



Trouble in paradise

Actor Celina Jaitley files a domestic violence case against her hubby seeking damages, child custody and maintenance

LEISURE | P2



China denies charge

China refutes allegations that an Indian woman from Arunachal Pradesh was harassed at Shanghai airport

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Rupee settles lower

Rupee pares initial gains and settles 6 paise lower at 89.22 against the US dollar, weighed down by negative cues

BUSINESS | P11



India in trouble

Ruthless South Africa post target of 549, ensuring the visitors' first series triumph here in 25 years against India

SPORTS | P12

Tusker tramples woman to death

POST NEWS NETWORK

Talcher, Nov 25: A 61-year-old woman was trampled to death by a wild elephant near Kankili under Talcher block in Angul district Tuesday afternoon while she was grazing goats, Forest department officials said. The victim, identified as Basanti Khatua of Katnali, had accompanied her husband to the nearby forest to graze their goats when a tusker came from nowhere and trampled her to death.

The incident triggered tension in the area, prompting officials of Talcher Forest Division to reach the site. Forest personnel launched efforts to drive the elephant back into the jungle and assured the bereaved family of compensation.

Officials said the same tusker had reportedly fallen into a canal near Sainali earlier in the day and, after struggling to come out, had been wandering in the adjoining forest in an agitated state. Locals alleged that the elephant, distressed after the incident, later attacked the woman. The Forest department announced that ₹1 lakh would be released immediately for the woman's last rites, and the remaining ₹9 lakh would be provided later.



MOMENT TO CHERISH

Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs a puja ahead of hoisting a saffron flag atop Ram Temple in Ayodhya, Tuesday as RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath look on

PTI PHOTO

Say no to corruption, CM tells new recruits

7,293 OFFICIALS APPOINTED TO 12 DEPARTMENTS

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi Tuesday urged the newly appointed 7,293 officials to uphold integrity and honesty in public service. He said this while distributing appointment letters at 12th Recruitment Fair and Training Programme – 2025 at Kalinga Stadium here.

Addressing the new recruits, the CM said, “Stay away from corruption. It is poisonous and can endanger both your career and personal integrity. Every step you take must contribute to the progress of Odisha and the welfare of its people.”

He also said in the past 17 months, a total of 37,325 candidates have been provided government jobs through these recruitment fairs.

Majhi also offered four key pieces of advice to the new recruits - serve the public with compassion and fairness, strive for excellence in every task, continuously expand knowledge and make effective use of time, and maintain honesty and cleanliness in the workplace.



The new recruits include Home department: 1,979 constables and 386 drivers, School & Mass Education: 1,913 graduate teachers and 241 PGTs, Higher Education: seven PETs, 31 laboratory assistants, Fisheries & Animal Resources: 24 Assistant Fisheries Officers and 648 Live-stock Inspectors, Forest & Environment: 1,504 forest guards and 246 foresters.

Other departments include appointments across Information & Public Relations, Mines & Geology, Commerce & Transport, Agriculture & Farmer Empowerment, Labor & Employee State Insurance, Water Resources departments, and the Advocate General's Office.

CCTVs AT POLICE STATIONS

SC: UNION TAKES US VERY LIGHTLY

Although five years have passed since the Supreme Court issued a crucial directive requiring all states, UTs, and the Centre to ensure installation of CCTVs at every police station, governments across the country appear to have paid little heed to the order. In Odisha, at least a dozen police stations were operating without CCTVs as of November 2024. Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Commissionerate Police, however, claimed that all police stations in the twin city are equipped with CCTVs, though veracity of the claim is yet to be independently checked. Bhubaneswar DCP Jagmohan Mee-na said all 24 police stations in the City have functional CCTVs, while admitting that technical glitches occasionally lead to disruptions. Likewise, Cuttack DCP Khilari Rishikesh Dnyandeo asserted that all 23 police stations are under functional CCTV surveillance



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: The Supreme Court Tuesday said custodial violence and death is a “blot” on the system, and the country will not tolerate this. While hearing a suo motu case concerning lack of functional CCTVs in police stations, a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta referred to its order passed in the matter and said 11 deaths were reported in police custody in eight months in Rajasthan.

“Now this country will not tolerate this. This is a blot on the system. You can't have deaths in custody,” the bench said. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said nobody can even justify or attempt to justify custodial deaths.

The bench also questioned the Centre as to why it has not filed compliance affidavit in the matter. “The Union is taking this court very lightly. Why?” Justice Nath asked. Mehta said he was not appearing in the suo motu matter but nobody can take the court lightly.

He said the Centre would file the compliance affidavit within three weeks. In September, the apex court had taken suo motu cognisance of a media report which stated that 11 lives were lost in police custody in Rajasthan in the first eight months of 2025, of which seven incidents occurred in the Udaipur division.

BJD MP Samantaray refuses party post



Bhubaneswar: BJD Rajya Sabha MP Debashish Samantaray has refused to accept the post in the rank of vice president of the party's senior citizen cell, protesting the “bureaucratic style” of posting. In a letter to the BJD president Naveen Patnaik, November 24, Samantaray said, “I fail to understand what “in the rank of vice president” really means.” P3

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Lied for love: Odia girl after returning from US

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: After accusing an American citizen who adopted her of physical and mental torture, a woman Tuesday claimed that she had made false allegations against her US mother simply to return to Odisha and meet her lover.

She claimed that she was in love with a man in Balasore and wanted to return to Odisha.

The woman Puja alias Sejal John, 19, after landing at Biju Patnaik International Airport here, said she had made false allegations of torture and forced conversion in order to facilitate her return to Odisha.

“Whatever I had said in the previous video is false. My adoptive mother had never tortured me nor forced me to convert. I had told lies on my own to return to Odisha. I appeal to the US authorities to release my adoptive mother. She is in great trouble over my allegation,” she told



reporters at the airport.

Puja was brought back to Odisha by the coordinated efforts of the Ministry of External Affairs and the state government. In her appeal, she had also urged Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi to come to her rescue and facilitate her return. “I am tortured a lot here. I want to return to Odisha and find my real parents,” she said in her earlier video post. Puja had also alleged that she was being forced to do too many household chores.

Asked as to why she made such allegations against her adopted mother, who took her on adoption, raised her and gave her a new life, Puja said: “I was in love with a man in Balasore in Odisha and therefore wanted to return to the state. My visa had also expired in 2023. This is the reason why I made false allegations against my adoptive mother.”

Puja was adopted by a woman from America in 2018.

DSPL - 376

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ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

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ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ କାମଧେନୁ ଯୋଜନା

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leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES
One more hectic day! Today you will be busy trying to figure out solutions to your problems, both at home and office. Your superiors give you some leeway and it will be quite a consolation, says Ganesha. Experienced people will give you highly esteemed advice.

TAURUS
This is a great day for showcasing your administrative and organizing abilities, says Ganesha. Go all out and put in all you have, at your workplace or in your business. You can be sure of impressing your colleagues and superiors, partners and competitors and gaining their admiration and support. Just one thing. Do not over do any thing.

GEMINI
You may come up with a precise understanding of others today, says Ganesha. You will please your sweetheart with both your presence and presents. You will browse through dozens of showrooms for that perfect, and expensive, gift for your beloved. You will also work towards achieving your long-term goals. Ganesha wishes you good luck.

CANCER
Today, you and your soul mate will be rolling in the hay; there will be little time or inclination to do anything else. In fact, you will show such single-minded devotion to the act of rolling as if the future of the world lies in the haystack. Your mind can think of nothing more, and nothing less.

LEO
Try and put on some protective gear today – maybe a suit of armour should do fine, says Ganesha. For, you may find some need for it on this day of mixed fortunes as you miss out the expected and come face-to-face with the unexpected.

VIRGO
Surf's up as you enjoy an unexpected achievement! But your joy ride today may well be spent in vexing about the problems you have. Expect to gain new money for a new venture. Your business will rise atop the highest wave today, foretells Ganesha.

LIBRA
Ganesha feels the day will be beneficial for you when it comes to transactions with the government. But you already expect that. It is more than likely that public servants will have encouraging and optimistic achievements lined up for their efforts.

SCORPIO
Ganesha feels that you may be confronted with vital decisions at work. You will need to trust the opinions of your close friends and peers so that you may take informed decisions. Keep your mind away from negative thoughts and delegate responsibilities accordingly.

SAGITTARIUS
It is not your nature to warm the bench, but you will wake up feeling lazy and laid-back today, says Ganesha. This may be due to the fatigue of some recent endeavours. For a change, you will try and delegate your work and responsibility to those around you.

CAPRICORN
People may call you a busy bee, but that you admittedly will be, says Ganesha. Work will demand your undivided attention, but the good thing is you will quickly get done with pending work one by one. In fact, you will be left with plenty of time in the evening which you are likely to spend romancing with your sweetheart. In fact, if you are lucky enough, your affair could take a new turn today as a physical relation is on the cards.

AQUARIUS
Amid all the boring work buzz, you will manage to sustain your sense of humour. And, why not? After all, you are an expert at inducing a laugh riot! You are in a gregarious mood and that explains it. This also makes you a welcome guest at any party you may wish to grace.

PISCES
Today is a day of mixed fortunes. So, while you may not win a gazillion dollars in the daily lottery, you might just end up winning a return air ticket to Timbuktu. No one has really been there, but it is better than nothing. However, the distress of those lost dollars is likely to be eased by the ecstasy awaiting you in the evening.



DISNEY RENEWS KIM'S ALL'S FAIR

Kim Kardashian's legal drama *All's Fair* has been renewed for a second season by Disney, ahead of the finale airing on December 9th internationally. The show also features Naomi Watts, Niecy Nash-Betts, Teyana Taylor, Matthew Noszka, Sarah Paulson and Glenn Close in key roles.

SCARLETT ROPED IN FOR NEW EXORCIST MOVIE

Hollywood star Scarlett Johansson is all set to step into the world of horror with the new *Exorcist* movie for Universal and Blumhouse-Atomic Monster. The upcoming *Exorcist* will be set in the same universe as the 1973 film and isn't a sequel to *Believer*.



Diljit shines at Emmys

Mumbai: The 53rd International Emmy Awards are officially here! This year's global night brings in a lot of glamour with several celebrity attendees, including none other than Diljit Dosanjh. The actor's film, *Amar Singh Chamkila*, has been nominated at the award ceremony for the title of 'TV Movie/Mini-Series', as well as 'Best Performance by an Actor'. As the red carpet rolled out this morning, the famed actor, along with the team of *Amar Singh Chamkila*, graced the event with their presence. All be-dazzled head to toe in elegant fits, with Dosanjh's look earning a lot of cheers from the crowd.

The moment the actor stepped foot on the carpet, the crowd was filled to the brim with cheers, applause and nothing but love for the star, leaving him with a big smile on his face.

The star was seen wearing a light and shiny champagne coat, paired with a cream coloured button-up and an adorable black bowtie. The sequin texture of the coat shone bright on the red carpet as he kept the remaining of his fit classic and opted to wear stylish black pants and shiny black boots as well

The actor also stopped for a quick question with Reuters as well, where, when he was asked how he felt being a part of the Emmys, Dosanjh was proud to share that he is here for his film *Amar Singh Chamkila*.

He shared, and then laughed as well while adding that, "My English is broken, I'm so sorry, I love you guys, thank you so much."

AGEIGNES



Kriti goes unfiltered

Mumbai: Kriti Kharbanda recently turned cover star for *Global Spa*, and along with her photoshoot, the magazine shared a playful rapid-fire session that revealed a refreshingly unfiltered side of the actor.

When asked to pick a quote that defines her, the actress chose the timeless line, "Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future." It's a reflection of her grounded worldview — one that embraces evolution, second chances, and the idea that no one is defined by a single moment.

When asked about the song she's currently hooked on, Kriti revealed it's Pallu Latke from her own film *Shaadi Mein Zaroor Aana*. "That's genuinely one of the songs, that you have a background score that always plays in your head," she admitted. And while she may enjoy listening to her own hit, her karaoke favourite is a Bollywood classic — Saara Zamana Haseeno Ka Deewana, a track she says she loves belting out.

Kriti also described what an ideal day off looks like, and unsurprisingly, it includes her husband, actor Pulkit Samrat. Confessing about their shared rituals, Kriti shared, "I definitely love playing paddle and pickle with him and if we can't do that then we are probably putting together some LEGO set at home".

The rapid fire also revealed her cinephile side. If ever given the opportunity to star in a remake of a classic, Kriti says she would pick Devdas, expressing her desire to be a part of this iconic romance drama if it was 'remade today'.

AGEIGNES

Celina accuses Austrian hubby of domestic violence

Mumbai: Actor Celina Jaitley has reportedly filed a domestic violence case against her husband Peter Haag in Mumbai seeking damages, child custody, and maintenance.

Celina, who married the Austrian entrepreneur and hotelier on September 18, 2010, also alleges that he fraudulently took her property in India and sold their jointly-owned property in Austria.

Celina's counsel Rytim Vohra Ahuja of Karanjawala and Company Advocates, New Delhi, says: "We have filed for virtual and telephonic access to their three children Winston, Viraaj and Arthur, maintenance of Rs 10 lakh per month and damages of Rs 50 crore for the physical-mental trauma caused to her and the losses she suffered."

Ahuja adds, "During this period, Celina lost both her parents and in the same period she lost her child (Samsher), while she was in depression and her husband forcefully took the property via gift deed. We have filed a suit for cancellation of the gift deed."

The Mumbai court has issued notice to Haag, with the next hearing on December 12.

AGEIGNES

Ayesha reacts to online toxicity

Mumbai: Ayesha Khan, who rose to fame after her memorable stint on *Bigg Boss 17*, has once again taken a firm stand against online harassment. The actress called out an Instagram user who sent her an inappropriate and offensive message, leaving her visibly upset, yet determined to respond rather than stay silent.

Ayesha took to her Instagram Stories to share a screenshot of the vulgar DM sent by a user named Snehal Gamit, who wrote, "Let's f*** this beauty." Choosing not to ignore the comment, she addressed the issue directly with a sharp, unapologetic message of her own. "I will be patient and ignore these men in the next life, this life I will mostly give

it back," she wrote. "Just letting the world know, you cannot get away with this, you cannot ruin my Monday like this, you have no right to say whatever you want in my DMs, and go by your day with peace while you mess with mine."

Her bold response resonated with fans who have long admired Ayesha for taking a stand against online abuse. This isn't the first time she has publicly addressed trolling. Over the past year, the actress has repeatedly called out bullying and inappropriate behaviour on social media, emerging as a vocal advocate

for safer digital spaces. AGEIGNES



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.

