



LEISURE | P2



INTERNATIONAL | P10



BUSINESS | P11

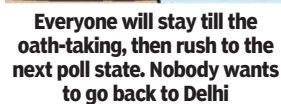


SPORTS | P12

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

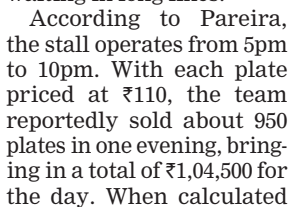
The person said that security agencies are also preparing to re-create the entire route of the accused, Umar Nabi, from the time he left Faridabad, visited Nuh in Haryana, and had tea in Delhi – the whole sequence leading up to the blast.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



AGENCIES

During the first hour alone, Pareira and the team served 118 plates. After a quick break, he returned to an even larger crowd, taking on multiple responsibilities, frying momos,

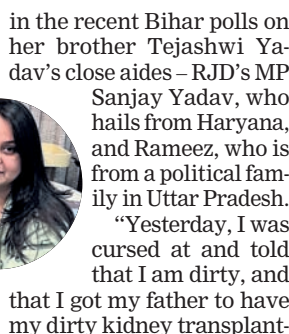


Pareira ends the viral clip

According to a report by 'NDTV', the massively viral Instagram reel has already crossed nearly 18 million views and continues to surge, attracting a flood of comments from amused and astonished viewers. One user corrected the creator by writing, "It's MOMO, not momos," while another joked, "That's not even what I learn in a year." Several youngsters jumped in humorously asking, "Vacancy hai? Bhaiya kaam pe laga lo please." Adding to the banter, a viewer quipped, "Everyone earns more than a B.Com graduate," capturing the playful mood dominating the comment section.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The posts came a day after her announcement that she was quitting the party and disowning her family, while putting the blame for the RJD's debacle



that I got my father to have
my dirty kidney transplant-

Dhenkanal: Dhenkanal unit of Electricity Consumers' Action Committee, backed by the District Bar Association, has called for a dawn-to-dusk bandh Monday in protest against alleged exploitation by power distribution company Tata Power Central Odisha Distribution Ltd (TPCODL). The bandh will be observed from 6am to 6pm. Protesters will raise issues like excessive fines imposed for installing non-smart meters, mandatory rollout of smart meters, unannounced power cuts, and alleged misbehaviour toward consumers by TPCODL staffers.



leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
Okay, so the plans you chalked out have not delivered any results. Today, you may want to do a rethink. By noon, you may put things in place, and this will fire your confidence. Ganesha says this is what life is about — try, try, try, until you succeed.

TAURUS
You are likely to remain unconquerable and unassailable throughout the day. Caution: Stay focussed and avoid frittering away your time and energy. You may face stress at work or in some ongoing project. Expect a relatively serene evening with your beloved, says Ganesha.

GEMINI
Family comes first for you, and today will be no different. You will be preoccupied by thoughts of providing comforts and luxuries to your family members, says Ganesha. At the workplace, your ability to take initiatives will benefit you. A grand dinner with those close to you is also on the cards.

CANCER
Today, you will show others, literally, how to be successful in life, feels Ganesha. The example that you will set here is likely to become a benchmark for your company. Despite your tendency of getting into confrontations with your seniors, you are likely to be compliant and cooperative at work.

LEO
The best ideas of the greatest geniuses were nothing but serendipitous accidents. Well, Ganesha asks you to remember this, since it is very likely that today, you are on the verge of a sudden inspiration in your professional field. So be prepared to execute work plans to perfection, because somewhere along the course of the day, your 'big idea' is waiting to be discovered.

VIRGO
Reap and harvest the good things in your life. You may seem to arrive at your wits' end today. Ganesha predicts that you will probably sort all of it when you sit down with your better half and discuss the issues at hand.

LIBRA
When it comes to matters of career, today you shall have an infinite pool of zeal and fervour to dip into. Your ability to convince people makes it easier for you to make them agree with your viewpoints. Be careful of getting too cocky though. You might do well to take inputs from seniors and experienced people before taking any crucial decisions, advises Ganesha.

SCORPIO
Small problems and tiny things will keep you on your feet as you tackle them with tact and precision. On the family front, you will enjoy marital bliss as you communicate on a spiritual level with your partner. You may end up planning a romantic vacation for the near future. On the whole, it will be an animated and lively day, says Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS
Trouble is brewing, foresees Ganesha, and there is a strong possibility of you being caught up in it real bad. But as things progress, you will become high-spirited and noble-minded. Later in the day, a cozy time spent with friends and family will bring much peace and calm.

CAPRICORN
You will be all focused and ready to shoulder the burden of piling work which, by now, would have got unwieldy, foresees Ganesha. In fact, the never-ending work pressure will have frustrated you to such an extent that you wouldn't mind spending an entire day cracking your brains over each of those dreadful files.

AQUARIUS
Money ahoj! You are blessed with the Midas touch today, and you need to take advantage of it! Competition will be left far behind as you zoom off into the skies of success. But watch out for the envious ones, warns Ganesha, who are ready to pull the rug from under your feet at the slightest excuse.

PISCES
While your day at work ought to begin with a whirlwind of creative ideas and suggestions from your side, you will run out of juice by mid-day, says Ganesha. Perhaps, it is time to take a short break over the weekend from work to recharge your batteries.



JON BATISTE TO MAKE HIS INDIAN DEBUT

Grammy-Award winning piano artist Jon Batiste is set to perform in India for the very first time, with shows in Delhi and Mumbai. A fourth-generation musician from New Orleans, Batiste's family legacy has shaped American music for over a century

EMMY-WINNING WRITER DAN MCGRATH DIES AT 61

Emmy-winning comedy writer Dan McGrath, best known for his work on iconic animated series like *The Simpsons* and *Mission Hill*, has passed away at the age of 61. McGrath passed away 14 November at the NYU Langone Hospital in Brooklyn after suffering a stroke



Aditi issues warning

Mumbai: Actress Aditi Rao Hydari, who was last seen in the streaming series *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar*, has issued a statement saying that someone is impersonating her on the messaging platform WhatsApp.

The actress took to her Instagram, and shared a note along with the WhatsApp details of the impersonator.

She wrote, "I wanted to flag something that a few people brought to my notice today. Someone has been pretending to be me on WhatsApp, using my pictures and messaging photographers about 'photoshoots'. It isn't me. I don't reach out like this, and I don't use any personal number for work. Everything always goes through my team".

She further mentioned, "Please be careful and don't engage with that number. If you come across anything odd, just let my team know. Thank you to all those who have my back and are so protective and kind".

While Saturday was a bit of a predicament for the actress, earlier last month, she spent her weekend chilling with furry friends. The actress took to her official Instagram handle and uploaded a few snaps playing with dogs.

IANIS



Priyanka wins hearts

Mumbai: Actor Priyanka Chopra is gearing up for her much-awaited return to Indian cinema with SS Rajamouli's *Varanasi*. The actor recently attended the film's grand event in Hyderabad, where a viral video captured her warmly interacting with fans and paparazzi. In the clip, Priyanka is seen obliging requests for photos with a smile. She even mentioned she would need to hurry once

Rajamouli called her, yet still paused for quick pictures. Her gracious gesture won over everyone present, with paparazzi thanking her and saying, "Love you, PC." As she made her way inside, she greeted them with folded hands.

At the event, Priyanka looked ethereal in a white lehenga-choli, exuding Princess Jasmine vibes with her traditional jewellery. Her elegant appearance quickly became a

talking point online.

Varanasi Rajamouli's return to direction after the success of *RRR* and Priyanka's return to Indian cinema after *The Sky Is Pink* (2019). She plays Mandakini, with Mahesh Babu as Rudra and Prithviraj Sukumaran as Kumbha. Alongside this, Priyanka also has *Citadel 2* and *The Bluff* lined up.

AGENCIES



Huma talks about creative freedom

Mumbai: Actress Huma Qureshi has spoken about the importance of creative freedom in the film industry.

In an exclusive interaction with this news agency during the Jagran film festival, she emphasised that a vibrant cinema landscape thrives when all kinds of films—big, small, middle-of-the-road, and independent—get a chance to be made. Huma added that filmmakers must consider audiences while experimenting with different storytelling styles, as diversity in cinema strengthens the industry and offers viewers a richer experience.

The *Jolly LLB 3* actress shared, "We have to watch the audience and make films. We have to make films in different ways. No one can make a film in one way. Big films should be made, small films should be made, middle-of-the-road films should be made, independent films should be made. I think the film industry becomes robust and vibrant when there is freedom to make all kinds of films and people get a chance to watch it."

Speaking about playing a negative role in *Delhi Crime* season 3, the actress stated, "You will see a very different kind of character while playing me. And because those two shows (*Maharani* and *Delhi Crime*) have

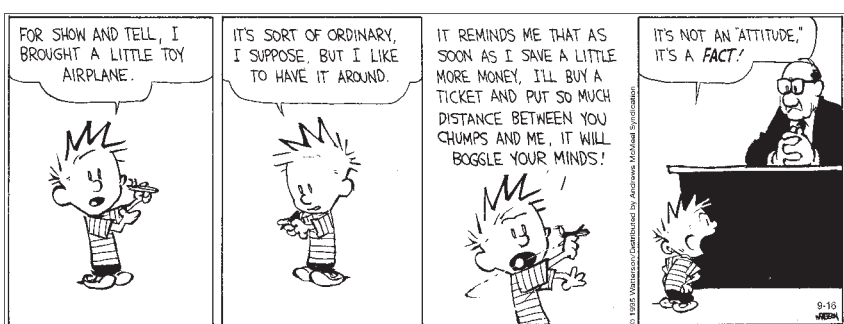
come back-to-back, I am getting a lot of calls and messages every day just talking about the range of both the characters."

IANIS

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBES

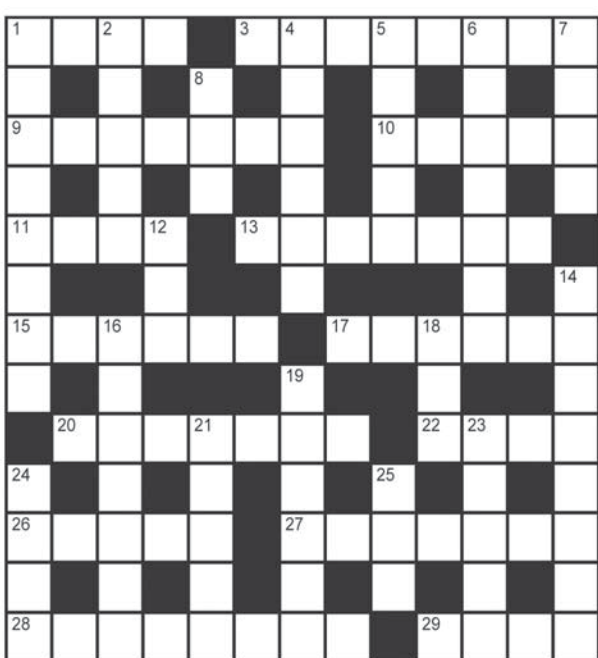


BREVITY



FUN post

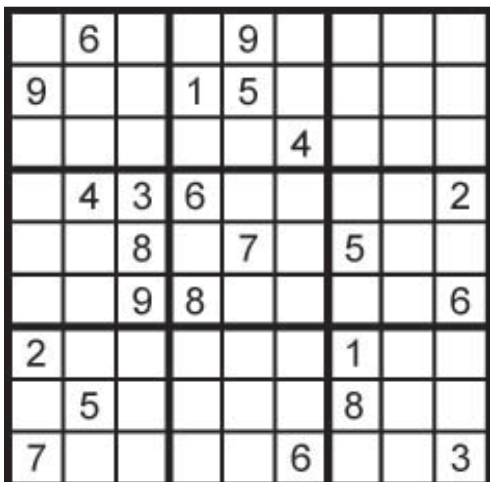
CROSSWORD



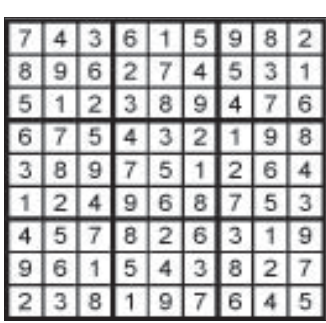
- Across**
- 1 Davenport
 - 3 Renovated
 - 9 Employ
 - 10 Mode of transportation
 - 11 Subterfuge
 - 13 Chinese dish (4,3)
 - 15 Be that as it may (4,2)
 - 17 Assert without proof
 - 20 Instruct
 - 22 Short run
 - 26 Vogue
 - 27 Puppy producer
 - 28 Bugged
 - 29 Wagon part
 - 6 Grassland
 - 7 Unit of force
 - 8 Auction action
 - 12 Sea eagle
 - 14 Aquarium denizen (3,5)
 - 16 Infinite
 - 18 Young fellow
 - 19 Farm building
 - 21 Inner circle
 - 23 African antelope
 - 24 Desist
 - 25 Wager
- Down**
- 1 Chipmunk relative
 - 2 Flunks
 - 4 Chooses
 - 5 Thespian

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



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

BYPOLL DEFEAT

‘Stringent action against those involved in anti-party activities’

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) President Bhakta Charan Das Sunday stated that the Congress will introspect to identify the causes of the defeat and will also take action against those involved in anti-party activities during the recently concluded Nuapada bypolls.

Speaking to media persons, Das said that there is a need for introspection in the party to find out the failures in the by-election and the party's members who were involved in anti-party activities during the polls. The OPCC president clarified that stringent action will be taken against all those found engaged in anti-party activities during the polls.

He further claimed that the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spent huge money and engaged several ministers and leaders from Odisha and



neighbouring Chhattisgarh, including the Chief Ministers of both states, to win the Nuapada bypolls.

“Despite the massive misuse of power and large-scale distribution of money, the people of Nuapada gave Congress over 40,000 votes, and we express our gratitude to them for this. We are fully satisfied that we have achieved something that we never did in the past,” the OPCC president asserted.

Meanwhile, senior BJP leader and the law minister Prithviraj Harichandan, while taking a dig at the OPCC president, said, “Those who face defeat usually present several alibis to hide their faults and weaknesses. Instead of getting engaged in tall talks, it would be better for both BJD and Congress to accept that they had been rejected by the people.”

BJP candidate Jay Dholakia, who secured a total of 1,23,869 votes, defeated Congress candidate Ghasiram Majhi by a margin of 83,748 votes. The BJD candidate Snehangini Chhuria secured the third position with 38408 votes.

BJP snatched away the Nuapada seat from BJD, increasing its tally to 79 in the state Assembly with a total of 147 seats.

