

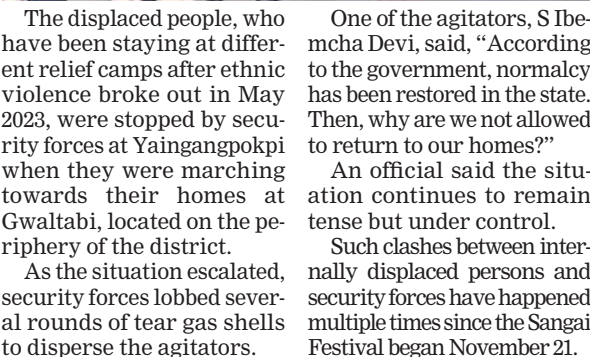


AP PHOTO

*Tension prevailed in Manipur's Imphal East district when hundreds of displaced people living in relief camps attempted to return to their homes, Saturday. These families, displaced during the ethnic violence that began in May 2023, have long hoped to rebuild their lives. However, when they marched toward their homes, security forces blocked their movement, triggering a clash. As the situation spiralled out of control, security personnel fired several rounds of tear gas shells to disperse the protesters. More than two years after ethnic violence ripped apart Manipur, the state continues to struggle for peace, as thousands of displaced residents hope for a safe and dignified return to their homes.*

AGENCIES

**Imphal, Nov 29:** Hundreds of displaced people, seeking to return to their homes, clashed with security forces in Manipur's Imphal East district Saturday, officials said.



## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Faridabad, Nov 29:** Dr Shaheen Shahid, arrested in the “white-collar terror module” case linked to the November 10 Delhi blast, revealed that she had planned to recruit women to carry out the terrorist act, Faridabad police sources have revealed.

They said the NIA brought Shahid, a former pharmacologist at Al-Falah University, to the university campus on Thursday in connection with the probe, and that during questioning, she revealed she had planned to recruit women for the mission. Police sources also revealed that the NIA sleuths recovered Rs 18.5 lakh in cash, along with some gold biscuits and foreign currency, from Shahid's hostel room at the university.

Earlier in the week, the agency brought Dr Muzammil for identification, and soon, the NIA could bring Dr Adil Ahmad for spot identification to the university. Muzammil and Adil Ahmad are two other suspects arrested as part of the probe.

One of the agitators, S Ibemcha Devi, said, "According to the government, normalcy has been restored in the state. Then, why are we not allowed to return to our homes?"

An official said the situation continues to remain tense but under control. Such clashes between internally displaced persons and security forces have happened multiple times since the Sangai Festival began November 21.

## PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** Opposition BJD and Congress members Saturday walked out of the Assembly in protest against the cancellation of over eight lakh ration cards of poor people, a charge denied by the state government.

The issue was raised in the Assembly through a debate on the admissibility of an adjournment motion moved by BJD chief whip

Pramila Mallik, leading to a heated exchange between Opposition and Treasury benches. Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Minister KC Patra rejected the allegation, saying the state had so far cancelled 8,16,056 ration cards through e-KYC verification. "Of the total cancelled cards, 6,95,530 belonged to deceased persons, 75,030 to government employees, and 45,496 to Income Tax payers. What is wrong in cancelling inel-

The minister informed the House that the government had set a target to identify 13.5 lakh new beneficiaries in rural areas and 1.5 lakh in urban areas to issue fresh ration cards.

Protesting the minister's remarks, BJD and Congress members staged a walkout, raising slogans against the BJP government, which they termed 'anti-poor.'

## AGENCIES

**London, Nov 29:** About 6,000 Airbus planes had to be grounded for a software update after it was discovered that intense solar radiation could interfere with onboard flight control computers.

Airlines around the world cancelled and delayed flights heading into the weekend to fix the software after an analysis found the computer code may have contributed to a sudden drop in the altitude of a Jet-Blue plane last month.

Airbus said Friday that an examination of the JetBlue incident revealed that intense solar radiation may corrupt data critical to the functioning of flight controls on the A320 family of aircraft.



computers, according to the agency. In Japan, All Nippon Airways, which operates more than 30 planes, cancelled 65 domestic flights for Saturday. Additional cancellations on Sunday were possible, it said.

The software change comes as US passengers were beginning to head home from the Thanksgiving holiday, which is the

## AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29** The state government has decided to establish 15 more special courts for expeditious trial of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cases.

The state government will submit a proposal to the High Level Committee in the next fiscal year to open these courts, Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan told the state Assembly Saturday.

These new courts will enhance the state's judicial infrastructure, particularly in strengthening child protection mechanisms.

Besides, the government has taken due note of the recommendation of Orissa High Court for opening of new Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum-Judicial Magistrate First Class courts in different blocks of the state.

The Orissa High Court has also sought the establishment of Additional District & Sessions Judge court in Khandapada of Nayagarh district and the government is taking steps in this regard, the minister said. Steps are also being taken for the filling up of posts of judges, the minister added.

The Section 28 (1) of the POC SO Act, 2012 specifies the establishment of an exclusive court in every district to adjudicate sexual offences against minors. However, the state does not have POC SO courts in every district.

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and ash for a gentle,  
effective wash.

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of lemon, helping  
dishes stay white  
and fresh.

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eucalyptus, pine,  
lemongrass and  
anti-bacterial herbs to  
clean deeply and leave  
floors shining.

# leisure

## FORTUNE FORECAST

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**ARIES**  
The yogis have finally succeeded in impressing you. Was it a stint in a Art of Living course? Ganesha gives you the thumbs-up and suggests you join that music or dance class you have been wanting to. Generally a nice day, and success is on the cards.

**TAURUS**  
Armed with ingenuity and lateral thinking, you are all set to take on today with practised ease, feels Ganesha. The toughest of problems will crumble like a house of cards before your intellect. A promotion or salary hike is also likely today. Money lenders and brokers will have a profitable day, says Ganesha.

**GEMINI**  
Your long-term goals seem to be shaping up well. You may also expect some good news, which will change the course of your life. Play a waiting game in matters of auctions and sealed tenders. And memorise these words: Prevention is better than cure.

**CANCER**  
Ganesha advises you to watch your back today. However, he wants to make it clear that you may be at the receiving end of others' actions. Anyway, your cautious and watchful approach will save you from needless discomfiture. In short, life will teach you priceless and precious lessons today, predicts Ganesha.

**LEO**  
You will be in a light-hearted mood today. Be it at the office or at the home, you will be full of joy and will be looking to pass your time lesiurely. You will spend time with family and friends. You will be unable to implement your plans for tackling work today in your current mood, says Ganesha.

