuilding |
| 8 Apparition | caribou | 6 Silver type |
| 9 Grotesque ornament | 23 Typeface | 12 Unearth |
| 10 Mystique | 24 Accumulate | 14 Geysers |
| 11 Frenzied | | 16 Chafe |
| 13 Photo tint | Down | 18 News item |
| 15 Earth tone | 1 Star in Lyra | 19 Upright |
| 17 Buy, buy, buy | 2 Saws | 22 Former spouses |
| | 3 Swiss cheese | |

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.

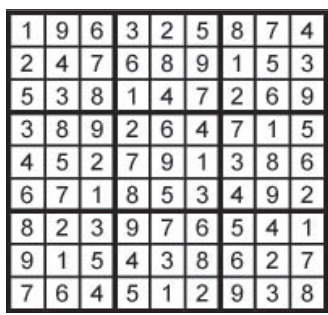


SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD



SUDOKU



CBI begins probe into SI recruitment scam

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bhubaneswar, Nov 13: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has begun a probe into the multi-crore sub inspector (SI) recruitment scam.

The case was registered Wednesday, while the federal agency has entrusted the investigation of the scam to one of its senior officers of the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police.

Sources claimed that the CBI has reportedly sought all the case-related details from the Crime Branch.

Acting on the request of the state government, the Union government, through a notification issued November 11, transferred the recruitment scam case (7/25), which was being investigated by the Crime Branch of the Odisha Police, to the CBI for further investigation into the irregularities in the combined Police Service Examination (CPSE)-2024 for SI recruitment to ITI Limited, which later sublet the work to M/s Silicon Tech Pvt. Ltd.



Notably, the Odisha Police had first busted the large-scale scam with the arrest of 114 aspirants and three middlemen following the interception of three buses in Andhra Pradesh on the night of September 29.

Subsequently, the state Crime Branch took over the investigation of the case (447/2), originally registered at Golanthara police station in Ganjam district September 30, by registering a separate case (7/2025) October 1, 2025.

It is pertinent to mention here that Odisha Police Recruitment Board (OPRB) had entrusted the conduct of the Combined Police Service Examination (CPSE)-2024 for SI recruitment to ITI Limited, which later sublet the work to M/s Silicon Tech Pvt. Ltd.

The private agency, in turn, engaged Panchsoft Technologies Pvt Ltd, located at Patia in Bhubaneswar, where the alleged mastermind of the entire scam, Sankar Prusty, was a director, to handle key stages of the examination process.

The police have so far arrested 126 people, including the prime accused Prusty, his other associates such as Muna Mohanty, Srikanta Maharana alias Rinku, Arabinda Das, etc.

Meanwhile, during the investigation, suspicion arose that the roots of the corruption may extend beyond Odisha to other states, including Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. There were also indications of the involvement of an inter-state organised criminal gang in the case. Subsequently, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi recommended a CBI probe into the matter to the Centre. Acting upon the Chief Minister's request, the Centre directed a CBI investigation into the case.

ASI lands in Vig net for accepting bribe of ₹4K

BHUBANESWAR: An Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of Police posted at Baliana Police Station, here, was caught red-handed by Odisha Vigilance Thursday while allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹4,000 in connection with a family dispute case. The accused officer, identified as Somanath Palei, was the Investigating Officer (IO) in the said case. According to Vigilance sources, Palei had demanded ₹ 4,000 from the complainant in exchange for extending undue favour and threatened arrest if the amount was not paid. Acting on a complaint, Vigilance officials laid a trap and apprehended the ASI while he was accepting the bribe money inside Baliana police station. The entire amount has been recovered from his possession and seized as evidence. Following the trap, simultaneous searches are being carried out at three locations linked to Palei to verify his assets and check for any disproportionate property.

Odisha readies for Prez's Nov visits

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 13: The Odisha government has begun preparations for two visits of President Droupadi Murmu this month – November 20 and November 27, officials said.

November 20, the President will make a brief stop at the Veer Surendra Sai (VSS) Airport in Jharsuguda while en route to Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh, they said.

A week later, she will embark on a two-day official visit to Odisha, during which she will inaugurate a new guest house within the Raj Bhavan premises and address the Odisha Legislative Assembly. She is slated to depart the state November 28.

Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja Thursday chaired a



high-level preparatory meeting on the upcoming visits, attended by Development Commissioner Anu Garg, Additional Chief Secretary S Sahu, DGP YB Khurania, and other senior officials.

“Although the President will only make a brief stopover at Jharsuguda November 20, all arrangements – including security, health, and logistics – must be thoroughly in place,” Ahuja said at the meeting.

For the November 27 visit the Chief Secretary issued specific instructions to the Home Health, and other departments to ensure seamless coordination. A separate review meeting was also held at the Assembly premises, chaired by Speaker Surama Padhy.

“This will mark the first-ever visit of the President to the Odisha Legislative Assembly,” said Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan.

Global Energy Leaders' Summit Dec 5-7

POST NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi, Nov 13: Odisha will host the Global Energy Leaders' Summit (GELS) 2025 in Puri from December 5 to 7, the state Energy department announced at an event where the GELS 2025 logo, symbolising harmony between nature and innovation, was unveiled by Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy Shripad Yesso Naik along with Deputy Chief Minister Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo. The official website — www.gelsodisha2025.com — was also launched on the occasion.

The theme for the summit 'Powering India: Sufficiency, Balance, Innovation' focus on ensuring sufficient and efficient power, balancing ecology and economy, and fostering innovative solutions for the sector. Energy ministers from Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Bhutan are expected to join the summit.

GELS will bring together Union and state Energy ministers and secretaries, policymakers, innovators, researchers and industry leaders to drive India's shared energy future. The summit will enable the process to set up a platform for dialogue between energy leaders of various states with national and global leaders in the sector.

The event will focus on meeting India's rising energy demand and strengthen reli-



ability and security of supply, promoting sustainable growth without compromising ecological imperatives, and accelerating the energy transition through frontier technologies and digital tools. A key highlight of the summit will be to take-up contemporary and futuristic trends in the energy sector. Topics including small and modular nuclear plants, green hydrogen and digital security of grids will be discussed.

The initiative is being organised in partnership with Tony Blair Institute for Global Change (TBI) and the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur

(IITK). Speaking at the event, Naik said, “Energy sufficiency is not only about meeting demand but ensuring reliability and resilience. GELS will play an important role in achieving Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of sustainability and cooperative federalism and for India to achieve Net Zero by 2070.” Deputy CM Singh Deo, who also holds the Energy portfolio said, “Through GELS 2025, we aim to create a platform where states can learn from one another and turn innovation into progress, inspired by the vision of PM Modi of stronger and active role of states.”

SUMMIT IS BEING ORGANISED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE TONY BLAIR INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE (TBI) AND THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KANPUR (IIT-K) INITIATIVE AIMS TO CREATE A PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN ENERGY LEADERS FROM VARIOUS STATES AND NATIONAL AS WELL AS GLOBAL STAKEHOLDERS

Cultural fervour marks Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh celebration at SCSTRTI

BHUBANESWAR: As part of Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh celebration, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI) organised a vibrant cultural programme here Wednesday, showcasing the rich tribal heritage of Odisha. The event featured enthralling traditional Paroja and Dhurua dance performances, reflecting the artistic diversity and deep-rooted traditions of the tribal communities of Koraput district. The programme was graced by SC-STRTI director Sudhakar Sabara and deputy director Santosh Kumar, along with other senior officials and staff members of the institute. Over 100 visitors and 200 school students attended the event, witnessing the colourful and rhythmic celebration of tribal culture. At the end, Sabara felicitated the dance troupes for their outstanding performances and lauded their efforts in preserving and promoting the state's invaluable tribal art and culture.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

By this affidavit sworn before the Executive Magistrate, Jharsuguda No.- 8087, date- 13.11.25, I, Pramananda Meher, S/o.- Nilamber Meher, At- Ranakata, P.O.- Chandanimal, P.S.- Brajrajnagar, Dist.- Jharsuguda declare that my name has been wrongly mentioned as Dayanidhi Meher instead of Pramananda Meher in my postal life insurance policy. That both the names relates to same and one person.

Affidavit (For major) By virtue of an affidavit sworn in before the Executive Magistrate, Nabarangpur, Dist.- Nabarangpur. I, Atti Padmabati, At/P.O.- Ichhabatiguda under P.O./P.S./Dist.- Nabarangpur, PIN- 764 059, Odisha. Declare by this affidavit No.- 1003 dated 12.11.2025. I have changed my name from K.S.Padmavati to Atti Padmabati. Henceforth, I shall be known as Atti Padmabati for all future purposes both official and domestic.

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Executive Magistrate, Berhampur, Ganjam, I, Rudrayu Patro, aged 45, son of Prasad Chandra Patro, Resident of Village/P.O.- Brajanagar 2nd Lane, Ext., Berhampur, Dist.- Ganjam, Odisha, vide affidavit No.- A-1653 dated 13.11.2025, do hereby declare that in my passport bearing No.- Z3219967, my name is mentioned as RUDRAYOU PATRO instead of RUDRAYU PATRO. From 13.11.25 now onwards I will be known as RUDRAYU PATRO for all future purpose.

12TH CONVOCATION OF BPUT

Guv urges engineers to be job creators & innovators



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 13: Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati Thursday called upon the graduating engineers to become job creators, innovators, and entrepreneurs who can transform challenges into opportunities.

Addressing the 12th Convocation of BPUT, Rourkela, Kambhampati said the world is being rapidly reshaped by emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, renewable energy, data science, biotechnology, and space exploration. “India is not a spectator in this transformation—it stands as a leader. Initiatives such as Digital India, Startup India, and Make in India have created vast opportunities for engineers to innovate and lead,” he said.

Highlighting India's rise as the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world, the Governor noted that the success of young Indian entrepreneurs in clean energy, healthcare technology, space research, and sustainable materials demonstrates how passion

and purpose can overcome all barriers. He urged students to carry forward the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship nurtured at BPUT.

Congratulating the graduates and their families, the Governor said, “The nation today needs builders of technology, enterprises, and ideas that serve humanity and the environment alike.”

Praising the university's adoption of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the Governor lauded BPUT's focus on industry collaboration, innovation cells, and incubation centres that are preparing students for leadership in research, development, and social transformation.

The Governor also praised Odisha's steady emergence as a hub of technological progress, driven by new investments in semiconductors, renewable energy, defence manufacturing, and digital infrastructure. “As proud sons and daughters of this soil, you have a vital role in shaping a Viksit Odisha that contributes to a Viksit Bharat by 2047,” he added.

OHRC seeks report on faculty shortage in varsities, colleges

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 13: Expressing concern over the deteriorating state of higher education in Odisha due to severe faculty shortages, the Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC) has sought a report from the Higher Education secretary on vacant teaching posts across state universities and colleges. Acting on a petition by the Odisha Parents' Federation (OPF), Commission chairperson Justice Shatrughna Pujahari directed the department to submit a factual report detailing measures taken to fill the vacancies and strengthen the system.

According to data submitted, over 4,147 lecturer and professor posts remain vacant



in Odisha's higher education institutions — 67 per cent in universities and 31 per cent in colleges. Out of 2,073 UGC-approved posts, 1,404 are unfilled, while government and aided colleges have 760 and 1,983 vacant positions, respectively.

The association alleged that the dependence on 1,753 guest and contractual lecturers has severely affected education

quality, as these short-term teachers cannot match the dedication or stability of permanent faculty. It also claimed that while more than 30 lakh qualified youth remain unemployed, the state's failure to recruit them violates their right to employment and the students' right to quality education.