Notably, the Nuapada Assembly seat had fallen vacant after the death of four-time MLA Rajendra Dholakia, father of newly elected BJP MLA Jay Dholakia, in September this year.



ENCHANTING POSE: Artistes perform Odissi at 5th Lasha Award 2025 at Rabin德拉 Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Sunday

OP PHOTO

BJD alleges large-scale rigging in Nuapada bypoll

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Biju Mahila Janata Dal president and BJD candidate for the Nuapada by-election, Snehangini Chhuria, alleged Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of securing victory through widespread electoral manipulation by influencing district officials, police and election authorities.

BJD leader and BMC Mayor Sulochana Das and Chhuria slammed BJP during a press conference at Shankha Bhavan here Sunday.

Chhuria alleged that during her campaign visit across panchayats and NAC areas in Nuapada, she witnessed

strong public support for BJD and its president Naveen Patnaik. However, she alleged that district administration officials acted with hostility towards BJD workers, taking vindictive measures to demoralise them. Despite repeated complaints, she claimed that election authorities failed to take stringent action.

Chhuria further alleged that while BJD leaders left the district during the silent period in compliance with the Model Code of Conduct, BJP leaders continued to stay in Nuapada and distributed money among voters.

She also claimed that BJP party workers entered several polling booths on voting day,



campaigned inside, and even forced voters to cast their ballots in Lotus symbol. “Although our party workers objected, the complaints were ignored,” she alleged, adding that polling percentages rose abnormally due to organised booth rigging, with 41 booths recording over

90 per cent turnout.

Chhuria questioned the sudden rise in voter turnout figures, noting that while 75 per cent polling was announced at 5pm, it increased to 77 per cent at 7pm, 81 per cent the next morning, and finally 83.45 per cent by noon.

DHW volunteers explore archaeological sites

POST NEWS NETWORK

Dhenkanal, Nov 16: The 31st edition of Dhenkanal Heritage Walks (DHW) Sunday brought together heritage enthusiasts, historians, conservationists, and volunteers for an immersive exploration of two remarkable archaeological sites—Kualo, home to the ancient Ashtashambhu Shiva temple, and Saranga, known for its majestic Ananta Sayana Vishnu sculpture on the bank of the Brahmani River.

The heritage walk began at Kualo (Kuala), one of the oldest settlements in the region. Scholars believe the name Kualo may be a later form of Kodalaka, the historical headquarters of the Stambha or Sulki Dynasty of the 9th Century. At the heart of Kualo lies the Ashtashambhu group of temples, a complex of eight shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva. These temples house eight ancient Shiva lingams: Kanakeswar, Swapneswar, Aisneswar, Kapileswar, Baidhyanatheswar, Baneswar, Lokanatheswar, and the Ashtambhu shrine situated near the Uttareswara Temple.

Despite their weathered condition, the Ashtashambhu temples continue to speak volumes about the Sulki Dynasty's artistic vision, religious traditions, and architectural evolution. During the walk, experts highlighted the need for urgent conservation and systematic documentation, emphasising the significance of these monuments in reconstructing early medieval Odisha's history.

The second leg of the heritage walk led participants to Saranga, home to the iconic Ananta Sayana Vishnu, an extraordinary example of rock-cut iconography in Odisha. The colossal sculpture depicts Lord Vishnu in the cosmic reclining posture (Ananta Sayana) atop the serpent Shesha. Carved on a massive rock outcrop on the banks of the Brahmani River, this image is believed to date back to the 8th to 10th Century, corresponding to the early medieval period of Odisha's art history.

Historians accompanying the team noted similarities with the Ananta Sayana images found at Bhubaneswar, Badamal, and other early medieval sites, suggesting that the Saranga sculpture belongs to the same broader artistic tradition. Its placement on the riverbank symbolically reflects the ‘puranic’ concept of Vishnu resting on the cosmic ocean.

BMC honours sanitation workers



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) hosted Cleanliness Promotion Celebration Sunday—an event dedicated to sanitation workers, recognising their vital role in maintaining cleanliness and enhancing City's dignity.

About 5,000 sanitation workers from 67 wards participated in the event. Special guests at the event included MLA Ananta Narayan Jena, MLA Sushanta Kumar Raut, BMC Mayor Sulochana Das, Commissioner Chanchal Rana, Standing Committee Chairman Biranchi Narayan Mahasupakar, Cultural Standing Committee Chairman Ramachandra Ranasimha, along with various corporate members and other BMC team members.

On this occasion, 85 selected sanitation workers from different wards were honoured for their dedication. Additionally, 11 workers received safety kits as part of the ceremony.

Speaking at the event, Mayor

praised Bhubaneswar's ranking at 9th place in the national cleanliness survey, attributing the City's success to the collective efforts of the sanitation workers. “At all times, in every season, our sanitation workers are the backbone of this City, ensuring its cleanliness, even during festivals or special occasions. It's a family responsibility that starts from the Mayor and goes all the way down to the workers,” she said.

Commissioner Chanchal Rana echoed similar sentiments, stating, “Just like we take care of our own children, our sanitation workers treat Bhubaneswar as their own child, working tirelessly to keep it clean.”

The event was organised across several venues, including DM Convention, Chandrasekharpur Kalyan Mandap, Unit 8 Community Centre, VSS Nagar Kalyan Mandap, Sahid Nagar Kalyan Mandap, and Badagada Kalyan Mandap, where coordination responsibilities were managed by Additional Commissioners Ratnakar Sahu and Kailas Chandra Das.

AVTA lays agenda to secure rights of OAVS employees

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: A 13-point agenda, focusing on the welfare and rights of Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan (OAVS) employees was laid out during a maha samilani of Adarsha Vidyalaya Teachers Association (AVTA) here at Railway Auditorium, drawing over 1,500 teachers from various blocks and districts across Odisha.

The meeting was presided over by AVTA president Ripudaman Sourav Mishra and conducted under the supervision of secretary Subhasis Das.

Key demands highlighted in the 13-point charter includes, granting government status and HRMS IDs to all OAVS employees with benefits equal to S&ME high school teachers, implementation of a uniform cadre rule for all OAVS employees, equal pay for equal work, including Rs 4,600 grade pay for Music, PET, and Computer teachers, posting of PGT Odia



in each school alongside PGT Hindi and Sanskrit, extension of PM SHRI Vidyalaya status to all OAVs, introduction of Arts stream in OAVs and reservation for wards of OAV employees in OAVET.

Other demands includes, regularisation of promotion processes for all employees, including school principals, regularisation of appointed clerks and appointment of permanent clerks in each school, re-inclusion of OAV students in NMMS exams and 15 per cent reservation in NEET and JEE like S&ME high school students, consideration of previous service and pay

protection for teachers joining as PGT from TGT or from S&ME and other government services, change of nomenclature from art teacher to TGT Arts and extension of rehabilitation schemes and death gratuity for OAVS employees.

Addressing the gathering, Mishra emphasised that these demands reflect the long-standing and legitimate expectations of the teaching community and warned that if the government does not address the demands within 15 days, the association would initiate a democratic protest to safeguard the rights of OAVS employees and students.

BHU hosts discussion on Bhakti Literature

Varanasi/Bhubaneswar: A one-day discussion circle on Bhakti Literature was organised Sunday at Banaras Hindu University (BHU) through the joint efforts of Odisha Sahitya Akademi (OSA), BHU's Kabi Samrat Upendra Bhanja Odia Chair and Baranaseya Utkal Samaj. BHU Vice-Chancellor Ajit Kumar Chaturvedi graced the occasion as the chief guest. In his address, he highlighted the profound social and spiritual awakening ushered in by Bhakti Literature, noting that its influence has been far-reaching across religious and literary spheres. He remarked that knowledge, love, devotion, compassion form the essence of Bhakti Literature, with spiritual consciousness at its core. OSA secretary Chandra Shekhar Hota emphasised that among the four paths to attaining the divine described in Hindu tradition, the path of devotion remains the most widely embraced. He observed that, unlike the paths of karma, knowledge or yoga, the bhakti tradition connects deeply with the masses. Hota also elaborated on the philosophical orientation and literary significance of Bhakti literature. The discussion featured in-depth deliberations on two central themes, ‘Panchasakha and Sri Chaitanya’ and ‘The Bhakti Movement and the Odia Bhagavata’.

Bali Yatra celebrated at House of Lords

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar/London, Nov 16: Bali Yatra, one of India's oldest and most iconic maritime festivals, was commemorated in House of Lords recently.

Odisha Society of United Kingdom (OSUK) and Xpertnest jointly organised ‘Global South Maritime Heritage Summit 2025’ at the House of Lords and celebrated the Bali Yatra festival.

Held against the tranquil setting of the River Thames, this landmark event marked a historic milestone for the global Odia community, bringing the spirit of Odisha's maritime legacy to one of the world's most influential seats of democracy.

The day commenced with a mesmerising Odissi dance performance, gracefully capturing the spirit of Odisha's maritime traditions and cultural depth.

The performance beautifully set the tone for a gathering that

blended art, diplomacy, and innovation.

With more than 115 dignitaries and thought leaders in attendance, the summit was enriched by inspiring addresses from UK parliamentarians, institutional leaders from India, and representatives from across the Global South, who collectively underscored the importance of collaboration in achieving a circular economy and sustainable innovation.

It marked the beginning of a renewed dialogue between nations of the Global South, driven by India's leadership and the UK's commitment to innovation and inclusivity.

This landmark event not only honoured Odisha's glorious maritime past but also lit the path toward a new future—one where heritage meets technology and where the spirit of the Global South sails forward through sustainability, collaboration, and shared growth.

A special message from



Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi was shared during the event, in which he congratulated the organisers for their efforts in creating awareness about Odisha's rich maritime legacy on an international platform. The message was played for the audience during the programme.

A key takeaway from the summit was the announcement of plans to establish a ‘Global South Corridor’, aimed at facilitating and renewing ancient connections between these regions, both economically and culturally.

The event was attended by MP Louie French, Shadow Minister for Sport and Culture, Lord Rami Ranger, Lord Evans, former members of Parliament, councillors from both the Conservative and Labour parties and members of the London Assembly.

Distinguished delegates also joined from Southeast Asia—including members of Labour Friends of South East Asia and the APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group) on Indonesia—as well as from Africa, China, the United Kingdom, and Europe.

The Trade Minister of Sri Lanka also graced the occasion and expressed his delight at being part of the summit.

Together, the gathering united diverse regions of the Global South and Global North under a shared purpose: to celebrate, preserve, and revitalise the deep maritime connections that have shaped civilisations for over a thousand years.

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
Max Temp	29.7°	27.2°	Dry Dry weather very likely to prevail over the districts of Odisha.
Min Temp	13.0°	13.6°	
Humidity	69%	70%	
Rainfall	NII	NII	

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Healthcare goes to dogs in Kalahandi



68 per cent posts of doctors lying vacant in the district

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhawanipatna, Nov 16: The healthcare system in Kalahandi district is facing a severe manpower crisis, with a large number of doctor and staff positions lying vacant. Due to staff shortage, residents are unable to access proper medical care despite visible infrastructure development.

Official data show that 68 per cent of doctor posts, 25 per cent of nursing officer posts, 47 per cent of lab technician posts, 47 per cent of health worker posts, and 16 per cent of pharmacist positions remain vacant in the district.

Kalahandi houses the Saheed Rendo Majhi Government Medical College and Hospital, while the district headquarters hospital at Bhawanipatna has been upgraded into a teaching hospital. The district has three first referral units, 17 community health centres (CHCs), 45 primary health centres (PHCs), 241 sub-centres, 199 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, one Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC), three Mother and Child Health (MCH) wings, one Special Newborn Care Unit (SNCU), three Newborn Stabilisation Units, and three Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres.

Doc collapses, dies on duty

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nilagiri, Nov 16: Dr Trinath Pal, 53, a well-known gynaecologist at the Nilagiri Subdivisional Hospital in Balasore district, died Sunday morning after collapsing on duty from a suspected heart attack. A resident of Bharasinghpur in Bhadrak district, Dr Pal arrived from Balasore as usual and was examining patients in the OPD when he suddenly felt unwell and went to use the bathroom.

When he did not return, colleagues tried to contact him. He eventually managed to open the door but collapsed on a cot soon after. He was rushed in an ambulance to the Balasore District Headquarters Hospital but died on the way near Ambadiha Square. His body was brought back to Nilagiri, where MP Pratap Chandra Sarangi and hospital staff paid their last respects. His mortal remains were then taken to his native village for the final rites. Dr Pal is remembered as a kind-hearted and dedicated doctor.

MITS Rayagada praised for quality education

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rayagada, Nov 16: State Higher Education, Sports and Youth Affairs, and Odia Language, Literature and Culture Minister Suryabanshi Suraj, along with Rajya Sabha MP Sujit Kumar, visited the MITS College and Mega Food Park at Bhujabala under Kolnara block in Rayagada district, Saturday.

The minister reviewed the ongoing developmental activities on the campus and held discussions with officials on local employment generation, food



processing projects and the status of related infrastructure. He praised the MITS Group's efforts to strengthen agri-based industries and support local youths through skill-development initiatives.

Suraj also lauded the

institution for delivering quality education, particularly in the rural and tribal belts of South Odisha, and contributing to social and economic development in the region.

Following their inspection of the food park, the

dignitaries attended the Vande Mataram 150th anniversary celebration at the MITS auditorium.

MITS Group chairman Balakrushna Panda, CEO Shriram Panda, vice-chairman Biswajit Panda, director Dr CV Gopinath, dean Dr Shantanu Mohanty and academic council chairman Prof. Ramanuj Nayak were among those present.

Around 1,500 students, faculty members and staff attended the event. Chairman Balakrushna Panda delivered the vote of thanks.

Harish Chandra Baxipatra: An ideal for the times

These are critical times. As societies, we are no longer able to band ourselves together. We feel uninspired to live responsibly as a collective. The crisis is more acute in Odisha. Middle-class Odisha, at least in the past three to four decades, has been deeply invested in the idea of individualised success. It harbours a stereotypical view that political activism is essentially a distraction for the youth. Politics is viewed as something that only people of privilege practice irresponsibly. As a result, the level of political and social awareness among the youth is low.

The criticality of the times has been worsened by the limited exposure people have to the lives and works of strong leaders. Luminaries from the past who made significant

differences to the state—and to the closer communities in which they worked—are less discussed. One such figure is Harish Chandra Baxipatra, who, besides contributing significantly to the development of Odisha, was a major source of inspiration for activism.

Baxipatra took upon himself the task of educating people about their political rights and responsibilities. He understood that it is important first to let people recognise their own identities as members of various collectives so that they can protect and preserve them. Decades after national independence, the Adivasis of Koraput, for example, had little knowledge that they were part of a democracy in which they had equal rights with other citizens of the country. Baxipatra sensitised them about their roles,

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mobilising them to join the mainstream of political democracy with the fiery slogan “Chinhaa Pada, Chimiraa Pada Nahin” (“Get identified, don’t fall silent”).

