Nora's denial

Actor-dancer Nora Fatehi denies allegations linking her to a Dawood Ibrahimconnected drug party

LEISURE | P2



## **Tightening refugee rules**

UK Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood says illegal immigration risks division,



## Russian oil binge

India spends as much as 2.5 bn Euros on purchases of crude oil of new sanctions

BUSINESS | P11



## **Embarrassing loss**

South Africa defeat India by 30 runs in the first Test to take 🛂 an unassailable 1-0 lead in the

**VOLUME 15, ISSUE 226 I www.orissapost.com** 

**BHUBANESWAR | MONDAY | NOVEMBER 17, 2025** 

## 9mm bullets found near Delhi blast site under lens

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: Security agencies are probing three bullet cartridges, two of them live rounds recovered from the debris near the Red Fort blast site, a source said Sunday.

The empty shell and two live bullets – a calibre not permitted for civilian use – were found close to the burnt Hyundai i20 car, which exploded November 10 near the iconic Delhi monument, killing 13 people and wounding more than two dozen.

According to the source, the 9mm rounds are generally issued to specialised units or individuals with explicit permission.

"The staff deployed at the spot were also asked to check their issued ammunition, but none was found missing. The cartridges were there, but there was no weapon to fire them. We are trying to understand the entire matter that how the bullets reached the spot," said the source.

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.

### **RSS LEADER'S SON SHOT DEAD**

Ferozepur (Punjab): 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 Swavamsevak Sangh (RSS) for the past many years. The deceased also served as an RSS volunteer, they said.



**Everyone will stay till the** oath-taking, then rush to the next poll state. Nobody wants

to go back to Delhi

proposes 20-year residency wait

INTERNATIONAL | P10



from Moscow in October, ahead



two-match series

SPORTS | P12

12 PAGES | ₹5.00



GEN Z REVOLT: Protesters charge at police during an anti-government march by youths in Mexico City

## Red dump busted; explosives seized

Malkangiri, Nov 16: Bor der Security Force (BSF) personnel of 142 Battalion have unearthed a Maoist dump and seized large quantities of explosives during a search operation under Kalimela police limits in Malkangiri district.

According to reports, a BSF team from Kalimela police station was conducting a search operation in the forested region near Bejangiwada under Kurmanur panchayat. While combing the Goregandi forest area near Dulagandi village, the team located a concealed cave on a hillside from where a Maoist ammunition dump was found.

The BSF personnel seized huge cache of explosives and arms from the cave. Items recovered from the dump include one IED mine, one pistol, 320 live rounds, 10 empty catridges, 14 Maoist booklets, 110 gelatin sticks, one sensor device and two electronic trumpets.

Security officials said the



Maoists, who had reportedly stored the explosive materi als to target police and secu rity forces.

### 3 ultras gunned down Three Maoists were killed

Sunday morning during an exchange of fire with police along Chhattisgarh-Odisha border, according to official sources. The gun battle took place in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh, adjacent to Odisha's Malkangiri district Reports said a DRG team was carrying out a combing operation in the forested areas between Beji and Chintagufa when they came face-to-face with the ultras.

Unable to withstand the police assault, the Maoists reportedly retreated into the deeper forest. Police re covered the bodies of three

## ₹100-crore facelift plan Lalu Prasad's family drama out in open for Baladevjew Temple

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: The iconic Baladevjew Temple in Kendrapara, renowned for its deep cultural significance and as a major pilgrimage site for Lord Jagannath's devotees, is set for a major facelift with an approximate cost of ₹100 crore.

This was revealed by Law and Works Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan during a high-level review meeting held in Bhubaneswar on the temple's development. Kendrapara MP Baijayant Panda and the minister discussed key elements of the project aimed at enhancing the temple's heritage, tourism appeal, and facilities for visitors. Harichandan confirmed

that the temple's beautification process will soon begin, and the finalisation of the detailed project report (DPR) is expected to be completed shortly. "Once approved, the total cost for the project is anticipated to reach around ₹100 crore. The work is slated to commence within the

current financial year," said



Repairs will be done to the main temple, while peripheral development. and modernisation of the nearby Anand Bazaar, Roshaghara, Sindukaghara, and the holy pond will also

> The focused on development of Mausi Ma Temple, parking areas, Rathkhala, accommodations for devotees, food stalls, and establishment of a police control room

the minister.

The state government is committed to a comprehensive development strategy for not just the temple but its surrounding areas as well. Proposals based on 3D maps were presented during the meeting to address key aspects of the project. Necessary repairs will be done to the main temple, while peripheral development, and

modernisation of the nearby Anand Bazaar, Roshaghara, Sindukaghara, and the holy pond will also be taken up, the meeting revealed.

In addition to the temple infrastructure, discussions were also held with local officials, including Mahakalpada MLA Durga Prasan Nayak and District Collector Raghuram Iyer. They focused on the development of the Mausi Ma Temple, parking areas, Rathkhala (chariot shed), accommodations for devotees, food stalls, and establishment of a police control room for better security and management during pilgrimages and festivals.

Minister Harichandan directed the district administration to prepare a detailed development plan for the 18th century shrine and its surrounding areas. The goal is to create a modern, well-maintained, and secure environment that will both preserve the temple's historical essence and cater to the growing influx of devotees

Patna, Nov 16: Claiming that she was "cursed at" for donating a "dirty kidney" to her father Lalu Prasad in exchange for money and party ticket, Rohini Acharya Sunday said "she has been made an orphan" and advised all married women to refrain from saving "your God-like father if he has a son".

nouncement that she was quitting the party and disowning

blame for the RJD's debacle

on X, said that "may no house-

hold give birth to a

girl with a fate like

a day after her an-

The posts came

that of Rohini".

Acharya, in a series of posts her brother Tejashwi Yadav's close aides - RJD's MP Sanjay Yadav, who

hails from Haryana, and Rameez, who is from a political family in Uttar Pradesh. "Yesterday, I was cursed at and told

that I am dirty, and her family, while putting the that I got my father to have my dirty kidney transplant-

In an emotional outburst, in the recent Bihar polls on ed into him, took crores of rupees, bought a ticket, and then got that dirty kidney put in," Acharya, who had contested Saran Lok Sabha seat in last year's elections, said.

> A doctor by qualification, she had Saturday an nounced that she was quitting politics and disowning her family, insisting that accountability be fixed for the party's poor performance

## Bandh against

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 nonsmart meters, mandatory rollout of smart meters. unannounced power cuts, and alleged misbehaviour toward consumers by

## TPCODL today

TPCODL staffers.

# DHARITRI **CLIMATE CHANGE** FINDING SOLUTIONS 23-24 NOV **BHUBANESWAR**

## Momo vendor earning ₹30L/m turns heads

Bangalore, Nov 16: In what has reignited the debate about reels and real-world earnings, an Instagram content creator, Cassy Pareira, has taken the internet by surprise after spending a day with a popular street-side momos seller in Bangalore and revealing his staggering earnings. According to the post, the seller behind the famous KK Momos earns nearly ₹30 lakh per month, outpacing the starting salary of many Commerce graduates.

The video clip shows Pareira documenting his day working at a widely popular street-side momo stall. He begins by learning the basics-how to serve customers and how many mo-

**According to Cassy** Pareira, the stall operates from 5pm to 10pm. With each plate priced at ₹110, the team sells about 950 plates in one evening

mos make up a single plate. Initially nervous, Pareira quickly gets comfortable as customers pour in. "They loved it," he said, adding that he is surprised by how famous the shop actually is.

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,

preparing special servings, refilling water, and distributing hot soup to customers waiting in long lines.

According to Pareira, the stall operates from 5pm to 10pm. With each plate priced at ₹110, the team reportedly sold about 950 plates in one evening, bringing in a total of ₹1,04,500 for the day. When calculated

over a month, the earnings come to approximately ₹31.35 lakh, assuming consistent sales.

The video has sparked conversations about income opportunities outside formal degrees, with many viewers sharing it humorously with their BCom grad-

uate friends.

ment section.

Pareira ends the viral clip

with a light-hearted message: "So share this with your B.Com friend. Bye!"