Citing violations of Articles 21 and 21A of the Constitution

and provisions of the UGC Amendment Act, 2018, which mandates permanent appointments, the association demanded that all 4,147 vacant posts be filled before the 2026 academic session, and the engagement of new guest faculty be stopped immediately.

The body further argued that older lecturers nearing retirement often lack efficiency compared to younger, more tech-savvy teachers who can adapt to modern teaching methods.

“If the government fails to act soon, we will intensify our agitation,” the association's president Basudev Bhatt, working president Prasanna Bishoyi, and general secretary Ashok Paikaray said in a joint statement.

MARKET WATCH					
CURRENCY		BOURSES		COMMODITIES	
INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION
DOLLAR	88.74 ▲ 0.05	SENSEX	84478.67 ▲ 12.16	GOLD	₹126,466 ▲ ₹1
EURO	103.17 ▲ 0.48	NIFTY	25879.15 ▲ 3.35	SILVER	₹161,475 ▼ ₹616

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
Max Temp	29.8°	27.8°	Cold wave condition is likely to prevail over Bhubaneswar and neighbourhood
Min Temp	14.1°	14.6°	
Humidity	68%	79%	
Rainfall	NII	NII	

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Acharya Vihar-DayalAgency-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-Cookiemann-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.

26 rounds of counting to decide fate of 14 hopefuls

Counting will commence with postal ballots at 8am, followed by EVM at 8.30am at 14 tables

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar/ Nuapada, Nov 13: The counting of votes for the Nuapada bypoll will start at 8am November 14 under a three-tier security arrangement, an official said Thursday.

District Election Officer (DEO)-cum-Nuapada Collector Madhusudan Dash said the counting will commence with postal ballots at 8am, followed by EVM at 8.30am at 14 tables. There will be 26 rounds of counting of votes, he said.

Of the 2,54,497 registered voters, 2,12,385 electors, including 1,03,817 male, 1,08,563 female and five transgenders have exercised their franchise across 358 polling booths in the bypoll November 11, he said.

Dash said a three-tier security arrangement has been put in place with jawans of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) remaining in the inner cordon, while the state armed police will guard the counting centre in the middle level, and district police have been en-



trusted with maintaining law and order in the outer circle.

The DEO said that after completion of polling November 11, all EVM and VVPAT machines were securely transported to the strong room at National College, Nuapada, which is now under round-the-clock surveillance.

As per the guidelines to maintain transparency, VVPAT slips from five randomly selected polling stations will be tallied with EVM results. Counting agents of candidates and accredited media personnel will be present, and the results of each round will be shared publicly after every phase, the DEO said.

The official said that the entire counting process will be CCTV-monitored and video-recorded.

Odisha Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) RS Gopalan, in a statement, said that the Nuapada bypoll has achieved a

unique feat by recording an outstanding voter turnout of 83.45 per cent, which is the highest among the eight byelections held in India November 11. Turnout of female voters exceeds that of male voters, which is an indication of a healthy society and its democratic values, he said.

As the electoral fate of 14 candidates in the fray is sealed in the EVMs, the three major political parties – BJP, BJD and Congress – are claiming that their nominee will win the Nuapada bypoll.

The Nuapada bypoll was necessitated due to the demise of sitting BJD MLA Rajendra Dholakia September 8.

Though the bypoll's outcome will not affect the Mohan Charan Majhi government in the state, it holds political significance for the ruling BJP, main opposition BJD, and the Congress, as it's the first electoral contest in the state since the saffron party formed its maiden government last year.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, who visited Nuapada at least six times in the run-up to the bypoll, has taken it as a prestige issue. Similarly, the election is also being seen as a test of BJD president Naveen Patnaik's continued influence in state politics.

Prisoner arrested 22 years after jailbreak

POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, Nov 13: On the run for 22 years, prisoner Jamdar, also known as Jayaprakash Laguri, 57, son of Nandalal Laguri of Tandaghutu village under Jagannathpur police station in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand was arrested by Keonjhar Town police and produced in court Thursday.

According to police, Laguri was arrested in 1997 in connection with a murder case under Champua police station limits and was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Keonjhar Sessions Court in 1998.

He was granted a 14-day furlough in 2003 but failed to return to jail.

After evading authorities for 22 years, the Town police arrested him and presented him before the court.

"An investigation is underway in this regard," said Srikantha Sahu, Inspector In-Charge of the Town police station.

Forester held for death of 2 in road accident

POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Nov 13: A few days after a woman and her son were killed after being hit by an unknown vehicle near Dimirikuda village under Redhakhole police limits in Sambalpur district, police arrested a forester in this connection Thursday.

The accused forester was identified as Naba Kishore Meher. Police said a speeding Maruti Wagon R fatally struck a motorcycle carrying Manoj Majhi and his mother Manju Majhi, both residents of Pipilikani village under Rengali panchayat in Redhakhole block.

According to police, Manoj was returning home with his mother after visiting his nine-month pregnant wife at her parental home in Jharabeda village under Naktideula block November 9. While returning in the afternoon, their motorcycle was hit by Meher's car near Dimirikuda village. The driver fled the scene after the collision. Police rushed the victims to the Redhakhole SDH, where doctors pronounced both dead. Following a technical investigation, police seized the vehicle and arrested the driver and based on his confessions arrested Meher, the car owner. He was produced before the court Thursday.

Clash between HM, villagers leads to standoff with police

POST NEWS NETWORK

Tihidi, Nov 13: A clash between the residents of Talapada village and a school headmaster led to a standoff between the villagers and Pirahat police Thursday in Bhadrak district, sources said.

Following the arrest of two villagers Wednesday night due to the initial clash, the locals refused to let a police van leave the village till early morning. Around 40 villagers later staged a sit-in outside the Pirahat police station Thursday leading to tension. The situation was later brought under control following interventions.

Reports said that the dispute began November 11 after villagers demanded the dismissal of a cook employed at Talapada Primary School. The headmaster refused to oblige which led to a heated exchange of words and scuffle between him and



the villagers. Both sides later filed complaints against each other at Pirahat police station. Headmaster Prashant Kumar Jena and a woman named Gouri Malik lodged separate FIRs, prompting police to register two cases (311/25 and 312/25).

Acting on Jena's complaint, a team of nine police personnel, led by IIC Rojalin Behera, went to arrest two villagers, Abhimanyu Malik and Sushil Malik, Wednesday night. When they reached the village around 1am to make the arrests, sever-

al villagers allegedly confronted them, hurled abuses, and briefly detained the officers. The police were released around 6am after local sarpanch Chakradhar Das intervened. Villagers later expressed resentment over the late-night arrests, demanding that action also be taken on Gouri Malik's complaint and the two detained villagers be released. Villagers relented after Tihidi police station IIC Saityabrata Grahacharya reached Pirahat and persuaded them to withdraw their protest.

Ex-PACS secy held for embezzling govt funds

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bolangir, Nov 13: The Vigilance department Thursday arrested Kushadhwaia Sahu, former secretary and chief executive of the Pandamunda Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) under Patnagarh police limits in Bolangir district, on charge of embezzling government funds.

According to Vigilance officials, Sahu allegedly misappropriated ₹8,34,489 belonging to the cooperative society during the 2017-18 financial year. Following an investigation, the Sambalpur Vigilance officials registered a case (24/25) against him.

Sahu was arrested and produced before the Special Vigilance Judge's Court in Bolangir Thursday.



Sr clerk caught taking ₹20K bribe

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatna, Nov 13: A senior clerk of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) Division in Bhawanipatna of Kalahandi district was caught red-handed by vigilance sleuths Thursday while allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹20,000 from a retired employee.

The accused, identified as T Venkatagiri Rao, was allegedly demanding the amount to process pension-related documents for a retired staff member of the same office. According to Vigilance officials, the complainant had retired March 31, 2024, and was repeatedly requesting Rao to process his pension file. Despite several reminders, the clerk allegedly delayed the

work and insisted on a bribe to move the file forward.

Following the complaint, the Vigilance department laid a trap and caught Rao while he was accepting the bribe at his government quarters. On seeing the Vigilance team, Rao reportedly attempted to throw the tainted currency notes out of the window, but he was caught in the act.

After his arrest, simultaneous raids were conducted at his office and residences in Bolangir and Berhampur. The Vigilance department has registered a case (34/2025) and forwarded the accused to court.

Authorities said further investigation is underway to ascertain whether Rao possesses assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.

Forester critical during elephant rescue op

Muribahal: A forest official sustained critical injuries during an elephant rescue operation in Bijamal village under Muribahal forest range in Bolangir district Thursday. The injured official was identified as Pradip Kumar Nath, Kendu leaf forester of Gudighat. He fractured his limbs due to a fall while trying to escape after coming face to face with the rescued elephant.

According to reports, a male elephant had fallen into an abandoned pit on a farmland belonging to a local farmer, Mohan Sa. The elephant was part of a 13-member herd that had strayed near the village Wednesday night. On being informed, forest officials and fire service personnel reached the site at around 10am Thursday and launched a rescue operation that spanned for nearly four hours. An earthmover was used to dig a trench to help the elephant climb out safely. Hundreds of local residents had assembled at the place to witness the rescue operation. The rescued elephant tried to run away after coming out of the pit. Meanwhile, forester Nath came face to face with the animal. Scared, he tried to run away but fell down and sustained fractures in his hands and legs. Nath was first rushed to the Kantabanji hospital and later shifted to Bhima Bhoi Medical College and Hospital (BBMCH) in Bolangir for advanced treatment.

275 kg explosives seized

Talcher: In a surprise raid at Khindo-B stone quarry under Rengali police limits in Angul district, police personnel and officials of local administration seized more than 275 kilograms of explosives that had been stored beyond the permissible limits Thursday. The leaseholder Himanchal Panda allegedly fled during the raid. According to officials, the quarry, which operates with a government lease, had been storing explosives in quantities exceeding the permissible limits for stone blasting. Acting on a tip-off, the raid was carried out under the supervision of Talcher Sub-Collector Sameer Jena. Following the seizure, police registered a case (211/2025) against Panda under relevant sections of the Explosives Act. Police sources said the investigation is underway while efforts are on to nab the absconding quarry leaseholder.

At 7.1°C, Semiliguda coldest in Odisha

Koraput: With a cold wave sweeping Odisha, mercury levels plummeted sharply across the state with Semiliguda in Koraput district being the coldest place in the coastal state at 7.1 degrees Celsius, IMD said Thursday. The night temperature dropped below 8 degrees Celsius in the hill stations of Kandhamal and Koraput. "Semiliguda was the coldest in the state at 7.1 degrees Celsius, followed by Daringbadi at 7.5 degrees Celsius and G Udayagiri at 7.6 degrees Celsius. Jharsuguda at 10.9 degrees Celsius saw a sharp fall of 6.2 degrees Celsius compared to normal, while Angul at 12 degrees Celsius recorded the second major 5.8 degrees Celsius drop from normal," the weatherman said. The Capital city Bhubaneswar recorded 14.1 degrees Celsius, 5.3 notches below normal. This was the lowest temperature recorded in Bhubaneswar this season so far. The mercury had dipped to 14.8 degrees Celsius in the City November 10. The neighbouring Cuttack recorded 14.6 degrees Celsius, 4.1 degrees Celsius below normal, in the last 24 hours.

Left to fend for herself, woman cremated 4 days after death as son arrives from abroad

POST NEWS NETWORK

Balasore, Nov 13: In a poignant incident in Aradabazaar under Sahadevkhunta police limits in Balasore, a woman's body was preserved in a freezer for four days as villagers waited for her son to return from Canada to perform the final rites.