He had a knack for identifying young people who wanted to work for society. In many small and big towns of Odisha, enthusiastic youth flocked to him, and he “trained” them extensively in identifying social issues, articulating those issues to the public and to the powers-that-be, organising politically, and getting issues resolved. It is widely known that a whole generation of political leaders emerged from Baxipatra’s mentorship.

An ideal leader is one who does not ask to be followed; the leader’s actions and speech automatically attract people. That holds true for Baxipatra as well. From touring the remote villages of the 1970s and 1980s on kutcha roads to spending protracted periods in the corridors of power, he could navigate both worlds untrammelled only because his

sole goal was a developed Odisha. Such principles motivated the youth. Many of them, in successive years, went on to mobilise more people in social and political activities. Not all of them grabbed media headlines, but they have been doing sincere work on the ground even now. In addition to working at grassroots level, scholarship shaped Baxipatra’s commitment to activism. As someone who wrote regularly and read avidly, his knowledge base gave younger people another reason to believe in the gravity of his actions and to embrace them.

It is time that we assured the current generation of the sanctity of political activism. Political activism is a good thing, and it is our job to identify principled and passionate leaders and emulate them.

MAHAWETA BAXIPATRA

Man trampled as two jumbos clash

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Nov 16: A 40-year-old man was killed in elephant attack when two tuskers, locked in a fierce fight, strayed into Eregea village under Lathikata police limits in Sundargarh district in the wee hours of Sunday.

The victim was identified as Mangra Kujur of the village. The matter came to the fore after the deceased’s mother Sombari Kujur lodged a complaint at the Lathikata police station. Police registered a case (17/25) and conducted a postmortem before handing it over to the family members Sunday evening.

Eyewitnesses said the animals

were fighting inside Lathikata forest under Rourkela Forest Division when they moved towards a ground in Eregea. Fuming in anger, the animals spotted a pick-up van parked near a peepal tree and damaged the vehicle. The victim hid himself under the vehicle after failing to escape.

However, one of the elephants pulled out Mangra from under the vehicle and battered him on the ground. He died on the spot.

Forest officials reached the spot and recovered the body. They later drove the elephants back into the forest. Compensation has been provided to the bereaved family by the Forest department, said sources.

17 trucks involved in minor mineral mining seized

Chhatrapur: At least 17 trucks have been seized in less than a week by the Ganjam administration in a crackdown on illegal sand mining and smuggling. The raids were jointly conducted by Chhatrapur Tehsiladar Dibya Mohanty, mining officials and Chamakhandi police following directives issued by Ganjam Collector V Keerthi Vasan. Authorities said minor minerals such as sand and soil were being mined and transported illegally during late hours to avoid detection. After receiving information, the tehsildar and police personnel conducted raids at several checkpoints along the Jagannathpur-Purushottampur stretch.

Constable murder: Suspect held, sent to court

Harbhanga: Police Sunday produced before court a man accused of murdering a 54-year-old constable in Jagpur village under Purunakatak police limits in Boudh district. The victim, Uday Ranjan Patnaik, a constable posted in Baliguda of Kandhamal district, had returned to his native village a few days earlier. According to police, Patnaik had been interacting frequently with local resident Sanjay Nayak during his stay. Due to alleged past enmity, Sanjay reportedly attacked Patnaik with a stone, killing him on the spot. Police said the accused then buried the body in a pit behind his house in an attempt to conceal the crime. Villagers noticed a foul smell coming from the area and informed police Saturday. Officers reached the scene, exhumed the decomposed body and registered a murder case (194/25) at Purunakatak police station.

Minor girl found hanging from tree

Morada: Police have launched a probe after recovery of a body of a 16-year-old girl from a cashew forest at Rasgopindpur in Mayurbhanj district Sunday. They have registered an unnatural-death case and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident. The deceased has been identified as Lakshmi Baskey, 16, of Durgapur village under Baishinga police limits. According to police, Lakshmi had been living with her elder sister, Sukumani Baskey, and brother-in-law, Ananta Hansda, in Rasgopindpur area following the death of her parents. She was a first-year Plus II student at Amarda College in Balasore district and had come to her sister’s house during the recent Prathamastami festival. Police said Sukumani and Ananta returned from work around 4pm Saturday and found Lakshmi missing. After searching for her without success, they alerted their neighbours. Locals spotted Lakshmi hanging from a tree in a nearby cashew forest using a scarf. Police reached the site, seized the body and sent it to PRM Medical College and Hospital at Baripada for post-mortem. Rasgopindpur police registered an unnatural death case (55/25).

TRUCK RAMS INTO BIKE; 3 KILLED

POST NEWS NETWORK

Parjang, Nov 16: Three motorcyclists were killed in the wee hours of Sunday after an unidentified truck rammed into their bike and dragged them nearly 100 metres on National Highway 149 near Kulei village under this police limits in Dhenkanal district.

The deceased were identified as Tutu Mallik, 41, of Khalapala village under Sarang police outpost, Santosh Mallik, 20, of Kulei village under Dadaraghati police outpost and Gopabandhu Naik, 30, of Katumunda village under Mahabirod police limits.

Police said the trio was returning from Kulei to Khalapala village on Tutu’s Bajaj Pulsar motorcycle (OD 35 H 4350) when the Pallahara bound speeding truck hit them head-on. Tension flared up at the spot, but police pacified locals and sent the bodies to Parjang Community Health Centre (CHC) for postmortem. Tutu’s elder brother Sudhakar Mallik filed a complaint with Parjang police who registered a case (540/25) and launched a probe.

Maoist couple surrenders before Kandhamal police



POST NEWS NETWORK

Phulbani, Nov 16: Citing frustration and disillusionment with Maoist ideology, a Maoist couple surrendered before Kandhamal police, senior officials announced Sunday.

The surrendered cadres have been identified as Unga Kalmau, also known as Kishore, 25, and his wife, Mase Madavi, 22, both from Kusuma district in Chhattisgarh. They were active members of the Bansadhara-Ghumusar-Nagavali (BGN) division of the banned CPI (Maoist).

Addressing a press conference at the district police headquarters, Inspector General of Police (Southern Range) in Berhampur, Niti Sekhar said the duo had joined the Maoist organisation in 2018 and had been tasked with reviving the dormant North-South corridor that passes through Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and central-southern Odisha. They were reportedly involved in multiple incidents of Maoist

violence in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

According to police, the couple became mentally distressed and dissatisfied with the group’s activities, including alleged sexual exploitation of women, extortion, improper financial practices, misleading recruitment of youths, harassment by senior Maoist leaders and encouragement of ganja cultivation. Continuous pressure from anti-Maoist operations and the appeal of government rehabilitation policies also influenced their decision, officials said.

“They contacted us expressing their desire to surrender, and we facilitated the process. They will receive all benefits under the state’s surrender and rehabilitation policy,” IGP Sekhar said. Kandhamal SP Harisha BC echoed the appeal, urging other Maoists to abandon violence and return to the mainstream.

Senior police officials, including the Baliguda SDPO, attended the press briefing.

18 arrested in 8 cases of robbery



POST NEWS NETWORK

Jeypore, Nov 16: Police in Jeypore have arrested 18 people, including two minors, in connection with eight theft and robbery cases across Town, Sadar and Kundura police limits, officials said Sunday.

SDPO Partha Kashyap told reporters that the arrests included six accused in a series of thefts under Town police limits, six more in separate Sadar police cases and seven accused in a bridge robbery reported

under Kundura police station.

Police recovered 10 mobile phones, two swords, five motorcycles, ₹3.45 lakh in cash, gold and silver ornaments, iron rods and cameras from the possession of the accused.

In the Kundura bridge robbery case, where armed miscreants allegedly looted ₹6 lakh from a trader and his associate, police arrested seven accused and seized ₹80,000, four mobiles, two knives and five bikes. A video showing the robbery had earlier gone viral on social media.

All arrested adults have been forwarded to court, while the two minors have been sent to a juvenile home, police said.

Senior officers, including the IICs of Town, Sadar and Kundura police stations, were present at the press briefing.

ଦ୍ଵାଦଶାହ ଉପଲକ୍ଷେ

Vଗୋପବନ୍ଧୁ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ

ଋତୁପ୍ରଭ, ଗଜପାଟଣା

ଆଦିବାସୀ- ୦୨ ୧୦ ୧୯୫୦

ତିରୋଧାରୀ- ୦୨ ୧୧ ୧୯୭୫

ତିଷ୍ଠିଷ୍ଠ ସାହିତ୍ୟିକ, ସ୍ଵତନ୍ତ୍ରାନ୍ତ ଲେଖକ, ଅନୁବାଦକ, ଉତ୍କଳ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ପତ୍ରିକାର ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାପକ ଓ ସୁରୋଚ୍ଚ ସମ୍ପାଦକ, ବସାମଙ୍ଗଳା ଗ୍ରନ୍ଥକ ପ୍ରକାଶକ, ଗୋପାଳଗଡ଼ ସାହିତ୍ୟ ସଂସଦ ଚଳଚ୍ଚିତ୍ର ପ୍ରକାଶକ ବାଣିଜ୍ୟ ବସାମଙ୍ଗଳା ପୁରସ୍କାର ପ୍ରଦାନକ, ସେବା ନିବୃତ୍ତ ଷ୍ଟୋର ଲୋକ ଅପିକର ଶ୍ରୀ ଗୋପବନ୍ଧୁ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ ଆଜି ଆମ ସମ୍ମୁଖରେ ଗାୟିବି।

କବିତା ରଚନାର ନାମ ୦୨ ଗରିବରେ ବୁଢ଼ାବିଧି।

କ୍ଷିତ୍ର ଆଦି. ଏ. ଡି. ସ. ସାହିତ୍ୟରେ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କୁ ଶୋଭାପାଉଥିବା ଉତ୍କଳ ସେ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକ ଗମନ କରିବି, ଗାନ୍ଧିଜୀ ଅମର ଆହୁର ସଦାବିତ ଓ ମୋକ୍ଷପ୍ରାପ୍ତି ନିମନ୍ତେ ସ୍ଵର୍ଗ ଶ୍ରୀବତ୍ସାୟକ ବରଗରେ ପ୍ରାର୍ଥନା ସହ ବେଦବାସ୍ତବ ବନ୍ଧୁ ଓ ପତିତବର୍ତ୍ତ/ଆହୁରବନ୍ଧବ।

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India BOI		Bank of India Zonal Office : Star House, 1/1-D, Jayadev Vihar, Nayapalli Bhubaneswar, Odisha, PIN-751015		POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule-8 (1) & (2)] of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules-2002			
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) in the loan account given below to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice plus interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described here-in below in exercise of the powers conferred on him / her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule-8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. The Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property & any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of India, Bhubaneswar SME Branch, for the amount stated below with interest thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.							
BHUBANESWAR SME BRANCH / Name & Address of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)		Liabilities due as per Notice		Date of Demand Notice/ Date of Possession (Symbolic) Notice		Description of Immovable Property/ies	
Borrower: Mr. Krushna Chandra Samantaray, S/o- Sarangadhara Samantaray/ Co-Borrower: Mr. Satyabrata Samantaray, S/o- Mr. Krushna Chandra Samantaray, Both are At: Arisal Patana, PO: Kamaguru, Khurdakati, Khurda, PIN-752021.		₹9,46,165.04 + interest & other charges thereon		29.08.2025 / 14.11.2025		All the piece and parcel of the Land and Building situated at Khata No.: 263/25, Plot No.: 364/940, Area: Ac.0.100dec., under Mouza: Arisal, KISSAM: Gharabari, Tahasil: Tangi, Dist.: Khurda, in the name of Mr. Krushna Chandra Samantaray.	
Place: Bhubaneswar Date: 15.11.2025						Authorized Officer Bank of India	

“To stand for the Truth in all circumstances, to declare it if necessary in the teeth of the worst opposition and to be ready to all you can for its sake, is the definition of heroism.”

THE MOTHER



Bihar Show

Recent election results from Bihar Legislative Assembly could be counted as great pointers for the emergence, in the near future, of a healthy democratic atmosphere in India. Undoubtedly the general feeling that media reports gave prior to polling was that Nitish + BJP and allies had an uphill task this time around. That had put the Tejashwi led RJD + Congress INDIA bloc on an upbeat mood that probably prompted leaders like Rahul Gandhi to jump from a boat into waist deep waters to prove solidarity with a handful of fisher folks gathered around the spot. Those days of showmanship are, most likely, over in Indian politics. Time is running fast and those who are leading the Opposition in India have to understand what the younger generation in this country needs.

Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, considered the Hindi Heartland, are the key two states that any party dreaming to rule the nation has to first conquer. With a large number of Lok Sabha seats that these two states share amongst themselves, any government in Delhi has no alternative but to hold on to these over populated and lesser developed territories for dear life. People's thoughts are dominated here by caste and religion which in turn affects the manner politics is conducted in these lands. Simply criticizing the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voters' list, blaming EVMs (Electronic Voting Machines) or overall the role of the Election Commission of India brought the INDIA bloc to the present number of seats. Without an alternative narrative that could have offered food for thought to the youth of Bihar, the Opposition failed in its attempt to create an atmosphere which could have made people opt for change. Admittedly, Indians are not going to be guided by a bunch of Gen Z kids.

What India of the hinterlands could be waiting for is a leadership that has the strength to pose separate thoughts in subjects such as foreign policy, monetary policies that help in economic growth and not just job opportunities because every half educated Indian has understood a new government will be equally incapable to offer employment to every family. It was essential to talk about how daily life could be changed and made easier for the average citizen. Such simple subjects were, as was observed from media reports, not dealt with by the leaders campaigning for the INDI Alliance and so they may not have successfully touched the correct nerve of the voters.

Recent victories scored by the Congress could primarily be attributed to local leaders like DK Shivkumar in Karnataka or Revanth Reddy in Telangana or Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu in Himachal Pradesh. Very little credit can be given to Rahul Gandhi for his party winning those states. Tejashwi in Bihar, on the other hand, sounded lame and bereft of substance in his messaging five years ago as also in the just concluded elections. That could have been one of the many important factors leading to the dismal performance of the Opposition.

Another notable aspect in Bihar elections this time was the near absence of violence and therefore re-polling was probably not required at any booth. This achievement is not to be underplayed at all.

The belief that people are always looking for an 'alternative' may not be holding ground in today's India. One of the best examples supporting this notion is Orissa. Absence of alternatives was not a hindrance for voters of this state to opt out of the clutches that Naveen Patnaik and his associate VK Pandian seemed to have had over the citizens. If people get convinced that what is being hatched for them may in reality go against what they wish or want, they simply throw out the incumbent and do not bother who comes in. No political leader or party can claim credit for this great change that manifested in Orissa in 2024.