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

SOLUTIONS

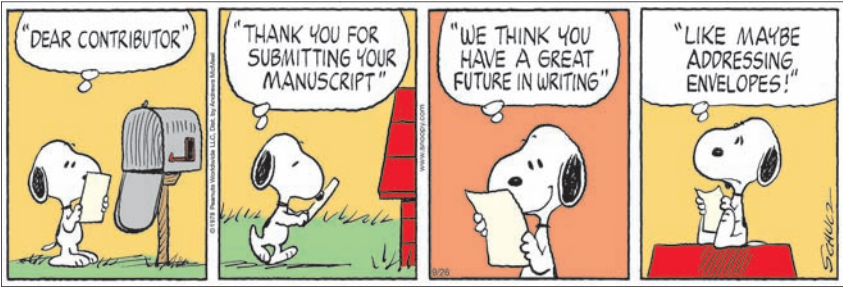
CROSSWORD

L	A	T	E	I	M	M	A	T	U	R	E
A	R	B	A	T	R	R					
N	A	I	V	E	R	A	T	R	A	C	E
O	P	H	I	N	C						
L	E	E	W	A	Y	S	C	R	I	P	T
I	V	R	U								
N	I	L	E	V	O	K	E	M	O	C	L
E	T	N	L								
B	O	X	E	R	S	O	C	T	A	V	E
A	I	O	O	N	A						
S	U	C	C	U	M	B	D	I	V	A	N
I	O	G	I	E	I	S					
C	O	N	V	E	Y	O	R	B	L	U	E

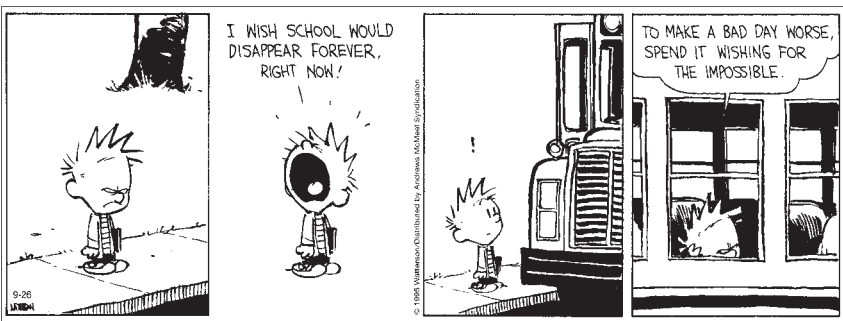
SUDOKU

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

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6
7			8		
9				10	
11	12			13	
			14		
15		16		17	18
				19	
20			21		22
23				24	

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Across

- 7 Libra is part of it
8 Badger
9 Computer accessory
10 Lollygag
11 Sweet liqueur (4,3)
13 Watch part
15 In reserve
17 Oscillate

Down

- 20 Passport endorsement
21 Barbecue need
23 Chest of drawers
24 Light-sensitive membrane
1 Timber wolf
2 Runny nose aid

- 3 Doubter
4 Parasol purpose
5 Panther cat
6 Enjoyable
12 Delectable
14 Competition
16 Wrapped
18 Narrate
19 Pathfinder
22 Family member

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

Guv calls for smart class impact review

Governor Kambhampati says proper documentation will showcase the impact of technology-enabled learning and inspire more organisations to support such initiatives

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati Tuesday urged teachers of ST & SC Development Department schools to document and share measurable improvements in teaching and learning outcomes following the installation of smart interactive panels.

The Governor was interacting with students, teachers and district officials from seven tribal-dominated districts—Malkangiri, Kandhamal, Koraput, Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj, Rayagada and Nabarangpur—through video conferencing from Raj Bhavan. The smart interactive panels have been installed in 46 ST & SC Development Department schools across these districts under the State Bank of India’s CSR initiative.

Kambhampati said such documentation will help highlight the impact of technology-enabled learning and encourage more organisations to extend similar support. He also advised schools to visibly acknowledge donor agencies on installed devices to serve as motivation for others.

During the interactive ses-



sion, students enthusiastically shared how digital classrooms have made learning more engaging and easier to understand. Teachers also reported improved student participation, better visual learning outcomes, and growing interest in subjects such as science and mathematics.

Expressing satisfaction over the response, the Governor said, “Smart classrooms will surely help enhance academic performance, strengthen learning capacity and inspire curiosity among students. Technology can play a transformational role in tribal education.”

He further emphasised the need for targeted efforts to improve literacy levels among

tribal girls in the state.

Kambhampati thanked SBI for its generous support and appreciated the coordinated efforts of the ST & SC Development department and district administrations in ensuring the smooth implementation of the initiative.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary to the ST & SC Development, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare Department B Parameswaran, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to the Governor Roopa Roshan Sahoo, Chief General Manager, SBI, Ratna Teja Dinakara Akella and his team, along with senior officials of Raj Bhavan, were present during the interactive programme.

EPFO holds campaign on new Labour Codes

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: Officials of the Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office Bhubaneswar, Tuesday conducted an extensive awareness campaign on the implementation of the four Labour Codes across major industrial estates in and around Cuttack and Bhubaneswar.



As part of the initiative, five teams visited 18 industrial establishments throughout the day, briefing workers, union representatives and management officials on enhanced social security measures, simplified compliance procedures and the wider labour-welfare benefits envisaged under the new framework.

Employers and employees welcomed the outreach, noting that the interaction helped clarify several queries related to the new provisions. EPFO officials assured continued support to facilitate smooth and timely compliance with the Labour Codes in the interest of both industry and the workforce.

CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I, Kshetra Mohan Senapati, S/o.- Late Gopinath Senapati, Resident of Vill./P.O./ P.S.- Chandanpur, Dist.- Puri declare by this affidavit No.- 23, dated- 16.05.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as Khetra Mohan Senapati for all future purposes.

I, PITTA HEMALATA REDDY, W/o.- PITTA LAKSHMI NARAYANA REDDY, Resident of Village/Post- PITATALI, P.S.- GOLANTHARA, Dist.- GANJAM, PIN- 761010, ODISHA declare by this Affidavit No.- A/5959, Dated- 24.11.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as PITTA HEMAVATI REDDY for all future purposes.

No rain in Odisha for next 7 days: IMD

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Tuesday said Odisha is unlikely to receive rain in the next seven days even though two weather systems are developing over the Bay of Bengal (BoB), one of which may intensify beyond a depression.

Director of the Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar, Manorama Mohanty said the two systems will have hardly any effect on the state in the coming week. “Dry spell will continue though some places may experi-

Cuttack Stewart School's annual prize ceremony

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, Nov 25: The 143rd Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony of Stewart School, Cuttack was held Tuesday in two sessions at the school auditorium, bringing together dignitaries, alumni, parents, and students to celebrate academic excellence.



The morning session opened with a prayer and welcome song, followed by the felicitation of chief guest Bhagyalakshmi Nayak, noted gynaecologist and oncologist. She was joined by Rt. Rev SK Nanda and Diocese Secretary Samarendra Pramanik, with coordinator Shilpa Sahu delivering the formal welcome.

In the evening, Justice Durga Prasanna Choudhury graced the occasion as chief guest, with Orissa High Court senior advocate Subir Palit as guest of honour and Rev. FC North, CEO, DBE, CNI, in attendance. Principal D Martina presented the annual report for 2024–25 in both sessions. Students who excelled in the 2025 ISC and ICSE examinations were felicitated with awards for subject toppers and 100 per cent achievers. A vibrant cultural programme by students added colour to the event.

IMD’s statement has brought a big relief to farmers across coastal and southern districts, which had already started harvesting paddy though the crop was not fully matured

ence cloudy sky. No rain warning for Odisha till December 1,” she told reporters.

Mohanty’s statement has brought a big relief to farmers across coastal and southern districts, which had already started harvesting paddy though the crop was not fully matured.

The IMD in its evening bul-

letin said the well-marked low pressure area over Malaysia and adjoining Strait of Malacca moved westnorthwestwards and intensified into a depression Tuesday morning. The system is very likely to move slowly west northwestwards and intensify further during the next 48 hours.

Similarly, another low pres-

sure area has been formed over Comorin and adjoining areas of southwest BoB and Sri Lanka. It is very likely to move north-northwestwards and become well marked low pressure area during next 24 hours and intensify into a depression.

Mohanty, however, said these two systems were far away from the Odisha coast and unlikely to have any impact on the state for next seven days. However weather scientists are keeping a close watch on both the systems and keeping track of its movement.

2-DAY TRIBAL HEALERS’ MEET KICKS OFF

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: The two-day State-level Tribal Healers’ Meet 2025 was inaugurated Tuesday at the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRTI) here.

The event saw participation from several eminent guests, including B. Parameswaran, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST, SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare Department; Prof. A.B. Ota, former SCSTRTI Director and tribal expert; Vedpriya Arya, Head of the Research Division at Patanjali Research Institute; Sudhakar Sabaro, Director, SCSTRTI; and Santosh Kumar Rath, Deputy Director, along with other dignitaries.

Addressing the gathering, Parameswaran emphasised the need to preserve tribal knowledge systems and traditional healing practices. He highlighted the importance of integrating scientific and modern approaches with indigenous Ayurvedic medicine to enhance its reach and relevance.

Prof. Ota underscored the importance of collective efforts in safeguarding tribal healing traditions. He stressed the need to validate traditional healing practices and called for stronger institutional collaboration through SCSTRTI.



Arya highlighted the rich heritage of Ayurveda and stressed the urgent need for proper documentation of traditional Ayurvedic knowledge.

In his welcome address, Sabaro emphasised the preservation of traditional medicinal practices and underscored the importance of creating platforms for tribal healers to share and demonstrate their knowledge.

The event includes technical sessions and panel discussions featuring experts in anthropology, botany, Ayurveda and public health, along with live demonstrations of traditional healing therapies.

A special exhibition on native medicinal plants has also been organised, where tribal healers are sharing their per-

sonal experiences and traditional practices.

Experts from Utkal University, the State Medicinal Plant Board, the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Patanjali Research Institute, the Institute of Life Sciences, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, AYUSH and AIIMS are participating in the event. Tribal healers from various districts across Odisha have also joined the meet.

A total of 35 tribal healers from communities including Soura, Gond, Lanjia Soura, Bathudi, Bhuyan, Paraja, Bhadra, Bonda, Santhal, Kandha, Kisan, Munda, Oraon, Bhumija and Kandha Gouda are attending. Additionally, around 120 participants are taking part in the programme.

ACC performs state’s 1st TAMIS

RESHMI YADAV, OP

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: Apollo Cancer Centre (ACC), Bhubaneswar has achieved a major medical milestone by successfully performing Odisha’s first Transanal Minimally Invasive Surgery (TAMIS) for rectal tumour removal. The pioneering, scarless procedure—led by Consultant Surgical Oncologist Manindra Nayak—marks a significant advancement in colorectal cancer care in the state.

The patient, 52-year-old Sitaram Gauda, had earlier been advised more invasive surgical options at other hospitals.



At ACC, a multidisciplinary tumour board assessed his eligibility based on tumour size (2 cm x 2 cm), early-stage characteristics, and location—approximately 5.5 cm from the anal verge. The surgery lasted just 20 minutes, and the patient was discharged on the fourth day, ensuring faster recovery with

minimal pain.

Advanced technologies such as the GelPoint transanal port and laparoscopic harmonic device enabled high-precision excision. The tumour was removed with clear margins, and the defect was closed using 3-0 PDS sutures to ensure optimal healing. Expressing gratitude

Govt, Oil India push to fast-track CBG projects



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 25: A high-level delegation from Oil India Ltd, led by CMD Ranjit Rath, CGM Santanu Kumar Saikia, OGEL Rajeev Kumar Tamuli and other officials, met Housing & Urban Development department Principal Secretary Usha Padhee here at Kharavela Bhawan Tuesday. They discussed the progress of six Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plants currently being developed across Odisha.

The meeting discussed project timelines, readiness for commissioning, and integration with municipal waste systems to ensure a steady feedstock supply. Both sides emphasised the importance of converting urban waste into

green energy as part of Odisha’s broader clean-energy and circular-economy vision.

Padhee underlined the government’s focus on advancing sustainable waste-to-energy models that reduce landfill burden and generate local economic value. The delegation expressed confidence in meeting upcoming milestones and reaffirmed its commitment to working closely with the Department.

The meeting concluded with an agreement to fast-track coordination between Oil India and urban local bodies to ensure the CBG plants are commissioned in a time-bound manner and contribute meaningfully to the state’s green-growth agenda. Additional Secretary Binaya Kumar Dash was also present during the discussion.

Dhodrokusum: Odisha’s new eco-tourism gem



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar/Sambalpur, Nov 25: Odisha has stepped into a new frontier of sustainable tourism with the launch of Dhodrokusum Homestay at the foothills of Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, overlooking the tranquil Hirakud Wetlands. Inaugurated November 25, it is the state’s first homestay facility managed by the Forest department in partnership with local forest-dependent communities. The initiative aims to generate livelihoods while promoting forest and wildlife conservation, offering visitors an immersive experience of nature, culture and local traditions.

The homestay initiative comprises five uniquely designed rooms spread across three local households—Laxmi Homestay (2 rooms), Rebati Homestay (1 room) and Sujata Homestay (2

rooms). Each unit is built using natural materials such as clay, mud, cow dung and husk, blending rustic charm with modern comforts including attached bathrooms, electricity backup and outdoor fireplaces. Guests can enjoy Sambalpur-inspired décor and handcrafted elements made by local artisans, ensuring an authentic cultural experience.

Behind these homestays are inspiring stories of resilience. Laxmi Guru, a widow, opened

her homestay to support her daughter’s education. Rebati Bhue, who cares for her ailing husband and two daughters, has created a sustainable source of income through her single room. Sujata Bhoi converted part of her home—once a small shop—into a warm, welcoming space for travellers. All three families have undergone hospitality training and serve authentic local cuisine, enriching the overall guest experience.

Visitors can explore Debrigarh Sanctuary and the Hirakud Wetlands while enjoying activities such as safaris, birding trails, trekking, cycling and guided visits to nearby sites. Rural life here is calm and immersive, offering sunrise and sunset viewpoints, grassland walks and conversations with villagers who share wildlife encounters and local folklore.



Safety is well ensured, as many villagers work closely with the sanctuary in roles such as mahouts and members of enforcement squads.