Chhabirani De, who had been living alone for the past 15 years, died of cardiac arrest Monday. Her estranged husband, Srushtidhar De, arrived at the house Wednesday accompanied by another woman. Upon seeing his wife's body, he allegedly attempted to flee the scene, leading to chaos in the neighbourhood.

Locals intervened and detained Srushtidhar and the woman, insisting that the last rites be conducted in the presence of the husband. When Srushtidhar refused, villagers refused to let him leave and informed police. Officers from Sahadevkhunta police station reached the spot and pacified both sides.

Chhabirani, originally from Parulia village under Baliaapal police limits, married Srushtidhar of Rajuadi village under Basta police limits in 1977. Their only son, Sanjeev, lives in Canada with his wife and son. The couple's daughter had died several years ago, after which Chhabirani reportedly suffered from depression.

Srushtidhar, who was employed in a bank, allegedly distanced himself from his wife instead of ensuring her treatment. With her husband living elsewhere, her daughter deceased, and her son abroad, Chhabirani spent her remaining years alone at her residence.

Following her death, villagers rented a freezer to preserve the body until Sanjeev's arrival from Canada. Sanjeev, along with his wife and son, reached Balasore Thursday. Finally, the funeral was held at Muktidwar in Nunia Jodi amid a sorrowful atmosphere in the presence of the deceased's estranged husband, son and his wife and kids.

Jharigaon, Nov 13: Despite government prioritisation of quality education, students in tribal-dominated areas continue to face severe challenges due to inadequate infrastructure. At Phupugaon Government Upper Secondary School in Jharigaon block of Nabarangpur district, a shortage of classrooms has forced students to attend lessons in dilapidated dormitory rooms.

The school accommodates students from pre-primary up to Class X, with a total enrolment of 509.

While there are seven teachers for primary classes and six for high school students, insufficient classrooms mean that students from Class V to Class X are crowded into just four classrooms. Classes for seventh and



POST NEWS NETWORK

eighth grades are being conducted in a single room, resulting in significant learning difficulties for students.

Sanitation and residential facilities are also in poor condition. The school's hostel, housing 120 students, has only two functional rooms, and all toilets are non-operational. Students are forced to use open areas or nearby fields for relief. Earlier this week, a student in the sixth grade, Krushna Bhatra, suffered a head injury after falling due to broken tiles in the hostel.

Local stakeholders have demanded urgent action, including construction of additional classrooms, repair of hostel and sanitation facilities, provision of safe drinking water, and appointment of permanent headmasters and physical education teachers.

Car plunges into pond; 2 killed, as many injured

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kabisuryanagar, Nov 13: Two people were killed and two others critically injured late Wednesday night after a car veered off road and plunged into a pond at Gangapur village under Kabisuryanagar police limits in Ganjam district.

The deceased were identified as Nilanchal Mohapatra, 36, of Talcher, and Santosh Mohapatra, 35, of Chingudighai.

According to sources, four friends were returning to Chingudighai after dinner at Itabhati when their car lost balance near Gudibandha in Gangapur and turned turtle after plunging into a pond. Upon receiving information, family members and local residents rushed to the spot, rescued the occupants, and took them to Aska hospital. Doctors declared Nilanchal and Santosh dead on arrival, while the other two occupants remain under treatment in critical condition.

Kabisuryanagar police reached the scene, retrieved the vehicle, and launched an investigation. After post-mortem examinations, the bodies were handed over to the families Thursday.





ଶ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ
ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ



ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା



ସୁସ୍ଥ ଓଡ଼ିଶା
ବିକଶିତ ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ବିଶ୍ୱ ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍ ଦିବସ

୧୪ ନଭେମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୫

ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍‌ର ଲକ୍ଷଣ

- ଅଧିକ ଭୋକ ଲାଗିବା
- ଅଧିକ ଶୋଷ ଲାଗିବା
- ଅଧିକ ପରିଶ୍ରା ଲାଗିବା
- ଅଧିକ ହାଲିଆ ଲାଗିବା

କାର୍ଯ୍ୟସ୍ଥଳରେ ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍ ରୋଗୀ ନିକ ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟପ୍ରତି ଯତ୍ନବାନ୍ ରୁହନ୍ତୁ ।

ଘମସ୍ତ ସରକାରୀ ଚିକିତ୍ସାଳୟରେ ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍ ଚିକିତ୍ସା ବିନାମୂଲ୍ୟରେ ମିଳେ

ଆୟୁଷ୍ମାନ ଆରୋଗ୍ୟ ମନ୍ତ୍ରଣାଳୟରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍ ଚିହ୍ନଟ ସୁବିଧା ବିନାମୂଲ୍ୟରେ ଉପଲବ୍ଧ

ଅଧିକ ଶର୍କରା ଜାତୀୟ ଖାଦ୍ୟ, ତେଲ, ମସଲା ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍ ରୋଗୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ବିପଦଜନକ

ଅଧିକ ଚକ୍ଷୁଜାତୀୟ ଖାଦ୍ୟ, ନିୟମିତ ବ୍ୟାୟାମ ଓ ଶାରୀରିକ ପରିଶ୍ରମ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଡାଇଭେଟିସ୍ ହ୍ରାସ ପାଏ

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ମୁଣ୍ଡ ବୁଲାଇଲେ/ ଅତ୍ୟଧିକ ଝାଳ ବୋହିଲେ/ ଅଚେତ ହେବାଭଳି ଲାଗିଲେ ତୁରନ୍ତ ଡାକ୍ତରଙ୍କ ସହ ପରାମର୍ଶ କରନ୍ତୁ

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ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ ଓ ପରିବାର କଲ୍ୟାଣ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର

Do not belong to the past dawns, but to the noons of future.



SRI AUROBINDO

Hear Out Native Voices

When indigenous peoples are mentioned in the context of climate change, my mind immediately goes to images of my grandmother’s roofless and flooded house, destroyed by a Category 5 hurricane and a Category 4 storm in quick succession.

I also move beyond the personal, thinking of the extreme weather swings in the Andes that are damaging agricultural production; the Maasai families in Kenya and Tanzania watching their livestock die from droughts or, increasingly, massive floods; and the communities devastated by landslides in the Philippines’ Cordillera mountains.

For indigenous peoples, climate change is more than figures and charts; it is a wound that festers, eating away at our land, resources, spirituality, and culture. The extreme weather events that are growing more frequent and severe disproportionately harm our communities because we rely directly on natural ecosystems.

The decision to hold this year’s United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) in the Amazon region has raised our expectations significantly. To be sure, the road to Belém has not been easy. We are hopeful about the proceedings, while also approaching them with the caution and clarity that come from having taken part in climate negotiations many times before, only to be ignored.

These summits are dominated by national policymakers. Still, we have always insisted that our voices be heard – even from the margins – and will continue to do so. Our aspiration is not only to be invited to the negotiating table and given a say in decision-making, but to help create a collective space where everyone can participate as a valued stakeholder.

With more than 3,000 indigenous people from Africa, the Arctic, Asia, North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Pacific, and Eastern Europe expected to attend COP30, the Global Caucus of Indigenous Peoples on Climate Change has developed positions on the summit’s main themes. Whether discussing action on climate finance, adaptation, or mitigation, our rights to self-determination and free, prior, and informed consent concerning all matters affecting our lands, territories, and resources must be recognized. These are not favors or nice-to-haves, but the essential principles of a just climate transition.

As COP30’s host, Brazil seeks to make it the “COP of implementation,” which means translating commitments into robust action: capacity and technology transfers, as well as finance that actually reaches those on the front lines of climate change.

For indigenous peoples, implementing climate policies requires direct access to predictable and sustainable finance. Instead of being forced to depend on intermediaries who leave us with crumbs, we should be trusted to manage the funds ourselves, allocating them based on our own needs, timelines, and knowledge systems. The problem with climate finance is not a lack of capacity but a lack of trust and political will.

Moreover, multilateralism – touted as the path to climate salvation – is often skewed in favor of wealthy countries and influential stakeholders. We need partners who treat us as such, rather than as beneficiaries, who recognize our governance structures, support our initiatives, conduct cultural due diligence, and, above all, encourage genuine dialogue.

In debates about how to ensure a just transition, we will continue to stress that clean-energy projects must not be built at the expense of our dispossession. Without strong safeguards, the decarbonization process risks becoming yet another cycle of extractivism. Respect for indigenous peoples’ rights to land and resources must be at the heart of any climate policy.

Likewise, adaptation and mitigation must be approached holistically. We cannot continue to measure success only by carbon sequestration; we must also consider the effects of these efforts on livelihoods, mental and spiritual health, and the cultural continuity of indigenous peoples.

Governments and other institutions must be held accountable at COP30 for the promises they have made over the years. Words should become tangible commitments, particularly in regard to providing indigenous peoples with direct access to finance. This will require a decisive shift in mindset: climate action must do good, not merely avoid harm.

Indigenous peoples, when viewed from this perspective, are part of the solution. Caring for the planet is embedded in our knowledge systems – restoring a forest, protecting a lagoon, and preserving traditional seeds are everyday tasks for us. But to carry out this work, we need real recognition and support from the international community.

The writer, the Indigenous Peoples Organization’s Focal Point to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, is a Miskitu indigenous woman from the Wanky Awala Kupia Territory on Nicaragua’s Caribbean coast.

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WISDOM CORNER

I never had any desire to defend myself, and never did I seriously think about it.

BHAGAT SINGH

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

When a man is denied the right to live the life he believes in, he has no choice but to become an outlaw.

NELSON MANDELA

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1889: American journalist Nellie Bly began her around-the-world race against the record of Phileas Fogg, hero of Jules Verne’s *Around the World in Eighty Days*. She completed the journey in slightly more than 72 days.

1960: Six-year-old Ruby Bridges began attending an all-white elementary school in New Orleans in 1960, becoming the youngest of a group of Black students to racially integrate schools in the American South.

1969: Apollo 12 was launched, carrying a crew of Charles Conrad, Jr., Richard F. Gordon, Jr., and Alan L. Bean, and five days later the mission made the second landing on the Moon.

1972: The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 1,000 for the first time.

FOCUS COP 30

BRAZIL’S ASPIRATIONS



Avilash Roul

BRAZIL NEEDS TO BRING TOGETHER NORTH AND SOUTH IN SOLIDARITY AND FORGE A NEW COOPERATION TO FACE THE COMMON ENEMY-CLIMATE CHANGE

Can the Belem, Brazil, of the emerging economies bloc BRICS, stitch together rich (North) and poor (South) countries to shape the future governance of climate change? Among other substantive agendas, the major focus in Belem is to minimise the deep distrust between developed and developing member countries, which emerged at the Baku climate meeting (COP29) last year. In Brazilian President Lula’s conviction that the ‘COP30 in Belém is the moment of truth and science’. Thus, the world expects that Brazil’s presidency of COP30 to deliver a mandate that will maintain trust in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, faith in multilateralism, and belief in the COP process itself. Is it achievable?

Some COPs, the highest decision-making body in the UNFCCC, are forgettable, nevertheless important in the three decades of complex climate change negotiations. COP29 is one such in the annals of climate negotiations that will be mentioned when there is criticism against the COP process. An example is that India’s outburst against the agreement and the process through which it was adopted aggravated the criticism against the COPs.

Meanwhile, the 2025 Biennial Transparency Synthesis Report of the UNFCCC, released on October 31, reveals that 109 members are actively adhering to the Paris Agreement. At the same time, the report exposes a substantial gap in the finances needed in developing countries to execute climate action plans. While 37 developing countries reported a total financial requirement of \$3,396.23 billion for climate action up to 2030, 49 countries reported receiving only \$60.84 billion in climate finance during the 2021-2022 reporting period. Under the



Many are flocking together in Belem, not just to attend the proceedings of the official and unofficial meetings, gatherings, or protests, but to revisit and remember the achievements of the historic 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro

Paris Agreement, countries are required to submit Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) to report their climate actions, including greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, under the transparency and accountability clause.