**VIRGO**  
You will be cool as a cucumber today. Nothing that happens will unsettle that composure, says Ganesha. Your loved ones will stand tall and strong behind you, and inspire you to overcome obstacles. Your work will reflect dedication, says Ganesha. Go ahead and ask for work that is intellectually taxing.

**LIBRA**  
Letting things build up inside you is never a good idea. Learn from this as there is every possibility that today might turn out to be an aggravating and exasperating day for you. You may feel that way due to all the amassed emotions and resentments, so let it all go. It would be a good idea to take a break from the routine and bring in some freshness.

**SCORPIO**  
Today, Ganesha is in the mood to give you health tips. Cultivate healthy eating habits and exercise regularly to stay away from disorders like obesity. Irregular eating habits and unhealthy lifestyle may lead to many other troubles. Eat healthy, stay happy.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
You have been experiencing the adverse effects of stressful lifestyle off-late. But not anymore, as you realise the importance of good health. Maintaining good health will begin with good news of either promotion or increment at work. This leaves you happy and satisfied, says Ganesha.

**CAPRICORN**  
It may seem too far-fetched, but your boss will bank on your brilliance and unmatched abilities to get respite from the existing problems, says Ganesha. Moreover, much to the dismay of your rivals, you will have your way and gain popularity by winning the hearts of your clients. While spending time with your beloved, you may share certain experience that were, until now, locked up inside you.

**AQUARIUS**  
Eat, drink, and make merry. But watch out: don't empty your pockets in one go. Also, guard your reputation. A lot depends on your behaviour, and the big daddies may be watching you. You have a lot at stake, and there should be no regrets later. Let success be your priority for now, says Ganesha. All else will follow.

**PISCES**  
You will feel very emotional about those who are close to your heart. Those people who know you will endear you because of this quality of yours. But Ganesha adds a word of caution; take care of those people whom you hold close to your heart because in your sentiments for them you might not notice their bad qualities or forgive their mistakes.

## GARNER HELPS HOMELESS ON THANKSGIVING DAY

Jennifer Garner spent her Thanksgiving Day serving mashed potatoes to the homeless as part of a charity initiative in Los Angeles. The 53-year-old Hollywood actress volunteered at The Midnight Mission's annual charity lunch on Skid Row in LA and she stepped behind the counter to serve food to those in need.



## SEAN 'DIDDY' COMBS FINDS 'BROTHERHOOD' IN PRISON

Former American rapper Sean 'Diddy' Combs has found a 'strong brotherhood' among the inmates in his prison. The 56-year-old rap mogul - who is serving 50 months behind bars after being convicted on two counts of transportation to engage in prostitution - was recently transferred to the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) in New Jersey.



# Raashii on female objectification

**Mumbai:** The objectification of women in South cinema has long been a point of criticism, as female characters have often been reduced to ornamental roles. However, in an interview with Zoom, Raashii Khanna, who has worked in both South cinema and Bollywood, spoke about how the objectification of women occurs in Bollywood as well.

Discussing the portrayal of women in South cinema, Raashii said, "It is not just a South thing; I see it in the North quite a lot. It completely depends on the choice of the actor. Some people are comfortable with it, some are not. I have done so many commercial films in the South that I feel I should take that step forward in Hindi and get into content. I am okay doing commercial stuff, but I also have a limit. Every actor's limit is different, and that defines who they are." She added, "It is very important that I should be comfortable with what I am doing. If I feel like a line is being crossed and I might look cheap in it, I will say no to it. Every actor has a different comfort zone, and I don't judge."

AGENCIES

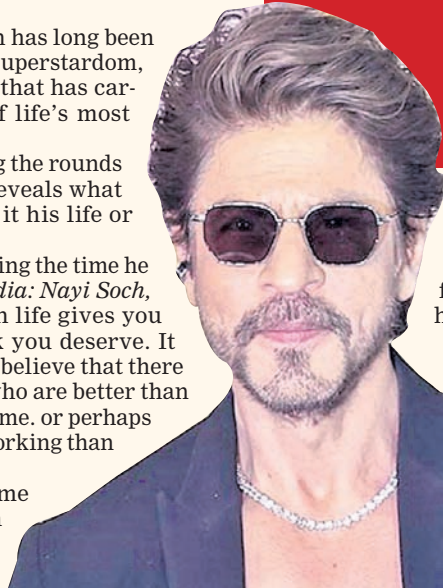


**Mumbai:** Shah Rukh Khan has long been celebrated not just for his superstardom, but for the inner strength that has carried him through some of life's most difficult chapters.

In a clip that is now doing the rounds of the internet, the actor reveals what made him so resilient, be it his life or his career.

In a candid reflection during the time he was hosting *TED Talks India: Nayi Soch*, Shah Rukh shared, "When life gives you a lot more than you think you deserve. It humbles you. It makes you believe that there are so many other people who are better than me, are more talented than me, or perhaps even ten times more hardworking than me."

He continued: "But some of us, sometimes, through good or bad things happening in our lives, and



## SRK MANTRA ON RESILIENCE

I don't want to romanticize the fact that I was young, I was an orphan, my parents died, no, that's gone and behind now, they happened to us, for a reason. And you have to accept both with humility, not with victimhood."

Carrying in on the same breath, he added, "So to me, everything that happens to me is a chance to do things better with all the humility I have, and thank God and Allah and Bhagwan and everyone, for the fact that I got the strength through my weaknesses to keep going on and on and on."

AGENCIES

## Sobhita channels her inner secret agent

**Mumbai:** On Friday, Sobhita Dhulipala lit up social media with a fresh set of photographs, effortlessly captivating fans who declared they simply couldn't get enough of her look. The actor slipped into full undercover-agent mode, exuding an enigmatic charm that left the internet buzzing.

She shared the gorgeous pictures with a caption that read, "Friendly neighbourhood special agent - part 2". Sobhita wore a simple black top layered with a sleek black leather jacket and paired it with denim, striking the perfect balance of edge and elegance. Her hair, styled in a soft, voluminous blowout, framed her face beautifully, while her makeup, smoky eyes and nude lips gave her a mysterious, cinematic allure.

The comments section immediately turned into a celebration of Sobhita's effortless cool. Industry friends were among the first to chime in. Music composer Vishal Dadlani remarked, "Rock-and-roll roots are showing!" capturing the rebellious edge of her look. Shibani Akhtar couldn't resist dropping a succinct yet striking "Beauty," while Saiyami Kher let a row of fiery emojis say it all.