The revenue-sharing model is structured to benefit both the homestay families and the wider community: 35 per cent goes to the homestay owners, 25 per cent to recurring expenses, 10 per cent to village development, 10 per cent to infrastructure, and 20 per cent to a corpus fund for training and capacity-building. The project was supported by ₹16 lakh from the Ecotourism Development Committee (EDC) revenue, which was used to rebuild rooms, strengthen waste management systems and upgrade essential amenities.

According to Anshu Pragyan Das, DFO of Hirakud Wildlife Division, Dhodrokusum Homestay is a model that “combines wildlife conservation with local culture, highlighting Odisha’s rich heritage while driving sustainable livelihoods.” With the Supreme Court of India encouraging eco-friendly homestays in wildlife zones, Dhodrokusum is poised to serve as a template for responsible tourism—connecting travellers with nature while supporting forest-dependent communities.

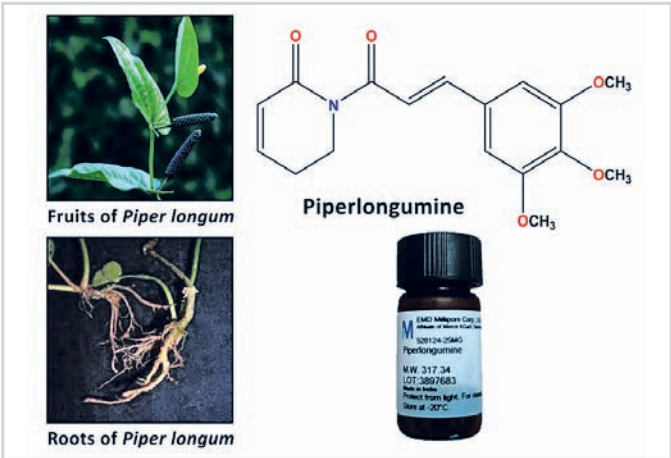
MARKET WATCH					
CURRENCY		BOURSES		COMMODITIES	
INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION
DOLLAR	89.21 ▲ 0.06	SENSEX	84587.01 ▼ 313.70	GOLD	₹124,893 ▲ ₹1039
EURO	102.98 ▲ 0.04	NIFTY	25884.80 ▼ 74.70	SILVER	₹155,736 ▲ ₹1254

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
Max Temp	28.6°	26.8°	Fog/mist in the morning and partly cloudy sky later
Min Temp	16.6°	19.0°	
Humidity	79%	84%	
Rainfall	Nil	Nil	

Long pepper compound may aid in treatment of colon cancer: NIT-R

The findings, published in the prestigious journal BioFactors, showed that Piperlongumine selectively kills colon cancer cells while leaving healthy cells unharmed



to chemotherapy.

It is because conventional treatments such as chemotherapy are painful and have long-lasting side effects, including hair loss, fatigue, nerve damage, and weakened immunity.

In addition, the cancerous cells tend to develop resistance to chemotherapy agents, making the treatment difficult.

The findings, published in the prestigious journal *Bio-Factors*, showed that Piperlongumine selectively kills colon cancer cells while leaving healthy cells unharmed.

The research paper has been co-authored by Prof Bijesh Kumar Biswal, Associate Professor, Department of Life

Science, NIT Rourkela, along with his research scholars, Rajeev Kumar Sahoo, Stuti Biswal, Sambit Kumar Patra, and Shikshya Swarupa Panda, in collaboration with Dr Surya Kant Tripathi from University of North Carolina, USA and Krishnendu Barik and Dr Anil Kumar from Central University of South Bihar.

“This natural compound from long pepper has shown strong anticancer effects with minimal side effects, making it a promising and safer alternative therapy. Over time, many cancer patients stop responding to chemotherapy, meaning the treatment no longer works, which can increase the risk of death,” said Prof Biswal.

A cluster of villages under Kotia panchayat along the Odisha-Andhra border has long been a flashpoint for administrative disputes between the states. According to officials, two employees from Andhra Pradesh's agriculture department entered Harmandangi, Phatusineri and Dholiamba villages, going door to door to

The Pottangi block administration intervened after receiving information about the intrusion. Block Development Officer Ramakrishna Nayak, Tehsildar Debendra Bahadur Singh Dharua, Kotia panchayat Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE), Ajay Ram Tarai, Panchayat Extension Officer (PEO) Kanda Golari, Assistant Project Officer Soumendra Nayak, Tehsil Supervisor Gupta Prasad Tripathy and other officials confronted the Andhra employ-

Odisha officials said they have consistently blocked these attempts, but the interventions have had little impact on Andhra's government employees and officers, who continue to intrude into the state's territory.

While various international cancer research studies have examined natural molecules for activity towards a variety of cancers, the team at NIT Rourkela conducted a set of laboratory experiments to demonstrate the activity of Piperlongumine -- a natural compound -- as an alternative

The research paper has been co-authored by Prof Bijesh Kumar Biswal, Associate Professor, Department of Life

12-hr Daringbadi bandh over disputed land row



Daringbadi, Nov 25: A 12-hour shutdown was observed in Daringbadi Tuesday after tensions flared between two groups over a disputed plot of land where a Durga Puja committee had planned to hold a yajna and Amrit Milan event.

To prevent deterioration of law and order, the Kandhamal district administration convened a peace committee meeting chaired by Additional District Magistrate Ramesh Chandra Jena. Senior police and administrative officials, including Baliguda SDPO Shubham Bhosale, former SDPO Ramendra Prasad, Phulbani

Authorities reached the site and urged both sides to maintain peace. Following the committee meeting, the traders' association confirmed that shops would reopen from Wednesday.

Balasore: A newborn boy was rescued Tuesday after being found abandoned along a road in Bishwanathpur village under Balaipal block of Balasore district, police said. Residents discovered the infant crying near the home of Guhlin Majhi, close to the Langaleswar forest office. The child appeared to have been wrapped in cloth shortly after birth and abandoned, according to witnesses. Majhi's family members immediately took the baby to the Basta community health centre and later to the Balasore district headquarters hospital, where he is receiving medical care.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender No. ELS-ANGL-OT-25-26-08
Name of Work/ REPAIRING OF DRIVER
SEAT ASSEMBLIES OF 3-PHASE AND
CONVENTIONAL LOCOMOTIVES OF
ELECTRIC LOCO SHED,ANGUL.
Advised Value ₹ 25,52,034.40, EMD:
₹ 51,100, Period of Completion: 24 Months.
Bidding start date: 28.11.2025, Tender closing
date & time: at 1500 hrs. of 12.12.2025.
 Manual offers are not allowed against this
 tender and any such manual offer received shall
 be ignored.
 Complete details & tender documents will be
 available at website www.irops.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TR),
Pr-832/OT-25-26 Anapal

EAST COAST RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. ST-SBPB-TENDER-2025-
Di. No. 2025/01/0001
Name of the Work/ PROVISION of M.L.B.D,
AGD, SLDs, GPS CLOK AT AMRIT
STATIONS OVER SAMBALPUR DIVISION
Tender Value ₹ 7,63,15,055.52, Bid Security
₹ 5,31,600/-
Tender closing date & time at 1100 hrs. of
09.12.2025
 No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.
 Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website www.irps.gov.in
Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to receive the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender.

35 injured as bus falls off bridge in Binika

BINIKA: At least 35 passengers were injured, 14 of them critically, Tuesday morning after a private bus fell off Liakhai bridge near Singhjuba on Binika-S Rampur road in Subarnapur district. The injured passengers were taken to Binika community health centre (CHC). Five critically injured victims were later shifted to VIMSAR, Burla, according to reports. Police said the driver and the helper fled after the crash. Passengers reported that dense morning fog and the driver allegedly falling asleep may have caused the bus to lose control. Subarnapur Superintendent of Police Narayan Nayak said the exact cause will be ascertained after the completion of the investigation. The bus (OD 31K 9099) was travelling from Bhubaneswar to Deeptipur in Bargarh district when it veered off the bridge. The sound of the crash and passengers' screams alerted locals, who rushed to the spot and informed the ambulance service, Fire Services personnel and police. Firefighter and villagers rescued the trapped passengers and sent them to Binika CHC. Twenty-one people with minor injuries were discharged after first aid, while 14 remain under treatment. Subarnapur Collector Nrupraja Sahu and senior officials visited the hospital to review their health condition.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA No. O-1567

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

RURAL WORKS DIVISION-II, DHENKANAL, KAMAKHYANAGAR

E-Mail: rw.kamakhyanagar@yahoo.co.in

e-Procurement Notice No. 20/ Road Work / 2025-26

1. Name of the Work	: Road Work
2. Total No. of Works	: 44 (Forty Four) Nos.
3. Tender Cost	: Rs.5.08 to 33.90 Lakhs
4. Class of Contractor	: D, C & B equivalent
5. Period of Completion	: 2 to 3 Calendar Months
6. Availability of Tender Online for Bidding	: 25.11.2025 at 11.00 A.M. to 02.12.2025 upto 5.00 P.M.
7. Last date & time of seeking tender clarification	: 01.12.2025 upto 4.00 P.M.
8. Date & time of opening of Bid	: 03.12.2025 at 11.00 A.M.

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

Sd./- Superintending Engineer
Rural Works Division-II, Dkl
Kamakhyanagar

OIPR-

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION, BALLIGUDA

E-Mail: rw_balliguda@yahoo.com

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

No. O-1421

Bid Identification No. Online Tender / 11-2025-26/BLG

Identification No.	Name of Work	No. of Works	Approx. Estimated Cost (in Lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
Online Tender / 11-2025-26/BLG	Building Works	04 Nos.	Rs.63.04 Lakhs to Rs.78.01 Lakhs	"B" Class	09 (Nine) Calendar Months as provided

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender Online for Bidding
Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Balliguda	Online Tender / 11-2025-26/BLG	From 25.11.2025 at 10.00 A.M. To 02.12.2025 upto 5.30 P.M.

(i) EMD/Bid Security, Cost of Bid document is to be transferred through Online as per the procedure mentioned in the DTCN.

(ii) Non-submission of the information/documents through online by the bidder as per the items mentioned in the eligible criteria of the DTCN will also liable for rejection of his tender.

Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in.

OIPR-

Sd./- Executive Engineer, R.W. Division, Balliguda



ବିଜ୍ଞାପିତ ଅଞ୍ଚଳ ପରିଷଦ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ପୁରୁଷୋତ୍ତମପୁର (ଗଞ୍ଜାମ) ପିନ୍-୭୬୧୦୧୮

ଇ-ମେଲ: eo-nacpurushottampur@gov.in/purushottampurnac@gmail.com

ଫୋନ୍ ନଂ-୦୬୮୧-୨୯୫୪୨୨



ପତ୍ରସଂଖ୍ୟା-୨୦୩୧

ତାରିଖ: ୨୫.୧୧.୨୦୨୫

ନିଳାମ ନୋଟିସ

ଏହୋଫା ଉର୍ବସାଧାରଣଙ୍କ ଅବଗତ ନିମନ୍ତେ ଜଣାଇ ଦିଆଯାଉଅଛି ଯେ, ପୁରୁଷୋତ୍ତମପୁର ବିଜ୍ଞାପିତ ଅଞ୍ଚଳ ପରିଷଦ ଅଧୀନରେ ବୈଦିକ ବର୍ଗର ଏବଂ ପାର୍ସି ନିଳାମ ପାଇଁ ଏକ ବର୍ଷ (କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାଳ ପତ୍ର ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିବା ଦିନରୁ) ଅବଧି ପାଇଁ ଲେଖାଯାଇ ପାରୁଥିବା ଟା.୨୫.୧୧.୨୦୨୫ ରିଜ୍ଡ ଠାରୁ ଟା.୧୨.୧୦୨୫ ରିଜ୍ଡ ଯାଏଁ ପରିଷଦ ରିଜ୍ଡ ଉ.୦୫.୦୦.୦୦, ଟୁବା କୋରିଡର/ବିଏ ପୋଷ/ବୈଦିକ ପୋଷ ଯୋଗେ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯିବ । ଏହାପରେ ଯେଉଁମାନେ ସ୍ୱୟଂ ଚେଷ୍ଟର ଫର୍ମ ଜମା କରିବାକୁ ଇଚ୍ଛା କରନ୍ତି, ସେମାନଙ୍କ ଶ୍ରାବୀ ଦିଆଯାଉଥିବା ଫର୍ମ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାଳର ଷ୍ଟେଟ ବାଡ଼ି ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯିବ । ପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ଚେଷ୍ଟର ଫର୍ମ ଦ୍ୱିତୀକ ଟା.୦୧.୧୨.୨୦୨୫ ରିଜ୍ଡ ଯାଏଁ ପରିଷଦ ରିଜ୍ଡ ଉ.୧୧.୦୦.୦୦ ଟି. ଏମାନ ସବୁ ଚେଷ୍ଟରଯାକାର କପିପ୍ରତିରେ ଖୋଲାଯିବ । ନିଳାମ ନୋଟିସ ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧୀୟ ସମସ୍ତ ସୂଚନା ପରିଷଦର ୱେବସାଇଟ <https://nacpurushottampur.in/> ଉପେକ୍ଷାକରି ଅଛି । ଲଢ଼ୁକ ବାଦିମାନେ ଲଢ଼ୁ ଗ୍ରହଣକରି ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଆବେଦନ ଫର୍ମ, ନୋଟିସ, ସର୍ଭି ଓ ନିୟମାବଳୀ ହାସଲ କରି ନିଳାମରେ ଭାଗ ନେଇପାରିବେ ।

ନିଳାମ/ଚେଷ୍ଟର ବିବରଣୀ

କ୍ର. ନଂ.	ନିଳାମ/ଚେଷ୍ଟର ହେବାକୁ ଥିବା ପରିସର ସମ୍ପର୍କିତ ନାମ	ସମସ୍ତ ଅବଧି	ପରିସର ବାହାର ଧାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ମୂଲ୍ୟ	ବରକ୍ଷାସ୍ଥ ଫର୍ମର କ୍ରୟ ମୂଲ୍ୟ	ଅନାମତ ବାବଦ ୧୦% ଜମା ଅର୍ଥର ପରିମାଣ
୧	୨	୩	୪	୫	୬
୧	ବୈଦିକ ବହାର ଏବଂ ପାର୍ସି ଫି	୧ ବର୍ଷ	ଠା.୭୦,୦୦୦/-	୨,୦୦୦/-	ଠା.୭୦୦୦/-

ବି.ପ୍ର:- ନିଳାମର ନିର୍ଦ୍ଧାରିତ ସର୍ବାବକାଳ ଚେଷ୍ଟର ଫର୍ମ ବ୍ରାହ୍ମ ସାମନ୍ତେ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯିବ ।

ସ୍ୱ./-କାର୍ଯ୍ୟନିର୍ବାହୀ ଅଧିକାରୀ, ବିଜ୍ଞାପିତ ଅଞ୍ଚଳ ପରିଷଦ, ପୁରୁଷୋତ୍ତମପୁର

“

The whole world yearns after freedom, yet each creature is in love with his chains; this is the first paradox and inextricable knot of our nature.”