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 earn 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 com-

## eisure

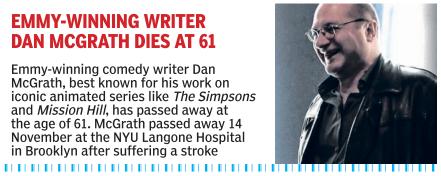


### **JON BATISTE TO MAKE HIS INDIAN DEBUT**

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

### 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





👼 Ganesha Speaks.com accuracy • reliability • trust

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 ire your confidence. Ganesha says this is what life is about - try, try, try, until vou 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.

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.

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.

## Reap and harvest the good

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

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 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 ahoy! 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.



American music for over a century 

## Nora rubbishes **Dawood link**

linking her to an alleged Dawood Ibrahim-connected drug party. The controversy began after Mumbai Police's Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC) reportedly uncovered a major drug syndicate tied to the underworld, during which the names of several Bollywood personalities surfaced. Among them was Nora, who quickly took to Instagram to clarify her stance.

Mumbai: Bollywood actor and dancer No-

ra Fatehi has firmly denied allegations

In a long note, Nora wrote, 'I DONT go to Parties.. Im constantly on flights.. Im a workoholic, I dont have a personal life.. I dont associate myself with people like that. And on my off days im at home on a beach in Dubai or with my high school friends! I spend my entire days and nights working on my dreams and goals! Dont believe anything you read! (sic)" "It seems like my name is an easy

target! but i wont allow it to happen this time! It happened once before, you guys tried to destroy me with LIES and it didnt work.. i watched silently as everyone tried their best to slander my name, smear my reputation and use me as clickbait! Please refrain from using my name and image on situations that have absolutely NOTHING to do with me! This will come with a heavy heavy price! Respectfully (sic)" she concluded. AGENCIES

Rajamouli called talking point online. her, yet still paused for quick pictures.

event.

looked

Her gracious gesture

won over everyone

with SS Rajamouli's present, with pap-Varanasi. The actor arazzi thanking her recently attended the and saying, "Love you, PC." As she film's grand event in Hyderabad, where a made her way inside, viral video captured she greeted them with folded hands. her warmly interacting with fans and the Αt paparazzi. In the Priyanka

Mumbai:

Priyanka

hearts

Priyanka Chopra is

gearing up for her

much-awaited return

to Indian cinema

Actor

clip, Priyanka is ethereal in a white seen obliging lehenga-choli, exudrequests for ing Princess Jasmine photos with a vibes with her tradsmile. She even itional jewellery. Her mentioned she would elegant appearance need to hurry once quickly became a

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 Kumbha. Alongside this, Priyanka also has Citadel 2 and The Bluff lined up.

# Huma talks about creative freedom

Mumbai: Actress Huma Qureshi has spoken about the importance of creative freedom in the film in-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-theroad, 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 nega-

tive 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

backcome to-back, I get ting a lot of calls and messages every day just talking range of both the charters.

### **PEANUTS**



## **CALVIN AND HOBBES**



IT'S SORT OF ORDINARY SUPPOSE, BUT I LIKE TO HAVE IT AROUND.

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 some-

one is impersonating her on the messaging

The actress took to her Instagram, and

shared a note along with the WhatsApp

She wrote, "I wanted to flag some-

thing 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

She further mentioned,

Satur-

"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

day was a bit of a

predicament for

the actress, earli-

er last month, she

spent her weekend

chilling with fur-

ry friends. The

actress took to

her official Insta-

gram handle and

uploaded a few

snaps playing with dogs

kind"

While

platform WhatsApp.

through my team".

details of the impersonator.





### **BREVITY**



### POST **CROSSWORD**

Copyright @2025 PuzzleJunction.

27 Puppy producer

20 Instruct

26 Vogue

28 Bugged

29 Wagon part

22 Short run

### 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
- Down 1 Chipmunk
- relative 2 Flunks

4 Chooses

5 Thespian

- 18 Young fellow 19 Farm building 21 Inner circle
  - 23 African antelope 24 Desist
  - 25 Wager

6 Grassland

12 Sea eagle

14 Aquarium

16 Infinite

7 Unit of force

8 Auction action

denizen (3,5)

SUDOKU

## 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.

	6			9			
9			1	5			
2 3	8				4		
	4	3	6		-		2
		8	Î	7		5	
		9	8				6
2			Г			1	
	5					8	
7		16		d	6		3

## SOLUTIONS

	1-	_										
0	Ν	U	S		В	Α	R	D		R	0	В
Α		Ν		С		W		Α		E		Α
F	1	D	D	L	Е	R		F	0	С	U	S
		Е		Е		Υ		F		E		Н
Т	0	R	Е	R	0		S	Υ	R	1	Α	
1				1		٧				Р		Е
Ν	1	Р		С	R	1	E	D		Т	0	Р
Е		Е				M		Е				Е
	U	Т	Т	Е	R		S	L	U	1	С	Е
Т		R		Ν		0		Е		Ν		
R	Ε	1	G	Ν		S	Е	Т	В	Α	С	K
Α		F		U		L		E		Ν		1
M	Α	Υ		1	R	0	Ν		F	Е	R	N
-	т	4	3	T	9	4	10	т	0	0	T	2

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

## owntown

Bhubaneswar:

state-level National Press

### **FUN AND FROLIC**

Children enjoy roller skating at the 'Patha Utsav' street festival on Janpath in Bhubaneswar, Sunday, organised by the Indian Institute of Architects, Odisha chapter



## **National Press Day celebrated in City**

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 16:** The National Journalists' Welfare Board Sunday celebrated National Press Day 2025 with a grand state-level event at Jaydev Bhavan here.

The event was jointly organised by the National Journalists' Welfare Board along with Doordarshan, All India Radio (AIR), Press Information Bureau (PIB), Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), and



the Academy of Management and Information Technology

The event was attended by Law Minister Prithivirai Harichandan, Human Rights Commission Justice Shatrughna Pujahari, Additional Chief Secretary Anu Garg and other dignitaries.

The programme featured key discussions and a national seminar on "Preserving Media Credibility amid the Rise of Misinformation" was held as part of the Press Council of India's National Press Day initiative. Besides, editors, media experts, journalism educators

'Media must verify news authenticity'

that the media plays a decisive

role in ensuring accurate pub-

Day celebration held Sunday lic awareness while steering in the conference hall of the clear of misleading or false Information and Public Re-Devilal Mishra, Assistant lations (I&PR) department. speakers emphasised that me-Professor at Ravenshaw Unidia professionals must verify versity, stated that every fact needs deep scrutiny before the authenticity of every news item before presenting it to the broadcasting.

I&PR director Anuj Kumar Das Pattnaik said that candidates appearing for various competitive examinations rely heavily on media for accurate information. He noted that credible news helps aspirants succeed at multiple levels and enhance their knowledge. He emphasised the need for responsible journalism and urged media outlets to refrain from broadcasting misleading content.

Director (Technical) Gurbeer Singh remarked that even unintentional false news can damage the society and democracy, highlighting the need for media representatives to remain vigilant. Senior journalist Pitabas Mishra also shared his views at the meeting.

Winners of the university-level Odia and English elocution competitions were felicitated on the occasion. In Odia elocution, Simran

paper, Pramod Kumar Moha-

patra, was honoured with the

prestigious Utkal Sambadika

As part of the programme,

34 senior journalists received

monthly pensions, while

Ratna Samman 2025.

of Birla Global University secured first place, followed by Shashwati Priyadarshini of Utkal University and Barsha Navak of BJB Autonomous College. In English elocution, Samina T Gandwa of KIIT University won first prize, while Krishna Priyadarshini Hota of BJB Autonomous College and Archita Bhanj of Birla Global University placed second and third respectively.

Shashank Shekhar Dash and "Paperman India" were honoured for their support in organising the newspaper exhibition.

As part of the state-level National Press Day observance, the newspaper exhibition at Jaydev Bhawan was inaugurated by Additional Chief Secretary Hemant Sharma. The exhibition featured 501 newspapers and periodicals, including 93 magazines, 17 foreign newspapers, 240 Odia dailies and several historical publications.

Deputy Director Sucheta Priyadarshini introduced the guests, while Information Officer Rozalin Sahu coordinated the programme. The event saw participation from departmental officials, media representatives and intellectuals.

eight late journalists were commemorated through memorial awards presented to top-rank holders in journalism courses across various universities and autonomous colleges in Odisha.