Fans, too, were completely enamoured. Compliments poured in, ranging from, "You look effortlessly cool" to "It's the floofy emo hair that makes you mysterious and COOL! ." One admirer summed up the mood of the entire comment section with a line that has almost become a Sobhita signature, "Face card never declines."

AGENCIES



## I rarely speak of my acting days: Barkha

**Mumbai:** Former actress turned Buddhist nun Barkha Madan says life has an unusual way of circling back to forgotten moments as she unexpectedly came face-to-face with Gulshan Grover, fondly called as Bollywood's "Bad Man".

Barkha, who stepped away from films more than a decade ago to embrace monastic life, took to Instagram, where she shared a picture posing with Gulshan and wrote that the chance meeting stirred memories she rarely revisits.

She wrote: "Life has its gentle surprises. At a wed-



ding reception, I suddenly found myself face-to-face with the ever-charming Bad Man—Gulshan Grover ji. Fourteen years into monastic life, and the universe still finds playful ways to remind me of my

filmi past!" Barkha went on to reminisce about signing the 1996 film *Khiladiyon Ka Khiladi* at the age of 20, sharing the frame with Rekha, Akshay Kumar, Raveena Tandon and the

late Inder Kumar, while Gulshan played the memorable villain King Don.

Barkha went on to recall how once again got to work with Rekha in the 2003 film *Bhoot*.

"I rarely speak of my acting days, but this unexpected meeting opened a gentle window to a past filled with warmth, gratitude, and a little sparkle from another lifetime."

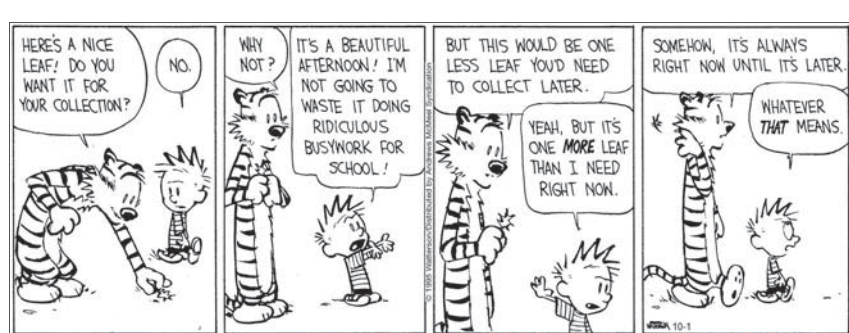
It was in 2012, when Barkha decided to become a Buddhist nun. She was quite impressed by the ideologies of Buddhism and is an avid follower of the Dalai Lama.

IAN5

## PEANUTS



## CALVIN AND HOBBS

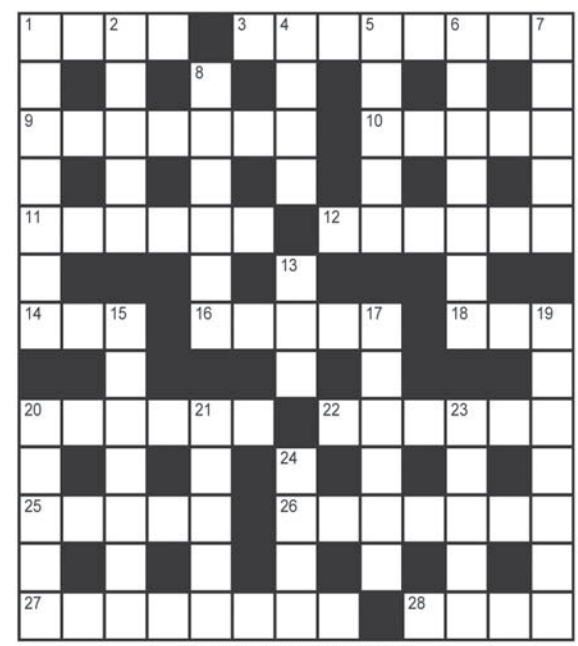


## BREVITY



## FUN post

## CROSSWORD



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- |                                   |                                  |                           |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Across</b>                     | <b>20</b> Tune                   | <b>6</b> Vague            |
| <b>1</b> Cheese nibblers          | <b>22</b> Turkish port city      | <b>7</b> Rendezvous       |
| <b>3</b> Branch                   | <b>25</b> Heiress, perhaps (4,3) | <b>8</b> Polished         |
| <b>9</b> Neanderthal              | <b>26</b> Mezzanine              | <b>13</b> Common vine     |
| <b>10</b> Covered in dirt         | <b>27</b> Decoration             | <b>15</b> Sailing vessel  |
| <b>11</b> Codfish                 | <b>28</b> Capri, for one         | <b>17</b> Light-footed    |
| <b>12</b> Aftermath               |                                  | <b>19</b> Examine         |
| <b>14</b> Unit of energy          | <b>Down</b>                      | <b>20</b> Chutney fruit   |
| <b>16</b> Any port in a storm     | <b>1</b> Gruesome                | <b>21</b> Chimera         |
| <b>18</b> Airport posting (Abbr.) | <b>2</b> Blanket                 | <b>23</b> Movable castles |
|                                   | <b>4</b> Penalty, at times       | <b>24</b> Black, to poets |
|                                   | <b>5</b> Marsh plant             |                           |

## SUDOKU

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

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

## SOLUTIONS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | O | M | D | A | S |
| C | R | A | D | L | E |
| T | I | T | N | C | E |
| T | O | D | E | V | I |
| U | O | M | P | T |   |
| F | I | S | S | T | O |
| N | S | R | E |   |   |
| E | C | L | A | T |   |
| O | B | S | J | L |   |
| I | M | P | O | L | I |
| I | A | R | C | M | A |
| E | N | T | R | E | E |
| G | D | N | S | S | S |

## CROSSWORD

## SUDOKU

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

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



## POST NEWS NETWORK

## AGENCIES

POST NEWS NETWORK

## POST NEWS NETWORK

## POST NEWS NETWORK

# Chhoti bachat ko badi banaye Aur bima bhi paayein

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\*As per the Survival Benefit option chosen

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LICP/12035-26/17/Eng

# Gender-Responsive Cell for inclusive agriculture unveiled

A step forward in integrating gender equity highlights the commitment to inclusive, evidence-based governance for women farmers

PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** The Gender-Responsive Cell (GRC) was inaugurated Saturday at the Krushi Bhavan here in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Deputy Chief Ministers Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida who jointly inaugurated the cell said, “It marks an important step toward embedding gender equity into the state’s agricultural governance system.”