In Bihar however it seems there was no such backgrounder nor could the INDI Alliance succeed in creating an atmosphere where the average voter wanted free breathing space. Indian politics is changing faster than politicians can imagine.

FOCUS

BIHAR POLLS

VICTORY SANS PROGRESS

The NDA's stunning 202-seat sweep in Bihar—far above exit-poll expectations—has buoyed a shaken stock market but also revived debate on the sustainability of Bihar's economy and what this political consolidation means for the state's future. Election rhetoric centred on poverty, yet the deeper structural issues of Bihar's stagnant economy remained largely unaddressed.

The vote-seat mismatch itself is striking. Despite RJD securing the highest vote share (22.1 percent)—1.13 crore votes—it won only 27 seats. By contrast, the BJP (20.7 percent – 99 lakh votes) won 89 seats and the JD(U) (18.9 percent-95 lakh votes) secured 85, Congress got 43 lakh (6 seats), LJP-RV 25 lakh (19 seats). The crushing numbers have parallel in the last Maharashtra Assembly polls. BJP contested 189 seats. It won 132.

The spin has baffled observers and rattled an opposition that now raises questions about the Election Commission's conduct.

The unusual outcome has sparked worries about what such electoral patterns may mean for future contests, particularly for regional or smaller parties across India.

Law and order concerns persist in Bihar, highlighted by the Mokama killing and the electoral victory of Anant Singh, the accused. Meanwhile, 20 years of "Sushasan" have not translated into visible economic transformation. Nitish Kumar's pre-poll cash transfers—including the Rs 10,000 scheme for women—may have helped electorally, but they cannot compensate for the structural weaknesses of the state. The contrary were RJD-Cong Mahagathbandhan (MGB) counter programmes

for women. The MGB says as many women are for Nitish, as many are opposing him. Indian future political scenario could be more volatile.

Financial strategists view the decisive NDA victory as a market-positive outcome.

Bihar's microeconomy, however, has not enthused the businesses over the decades. The main reason behind Bihar's poor state is both historical—it was always behind—and the lack of progress on investments. This does not mean that Bihar is not making any progress at all. In recent years, its gross state domestic product (GSDP) growth has consistently surpassed all-India growth. However, given Bihar's low base, it would take years before the fast pace of growth changes.

Capital expenditure remains only 14 percent of the state's total spending for 2025–26, far lower than peer states with similar income levels such as West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.

Bihar's GSDP remains the lowest among major states. Its divergence from industrialised states has widened over time. In 2011–12, Bihar's GDP was 34 percent of Tamil Nadu's, 43 percent of Gujarat's, and 41 percent of Karnataka's. By 2021–22, these ratios had fallen to 32 percent, 35 percent, and 33 percent respectively.

Bihar's per capita NSDP remains the lowest in India. In 1960–61, it was 70 percent of the national average; by 2005–06 it had fallen to 33 percent, and it remains near that today. The agricultural workforce has surged, not shrunk, as elsewhere in India. Between 2017–18 and 2022–23, the number of people working in agriculture jumped from 12.5 million to 19 million, a 50 percent increase.

This reversal is due to returning migrants during the pandemic, shutters on local industries, and declining informal-sector jobs.

Manufacturing in Bihar has contracted, registering –1.1% growth over five years. The state hosts only 1.32 percent of India's industrial units and contributes a negligible 0.5 percent to national factory value added. Its industrial base remains anaemic.

The state ranks 26th out of 29 in the Ease of Doing Business index. Unsurprisingly, it attracts just 0.29 percent of India's FDI. Bihar's share in India's total exports is only 0.52 percent, and it ranks ninth among ten landlocked states in export preparedness.

Bihar ranks last or near last on most human development indicators. It sits at the bottom of NITI Aayog's 2024 SDG Index. The state has the highest share of underweight and wasted children, among the highest infant and neonatal mortality rates, and the poorest sanitation access in India.

Bihar faces crippling shortages of doctors, paramedics, nurses, teachers, and university staff. Around 60,000 health-sector posts remain vacant. The Good Governance Index ranks Bihar 15th of 18 major states—compounding its economic woes.

Despite its grim overall profile, Bihar has scored well on clean water and sanitation (SDG-6), ranking third nationally. Initiatives like the Bihar Next-Gen Lab show a shift toward data-driven governance, though their impact will take time to materialise.

To his credit, Nitish Kumar restored law and order after the RJD's "jungle raj." But overall this has not made an improvement.

On development, jobs, investment, and poverty alleviation, however, his record is dismal. With his political dominance now secure—and the opposition decimated—Nitish faces the same responsibility he failed to fulfil in 20 years: lifting Bihar out of chronic backwardness.

His thank-you to the voters contained no concrete roadmap. Whether Bihar will finally chart a new path remains an open question—and the nation is watching.

INFA

SPECTRUM

COP 30

Key to unlocking private climate finance

WIND AND SOLAR POWER ARE EXPANDING RAPIDLY WITH INDIA ON TRACK TO BECOME THE WORLD'S SECOND-LARGEST RENEWABLE-ENERGY MARKET AFTER CHINA



Lynn Forester de Rothschild

The COP30, now underway in Brazil, marks a decade since 195 parties adopted the landmark Paris climate agreement at COP21. But what should be a moment of celebration is instead being overshadowed by rising uncertainty: the climate-finance gap still amounts to trillions of dollars, while support among the developed countries for climate action is fracturing.

The transition to a low-carbon global economy cannot succeed without the active participation of the private sector, yet businesses and investors are reluctant to commit funds amid uncertainty and instability.

While tighter financial conditions and policy uncertainty play a major role, they are only part of the problem. A deeper, often overlooked reason for the slow pace of progress is that the global climate movement has largely failed to focus on the people most affected by the energy transition: workers, consumers, and local communities.

From its very inception, the Council for Inclusive Capitalism (which I lead) has argued that major economic transitions provide companies and investors with a unique opportunity to build a more inclusive society. We established a partnership with energy-intensive companies and investors to develop a framework for a just climate transition.

Created in collaboration with BP, Reliance, the California Public Employees' Retirement System, State Street, and others, this framework places people at the heart of the energy transition.

Together with the energy transition, the AI revolution is set to reshape labor markets. To this end, we co-hosted a meeting with World Bank President Ajay Banga at the recent UN Climate Week in New York to discuss how to learn from the mistakes of past transitions and ensure that no one is left behind.

Turning ambition into action requires achievable national strategies. Brazil provides a useful model: a joint report by the OECD and the UN Development Programme touts the country's National Bank for Economic and Social Development as a leader in creating innovative financial instruments capable of attracting private capital at scale.

Other emerging markets are also making strides. Wind and solar power are expanding rapidly across Asia, the Middle East, and Africa, with India on track to become the world's second-largest renewable-energy market after China. For developing countries, inclusive growth is not a slogan but a socioeconomic imperative, particularly when it comes to ensuring access to energy and critical infrastructure.

Developed economies face a different set of challenges. In the United States, about 40% of energy and technology projects announced under former US President Joe Biden's industrial and climate policies were already experiencing delays even before President Donald Trump's return to the White House. At the same time, rising energy costs are jeopardizing the United Kingdom's net-zero transition, while European manufacturers struggle to cut CO2 emissions and stay profitable in a global market increasingly dominated by Chinese firms.

Even so, there are reasons for cautious optimism. Although Trump withdrew the US from the Paris agreement, energy affordability and AI competitiveness remain top national priorities. Institutional investors and private capital have both the means and the incentive to back emerging technologies – including carbon-free, scalable nuclear energy – that can sustain AI growth without driving up utility costs.

The dozens of world leaders in Brazil for COP30 are meeting at a critical juncture. To build a just and sustainable future, we must bridge the divide between governments, financial institutions, civil society, and the private sector. Only by focusing on workers, communities, and consumers can we translate national targets into tangible progress that protects both people and the planet.

The writer, CEO of EL Rothschild, is Founder and CEO of the Council for Inclusive Capitalism.

©PROJECT SYNDICATE

WISDOM CORNER

“We always question the bonafides of the man who tells us unpleasant facts.”

RK NARAYAN

“The undertaking of a new action brings new strength. Share this Quote

RICHARD L EVANS

“War against a foreign country only happens when the moneyed classes think they are going to profit from it.”

GEORGE ORWELL

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

■ **1558:** At the death of Mary I this day, Elizabeth Tudor came to the English throne as Elizabeth I.

■ **1800:** The U.S. Congress held its first session in Washington, D.C.

■ **1869:** After 10 years of construction, the Suez Canal opened in Egypt.

■ **1871:** The National Rifle Association was granted a charter by New York state; the NRA's initial goal was to “promote and encourage rifle shooting on a scientific basis,” and it later became a leading advocate of gun rights.

■ **1973:** During the Watergate scandal, U.S. President Richard Nixon held a press conference in which he declared, “I am not a crook.”

L

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I DIDN'T GET ANY MONEY THIS TIME

A man in a bar sees a friend at a table, drinking by himself. Approaching the friend he comments, “You look terrible. What's the problem?”

“My mother died in August,” he said, “and left me \$25,000.”

“Gee, that's tough,” he replied. “Then in September,” the friend continued, “My father died, leaving me \$90,000.”

“Wow. Two parents gone in two months. No wonder you're depressed.”

“And last month my aunt died, and left me \$15,000.”

“Three close family members lost in three months? How sad?”

“Then this month,” continued, the friend, “absolutely nothing!”

L

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, Rasulgardi Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

No more chokers

Sir, Proteas can't ask for a better gift than this test match while India meekly surrendered at Eden garden to take their tally of losing 4 out of 6 test matches played in recent years at home. By chasing a meagre target of 124 to win, India were bundled out for 93 in 35 overs, displaying complete lack of application with which Temba Bavuma had earlier revived South Africa's position. Shubman Gill remained unavailable after being hospitalised with a neck injury, now the pain in the neck will increase by this psychological loss. On a surface expected to suit Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav, it was off-spinner Simon Harmer who defined the contest with a match haul of eight wickets, turning India's own spin turned sharply against them. Kudos to South Africa for the spectacular win and this time the chokers choked team India. The defeat exposes India's brittle lower order, raises fresh questions about batting mindset in fourth-innings pressure, and hands South Africa a rare series-opening triumph on Indian soil.

9-day crime blitz

Sir, The Haryana DGP's 'Op Trackdown,' which led to the arrest of 2,165 criminals in just nine days, deserves unequivocal praise. It is a rare example of policing marked by resolve, coordination, and sheer courage. Yet, to ensure that this extraordinary effort does not fade into procedural delays, these cases must be moved to fast-track courts so justice is delivered swiftly and decisively. Equally vital is the need to shift these hardened criminals to prisons outside the state, preferably to far-flung jails, where their ability to control or guide gangs from behind bars is significantly curtailed. We must also acknowledge the persistent systemic gaps that allow criminal networks to regenerate—loopholes that will take time and determined reform to overcome. What Haryana has achieved should inspire a nationwide drive of similar scale, with the hope that our prisons, not our streets, feel the pressure of overcrowding.

AP Thiruvadi, CHENNAI

RS Narula, PATIALA

1K volunteers join HP's Anti-Chitta war



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Shimla, Nov 16: Stating the government will form a team of 1,000 Anti-Chitta Volunteers to act as a link between the police and the public, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvirinder Singh Sukhu Saturday launched a public movement against 'chitta', the low-grade heroin, marking the beginning of a decisive campaign across the state.

By leading the 'Chitta-Virodh' awareness walkathon in the state capital that comprised students, public representatives, officials and residents, the Chief Minister administered an oath at the Ridge, urging people to stay away from drugs and addictive substances.

Later, addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said the state would confront the challenge of 'chitta' collectively.

The public participation would ensure that drug traffickers find no safe harbour.

"This initiative would be historic to wipe out drug kingpins and peddlers," he said. "Chitta-free Himachal is not merely a governmental initiative but is a people's movement," he added. "It is a battle against drugs with collaborative efforts of all. Himachal's moment against the drugs must echo not only across the mountains of the state but throughout the nation," he said.

CM Sukhu appealed to women, especially mothers, to steer the movement effectively, stating that women can play a pivotal role in awakening society and be the backbone of this campaign, making it a success.

He appealed to religious institutions to raise their voice

against drug abuse.

"If all religious institutions stand together against chitta, then no one will be able to stop us from ending this evil," he said.

In a stern warning, the Chief Minister said that those who are involved in 'chitta' business, destroying the future of children and ruining families, will find no place in the land of the gods.

"Our police is ready, our government is ready, and more importantly, our people are ready to root out chitta," he said.

He said the goal is to create a state where 'chitta' would be the talk of the past, finding no mention in its history henceforth.

He said the government is working on three main points to fight drugs.

First, spreading awareness against drugs, second, stopping the youth from falling into a drug trap and addiction by taking strict action against drug mafias and strengthening law-enforcement agencies and giving them powers to deal with

the mafia sternly, and third, ensuring the rehabilitation of children trapped in addiction.

He said addicted youths are not criminals; they need treatment, care, and support.

The Chief Minister said the government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy against drugs.

"No one involved in this trade will be spared, no matter how influential they may be.

Soon after coming to power, the government implemented the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (PIT-NDPS) Act to send repeated offenders involved in drug trafficking to jail," he said.

Late diagnosis drives Jammu cancer crisis

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Nov 16: The State Cancer Institute at the Government Medical College Jammu has documented 9,427 cancer cases over a five-year period, with the majority of the patients reporting to the hospital only after the disease had advanced to Stage III or Stage IV.

According to the latest Hospital-Based Cancer Registry data from 2020 to 2024, 5,351 patients were men and 4,076 women, placing the male-to-female ratio at 1.311, and suggesting a higher cancer burden among males in the region.

Lung cancer emerged as the most common malignancy with 1,338 cases, followed by head and neck cancers (1,005), breast



(704), hepatobiliary (681), genito-urinary (654), hematological cancers (653), esophageal (519), oral cancers (519), and cervical cancer (494).

Other major cancers included intestinal (456), cancers of

unknown primary or CUPs (410), ovarian (354), lymphoma (305), stomach (279), brain (263), prostate (233) and bone and soft-tissue cancers (210), in addition to 186 other women's cancers, 111 skin cancers, and

Alarming trend

- GMC Jammu logs 9,427 cancer cases in five years; most in advanced stages
- Lung cancer emerged as the most common malignancy with 1,338 cases
- 4,029 patients diagnosed in Stage IV and 2,744 in Stage III
- Age-wise data shows 4,234 cases in 60-80 year age group -- highest among all categories

53 classified as other types, the data shows.