SRI AUROBINDO



Food For Thought

Nearly 50 experts from different countries have sounded the alarm bell for global consumption of ultra processed food (UPF) which they claim is causing great risk to human health. According to them, these serious ailments include type-2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, kidney disease, depression and premature death. Basing their findings on over 100 long-term studies, these scientists have contended in their writing in The Lancet that there could not be any substitute to fresh and minimally processed foods and meals. Meanwhile there is growing concern about the increasing consumption of UPF which seems to be reshaping diets worldwide. These dietary predilections are being shaped by powerful global corporations who are minting money by prioritising ultra-processed products, backed by extensive marketing and political lobbying to stop effective public health policies to support healthy eating.

The review acknowledges a lack of clinical trials showing exactly how UPFs damage health - but says that should not delay action. UPF is linked to harm in every major organ system of the human body and poses a seismic threat to global health, according to the world's largest review. Action is needed now to reduce UPF in diets worldwide because of their threat to health, these experts say. Traditional food habits that rely on fresh, whole foods are being jettisoned in favour of cheap, junk foods which are increasing the risk of a range of chronic diseases, including obesity and depression.

The researchers writing in one of the world's most prestigious and authentic science journals say that governments need "to step up" and introduce warnings and higher taxes on UPF products, to help fund access to more nutritious foods.

UPFs are said to contain more than five ingredients that are not usually found at home in the kitchen cupboard, such as emulsifiers, preservatives, additives, dyes and sweeteners. Examples of such foods include sausages, crisps, pastries, biscuits, instant soups, fizzy drinks, ice creams and supermarket bread. Surveys indicate these industrially-manufactured foods are on the rise in diets around the world, worsening the quality of what we eat with too much sugar and unhealthy fats and a lack of fibre and protein. The UK's Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition has chipped in to curb the menace and said the association between higher consumption of UPFs and adverse health outcomes was "concerning." However, there was a rider that it was "unclear" whether these foods are unhealthy due to processing or because many of them are high in calories, saturated fat, salt and free sugars. The current UK government advice on diet is to eat more fruit, vegetables and fibre, and cut back on sugar, fat and salt. According to one estimate, in the UK and the US more than half the average diet now consists of UPFs. For some, especially people who are younger, poorer or from disadvantaged areas, a diet comprising as much as 80 per cent of UPFs is typical.

The sharp rise in UPFs intake worldwide is being spurred by profit-driven corporations using a range of aggressive tactics to drive consumption, skewer scientific debate and prevent regulation, the review of evidence suggests.

The experts' findings underline the need for taking urgent action before the situation spins out of control. Current evidence strongly suggests that humans are not biologically adapted to consume them - a great food for thought indeed.

WISDOM CORNER

“

Through pride we are ever deceiving ourselves. But deep down below the surface of the average conscience a still, small voice says to us, something is out of tune.

CARL JUNG

“

Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved.

HELEN KELLER

“

Every human has four endowments - self awareness, conscience, independent will and creative imagination. These give us the ultimate human freedom... The power to choose, to respond, to change.

STEPHEN COVEY

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1924:** After the defeat of the White Russians and the Chinese, the Mongolian People's Republic was proclaimed.
- **1942:** Casablanca premiered this day in 1942. Set in occupied Morocco during World War II, directed by Michael Curtiz, and starring Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, and Paul Henreid, it became one of Hollywood's most-revered films.
- **1948:** The first Polaroid Model 95 camera is sold in a Boston department store. Named the Polaroid Land camera after Polaroid inventor and founder Edwin H. Land, the camera "instantly" delivered a finished sepia-toned print 60 seconds after exposure.
- **1965:** France launches Astérix. The launch of the satellite from Hammaguir, Algeria made France the 6th country in the world after the US, the USSR, the UK, Canada, and Italy to have an artificial satellite in orbit. The satellite is named after the Asterix the popular comic character created by French writer René Goscinny.
- **1966:** World's first tidal power station opens in France. The Rance Tidal Power Station on the Rance River in Brittany, France was inaugurated by French president Charles de Gaulle. Today, it is one of the largest tidal power stations in the world.
- **2008:** Ten gunmen associated with Lashkar-e-Taiba, a Pakistan-based Islamist group, launched a series of coordinated terrorist attacks in Mumbai. The attacks ended three days later, with 166 people killed and about 300 injured.

LOL

Prisoner with skills

Several years ago, Andy was sentenced to prison. During his stay, he got along well with the guards and all his fellow inmates. The warden saw that deep down, Andy was a good person and made arrangements for Andy to learn a trade while doing his time. After three years, Andy was recognized as one of the best carpenters in the local area. Often he would be given a weekend pass to do odd jobs for the citizens of the community.... and

he always reported back to prison before Sunday night was over. The warden was thinking of remodeling his kitchen and in fact had done much of the work himself. But he lacked the skills to build a set of kitchen cupboards and a large counter top which he had promised his wife. So he called Andy into his office and asked him to complete the job for him. But, alas, Andy refused. He told the warden, "Gosh, I'd really like to help you but counter fitting is what got me into prison in the first place".



IN JEST THIS

Benefits of unplugging ourselves occasionally



Melvin Durai

FEW HUMANS WOULD WANT TO HAVE AN ACTUAL PLUG, BUT MANY WOULD PROBABLY BE OKAY WITH A RESET BUTTON

While driving the other day, I spotted a bumper sticker that said, "Has anyone tried unplugging the country and plugging it back in?" If only it were possible to do that. Many people around the world would want to unplug their countries and get them to function well again. The area around each plug would be heavily guarded, with a barbed wire fence around it. Only those with security clearance would be permitted to enter the immediate vicinity of the plug. Others would buy tickets to view the plug from a distance, using binoculars to get a closer look. Husband (using binoculars): "Wow, it's bigger than I thought. And there are letters on the side of it." Wife: "What does it say?" Husband: "It says, 'Made in China.'"

The idea of "unplugging" a country is amusing to me because "unplugging" is one

of the first things I do when an electronic device gives me trouble. In the case of my laptop computer, I don't need to unplug it—I just restart it, which prompts it to do a whole lot of updating before allowing me to see if it has fixed itself. In the case of my printer, I pull the plug out of the socket and replug it right away. And just like that, it starts printing something I tried to print three years ago.

Unplugging also works with my digital clock radio, microwave, wifi router, and TV. Why does this work? Well, by cutting off a device's power, you are saying to the device, "Guess who has the ultimate power? You'd better do what I want you to do, or I will unplug you permanently." You are basically threatening to stop feeding the device.

This is similar to what a parent says to a misbehaving child: "Off to bed! No supper for you!"

If you ask the experts, how-

ever, they will tell you that unplugging a device works because many devices have tiny computers with built-in software. When you unplug them, you are causing the "internal computer to reboot, which clears out the device's memory and forces it to reload and re-execute the software from scratch," according to technology writer Benj Edwards, author of an online article titled "Why does unplugging a device fix so many problems?"

Edwards contends that unplugging a device is only a temporary solution. "It doesn't fix the underlying problem that caused the malfunction, hang, or crash in the first place," he writes.

Unplugging a device just once is temporary; unplugging as a regular habit is permanent. I'd rather unplug my printer once a week than take it to a repair shop.

If unplugging a device helps it function better, does

unplugging have the same benefit to a human? Humans unplug in many ways. Some people unplug themselves from their phones, computers and television sets. Some people unplug themselves from their relatives. Some people unplug themselves from civilization.

This isn't the same kind of unplugging, of course. Few humans would want to have an actual plug, but many would probably be okay with a reset button. A reset button would clear a person's memory, allowing them to feel like a new person. Some people would choose a "hard reset," restoring themselves to factory settings. Others would choose a "soft reset," clearing just their recent history.

If we did have a reset button, we wouldn't want anyone else to have access to it. Otherwise many of us would be crawling around and sucking our thumbs—like we just left the factory.

L

etters

TO THE EDITOR

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



OrissaPOST

B-15, Rasulgarih Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

Judicial challenges

Sir, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant takes charge at a time when the country's courts are facing many serious problems that need clear, practical leadership. The biggest challenge is the huge number of pending cases, which delays justice and frustrates ordinary people. Along with this, there are many vacancies in High Courts, and the process of appointing judges is often criticised for lacking transparency. Important constitutional issues—such as Centre-State disputes, questions about the limits of government power, and cases involving citizens' rights—also need careful and fair decisions. Also, Surya Kant steps in when the judiciary is shifting toward more technology. While digital courts and virtual hearings can make the system faster, they must be introduced without leaving behind people who lack access to technology or face connectivity issues. At the same time, the Court must stay above political noise, media pressure, and social-media trends that can mislead the public. His success will depend on restoring trust, improving efficiency, and strengthening the fairness of the justice system.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Handsome He-Man

Sir, He came, he saw, he conquered not only the silver screen but the hearts of many generations. Though the evergreen superstar, the He-Man, the Garm Dharm of Indian cinema has left for his heavenly abode Dharmendra has left behind hundreds of marvellous movies, golden moments and an inspiring life to cherish. His timeless charm and striking good looks won him millions of admirers across generations around the world. An actor who could do any type of role - romantic, comedy or action - he was versatile to the core. No wonder that his characters Ashok (Anupama), Satyapriya (Satyakam), Baldev (Apne), Ranjith (Ghulami), Prof Parimal (Chupke chupke) and the iconic Veeru (Sholay) never fade from our hearts. Dharmendra's movies unlike others always left a sense of joy, love, bravery and honesty for the viewers to cherish and fondly remember. Superstars come and go but this handsome man with the cheerful smile and golden heart shall remain as the lodestar of generations old and young.

M Pradyu, KANNUR

	<u>TENDER NOTICE</u> No.CAD-246 Tender for Selection of an agency for Managing the Social Media, i.e., Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, X (Formerly Twitter) etc. of various activities under "Odisha Right to Public Services"
Centre for Modernizing Government Initiative (CMGI) invites open tenders from eligible agencies for Managing the Social Media, i.e., Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, X (Formerly Twitter) etc. of various activities under "Odisha Right to Public Services".	
CMGI reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.	
The tender documents can be downloaded from CMGI website (www.cmgi.org.in)	
The last date of receipt of the tender in the following address is 19.12.2025 at 3.00 PM. Eligible printing agencies are requested to submit their tender in properly closed envelopes in the following address.	
Executive Director, Centre for Modernizing Government Initiative (CMGI), 1st Floor, A-2, Toshali Bhawan, Satya Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007	
OIPR-	By Order of Executive Director, CMGI Sd/- Procurement Officer, CMGI

I don't want to speak publicly on this. I believe in my conscience. We should work with our conscience. I don't want to cause embarrassment to the party in any way and weaken it. If the party is there, we are there. If karyakartas are there, we are there

D K SHIVAKUMAR | K'TAKA DY CM

Look at the workers of Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena. They are mounting pressure on people. It is my responsibility to raise a voice against it

I went around the city today. The Congress government started work on the medical university, built district hospitals and constructed a satellite hospital, but today work has come to a halt everywhere

SHORT TAKES

EC calls 4-member TMC delegation for meeting

New Delhi: The Election Commission (EC) has called Trinamool Congress (TMC) leaders for a meeting Friday, after the party sought time with the poll panel amid the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in 12 states and Union territories, including West Bengal. In a letter to West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee, the EC said Monday that a delegation comprising an authorised representative of the party and four others can meet its top brass at 11 am Friday.

Bihar Assembly session starts Dec 1

Patna: The inaugural session of the 18th Bihar assembly would commence December 1, when all the newly elected members will be administered oath of office, an official notification said Tuesday. The members will be sworn-in by Narendra Narayan Yadav, a senior JD(U) leader who was appointed the pro-tem Speaker by Governor Arif Mohammad Khan, a day ago. On the second day of the five-day session, the House will elect its new Speaker, the notification stated.

Six killed in collision between tempo, truck

Sheikhpura: Six people, including a minor, died and eight others were injured after a speeding truck collided head-on with a tempo in Bihar's Sheikhpura district Tuesday, police said. The accident took place around 1 pm near Maniyanda More when the truck hit the tempo, which was carrying 14 people, they said. Four of the injured are in critical condition, a police officer said.

28 Naxals surrender

Narayanpur (Chhattisgarh): Twenty-eight Naxalites, 22 of them collectively carrying a reward of Rs 89 lakh on their heads, surrendered in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur district Tuesday, officials said. The cadres, including 19 women, turned themselves in before senior police officials here citing they were impressed by the 'Niyad Nellanar' (your good village) scheme of the state government, new surrender and rehabilitation policy and Poona Margham (rehabilitation for social reintegration), Inspector General of Police (IGP), Bastar Range Sundarraj Pattilingam said.



In the defence ecosystem, we have to grow in a bigger, bolder, faster mode

RAJNATH SINGH | DEFENCE MINISTER

DELHI'S AIR QUALITY REMAINS 'VERY POOR'

Delhi's air quality remained grim Tuesday, staying in the very poor category for the 12th straight day with the city's overall AQI settling at 353 and the capital recording its lowest maximum temperature of the season so far



You can't fight & defeat me, Mamata warns BJP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bongaon(WB), Nov 25: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Tuesday accused the BJP-led Centre of attempting "political sabotage" after she was forced to cancel her helicopter ride to Bongaon, even as officials said the designated aircraft could not fly due to expired licence and insurance lapses. Banerjee, who eventually travelled by road to the Matua heartland amid panic over the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, said she was informed at 10 am that the hired helicopter "would not fly", barely two hours before her scheduled landing at 12.30 pm. "I apologise for being late. I have not used helicopter for seven or eight months. But this morning at around 10 am, just before leaving home, I was informed that the chopper cannot fly. Elections are yet to begin, but confrontation has started," she told a massive gathering in North 24 Parganas district without naming anyone. Sharpening her attack on the BJP, the TMC supremo said, "Don't play games with me. When I play my game, you will have no clue. You won't be able to fight and defeat me politically. I cannot be cornered." Banerjee, who later travelled by car, said the road journey turned into an impromptu public outreach. "On the way, I met so many people. What better way to reach out?" she said, turning the disruption into a campaign pitch. The BJP dismissed the chief minister's allegations of sabotage. "The charges are laughable," state BJP president Samik Bhattacharya said. "If authorities decided the heli-



copter cannot fly, there must be valid reasons. She must stop politicising everything," he said. Meanwhile, senior bureaucrats described the incident as a serious procedural lapse. Officials said the helicopter, unused by the chief minister for nearly six months, completed its mandated trial flight Monday, but its expired licence and lapsed insurance were not detected during checks. "The licence expiry should have been flagged immediately. Allowing the trial flight without verifying documents

is unacceptable. The lapse in the licence, however, was not reported during the check. The issue came to light early Tuesday," the official said. Sources said that the chief minister was visibly displeased. "This kind of negligence cannot be tolerated, especially in matters involving VVIP movement. She (CM) has asked for a full explanation," the official at the Chief Minister's Office said. An inquiry has been initiated to determine how the oversight occurred and why it was not communicated in advance.