Speaking at the event, Singh Deo emphasised that the launch of the GRC strengthens Odisha’s longstanding commitment to inclusive agricultural development.

“Odisha has always championed progressive agricultural reforms, and the launch of this Gender Responsive Cell reflects our resolve to make agricultural governance more inclusive, evidence-led, and responsive to the needs of women farmers.

As women constitute a significant share of our agricultural workforce, we must ensure they have equitable access to schemes, technologies, markets, and opportunities, he said.

Deputy CM Parida highlighted the timeliness and broader significance of launching the Gender Responsive Cell, especially as the world prepares to observe the UN International



Year of the Woman Farmer (2026).

“As we approach the UN International Year of the Woman Farmer, this launch of an exclusive GRC shows our commitment for the women of our state and becomes even more meaningful when our state takes such initiative prior to the international year,” she said.

The GRC begins its operations at a moment when global attention is turning to the challenges women farmers face and the urgent need for more inclusive systems. By embedding gender responsiveness in to our governance structures, the Cell will help address gaps in access, participation, and benefits, she added.

Agriculture and Farmers’ Empowerment department Principal Secretary Arabinda Kumar Padhee said that the GRC will help us systematically apply a gender lens across planning, budgeting, service delivery, and monitoring.

He said, “The GRC has been conceptualised as an innova-

tive institutional mechanism embedded within the department, designed to strengthen gender equity across the full cycle of governance.”

The Cell will also serve as an analytical hub, supporting policy assessments, gender-responsive budgeting, and data-driven decision-making, while creating frameworks that can be adapted across departments.

IFPRI’s South Asia Regional Director Shahidur Rashid reaffirmed IFPRI’s support for the state as a long-term technical and knowledge partner.

The inauguration brought together state officials, researchers, development partners, and civil society organisations to build an agricultural system that is equitable, climate-resilient, and future-ready.

Representatives from the Gates Foundation, along with officers from the Agriculture & Farmers’ Empowerment, Fisheries & Animal Resources Development, and Women & Child Development departments, attended the meeting.

# Literature shapes lives, values: Guv

PNN & AGENCIES

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati highlighted the enduring power of literature, calling it not just an art form but a force that shapes character, nurtures empathy and expands moral imagination, while addressing the inaugural ceremony of third edition of SOA Literary Festival at Siksha ‘O’ Anusandhan (SOA) University here Saturday.

“Long before formal education systems evolved, societies learned values such as truth, justice, courage and compassion through stories, poems and epics. Literature invites us to pause, reflect and view the world through perspectives other than our own,” the Governor said.

Emphasising the emotional and moral influence of the written word, Kambhampati said literature becomes a source of strength during moments of crisis and a mirror to society during times of change.



Referring to the changing technological landscape, the Governor said that the festival’s theme — Culture, Creativity and Artificial Intelligence — was both timely and relevant. Technology is rapidly transforming communication and creativity, making it crucial for societies to remain rooted in cultural identity and human values, he said.

“Artificial intelligence may offer speed and precision, but it is culture that gives direction, cre-

ativity and purpose,” he noted.

Expressing delight at being part of an event attended by writers, poets, scholars and artistes from across the country, Kambhampati congratulated veteran poet, lyricist and scriptwriter Padma Bhushan Javed Akhtar, who received the first SOA Sahitya Samman 2025. The award comprises a citation, a shawl, a silver idol of Goddess Saraswati and a cash prize of ₹7 lakh.

In his address, Akhtar said ar-

tificial intelligence (AI) cannot replace the natural creativity of human beings.

Describing language, culture, mythology, poetry and art as great resources, Akhtar said when India gained independence, the country could not even manufacture a needle, but today it has become one of the most industrialised nations of the world.

He said he was honoured to receive the award and urged youth to engage more deeply with literature, language, culture and tradition.

Among others, former secretary of Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, K Sreenivasa Rao, SOA Vice-President Saswati Das and SOA Vice-Chancellor Pradipta Kumar Nanda addressed the gathering.

SOA Literary Festival director Gayatribala Panda delivered the welcome address, while SOA Dean and Chief Coordinator of the festival Jyoti Ranjan Das proposed vote of thanks.

## BRIC–ILS observes Open Day, IISF 2025 curtain raiser event

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** The BRIC–Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar hosted its Open Day and India International Science Festival (IISF) curtain raiser event Saturday, welcoming more than 800 students and educators from across Odisha for an inspiring introduction to frontline research and innovation in the life sciences.

The event served as a platform to ignite curiosity, encourage exploration, and strengthen the connection between young learners and India’s scientific ecosystem. Aligned with the IISF 2025 mission ‘Vigyan Se Samrudhi: for Aatmanirbhar Bharat’, the programme highlighted the role of science-led growth in shaping a self-reliant and globally impactful India. Students learned how innovation, scientific inquiry, and knowledge sharing form the foundation of a prosperous nation.

During the Open Day, participants explored demonstration laboratories and observed ongoing research in cancer biology, infectious diseases, plant biotechnology, genetic disorders, nanotechnology, and translation innovation. Through live demonstrations, hands-on activities, and open discussions with scientists, students gained a clear understanding of how research is conducted and how discoveries are translated into meaningful solutions.

## CLASSIFIED AFFIDAVIT

I, Sri Kalakrushna Pattnayak, 36 of Gandhinagar (Khandia Sahi), Semiliguda, hereby declare that my Son’s correct name is Anshuman Pattnayak, as per Birth Certificate Reg. No. 514/2017. His name is wrongly recorded as Jayanta Pattnayak in his Aadhaar. Both names refer to the same person.

## ODIAPRENEUR SMART ODISHA HACKATHON 3.0

# DHSE launches web portal, eyes 3K participants

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** In order to promote innovation and entrepreneurial thinking among the youth, Directorate of Higher Secondary Education (DHSE), in collaboration with Research and Entrepreneurship wing of IIT Bhubaneswar, and UNICEF organises Odiapreneur Smart Odisha Hackathon 3.0. Students from Higher Secondary Schools and Odisha Adarsha Vidyalayas can take part in the state-level hackathon.