Despite the appreciation from the UNFCCC Secretariat that the Paris Agreement is on track and progressing, the member countries are flouting their responsibility. Only 64 member countries, together accounting for 30 percent of total GHG emissions, have submitted their updated NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) out of 195 Parties to the UNFCCC. The NDC Synthesis Report, released by UNFCCC on October 28, discloses that developed and major economies have not declared a timeline to phase out fossil fuels. Similarly, the National Adaptation Plans (NAP) Synthesis report acknowledges, despite a lack of financial support, that 67 developing member countries are building the foundations for more climate-resilient economies and societies. From the 300 billion dollars of climate finance pledged at the end of the COP29 to mobilise 1.3 trillion dollars till 2035, it is going to be a litmus test for the leader-

ship of Brazil.

Brazil, under President Lula, aspires to lead the Global South by strengthening multilateralism and democratising the global governance system. Climate change is one such priority agenda of the Lula administration to revitalise multilateralism. Under the theme, ‘Building a Just World and a Sustainable Planet’ during the G20 Summit in November 2024 at Rio, the administration set the momentum for Belem. With the UN and UNESCO, Brazil established the Global Initiative on Information Integrity on Climate Change to investigate, expose and dismantle disinformation on climate change. Similarly, on the backdrop of unprecedented unilateral US protectionism, in an extraordinary BRICS virtual summit in September, Brazil passionately urged member countries to join and lead the proposal of a new development paradigm - the United Nations Climate Change Council to strengthen global climate governance. Will this new form get traction in Belem?

Developed countries are adamant about their contribution and directions. The EU and nine member countries of the G20 group, which accounted for 50 percent of GHG

emissions, have not submitted their updated NDCs. The present US administration is hell bent against the BRICS group as well as a staunch critic of the Lula administration. The disruption and influence in Belem’s outcome, in terms of non-committal, creating division among groups, employing pressure tactics through trade measures and other negotiating manoeuvres, is highly anticipated from the US despite its high-profile absence, which has withdrawn twice from the Paris Agreement.

Many are flocking together in Belem, not just to attend the proceedings of the official and unofficial meetings, gatherings, or protests, but to revisit and remember the achievements of the historic 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro. Most of the representatives of civil societies are looking forward to the outcome of Belem in comparison to the greatest achievements of means and principles of global environmental governance, including the COP process in the Earth Summit and climate justice. Noting the fact that the UNFCCC emerged at the Earth Summit with agreement on biodiversity and a blueprint for the 21st century. Building on the legacies and presidencies of the Earth Summit and the Rio+20 Conference (2012), Brazil urges member countries to revive the spirit of ‘collective aggregation’. Brazil itself is making no stone unturned to make the COP30 as remarkable as the COP21 Paris Climate Summit, as historic as the Earth Summit. Brazil needs to bring together North and South in solidarity and forge a new cooperation to face the common enemy-climate change. Brazil must rewrite the COP30. The uphill task is surmountable.

The writer is an international advisor on climate change risks and transboundary rivers.

SPECTRUM GLOBAL WARMING

Emissions reduction: Grim future ahead



Dhurjati Mukherjee

THE AIR QUALITY NOT JUST IN DELHI BUT ALSO IN KOLKATA HAS BEEN DETERIORATING ALARMINGLY

Seas are rising, forests are burning and governments are still courting fossil fuel companies as if none of this is happening. As the Earth crossed a crucial, irreversible climate tipping point, the scale of destruction seems too vast and the climate-deniers too influential to foresee the looming environmental crisis. The future scenario appears grim but governments the world over are in no way seriously concerned about it.

As regards India is concerned, it reported the highest absolute increase in emissions – with an addition of 165 million tonnes of greenhouse gas during 2023-24 – followed by China, Russia, Indonesia and the US, as per the recently released UN Emissions Gap Report 2025. The traditional high emission industries, including aluminium, cement and pulp and paper will have to reduce the intensity of their greenhouse gas emissions to meet specific targets.

Meanwhile, the air quality not just in Delhi but also in Kolkata has been deteriorating though the onset of winter is at least three weeks away. Obviously, the control of emissions

is not up to the mark despite various regulations. It needs to be reiterated that the monitoring mechanism regarding environmental guidelines and laws remains much to be desired.

In India’s resolve to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, the spotlight has largely been on renewable energy, carbon markets and industrial decarbonisation. As of now, it appears that the target set is quite challenging, but these are, no doubt, essential. However, there is another facet relating to public procurement, which incidentally is a significant contributor to the country’s emission footprint. Procurement decisions cannot ignore environmental factors, making future carbonisation costlier and more complex. This is especially important in areas of public transport, construction materials or the long-term performance of public buildings.

India is not a signatory to the WTO’s Agreement on Government Procurement and there is no unified national law either in this regard. Meanwhile, the EU has embedded environmental standards into its procurement system. Also, South Korea, way back in 2005, encour-

ages agencies to set voluntary green procurement targets and rewarded high performers with fiscal incentives. In view of this, India could adopt a somewhat similar approach, at least in some sectors.

It has been estimated that a 15-20% cut in procurement linked emissions in line with international benchmarks could avoid 88-115 million tonnes of CO2-equivalent annually. Even a modest 1% improvement in procurement efficiency could save around ₹70,000 crore. Experts have rightly suggested that sustainability criteria should be embedded in tender templates, compliance monitored and performance publicly reported. Thus, it is expected that in the coming years green procurement would be adhered to cut emissions, driving innovation and building a green economy.

As has been pointed out in earlier reports and in the present one, the updated pledges are not adequate enough to get the desirable of keeping global warming within 2 degrees Celsius thus, controlling the escalation of emissions is indeed quite challenging, considering areas such as transport, con-

struction and industrial sectors are not monitored strictly. The lack of a strong governance mechanism, deep-rooted corruption of officials and an unholy nexus between political leaders and businessmen are obviously the reasons for slackness in controlling emissions. And it is the poor and marginalised sections who are most affected in various ways due to uncontrolled emissions and have to bear the brunt of the business houses who are all out to maximise profit without bothering for the community.

Why can’t the Indian government implement the ‘polluter pays’ principle, which is being talked and accepted the world over? Is it because the government does not want to be strict on business houses from which political funding comes? This obviously cannot continue, when the looming environmental crisis is accentuating at a fast pace and affecting the lives of the people in different ways every year. It is time that the government changes its stand and acts tough by taking a strong stand to save the country from impending disaster and the looming environmental crisis.

INFA

Congenital liars

Sir, What do Donald Trump, Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton, Boris Johnson and Narendra Modi have in common? Well, in addition to being politicians and heads of their respective nations (current/past), they are all liars. Trump claimed his inauguration had the largest crowd ever. Photos and transit data showed otherwise. Again, there is no definitive proof that Donald Trump is lying about his connection to Jeffrey Epstein, but newly released emails suggest a deeper relationship than he publicly admits. Nixon denied involvement in the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters. Secret tapes later revealed he had orchestrated a cover-up, leading to his resignation. Clinton famously said, “I did not have sexual relations with that woman.” DNA evidence and testimony later proved otherwise. Johnson’s campaign claimed £350 million a week would go to the NHS post-Brexit. The figure was widely debunked, and the promised funding never materialized. Modi has claimed degrees from Delhi University and Gujarat University. Opposition leaders and journalists have questioned the authenticity and transparency of these claims, citing missing records and inconsistencies. In addition, Modi has himself said that he did not attend college. IF Stone has famously said “If you want to know about governments, all you need to know is two words: Governments lie.” We can trust politicians and their governments only at our own peril.

Avinash Godbole, DEWAS (MP)

Exit polls accuracy

Sir, Exit polls are conducted soon after voting to predict election results based on voters’ responses. While they create excitement and offer an early glimpse of public opinion, their reliability often remains questionable. Sampling errors, regional imbalances, and voters’ reluctance to reveal their true choices can lead to misleading outcomes. With the rise of postal and electronic voting, accuracy has further declined. Many past elections have shown sharp differences between exit poll predictions and final results. Therefore, exit polls should be treated cautiously — as indicators of trends, not as substitutes for the actual verdict of the people.

Sidhartha Kar Mohapatra, BARIPADA

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

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

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



Chhattisgarh exports India's largest copper consignment to China

Developed under the state's Department of Industries, the Nava Raipur MMLP is rapidly transforming into central India's most advanced trade and transport centre



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 13: Chhattisgarh has achieved a remarkable milestone by exporting 12,000 metric tons of copper concentrate, the country's largest-ever consignment of the mineral, to China.

The landmark consignment of 12,000 metric tons of copper concentrate was flagged off from the Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Nava Raipur.

This is not only a historic step in terms of commerce but also a reflection of Chhattisgarh's growing strength in India's industrial and logistics landscape, a senior official of the Chhattisgarh government said.

The first rake, carrying 2,200 metric tons of copper, was transported from Visakhapatnam port to China by sea November 11. The remaining rakes are being sent in batches.

With this export, Chhattisgarh has firmly positioned itself on the global trade map as one of India's emerging logistics hubs, the official said.

Developed under the state's Department of Industries, the Nava Raipur MMLP is rapidly transforming into central India's most advanced trade and transport centre.

Equipped with modern cargo management systems, integrated rail connectivity, and high-speed transportation facilities, the park allows industries across India to reach international markets with greater efficiency and lower costs.

It stands as a powerful example of Chhattisgarh's industrial capability and well-organized infrastructure.

Chhattisgarh is also setting new benchmarks in the field of mineral resources. Alongside copper, the state holds the unique distinction of being India's only producer of tin. In fact, 100 per cent of the country's tin output comes from Chhattisgarh.

Chhattisgarh secures ₹33,000-cr investment proposals in Ahmedabad

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Ahmedabad, Nov 13: At the Investor Connect event held in Ahmedabad, Chhattisgarh received investment proposals worth nearly Rs 33,000 crore, paving the way for more than 10,532 new employment opportunities across multiple sectors.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai handed over investment letters to leading companies in sectors such as thermal power, green steel manufacturing, solar cells, pharmaceuticals, and medical food supplements.

Addressing business leaders and industrialists, Chief Minister Sai said Gujarat and Chhattisgarh would play a "pivotal role in building a developed India", emphasising the synergy between Gujarat's industrial spirit and Chhattisgarh's natural and human resources.

"While Gujarat is driving the nation's economy, Chhattisgarh is rapidly progressing in the same direction with abundant energy, minerals, skilled manpower, and investor-friendly policies," he remarked.

Highlighting recent reforms, the Chief Minister said the state government has implemented more than 350 policy reforms in the past 22 months to improve the ease of doing business.

Himachal bags 2nd prize in CBRN Competition 2025

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, Nov 13: The Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Response Force has secured second position in the national level Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Competition held from November 10-12, officials said Thursday.

The competition is aimed at enhancing the preparedness, coordination and response capabilities of police and disaster response forces in effectively managing CBRN emergencies.

The prizes will be distributed at a ceremony in New Delhi Thursday, according to an official statement.

A contingent of 16 members represented Himachal Pradesh in the competition held at the 8th NDRF Battalion in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. The team comprised one inspector (team commander), one assistant sub-inspector, two head constables, and 12 constables.

Tamil Nadu was ranked first, while Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand bagged the second and third positions, respectively. The event witnessed participation from the top eight teams representing different states, including Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Assam, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, which had earlier won their respective regional-level CBRN competitions organised across various zones in the country.