Jammu district accounted for the highest number of cases at 3,671, followed by Udhampur (943), Kathua (855), Doda (694),

Rajouri (675), Samba (580), Reasi (532), Poonch (424), Kishtwar (292), and Ramban (222). Another 539 patients were from outside the Jammu division.

Age-wise data shows 4,234 cases in the 60-80 year age group -- the highest among all categories -- while 3,669 cases were reported in the 40-60 year age group. A total of 964 patients were aged 20-40, 456 were above 80, and 102 were children and adolescents aged 0-20. Staging data shows an alarming trend, with 4,029 patients diagnosed in Stage IV and 2,744 in Stage III, indicating that a majority of patients reached the hospital only after the disease had progressed to advanced stages. Another 1,958 cases were detected in Stage II, and 696 in Stage I.

J&K terror handlers shift to clean-profile recruits

This fresh strategy is completely different from the modus operandi adopted by them two decades ago, according to officials, which favoured those with established links to terror outfits

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 16: Youths with no past criminal record or separatist affiliation are now preferred for recruitment by terror handlers in Jammu and Kashmir to stay under the radar of security forces, officials in the know say.

The investigators probing the "white collar terror module" have found a distinct pattern and a common denominator among the accused persons who have been arrested or questioned so far.

"The accused persons like Dr Adeel Rather, his brother Dr Muzaffar Rather, and Dr Muzammil Ganaie do not have any past criminal record or involvement in anti-national activities," an official said.

The official said even the family members of these rad-



icalised youths have no past affiliation with any separatist or terror outfit.

"Even Dr Umar Nabi, who was driving the car that blew up outside the Red Fort metro station in Delhi on November 10, did not have any past record. His family also has been clean in this aspect," the official said. According to sources, this seems to be a deliberate ploy of the terror handlers operating in Jammu and Kashmir or from across the border in Pakistan to lure highly qualified youth and those with no past criminal record.

"It would be unthinkable for anyone to believe that a group of doctors would indulge in terror activities... So, that gave these accused persons a cover

The investigators probing the "white collar terror module" have found a distinct pattern and a common denominator among the accused persons who have been arrested or questioned so far

The module was busted after posters threatening police and security forces appeared on walls in Bunpora, Nowgam, in mid-October, prompting an investigation

right from the start," the official said. The module was busted after posters threatening police and security forces appeared on walls in Bunpora, Nowgam, in mid-October, prompting an investigation. Srinagar police registered a case October 19 and formed a dedicated team.

A meticulous, frame-by-

frame analysis of CCTV footage led investigators to identify and arrest the first three suspects -- Arif Nisar Dar alias Sahil, Yasir-ul-Ashraf, and Maqsood Ahmad Dar alias Shahid. These three had cases of stone-pelting registered against them and were seen pasting the posters.

Their interrogation led to the arrest of Maulvi Irfan Ahmad, a former paramedic-turned-Imam (preacher) from Shopian who supplied the posters and is believed to have radicalised the doctors using his easy access to the medical community.

The trail ultimately led Srinagar police to Al Falah University in Faridabad, where they arrested Dr Ganaie and Dr Shaheen Sayeed. It was here that the massive cache of chemicals, including ammonium nitrate, potassium nitrate, and sulphur, was seized. Investigators believe the entire module was run by a core trio of doctors -- Ganaie, Dr Umar Nabi (the driver of the explosives-laden car that exploded in Delhi), and Muzaffar Rather (absconding).

The role of the eighth arrested person, Dr Adeel Rather, the brother of absconding Dr Muzaffar Rather -- from whom an AK-56 rifle was seized -- is still under investigation.

Dalai Lama boosts Dharamshala tourism online

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, Nov 16: Himachal Pradesh's Kangra district launched its official tourism website "VisitDharamshala.com", in a major step towards digital tourism promotion.

Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, inaugurated the portal through a soft-launch ceremony held at his residence in McLeodganj, marking a new milestone in showcasing the region's natural beauty and cultural heritage to the world.

The initiative, spearheaded by the Dharamshala Hotel and Restaurant Association, aims to provide a one-stop online platform for visitors to explore, plan, and experience the best of Kangra Valley.

The launch ceremony was attended by Association president Ashwani Bamba, Chairman Onkar Nehria, District Tourism Officer Vinay Dhiman, members of the association's ex-



ecutive committee, local entrepreneurs, adventure operators, representatives of Waste Warriors, and other guests.

Expressing appreciation for the initiative, the Dalai Lama described the website as "A milestone effort that will further strengthen Himachal's tourism footprint on the global map".

Later, addressing the media at a press conference, President Ashwani Bamba said the new portal would serve as a comprehensive guide for tourists, offering authentic travel in-

formation, real-time weather updates, and hotel booking facilities across the district, from the snow-capped Dhauladhar ranges to the serene Pong Dam Lake.

"Our goal is to promote responsible and eco-friendly tourism while also providing livelihood opportunities for local communities," Bamba said. "To ensure transparency and reliability, only verified hotels, guesthouses, and service providers will be featured on the platform," he added.

More than 600 took part in midnight marathon in Jammu

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Nov 15: Over 600 enthusiastic runners from diverse age groups took part in the Jammu midnight marathon here at Maulana Azad Stadium.

Participants competed across two phases as the stadium turned into an arena of lights and cheers.

"Our priority is to create an ecosystem where athletes have access to quality training, world-class facilities, and regular competitive exposure," said Satish Sharma, Minister



for Youth Services and Sports.

He said events like midnight marathon strengthen community participation and inspire people, especially youth to adopt fitness as a daily habit.



Tourists visit the snow-capped Rohtang Pass after snowfall, in Kullu district, Himachal Pradesh, Sunday

PTI PHOTO

5,000-year-old tradition that celebrates mystical fairies

AGENCIES

Shimla, Nov 16: India's traditions change almost as often as the terrain does, and the mountains take that idea to another level. Up in Kinnaur, tucked inside Himachal's harsh, cold ridges, the Raulane festival takes place with a kind of mystery you do not see in big, loud celebrations. It has no fireworks and no giant crowds. This one leans into old beliefs - spirits in the forests, fairies in the snowline and men who carry those stories forward for the entire village.

Across the Himalayan belt - Uttarakhand, Himachal, stretches of Jammu & Kashmir and the North-East - people have long believed that unseen beings walk with them. Isolation shaped their customs, and nature dictated their stories. Fairies, guardians, and wandering spirits aren't fantasy here; they're part of everyday memory.

Uttarakhand calls its fairies 'Aachhris'. Local lore describes them as protectors who step into human form when they wish. One long-told story speaks of Khait Parvat - a mountain said to hold a gateway where 'Aachhris'



lead people into their world.

Kinnaur has its own version. Here, the fairies are known as 'Sauni'. During winter, when the cold can be unforgiving, people believe the 'Saunis' descend from celestial palaces to watch over the villages. They guide, they safeguard, and they bring a sense of reassurance that the community leans on.

Raulane marks the moment they are gently sent back. Not with goodbyes, but with rituals, dance, and gratitude.

The heart of the festival lies in the 'Raula' and 'Raulane' - two men chosen to embody the cer-

emonial bride and groom. They walk, sing, laugh loudly, and carry out rituals together. Both dress in traditional Kinnauri woollen clothing, thick enough to handle the cold. Masks hide their faces, while gloves cover their hands. The one cast as the bride wears elaborate headgear, bangles, and pendants. The groom covers his face with red fabric. Photos of the festival have been trending on social media.

The main stop is the Nagin Narayan temple. The men enter in full attire, offer prayers, and then move into a slow, deeply symbolic dance.

of the day

quote

The nation continues to place its faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the people of the country are directly responding to the Opposition's fake narrative

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS | MAHA CM

Dalits, tribals, backward classes and women warriors showed unparalleled bravery and sacrifice to add strength to the freedom struggle. They were equal participants and deserved equal recognition

RAJNATH SINGH | DEFENCE MINISTER

Money is distributed in elections. Even after taking money, voters cast their ballot for whoever they wish

PRAFUL PATEL | EX-UNION MINISTER, NCP NATIONAL WORKING PRESIDENT

X

POST OF THE DAY

@CEOBihar, It is crystal clear that a person named Ajit Jha voted in 3 different states with 3 different EPIC IDs. He also voted in Bihar. Will you investigate this? There are many proofs of other voters voting multiple times. Please investigate those as well.

@SaraIPatel

SHORT TAKES

BLO ends life; SIR related stress blamed

Kannur (Kerala): A school employee, who was working as a Booth Level Officer (BLO) as part of the upcoming local body elections, was found hanging in his house in this north Kerala district Sunday, police said. Local people and his family members alleged that Aneesh George (44) took the extreme step due to work pressure in connection with the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls. George was working as a peon in a government school in "Payyannur.

TVK holds protest against SIR across TN

Chennai: Actor-Politician Vijay-led Tamilaga Vetri Kazhagam Sunday held a statewide demonstration against the SIR of electoral rolls exercise being carried out across Tamil Nadu. TVK state general secretary N Anand and senior leader Adhav Arjuna led the protests in Chennai, while others including joint general secretary CTR Nirmalkumar took part in Madurai and propaganda secretary KG Arunraaj in Coimbatore.

7-year-old boy murdered in hostel

Vaishali: A seven-year-old boy was allegedly murdered in Bihar's Vaishali district Sunday, police said. The body of the boy was found in his room at a private hostel near Gopalpur Chowk in Hajipur, they said.

32 cattle die as truck catches fire

Nagpur: Thirty-two cattle died when the container truck transporting them illegally caught fire in Nagpur district of Maharashtra Sunday, police said, adding that three persons were arrested. The incident occurred at Petri village under the jurisdiction of the Kalmeshwar police station in the evening after a 12-wheeler truck developed a flat tyre.



The Sangh runs on the emotional strength and life-force of its volunteers. By their mindset alone, every swayamsevak becomes a pracharak. That is the Sangh's life energy

MOHAN BHAGWAT | RSS CHIEF

AT 9 DEG C, DELHI RECORDS COLDEST NOV DAY IN 3 YEARS

The national capital recorded a low of 9 degrees Celsius Sunday, 4.5 notches below normal, making it the coldest November day in three years in the city, the weather office said



DELHI BLAST

NIA nabs aide of suicide bomber

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: In a major breakthrough in the Red Fort area car bomb blast case, the National Investigation Agency has arrested a Kashmir resident who had allegedly conspired with "suicide bomber" Dr Umar Un Nabi to carry out the terror attack, which claimed 13 lives.

Amir Rashid Ali, in whose name the car involved in the blast was registered, has been arrested from Delhi by the NIA, the federal probe agency said in a release.

The NIA had launched a massive search operation after taking over the case from the Delhi Police.

Investigations by the probe agency had revealed that the accused, a resident of Samboora in Jammu and Kashmir's Pampore, had conspired with the "suicide bomber", Umar, to unleash the terror attack.

Amir had come to Delhi to allegedly facilitate the purchase of the car, which was eventually used as a "vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Device (IED)" to trigger the blast, the NIA said.



J&K: Agencies collect samples from blast site

Srinagar: Teams of NSG, NIA and Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) Sunday visited the Nowgam police station blast site in Jammu and Kashmir, where nine persons died and 32 others sustained injuries in an accidental blast, officials said. The central agencies visited the site to collect samples from the scene of the blast, which occurred Friday night, officials added. They further informed that the samples will be analysed to check the nature of explosives seized from the 'white collar terror' module, which was stored at the Nowgam police station. An accidental explosion ripped through the police station on Friday night while authorities were extracting samples from a large cache of explosives confiscated in the 'white-collar' terror module case. Those killed in the incident were three people from the Forensic Science Laboratory, two from the revenue department, including a Naib Tehsildar, two police photographers, one member of the State Investigation Agency and a tailor. The blast occurred when the personnel were handling the explosive material brought from Haryana's Faridabad, officials said, adding that the explosion occurred due to the unstable nature of the chemicals.

This was the first time the probe agency has described

Dr Umar Un Nabi, who was behind the wheel when the

CJI backs exclusion of creamy layer in reservation to SCs



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amaravati, Nov 16: Chief Justice of India BR Gavai Sunday affirmed that he is still for exclusion of creamy layer in reservations to Scheduled Castes.

Addressing a programme "India and the Living Indian Constitution at 75 Years", Gavai opined that children of an IAS officer can not be equated with the offsprings of a poor agricultural laborer when it comes to reservations.

"I also went further and took a view that the concept of creamy layer, as has been found in the judgment of Indra Sawhney (vs Union of India & Others). What is applicable to the Other Backward Classes, should also be made applicable to Scheduled Castes, though my judgment has been widely criticised on that issue," Gavai said.

"But I still hold that judges are not supposed to normally justify their judgments, and I still have about a week to go (retirement)," Justice Gavai further said.

The CJI said over the years, equality or women empowerment is gaining momentum in the country and the the dis-

crimination which was meted out to them was strongly criticized.

He said before he is set to end his journey as the Chief Justice in a couple of days, the last function that he attended happened to be again at Amaravati of Andhra Pradesh while the first one after becoming the CJI was at his native place Amravati in Maharashtra. Justice Gavai observed in 2024 that states must evolve a policy for identifying the creamy layer even among the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Schedule Tribes (ST) and deny them the benefit of reservation.

Asserting that the Indian Constitution is not "static", Justice Gavai said Dr BR Ambedkar always considered that it has to be evolving, organic, and a state-of-the-art living document as Article 368 provides for the amendment of the Constitution.

"On one hand Dr Ambedkar was criticized that the powers to amend the Constitution are too liberal, and on the other hand, it was criticized that some of the amendments require ratification by half of the states, and two-third majority of the parliament, and it was difficult to achieve an amendment in this manner," he said.

According to him, DR Ambedkar's addresses during the presentation of the draft Constitution in the Constituent Assembly are the most important speeches which every student of law should read.

Stone quarry collapse: 1 killed, several trapped

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Sonbhadra (UP), Nov 16: A 30-year-old mine worker's body was recovered from the rubble Sunday morning from a stone quarry that collapsed here, a police officer said.

Several more remain trapped under the rubble.

Uttar Pradesh minister and local MLA Sanjeev Kumar Gond, who visited the spot in the Billi Markundi mining area after the collapse Saturday evening, said "around a dozen labourers" might be trapped under the debris.

Additional Director General of Police (ADG), Varanasi Zone, Piyush Mordia, said efforts are on to clear the debris.

Police identified the deceased labourer as Raju Singh of Panari village of the same district. The ADG said clearing the rubble is taking time because it includes several heavy stones.

Sonbhadra Superintendent of Police (SP) Abhishek Verma said that they were informed about the collapse at around 4.30 pm on Saturday at Obra Police Station.