## **POLITICKLE** by MANJUL



## Odisha gears up to celebrate Int'l Day of Persons with Disabilities

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: A preparatory meeting was held Sunday under the chairmanship of Parul Patawari, Director of the department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD), regarding the celebration of the state-level International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025.

The meeting was organised at the conference hall of the State Institute for Persons with Disabilities. Director Patawari sought the cooperation of everyone to make this event successful.

Based on the experiences of

previous years, she advised the from December 1 to 3 at the attending officials to make this year's event more organised and more accessible for persons with disabilities. Emphasising the need to deploy dedicated officers for different departments to ensure the smooth conduct of the programme, she urged everyone to work in coordination with one another. Additionally, departmental officials visited SOA University here in the City and held a coordination meeting with university authorities

execution of the event. As per the reports, this year's International Day of Persons with Disabilities will be held

responsible for the successful

conference hall of SOA Univer sity. Since the auditorium there has sufficient space to seat over 1,500 people, it has been deemed suitable for organising cultural programmes as well. A cricket tournament for visu

ally impaired women will be held at the sports ground on the SOA campus. On this occasion, stalls will also be set up by persons with disabilities, self-help groups, and various organisations. An app has been made available on the departmental website for stall registration. Participants who excelled in the district-level competitions will take part in the state-level competitions.

## Cold wave grips parts of Odisha, Pollution Control Board faces heat over dumping yard G Udayagiri chills at 5.8° Celsius

Narayan Mishra of the Polit-

ical Science department, Ut-

kal University, chief guest of

the event, said the media has

consistently upheld a clear

policy toward safeguarding

democracy. Highlighting this

year's theme set by the Press

Council of India, he stressed

and representatives from na-

tional information agencies

participated in the panel dis-

states were also felicitated.

Former editor of Samaia news-

Journalists from different

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Cold wave gripped parts of Odisha, with G Udayagiri in Kandhamal district recording the state's lowest temperature of 5.8 degrees Celsius Sunday. According to the India Mete-

orological Department (IMD), G Udayagiri was followed by Koraput's Semiluguda (7.4), Daringbadi (8), Phulbani (9) and Angul (10.6).

The met department said there would be no large change in minimum temperatures over the next three-four days and thereafter, it would dip by 2-3 degrees Celsius in several districts. The IMD has issued a 'yellow' warning for cold wave conditions in Khurda, Kandhamal, Angul, Sundargarh and Jharsuguda districts till Monday morning.

Normal life was also affected in Gajapati, Koraput, Kandhamal and some other districts,



with people unable to come 50 metres, in Rourkela under out of their houses till 9 in the morning due to intense cold.

State capital Bhubaneswar recorded the season's lowest temperature of 13 degrees Celsius Sunday morning, down from 14.8 degrees Celsius the previous day.

"The twin cities of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack experienced cold wave conditions, which are likely to prevail for another 24 hours," IMD's weather scientist Sanieev Dwivedi said. Dwivedi said there was dense fog, with visibility of only up to

Sundargarh district and Khurda's Balipatna. Bhubaneswar experienced its first cold wave spell this season Friday when the minimum temperature dropped 4.6 degrees Celsius below normal to record 14.8 degrees Celsius.

The City had recorded the lowest temperature of 9.7 degrees Celsius on November 30, 1970 and 10.9 degrees Celsius on November 26, 1968.

Sunday morning, Cuttack recorded 13.6 degrees Celsius, which was 5.1 degrees Celsius below the normal temperature.

extensive awareness from

November 16 to 30

Appeal to all to join and

road accident deaths

these numbers. Over the next

15 days, Regional Transport

Officers across the state will

organise various programmes

in collaboration with district

administrations, police ad-

ministrations, and other de-

Thakur said that just as we

protected ourselves during the

Covid-19 pandemic by following

rules, road accidents have also

partments.

work towards reducing

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: A delegation representing the Remove Dumping Yard movement will meet Monday with the State Pollution Control Board's member secretary to discuss the removal of the dumping yard near Sainik School in the city. The meeting is set to take place at Sainik School, where the Dumping Yard movement's campaigners will present their case for relocating the waste processing unit and shutting down the site

This move follows a crucial decision made Sunday during a high-level meeting, where it was decided that a detailed discussion would be held with the Pollution Control Board. The campaigners aim to address the long-standing environmental and health hazards posed by the site, which has been a great matter of concern for local residents.

The meeting comes after a similar gathering on 29th September, where senior scientist Dr. Usharani Patnaik

taken the form of an epidemic. To safeguard ourselves from

this, we must prioritise adher-



had earlier stressed the need to set a clear deadline for the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) to process the existing waste at the site. Despite this commitment, no tangible steps have been taken so far, and the area continues to be affected by trucks carrying waste from the site daily.

Notably, for over 23 years the dumping yard site has been a source of severe pollution, with its foul odor affecting nearby neighborhoods. Local residents have raised concerns about the impact on their health, particularly as the site allegedly continues to operate without the required

permissions from the Pollution Control Board. During a review meeting on 9th September, it was revealed that no legal documents had been provided for the waste processing units, and the Pollution Control Board was criticized for procedural lapses in issuing the necessary Consent to Operate (CTO).

As of August 12, permission for operation was granted to several waste management facilities, including composting and recycling plants, without proper field verification, raising questions about the effectiveness of pollution control measures in the region.

Campaign leaders, including

Dilip Das Sharma, Sandeep Das, Sanjay Mallik, Sankar shan Barik, Lalat Kesari Jena, and Chintamani Barik, vowed to take further action after to morrow's meeting. continue to push for immediate steps to be taken to shut down the dumping yard and relocate the waste processing units. said Dilip Das Sharma, one of

the key campaigners. Reports have also surfaced that the Housing Board is planning to evict long-time residents living near the dumping site. In response, a team from the campaign visited the area and has demanded that the government ensure justice for these vulnerable residents "The government must take ur gent action to protect the rights and health of these residents, added Sandeep Das.

The 'Banchao Alia Gada campaigners made it clear that they will not back down until the necessary steps are taken to address both the environmental concerns and the rights of the affected communities

## Odisha launches 'Zero Fatality Fortnight'

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: The 'Zero Fatality Fortnight' commenced in the state starting from World Remembrance Day for Road Traffic Victims. This programme will continue until November 30.

On the inaugural day, the launch event was held at the driving testing track in Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar. The event was attended by Commerce and Transport Department Principal Secretary Usha Padhee, Transport Commissioner Amitabh Thakur and Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Police Commissioner Suresh Dev Dutta Singh

Padhee stated that the number of lives lost in road accidents has become a matter of grave concern for all of us. The government is making all possible efforts to reduce this. However, road accidents cannot be minimised through government initiatives alone; it requires collective participation. She urged everyone to join the road accident reduction campaign.



The objective of observing the 'Zero Fatality Fortnight' is to reduce road accidents. We aspire to build a society free from road accidents. Such programmes have been undertaken for this purpose. If all road users-whether drivers or others—adhere to road safety rules, the untimely loss of lives can be prevented.

Similarly, both the Transport Commissioner and Police Commissioner expressed concern over the rising number of road accidents. They stated that awareness campaigns along with strict enforcement will be implemented to reduce

Likewise, the Police Com-

ence to rules

missioner remarked that investigations into many road accidents reveal that if drivers had not committed errors, those accidents could have been prevented. Road users are not taking safety rules as seriously as they should. We need to understand that failing to follow rules makes us victims of accidents.

On the occasion of World Remembrance Day for Road Accident Victims, tributes were paid to those who lost their lives in accidents, along with a two-minute silent prayer. Additionally, an awareness mobile van was launched, which will travel during the fortnight to raise public awareness.

Students from various educational institutions participating in the event conducted a road safety march. The programme was also attended by the Traffic DCP, senior officials from the Transport department, Regional Transport Officers, and police department officials.

## City man preserves print legacy with 12K newspaper collection

MANOJ KUMAR JENA, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: A City resident has nurtured a unique passion for preserving the legacy of print media by collecting more than 12,000 newspapers. His collection includes 5,920 varieties from 172 countries in 102 languages, along with 1,500 Odia newspapers.

Shashank Shekhar Dash, a former print journalist, said he was disturbed to see many old dailies shutting down. "I was upset to see newspapers that kept people informed for years being abruptly closed That's when I decided to preserve their legacy by collecting them," Dash said.