The team's consistent success once again demonstrates the professionalism, preparedness, and resilience of the Himachal Pradesh SDRF, reaffirming its position as a national leader in disaster response excellence, said Arijit Sen Thakur, Superintendent of Police, SDRF.



Tourists participate in rafting in the Beas river, in Kullu district, Himachal Pradesh

PTI PHOTO

ARMY TO INSTALL WIND TURBINES AT 20 LOCATIONS

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Shimla, Nov 13: Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhinder Singh Sukhu Tuesday met with senior officers of the Army's Central Command and reviewed a proposal to install wind turbines at 20 locations with a combined generation capacity of nearly 80,000 kWh annually along the international border.

The Chief Minister assured the Army of the state government's full cooperation in the execution of its projects.

It was informed during the meeting that the Army is considering setting up a wind turbine project at 20 locations in the border areas for which the detailed project report has been prepared.

The project is expected to generate between 68,000 and 80,000 kWh of energy annually, sufficient to electrify 120



to 160 households.

Chief Minister Sukhu noted with satisfaction that the border tourism initiative, launched jointly by the state government and the Army, is showing encouraging results.

Tourist inflow in the border regions has seen a remarkable rise from around 21,000 visitors in 2024 to over 70,000 in 2025, a three-and-a-half-fold increase, he said.

The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure hassle-free facilities for tourists visiting the border areas to enhance their overall experience.

Chief Minister Sukhu also informed that the state gov-

ernment has written to the Union Government regarding the resumption of trade activities through Shipki La and that positive indications have been received.

Due to the consistent efforts of the state government, both India and China have agreed to reopen border trade through the Lipulekh Pass, Shipki-La Pass, and Nathu-La Pass.

He also reviewed the progress of the proposed airport at Rangrik and urged the Army officials to expedite work on the project, stating that it would provide a major boost to tourism and connectivity in the region.

Traders demand reopening of Shipki-La border trade with China

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rampur (Shimla), Nov 13: The resumption of trade with China through Shipki-La border in Himachal's Kinnaur district would boost the sale of traditional items, generate employment, and benefit traders on both sides, traders from Himachal Pradesh said Thursday.

They were attending the International Lavi Trade Fair in the Shimla district's Rampur, about 130 kilometres from the state capital.

Traders, especially from Kinnaur, are keen on the resumption of the trade route, which was discontinued during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

"The sale of traditional items like woollens, Pasham (wool),



and dry fruits saw a boost then, as Chinese goods would be sold in Rampur, and our goods would be sold to traders from Tibet," Chander Mohan Negi, a trader from Kinnaur's Nichar, said.

Another trader from Kalpa in Kinnaur, Dharam Pal Negi, also said the resumption of trade would benefit traders from both

sides. "We want the trade to be resumed so that the traditional items can be exchanged and goods arrive in greater quantity," he said.

Inaugurating the Lavi fair Tuesday, Himachal Pradesh Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla had said that he — as well as the state government — had taken up the matter with the Centre, and it was being pursued by Union Minister of Commerce Piyush Goyal.

The traders from Kinnaur, who have been coming to the trade fair for the past 25-30 years, expressed concern over the impact of online sales on their business. Additionally, the closure of the trade route is gradually affecting the trade fair's vibrancy, they said.

A NEW DAWN IN SUKMA

CRPF's Gurukul inspires change in Puvarti

PUVARTI, THE PLACE WHICH WAS ONCE KNOWN AS A STRONGHOLD OF EXTREMISM, IS NOW WITNESSING THE DAWN OF EDUCATION, RESULTING IN TRANSFORMATION

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Sukma, Nov 13: In the heart of Sukma district, Chhattisgarh, where the dense forests have long echoed with the stories of conflict and fear, a new chapter of hope has begun. Significantly, the 150th Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has started a Gurukul in Puvarti. This native village of the infamous Naxal leader Hidma is now seeing a sea change in terms of education and awareness among residents.

The place which was once known as a stronghold of extremism is now witnessing the dawn of education, resulting in transformation.

In fact, CRPF's Gurukul has become a symbol of light in a region which remained haunted by violence for decades.

According to CRPF's infor-



THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GURUKUL IN PUVARTI IS NOT JUST AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT — IT IS A REVOLUTION OF THOUGHT

IT SYMBOLISES THE TRIUMPH OF KNOWLEDGE OVER IGNORANCE, PEACE OVER CONFLICT, AND UNITY OVER DIVISION

WITH EACH CHILD WHO LEARNS TO READ AND DREAM, THE SHADOW OF NAXALISM FADES A LITTLE MORE

mation, more than 50 children from nearby villages now attend the school. They are receiving free education, uniforms, books, and nutritious meals. Moreover, the number of children is gradually increasing. The initiative also

includes the provision of modern classrooms, a playground, and dedicated teachers whose salaries are fully supported by the CRPF.

Apart from imparting education to the kids, the CRPF personnel have taken on the role of mentors and guardians. They regularly interact with the chil-

dren, teach them discipline, values, and the importance of peace. The bond between the children and the soldiers has grown into one of mutual respect and affection — an inspiring example of how compassion can conquer fear.

Hamid Khan, Second-in-Command of the 150th Battalion, told IANS, "Our mission goes beyond security. We want to bring smiles, education, and hope to these children. They are the future of this land, and through them, peace will prevail."

The establishment of the Gurukul in Puvarti is not just an educational project — it is a revolution of thought. It symbolises the triumph of knowledge over ignorance, peace over conflict, and unity over division. With each child who learns to read and dream, the shadow of Naxalism fades a little more.

The CRPF's initiative in Puvarti stands as a milestone in India's fight against extremism, proving that the most powerful weapon against violence is education itself.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA No. O-1451

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

RURAL WORKS DIVISION, DHENKANAL

E-Mail: eerwdivisiondhenkanal@yahoo.co.in

e-Procurement Notice No. 13/Road Work/2025-26

1. Name of the Work

2. Total No. of Works

3. Estimated Cost

4. Class of Contractor

5. Period of Completion

6. EMD Required

: Road Work

: 1 No.

: Rs.50.42 lakh (approx.)

: "B" Class

: 02 (Two) Months

: As mentioned in the Annexure at Column -04

7. Online for Bidding

8. Last date & time of seeking tender clarification

9. Date & time of opening of tender: (Technical & Financial Bid)

: 14.11.2025 at 11.30 A.M. to 23.11.2025 upto 5.00 P.M.

: 22.11.2025 upto 4.00 P.M.

: 24.11.2025 Technical Bid at 11.00 A.M. & Financial Bid to be announced

Other details can be seen from the website <http://tendersorissa.gov.in>.

Sd./- Superintending Engineer
R.W. Division, Dhenkanal

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

ST & SC DEVELOPMENT, MINORITIES & BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT, ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR,

INTEGRATED TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, RAIRANGPUR

e-Procurement Notice

Bid Identification No.03/ITDA (RRP) 2025-26

No.3823//2025-ITDA, RRP Dated. 11.11.2025

No.CAD-2279 : Bid documents consisting of works, Tender Value, Cost of Tender paper, Bid Security, Time of completion, Class of Contractors and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e. "www.tendersorissa.gov.in".

01. Name of the work

02. No. of Works

03. Estimated cost

04. Period of completion

05. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal

06. Last date for receipt of bids in the portal

07. Bid received Online shall be opened on

08. Name and address of the officer inviting Bid

: Civil Works as mentioned in DTCN

: 40 (Forty) Numbers only

: Rs.11.00 lakhs to Rs.237.00 Lakhs

: 3 (Three) to 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months as per work category

: 11.11.2025 at 2.00 P.M. to 26.11.2025 05.30 hours

: 26.11.2025 till 5.30 hours

: 27.11.2025 at 11.00 hours onwards

: Project Administrator, I.T.D.A., Rairangpur

Further details can be seen from the "<https://tendersorissa.gov.in/>"

Sd./- Project Administrator,
I.T.D.A., Rairangpur

WATCO

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

WATCO DIVISION-II, BHUBANESWAR,

Near Rajiv Bhawan, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha, India

Telefax : +91-674-2390322, E-mail - gmdiv2watco@gmail.com

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT

Invitation For Bids (IFB)

Dtd.10.11.2025

01 Name of the work

02 Estimate cost

03 Period of completion

04 Class of contractor

05 Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal

06 Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal

07 Last date & time of seeking clarification

08 Date & Time of opening of bids

09 Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid

: Construction of Positive suction pump house along with Supply, installation and commissioning of centrifugal pump set for water supply from Sub-Division pump house (Reservoir) to power house, Sastri Nagar, MLA Colony, HLT Tank Unit-VIII Ward No.47, BMC, Bhubaneswar

: Rs.68.56 lakhs

: 03 (Three) Months

: B Class

: From 11.00 A.M. of Dt.14.11.25 to 5.00 P.M. of 28.11.25

: 5.00 P.M. of 28.11.25

: 5.00 P.M. of 19.11.2025

: At 12.30 PM of 29.11.2025

: General Manager
WATCO Division-II, BBSR

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

Sd./- GENERAL MANAGER,
WATCO DIVISION-II, BHUBANESWAR

of the day

quote

There was a high chance Laurent Nunez would visit Algeria, hailing the north African country's release of writer Boualem Sansal as a glimmer of hope that relations between the two nations could be mended

LAURENT NUNEZ | INTERIOR MINISTER, FRANCE



Should Japan dare to intervene militarily in the Taiwan Strait situation, it will constitute an act of aggression, and China will strike back decisively

LIN JIAN | SPOKESPERSON, CHINA



Many of at least 37 powerful senators, members of Congress and wealthy business people implicated in a massive corruption scandal involving flood control projects would be locked up in jail by Christmas

FERDINAND MARCOS JR | PRESIDENT, PHILIPPINES



SHORT TAKES

Internet suspension in Balochistan

Karachi: The mobile internet services have been suspended in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, except in the capital Quetta, following a security alert issued by the Home Department. The mobile internet will remain suspended till November 16 after the home department of the provincial government issued a security alert on Wednesday. Travel along the Loralai section of the National Highway N-70 is also suspended till November 14 for all transport services. The decision to suspend the services was taken because of a security alert in the province and prevailing circumstances, said an official. All schools in the Cantonnement area of Quetta have been closed since Wednesday till November 16 over security concerns, according to officials.

Trump backs Netanyahu

Jerusalem: President Donald Trump Wednesday sent a letter to Israel's president asking him to pardon Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a long-running corruption trial that has bitterly divided the country. It was the latest attempt by Trump to intervene in the case on behalf of Netanyahu, raising questions about undue American influence over internal Israeli affairs. Trump also called for a pardon for Netanyahu during a speech to Israel's parliament last month, when he made a brief visit to promote his ceasefire plan for the war in Gaza. In Wednesday's letter to President Isaac Herzog, Trump called the corruption case "political, unjustified prosecution."

Fishermen face crackdown

Colombo: At least 328 Indian fishermen have been arrested and 41 trawlers seized so far this year for allegedly fishing in Sri Lankan waters, a minister said here Thursday. Deputy minister of fisheries Rathna Gamage said Sri Lanka has intensified the operations to stop "illegal fishing" by Indian trawlers in the international maritime border. Pointing out that there has been an increase in arrests of Indian fishermen for poaching this year, Gamage told reporters that so far 328 Indian fishermen have been arrested and their 41 trawlers have been seized by the Sri Lankan Navy. Such operations are jointly carried out by the Fisheries Ministry, the Navy, and the Police.

S Korea bans flights as 5L take crucial university admission test

Financial markets and offices opened an hour later than usual to ensure test candidates arrived on time for the nine-hour exam that is seen as crucial for success in the hyper-competitive society

REUTERS

Seoul, Nov 13: More than half a million people in South Korea sat for the country's gruel-

ling university entrance exam Thursday as police mobilised to ensure they made it to the test sites on time and all flights were halted for half an hour.