The police have booked the owner of Krishna Mining Works (name and domicile unknown), and his business partners, Madhusudan Singh and Dilip Keshari, both residents of Obra, on the complaint of Chhotu Yadav, a resident of Parsoi Tola, who said his two brothers are trapped under the rubble, the SP said. The three are yet to be arrested. Mordai, in a post on X, said a rescue operation is on by the teams from the National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, and police.

On Saturday, District Magistrate B N Singh said a wall inside the quarry suddenly caved in, trapping the workers inside.

RSS leader's son shot dead in Ferozepur

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ferozepur, Nov 16: A 32-year-old shopkeeper and son of a local RSS leader was shot dead by two unidentified bike-borne attackers here, police said Sunday.

The victim has been identified as Naveen Arora (32),

whose father Baldev Raj Arora has been associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) for the past many years. The deceased also served as an RSS volunteer, they said.

Naveen's grandfather, late Dina Nath, had also been a senior RSS leader in Ferozepur.

The incident occurred on Saturday when Naveen was walking from his shop to his residence near the Sadhu Chand Chowk in the city, police said.

Two unidentified youth arrived on a motorcycle and opened fire at Naveen from point-blank range before fleeing, they said. Naveen was rushed to a private hospital, where he was declared dead on arrival.

Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar Sunday alleged that Naveen's murder has once again exposed the AAP government's failure to maintain law and order in the state.

First in a post on X and then in a statement, Jakhar slammed the Bhagwant Mann dispensation over the incident, which "once again exposed the collapse of law and order under the AAP". Jakhar also alleged that gangsters are running a parallel government in Punjab, as Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has failed to fulfil his responsibilities.

"People of Punjab are being forced to live in an atmosphere



People take part in the 'Green Heartfulness Run 2025', in Hyderabad, Telangana

Locals protest student's death after '100 sit-ups' punishment at school

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Palghar, Nov 16: Locals staged a protest over the death of a 12-year-old girl, who was allegedly made to perform 100 sit-ups as punishment for coming late to school in Maharashtra's Palghar district.

Following the protest, the police registered a case in this regard late Saturday night. Statements of the family, witnesses and school employees will be recorded, an official said.

Locals gathered in large numbers at Sativali in Vasai East Saturday night and refused to cremate the body of a Class VI student, who passed away at a hospital in Mumbai Friday night.

The girl was allegedly made to perform 100 sit-ups after she reached the school late November 8. The deceased girl's mother has alleged that her daughter died as a result of an "inhuman punishment" given by her teacher, who made her perform sit-ups with her school bag on her back.

Locals have accused the school administration of negligence and demanded immediate accountability.

When the girl's body was brought to the locality hundreds of residents gathered, demanding a case against the school and the concerned teacher.

It was only after the police registered a case and assured the family of strict action that the cremation was carried out late in the night.

Talking to PTI, Vasai Block Education Officer Pandurang Galange said that officials had visited the school on Saturday, but no staff member was present.

'Military eyes induction of women cadres in Territorial Army'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Army has considered inducting women cadres into the Territorial Army battalions as a pilot project, with their recruitment to be initially limited to a few battalions, sources said Sunday.

The move is aimed at gradually opening up more opportunities for women in the force. The Territorial Army, in its current form, came into being with the enactment of the Territorial Army Act on August 18, 1948. It was formally inaugurated by the first Indian Governor General, C Rajagopalachari, October 9, 1949.

According to sources, the Army has considered the induction of women cadres into Territorial Army battalions as



a pilot project. Their recruitment, initially, will be limited to a few battalions, and may increase subsequently in other battalions based on initial feedback, they added. The gov-

ernment has been emphasising the essence of 'Nari Shakti' in the armed forces.

In a written response to a query in Rajya Sabha in March 2022, then Minister of State

« The move is aimed at gradually opening up more opportunities for women in the force

« The Territorial Army, in its current form, came into being with the enactment of the Territorial Army Act August 18, 1948

« It was formally inaugurated by the first Indian Governor General, C Rajagopalachari, October 9, 1949

for Defence Ajay Bhatt had said the combat employment philosophy of women in the armed forces is a continuously evolving process and regularly reviewed by them.

"At present, women are being commissioned in the Indi-

an Army into 10 arms and services, viz., Corps of Engineers, Corps of Signals, Army Air Defence, Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps, Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers, Army Aviation Corps, Intelligence Corps, Judge Advocate General Branch and Army Education Corps in addition to the Armed Forces Medical Services," he had said.

The Territorial Army was raised on the concept of being a 'citizen soldier's army'. Besides augmenting the organisational requirements, the Territorial Army also provides an opportunity to able-bodied volunteer citizens of India, especially those who are overage for enrollment in the regular army, to serve the nation in uniform. Presently, the Territorial

Army has a strength of approximately 50,000 personnel comprising 65 Departmental TA units such as Railway, IOC, ONGC, and Non-Departmental TA units of Infantry Battalion (TA) including Home and Hearsh Battalions, Ecological Battalion (TA) affiliated to various Infantry Regiments and Engineer Regiment (TA) for maintenance of Line of Control fencing, according to its website.

The Territorial Army units were actively involved in 1962, 1965 and 1971 operations. The "Terriers" had also taken part in Operation Pawan in Sri Lanka, Operation Rakshak in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, Operation Rhino and Operation Bajrang in the northeast in the most active manner.

of the day

quote

There has been too much pretence and performance, and too little action. It must stand up against these atrocities – a display of naked cruelty used to subjugate and control an entire population

VOLKER TURK | UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

I will make sure that a tragedy (safety lapses at a thermal plant site) like this is not repeated. We need to put an end to such a tragedy, where workplaces become a site of death

LEE JAE MYUNG | SK PRESIDENT

I am concerned with the use of unmanned capabilities under the sea, on the sea and above the sea. It is something we have to watch very closely and build the correct countermeasures to make sure we're not impacted by those evolving technologies

ADM DARYL CAUDLE | US CHIEF OF NAVAL OPS

SHORT TAKES

Chile votes in presidential poll

Santiago: Chileans voted for a new president and parliament Sunday in a contest expected to favour the hard right as candidates play on popular fears over organised crime and immigration. It's the first of what's likely to be two rounds of presidential elections in the South American country, as polls show none of the candidates clearing the 50 per cent threshold needed to avoid a runoff scheduled for December 14. On the surface, Sunday's election offers Chileans a dramatic choice between two extremes: Jeannette Jara, 51, a card-carrying communist and former labour minister in the left-wing government, and, among other right-wing contenders, José Antonio Kast, 59, an ultraconservative lawyer and former lawmaker who opposes abortion and vows to shrink the state.

EAM to meet Lavrov today

Moscow: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will meet Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov Monday to review India-Russia bilateral ties ahead of President Vladimir Putin's visit to India. The talks are expected to cover strategic cooperation for the high-level engagement.

7 killed in illegal fire cracker factory blast

Karachi: At least seven people were killed and several injured following an explosion at an illegal makeshift firecracker manufacturing factory in Pakistan's Sindh province, rescue officials said Sunday. The explosion occurred at an unlicensed firecracker manufacturing unit on Saturday night in the Latifabad area of Hyderabad city. "A powerful explosion was reported in a firecracker factory on the banks of the Laghari Goth river, Latifabad Police Station," a statement from the Rescue 1122 spokesperson said, adding that "So far, seven bodies have been pulled out from the rubble."

Pak, Jordan sign MoUs

Islamabad: Pakistan and Jordan exchanged four Memoranda of Understanding for cooperation in culture, media and education, according to a report. The MoUs were exchanged at a ceremony held at the Prime Minister House in Islamabad on Saturday in the presence of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and King of Jordan King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein, Radio Pakistan reported.

China holds ‘bomber patrol’ over SCS

The Chinese People's Liberation Army Southern Theatre Command announced that it had conducted a bomber formation patrol amid the Philippines' so-called "joint patrols" with external forces -- the first time it has announced such a move

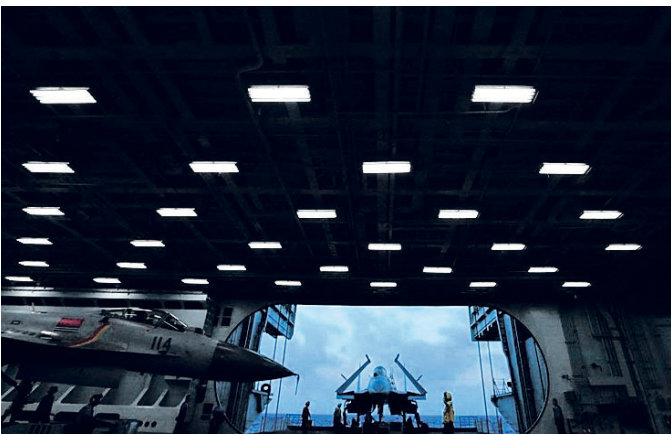
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 16: The Chinese military for the first time conducted a "bomber formation patrol" with its fighter jets over the disputed South China Sea on Sunday as a "warning" to the Philippines after its navy conducted joint patrols with the US and Japan.

China, which claims most of the South China Sea, is locked in an intractable maritime dispute with the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan, which have counterclaims over the area that is home to busy regional and international trade routes.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Southern Theatre Command announced that it had conducted a bomber formation patrol amid the Philippines' so-called "joint patrols" with external forces -- the first time it has announced such a move, according to the state-run *Global Times*.

The two-day maritime exercise by the US, Japan and the Philippines ran from Friday



China, which claims most of the South China Sea, is locked in an intractable maritime dispute with the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan, which have counterclaims over the area that is home to busy regional and international trade routes

to Saturday. In a statement, a spokesperson for the Southern Theatre Command, Senior Colonel Tian Junli, said the Philippines has frequently colluded with external forces to carry out so-called "joint patrols," undermining regional peace and stability. "We solemnly warn the Philippine side to immediately stop provoking incidents and escalating tensions," he said. The theatre command forces maintain a high level of alert at all times, resolutely safeguarding national sovereignty, security, and peace and stability in the South China Sea region, Tian said.

Any attempt to infringe on the sovereignty and stir up

trouble will never succeed, he added.

According to military affairs experts, the bomber formation is one of the PLA's diversified strike methods.

Song Zhongping, a military affairs expert, told the *Global Times* that the bombers are among the most important air strike forces, and the dispatch of a bomber formation can demonstrate stronger strike capability. These can also carry out effective saturation attacks even if the opponent has large surface ships, he said.

The Philippines has been courting external forces to conduct so-called "joint patrols" in the South China Sea, posing

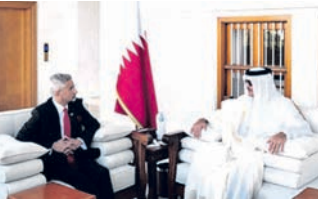
EAM Jaishankar meets Qatar's top leadership

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Doha, Nov 16: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar Sunday met Qatar's top leadership here and discussed major aspects of the bilateral relationship including energy and trade, as well as regional and global issues.

He held a meeting with Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, and also called on Qatar's Amir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

"Pleased to meet Qatar's Prime Minister & Foreign Minister @MBA_AlThani in Doha," Jaishankar said in an X post.



"Reviewed key aspects of our Strategic Partnership including energy, trade, investment and people to people connect. Appreciate the exchange of views on Middle East/West Asia, regional and global developments," he said. According to the state-run Qatar News Agency, the two counterparts also discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation.

France sometimes advances quietly, but always with determination and composure: That is how we protect our own

EMMANUEL MACRON | FRENCH PRESIDENT

GREECE, UKRAINE SIGN US GAS SUPPLY DEAL

An agreement to supply Ukraine with US liquefied natural gas (LNG) was signed in Athens Sunday during the official visit of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to Greece



Iran no longer enriching uranium: Foreign minister



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tehran, Nov 16: Iran's foreign minister Sunday said that Tehran is no longer enriching uranium at any site in the country, trying to signal to the West that it remains open to potential negotiations over its atomic programme.

Answering a question from an Associated Press journalist visiting Iran, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi offered the most direct response yet from the Iranian government regarding its nuclear programme following Israel and the United States' bombing of its enrichment sites in June during its 12-day war.

"There is no undeclared nuclear enrichment in Iran. All of our facilities are under the safeguards and monitoring" of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Araghchi said. "There is no enrichment right now because our facilities — our enrichment facilities — have been attacked." Iran says it is threatened over accessing bombed sites Asked what it would take for Iran to continue negotiations with the US

and others, Araghchi said that Iran's message on its nuclear programme remains "clear." "Iran's right for enrichment, for peaceful use of nuclear technology, including enrichment, is undeniable," the foreign minister continued. "We have this right and we continue to exercise that and we hope that the international community, including the United States, recognise our rights and understand that this is an inalienable right of Iran and we would never give up our rights." Iran's government issued a three-day visa for the AP reporter to attend a summit alongside other journalists from major British outlets and other media.

Mohammad Eslami, the head of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran, also attended the summit and told those gathered there that Tehran had been threatened over potentially accessing the bombed enrichment sites. Satellite pictures analysed by the AP over the months since the attack show that Iran hasn't done any major work at the sites at Fordo, Isfahan and Natanz.

Thousands protest crime, corruption in Mexico City

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mexico City, Nov 16: Several thousand people took to the streets of Mexico City Saturday to protest crime, corruption and impunity in a demonstration organized by members of Generation Z, which ended with strong backing from older supporters of Opposition parties.

The demonstration was mostly peaceful but ended with some young people clashing with the police. Protesters attacked police with stones, fireworks, sticks and chains, grabbing police shields and other equipment. The capital's security secretary, Pablo Vázquez, said 120 people were injured, 100 of them police officers. Twenty people were arrested.

In several countries this year, members of the demographic group born between the late 1990s and early 2010s have organised protests against inequality, democratic backsliding and corruption.

The largest "Gen Z" protests took place in Nepal in September, following a ban on social media, and led to the resignation of that nation's prime minister. In Mexico, many young people say they are frustrated with systemic problems like corruption and impunity for violent crimes.

PAK'S JUDICIAL DISSENT

Lahore lawyers announce strike



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lahore, Nov 16: Lawyers in Pakistan's Lahore city Sunday announced a strike against the controversial 27th Constitutional Amendment that curtailed the powers of the Supreme Court, and also urged the judges to resign to lodge their protest.

President Asif Ali Zardari Thursday signed into law the 27th Constitutional Amendment, which provides for the creation of a new position of the Chief of Defence Forces and a constitutional court. Three senior judges -- two of the Supreme Court Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, and Justice Athar Minallah and one of Lahore High Court Justice Shams Mehmood Mirza -- have resigned so far against the contentious amendment.