Dash began collecting newspapers in 2000, gradually building an archive that reflects both Odisha's journalistic history and global print culture. Among his prized possessions is Utkal Deepika, Odisha's first newspaper founded in 1866, as well as Kalinga, launched by Biju Patnaik in 1961. His col-



lection spans rare, historic, discontinued and contemporary editions.

"I believe history plays a significant role in shaping our future. Since newspapers are considered the mirror of society, we must do our part to preserve their legacy. If newspapers in circulation today shut down. the only way to keep their heritage alive is by collecting them. These preserved editions will help future generations understand each newspaper's value and its glorious history,'

Dash said. Dash showcased his newspa-

per collection at the National Press Day 2025 exhibition held at Jayadev Bhawan, where vis itors were amazed by the diver sity and scale of his archive.

He displayed more than 500 newspapers, primarily Odia publications, featuring both vintage editions and current dailies. "I will continue col lecting newspapers, and I ap peal to the government to es tablish a newspaper museum in the state where these can be permanently displayed. Such a museum would be valuable for research and many other purposes," Dash said.

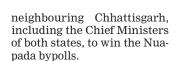
**OrissaPOST** 

## 'Stringent action against those involved in anti-party activities'

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



"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.

er and the law minister Prithivirai 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 Lashya Award 2025 at Rabindra Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Sunday

## BJD alleges large-scale rigging in Nuapada bypoll

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

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.

strong public support for BJD

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 90 per cent turnout.

forced voters to cast their bal-Chhuria questioned the sudlots in Lotus symbol, "Although den rise in voter turnout fig ures, noting that while 75 per our party workers objected, the cent polling was announced at complaints were ignored," she 5pm, it increased to 77 per cent alleged, adding that polling at 7pm, 81 per cent the next percentages rose abnormally morning, and finally 83.45 per due to organised booth rigging. with 41 booths recording over 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 Astasambhu 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**



Bhubaneswar, Nov 16: Bhuhaneswar 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 rank ing 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 Ra na echoed similar sentiments, stating, "Just like we take care of our own children, our sanitation workers treat Bhubaneswar as their own child, working tire-

lessly 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

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 employ

ees 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 quest. 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 Bhakt 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 Maihi 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.

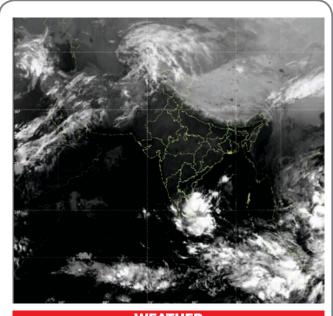
A key takeaway from the summit was the announcement of plans to establish a 'Global South Corridor', aimed at facilitating and renewing ancient connections between these regions, both economically and culturally.

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 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.



	WEATHI	ER			
	BBSR	CTC	<b>FORECAST</b>		
Max Temp	29.7°	27.2°	Dry Dry weather		
Min Temp	13.0°	13.6°	very likely to prevail over the		
Humidity	69%	70%	districts of Odisha.		
Rainfall	Nil	Nil			

## BOOKING

Acharya Vihar-Dayal Agency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur-9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech-Tankapani Road-9861341488

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

# 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,

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 ex-



in the OPD when he suddenly felt unwell and went to use the bathroom.

When he did 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.

### Currently, for 1,000 people there are only 0.11 doctors, 0.25 nursing officers, 0.25 female health workers, and 1.11 ASHAs in the district. Out of 606 sanctioned doctor posts, only 194 are filled. Similarly, 422 nursing officers are working against 555 sanctioned posts; 29 lab technicians against 55; 182 male health

workers against 344; and 76

pharmacists against 90 posts.

However, all 428 female health

worker positions are filled. Despite the government's efforts to upgrade hospital infrastructure, the shortage of doctors and technical staff has crippled healthcare delivery in the district. Out of 13 blocks, 316 villages continue to lack access to proper healthcare services due to poor connectivity and infrastructural challenges.

In some remote regions, bike ambulances and boat ambulances are being used to reach patients, especially near the Indravati reservoir. In the remote regions, healthcare services depend largely on quacks. Villages under Thuamul Rampur, Lanjigarh, and Madanpur Rampur blocks continue to suffer from a near collapse of medical facilities

When contacted, Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) Dr Niharendra Panda said that the OPSC examination for recruitment has been completed, and the appointment of new doctors now depends on the state government's decision.

## Harish Chandra Baxipatra: An ideal for the times

hese are critical times.
As societies, we are no longer able to band ourselves, together 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,

### 92ND BIRTH **ANNIVERSARY**



mobilising them to join the mainstream of political democracy with the fiery slogan "Chinhaa Pada, Chimraa 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 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 untrammeled 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.

MAHASWETA BAXIPATRA

## Man trampled as two jumbos clash

POST NEWS NETWORK

Rourkela, Nov 16: A 40-yearold man was killed in elephant attack when two tuskers, locked in a fierce fight, straved into Eregeda 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 Eregeda. 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.

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 Tehsildar 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

17 trucks involved in minor mineral mining seized

## **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 vil lage on Tutu's Bajaj Pulsar mo torcycle (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 Pariang 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



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 Ch hattisgarh. 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, mislead ing recruitment of youths harassment by senior Maoist leaders and encouragement of ganja cultivation. Continuous pressure from anti-Maoist op erations and the appeal of gov ernment rehabilitation policies also influenced their decision

"They contacted us express ing 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 ap peal, urging other Maoists to abandon violence and return to the mainstream.

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

## dies on duty

POST NEWS NETWORK



colleagues tried

## Man murders father over old-age pension

Kabisuryanagar, Nov 16: A man allegedly killed his 85-year-old father late Saturday night for money to buy alcohol at A Gopal Nagar of Barida village under this police limits in Ganiam district.

The victim was identified as Padmanabha Sahu and the accused son as Ramesh Sahu, 40. On being informed, a police team led by Kabisuryanagar IIC Niranian Dash reached the spot and sent the body for post-mortem. Police also registered a case and detained all four siblings as well as the deceased's wife and interrogated them in this connection. According to police, Padmanabha collected his monthly old-age pension of ₹3,000 Saturday. He has four sons, who were identified as Prakash Sahu, Tapan Sahu, Ramesh Sahu and Sudam Sahu. Police said Ramesh had been demanding money from his father to buy liquor and also pressuring him for his approval to remarry. These demands, along with frequent quarrels,



reportedly triggered repeated assaults on the elderly man.

Tapan, the second son, told police that when he tried to intervene, Ramesh reportedly attacked him as well, biting his face. The family dispute was reported at the police station Saturday evening, after which police officials mediated and sent them home.

The matter came to the fore after the victim's wife Hema tried to wake him from his sleep and found him dead Sunday morning. However, elder brother Prakash Sahu stated in his complaint that a heavily intoxicated Ramesh allegedly beat Padmanabha and stabbed him in the abdomen late Saturday night leading to his death.

The accused will be arrested soon after completion of the probe, the IIC said.

### Constable murder: Suspect held, sent to court

Harbhanga: Police Sunday produced before court a man accused of murdering a 54-year-old constable in Jajpur village under Purunakatak police limits in Boudh district. The victim, Uday Ranjan Patnaik, a constable posted in Baliguda of Kandhama 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 Rasgovind-pur 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 Rasgovindpur 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 Prathamastam festival. Police said Sukumani and Ananta returned from work around 4pm 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. Rasgovindpur police registered an unnatural death case (55/25).

# 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

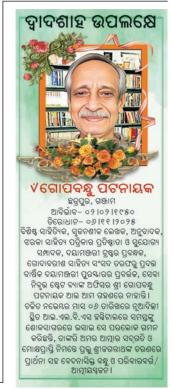
SDPO Partha Kashyap told reporters that the arrests included six accused in a series of thefts under Town police limits, six more in separate Sadar police cases and seven accused in a bridge robbery reported under Kundura police station. Police recovered 10 mobile

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.



## 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 vouths through skill-development initiatives.

ing 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 Suraj also lauded 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.

## बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया

Place: Bhubaneswar

Date: 15.11.2025

## 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

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financia 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.		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.				

**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**

ecent 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.