DHSE director Niyati Pattnaik launched the Odiapreneur web portal here Saturday. Through this portal, students can showcase their creative ideas and, with the guidance of their mentors, register their innovative concepts online. Over 3,000 students from across Odisha are expected to participate in the hackathon scheduled from December 2025 and January 2026. More



than 900 innovative ideas are likely to be submitted. Participation will primarily include students of classes XI and XII. The event was attended by OAVs SPD Smita Raut, IIT Bhubaneswar Assistant Professor Naresh Chandra Sahu, UNICEF education specialist Lalita Pattnaik, department’s deputy director CH Vijayalakshmi, and SAMS OIC Umakant Sethy among others.

Speaking on the initiative, DHSE director stated that the Odiapreneur Smart Odisha Hackathon will collect the best innovative ideas from students across the state. “The programme would not only encourage creativity but also offer students opportunities

to interact with industry and entrepreneurs, helping them learn from real-world experiences,” she added. Expressing IIT Bhubaneswar’s enthusiasm, Sahu said that the institute is proud to collaborate with DHSE to empower the next generation of innovators in Odisha. “The hackathon will provide students with a platform to display their talent, creativity, and problem-solving abilities, while experts will mentor them to achieve excellence,” he added. UNICEF’s Lalita Pattnaik appreciated DHSE’s efforts and noted that the hackathon would help channel students’ innovative thinking towards solving real social challenges.

# ₹71.19cr approved for Debrigarh ecotourism project

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** In a major push to position Debrigarh Wildlife sanctuary as a leading ecotourism hub in India, the Odisha government approved the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of ₹71.19 crore for large-scale development in and around the sanctuary and Hirakud wetland. The approval was formally communicated by Deben Kumar Pradhan, Additional Secretary to Forest, Environment and Climate Change department, to the office of the PCCF (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha.

As per reports, the DPR outlines a comprehensive plan focused on sustainable tourism, improved infrastructure and enhanced community-based livelihood opportunities.

The government also clarified that the proposed 100-km-long physical barrier along the sanctuary boundary, aimed at reducing human-animal conflict and supporting wildlife population growth, will be



funded separately under CAM-PA or other State government funds, rather than the main ecotourism budget. The barrier will not cover contiguous forest patches or animal corridors, ensuring that wildlife movement remains uninterrupted.

Speaking about the phased implementation strategy, DFO Anshu Pragyan Das said “Certain components of the DPR will be taken up in the current financial year, while the rest will be undertaken during the summer. Our focus

is to engage more forest-dependent families from nearby villages around Debrigarh, particularly those residing in human-animal conflict zones and co-existence areas.”

“To support community-led ecotourism, 20 eco-friendly tent facilities have already been added at Zeropoint, located outside the sanctuary amid lush green grasslands and farmlands. We are also adding 10 new homestays to the existing five in nearby villages,” she said.

“A 300-metre-long canopy walk, rising nearly 100 feet with treetop views, is being developed outside the sanctuary. Additionally, we are replacing old safari vehicles and cruise boats, upscaling the Island Cafe in Hirakud, and upgrading the Ecotourism cell, booking counter, souvenir shop, and other visitor amenities,” she added.

A temporary glass-and-wood Meditation Centre-cum-Library with a capacity of 80 people will also be developed for nature education programmes and storytelling sessions.

These initiatives will bring meaningful socio-economic benefits to rural communities dependent on Debrigarh sanctuary and Hirakud Wetland. As Debrigarh evolves into a renowned tourism destination blending nature, culture, heritage and religion, these steps will generate employment and accelerate development—while strengthening conservation by reducing dependence on natural resources through economic growth.”

## UDDIPAAN FORUM

# Adolescents as co-creators in City planning: H&UD Min



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** Adolescents are not just users of the City—they are co-creators, Housing & Urban Development Minister Krushna Chandra Mahapatra said Saturday, noting that their assessments help reveal how public spaces shape health, safety, inclusion and well-being. He was speaking as chief guest at “UDDIPAANA – The Future is OURS! Adolescents Co-Designing Smarter Cities,” a civic forum organised by Humara Bachpan Trust (HBT) in collaboration with WRI India.

Affirming the government’s commitment to youth-centric urban planning, the minister highlighted ongoing public space reforms, including child-friendly infrastructure, accessible recreational facilities for children with disabilities, and affordable housing for economically weaker communities.

Speaking on the occasion, BMC Commissioner & BDA Vice Chairman Chanchal Rana said, “Children are honest opinion-givers. When they are prioritised in design, it results in holistic development for people of all ages.

Adolescents must be seen not just as beneficiaries, but as co-designers and active civic participants.”

He committed to adopting adolescent-led assessments and scaling the Public Space Assessment Framework (PSAF) across ward planning, sanitation audits, pedestrian-friendly streets, public amenities and budget-linked implementation.

HBT Founder & Chairperson Dharitri Patnaik highlighted the organisation’s decade-long journey, saying Humara Bachpan Trust is committed to creating safe, healthy and inclusive environments where children, adolescents and women can thrive with dignity. She noted that the Trust has empowered young people to voice their realities, identify challenges and co-create local solutions that reshape governance from the grassroots.

The event concluded with the launch of a White Paper—Reimagining Cities with & for Adolescents—proposing frameworks for adolescent-responsive planning across national urban missions, including AMRUT 2.0, PMAY-U, SBM-U, Smart Cities Mission, and the CDP-2040 Vision. It also created a first-of-its-kind platform for adolescents to engage directly with city administrators, policymakers and urban planners to share ideas for youth-inclusive, people-friendly cities.

WEATHER

|          | BBSR  | CTC   | FORECAST          |
|----------|-------|-------|-------------------|
| Max Temp | 30.5° | 27.4° | Partly Cloudy sky |
| Min Temp | 17.2° | 16.0° |                   |
| Humidity | 68%   | 74%   |                   |
| Rainfall | Nil   | Nil   |                   |

# Mushrooming prawn gheris imperil Bhitarkanika habitat

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Kendrapara, Nov 29:** A silent ecological crisis is unfolding along the coast, where unchecked mushrooming of illegal prawn gheris between Dhamra and Paradip is rapidly reshaping the landscape. What was once a thriving ecosystem is now increasingly dominated by unauthorised aquaculture enclosures—some even encroaching on the protected zones of Bhitarkanika National Park—sparking alarm among conservationists and local communities.

Toxic chemicals and gases released from these shrimp ponds have created what locals describe as a “poison ring”, endangering humans, wildlife, and marine ecosystems alike. Despite a High Court directive to demolish unauthorised prawn enclosures, environmentalists allege that enforcement remains lax and the directive has effectively been ignored.