CM warns of voter delisting under CAA in Bengal's Matua belt

Bongaon: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Tuesday flayed the EC over the SIR of electoral rolls, claiming that voters in the state's Matua-majority areas would be "immediately delisted" if declared foreigners under the CAA, and urged people not to resort to extreme steps under fear of the exercise. Addressing a rally here before a three-km march to Thakurnagar, Banerjee also vowed to "shake" the BJP's foundation across the country if she was challenged in Bengal. The chief minister said "human lives are too precious", and appealed to people "not to die by suicide under the fear of SIR".

Zubeen's death 'plain and simple murder': Himanta



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Nov 26: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said in the Assembly Tuesday that singer Zubeen Garg's death while swimming in the sea in Singapore is a case of "plain and simple murder". The CM also claimed that one person killed Garg and the others helped him, while stating that four-five people will be booked in the murder case. The special investigation team (SIT), which is probing into the circumstances of Garg's death, has added murder charges to the case. The SIT has so far arrested seven people in connection with the singer's death. "One of the accused killed

Garg and others helped that person. Four to five people are being booked in the murder case," Sarma claimed. "After the chargesheet in the murder case is submitted in December, the investigators will look into angles of negligence, criminal breach of trust and other aspects," he said. "The story begins before COVID days, eight years ago. Inquiry will be expanded so that not a single person who had ever betrayed Zubeen is spared," the Chief Minister said, without elaborating. Sarma, who is also the state's home minister, claimed that the SIT will file a "watertight chargesheet, and the motive behind the crime will shock the people of the state", hinting that the whole case is related to money. Sarma was replying to a discussion under an adjournment motion, moved by the Opposition on the singer's death, on the first day of the five-day Winter Session.



Artistes perform the 'Gomira' mask dance as part of World Heritage Week 2025 celebrations, at Victoria Memorial, in Kolkata, West Bengal

PM hoists saffron flag at Ram Temple

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



Ayodhya (UP), Nov 25: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday hoisted the saffron Dharma Dhvaj atop the Ram temple in Ayodhya, marking its formal completion, and said the "wounds and pain of centuries" were healing as a 500-year-old resolve had finally been fulfilled. The Prime Minister, who performed the flag hoisting in the presence of RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, also used the occasion to outline the roadmap for a developed India by 2047 and said the country must break free from the British-era legacy of "slave mentality". Modi's historic fifth visit to Ayodhya as the Prime Minister was marked by a road show to the temple during which a large number of people stood along the route to welcome him with showers of flower petals as "Ram Dhun" wafted from public speaker systems. The event, which took place during the auspicious 'abhijeet muhurat' and coincided with Vivah Panchami (the festival that celebrates Lord Ram's wedding), transformed Ayodhya into a vast but highly secured cultural arena, with hundreds of artistes from across the state presenting folk, classical and devotional performances. Calling the moment "unique" and "divine", the prime minister said the sacred flag -- adorned with the Sun symbol, 'Om' and the Kovidara tree -- would stand as a testimony to the triumph of truth over falsehood. "Today, the entire nation and the world are immersed in Ram. Centuries-old wounds are healing, centuries-long pain is finding closure, as the resolve that burned for 500 years finally reached fulfilment," said Modi, who had laid the founda-

tion stone for the complex on August 5, 2020, in the presence of Bhagwat. The construction started following the Supreme Court's unanimous November 9, 2019, verdict and the subsequent formation of the Shri Ram Jannabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, whose formation was announced by the Centre February 5, 2020. The Pran Pratishtha (consecration) of the idol took place January 22, 2022, and the Ram Darbar was opened to devotees June 14, 2025. The third-term PM urged citizens to "awaken the Ram within" as India works towards becoming a developed nation by 2047. Modi also said that colonial-era distortions led to the belief that India borrowed democracy from abroad. RSS chief Bhagwat said those who sacrificed their lives for the Ram temple "must be at peace today". Explaining the symbolism of the saffron flag, Bhagwat said it represents dharma and the values needed to guide the world. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath termed the ceremony "the beginning of a new era" and said the temple embodied the "faith, honour and self-pride" of 140 crore Indians.

Assam govt tables Bill to ban polygamy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Nov 25: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma Tuesday tabled a Bill in the Assembly to ban polygamy, making it an offence with up to seven years of imprisonment for first offence. It proposes to keep Scheduled Tribe (ST) members and areas under the Sixth Schedule out of the purview of the Bill. With permission from Speaker Biswajit Daimary, Sarma, who also holds the Home and Political departments, introduced 'The Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025'. It was introduced in the absence of Opposition Congress, CPI(M) and Rajpor Dal MLAs, who staged a walkout after a discussion on the death of singer Zubeen Garg. As per 'Statements of objects and reasons' of the Bill, it aims to prohibit and eliminate practices of polygamy and polygamous marriage in the state.

'Mountains could warm 50% faster than global average'

Globally, compared to lowlands, mountains were estimated to experience an enhanced warming of 0.21 degrees Celsius per century during 1980-2020, an enhanced drying of 11.5 millimetres per century and accelerated melting of snow of 25.6 millimetres per century, findings published in the journal Nature Reviews Earth and Environment show

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: Warming at high elevations in mountains, including the Himalayas, could be about 50 per cent faster than the global average since 1950, which can have potentially devastating consequences for over a billion people depending on the regions, according to a study. Globally, compared to lowlands, mountains were estimat-

ed to experience an enhanced warming of 0.21 degrees Celsius per century during 1980-2020, an enhanced drying of 11.5 millimetres per century and accelerated melting of snow of 25.6 millimetres per century, findings published in the journal Nature Reviews Earth and Environment show. An international team of researchers, led by those from the UK's University of Portsmouth,



looked at 'elevation-dependent climate change' — a phenomenon where environmental changes can accelerate at higher altitudes. Factors driving it include surface albedo (radiation reflected by a surface compared to what falls on it),

specific humidity and aerosol levels in the air. "Mountains share many characteristics with Arctic regions and are experiencing similarly rapid changes," lead researcher Nick Pepin from the University of Portsmouth's In-

stitute of the Earth and Environment said. "This is because both environments are losing snow and ice rapidly and are seeing profound changes in ecosystems. What's less well known is that as you go higher into the mountains, the rate of climate change can become even more intense," Pepin said. However, it is not as simple as the highest mountains being the most sensitive to elevation-dependent climate change, "because although on average climate change is accelerating at higher elevations, there is lots of regional variation," the lead researcher said in an email, responding to PTI's question about which mountain range might be the most vulnerable. "In lots of cases, loss of snow

is an important driving factor so it is those intermediate elevations where the snow has receded (imagine the snowline is going up) that are changing most quickly," he said. Aerosols released from lowland areas — for example, in India and China — which can make their way up onto the snow and ice and cause accelerated melt and loss, is another important factor influencing climate change in mountain regions, he added. The team, which also included researchers from India's Uttaranchal and Jawaharlal Nehru universities, analysed data from global datasets and reviewed evidence from case studies from mountain ranges such as the Alps, Tibetan Plateau and High-Mountains Asia.

of the day

quote

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

is trying to bring BJP voters from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and get their names enrolled in Assam's voter list before the next Assembly elections to save his chair

GAURAV GOGOI | ASSAM CONGRESS PRESIDENT

Those involved in extortion, firing and similar crimes have no place in a civilised society

MUKESH AGNIHOTRI | HIMACHAL DEPUTY CM

The plantation initiative was a tribute to the Guru's message of protecting nature and maintaining ecological balance

BHAGWANT SINGH MANN | PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER

X

POST OF THE DAY

"Later" is a lie we tell ourselves. - 78% of people regret not acting sooner (Harvard Study).

"Later" becomes "never" more often than we admit. - Time doesn't wait—your dreams shouldn't either. - You don't have time. You have choices. - Every delay costs you compound joy. The coffee gets cold. So does life.

@WealthHatch_

SHORT TAKES

Shraddha Kapoor's brother quizzed

Mumbai: Hindi film industry actor-director Siddhanth Kapoor was Tuesday questioned for nearly five hours by the Mumbai police in connection with a drug seizure case, officials said. Siddhanth, son of veteran actor Shakti Kapoor and brother of actor Shraddha Kapoor, arrived at the Anti-Narcotics Cell (ANC)'s Ghatkopar unit in suburban Mumbai earlier in the day for recording his statement, they said. The actor-director's questioning lasted for nearly five hours after which he was allowed to go, the officials said without providing further details.

DA case: Lokayukta raids 10 govt officers

Bangalore: Lokayukta sleuths Tuesday carried out simultaneous raids on 10 government officials in connection with a disproportionate assets case, unearthing unaccounted wealth to the tune of ₹35.32 crore. According to Lokayukta officials, the coordinated raids started early in the morning across various locations linked to the accused officers. The searches were conducted at the premises of Puttaswamy C, Chief Accounts Officer, Town Municipality in Mandya, Prem Singh, Chief Engineer of Upper Krishna Project in Bidar, Ramaswamy C, Revenue Inspector of Hootgalli Municipality, Mysore, Shekhappa, Executive Engineer, Office of the Project Director, Haveri, among others.

SC raps UP govt

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday came down on the Uttar Pradesh government for retaining the "colonial-era mindset" in governing cooperative societies and similar bodies where the spouses of bureaucrats like district magistrates are made ex-officio office-bearers.

The Gita's message remains universally relevant even today, offering spiritual guidance and solutions to humanity's challenges

NARENDRA MODI | PRIME MINISTER

SEVEN, INCLUDING TWO SUB-INSPECTORS, HELD FOR ROBBING JEWELLERY ARTISAN

Police Tuesday said they have arrested seven people, including two police sub-inspectors for allegedly threatening a jewellery artisan and robbing him of gold. The two arrested officers were identified as Malappa Chippalakatte and Praveen Kumar

Sidda seeks end to confusion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bangalore/New Delhi, Nov 25: As the leadership tussle in the Congress government in Karnataka refuses to die down, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah Tuesday put the onus on the party high command to put a "full stop to the confusion" even as his deputy D K Shivakumar said cryptically there is a "secret deal between 5-6 of us" in the party on the issue of sharing power.

AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge for his part said the issue of leadership change in Karnataka is not something to be discussed publicly.

The power tussle within the ruling party has intensified in the recent weeks amid speculation about a CM change in the state after the Congress government reached the half-way mark of its five-year term November 20 in the backdrop of an alleged "power-sharing" agreement involving Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar in 2023

A day after asserting that the high command's decision on the matter is binding on all, including himself and Shivakumar, Siddaramaiah urged the party's top leadership to put an end to the "confusion." Responding to a question about legislators backing Shivakumar travelling to Delhi, Siddaramaiah said, "Let them go. MLAs have freedom. Let's see what opinion they give. Ultimately, the high command has to make the decision. We will abide by what the high command says."

K'TAKA LEADERSHIP CHANGE

Asked about a section of legislators appealing to the high command to put the matter to rest, he said, "Whatever they (legislators) want to say, let them say to the high command. Ultimately, to put a full stop to this confusion, the high command has to take the decision."

Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress chief, said he doesn't want to speak on the matter in public as there was a "secret deal" between "5-6 of us" in the party and that he believes in his conscience. "I don't know. I have not asked to make me the CM. It is a secret deal between five and six of us. I don't want to speak publicly on this. I believe in my conscience. We should work with our conscience. I don't want to cause embarrassment to the party in any way and weaken it. If the party is there, we are there. If karyakartas are there, we are there," Shivakumar said in response to a question about whether him

becoming the CM would be finally settled.

Speaking to reporters in his home constituency Kanakapura, he said, "The CM has spoken. He is a senior leader. He is an asset for the party. He has completed 7.5 years as CM (including the 2013-2018 term)."

On Siddaramaiah stating he will be presenting the next budget too, the deputy CM said: "I'm very happy. He had served as opposition leader in the past. He has also worked and built the party. We should all work together with the target of 2028 (assembly polls) and target 2029 (Lok Sabha election)."

Asked whether there was a power sharing agreement after the Assembly polls in 2023, Shivakumar said, "Why should I speak about it? You (media) have written things."

In New Delhi, Kharge was asked by reporters in Delhi about his possible meeting with Congress leader Rahul

Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress chief, said he doesn't want to speak on the matter in public as there was a "secret deal" between "5-6 of us" in the party and that he believes in his conscience

Gandhi to resolve the leadership crisis.

Before his departure to the national capital from Bengaluru, Kharge was accompanied by Shivakumar to the city airport in his car. This came even as the KPCC chief did not meet the party president while Kharge was in Bengaluru over the weekend.

Siddaramaiah Saturday held over an hour-long meeting with Kharge at his residence in Bengaluru. While Siddaramaiah is pushing for a reshuffle of his Cabinet, Shivakumar wants the party to first decide on leadership change, party sources said.

Siddaramaiah's key advisor Basavaraja Rayareddy, meanwhile, asserted that the CM will complete his five-year term, saying replacing him "was not easy", and that any discussion on leadership change must only take place at the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting.

Volcanic ash plumes impact flight services; Air India cancels flights

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: Flight operations were impacted Tuesday, with at least seven international flight cancellations and nearly a dozen overseas services getting delayed due to the ash plumes from the volcanic eruption in Ethiopia.

Air India cancelled 13 flights since Monday as seven of its aircraft that had flown through regions affected by the volcanic ash plumes were subject to precautionary checks. These planes were cleared for operations Tuesday, according to a source.

Ash clouds from the recent eruption of the Hayli Gubbi volcano in Ethiopia impacted flight operations and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Tuesday said the ash plumes are drifting towards China and will move away from India.