### WISDOM CORNER

We always question the bonafides of the man who tells us

RK NARAYAN

The undertaking of a new action brings new strength. Share this Ouote

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

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

"Then in September," the friend

continued, "My father died,

"Wow. Two parents gone in

two months. No wonder you're

leaving me \$90,000.

- **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."

**FOCUS BIHAR POLLS** 

## **VICTORY SANS PROGRESS**

202-seat sweep in Bihar—far 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 womenmay have helped electorally, but they cannot compensate for the structural weaknesses of the state. The contrary were RJD-Cong Mahagathbandhan (MGB) counter programmes



**Lack of employment opportunities in the** state - 9.9 per cent unemployment in the 15-29 age-group has forced people to migrate to other states in search of jobs, which has been one of the major poll issues

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 industri

alised 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.

**SPECTRUM** 

Shivaji Sarkar

**WHETHER BIHAR** 

**WILL FINALLY** 

**CHART A NEW** 

**PATH REMAINS** 

**QUESTION-AND** 

THE NATION IS

**WATCHING** 

**AN OPEN** 

**COP 30** 

## Key to unlocking private climate finance a global market increasingly



Lynn Forester de Rothschild

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

TO THE EDITOR

are most welcome to contribute letters

requested to send their contact

address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and

suggestions, preferably by email, to:

OrissaPOST

B-15, Rasulgarh Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Readers of Orissa Post

(100 words), articles and

words). Contributors are

numbers and full postal

columns (between 600-1000

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 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.

### I DIDN'T GET ANY **MONEY THIS TIME** man in a bar sees An friend at a table, drinking by himself. Approaching the friend he comments, "You look terrible. What's the problem?" depressed.' "My mother died in 'And last August," he said, "and left month my aunt me \$25.000.' died, and left me "Gee, that's tough," he replied. \$15,000." "Three close family

How sad?"

nothing!"

members lost in three months?

"Then this month," continued,

the friend, "absolutely

### 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 Yaday, 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.

AP Thiruvadi, CHENNAI

### 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.

*RS Narula*, PATIALA



## TWO STATES





## HP's Anti-Chitta war



NDO-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 Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Saturday launched a public movement against 'chitta', the low-grade heroin, marking the beginning of a decisive campaign across

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

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

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

"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

harming our culture,

our values, and the

future of our children. A

strong public movement

SUKHVINDER SINGH SUKHU I

CM, HIMACHAL PRADESH

has now begun to end this

the youth from falling into a drug trap and addiction by taking strict action against mafias drug 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

"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

## 1K volunteers join Late diagnosis drives Jammu cancer crisis

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



to-urinary (654), hematological cancers (653), esophageal (519), oral cancers (519), and cervical cancer (494).

Other major cancers includ-

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
- π 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 report ed 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, indicat ing 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 sav.

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 accused persons who have been arrested or questioned The module was busted after posters threatening police and security forces appeared on walls in Bunpora, Nowgam, in mid-October, prompting an

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

have found a distinct pattern and

a common denominator among

formed a dedicated team. A meticulous, frame-byframe analysis of CCTV footage led investigators to identify and arrest the first three suspects Arif Nisar Dar alias Sahil, Yasir-ul-Ashraf, and Magsood 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 Saveed. 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 Muzzaffar Rather (absconding).

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

## J&K has over 17.20L unclaimed accounts worth ₹465.79 crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, Nov 16: Jammu and Kashmir has registered over 17.20 lakh unclaimed accounts with an outstanding amount of Rs 465.79 crore, prompting the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to encourage banks to actively contact rightful claimants of these deposits for the return of funds in a time-bound manner.

RBI Regional Director Chandra Shekhar Azad said Jammu district alone accounts for 2.94.676 unclaimed accounts amounting to Rs 107.27 crore.

In total, the Union territory has 17,20,878 unclaimed ac counts with an outstanding amount of Rs 465.79 crore Azad said. He urged banks to proactively contact and trace depositors and rightful claimants of these unclaimed deposits to ensure timely set tlement.

He further said the RB has launched an incentive scheme titled the "Scheme for Facilitating Accelerated Assets Pay-out - Inoperative Accounts and Unclaimed Deposits", under which a differential pay-out of up to 7.5 per cent of the balance in such accounts or Rs 25,000, whichever is less, will be given to banks for reactivating inoperative accounts and settling unclaimed deposits from from October 1 to Sep tember 30, 2026.

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

## 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-

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, ban-

gles, and pendants. The groom

covers his face with red fabric.



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 information, 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.

## 5,000-year-old tradition that celebrates mystical fairies emonial bride and groom. They

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-

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.

# national



The state's own tax revenues grew only 7.03 per cent year-on-year in the first half, while the combined GST and Sales Tax revenues increased by a mere 2.85 per cent

JAGAN MOHAN REDDY

### **SABARIMALA OPENS FOR** ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

Lord Ayyappa temple in Sabarimala opened Sunday evening ahead of the annual Mandalam-Makaravilakku pilgrimage season, which is expected to attract devotees from across the world



Economic have transformed the country's direction and positioned India to emerge as the world's third-largest economy within a year



N CHANDRABABU NAIDU I ANDHRA PRADESH CM

Not only this, despite giving tough competition to the opposition in other seats in this region of

Bihar, BSP candidates failed to win. According to feedback, if the elections had been completely free and fair, the BSP would have certainly won many more seats. However, this did not happen MAYAWATI I BSP CHIEF



and my party is also free to

UDDHAV THACKERAY | SENA (UBT) CHIEF

### SHORT **TAKES**

### **5 killed in SUV-tractor** collision in Gwalior

Gwalior: Five persons were killed when a Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) and a tractor trolley collided in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district Sunday morning, police said. The accident occurred at around 6 am in front of Malwa College under Jhansi Road police station limits, 20 km from the district headquarters, the area City Superintendent of Police Robin Jain told reporters. Five persons travelling in the SUV died on the spot, the official said. The police were conducting a probe into the accident and examining CCTV footage of the area to ascertain if there was negligence or if the tractortrolley entered the road from the wrong direction, he said.

### Three Naxals with ₹15L bounty killed in encounter

Sukma (Chhattisgarh): Three Naxalites, carrying a collective reward of ₹15 lakh, were killed in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district Sunday, police said. The gunfight broke out in the forested hills of Tumalpad village along the border of Bheiii and Chintagufa police station area in the morning when a team of District Reserve Guard (DRG) was

## **Delhi: 5 held for** murdering man

out on an anti-Naxalite

operation.

New Delhi: Five men were arrested for allegedly murdering a 23-year-old man in southeast Delhi's Govindpuri area following a dispute linked to one-sided love, an official said Sunday. Police said they received a PCR call around 9.52 pm November 14 about a man lying in a pool of blood at the Pravati Ekta Camp after being stabbed.

### Insurgent arrested

Imphal: An insurgent was arrested in Manipur Sunday in connection with an ambush on Assam Rifles in 2017, police said. A joint team of the Manipur Police, **CRPF** and Assam Rifles arrested 45-year-old Koiiam Ibochouba alias Inao alias Sumo alias Pansareng, a selfstyled major of the Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA), from a house in Sagolband in Imphal West, they said. The ambush allegedly took place on a road opening party of the 4th Assam Rifles at Chamol-Sajir Tampak road in Chandel district.

# **WB Guv seeks legal** opinion against TMC MP's 'arms' remark



On Saturday, hours after Governor said that the SIR of electoral rolls was essential to "clean up the election process", TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee drew a counterattack from Baneriee, who accused him of "sheltering BJP criminals" inside Raj Bhavan and "arming them with bombs and guns"

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, Nov 16: West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose Sunday said he sought legal opinion over TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee's allegation of Raj Bhavan allowing stacking of arms and ammunition, prompting the lawmaker to say he is ready for a battle in court and cannot be intimidated.

On Saturday, hours after Bose said that the SIR of electoral rolls was essential to "clean up the election process", he drew a counterattack from Baneriee, who accused him of "sheltering BJP criminals" inside Rai Bhavan and "arming them with bombs and guns".

"The governor is seeking legal opinion against Banerjee for his comments Saturday. The Rai Bhayan's doors have been kept open from 5 am and he is waiting for Banerjee to visit and inspect to gather evidence Bhavan official told PTI.

"Should he (Banerjee) fail to prove what he said, then why shouldn't a legal proceeding be initiated against him? The governor is also writing to the Lok Sabha Speaker to conduct an inquiry into the matter, since the TMC MP has made grave allegations," the official added.