Activists including Hemant Kumar Rout, Dolagobinda Jena, Pratap Kumar Padhi, and Pratap Kumar Tripathy allege that the state government’s push for brackish water aquaculture has emboldened violators. They



warned that district authorities’ enthusiasm for expanding such projects is undermining Bhitarkanika’s delicate ecosystem.

Inside the protected forest zone, prawn farm owners have reportedly occupied large swathes of land. The constant noise from aerators and water pumps disturbs wildlife, while extensive deforestation to clear space for digging of ponds is accelerating habitat loss. The discharge of chemical-mixed wastewater into canals is killing marine and estuarine species, they said.

Experts estimate that nearly 14 banned substances are being used to speed up shrimp growth. These chemicals are entering rivers and the sea, disrupting the spawning cycle of more than 260 fish species in the Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary. Migratory birds

and dolphins—key indicators of ecological health—also face long-term threats as contamination spreads.

Environmentalists further warned that bringing saline water from the sea into inland ponds is rendering nearby farmlands infertile due to soil salinity, leading to growing conflict among local farmers. While the Orissa High Court has repeatedly directed the district administration to remove unauthorised prawn enclosures, local residents claim eviction drives have largely stalled.

Responding to the allegations, Sub-Collector Arun Kumar Nayak said some farmers have received permission for brackish water aquaculture, but illegal ponds are being removed in a phased manner.

## HM suspended, cook fired after cooker blast injures student

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Nabarangpur, Nov 29:** The in-charge headmaster and hostel warden of Kokadi Semala Ashram School in Kosagumuda block have been suspended, while the hostel cook has been dismissed, after authorities discovered that a Class VII student injured in a pressure cooker blast was kept in the hostel for nine days without medical care.

The action was taken on the District Collector’s directions after former MP Pradeep Majhi rescued the injured boy, Dhaneswar Bhatra, Friday night. Majhi had received a tip-off from a local source, rushed to the hostel, and found the child with severe facial injuries. He took him to the District Collector’s residence at around 10pm for urgent medical attention.

Majhi questioned how neither the School and Mass Education Department nor the ST and SC Development Department—both responsible for the school—was aware of the incident, and held the district administration accountable for supervisory failure.

Following the inquiry, the Block Education Officer suspended in-charge headmaster Kangalicharan Sethi and hostel warden Kapil Sarabu, while PA, ITDA Rajeev Kumar Sahoo terminated cook Dambaru Bhatra.

# Jharsuguda police crack dacoity case; 10 arrested

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Jharsuguda, Nov 29:** In a major breakthrough, Jharsuguda police cracked the high-profile Vinayak Puram Lane dacoity case and arrested 10 persons including two minors in this connection.

The eight adult accused have been identified as Sanjay Singh (53), Akash alias Radhakanta Kanhar (38), Ashok Kumar Panda (58), Jagabandhu Behera (56), Kanha alias Kanha Charan Swain (25), Jitu alias Jitendra Sahoo (30), Anand Rai (24), and Sushila Meher (30).

According to sources, the loot took place November 19 at the residence of Mukesh Buchwani.

After a complaint was reg-



istered, the police initiated an investigation under the direct supervision of the Superintendent of Police (SP). Multiple specialised teams were formed which traced the accused by analysing CCTV footage and the suspects’ possible routes.

The police also used digital tracking, including mobile tower location mapping and call detail record analysis, to

track the accused.

These efforts enabled police to identify, trace and apprehend the accused. The weapons used in the crime, communication devices and vehicles were also seized. In addition, two minors involved in the crime were apprehended.

Police recovered a significant portion of the looted property including ₹37.27 lakh cash, 521 gram gold ornaments and coins worth ₹66.56 lakh, and 14.32 kg silver ornaments, biscuits and coins worth ₹24.77 lakh.

Besides, police have also seized three country-made pistols, 12 rounds of ammunition and two knives and other incriminating articles from their possession.

## 2 Odias among 5 sentenced to 17-year RI for ganja smuggling

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhopal/Boudh/Sonepur, Nov 29:** Two men from Odisha are among five interstate drug traffickers sentenced to 17 years of rigorous imprisonment by a Special NDPS Court in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh, for attempting to smuggle a massive consignment of ganja sourced from the state. Each convict has also been fined ₹1.5 lakh.

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Bhopal Zonal Unit, secured the conviction in a case involving the transport of 1,526 kg of ganja from Sambalpur to Uttar Pradesh in 2023.

The two Odisha natives convicted are Ranjit Nayak, son of Kulamani Nayak of Rundimahal in Boudh district, and Dadhibaman Das, son of Kambal Das of Sonepur. The three others hail from Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

The case dates back to March



23, 2023, when NCB officials from the Indore Zone intercepted a truck and a Maruti Brezza near Bundelkhand Dhaba on NH-30 in Mandla district. A search of the vehicles led to the seizure of the ganja consignment sourced from Sambalpur and destined for Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh.

Following the registration of the case and subsequent investigation, a complaint was filed before the Special NDPS Court September 19, 2023. The court convicted all five accused under Sections 8(C), 20(b)(ii)(C), and 29 of the NDPS Act, 1985 (as amended), November 28, 2025.

## Admin stops child marriage in Nuapada

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Nuapada, Nov 29:** Authorities intervened to stop a child marriage at Siratol village under Nuapada police limits after receiving information from the district coordinator of the District Social Welfare Office, Ranjan Sahu.

Navaneeta Dash, secretary of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), dispatched two paralegal volunteers to verify the situation. After confirming the incident, a team led by the Nuapada SDPO, along with officers from Nuapada Police Station, Child Marriage Prohibition Officer Nirupa Nag, District Child Protection Officer Manju Shukla, and DLSA paralegal volunteer Krushna Kumar Dewangan, reached the village.

The team halted the marriage proceedings and counselled the family members, urging them not to conduct marriages of minors. Officials explained that under the Juvenile Justice Act and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, conducting a marriage before the legally permitted age is a punishable offence. They warned that action would be taken against anyone involved in such unlawful activities.

Following the intervention, the family agreed to stop the marriage and submitted a written undertaking to the police and district administration.

## Four arrested over mobile phone theft

**Berhampur:** Police Saturday seized 342 mobile phones of different brands worth around ₹17 lakh and arrested four persons from Ganjam district, officials said. Preliminary investigation suggests that the accused stole the phones from crowded places in the state and outside it, especially in Andhra Pradesh, SP (Berhampur) Saravana Vivek M said. They also brought stolen mobile phones at low prices from outside Odisha, he said.