The number sitting the test, essential to secure a place at the country's top universities, was the highest in seven years. Most of the candidates were born in 2007 when there was a surge in births because it was considered an auspicious time to have a baby.

Flights at all airports, including Incheon International Airport, were banned from



landing or takeoff between 1:05 pm and 1:40 pm to ensure there was no disturbance while the students sat for the listening

The Ukrainian side should know that sooner or later it will have to negotiate, but from a much worse position. The position of the Kyiv regime will deteriorate day by day

DMITRY PESKOV | SPOKESMAN, RUSSIA



AFRICA EXPERIENCING WORST CHOLERA OUTBREAK

Africa is facing the worst outbreak of cholera in 25 years, the Africa CDC told reporters in a briefing Thursday, blaming the rise on fragile water systems and conflict. The Africa CDC said it had recorded about 300,000 cases of cholera, and suspected cases of cholera, and over 7,000 deaths. The figures show a more than 30% increase on total cases recorded last year



Nepal forms task force for security plan ahead of elections

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kathmandu, Nov 13: Election Commission of Nepal Thursday held discussion with political parties representing federal parliament, province and local level regarding preparations for the upcoming National Assembly and House of Representatives elections.

Nepal's Minister for Home Affairs Om Prakash Aryal, on the other hand, said, a task force comprising representatives from all security bodies has been formed to prepare the election security plan.

The general elections are scheduled for March 5, 2026.

The Election Commission informed the representatives of various political parties about the election to the Upper House or National Assembly and proposed general election schedule March 5 as well as voters' list updation programme, according to sources in the Election Commission.

Addressing various issues, suggestions and concerns raised by the political parties, acting Chief Election Commissioner Ram Prasad Bhandari expressed confidence that the upcoming Parliamentary election will be conducted in a free, fair, impartial and fearless manner.

2 dead, 18 hurt in SK after truck crashes into market

REUTERS

Seoul, Nov 13: A light truck crashed into a market in South Korea Thursday, ploughing 150 metres (164 yards) along a passageway lined with stalls before coming to a halt, killing two people and injuring 18, according to emergency officials and media reports.

The incident took place at a market located in Bucheon, about 20 km (12.43 miles) west of the capital Seoul, a fire official told a televised briefing.

Two people who had suffered cardiac arrest were later confirmed to have died, the Yonhap News Agency said.

The truck appeared to reverse for 28 metres before accelerating towards the outdoor market, the fire official said.

The driver had blamed a sudden surge of acceleration for the incident, he said.

The driver was not intoxicated when tested for alcohol, a police official said at the briefing.

Authorities would hand the vehicle over to investigators to try to determine the cause of the crash, the official said.

JULY CHARTER

Referendum will be held alongside elections: Yunus

Delivering a nationally televised address, Yunus says the decision was taken after considering all aspects, adding that holding both votes together would in no way hinder the reform objectives

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dhaka, Nov 13: Bangladesh's interim government Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus Thursday announced that a referendum on constitutional reforms will be held alongside the general elections on the same day in February next year.

Yunus made the announcement in a televised address to the nation after the political parties failed to reach a consensus on the timing of the referendum despite multiple rounds of discussions.

"After considering all aspects, we have decided to hold the referendum and the national polls on the same day - the first half of February next," he said.

Yunus said the Council of Advisers Thursday approved the "July Charter Implementation Order, 2025".

"The (advisory council) order also pointed out that an arrangement will be made to incorporate the July Charter in the Constitution in line with the (political parties) commitment to implement it," he said.

A National Consensus Com-



Bomber was Afghan national: Pak

AGENCIES

Karachi, Nov 13: Afghan nationals carried out two suicide bombings in Pakistan this week, including one in the capital Islamabad, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said Thursday, amid sharpening tensions between the South Asian neighbours over militant violence.

A suicide bombing outside an Islamabad court Tuesday killed 12 people and wounded 27, one of the capital's deadliest attacks in years. Militants also stormed a military-run school in Wana, killing three people before security forces rescued students and shot the assailants dead.

Both the bombers involved in the attacks have been identified as Afghans, he told parliament in a session carried live on television.

"It is our major, serious concern," Naqvi said, adding that Pakistani authorities had time and again taken up the issue of security with the Afghan Taliban administration in Kabul.

He blamed the Afghan Taliban for supporting Islamist militants who attack Pakistani forces.

Another bomber had rammed

ISLAMABAD BLAST



an explosive-laden vehicle into the main gate of a military school in South Waziristan district, near the Afghan border, Monday, killing three people.

RIVALRY WITH INDIA

Islamabad says that the Pakistani Taliban and other militants based in Afghanistan are supported by India, a charge New Delhi denies.

India and Pakistan have for decades vied for influence in Afghanistan, an unstable but geopolitically vital country both see as crucial to their security.

Pakistan deploys army to protect Lankan cricketers

Pakistan has deployed army and paramilitary forces to protect Sri Lanka's cricket team after a deadly suicide bombing in Islamabad raised security concerns during their ongoing tour, the interior minister said Thursday.

Pakistan's Army Chief Asim Munir had assured Sri Lankan Defence Minister Pramitha Bandara Tennakoon of the team's safety, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi told parliament in a live televised transmission.

"Our army and paramilitary

- Two deadly suicide attacks hit Pakistan this week
- Kabul denies Pakistani accusations of sheltering militants
- Minister says has raised issue 'time and again' with Kabul
- Pakistan locked in confrontation with Afghanistan and India
- Pakistan army deployed to protect Sri Lanka team

are deployed for the Sri Lankan team's security," he added.

Naqvi said the Sri Lankan players had expressed serious concerns about staying in Pakistan following the bombing but those had been addressed.

"The Sri Lankan president personally spoke to the (cricket) team yesterday and encouraged them to play," Naqvi added.

The cricket stadium and the hotel where the Sri Lanka team is staying are both less than 10 km from the site of the bombing.

The Sri Lanka Cricket Board said Wednesday that several players had asked to return home after the blast, the first attack on civilians in the capital in a decade.

DELHI BLAST

Clearly a terror attack: Rubio lauds India's 'measured' probe

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New York, Non 13: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said the car explosion near Red Fort is "clearly" a terrorist attack as he commended India for being "very measured" and "very professional" in the way it is investigating the deadly incident.

A high-intensity blast outside the Red Fort in Delhi Monday claimed at least 13 lives. India Wednesday termed the car explosion as a "heinous terror incident."

Rubio said Wednesday in remarks to the press in Hamilton, Canada, "Yeah, we're aware of the potential that that holds. But I think the Indians are - need to be commended; they have been very measured and cautious and very professional in how they're carrying out this investigation."

"That investigation continues. Clearly, it was a terrorist attack. It was a car loaded with highly explosive materials that detonated and killed a lot of people," Rubio said. "(But) I think they're doing a very good job of

of the day

quote

Global trade is facing headwinds, but we remain confident in India's dynamic market. With our investment program of Euro 1 billion, we are expanding reliable and more sustainable logistics solutions for our customers in India

TOBIAS MEYER | GROUP CEO, DHL

The Export Promotion Mission will provide much-needed strategic direction and impetus to enhance India's competitiveness in overseas markets. It will also help the industry to diversify to new and non-conventional markets and help it realise its fullest potential

MITHILESHWAR THAKUR | SECRETARY GENERAL, AEP

Hopefully, India will become one of the top three, top four countries (markets) for Bis-coff. We have set our ambition to become number three (cookies) in the world

JAN BOONE | CEO, LOTUS BAKERIES

Q2 RESULTS

Tata Motors sees loss

Mumbai: Tata Motors, the country's top commercial vehicles maker, reported a quarterly loss Thursday, as it took a one-time impairment charge related to an investment in one of its units. The maker of the Ace mini-truck reported a loss of ₹1.02 billion for the quarter ended September 30, compared with a profit of ₹6.43 billion a year ago. The company, which split from the passenger vehicles business in October, made its trading debut on India's stock exchanges Wednesday, listing at a 28.5% premium. The shares were down nearly 3% Thursday. Tata Motors incurred a one-time charge worth ₹2.67 billion during the quarter related to the impairment of its investment in one of its units.

Muthoot Finance rises

New Delhi: Muthoot Finance Thursday reported an 87.5% jump in second-quarter profit on strong loan demand amid soaring prices of the precious metal, and raised its gold loan growth outlook for the year. The firm's standalone profit for the July to September quarter rose to ₹23.45 billion (\$266.80 million) from ₹12.51 billion a year earlier. Gold prices hit a series of record highs during the quarter, lifting the value of gold holdings and benefiting financiers in the sector. The rally boosted collateral values, allowing borrowers to secure bigger loans.

Singapore Airlines dips

New Delhi: Singapore Airlines Group Thursday reported an 82 per cent fall in net profit to 52 million Singapore dollars in the September quarter as Air India losses and lower interest income hurt the bottom line. The leading carrier, which owns a 25.1 per cent stake in loss-making Air India, had a net profit of 290 million Singapore dollars (SGD) in the 2024 September quarter. Total revenue in the second quarter of the 2025-26 fiscal climbed to SGD 4.86 billion from SGD 4.78 billion in the year-ago period, it said in a release Thursday.

Domino's profit up 3X

New Delhi: Domino's India operator posted a quarterly profit that almost tripled from a year earlier Thursday, as demand for its affordable pizzas and combo deals stayed strong, bucking the broader slowdown in the quick-service food industry. Jubilant logged 9.1% like-for-like sales growth in the second quarter, up from 2.8% a year earlier.



Our first uSTOL technology demonstrator is ready. Today, we have a fully-electric, fixed-wing UAV, built from scratch and almost ready for flight. To make this possible in just a few months, we built our entire flight lab from scratch

DEEPIKAR GOYAL | FOUNDER, ETERNAL

OPENAI ROLLS OUT GPT-5.1

OpenAI has announced the rollout of GPT-5.1 that the company promises is more conversational and warmer by default. The upgrade packs in more intuitive and effective controls "so ChatGPT can better match the tone users want in responses," OpenAI said. According to OpenAI, GPT-5.1 improves on both intelligence and communication style



Mahindra forays into insurance business

The automobile giant sets up joint venture with Canadian firm Manulife

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 13: Mahindra & Mahindra Thursday announced its foray into the insurance sector by signing an agreement with Toronto-headquartered Manulife for a 50:50 joint venture, entailing an investment of ₹7,200 crore from both partners.

Mahindra Group CEO & MD Anish Shah stated that both the partners were looking to create a business which can accomplish a valuation ranging between ₹18,000 crore to ₹30,000 crore in ten years.

"Now, we do believe this is a conservative set of numbers, which we can achieve," he said in a virtual press conference.

Shah noted that the partners aspire to make the JV the number one life insurer in rural and semi-urban India.

"We will be a significant player in urban India as well, and there we would want to take a leadership position in protection solutions, one that India is under-penetrated in today, and there are specific reasons why we feel that we are well-placed to be able to do that, despite the competition that we have in the space today," he added.

Shah stated that companies would apply for the licence from the insurance regulator in about two-three months, and re-

Mahindra brand strength, deep distribution capabilities in rural and semi-urban India and execution excellence make life insurance a logical extension towards our goal of building a comprehensive financial services portfolio

ANISH SHAH | CEO & MD, MAHINDRA GROUP

Today marks an important milestone as we seek to enter one of the world's fastest growing insurance markets in India. This will further strengthen our diverse portfolio and position us for tremendous growth in a mega economy of the future

PHIL WITHERINGTON | PRESIDENT AND CEO, MANULIFE

TOTAL CAPITAL COMMITMENT FROM EACH SHAREHOLDER IS UP TO ₹ 3,600 CRORE (\$400 MILLION), WITH EACH SHAREHOLDER EXPECTED TO INVEST ₹1,250 CRORE (\$140 MILLION) IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

LIFE INSURANCE MARKET HAS SURPASSED \$20 BILLION IN NEW BUSINESS PREMIUMS, GROWING AT A 12% CAGR OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS

alistically, it will take 15 to 18 months for the joint venture to start operations.