The MP has committed offences punishable under various Sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), including 151, 152 and 353, he said.

While Section 151 makes it a crime to restrain the President of India or a state governor with the intent to prevent them from exercising their lawful power, Section 152 deals with sedition. Section 353 addresses offences related to statements that lead to public

In response, Banerjee, who is a lawyer by profession, alleged that Bose is a BJP agent who has been regularly issuing anti-West Bengal and anti-people statements from Raj Bhavan.

"If he initiates legal proceedings against me for uttering the truth, does he think I will sit idle? For around three years, we (TMC) have shown him courtesy and respect. But he continues to lower the dignity of Raj Bhavan and the hallowed post by his act," Ba nerjee said.

The Raj Bhavan official said that Bose uttered a part of one of William Shakespeare's most famous verses from his tragedy, 'Macbeth', to express what he felt about the MP's comments -- "It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing", an official said.

He said that the governor used the verse to describe someone who is "incriminatingly derogatory and invective"

The official said that the Raj Bhavan's doors are kept open for Banerjee, civil society members and journalists to carry out inspections in the wake of the TMC MP's allegations.



Tourists take a bamboo raft ride at Kanger Valley, in Bastar district, Chhattisgarh

## 'NDA's victory better than expected'

Patna, Nov 16: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's son Nishant Sunday said the NDA's landslide victory in the assembly elections was "better than expected", and claimed that the people have witnessed his father's track record and vision to take the state to new heights.

Nishant, who had earlier urged the people to vote his father back to power, also said the mandate reflected strong support for the NDA's development initiative.

"We were sure about a decisive victory, but the final outcome is better than expected. I thank the people of Bihar for this mandate. The people have given us a massive majority after witnessing father's track record and his vision to take the state to new heights," he told reporters. Meanwhile, decks were being cleared Sunday for

the formation of a new govern-

ment in Bihar with the sched-

uling of the last meeting of the



### Actress Nitu Chandra removed as election icon

Patna: The Election Commission Sunday removed actress Nitu Chandra as the icon of the systematic voters' education and electoral participation (SVEEP) in Bihar for expressing views in favour of political parties during the recentlyconcluded assembly polls. Chandra was named the icon to increase voter awareness ahead of the assembly polls. "Complaints were received that

during the electoral process, you expressed your views in favour of some political parties, which is against the undertaking given by you at the time of appointing you as Bihar SVEEP icon," Additional Chief Electoral Officer Prashanth Kumar Ch said in a letter to the actress. "In your undertaking, you had mentioned that you have no political affiliation with any political party. You

had also mentioned that you would not associate yourself with any political party or candidate during the election. You are removed from the role of SVEEP icon with immediate effect," he added. Chandra, a native of Patna, appeared in several Bollywood movies such as 'Oye Lucky! Lucky Oye!' and 'Garam Masala'

outgoing cabinet, which would,

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to

### **AIR POLLUTION**

## SC to hear plea on stubble burning today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Supreme Court is slated to hear Monday a plea related to stubble burning that has been further worsening the air quality levels in Delhi-NCR. The top court had earlier

asked the Punjab and Haryana governments to apprise it about the action taken to control the situation A bench comprising Chief Justice BR Gavai and justices

K Vinod Chandran and N V Anjaria had earlier agreed to hear the plea November 17. "Let Punjab and Haryana governments respond on steps

taken to control stubble burning," the CJI had said. Earlier November 3, the top

court directed the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) to file an affidavit detailing the steps it has taken so far to prevent the air pollution situation in Delhi-NCR from deteriorating further. The bench was hearing the M

C Mehta case and had said that the authorities must act proac tively and not wait for pollution levels to reach a "severe" stage Amicus curiae Singh had

flagged media reports indicat ing that several air quality monitoring stations in Delhi were not functioning during the Diwali period.



The amicus urged the bench to ensure that CAQM submits clear data and an action plan.

However, Additional Solic itor General Aishwarya Bha ti assured the bench that the agencies concerned will file the required report. On October 15. the CJI-led bench permitted the sale and bursting of green fire crackers in Delhi-NCR during Diwali with conditions aimed at balancing tradition with environmental and health concerns.

The court had made it clear that the use of green crackers will be confined to specific hours on Diwali and the day before. The sale of green crackers was permitted from October 18 to 20.

## MP minister's remark on Raja Ram Mohan Roy sparks row

Shajapur, Nov 16: Madhya Pradesh Minister and BJP leader Inder Singh Parmar has sparked controversy by saying that social reformer Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a "British agent" who started a "vicious cycle of religious conversion". prompting the TMC to call the remarks an insult to Bengal.

After facing widespread flak, the MP Higher Education Minister apologised Sunday, claiming his remark was a "slip of the tongue". The row erupted at a time when the BJP, after winning the Bihar elections, has set its eyes on TMC-ruled West Bengal, where Assembly polls are due next year. Recently, a political confrontation erupted between the Trinamool Congress and the BJP over two of Bengal's most revered cultural icons, Rabindranath Tagore and Bankim Chandra Chattopad-



hyay. In Kolkata, West Bengal Minister Shashi Panja said Parmar's statement showed that the BJP was trying to demean Bengal's intelligentsia and the people in a bid to subdue the pride and the soul of the eastern state.

Parmar made the controversial remark during an event held in Agar Malwa district on the 150th birth anniversary of tribal icon Birsa Munda.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a British agent. He worked in the country as their 'dalal' and started a vicious cycle of religious conversion," he said.

The minister claimed the British had projected several people as "fake social reformers" and promoted those who encouraged conversions.

"If anyone had the courage to stop this and protect the tribal community, it was Birsa Munda," he said, adding that missionary schools were the only educational institutions during British rule, and education was used as a cover for religious conversion. Parmar said Munda recognised this trend, left missionary education, and fought for his community and against British rule. Hitting out at the BJP, Panja said the women of the country know that the 'Sati' system was

abolished due to Roy's efforts. "If the BJP wants to axe its own foot, it is free to do so; but it cannot insult Bengal," the senior TMC leader said, claiming that the people of the state are watching the "attack on the pride of Bengal." Reacting to

the remarks, Samajwadi Par ty national spokesman Yash Bhartiya alleged the BJP and RSS have been acting as "agents of the British" to date, which makes them find faults with every social reformer. "Earlier, MP Minister Vijay Shah made objectionable remarks against the woman Army officer who briefed the media during Operation Sindoor, but no action was taken against him. The Bhind MLA was seen beating and forcing the Collector to vacate his house, yet no action was taken. This shows the BJP supports all these views," the SP leader alleged. National Students Union of India's (NSUI) national spokesman Viraj Yaday dubbed remarks made by Parmar "shameful and wilful distortion of history".

Following widespread criticism, Parmar, in a video statement, said the remark "came out by mistake".

## Navy to commission indigenous **ASW vessel November 24**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 16: The Indian Navy will commission an indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft next week that is expected to boost its combat prowess.

The first of the Mahe-class anti-submarine warfare vessels will be inducted at a ceremony in Mumbai November 24, the Navy said Sunday.

Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), the vessel Mahe represents the cutting edge of India's 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India) initiative in naval ship design and construction, it said.

"Compact yet powerful, the ship embodies agility, precision and endurance - qualities vital for dominating the littorals," it said. With her blend of firepower, stealth and mobility, the ship is designed to hunt submarines, conduct coastal patrols, and secure India's vital mari-

time approaches, the Navy said. Equipped with torpedoes and anti-submarine rockets, the first of the Mahe-class anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft (ASW SWC) was delivered

to the Navy October 23. The Navy said the commissioning of Mahe will mark the arrival of a "new generation" of indigenous shallow-water

combatants. "With over 80 per cent indigenous content, the Mahe-class showcases India's growing mastery in warship design, construction and integration, the Navy said in a statement.

Named after the historic coastal town of Mahe on the Malabar coast, the ship's crest features an "Urumi" -- the flexible sword of Kalarippayattu, symbolising agility, precision, and lethal grace, it said.

## 'Vaccines, early checks vital against cervical cancer'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Nov 16: On the eve of World Cervical Cancer Elimination Day, medical experts underscored the urgent need for awareness, vaccination, and early screening to prevent cervical cancer, calling it one of the most serious health threats

faced by women in India. Speaking at an awareness event held here Sunday, senior gynaecologist Dr Veena Acharva said the disease continues to claim thousands of lives due to late diagnosis.