An official said seven international flights, including arrivals and departures, were cancelled and 12 international flights were delayed at the Delhi airport due to the impact of the volcanic ash plumes. The Indira Gandhi International Airport in the national capital is the country's largest airport, handling over 1,500 flight movements daily. In the afternoon, the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) said there was no cause for concern at the moment and that the situation is being monitored closely.

"Following the 23 Nov volcanic eruption in Ethiopia and the eastward movement of the ash cloud, MoCA -- along with ATC, IMD, airlines and international aviation agencies -- is ensuring seamless coordination."

"AAI has issued the necessary NOTAM and all affected flights have been kept informed. Operations across India remain smooth, with only a few flights rerouted or descended as a precaution," the ministry said in a post on X. AAI refers to the Airports Authority of India and NOTAM is Notice to Airmen.

On Tuesday, Air India said it has cancelled 13 flights since Monday and was carrying out precautionary checks on those planes that had flown over locations that had ash plumes due to the volcanic activity in Ethiopia. Air India said it has cancelled four flights Tuesday -- AI 2822 (Chennai-Mumbai), AI 2466 (Hyderabad-Delhi), AI 2444 / 2445 (Mumbai-Hyderabad-Mumbai) and AI 2471/2472 (Mumbai-Kolkata-Mumbai).

On Monday, it had cancelled seven international flights, including AI 106 (Newark-Delhi), AI 102 (New York (JFK)-Delhi) and AI 2204 (Dubai-Hyderabad) and AI 2290 (Doha-Mumbai).

Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General of Meteorology at the IMD, said the impact was limited to higher skies.

Police personnel take part in an anti-riot drill, in Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka

PTI PHOTO

'India, Russia-led EAEU to start talks for trade pact from today'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: India and the Russia-led EAEU group will start formal negotiations for a trade agreement from Wednesday, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said Tuesday.

India and the five-nation grouping, the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), August 20, inked the terms of reference for the agreement. "The FTA talks

start from tomorrow here," Goyal told reporters here.

The Terms of Reference signed August 20, 2025, outline an 18-month work plan aimed at diversifying markets for Indian businesses, including MSMEs, farmers and fishermen. Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan are the five member countries of EAEU. The development is important as India is looking to diversify its export markets due to high

SC rejects Christian Army officer's plea against his dismissal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: Describing the act as the "grossest kind of indiscipline", the Supreme Court Tuesday dismissed a former Christian officer's plea challenging his termination from the armed forces, after he allegedly refused to participate in regimental religious activities at the sanctum sanctorum of a temple at a place of his posting.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi refused to interfere with a Delhi High Court decision that had upheld the Army's action, saying Samuel Kamalesan's conduct was incompatible with military discipline.

"What kind of message has he been sending? He should have been thrown out for this only. This is the grossest kind of indiscipline by an Army official," the CJI said.

"Leaders have to lead by example. You are insulting your troops," the bench said, adding, "When a pastor counselled you, you leave it at that. You cannot have your private understanding of what your religion permits. That too in uniform."

Appearing in the court for Kamalesan, senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan said his client was dismissed

from service for a single act of refusal to enter the innermost sanctum of a temple at the place of his posting, saying it violated his Christian faith. He maintained that the officer had otherwise participated respectfully in all multi-faith spaces and regimental events.

"Is this sort of cantankerous conduct permissible in a disciplined force?" the CJI asked, adding as to how a troop leader would refuse to accompany his soldiers into a place they considered sacred.

The bench also noted that the regiment also maintained a gurdwara, given the presence of Sikh soldiers.

"A gurdwara is one of the most secular places.... The manner in which he is behaving, is he not insulting other religions?" the CJI asked. The senior lawyer said the appellant's fundamental right to practise a religion under Article 25 of the Constitution cannot be taken away just because he has donned the uniform.

57 Maha local poll results depend on quota verdict: SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: The Supreme Court Tuesday observed that the final results of elections in Maharashtra for 57 local bodies, where 50 per cent ceiling on quota has been breached, will depend on its judgement in the case.

The observations were made by a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi while deferring to November 28 the hearing on the issue of reservation in local body elections.

The Maharashtra government, represented by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, sought time to consult the state election commission (SEC) regarding compliance with the 50 per cent ceiling on quotas.

Earlier on November 19, the bench had asked the state government to consider deferring the process of nomination for local body elections till the issue of grant of 27 per cent reservation for the Other Backward Class (OBC) is adjudicated upon by it.

On Tuesday, the bench was informed by senior advocate Balbir Singh, appearing for the SEC, that elections to 242 municipal councils and 42 nagar panchayats, a total of 288 bodies, have already been notified for December 2.

ONE IN FOUR INDIAN ADULTS OBESE: REPORT

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: Nearly one in four Indian adults is now obese, a study inaugurated by the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change in Delhi Tuesday claimed, adding that India is at a turning point as obesity-driven diseases rise sharply across both urban and rural areas.

The report says national data already shows how serious the problem has become. Quoting the National Family Health Survey 2019-21, the study says that in Delhi, 41 per cent of women are obese compared to 12 per cent in Meghalaya. Further, 22.8 per cent of children aged 6 to 16 in Delhi are obese compared to 13.6 per cent in Maharashtra.

The paper titled 'Building on success to secure India's future health' said that 24 per cent of women and 23 per cent of men in India have either overweight or obesity, almost five times higher than 30 years ago. Rates are much higher in cities and vary widely across states.

The report adds that this pattern is part of a wider global trend. Worldwide healthcare spending has doubled in the last two decades but people are spending fewer of their added years in good health. Health systems built mainly to treat illness are now under pressure from rising demand and shrinking resources.

Global obesity rates have doubled since 1990 and now affect almost one billion people. If trends continue, more than half

of all adults worldwide could be overweight or obese by 2050, it added.

The report warns that obesity is already increasing India's

disease burden and placing pressure on the economy.

Obesity costs India about USD 2.4 billion every year in healthcare spending and

The report says national data already shows how serious the problem has become

Quoting the National Family Health Survey 2019-21, the study says that in Delhi, 41 per cent of women are obese compared to 12 per cent in Meghalaya

Further, 22.8 per cent of children aged 6 to 16 in Delhi are obese compared to 13.6 per cent in Maharashtra

reduces the country's economic output by roughly USD 28.9 billion, close to one per cent of GDP, it said.

Initiatives such as Eat Right India and the Fit India Movement are helping improve

diets and physical activity. A "sin tax" on sugary drinks introduced this year and work on national obesity guidelines show further action on prevention, it said.

At the roundtable held in the national capital, experts stressed the need to make preventive health a central part of India's growth strategy, the statement added.

Vivek Agarwal, Country Director at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, said India is well placed to lead in prevention.

"By combining technology, data and community-driven action, India can not only reduce the growing burden of obesity but also build a stronger, more resilient health system for future generations," he said.

of the day

quote

Operation Eastern Sentry requires reinforcement. Eight countries have declared their forces, this must be accelerated. This is also a conclusion if this violation is confirmed today



DENYS SHMYHAL | DEFENSE MINISTER, UKRAINE

We must once again emphasise that the Republic of China, Taiwan, is a fully sovereign and independent country



CHO JUNG-TA | PREMIER, TAIWAN

China and the United States once fought side by side against fascism and militarism, and should now work together to safeguard the outcomes of World War Two



XI JINPING | PRESIDENT, CHINA

SHORT TAKES

4 more arrested in Louvre jewel heist

Paris: The Paris prosecutor announced four more arrests Tuesday in connection with the stunning heist at the Louvre Museum in October by a gang that made off with \$102 million worth of jewels. The two men and two women in custody are from the Paris region and range in age from 31 to 40, said the prosecutor, Laure Beccuau, whose office is heading the investigation. Her statement didn't say what role they're suspected of having played in the Oct 19 theft. The loot hasn't been recovered.

Nepal election: 68 parties registered

Kathmandu: The CPN-UML led by ousted prime minister KP Sharma Oli Tuesday registered itself with the Election Commission (EC) to contest the March 5 general election, even as it continues to oppose the polls and demand reinstatement of the dissolved parliament. CPN-UML Central Election Department chief Niraj Acharya, accompanied by senior leaders, visited the EC headquarters to file the party's registration application, sources said.

China launches rescue mission

Beijing: China launched the Shenzhou 22 spacecraft Tuesday to help bring back a team of astronauts after a damaged spacecraft left them temporarily stranded on China's space station. The Shenzhou 22 will be used sometime in 2026 by the three astronauts who docked on the Tiangong space station Nov. 1. Earlier this month, another group of Chinese astronauts from the Shenzhou 20 mission faced a nine-day delay in their return to Earth after their craft's window was damaged. They eventually returned using the Shenzhou 21 spacecraft, which had just carried the replacement crew to Tiangong. While the three-person crew landed safely on Earth, three of their fellow astronauts on the replacement crew were temporarily left without a guaranteed way to return in case of an emergency

Brazil court slams ex-Prez Bolsonaro

Brasilia: Brazil's Supreme Court Monday upheld former president Jair Bolsonaro's incarceration after he admitted to trying to break his ankle monitor while under house arrest. A justice saw the action as an attempt to escape and avoid a 27-year prison sentence for leading a coup attempt. Bolsonaro, 70, was arrested and kept in a cell at the country's federal police headquarters in the capital, Brasilia, early Saturday.



What was put on the table gives us an idea of what would be acceptable to the Russians. Does that mean that it is what must be accepted by the Ukrainians and the Europeans? The answer is no

EMMANUEL MACRON | PRESIDENT, FRANCE

FRANCE SENDS PANDAS HOME

A couple of star giant pandas who lived in France for 13 years and gave birth to three cubs were on their way back to China Tuesday, the Beauval Zoo said. Huan Huan, the female, and her partner Yuan Zi, both 17, are travelling on a 12-hour flight from Paris' Charles-de-Gaulle airport in big white boxes with windows, holes for breathing and the inscription "Bon voyage"



INDIAN WOMAN'S ORDEAL AT SHANGHAI AIRPORT

China rejects harasssment claim

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT WAS IMPARTIAL AND NON-ABUSIVE, THE LAWFUL RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF THE PERSON CONCERNED WERE FULLY PROTECTED, AND NO COMPULSORY MEASURES WERE TAKEN ON HER, AND THERE WAS NO SO-CALLED 'DETAINING' OR 'HARASSING,' SAYS MAO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Beijing, Nov 25: China Tuesday refuted allegations that an Indian woman from Arunachal Pradesh was harassed at Shanghai airport, saying the actions taken by the Chinese immigration officials were as per laws and regulations.

Pema Wangjom Thongdok, a UK-based Indian citizen who was travelling from London to Japan November 21, claimed that her three-hour scheduled layover turned into a traumatising ordeal after immigration personnel declared her passport "invalid" solely because it listed Arunachal Pradesh as her birthplace.

Asked for her response to the ordeal Thongdok was subjected to, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning claimed that the woman was not subjected to any compulsory measures, detention or harassment as alleged by her.

"On the individual case you mentioned, according to what we've learned, during the entire time, China's border inspection authorities carried out check procedures in accordance with laws and regulations," Mao said.

The law enforcement was impartial and non-abusive, the



On the individual case you mentioned, according to what we've learned, during the entire time, China's border inspection authorities carried out check procedures in accordance with laws and regulations

MAO NING | FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESPERSON, CHINA

lawful rights and interests of the person concerned were fully protected, and no compulsory measures were taken on her, and there was no so-called "detaining" or "harassing," Mao said. "The airline provided her with resting facilities and meals," she said, denying Thongdok's charges. She also defended the action taken against Thongdok,

saying, "Let me point out that having border checks on people entering and exiting a country and carrying out law enforcement according to the specific situation of the entry or exit is the usual practice of border enforcement authorities of countries across the world".

About India's demarche protesting the treatment meted out to Thongdok and New Delhi's firm assertion that Arunachal Pradesh is very much part of India, Mao reiterated China's claims over the area, which it calls Zangnan or South Tibet.

"Zangnan is China's territory, and China does not recognise the so-called Arunachal Pradesh illegally established by India," she said.



In this photo released by the Afar Government Communication Bureau, people watch ash billow from an eruption of the long-dormant Hayli Gubbi Volcano in Ethiopia's Afar region

PTI PHOTO

Ukraine backs ‘essence’ of peace deal with Russia

REUTERS

Washington/Kyiv, Nov 25: Ukraine Tuesday signalled support for the framework of a peace deal with Russia but stressed that sensitive issues needed to be fixed at a meeting between President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and US President Donald Trump.

Kyiv's message hinted that an intense diplomatic push by the Trump administration could be yielding some fruit but any optimism could be short-lived, especially as Rus-

sia stressed it would not let any deal stray too far from its own objectives.

US and Ukrainian negotiators held talks on the latest US-backed peace plan in Geneva Sunday. US Army Secretary Dan Driscoll then met Monday and Tuesday with Russian officials in Abu Dhabi, a spokesperson for Driscoll said.

US and Ukrainian officials have been trying to narrow the gaps between them over the plan to end Europe's deadliest and most devastating conflict since World War Two,

with Ukraine wary of being strong-armed into accepting a deal largely on the Kremlin's terms, including territorial concessions.

"Ukraine - after Geneva - supports the framework's essence, and some of the most sensitive issues remain as points for the discussion between presidents," a Ukrainian official said.

Zelenskiy could visit the United States in the next few days to finalise a deal with Trump, Kyiv's national security chief Rustem Umerov said, though no such trip was con-

firmed from the US side. **MACRON WARNS AGAINST EUROPEAN CAPITULATION**

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said an amended peace plan must reflect the "spirit and letter" of an understanding reached between Putin and Trump at their Alaska summit.

"If the spirit and letter of Anchorage is erased in terms of the key understandings we have established then, of course, it will be a fundamentally different situation (for Russia)," Lavrov warned.

A group of countries supporting Ukraine, which is known as the coalition of the willing and includes Britain and France, was also set to hold a virtual meeting Tuesday.

"It's an initiative that goes in the right direction: peace. However, there are aspects of that plan that deserve to be discussed, negotiated, improved," French President Emmanuel Macron told RTL radio regarding the US-proposed plan. "We want peace, but we don't want a peace that would be a capitulation."

condition. The Man of Steel was the first superhero to enter pop culture, helping boost the copy's value among collectors, alongside its improbable backstory, Allen said.

The previous record for the world's most expensive comic book had been set last year, when an "Action Comics No. 1" — which first introduced Superman to the world as part of an anthology — sold for \$6 million.