About the proposed investment, he stated that the company's capital infusion in the new business would be funded via the dividend that M&M earns from Mahindra Finance.

The total capital commitment from each shareholder is up to ₹3,600 crore (\$400 million), with each shareholder expected to invest ₹1,250 crore (\$140 million) in the first five years.

The life insurance market has surpassed \$20 billion in new business premiums, growing at a 12 per cent CAGR

over the past five years. Yet, India continues to have a wide gap in life cover and low insurance penetration, providing significant long-term growth potential. These tailwinds position India to become the world's fastest growing life insurance market over the next decade, on track to become the fourth largest globally, a statement stated.

This growth is underpinned by robust GDP expansion, a rising middle class, and a supportive regulatory environment, it added.

At the end of 2024, Manulife Financial Corporation had more than 37,000 employees, over 1,09,000 agents, and thousands of distribution partners, serving over 36 million customers across Canada, Asia, Europe and the US.

M&M shares closed 1.45 per cent down at ₹3,699.20 apiece on BSE.

VIT Mauritius opens 2026 engineering admissions

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 13: Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) Mauritius has opened applications for its February & August (2026) intake to its flagship engineering programmes inviting aspiring students to take the next step towards their dream careers.

Students can now apply online at www.vitmauritius.mu [2] for admissions to the Mauritius campus. No entrance examination is needed as the admissions are purely based on high-school performance and personal interview. Scholarships are also provided for meritorious and needy students.

They can avail three years of post-study work permit in addition to part-time working opportunities during their study period.

BIZ BUZZ

MLMML crosses 3L EV sales milestone

MUMBAI: Mahindra Last Mile Mobility Limited (MLMML) fortifies its position as India's leading commercial EV manufacturer with over 3,00,000 electric vehicles sold. MLMML is the first OEM in India to achieve this milestone, setting new benchmarks in sustainable transportation and innovation within the commercial EV space. The company offers India's widest electric commercial vehicle portfolio, which includes the Treorange, Zor Grand, e-Alfa 3-wheelers and the Mahindra ZEO four-wheeler. These EVs have cumulatively covered more than 5 billion kilometre, saving the release of over 185 kilo metric tonne of CO₂ - equivalent to the environmental impact of planting over 4.3 million trees. Suman Mishra, Managing Director and CEO of Mahindra Last Mile Mobility, said, "Achieving the 3 lakh EV milestone marks a proud moment in our journey towards sustainable mobility. It's a reflection of the trust and confidence customers place on our EVs. At Mahindra Last Mile Mobility, we are not just manufacturing EVs - we are enabling livelihoods and shaping a cleaner future. Through innovation-driven products, we continue to strengthen our commitment to making electric mobility practical and accessible to everyone".



Evos Buildcon marks 16 years of excellence with 'Sankalp'



BHUBANESWAR: Evos Buildcon Pvt Ltd, one of Odisha's leading luxury real estate developers, celebrated its 16th Foundation Day with grandeur through the event 'Sankalp', held at a city hotel. The celebration, attended by employees, investors, customers and partners, highlighted the company's core values of reliability, quality and continuous upgradation. The event was graced by BJP Odisha President Manmohan Samal as Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering, Kalinga Keshari Rath, Managing Director of Evos Buildcon, expressed gratitude to all stakeholders for their trust and support. "At Evos, we believe reliability builds trust, quality creates legacy, and continuous upgradation drives the future. As we complete sixteen years, we are not just celebrating milestones but reaffirming our Sankalp — our promise to redefine lifestyles and contribute to Odisha's transformation story," said Rath. He highlighted upcoming landmark projects like Evos Alchemy and Evos Amani, expected to reshape Odisha's skyline with architectural brilliance and timely delivery. Rath announced that around 600 apartments would be delivered by December 2025 across Bhubaneswar and Puri, including the much-awaited Sea Roses project. The company also unveiled its 'Sankalp Magazine' and reiterated its long-term 'Vision 2036', aligning with Odisha's Vision 2036: Viksit Odisha for Viksit Bharat. The evening concluded with performances by singer Alok Katdare and legendary trumpeter Kishore Sodha.

AIBRF to launch nationwide agitation for pension revision of bank retirees

BHUBANESWAR: The All India Bank Retirees' Federation (AIBRF), representing over three lakh retired employees from public sector, private, cooperative, and rural banks across India, concluded its Central Executive Committee meeting in Bhubaneswar. The three-day meet, held from November 11 to 13, discussed key issues concerning bank pensioners and announced a nationwide agitation demanding pension revision. AIBRF, established in 1995, has been urging the government and the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) to update pensions in line with the seven bilateral wage agreements signed since 1995. The federation highlighted the disparity where in a sub-staff retired in 1986 receives a basic pension of ₹1,440, compared to ₹21,000 for current retirees — a difference of over 1,450 per cent. Despite RBI revising its pension twice in 2019 and 2022, similar benefits have not been extended to bank retirees. The meeting resolved to launch a series of protests and strikes nationwide between November 20, 2025, and March 30, 2026, to press for their demands, which also include 100 per cent dearness allowance neutralisation for pre-2002 retirees, ex-gratia payments, inclusion of special pension in basic pension, pension for non-pensioned employees, and a joint health insurance scheme for employees and retirees. AIBRF leaders, including President SM Deshpande, General Secretary SC Jain, and Organizing Secretary Suresh Sharma, were present at the press meet Thursday.



Vedanta Lanjigarh certified as 'Single Use Plastic Free' unit



POST NEWS NETWORK

Lanjigarh, Nov 13: Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, has achieved 'Single Use Plastic Free Unit' certification for its Alumina Refinery in Lanjigarh, Odisha, by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) under the provisions of the CII Plastics-use Protocol.

Awarded in October 2025, this certification by CII under its Plastics-use Protocol recognises Vedanta Lanjigarh's success in eliminating single-use plastics across its operations. This milestone demonstrates the company's commitment to environmental stewardship and sets a benchmark for sustainable practices in India's manufacturing sector.

Over the past year, Vedanta

Lanjigarh implemented a complete ban on single-use plastic items across operational areas and its residential township. These were replaced with eco-friendly alternatives such as biodegradable containers and cloth bags. As a result, the site successfully reduced plastic waste by 2,500 kg, reinforcing its pledge to minimize environmental impact.

Speaking on the achievement, Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya, CEO of Vedanta Alumina Business, said, "This recognition reinforces our belief that responsible operations and business excellence go hand in hand. At Vedanta Lanjigarh, sustainability is embedded in our growth strategy; every initiative we undertake is aimed at creating long-term value while safeguarding the environment. The achievement reflects how disciplined execution and collective ownership can turn our sustainability commitments into measurable outcomes."

'Regulatory hurdles weigh on MSMEs'

The Assocham report calls for infrastructure improvements and standardisation of processes, a simplified e-way bill regime, dedicated logistics hubs, and upgraded electricity distribution with structured industry feedback

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 13: Critical barriers, including crippling regulatory delays, high compliance costs and a lack of effective single window systems, are holding back micro, small and medium enterprises from realising their potential, industry lobby Assocham said Thursday.

Citing its report titled "Ease of Doing Business in the Indian States," the industry lobby called for accelerated, state-driven reforms to empower micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The report outlines the major regulatory and infrastructural bottlenecks that continue to hinder business operations across key Indian states.

These include cumbersome and overlapping approval processes; GST-related hurdles, including complex registration



ODISHA IS AMONG THE STATES WITH A RANGE OF REGULATORY AND INFRASTRUCTURAL ISSUES

procedures, refund delays, and frequent ITC disputes; logistics and infrastructure bottlenecks - including e-way bill inefficiencies, and unreliable electricity supply in states such as West Bengal and Odisha, which cause delays and production losses.

Moreover, company law and BIS rules burden MSMEs with complex compliance, exit, and certification delays, while unclear FSSAI norms (especially for biotech products) add further regulatory uncertainty,

according to the report.

It emphasises that digitised and time-bound single window systems can be a game-changer in improving the investment climate across states.

It calls for their urgent implementation in states like West Bengal, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh, where the current systems are fragmented and often function as "multiple windows" replacing them with streamlined processes that have fixed approval timelines and clear accountability.

Beyond state-level systems, the report proposes a major overhaul of the national compliance architecture for small businesses. A key recommendation is the introduction of a single, consolidated annual MSME compliance form that

combines multiple filings, such as AOC-4, MGT-7A, DIR-3 KYC, MSME Form-I, and DPT-3. It also suggests moving registered MSMEs under the Companies Act to biennial or triennial filing cycles to ease the administrative burden significantly.

The report advocates for a graded penalty structure and exemptions from mandatory audits for smaller enterprises.

It identifies legal and regulatory challenges that cut across the national business ecosystem.

The report highlights a range of regulatory and infrastructural issues encountered in Odisha, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Gujarat & Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Goa, J&K, and Madhya Pradesh.

Jyothi crowned Asian Champion

With titles in both individual and team events, Jyothi Surekha Vennam headlined India's dominant five-medal haul in the compound section at the Asian Archery Championships

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dhaka, Nov 13: Seasoned campaigner Jyothi Surekha Vennam led from the front as Indian compound archers enjoyed a stellar outing, clinching three golds and two silvers on a productive day at the Asian Championships here Thursday. Jyothi secured the women's individual and team titles to cap a perfect day for the 29-year-old. She first teamed up with Deepshikha, and Prithika Pradeep to registered a thrilling 236-234 victory over Korea in the compound women's team final.

The trio delivered near-flawless shooting, producing ends of 59 (10, 10, 10, 10, 9, 10) and 58 (10, 10, 10, 9, 10, 9) to outclass the Korean combination of Park Yerin, Oh Yoohyun, and Jungyoon Park.

The Asian Games champion then claimed the compound women's individual crown with a hard-fought 147-145 win over 17-year-old Prithika in an all-India final.

Jyothi had dropped just one point in her semifinal, comfort-



MEDAL RUSH

Jyothi secured the women's individual title over 17-year-old Prithika in an all-India final

Jyothi, Deepshikha, Prithika steal gold from the Koreans in the compound women's team final

Abhishek, Deepshikha combined superbly to grab gold in compound mixed team final vs 8'desh

Abhishek, Sahil, Prathamesh clinch silver in the compound men's team final against Kazakh

ably defeating Chinese Taipei's Si-Yu Chen 149-143.

While Prithika, one of the season's brightest prospects, has edged out home favourite Most Kulsum Akhter Mone by a single point (146-145) in a tense semifinal.

In the compound mixed team final, Abhishek Verma and Deepshikha combined superbly to defeat Bangladesh 153-151, to secure another gold for India.

The pair displayed consistency under pressure, shooting identical 38-point ends (10, 9, 10, 9 and 9, 10, 9, 10) to seal the title.

However, in the compound men's team final, India fell agonisingly short against Kazakhstan, going down 229-230 to settle for the silver medal.

The Indian trio of Abhishek Verma, Sahil Rajesh Jadhav, and Prathamesh Bhalchandra Fuge was edged out by the Ka-

zakh side of Dilmukhamet Mustafa, Bunyod Mirzametov, and Andrey Tyutyun, who held their nerve in the closing arrows.