"In India, one woman is diagnosed with cervical cancer every eight minutes, and many die simply because the disease is detected too late," she said.

Acharya emphasised that cervical cancer is the only cancer in the world whose cause and prevention are both clearly known. "It is primarily caused by the

Human Papillomavirus (HPV), and we are fortunate that an effective vaccine is available. The HPV vaccine, recommended for boys and girls aged 9 to 14, can prevent nearly 90 per cent of



**November 17 is** recognised as World **Cervical Cancer Elimination Day by** the World Health **Organisation** 

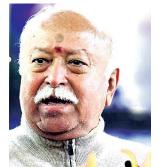
future cases," she added.

Gynaecologist Dr Anshu Patodia highlighted the importance of regular screening. "A pap smear is a simple, safe, and accessible test that can detect pre-cancerous changes well before the disease develops," she said, urging women to undergo routine check-ups.

According to organisers, the awareness campaign will continue throughout the week across several private hospitals in the city. Free consultations and screening camps will also be conducted to help women understand prevention, test ing, and treatment options for cervical cancer. November 17 was recognised

as World Cervical Cancer Elimination Day by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

## national



**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

## 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

Fort November 10, as a "sui-

cide bomber". Also, NIA has

for the first time used the

term "vehicle-borne IED" for

The NIA has forensically

established the identity of

the deceased driver of the

"vehicle-borne IED" as Umar

Un Nabi, a resident of Pul-

wama district of Jammu and

Kashmir and an assistant

professor in the general med-

icine department of Al Falah

The anti-terror agency has

also seized another vehicle

belonging to Umar. The vehi-

cle is being examined for ev-

idence in the case, in which

NIA has so far examined 73 witnesses, including those

Working in close coordi-

nation with Delhi Police,

Jammu and Kashmir Po-

lice, Haryana Police, Uttar

Pradesh Police and various

sister agencies, the NIA is

continuing its investigation

It is pursuing multiple

leads to unearth the larg-

er conspiracy behind the "bombing" and identify oth-

ers involved in the case, the

injured in the blast.

across states.

release said.

University in Faridabad.





The nation 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 I 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

RAINATH SINGH | DEFENCE MINISTER Money is distributed in elections.



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







@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.

## 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 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 of Maharashtra Sunday, police said, adding that three persons were arrested. The incident under the jurisdiction of the Kalmeshwar police station in the evening after a 12-wheeler truck developed a flat tyre.

## NIA nabs aide of suicide bomber

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.

by the Investigations 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.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amaravati, Nov 16: Chief Jus-

tice of India BR Gavai Sunday

affirmed that he is still for ex-

clusion of creamy layer in res-

ervations to Scheduled Castes.

Addressing a programme

"India and the Living Indian

Constitution at 75 Years", Ga-

vai opined that children of an

IAS officer can not be equated

with the offsprings of a poor

agricultural laborer when it

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 wide-

ly criticised on that issue,"

"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

The CJI said over the years,

equality or women empower-

ment is gaining momentum

in the country and the the dis-

Gavai said.

further said.

"I also went further and

comes to reservations



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 'whitecollar' 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

crimination which was meted

out to them was strongly crit-

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 Amar-

avati 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 poli-

cy for identifying the creamy

layer even among the Sched-

uled Castes (SC) and Schedule

Tribes (ST) and deny them the

Constitution is not "static",

Justice Gavai said Dr BR

Ambedkar always considered

that it has to be evolving, or-

ganic, and a state-of-the-art

living document as Article 368

provides for the amendment of

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 re-

quire ratification by half of

the states, and two-third ma-

jority of the parliament, and

it was difficult to achieve an

According to him, DR

Ambedkar's addresses during

the presentation of the draft

Constitution in the Constitu-

ent Assembly are the most im-

portant speeches which every

student of law should read.

amendment in this manner.'

"On one hand Dr Ambedkar

Asserting that the Indian

benefit of reservation.

the Constitution.

he said.

CJI backs exclusion

of creamy layer in

reservation to SCs

icized.

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

killed, several trapped

## Stone quarry collapse: 1

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

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 Yaday, 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

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



fied 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 Sat-

urday 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

of fear, while the AAP government has completely failed to maintain law and order and

security for the citizens,' Jakhar alleged.

Claiming that people are receiving threats and extortion calls every day, Jakhar said, "Anti-social elements no longer fear the government because those running it lack even the basic understanding of governance." Senior police officers, including SSP Bhupinder Singh, reached the spot after the murder was reported Saturday.

Police are scanning CCTV camera footage to ascertain the identities of the killers. who will be arrested soon, the

Ranbir Singh Bhullar, the AAP MLA from Ferozepur City. has assured Naveen's family members of strict action against the accused.

Condemning the murder, Punjab BJP working president Ashwani Sharma said it was neither the first nor an isolat-

## death after '100 sit-ups' punishment at school PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Locals protest student's

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

Palghar, Nov 16: Locals staged a protest over the death of a 12-year-old girl, who was al legedly made to perform 100 situps 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, wit nesses and school employees will be recorded, an official said.

Locals gathered in large numbers at Sativali in Vasai East Saturday night and re fused 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 negli gence and demanded immediate accountability.

When the girl's body was brought to the locality, hundreds of residents gath ered, 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.

Army has a strength of ap-

proximately 50,000 personnel

## 'Military eyes induction of women cadres in Territorial Army'

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, Oc-

tober 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 government 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

comprising 65 Departmental TA units such as Railway, IOC ONGC, and Non-Departmental TA units of Infantry Battal ion (TA) including Home and Hearth 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 Lan ka, Operation Rakshak in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, Operation Rhino and Operation Bajrang in the northeast in the most active manner.

caught fire in Nagpur district occurred at Fetri village

## international



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

### **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



pretence and too little action against these atrocities – a display of naked cruelty used to subjugate

VOLKER TURK I UN HIGH COMMISSIONER I will make sure that

a tragedy (safety lapses at a thermal plant to put an end to such a tragedy. where workplaces become a site

LEE JAE MYUNG | SK PRESIDENT l 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 lawver and former lawmaker who opposes abortion and vows to

### EAM to meet **Lavrov today**

shrink the state.

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

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

threats to China's sovereignty over its islands and reefs, he said Against this background the PLA bomber formation's pa trol could serve as a warning to the provocateurs' warships, Song added.

In recent months, tensions between the Philippines and China escalated with naval and coast guard ships of both countries colliding to assert control of the areas they claim.

China's bomber patrols also came in the backdrop of a sud den spurt of tensions between China and Japan.

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi recently said that any Taiwan emergency involving the use of military force by China could be recognised as a "survival-threatening situation" for Japan under its security legislation, which may allow it to exercise the right of collective self-defence.

Her remarks have stirred up a major diplomatic row between Tokyo and Beijing.

China warned that any Jap anese intervention in Taiwan would be seen as an act of aggression and would be met with strong retaliation.

A commentary by the Chinese military mouthpiece, the PLA Daily, on Sunday warned that Japan risked turning its entire country into a battlefield if it intervened militarily in the Taiwan Strait

In the strongly worded commentary, the official newspaper of the PLA said Takaichi had revealed Tokyo's "wolfish ambi tion to interfere in other countries' internal affairs through military means".

## 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 tech nology, 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 un derstand that this is an inalien able right of Iran and we would never give up our rights." Iran's government issued a three-day visa for the AP reporter to at tend a summit alongside other journalists from major British

outlets and other media. Mohammad Eslami, the head of the Atomic Energy Organisa tion of Iran, also attended the summit and told those gathered there that Tehran had been threatened over potentially accessing the bombed enrich ment sites. Satellite pictures analysed by the AP over the months since the attack show that Iran hasn't done any ma jor work at the sites at Fordo Isfahan and Natanz.