In 2022, another Superman No 1 sold for \$5.3 million.

A small, in-house advertisement in the comic book helped experts identify it as originating from the first edition of 500,000 Superman No. 1 copies ever printed. Allen estimates

there are fewer than 500 in existence today.

The copy was not given any special protection, but the cool Northern California climate helped preserve it, leaving it with a firm spine, vibrant colours and crisp corners, according to a statement from Dallas-based Heritage Auctions. The copy was rated a 9.0 out of 10 by comics grading company CGC, meaning it had only the slightest signs of wear and aging.

The three brothers, in their 50s and 60s, did not wish to be identified due to the windfall involved nor did the buyer of the comic book, according to the auction house.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York, Nov 25: A copy of the first Superman issue, unearthed by three brothers cleaning out their late mother's attic, netted \$9.12 million this month at a Texas auction house which says it is the most expensive comic book ever sold.

The brothers discovered the comic book in a cardboard box beneath layers of brittle newspapers, dust and cobwebs in their deceased mother's San Francisco home last year, alongside a handful of other rare comics that she and her sibling had collected on the cusp of World War II.

She had told her children she had a valuable comic book collection hidden away, but they had never seen it until they put her house up for sale and decided to comb through the basement for heirlooms, said Lon Allen, vice president of comics at Heritage Auctions.

The brothers uncovered the box of comics and sent a message to the auction company, leading Allen to fly out to San Francisco earlier this year to inspect their copy of "Superman No. 1" and show it to other experts for appraisal.

"It was just in an attic, sitting in a box, could have easily been thrown away, could've easily been destroyed in a thousand



different ways," Allen said. "A lot of people got excited because it's just every factor in collecting that you could possibly want all rolled into one."

The "Superman No. 1" comic, released in 1939 by Detective Comics Inc, is one of a small number of copies known to be in existence and is in excellent

of the day

quote

In India, we are going to keep increasing our presence. We are now important shareholders of two very high-growth companies. The first is Rapido, it's the number one mobility company in the country... And Ixigo. It's the fastest-growing in terms of online travel agencies

FABRICIO BLOISI | PROSUS CEO

Electric mobility is about driving a larger shift towards cleaner, sustainable transportation. XEV 9e and BE 6, with their impressive 500 km real-world range, ensure drivers feel confident on long journeys

NALINIKANTH GOLLAGUNTA | MAHINDRA & MAHINDRA CEO AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION

India's logistics sector continues to benefit from strong structural growth, driven by urbanisation and the expanding manufacturing footprint

HARI KRISHNA V | MD, HEAD OF REAL ESTATE INDIA, CPP INVESTMENTS

SHORT TAKES

Labour codes to boost consumption

Mumbai: Implementation of the new labour codes will boost consumption by ₹75,000 crore and increase share of formal workforce by at least 15 per cent, economists at SBI said in a note Tuesday. The codes, which have been implemented from November 21, will also increase social security cover to up to 85 per cent in the next three years and reduce the unemployment rate by 1.3 per cent over the medium term, they said in a note. "With a saving rate of approx 30 per cent, the implementation will result in a consumption boost ₹66 per person per day post-implementation. This could lead to an approx consumption boost of ₹75,000 crore," the note said. The four codes will empower both workers and enterprises, building a workforce that is protected, productive and aligned with the evolving world of work, the economists said. Elaborating on the expectation of upping social security coverage, the note said there are about 44 crore people working in the unorganised sector, of which around 31 crore unorganised workers are registered under e-shram portal.

Adani Enterprises' rights issues

New Delhi: Adani Enterprises Ltd -- the flagship firm of billionaire Gautam Adani's conglomerate -- Tuesday launched subscriptions for one of India's largest rights issues, offering shares at ₹1,800 apiece, a discount of roughly 24 per cent to the approval date price. Total size of the issue (assuming full uptake) is ₹24,930.30 crore through the issuance of over 13.85 crore new shares, according to the company's rights issue filing. The issue closes on December 10. Under the issue, three rights equity shares for every 25 existing fully-paid equity shares held are being offered. The offer is open to all eligible shareholders, with promoters, who hold about 74 per cent in the company, confirming they will subscribe to their entitlement. At the issue price, the conglomerate's flagship firm would command a valuation of nearly ₹2 lakh crore. Analysts peg the value of Adani Enterprises' airports business -- India's largest airport network -- between ₹2 lakh crore and ₹2.5 lakh crore, with some estimates extending to ₹3 lakh crore.

India's Russian oil binge to end as sanctions bite



REUTERS

New Delhi/Moscow, Nov 25: India's Russian oil imports are set to hit their lowest in at least three years in December, down from multi-month highs in November, as refiners turned to alternatives to avoid breaching Western sanctions, trade and refining sources said.

Britain, the European Union and the United States have tightened sanctions on Moscow over the war in Ukraine, with Washington's latest measures targeting top Russian producers Rosneft and Lukoil.

Buyers of Russian oil had until November 21 to wind down dealings with the two firms.

Separately, the EU has set a January 21 deadline after which it will decline fuel from refineries that handled Russian crude within 60 days of the bill of lading.

Bank scrutiny following the latest US sanctions has made Indian state refiners 'extremely cautious,' one of the refining sources said, adding that India is likely to get 600,000 to 650,000 barrels per day of Russian oil in December.

These include imports by Indian Oil Corp, Nayara Energy and delivery of some November-loading cargoes for Reliance Industries, the source added, citing preliminary lifting plans of Indian companies.

This month, India is expected to receive 1.87 million bpd of Russian crude, provisional data from Kpler showed. In October it imported 1.65 million bpd of Russian oil, up 2% from September, data from trade sources shows.

"Russian supply is expected to be high in November as many refineries tried to fill the stocks prior to the US sanc-

tions deadline and also due to the rule for oil products production for EU market from non-Russian oil from 2026," said a trade source.

The sources sought anonymity as they were not authorised to speak to media.

Most Indian refiners, such as Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd, Hindustan Petroleum Corp and HPCL-Mittal Energy Ltd, have stopped buying Russian oil.

State-run Indian Oil Corp and Bharat Petroleum Corp have said they will buy only from the non-sanctioned entities.

Nayara Energy, partly owned by Rosneft, is exclusively processing Russian oil after other suppliers pulled back following British and EU sanctions.

Reliance Industries Ltd has said it loaded Russian oil cargoes "precommitted" as of October 22, and will process any parcel arriving after November 20 at its refinery that is geared to produce fuels for the local market.

Reliance, the operator of the world's biggest refining complex, has two refineries with one catering exclusively to export markets.

The share of US oil in India's oil imports in October surged to its highest since June 2024 as refiners tapped an arbitrage window.

India is also under pressure to buy more US energy after Washington doubled tariffs on Indian imports to 50%, citing New Delhi's buying of Russian oil.

Rupee settles 6 paise lower against US dollar



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 25: The rupee pared initial gains and settled 6 paise lower at 89.22 against the greenback Tuesday, weighed down by negative cues from domestic equity markets.

Falling crude oil prices supported the Indian currency at lower level, however, withdrawal of foreign funds kept the rupee under pressure, forex analysts said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 89.02 and touched an intra-day low of 89.27 against the greenback. The unit ended the session at 89.22 against the US dollar, registering a loss of 6 paise from its previous closing level. The rupee had settled sharply higher by 50 paise at 89.16 against the greenback on Monday, a day after crashing 98 paise to touch its lifetime low of 89.66 against the US dollar Friday.

Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst, Commodities Research Mirae Asset Sharekhan, said positive domestic markets and softening of crude oil prices supported the rupee. However,

a strong US dollar and FII outflows capped sharp gains.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on importer demand for dollars and foreign outflows. However, weak tone in crude oil prices and positive global markets may support the rupee at lower levels. There are renewed talks of rate cut by the Fed which may lead to volatility. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of ₹89 to ₹89.50," Choudhary said.

Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director, Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP, said, "There have been no signs of the trade deal, which could allow rupee to appreciate towards 88 levels. In the meanwhile, we expect rupee to stay in the level of 88.80-89.50. The forward premiums were unchanged for the day."

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was lower by 0.06 per cent at 100.01.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, declined 0.49 per cent to USD 63.06 per barrel in futures trade.

Gold climbs ₹3.5k on wedding season demand

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: Gold prices climbed ₹3,500 to ₹1,28,900 per 10 grams in the national capital Tuesday amid fresh buying by local jewellers and retailers for the wedding festivities, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

Snapping its three-day losing streak, the precious metal of 99.5 per cent purity appreciated by ₹3,500 to ₹1,28,300 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes).

Silver prices also witnessed buying interest in tandem with gold. The white metal soared by ₹5,800 to ₹1,60,800 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes).

Traders said demand from local jeweller businesses has picked up for the wedding season. A weak US dollar against



major currencies also boosts the demand for the safe-haven asset. "Gold prices advanced Tuesday, buoyed by a softer US dollar and surging December rate-cut expectations, following dovish remarks from Federal Reserve officials," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

In the overseas market, spot gold was trading 0.09 per cent lower at USD 4,131.09 per ounce in New York, while spot silver fell 0.40 per cent at USD 51.15 per ounce.

Vedanta Aluminium's drinking water for over 3,000 students



are strongly aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG-6 on clean water and sanitation. By strengthening water infrastructure in schools, we aim to create clean, healthy learning environments that help students stay focused and confident."

Bhubaneswar: Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest aluminium producer, has installed 30 water purification units in government schools across Kodigamali in Koraput district, ensuring access to safe drinking water for more than 3,000 students. The initiative has been carried out under the company's flagship Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme aimed at improving health standards in rural educational institutions. Inaugurating the facility at UN Raju Girls' High School, Lakshmpur MLA Pavitra Saunta said providing clean water remains a critical requirement in tribal and remote regions. "These units will help children stay healthy and energised throughout the day, creating a more conducive environment for learning. I thank Vedanta Aluminium for fulfilling this essential need," he said. Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya, CEO, Vedanta Alumina Business, said the initiative reinforces the company's commitment to sustainable development. "Our efforts

PNB honours retirees



Cuttack: Punjab National Bank's Cuttack Circle Monday organised 'Snehanjali-2025' at CDA, Bidanasi to honour its retired employees and strengthen institutional bonding. The programme aimed at acknowledging the contribution of former staffers while updating them on key welfare initiatives. The event was presided over by Circle Head Sujit Kumar Negi, in the presence of Branch Head of CDA Bidanasi, Kanhu Moharana, and officials from various branches under the circle. More than 60 retirees attended the gathering, adding emotional significance and camaraderie to the occasion. During the session, officials shared important updates on PNB ARPAN and new staff welfare measures introduced by the Head Office. Retirees were also briefed on guidelines related to hospitalisation claim settlements, the National Anubhav Award Scheme-2026, and mandatory submission of Life Certificates. Several other schemes and support initiatives for retired employees were discussed.

181st SLBC meeting of Odisha



Bhubaneswar: The 181st State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting of Odisha for the quarter ended September 2025 convened at city hotel Monday. The ED UCO Bank cum Chairman SLBC Odisha Rajendra Kumar Saboo informed that the against the annual target of ₹2,52,095.66 crore under annual credit plan (ACP) for 2025-26 all banks have achieved ₹1,20,132.81 crore as of 30.09.2025 which is 47.65% of the target. Banks in the state have achieved 45% under Agriculture and 56% under MSME target. Under social security schemes, as on 30.09.2025, the achievement of banks under PMJJBY is 38.88%, PMSBY is 40.10%, APY at 61.95% and PMJDY at 35.16% along with the settlement of over 35,000 claims under PMJJBY and PMSBY. CD Ratio of the state stands at 73.72% as of 30.09.2025. Saboo advised all banks to intensify efforts to meet assigned targets under various schemes during the remaining period of current financial year.

Debt mutual funds attract ₹1.6L-cr in Oct

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: Fixed-income mutual funds witnessed a sharp recovery in October, attracting a net amount of ₹1.6 lakh crore due to robust inflows into liquid and overnight funds after recording heavy redemptions of ₹1.02 lakh crore in the preceding month.

The inflow has lifted the assets under management of fixed income mutual funds, or debt-oriented mutual funds, by nearly 10 per cent to ₹19.51 lakh crore at the end of October from ₹17.8 lakh crore in September, data with the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) showed. Going forward, fund flows are likely to remain concentrated in liquid, money market, and high-quality accrual categories, with investors awaiting more clarity on the



timing and pace of future rate cuts before extending duration exposure, Nehal Meshram, Senior Analyst, Morningstar Investment Research India, said.

As per the data, debt funds saw an inflow of ₹1.6 lakh crore in October against a net outflow of ₹1.02 lakh crore in September. In August, such funds experienced a net outflow of ₹7,980

crore, while the segment saw a significant inflow of ₹1.07 lakh crore in July.

"The turnaround in October was largely driven by robust inflows into liquid and overnight funds, as institutional investors, redeployed surplus cash after the quarter-end outflows observed in the previous month," Meshram added.

Out of 16 debt categories, 10 of them witnessed net inflows during the month under review. Of these, liquid funds led the surge with inflows of ₹89,375 crore, reversing the September outflows of ₹66,042 crore. Similarly, overnight funds attracted ₹24,051 crore, reflecting short-term treasury deployments as liquidity conditions eased post the tax outflows and quarter-end adjustments.

Money market funds, too, rebounded strongly, garnering ₹17,916 crore, suggesting the return of institutional cash balances to short-term vehicles.

Additionally, flows in the short-duration segment also rebounded strongly after last month's heavy redemptions, as investors redeployed money across accrual-oriented categories amid comfortable liquidity and attractive yields.

Stock markets fall for 3rd day on FII outflows



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 25: Stock markets closed lower for the third consecutive session Tuesday with the benchmark Sensex sliding nearly 314 points due to selling in IT and auto shares as foreign fund outflows dampened investor sentiment.

In a volatile trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 313.70 points or 0.37 per cent to settle at 84,587.01 with 24 of its constituents closing lower and six with gains. During the day, it fell by 363.98 points or 0.42 per cent to 84,536.73.

The 50-share NSE Nifty declined 74.70 points or 0.29 per cent to 25,884.80. Nifty has dropped 307 points or over 1 per cent in three sessions since Friday to slip below the 26,000 level while Sensex has shed 1,045 points or 1.2 per cent during the period.

Among Sensex stocks, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles, Trent, Infosys, Power Grid, HDFC Bank, HCL Tech, Kotak Mahindra Bank, ICICI Bank and Bajaj Finance were the major laggards.