## Prime accused held in ₹7.99-lakh cyber fraud

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Angul, Nov 29:** Angul district police have arrested the prime accused in a cyber fraud case involving ₹7.99 lakh, Superintendent of Police Rahul Jain said at a press briefing held at the Cyber PS here, Saturday.

According to police, a woman employee of a bank in Angul received a WhatsApp message containing an APK file disguised as a KYC update July 26.

After she downloaded and installed the file, cybercriminals gained remote access to her mobile phone. Soon after, a total of ₹7,99,899 was withdrawn from her savings account in multiple transactions. The victim lodged a complaint at the Angul Cyber police station, where a case (15/25) was registered.

Given the seriousness of the offence, the SP formed a special team to investigate the case. Acting on technical leads, po-

lice conducted raids at several locations in Jharkhand and arrested the main accused, 21-year-old Roushan Kumar from Ranchi. During interrogation, Roushan allegedly confessed to committing the fraud along with an associate, Sunil Kumar. Police recovered a mobile phone and an Aadhaar card from his possession. Efforts are underway to trace and arrest the other individuals involved in the fraud, the SP said.

## Massive pygmy killer whale found dead at Bhadrak’s Kasia jetty



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Basudevpur, Nov 29:** A massive pygmy killer whale was found dead near Kasia fishing jetty in Basudevpur block of Bhadrak district Saturday morning.

Local residents and fishermen flocked to the site to catch a glimpse of the rare marine mammal, which had apparently washed ashore creating a mix of curiosity and concern among onlookers.

Forest and marine fisheries officials later collaborated to bring the carcass to the shore. According to Basudevpur Range Officer Atulya Kumar Mohanty, the pygmy killer whale weighed approximately 8–10 quintals, measured 15 feet in length, and about 6 feet in girth.

“This species of pygmy killer whale typically resides in deep waters,” Mohanty said. “It probably sustained injuries from a boat or launch, causing it to drift towards the shore.”

With assistance from the Forest department, Marine Fisheries officials,

and local fishermen, the whale was transported to the Basudevpur forest department office. There, Dr Sudipta Jena, the block veterinary officer, and Jagadish Barik, marine fisheries extension officer, conducted a necropsy, collecting tissue and blood samples for further analysis. Residents of Basudevpur again gathered at the office to witness the rare sight. Authorities said an investigation is underway to determine the exact cause of the animal’s death.

The pygmy killer whale (*Feresa attenuata*) is a small, rarely seen oceanic dolphin with a scientific name derived from its similarity to the orca, or killer whale. It is found in tropical and subtropical waters globally and is known for its distinctive markings, such as white lips and dark eyepatch-like markings.

While its name includes “killer whale”, it is the smallest cetacean species to have “whale” in its common name and is a species of dolphin within the Delphinidae family.



श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय  
भारत सरकार  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

# LABOUR CODES MADE EFFECTIVE

“The nation is proud of its workforce.  
Shram eva Jayate!,,  
-Prime Minister, Narendra Modi



## MODI GOVERNMENT’S GUARANTEE FOR TEXTILE WORKERS

- ✔ Mandatory appointment letter for all workers
- ✔ Minimum and timely wages for all workers
- ✔ Annual paid leave after 180 days of work in the calendar year
- ✔ Fixed-term employees to receive benefits at par with permanent employees; gratuity just after one year of service
- ✔ Provisions for standard working hours and double overtime wages
- ✔ Women are permitted to work in night shifts with consent and adequate

## Labour Reforms for Aatmanirbhar Bharat

CBC 23101/13/0010/2526

# 28 yrs on, electricity finally reaches Subarnapur village

*A month after CM order, DM inaugurates power supply in the village*

POST NEWS NETWORK

**Dharakote, Nov 29:** After 28 years, electricity finally reached Subarnapur village under Jhadabandh panchayat in Ganjam district Saturday, a month after Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi’s intervention. With light bulbs illuminating their homes for the first time, villagers danced and played drums in celebration.

For decades, the community lived in darkness, with children studying



under dim lantern light and kerosene lamps. Media reports highlighting the lack of electricity in Subarnapur recently drew the attention of

the Chief Minister, who expressed displeasure and directed District Magistrate V Keerthi Vasan to ensure immediate power supply to the village Saturday.

Acting swiftly, the district administration coordinated with the power authorities to complete the installation. Putting an end to the decades-long wait, the District Magistrate formally inaugurated the village’s new electricity connection.

Bhanjanagar Sub-Collector Uma Shankar Behera, BDO Sangram Keshari Jena, ABDO Sushil Pattnaik, Zilla Parishad member Pratap Swain, Sarpanch Jogendra Swain and departmental officials were present at the event.

“A thought is an arrow shot at the truth; it can hit a point, but not cover the whole target. But the archer is too well satisfied with his success to ask anything farther.”

SRI AUROBINDO



## Justice Denied

Last month, along with Pakistan and Iraq, India was elected to the UN Human Rights Council from Asia. The UNHRC says it is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe’ which presumably includes inside India as well.

India’s government made much of being elected (as may be expected) and its statement said the election ‘reflects India’s unwavering commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms. We look forward to serve this objective during our tenure.’ Yes, of course.

I wanted to focus on a particular case that will illustrate the condition of human rights in India because there is no point talking in abstract terms. India’s conduct on this front should be judged with respect to those whose rights it intentionally violates.

On 22 November 2025, Khurram Parvez marked four years in detention without trial. He sits hundreds of kilometres away from his home in Srinagar, held in Delhi’s Rohini jail, while his wife and two young children wait in Kashmir for a justice system that has refused to move. His imprisonment has become one of the most emblematic examples of how India’s counter-terrorism law, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or UAPA, is being used to silence human rights defenders.

Even in New India, Jammu and Kashmir remains one of the most heavily militarised regions in the world. It continues to witness unlawful killings, punitive home demolitions, arbitrary arrests under abusive administrative detention laws, unlawful surveillance, and travel bans. It is a place where people already denied basic rights have been further stripped of dignity. Residents live under a government they elected, but the central government has hollowed out its powers, as we can see in the bulldozing of a journalist’s house this week. For these reasons, Khurram Parvez’s work documenting these abuses was not only necessary, it was indispensable.

For two decades, Parvez had been one of Kashmir’s most respected and renowned human rights voices. I can vouch for this because I have been on global panels where his incarceration has been discussed with concern.