## **SNIPPETS**

## **UN climate body mulls** fossil fuel docu by 2026

Belem (Brazil): As hectic deliberations marked the first week of the annual climate change summit, COP30 President Andre Correa do Lago said the deliberations may come out with a new document on fossil fuel that is likely to present a roadmap for transition into a cleaner mode. However, there is a lack of in-depth data regarding fossil fuel and more information on the subject is needed before coming out with anything concrete, Lago told a press conference late Saturday night here. Although the fossil fuel roadmap is not in the formal agenda of COP30 Climate Summit here, it is being talked about by major parties after Brazil President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva spoke about it in his

## Novorossiysk port resumes oil loadings after Ukrainian attack

Moscow: Russia's Novorossiysk port resumed oil loadings Sunday after a two-day suspension triggered by a Ukrainian missile and drone attack, two industry sources said and LSEG data showed. Novorossiysk temporarily suspended oil exports - equivalent to 2.2 million barrels per day, or 2% of global supply - Friday. Global oil prices rallied by more than 2% on supply fears after the attack. According to LSEG data, two tankers-the Suezmax class Arlan and Aframax class Rodos — are currently loading oil at the port's berths. The Ukrainian attack damaged two oil berths at Novorossiysk. The attack on Novorossiysk, Russia's largest Black Sea export hub, was the most damaging Ukrainian attack to date on Russia's main Black Sea crude export infrastructure.

## Bangladesh tightens security before verdict against Hasina

**Dhaka:** Security agencies are on high alert in Bangladesh ahead of a special tribunal's verdict in a case against deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina over alleged crimes against humanity committed during the anti-government protests last year. "The law enforcement agencies have already completed their necessary preparations" to prevent unpleasant events across the country, Home Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury was quoted as saying by the state-run BSS news agency. Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT-BD) will deliver the verdict against 78-year-old Hasina Monday.

## **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

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



"Reviewed kev aspects of 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.

### **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 (LHCBA) 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 dethroned the Supreme Court as the country's highest judicial forum.

## 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 or ganized 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 equip ment. 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 demo graphic group born between the late 1990s and early 2010s have organised protests against in equality, democratic backslid ing 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 min ister. In Mexico, many young people say they are frustrated with systemic problems like corruption and impunity for violent crimes.

## 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 de-

scribed 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



be perceived as racist, she responded: "I reject that entirely. I am the child of immigrants. My parents came to this coun-

try legally, in the late 60s and

early 70s. This is a moral mis-

"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

er. I don't want to stand back and watch that happen in my

them estranged from one anoth-

"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 vears. A 10-year pathway will also be created for those who arrive in the UK legally under new specific refugee settle ment 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.

## business



We are trying to achieve a big growth, like by 25 per cent this year on exports ITARU OTANI | GROUP CHAIRMAN,

### **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





of being India's largest player, our aspiration is

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 devel opment 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



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

### e-Jagriti hits milestone

New Delhi: The Department of Consumer Affairs Sunday said its unified platform e-Jagriti 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-Jagriti 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



INDIA'S SPEND ON RUSSIAN OIL BUY AT 2.5BN FURO IN OCTOBER

INDIA 2ND-LARGEST BUYER OF RUSSIAN FOSSIL FUELS **BEHIND CHINA** 

**RUSSIAN CRUDE IMPORTS** SFF 11% MONTH-ON-MONTH **INCREASE** 

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 Russian crude in October. the decrease was led chiefly by the EU and UK, which recorded monthly reductions of 9 per cent and 73 per cent. By contrast, Australia's imports in October saw a 140 per cent increase to EUR 93 million, and US imports also recorded a 17 per cent increase to EUR 126.6 million. Both of these are yet to announce a ban on oil products made from Russian crude. CREA said.

When Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, it triggered a series of sanctions from the United States, the European Union, and other Western nations, aimed at crippling Russia's economy. One of the main sanctions was on Russian oil exports, which significantly impacted Russia's ability to sell oil to European markets.

As a result, Russia began offering crude oil at heavily discounted prices in an attempt to find new buyers for its oil. India, with its large energy needs and an economy sensitive to oil price fluctuations, found this offer too attractive to ignore.

The price discount on Russian oil, sometimes as much as \$18-20 per barrel lower than the market price of other oil, allowed India to procure oil at a much cheaper rate. In October, the discount on Russia's Urals crude narrowed by 4 per cent monthon-month, averaging \$4.92 per barrel below Brent.

## Corporate bond issuances up 8%

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 Depos it (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.

## 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



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 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 export pressure triggered by this year's tariff increases

**FOOD ITEMS** 

THAN EU RIVALS

AMONG OTHERS

COFFEE, SPICES AND

TEA AMONG EXEMPT

**PRODUCTS** 

Exports of Indian goods to the US fell nearly 12% year on year in September to \$5.43 bil lion 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 mar ginally strengthen India's position in spices and niche hor ticulture 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% recip rocal 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 Indo nesia 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.

## Central Bank holds agriculture PMI, US-India trade talks to steer D-St 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.

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,



RELIGARE BROKING LTD Geojit In-

vestments Ltd,

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.

Research.

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,

supported by firm domestic macros, healthy earnings and a strong electoral mandate for the ruling NDA in Bihar, which reinforces political stability at

the Centre". Khemka explained that with the earnings season concluding, market attention will shift toward broader domestic themes -- including early signs of a demand pickup from the festive and wedding season, the evolving interest rate trajectory, and prospects of higher capital expenditure through the second half of the fiscal year.

"The reopening of the US gov ernment and improving global risk appetite add to the supportive backdrop. Sectorally, information technology, metals, and capital market-linked names may remain in focus aided by improving earnings visibility, favourable policy signals, and steady domestic liquidity," he added.

## **ADOPTION**

## Businesses shift from experimentation to execution

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 cor-

porate 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

must now move from build-

cesses where humans and Al ing pilots to designing proagents collaborate seamless-

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 opera-

tionalise 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 Jadeia (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.

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 illjudged one-handed pull that

Washington



## 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 unwatered 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-

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

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 frus trated 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 fifer baffled many. South Africa stretched the advantage past 100 thanks to Bavuma's assured effort.

BRIEF SCORES

South Africa: 159 & 153 beat Jansen 2/15, Simon Harmer

## India: 189 and 93/9 in 35 overs (Washington Sundar 31: Marco

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 matchwinner 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.

## **DEAFLYMPICS**

## Dhanush strikes gold, Murtaza's silver shot



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 gold to his name.

During the 2022 Deaflympics in Caxias Do Sul he had won both the individual and mixed team gold. The marksman, com peting in an international com petition 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 sil ver medal in women's 10m air rifle with a score of 250.5. Compatriot Komal Waghmare (228.3) took the bronze, while Ukraine's Lvdkova Violeta bagged the gold with a world record score of 252.4. Sandhu qualified in sec ond place for the eight-shooter final, tallying 623.4, while Waghmare (622.0) was third.

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

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

## **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. Korostvlov had 14 'inner 10s' while Harpreet

### **WORLD BOXING CUP FINALS**

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

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

honoured as Citation recipients

POST NEWS NETWORK

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. Maharai nailed him

soon after, ending India's hopes

as the stadium fell silent again.

than the defeat is that their own

spin blueprint backfired.

What will rankle India more

In the morning session,

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.

player Aahan were also rec-

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

# Swetaparna bags 33rd Ekalabya Puraskar

Priteesmita Bhoi, Aahan

Citation winners weightlifter Priteesmita Bhoi and tennis ognised 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.



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.

Swetaparna marks history for a family to have two Ekalabya Puraskar awardees as the winner of the 29th Ekalabya Puraskar for the year 2021 was her sister, another badminton star, Rutaparna Panda who she sees as her mentor and protector.

The sisters have also recently qualified for the 2025 BWF World Championships in Paris, becom ing the first women's doubles pair from Odisha to achieve this remarkable milestone.

Ekalabya Puraskar, instituted by IMPaCT, managed by IMFA, the leading Ferro Alloys producer in the country, in the year 1993 has come a long way to be recognized as the most prestigious sports award of Odisha drawing parallels with many

national awards.

## 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

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 Kover-



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

## FIDE WORLD CUP



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 control. 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 Alek sey Grebney 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 aggressionit 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 dis ciplined bowling. Their partnership steadied the innings after early jitters and gave the home crowd much to cheer for.

Printed and published by Adyasha Satpathy on behalf of Navajat Printers and Media Pvt. Ltd. and printed at Navajat Printers, B-15 Industrial Estate, Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar -751010, Odisha; Phone: (0674) 2580385 (Advt.), Editor: Tathagata Satpathy, RNI No. ODIENG/2011/37159