The judges termed it as an "assault on the Constitution and judiciary". The Lahore

High Court Bar Association (LHCB) Sunday paid tribute to the resigning judges for their "principled stance" and announced a strike of court proceedings in Lahore Monday, saying they will completely boycott court proceedings to lodge a protest against the assault on the judiciary and democracy. The amended legislation mandates the establishment of the Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) to deal with matters related to the Constitution, while the existing Supreme Court would deal only with traditional civil and criminal cases. One of the Supreme Court's key powers, taking suo motu notices, has also been transferred to the FCC, which has been empowered to take suo motu notice upon petitions. The resigning judges are of the view that the FCC has de-throned the Supreme Court as the country's highest judicial forum.

Britain to make refugee status temporary under asylum overhaul

In Parliament, UK Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood is set to announce that refugee status in the UK is to become temporary, and those whose countries become safe will be immediately made to go home with their refugee status being reviewed every 30 months

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Nov 16: Illegal immigration is tearing Britain apart and tougher measures such as an extended waiting period of 20 years for refugees to acquire permanent residency are required to unite the country, UK Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood said Sunday.

During a round of media interviews ahead of a planned statement in the House of Commons Monday, the South Asian heritage Cabinet minister described the issues as a "moral

mission" for her to fix the country's broken asylum system.

It confirmed earlier reports of the UK Home Office's plans to model the latest immigration crackdowns on a tough system followed by Denmark.

"I can see — and I know my colleagues can — that illegal migration is tearing our country apart. It's our job as a Labour government to unite our country and if we don't sort this out, I think our country becomes much more divided," Mahmood told 'The Sunday Times'. Asked by 'Sky News' if



some of her crackdowns may be perceived as racist, she responded: "I reject that entirely. I am the child of immigrants. My parents came to this country legally, in the late 60s and early 70s. This is a moral mis-

sion for me.

"I can see that illegal migration is creating division across our country. I can see that it is polarising communities across the country. I can see that it is dividing people and making

them estranged from one another. I don't want to stand back and watch that happen in my country."

"What is happening with our illegal migration system is this is a broken system. It's not right-wing talking points or fake news or misinformation that is suggesting that we've got a problem. It is a broken system." In Parliament, Mahmood is set to announce that refugee status in the UK is to become temporary, and those whose countries become safe will be immediately made to go home with their refugee status being reviewed every 30 months.

Under the current system, refugees can apply for permanent residency or indefinite leave to remain (ILR) after five years, providing access to benefits and a route to eventual

citizenship.

The new 20-year qualifying period will apply to those who arrive illegally, such as in small boats or hidden inside trucks, or those who overstay their visas and then attempt to claim asylum. Once enforced, it will make the settlement route in the UK the longest after Denmark, where it stands at eight years. A 10-year pathway will also be created for those who arrive in the UK legally under new specific refugee settlement routes to be announced next week. "We will bring order and control back into our system and, alongside that, we will create new safe routes for people because we still want to fulfil our obligations to help people fleeing wars and conflict around the world," the minister said.

of the day

quote

So now having got the position of being India's largest player, our aspiration is now to leverage our core, which is predominantly shared mobility solutions, and get into an international play

PRASAN FIRODIA | MD, FORCE MOTORS

We are in advanced discussion with KfW (Germany's state-owned development bank) to raise \$200 million

SANJAY KULSHRESHTA | CHAIRMAN AND MD, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The volatility is expected to remain high, but prices may find some support... Focus will be on the US economic data releases, which may give some clues on the health of the American economy & possible some direction on the Fed's rate outlook

PRANAV MER | VICE PRESIDENT, EBG - COM-MODITY & CURRENCY RESEARCH, JM FINANCIAL SERVICES

SHORT TAKES

Coal imports rise 14%

New Delhi: The country's coal import surged by 13.54 per cent to 22.05 million tonnes (MT) in September, driven by increased demand of the dry fuel ahead of the festive season. Imports in September recorded a notable rise from 19.42 MT of coal imported during the same month of the previous financial year. Breaking down the numbers, non-coking coal import stood at 13.90 MT for the month, slightly higher than the 13.24 MT imported in September 2024. Coking coal imports, essential for the steel sector, rose to 4.50 MT compared to 3.39 MT a year ago. For the April-September 2025 period, non-coking coal imports declined to 86.06 MT from 91.92 MT in the corresponding period last year, while coking coal import climbed to 31.54 MT from 28.18 MT, according to data compiled by mjunction services.'

e-Jagruti hits milestone

New Delhi: The Department of Consumer Affairs Sunday said its unified platform e-Jagruti for consumer grievances has got over 2.75 lakh registered users, including 1,388 NRIs since its launch January 1 this year. The Department launched e-Jagruti January 1, 2025 as a next-generation, unified digital platform to transform consumer grievance redressal across the country. The platform integrates legacy systems such as OCMS, e-Daakhil, NCDRC CMS, and the CONFONET portal into a single seamless interface. According to an official statement, more than 1.3 lakh complaints have been filed till November 13 through this unified platform.

SEBI-Sahara case: SC hearing today

New Delhi: The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear Monday the interim pleas of employees seeking payment of their pending salaries from the Sahara Group companies. According to the apex court cause list, a bench headed by Chief Justice BR Gavai is likely to hear the matter. On October 14, the top court had sought responses from the Centre, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and other stakeholders on a plea of Sahara India Commercial Corporation Ltd. (SICCL) seeking permission to sell its 88 prime properties to Adani Properties Private Limited. The plea of SICCL is already listed for hearing November 17. On Friday, the CJI was urged by the lawyers that the interim pleas of employees be also listed on Monday as they have not received salaries for many months.

India rushes Russian oil ahead of sanctions

While private refiners' imports constituted over two-thirds of India's total imports, state-owned refineries almost doubled their Russian volumes month-on-month in Oct

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: India, the second-biggest buyer of Russian oil, spent as much as 2.5 billion euro on purchases of crude oil from Moscow in October, ahead of new sanctions being slapped on Russian entities, a European think tank has said.

India's spending in October was unchanged from the 2.5 billion euro spent on buying Russian oil in September.

India remained the second-largest buyer of Russian fossil fuels in October behind China, according to the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA).

On October 22, the US imposed sanctions on Rosneft and Lukoil, two of the largest oil producers in Russia, to cut off the Kremlin's resources for funding the Ukraine war. The sanctions have resulted in companies like Reliance Industries, HPCL-Mittal Energy Ltd and Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd halting imports for now.

Russia shipped 60 million barrels of crude oil in October, with Rosneft and Lukoil together accounting for 45 million barrels. "India remained the second-largest buyer of Russian fossil fuels, importing a total of EUR 3.1 billion. Crude oil dominated India's purchases at 81 per cent (EUR 2.5 billion), followed by coal at 11 per cent (EUR 351 million) and oil products at 7 per cent (EUR 222 million)," CREA said in its monthly tracking report.

Traditionally reliant on Middle Eastern oil, India significantly increased its imports from Russia following the February 2022 Ukraine invasion.

Western sanctions and reduced European demand made Russian oil available at steep discounts. As a result, India's Russian crude imports surged from under 1 per cent to nearly 40 per cent of its total crude oil imports in a short span.

In September, India had



spent a total of 3.6 billion euro - 2.5 billion euro on crude oil, 452 million euro on coal and 344 million euro on oil products.

According to CREA, India's Russian crude imports in October recorded an 11 per cent month-on-month increase. "In a keen development, the Rosneft-owned Vadinar refinery (in Gujarat) - now sanctioned by the EU and the UK - increased its production to 90 per cent in October. After the EU sanctions in July, the refinery has been importing crude solely from Russia. In October, their imports from Russia recorded a 32 per cent month-on-month increase to their highest volumes since the full-scale invasion," it said.

Exports from the refinery have dropped significantly (47 per cent compared to the same month last year) to the lowest levels since May 2023, it said.

"While there was an 8 per cent month-on-month reduction in sanctioning countries' imports from the six Indian and Turkish refineries using

Central Bank holds agriculture credit outreach programme



POST NEWS NETWORK

Sambalpur, Nov 16: The Central Bank of India, Lathor branch in Bolangir district successfully organised an Agriculture Credit Outreach Program, aimed at creating awareness about agricultural credit facilities and strengthening financial support to the farming community.

The event witnessed active participation from around 250 borrowers, including farmers, SHG members, and rural entrepreneurs from the surrounding areas.

Divyendu Kumar, Regional Head, Sambalpur, attended the program as the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering on the importance of timely agricultural credit and the various farmer-friendly initiatives of the bank.

Japaswini Sahu, Sarpanch of Karuanjhar, also participated and highlighted the importance of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in empowering rural women.

During the event, sanction letters amounting to approximately Rs 1.5 crore were handed over to various agricultural borrowers for crop loans, agri-term loans, and allied activities.

AI ADOPTION

47% enterprises deploy multiple AI use cases

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 16: India's enterprise AI landscape has reached an inflexion point as nearly half of Indian enterprises (47 per cent) now have multiple Generative AI (GenAI) use cases live while 23 per cent are in pilot stage - marking a decisive shift from pilots to performance, a report said Sunday.

Indian enterprises are demonstrating strong confidence by embedding AI into core business workflows to deliver measurable results.

Notably, 76 per cent of business leaders believe that GenAI will have a significant business impact, and 63 per cent feel ready to leverage it effectively, a joint report from EY and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) stated.

"Our survey shows that corporate India has moved beyond experimentation. Nearly half the enterprises already have multiple use cases in production," said Mahesh Makhija, Partner and Technology Consulting Leader, EY India.

"For enterprises, the focus

We are trying to achieve a big growth, like by 25 per cent this year on exports

ITARU OTANI | GROUP CHAIRMAN, YAMAHA MOTOR INDIA



Corporate bond issuances up 8%

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 16: Corporate bond issuances increased 8 per cent year-on-year (YoY) to Rs 6.3 lakh crore till October this fiscal (FY26) from 5.8 lakh crore in the same period a year ago (FY25), SBI research said in its report Sunday.

Meanwhile, commercial papers (CP) issuances also increased by 13 per cent YoY to Rs 9.8 lakh crore during the same period, as compared to Rs 8.6 lakh crore.

All scheduled commercial banks (ASCB bank) credit also increased 16 per cent YoY during FY26 (till October), while on a year-to-date (YTD) basis, the credit growth has been 6.3 per cent.

On the deposit front, according to the report, the YoY growth during FY26 (till October) is 2.6 per cent, while on a YTD basis, deposit growth has been 7.1 per cent, according to the report.

Bank credit growth was 11.3 per cent for the fortnight ended 31 Oct, while deposit growth increased to 9.7 per cent from 9.5 per cent during the same period.

The green shoots of growth in credit against lagging deposit growth call for more proactive liquidity management.

The spread between the 10-year AAA corporate bond and the government security (G-sec) has been falling since August. But for the 5-year bond, the spread with G-sec actually rose in October.

Similarly, the gap between the Repo rate and the weighted average rate of Commercial Paper (CP), which was negative in FY21, went up to 114 bps in FY25 and now stands at 90 bps in October.

In the same way, the spread between the Repo rate and 3-month Certificates of Deposit (CD) — also negative in FY21 — increased to about 83 bps in FY25 and is now 45 bps in October, the report noted.

Mutual Funds witnessed a gush of liquidity in short-term instruments during the last month, totalling Rs 1.33 lakh crore, a reversal of fortunes after a big outflow in September and a somewhat negative August before that, indicating flows are preferring short-termism.

OLA DEBUTS 4680 BHARAT CELL

Ola Electric Sunday said it has commenced test rides of its 4680 Bharat Cell vehicles at the company's flagship stores across India. The S1 Pro+ (5.2kWh) is the first product to be powered by the company's indigenously manufactured 4680 Bharat Cell battery pack that delivers more range, better performance, and enhanced safety



Trump's tariff cut to push exports

US president slashed tariff on nearly 200 food products to make them more affordable for local consumers, following a political backlash over rising prices



REUTERS

New Delhi, Nov 16: Indian agricultural exporters are among the winners from US President Donald Trump's exemption of dozens of food items from his reciprocal tariffs regime, which some analysts say could help to revive lost demand.

Trump Friday removed tariffs he had imposed on more than 200 food products, including beef, as consumer concerns mount over rising US grocery prices.

Unlike EU and Vietnamese suppliers facing 15-20% duties, Indian exporters of tea, coffee, spices and cashew nuts were hit harder after Trump doubled tariffs to as high as 50% on imports of certain Indian goods, including a punitive 25% levy from the end of August on India's Russian oil purchases.

Ajay Sahai, director general of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), says that between \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion of exports will benefit from the tariff exemptions.

POSITIVE SIGNAL FOR WIDER TRADE TALKS

"This order opens space for premium, speciality and value-added products," he said. "Exporters who shift towards higher-value segments will be better protected from price pressures and can tap rising consumer demand."

Officials involved in trade and farm export policy said the exemptions are also a positive signal for ongoing US-India trade talks and could ease ex-

port pressure triggered by this year's tariff increases.

Exports of Indian goods to the US fell nearly 12% year on year in September to \$5.43 billion after tariffs were raised. Indian farm exports, estimated to account for \$5.7 billion of the country's \$87 billion of exports to the US in 2024, were among those hit.

Ajay Srivastava, founder of the Global Trade Research Initiative lobby group, said India's US-bound farm exports - focused on a few high-value spices and niche products - would register limited gains given its weak presence in key exempt items such as tomatoes, citrus fruits, melons, bananas and fruit juices.

"The tariff shift would marginally strengthen India's position in spices and niche horticulture and help revive some lost US demand after the tariff hikes," Srivastava added.

Latin American, African and ASEAN suppliers are likely to make larger gains, he said, adding that it was not immediately clear whether Indian exports will be exempt from 25% reciprocal tariffs or full 50% tariffs.

Exporters, however, fear that other factors will keep potential gains in check, pointing to high freight costs, strong competition from Vietnam and Indonesia and tougher US quality requirements.

"Tariff relief is important, but market recovery also depends on logistics and our ability to match prices," one exporter said.

PMI, US-India trade talks to steer D-St

Last week, Sensex surged 1,346.5 points, or 1.62%, while Nifty advanced 417.75 points, or 1.64%

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, Nov 16: Domestic PMI data, US Federal Reserve meeting minutes and the progress on India-US trade deal negotiations are likely to influence movement in the equity market in the week ahead, according to analysts.

Moreover, the trading activity of foreign investors would also influence the equity market trends.

"Looking ahead, market direction will hinge on key macro triggers such as India's PMI data, US jobless claims, FOMC minutes and progress on US-India trade negotiations.