With recurve medal matches scheduled Friday, India will be in contention to win more medals.

Four-time Olympian Deepika Kumari will face Ankita Bhakat in an all-Indian semifinal, while Sangeeta takes on South Korea's Nam Suhyeon in

the other. In the men's recurve section, Dhiraj Bommadevara and Rahul will feature in separate semi-finals.

The Indian men's team of Yashdeep Bhoge, Atanu Das and Rahul will meet South Korea in the gold medal match while the mixed team of Anshika Kumari and Yashdeep Sanjay Bhoge will also face South Korea in the bronze medal contest.

SHORT TAKES

Esha, Manu advance

Cairo: Indian shooters Esha Singh and Manu Bhaker were in strong contention for a place in the final of the women's 25m Sport Pistol event at the ISSF World Championship after the completion of the precision stage here Thursday. Esha stands fourth while Manu is placed seventh among the lineup of 85 shooters. Olympian Esha shot 294-11x (98, 97, 99) while double Olympic medallist Manu shot 292-11x (98, 96, 98) to keep herself within striking distance of the leaders. The third Indian in the fray, Rahi Sarnobat, is currently placed 56th with 284-7x (95, 96, 93). The top eight shooters after the completion of the qualification rounds will advance to the medal round. The Rapid stage will take place tomorrow, followed by the final scheduled on the same day.

Historic BJK Cup starts

Bangalore: The Indian women's tennis team will be eager to script its own defining moment when it chases its first ever Billie Jean King Cup qualifiers berth, hoping to tame formidable playoff opponents in the Netherlands and Slovenia on home turf beginning Friday. The whole nation is still riding high on the Indian women's cricket team's maiden World Cup triumph recently, and it will be a further fillip if tennis stars can progress to the 2026 qualifiers. India are in Group G along with Netherlands and Slovenia, and their campaign will be led by Sahaja Yamalapalli, Shrivalli Bhamidipaty, Ankita Raina, Riya Bhatia, and Prarthana Thombare. India's first clash will be against Slovenia on Saturday followed by the match-up against the seventh-seeded Dutch team Sunday. This is the first time India is hosting the prestigious competition and the three teams will face each other in round-robin matches.

Sinner seals SF spot

Turin: Defending champion Jannik Sinner sealed a semifinal spot at the ATP Finals with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Alexander Zverev before his home fans. Sinner extended his winning streak on indoor hard courts to 28 matches — stretching back to his loss to Novak Djokovic in the final of this event two years ago. It was Sinner's fifth straight victory over Zverev — a run that includes this year's Australian Open final and recent meetings in Vienna and Paris. The second-ranked Sinner still has a chance to finish the year at No 1. But he needs to win the tournament and hope that Carlos Alcaraz doesn't win another match.

1ST INDIAN WOMAN TO LIFT IBSF WORLD SNOOKER TITLE

Cue sensation Anupama scripts history

23-year-old Chennai girl holds her nerve and steals the final black ball after On Yee misses sitter in a nail-biting final

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Doha, Nov 13: India's Anupama Ramachandran held her nerve under pressure to beat Hong Kong's Ng On Yee to clinch the World snooker title here Thursday.

The 23-year-old Chennai girl edged out On Yee 3-2 to become the first Indian woman to annex the IBSF World Snooker (15-red) crown.

Anupama, who won the Asian snooker title last year, got lucky towards the end when On Yee, a three-time champion, missed the final black with the score 60-61 in the decider.

Anupama sank the tough black to the bottom left-hand pocket to lay her hands on the title.

The Indian ace, who ousted compatriot Keerthana Pandian 3-1 in the semifinals late Wednesday night, staged a spir-



ited rally twice in the best-of-five frame final.

She drew parity after losing the first frame. Down 1-2 in the fourth, Anupama came up with a gritty 29-break under pressure to level frame scores.

In the decider, the Indian ace potted a long red to the top right-hand pocket and snookered herself thrice. But On Yee failed to capitalise on the offering.

Up 61-42 with just 25 points on the table, the Indian played

a poor safety on the green — which was stuck to the pink near the green cushion — to give her rival a chance to close out the match. Fortunately for Anupama, On Yee, who took the green, brown, blue and pink, missed a sitter black. Anupama soon potted the black to emerge the champion.

Results:

Final: Anupama Ramachandran (Ind) bt Ng On Yee (HKC) 3-2 (51-74, 65-41, 10-71, 78-20, 68-60).

Odisha pickleball team in IPA Nationals 2025

India's biggest pickleball event kicks off in Bangalore with record participation



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore, Nov 13: The Odisha pickleball contingent has set out to participate in the IPA National Championship, scheduled from November 13 to 16 at The Sports School, Bangalore.

It is the first national event since the sport received official recognition from the National Sports Federation (NSF). A total of 23 players are representing the state across five age categories — Open Men's, 30+ Men's, 40+ Men's, 50+ Men's, and Open Women's — marking

a new beginning for the sport in Odisha. Apart from the team events, players from the state are also competing in individual categories.

Selections for the Odisha team were conducted in October at Grand Awaas, and the chosen athletes are now competing in their respective categories at the national level. Prior to the championship, the entire squad underwent intensive training under Coach Sumeet Panda at Grand Awaas to prepare for the competition.

The team is being led by cap-



tain Soven Jena, with Sweekruti Dash serving as team manager, and Sumeet Panda as coach, under the overall guidance of Dilip Mohanty, IPA Director.

Odisha began their fight in the 30+ Doubles category, defeating Uttar Pradesh and Assam in straight sets Thursday here. They fought hard against Gujarat and Haryana but lost in close matches. In the Open Men's category, Odisha's team defeated Kerala and Madhya Pradesh, but lost to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. With these results, Odisha will have to be satisfied with reaching the pre-quarter stage in both events.

JAPAN MASTERS

Lakshya enters quarters, Prannoy suffers defeat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kumamoto (Japan), Nov 13: Star Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen progressed to the quarter-finals with a straight game win over Singapore's Jia Heng Jason Teh but it was curtains for HS Prannoy in the men's singles competition of Kumamoto Masters Japan here Thursday.

A 2021 World Championship bronze winner, Sen, seeded seventh here, prevailed over world No 20 Teh 21-13 21-11.

The world No 15 Sen will clash with former world champion Loh Kean Yew of Singapore in the quarterfinals. However, later in the day, Prannoy, 33, went down 18-21 15-21 to Denmark's Rasmus Gemke in a 46-minute second-round match.

Lakshya opened up an 8-5 lead early in the opening game. Teh managed to briefly take a slender 10-9 lead before the Indian had his nose ahead at the break.

The duo fought hard till 14-13 when Lakshya zoomed ahead with seven straight points.

After the change of ends, it was a more dominating show from the Indian as he jumped to 5-0 and then 11-3 at the interval to quash his rival's hopes. Lakshya stayed steady to comfortably close out the match.

CHESS WORLD CUP

Arjun, Harikrishna into top 16, Praggnanandhaa crashes out

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, Nov 13: Grandmasters Arjun Erigaisi and P Harikrishna had another good day as they sent veteran Peter Leko of Hungary and Swede Nils Grandelius packing in the fourth-round tie-breaker here Thursday.

Arjun dumped Leko 3-1 in the first set of tiebreaker itself while Harikrishna drew the first and then won the second for an overall 2.5-1.5 victory that took him to round of 16.

R Praggnanandhaa meanwhile could not maintain the parity and lost to Daniil Dubov of Russia to mark his exit from this year's World Cup.

It may be recalled that in the previous edition held in 2023, the young Indian had made it all the way to the finals before losing to eventual winner Magnus Carlsen of Norway.

For Arjun the next round will

OPENING TEST

INDIA WARY OF SA'S SPIN THREAT

Reigning world champions South Africa eye first series win on Indian soil in 25 years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 13: India's awe-inspiring batting depth will face a stern test against South Africa's quality spin attack when the reasonably well-matched sides clash in an eagerly-anticipated two-match Test series beginning here Friday.

India would be haunted by the ghosts of last year's home debacle against New Zealand when their home record was shattered by Kiwi spinners Ajaz Patel, Mitchell Santner and Glenn Phillips, who shared 36 wickets across three Tests, fashioning an unprecedented 0-3 whitewash.

Given South Africa's heavy reliance on tweakers right now, that collapse against sustained spin pressure will linger in the collective memory of the home side.

The reigning World Test champions are known for fiery pacers historically but are currently armed with one of the most potent spin groups in world cricket.

The Proteas arrive on the back of a morale-boosting 1-1 draw in Pakistan, achieved without inspirational captain Temba Bavuma.

South Africa's spin trio of Keshav Maharaj, Simon Harmer and Senuran Muthusamy accounted for 35 of the 39 wickets to fall across the series outperforming Pakistan's own slow-bowling contingent of Noman Ali, Sajid Khan, Asif Afridi and Salman Agha, who managed 27 wickets collectively.

The Eden Gardens pitch has therefore become the most-watched element of this contest. While India batting coach Sitanshu Kotak and captain Shubman Gill have made multiple pitch inspections, Cricket Association of Bengal president Sourav Ganguly has assured that it "won't be a rank-turner".

That will please Jasprit Bumrah, who could be India's trump card on a surface that historically gives early movement and late reverse swing. India would look to go with two pacers and it appears that Akash Deep, the local 'boy', will have the edge with his knowledge of the conditions.

Over the last 15 years, pac-



- India, who have twice finished WTC runners-up, are currently third in the standings after a 2-2 draw in England and a 2-0 home victory against West Indies
- India and South Africa have played 44 tests, out of which, India won 16 games while South Africa won 18 matches. 10 games ended in a draw

ers have taken 61 per cent (97 of 159 wickets) in Tests here as seam and swing play a major role, especially in the early and closing stages.

While a young Indian side under Shubman Gill's debut captaincy drew 2-2 in England this summer, showing resilience and adaptability in seaming conditions, it is the New Zealand debacle at home that continues to rankle.

The subsequent 2-0 win against a weak West Indies side in this WTC cycle did little to test India's revival.

For India, the focus will be on application and patience against spin.

With Rishabh Pant fit again and an in-form Dhruv Jurel set to play as a specialist batter, the middle order looks more stable. Washington Sundar, who topped India's spin charts in that New Zealand series with 16 wickets, provides drift and bounce and lends depth with the bat.

For India, batting big and putting the opposition under the scoreboard pressure will be the key to exorcising the ghosts of last year's collapse.

Proteas captain wants team to prove credentials

South Africa are the World Test champions and skipper Temba Bavuma wants them to play like it and prove their credentials in the two-test series against India beginning Friday. After decades of trying to shed the 'choker' tag, South Africa registered their first major triumph in June when they beat Australia in the World Test Championship final. Five months on from their Lord's glory, South Africa arrived in India with swagger but also a point to prove - that the WTC trophy was no fluke. "We're known as the champions, the current champions at this point," Bavuma told reporters on the eve of the series opener at Eden Gardens. "We have a lovely opportunity now coming up against India in their own conditions. There's not many bigger challenges than that. So, it's an opportunity for us to kind of stamp ourselves with that label."



VISA SETBACK

China asks Nagal to provide proper docs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 13: The Chinese Foreign Ministry Thursday said India's top-ranked tennis player Sumit Nagal, who was denied visa to travel to the country for a tournament, should submit his application to their Embassy with all required documents.

Nagal was scheduled to travel to Chengdu to compete in the Australian Open Playoff event, which will give the regional players a main-draw entry into the 2026 Australian Open.

Nagal wrote on X that his visa was rejected without reason and he sought help of Chinese Ambassador to India Tuesday.

Asked for a response, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said China issues visas to athletes from all countries, including India, in accordance with laws and regulations.