However, Bharat Electronics, State Bank of India, Tata Steel, Eternal, Bharti Airtel and Reliance Industries were the gainers.

Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth ₹4,171.75 crore Monday, according to exchange data. Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs), however, bought stocks worth ₹4,512.87 crore in the previous trade.

"The domestic market witnessed sharp volatility on monthly expiry day, driven by a weakening INR and continued FII outflows. Caution prevailed as investors awaited clarity on a possible rate cut in the upcoming FOMC meeting and progress on the Indo-US trade deal, despite some improving signals," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said.

Broader markets were positive with the BSE smallcap gauge rising by 0.20 per cent and midcap index by 0.19 per cent.

Among sectoral indices, IT dropped 0.75 per cent, BSE Focused IT (0.64 per cent), consumer durables (0.53 per cent), teck (0.39 per cent), energy (0.32 per cent), auto (0.25 per cent) and utilities (0.25 per cent).

Realty, commodities, healthcare, telecommunication, capital goods and metal were the gainers.

In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Japan's Nikkei 225 index, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index settled in positive territory.

Markets in Europe were trading on a mixed note. US markets ended significantly higher Monday.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, dipped 0.69 per cent to USD 62.93 per barrel.

On Monday, the Sensex declined by 331.21 points or 0.39 per cent to settle at 84,900.71. The Nifty fell by 108.65 points or 0.42 per cent to 25,959.50.

SOUTH AFRICA TOUR OF INDIA: DAY 4

Boys in trouble; 27/2 at stumps

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Nov 25: India stared down the barrel as a ruthless South Africa slowly tortured the home side by posting an improbable victory target of 549 that has all but ensured the visitors' first series triumph here in 25 years at the end of the fourth day of the second Test.

After South Africa declared their second innings at 260 for 5, India were reeling at 27 for 2 at stumps Tuesday, having lost openers Yashasvi Jaiswal (13) to Marco Jansen and KL Rahul (6) to Simon Harmer respectively.

Sai Sudharsan (2 batting) and night-watchman Kuldeep Yadav (4 batting) were at the crease but it will take a herculean effort from the remaining batters to save the game on the final day and avoid the ignominy of a 0-2 whitewash.

The only saving grace for them could be the fact that light fades quickly in this part of the world after 3:45 pm and not more than 80 odd overs have been possible on any of the past four days.

Head coach Gautam Gambhir will certainly prefer a 0-1 series defeat over a 0-2 result which would be the second series debacle at home against a SENA nation in the past 12 months.

On the fourth day, the reigning World Test Champions had two targets. First was to set a target that would be virtually out of reach.

Secondly, the more time Proteas spent batting on the fourth day, stronger became the chances of the red soil track crumbling on the fifth day.

Tristan Stubbs (94 off 180 balls), who missed out on a half-century in the first innings by a solitary run, this time fell short of a Test ton by only six runs.

Once Stubbs became Ravin-



Head coach Gautam Gambhir will certainly prefer a 0-1 series defeat over a 0-2 result

dra Jadeja's (4/62 in 28.3 overs) fourth victim, skipper Temba Bavuma declared the second innings having knocked the stuffing out of the Indian team by making them bowl for 78.3 overs.

THIS SERIES DEFEAT WON'T AFFECT US: JADEJA

Guwahati: Battle-hardened all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja said the looming series defeat to South Africa will have no bearing on India's next Test assignment in Sri Lanka in August next year, stressing that forcing a draw in the second Test would be akin to a "win" for the young side. India are all set to lose the two-Test series against South Africa as it would be impossible to chase down a target of 549 on the final day. "I don't think it will affect the next series. But, as a cricketer, nobody wants to lose the series, especially in India. So, hopefully, we will try our best cricket. We will try to put our best foot forward tomorrow," Jadeja, who has a match-haul of seven wickets, told reporters at the end of the day's play. "Hopefully, we will try and save the Test match. So that, at least, I know even if we aren't winning the series at least, we are able to draw the match, which is going to be a win-win situation for us." "If we lose with youngsters, it gets highlighted" Jadeja believes that while a series defeat to South Africa is humbling and will serve as a valuable learning experience for the youngsters in the Indian squad.

KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES

Meenakshi Rohilla clinches gold

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Nov 25: Guru Nanak Dev University cyclist Meenakshi Rohilla grabbed the first gold medal of the 2025 Khelo India University Games (KIUG) in women's individual time trial here Tuesday.

Kajol Sargar of Shivaji University clinched the weightlifting gold in women's 48kg and Lovely Professional University's Sakshi Padekar won the women's 10m air rifle gold as sports action began across multiple venues in the state.

With cycling making its debut in the KIUG programme, it was only befitting that the first gold medal went to a player who was also returning to road events after a long time. Meenakshi, a 2022 Asian Championships bronze medallist in Team Pursuit, proved that she was a force even in road racing as she bagged the gold medal here with a well-calculated race strategy.

The 23-year-old was trailing local favourite Pooja Bishnoi of Maharaja Ganga Singh University for the first lap of 10 kms but gathered pace thereafter to finish the 30km Individual Time Trial with a timing of 00:45:31.907, averaging a speed of 39.5 km/hr.

Bishnoi took home the silver medal with a time of 00:46:52.003 while Savitribai Phule Pune University's Apurva Gore won the bronze medal with a time of

00:47:24.933.

Manav Sarda clinched the first gold medal for Maharaja Ganga Singh University in the men's 40km Individual Time Trial with a dominant performance throughout. Averaging a speed of 46 km/hr, Sarda stopped the clock at 00:52:12.947 while Jai Dogra of Panjab University (00:53:14.315) and Gaurang Singh Gaur of Lovely Professional University (00:54:32:813) bagged the silver and bronze medals, respectively.

At the Jagatpura shooting range, Sakshi bagged the women's 10m air rifle gold with a final score of 253.2. Disha Dhankhar of Panjab University won the silver with 252 points while R Narmada Nithin of University of Madras won the bronze medal with a total of 230.5. Sakshi had also topped the qualification round with a total of 633.5 and helped the University also grab the team gold along with Priyanka Das and Sanjeeta Das with a total of 1884 points.

In the weightlifting competition in Bikaner, Kajol Sargar of Shivaji University bagged the gold medal in the women's 48kg category with a total of 158kg.

The 19-year-old from Sangli, Maharashtra took a big lead in snatch as she lifted a 73kg in her second attempt, almost seven kilograms more than Chandigarh University's Rani Nayak. She then lifted 85kg in Clean & Jerk to assure herself of the gold medal.



SHORT TAKES

India lose to Belgium 2-3

Ipoh (Malaysia): A determined India fought bravely but lost to Belgium 2-3 in a rain-affected Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey match, here Tuesday. Abhishek (33rd) and Shilanand Lakra (57th) got themselves on the scoresheet for India, while Roman Duvekot (17th, 57th) and Nicolas De Kerpel (45th) were on target for Belgium. The defeat comes after India, led by defender Sanjay, won the opening game in the six-team event against three-time champions South Korea 1-0 Sunday.

Puligilla, Sherif to feature in WRC Saudi Arabia

Jeddah (Saudi Arabia): Ace Indian driver Naveen Puligilla and his co-driver Musa Sherif are set to carry the country's flag onto the world stage as the World Rally Championship (WRC) makes its historic debut in Saudi Arabia. The duo will compete in WRC3 class, in the final round of the championship here from November 25 to 29. Puligilla recently clinched victory in the 3T category at the Robusta Rally.

DEAFLYMPICS SHOOTING

India end campaign with 16 medals haul

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Tokyo, Nov 25: India wrapped up their Deaflympics shooting campaign with a massive haul of 16 medals, even as Chetan Hanmant Sapkal finished sixth in the men's 25m rapid fire pistol event here Tuesday.

Chetan, who qualified for the finals in third place with a score of 564-5x, was the first shooter to be eliminated in the six-man final with a score of eight.

South Korea's Seung Hwa Lee won gold, while his teammate Tae Young Kim claimed the bronze and Ukraine's Serhii Ohorodnyk won the silver.

The Indians dominated the shooting ranges in Tokyo, winning 16 out of the total 39 medals in the discipline over 10 days of competition, including seven gold, six silver and three bronze.

The most successful shooter

was riflewoman Mahit Sandhu who won four medals, including two gold and two silver followed by pistol exponents Abhinav Deshwal and Pranjali Prashant Dhupal who bagged two gold and one silver medals respectively.

Dhanush Srikanth also won two gold medals in 10m air rifle individual and mixed team events while Mohammed Murtaza Vania (one silver and bronze) and Komal Milind Waghmare (two bronze) also won two medals each.

Anuya Prasad won gold in the women's 10m air pistol event while Shourya Saini won silver in 50m 3 positions and Kushagra Singh Rajawat won bronze in 50m rifle prone event.

Indian shooters won a total of five medals including three gold and two bronze at the last Games at Caxias do Sul in Brazil.

Andrey Esipenko in Candidates qualifier

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Panaji, Nov 25: Grandmaster Andrey Esipenko of Russia registered crushing back-to-back wins over Uzbekistan's Nodirbek Yakubboev in the third-place match, while China's Wei Yi will fight it out against the other Uzbek Javokhir Sindarov in the tiebreak Wednesday to decide the FIDE World Cup champion.

Esipenko, representing the FIDE flag here, continued his dominant performance after a major hiccup against Wei Yi in the semifinals, where he blundered a rook in a winning position in the second tiebreak game. Showing commendable composure, he recovered to beat Yakubboev twice, booking his spot in the Candidates and earning USD 60,000 compared to Yakubboev's USD 50,000.

The only Indian in the mix is going to be R Praggnanandhaa for the ultimate crown of world champion, while the likes of American duo of Hikaru Nakamura and Fabiano Caruana, Anish Giri of Holland, Matthias Bluebaum and the two finalists already in the fray.

2026 T20 WC SCHEDULE UNVEILED

India, Pak in same group, to play each other Feb 15

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Nov 25: Traditional rivals India and Pakistan have been clubbed in Group A for the 2026 Men's T20 World Cup and will play each other in Colombo's R Premadasa Stadium on February 15 as per the schedule unveiled here Tuesday.

Pakistan will play all their games in Sri Lanka as per the agreement reached between the BCCI and PCB for the tournament.

Reigning champions India will open their campaign against USA in Mumbai on February 7 before facing Namibia in Delhi on February 12. They will then head to the Sri Lankan capital for the high-voltage clash against Pakistan before concluding their league engagements

against the Netherlands in Ahmedabad on February 18.

The showpiece will be held across eight venues (five in India and three in Sri Lanka) from February 7 to March 8.

The tournament will feature 55 matches in Delhi, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Mumbai, Colombo and Kanday.

ICC chairman Jay Sharma made the announcement while unveiling the tournament's schedule.

Group B features Australia, Sri Lanka, Ireland, Zimbabwe and an Oman while Group C will have En-



Rohit tournament ambassador

Meanwhile, Rohit Sharma, who captained reigning champions India to glory at the previous T20 World Cup in 2024, was named the tournament ambassador.

Rohit was prolific for India in T20is, ending with 4231 runs at an average of 32.01 and a strike-rate of 140.89.

Rohit retired from the shortest format following India's triumph in the Americas last year, which broke an 11-year drought of ICC trophies for the Indian team.

gland, West Indies, Bangladesh, Nepal and Italy.

Group D comprises New Zealand, South Africa, Afghanistan, Canada and UAE.

10-man Everton beat Man United

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Manchester, Nov 25: Everton beat Manchester United 1-0 Monday to slow the home team's recent revival in a Premier League game that will be remembered for an early red card shown to Everton's Idrissa Gueye for striking teammate Michael Keane.

Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall scored with a superb strike in the 29th minute, after which Everton was forced to defend its lead. United dominated the visiting 10 men in a one-sided second half but couldn't find a way past England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford.

"They were the better team, with 11 players or 10," United coach Ruben Amorim said. "I felt from the first minute that we were not there with the same intensity so they deserve the win. If they have 10, let's push the opponent to the final third. We need to be near on the



transition. We needed to be focused. We need to do more."

It was United's first defeat since losing 3-1 at Brentford almost two months ago and the first time in 47 Premier League games that a visiting team has won at Old Trafford with 10 men.

However, the night's unforgettable talking point came after 13 minutes.

Gueye was furious at what appeared to be Keane's failure to pick up his pass inside the Ever-

ton penalty box. Bruno Fernandes stepped in and fired wide but an angry Gueye confronted Keane. Keane shoved Gueye, who responded with a slap to Keane's face. Referee Tony Harrington displayed the red card for "violent conduct."

The Senegalese was the first player to be sent off in the Premier League for fighting with a teammate since Stoke City's Ricardo Fuller saw red after clashing with Andy Griffin in 2008.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 25: All but assured of the hosting rights more than a month back, India's 2030 Commonwealth Games bid is set to be formally approved Wednesday at the Commonwealth Sport's general assembly in Glasgow, marking a major milestone in the country's ambitious plan to become a global multi-sport hub.

India last hosted the Games in 2010 in Delhi but this time, the multi-sport event would be coming to Ahmedabad, a city that has upgraded its sports infrastructure at war footing in the last one decade.

Wednesday's General Assembly will go through the formality of putting a seal of approval on what has already been recommended by the Commonwealth Sport's Board. That recommendation followed a process overseen by the Com-



monwealth Sport's Evaluation Committee.

For the 2030 CWG bid, India was facing competition from the Nigerian city of Abuja. But Commonwealth Sport decided to instead consider the African nation for the 2034 edition after developing "a strategy for supporting and accelerating" its hosting ambitions.

A formal announcement is expected around 6.30pm (IST)

and India is being represented by joint secretary (sports) Kunal, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President P T Usha and Gujarat Sports Minister Harsh Sanghavi among others. India had spent close to Rs 70,000 crore to host the 2010 edition of the Games, far exceeding the initial estimate of Rs 1600 crore. The quadrennial event, which has been struggling to stay relevant and find willing

hosts for a while, features athletes from 72 countries, a majority of them former British colonies.

India promises grandeur

The 2026 CWG, which will be held in Glasgow, has been massively scaled down to prevent the budget from overshooting. The city, which intends to conduct the entire event within an eight-mile (approx 12km) radius, has kept the budget at a modest 114 million pounds (over Rs 1300 crore). As a result, some major disciplines like wrestling, shooting, badminton and hockey have been left out of the 10-sport roster. India was bitterly opposed to this pruning as it severely dented its medal-yielding capacity.

However, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has made it clear that the 2030 Games will have an elaborate programme featuring all the disciplines that have been dropped by Glasgow.