"A prudent approach would be to focus on sectors with strong fundamentals, clear earnings visibility, and structural tailwinds - positioning portfolios for potential upgrades in H2FY26," Vinod Nair,



Investor confidence improved significantly after India's retail inflation cooled sharply to 0.25 per cent in October from 1.44 per cent in September, aided by GST rate cuts and easing food prices

AJIT MISHRA, SVP, RESEARCH, RELIGARE BROKING LTD

Head of Research, Geojit Investments Ltd,

said.

He noted that "Indian equity markets ended the week on a strong note, with benchmark indices gaining on the resolution of the US government shutdown, supported by strong domestic fundamentals, stronger-than-expected Q2 earnings,

and easing inflation".

Siddhartha Khemka - Head of Research, Wealth Management, Motilal Oswal Financial Services, said, "Capital-market-linked stocks also remained active, supported by strong retail participation, elevated SIP flows, and enthusiasm for recent and upcoming IPOs."

He further stated that "Indian equities are likely to maintain their steady up-move this week,

Businesses shift from experimentation to execution



must now move from building pilots to designing pro-

cesses where humans and AI agents collaborate seamlessly.

The coming decade will be defined not only by the speed of AI adoption, but by the quality of its integration into India's economic and social fabric. This transformation has the potential to add value to India's growth story

CHANDRAJIT BANERJEE | DIRECTOR GENERAL, CII

ly," he added.

According to the report, despite optimism, AI and ML investments remain modest in scale. More than 95 per cent of organisations allocate less than 20 per cent of their IT budgets to AI. Only 4 per cent have crossed the 20 per cent threshold, highlighting that while belief is high, funding for scaled AI transformation is still

conservative.

There is a clear imbalance between conviction and commitment, which is becoming a defining factor in how quickly enterprises extract measurable returns from AI, the report noted.

As organisations operationalise AI, the question of return on investment has taken centre stage.

SA SEAL FIRST TEST WIN ON INDIAN SOIL AFTER 15 YEARS

Kolkata humiliation for Gill & Co

Spin gamble backfires as World Champions South Africa prove their mettle with a famous 30-run win, go 1-0 up in series

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 16: Indian batters' frailties against high quality spin in challenging home conditions were exposed yet again as South Africa outplayed their fancied counterparts by 30 runs in the opening Test here Sunday for their first success in India after 15 years.

Chasing 124, India never showed the composure or method that Temba Bavuma had demonstrated earlier in the day to be bowled out for 93 in 35 overs. Hospitalised due to a neck injury, Shubman Gill was not available to bat on day three.

On an under prepared pitch expected to favour Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav, it was off-spinner Simon Harmer's match haul of eight wickets that made the difference.

It was India's fourth loss at home in the last six Tests including the 0-3 debacle against New Zealand on turning tracks last year. The loss has reignited the debate on Indian batters' ability on turning tracks.

Washington Sundar (31 off 92) and Jadeja (18 off 26) gave India hope in the run chase as they played with soft hands and admirable calm. But Harmer broke through, trapping Jadeja (18) as India's innings wobbled again.

Washington followed soon after, undone by Aiden Markram's part-time off-break.

Dhruv Jurel played with maturity early on and survived a close call via DRS, but lack of runs pushed him into an ill-judged one-handed pull that



This is exactly what we asked for: Gambhir defends curator

India head coach Gautam Gambhir Sunday mounted a strong defence of the tough Eden Gardens pitch, saying it was precisely the kind of track they were looking for ahead of the first Test against South Africa. "It was not an unplayable wicket. This (pitch) is exactly what we asked for and this is what we got, the curator (Sujan Mukherjee) here was very supportive. I think it's a wicket that can judge your mental toughness, as ones who played with good defence scored runs," said Gambhir in the post-match press conference. Gambhir then cited the case of Temba Bavuma (55 not out) and Washington Sundar (31 off 92 balls) to validate his argument. "This is exactly the pitch we were looking for. There were no demons or not unplayable. Axar, Temba, Washington made runs. If you say this is a turning wicket, majority wickets were taken by seamers," he added. Gambhir also reasoned that the hosts preferred such an unwaterved pitch to render the toss invalid. "We ask for the pitch to aid spinners from day one so that toss doesn't become crucial. Had we won the Test you wouldn't be asking or discussing so much about pitch. We've got the guys to deliver in any condition," he added. Updating on the status of injured skipper Shubman Gill, Gambhir said: "He's still being assessed. The physio will take a call today."

found Bosch at deep mid-wicket. Pant looked vulnerable. His 2 off 13 did not inspire a lot of

confidence. A tentative push gave Maharaj a return catch and summed up India's scram-

bled mindset.

Axar Patel (26 off 17) briefly ignited Eden with two sixes and a four, but with only Bumrah for company, risks outstripped returns. Maharaj nailed him soon after, ending India's hopes as the stadium fell silent again.

What will rankle India more than the defeat is that their own spin blueprint backfired.

In the morning session,

TEST TROUBLE

- Battling collapse in focus after India bowled out for 93 in the chase of 124 to surrender against Proteas
- It was India's fourth loss at home in the last six Tests including the 0-3 debacle against NZ on turning tracks last year
- South Africa take second spot in WTC rankings, India slip to fourth position

Bavuma's plucky 55 not out brought South Africa back in the game on an uneven pitch alive before left-arm quick Marco Jansen (2/15) reduced India to 10 for two at lunch.

South Africa stretched their overnight 93/7 (lead 63) to 153, courtesy Bavuma's assured effort and Corbin Bosch's brisk 25 off 37 balls in a 44-run eighth-wicket stand that frustrated India for 44 minutes.

Pant's decision to not use Jasprit Bumrah from the more dangerous Club House End where he got his first-innings flier baffled many. South Africa stretched the advantage past 100 thanks to Bavuma's assured effort.

BRIEF SCORES

South Africa: 159 & 153 beat **India:** 189 and 93/9 in 35 overs (Washington Sundar 31; Marco Jansen 2/15, Simon Harmer 4/21) by 30 runs

SA coach's 'giant' reaction to 'bauna' row

South Africa cricket team head coach Shukri Conrad made a massive remark on the 'bauna' controversy involving skipper Temba Bavuma following their win over India in the first Test match at Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Sunday. A huge row erupted when Jasprit Bumrah and Rishabh Pant were caught on the stump mic calling Bavuma 'bauna' - an apparent jibe on his height - on Day 1. Bavuma proved to be the match-winner for his side as he scored a gritty 55 off 136 deliveries to hand the visitors a crucial second-innings lead. In response, India were bundled out for just 93. Following the win, Conrad made a cheeky comment on the controversy and said that the South Africa captain has the 'heart like a giant'. "Thankfully, he has got a heart like a giant," Conrad said at the post-match press conference.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Shooter Harpreet in contention for medal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cairo, Nov 16: Veteran Indian pistol marksman Harpreet Singh kept himself in contention for a medal in the men's 25m centre fire event, finishing second after the precision round at the ISSF World Championships, here Sunday.

The 44-year-old, who is looking for his first major international medal in his nearly two-decade-long professional career that includes two Asian Games, three world championships and multiple world cups, shot 291 in the 'precision' round.

Ukraine's Pavlo Korostylov emerged as the leader after day one with an identical score of 291 but with a better 'inner 10' count. Korostylov had 14 'inner 10s' while Harpreet had 10.

WORLD BOXING CUP FINALS

Preeti wins medal on return as pugilists reign supreme on Day 1

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Greater Noida, Nov 16: Returning after a year away from international action and a draining battle with Hepatitis A, Preeti Pawar marked her comeback in style, securing a medal for India at the World Boxing Cup Finals here Sunday.

The 22-year-old defeated fellow Hangzhou Asian Games bronze medallist Nigina Uktamova of Uzbekistan by unanimous decision to move to the semifinals of the women's 54kg category.

A month before the Paris Olympics, Preeti had been diagnosed with Hepatitis A.

Despite the illness, she pushed through the Olympics and bowed out only after a tight round-of-16 loss to world championships silver medallist Yeni Arias of Colombia.



But once she returned home, the toll of the infection caught up with her.

"It took a while to recover. After the Olympics I was on complete bed rest for three months. But slowly I made a comeback" she said.

"I worked on my endurance to get in shape as the illness had taken a toll on my body. I played five rounds of boxing instead of three in sparring, did a lot of running."

Ace shuttler wins the prestigious award along with ₹7 lakh while Priteesmita Bhoi, Aahan honoured as Citation recipients

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: The 33rd Ekalabya Puraskar was conferred on ace shuttler Swetaparna Panda at an award ceremony here Sunday. She was awarded a cash prize of Rs 7 lakh, along with a trophy.

Citation winners weightlifter Priteesmita Bhoi and tennis player Aahan were also recognised for their outstanding performances on both national and international stages. Apart from citations, they were each awarded with a cash prize of Rs 1.5 lakh at the award ceremony.

Pitambar Acharya, Advocate General of Odisha, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest of



the evening and Prakash Mishra, IPS (Rtd), Advisor to Chief Minister, Odisha, attended as the Guest of honour. Baijayant Panda, Chairman, Ekalabya Puraskar Committee-2025 & Trustee of IMPaCT, was present along with the esteemed jury members. The function ended with Vote of Thanks from Paramita Panda, Trustee of IMPaCT, and the award ceremony was managed by Aswini Prasad Mohanty,

DEAFLYMPICS

Dhanush strikes gold, Murtaza's silver shot



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: Shooter Dhanush Srikanth continued to excel and evolve on the global stage, winning the men's 10m air rifle gold medal to open India's account in the Deaflympics in Tokyo Sunday.

The 23-year-old, who made his Deaflympic debut at the age of 19 in 2022 in Caxias Do Sul (Brazil) and immediately made a huge statement by winning two gold, came up with another superb performance by setting the Deaf Final World Record of 252.2 on way to the top-podium spot.

Compatriot Mohammed Murtaza Vania finished with a score of 250.1 in the final to take the silver medal while South Korea's Baek Seunghak settled for bronze with a score of 223.6.

The champion shooter, who trains in Hyderabad, qualified for the finals in first position with a score of 630.6 - a Deaflympic record - while Murtaza (626.3) was a distant second.

In the final, Dhanush, who is a national camper based in the National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) at the Karni Singh Ranges in Delhi, broke both the Deaflympics and Deaf Final World Record to add a second

men's 10m air rifle Deaflympics gold to his name.

During the 2022 Deaflympics in Caxias Do Sul he had won both the individual and mixed team gold. The marksman, competing in an international competition after more than a year - he last took part at the World Deaf Shooting Championship in 2024 at Hanover winning three gold medals - will aim for a fourth career Deaflympics gold medal when he pairs with Mahit Sandhu Monday in the 10m air rifle mixed team event.

Sandhu, 20, clinched the silver medal in women's 10m air rifle with a score of 250.5. Compatriot Komal Waghmare (228.3) took the bronze, while Ukraine's Lydkova Violeta bagged the gold with a world record score of 252.4. Sandhu qualified in second place for the eight-shooter final, tallying 623.4, while Waghmare (622.0) was third.

Deaf shooters compete with normal athletes in the Nationals and also get selected for national camps and international competitions based on their rankings.

The marksman, who was born with a congenital hearing impairment, has undergone two cochlear implants.

Dreadful show in Billie Jean King Cup play-offs

SUPERIOR NETHERLANDS WHIP INDIA 3-0

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore, Nov 16: India's campaign in the Billie Jean King Cup play-offs ended in utter disappointment as Netherlands handed the hosts a crushing 3-0 defeat in their Group G fixture here Sunday.

In the first singles, Shrivalli Bhamidipaty went down to Anouk Kovermans 2-6 4-6.

Sahaja Yamalapalli could not resist the powerful world No. 87 Suzan Lamens as the Dutch cruised to a 6-2 6-3 win at the SM Krishna Tennis Stadium.

Later in the doubles, Ankita

Raina and Prarthana Thombare were towelled by Lames and Demi Schuurs 6-1 6-1 in just 69 minutes.

Both India and the Netherlands had lost to Slovenia in their earlier matches, and will now return to their respective regional ties next year. Slovenia have progressed to the 2026 Qualifiers. After giving a tough fight to Slovenia's Tamara Zidansek Saturday, Shrivalli might have cherished the hopes of pulling off a consolation win over the less experienced Kovermans.



Harikrishna goes down; India's hope rests on Arjun Erigaisi

FIDE WORLD CUP



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Panaji, Nov 16: India's hopes in the FIDE World Cup 2025 will depend solely on second seed GM Arjun Erigaisi after GM P Harikrishna went down in the fifth round tiebreak against GM Jose Eduardo Martinez Alcantara here Sunday.

While Arjun had knocked

off two-time champion GM Levon Aronian 1.5:0.5 in the two classical games, Harikrishna had to win the tiebreak against Martinez after drawing both the classical games.

The first two Rapid Games, which had 15 minute time control, also ended with a draw.

In the next set of Rapid games with 10 minute time con-

trol, Harikrishna pushed for a win with white and banked on his preparation to add almost a minute to his clock after 14 moves. But Martinez was ready with his counter and slowly but surely took control of the situation after the Indian traded the queens and Martinez won the game in a rook-pawn endgame after 59 moves.

Harikrishna faced a must-win situation with black in the second game but could only manage a draw and was knocked out of the competition in 30 moves. In the other tiebreaks, GM Sam Shankland defeated former world rapid champion GM Daniil Dubov in the first tiebreak rapid games while GM Andrey Esipenko won with white and then drew with black against GM Aleksey Grebnev to advance to the quarterfinals.

The final quarterfinal spot was claimed by Germany's GM Alexander Donchenko, who overcame Vietnam's GM Le Quang Liem.

RANJI TROPHY

Parida, Samantaray anchor first innings

Odisha stand tall at 247/7 as Parida nears century of grit

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: On a crisp winter morning at the KIIT Cricket Stadium here, Odisha stepped onto the field carrying both expectation and responsibility after winning the toss and choosing to bat.

What followed was a display of grit, character, and unshakeable patience—traits that have long defined Odisha's cricketing spirit. By stumps on Day 1, the scoreboard read 247/7 in 89 overs, but the numbers told only part of the story.

At the heart of Odisha's fight were two determined batters—Anil Parida and Biplab Samantaray—who together stitched the innings with composure. Parida, anchored like a seasoned craftsman, carved out a brilliant 98* off 249 balls, a



marathon effort filled with nine elegant boundaries and a lone six that punctured the silence of the afternoon. His strike rate of 39.36 wasn't about aggression—it was about defiance. Every ball he faced was a message: Odisha wasn't going to give in easily.

Beside him, Samantaray's fluent 92 off 145 balls added momentum to the grind. With nine boundaries and a six of his own, he ensured Odisha kept pushing forward despite Nagaland's disciplined bowling. Their partnership steadied the innings after early jitters and gave the home crowd much to cheer for.