As Program Coordinator of the Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS), Parvez helped build one of the region’s most credible human rights groups. Through painstaking documentation of torture, indefinite detention, and enforced disappearances, JKCCS produced work so rigorous that the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights relied extensively on it in its 2018 and 2019 reports on Kashmir.

It is precisely this work that made him a target. On 21 November 2021, the National Investigation Agency arrested him on charges of “terror funding,” “conspiracy,” and even “waging war against the state.” Four years later, despite a long list of accusations, trial has not yet begun in his case. Parvez remains jailed with no clarity on when, or whether, he will ever see a courtroom.

He isn’t alone. In March 2023, journalist Irfan Mehraj, who was also associated with JKCCS, was arrested in the same case. In August that year, the NIA raided the home of JKCCS founder Parvez Imroz and summoned him to Delhi for interrogation. Raids and summonses without a lawful basis strike at the heart of freedom of association and expression, and when accompanied by detention, threaten the rights to privacy, liberty, and security.

International human rights bodies have repeatedly raised concerns. In June 2023, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concluded that Parvez’s detention was arbitrary and called for his immediate release. To date, Indian authorities have neither complied nor provided any updates to the Working Group. This is not the first time Parvez has faced reprisals for engaging with the UN. In September 2016, he was blocked from travelling to Geneva to attend a Human Rights Council session and was arbitrarily detained for 76 days. His case has been included in the UN Secretary-General’s annual report on reprisals every year since 2018. In October 2023, UN human rights experts again raised concerns about UAPA, particularly its 180-day pre-trial detention period, which can be further extended. They called this excessive and urged India to reform the law in line with international human rights standards.

The world also owes this to Parvez and to JKCCS. Their work illuminated the human rights violations faced by hundreds of thousands of Kashmiris for nearly two decades. Today he is one of the most striking casualties of the expanding misuse of counter-terrorism laws in India. His case is emblematic of the threats faced by human rights defenders everywhere who challenge power and are swiftly branded as enemies of the state. When those who investigate, document, or speak about abuses must do so under fear of reprisal, India cannot credibly claim to be a country governed by the rule of law.

Khurram Parvez should never have been arrested in the first place. A single day in detention would have been an injustice for a human rights defender whose only “crime” has been to document human rights abuses. Yet he has now spent more than four years behind bars. Every additional day of his detention is a reminder why his immediate release is long overdue. His cruel detention should educate Indians about the actual position of human rights in India. It is contrary to the bombast put out by our government, preening on its perch on the UN Human Rights Council and pretending it is ‘strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe’.

### WISDOM CORNER

“Out of suffering have emerged the strongest souls; the most massive characters are seared with scars.”

KHAIL GIBRAN

“It is difficult to complete every goal easily. For a man, too, to be a human, is no easy feat.”

MIRZA GHALIB

“We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.”

TS ELIOT

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- 1782: Britain and the United States signed the preliminary articles of the Treaty of Paris as part of the Peace of Paris, a collection of treaties concluding the American Revolution.
- 1939: After Finland refused to grant the Soviet Union a naval base and other concessions in the fall of 1939, Soviet troops totaling about one million men attacked Finland on several fronts, initiating the Russo-Finnish War.
- 1966: Barbados, an island nation in the Caribbean situated about 100 miles (160 km) east of the Windward Islands, had gained internal self-rule in 1961 and achieved its full independence from Britain on this day.

FOCUS G20 SUMMIT

INEQUALITY CRISIS



More than 40% of the wealth generated since the start of the century has gone to the wealthiest 1%, while the bottom half of the world’s population received just 1%

This month’s G20 Summit in Johannesburg marked several historic firsts. For starters, it was the group’s first-ever summit in Africa, and the first to include the African Union as a full-fledged member. It also set less encouraging precedents: it was the first meeting boycotted by a key founding member – the United States – on spurious grounds, and the first in which that same country tried to prevent the host from issuing a final declaration. Equally unprecedented was South Africa’s decision to ignore the American threat and issue one anyway.

As G20 president, South Africa invited delegations from Africa and other parts of the world to participate as guests, underscoring the continued importance of multilateral dialogue and cooperation.

South Africa’s inclusive approach paved the way for another landmark moment: for the first time, G20 leaders formally addressed the issue of global inequality. The impetus was the recent report by the Extraordinary Committee of Independent Experts on Global Inequality. Chaired by Nobel laureate economist Joseph Stiglitz, the committee (of which I was a member) synthesized a large body of research and drew on consultations with 80 prominent scholars to present a comprehensive picture of economic disparities worldwide.

The conclusions are hardly reassuring : although global inequality has declined since the early 2000s, this is largely due to rising incomes in China. While inequality between countries has fallen, the gulf between the richest and poorest countries remains unacceptably wide. Nine out of ten people now live in countries with high inequality – even by the World Bank’s relatively conservative standards. The distribution of income

within countries is equally distorted. Wage shares of national income have declined in most economies over the past few decades, while capital income has become increasingly concentrated. Large firms now account for the bulk of corporate profits, with multinational corporations taking the lion’s share.

These developments reflect a broader trend: the concentration of income and wealth at the very top. Of the two, wealth is far more unequally distributed, as its explosive growth in recent decades has been overwhelmingly skewed toward those who were already rich. More than 40% of the wealth generated since the start of the century has gone to the wealthiest 1%, while the bottom half of the world’s population received just 1%.

Even within the top 1%, the gains have been largely captured by the ultra-wealthy – arguably the most extreme concentration of wealth in human history. The result is a class of global plutocrats whose unprecedented resources enable them to shape laws, institutions, and policies; influence public opinion through their control of media; and tilt judicial sys-

tems in their favor. Contrary to neoliberal economists’ claims, high inequality does not spur economic growth; it suppresses it. When inherited wealth is privileged over earned income, incentives to innovate shrink. And since the consumption and investment patterns of the ultra-wealthy are vastly more carbon-intensive and resource-depleting, extreme inequality also undermines environmental sustainability and climate action.

As we argue in our report, inequality has become an emergency that must be treated with the same urgency as climate change. Like the climate crisis, the inequality crisis can be partly attributed to the legacy of colonialism, as well as long-standing socio-cultural structures. But above all, it reflects the legal, institutional, regulatory, and policy choices that have allowed a few to enrich themselves at the expense of everyone else.

There is no shortage of examples. Financial liberalization and repeated government bailouts have protected wealth at the top. Stringent intellectual-property regimes have created monopolies over knowledge. The privatization of essential public goods and services has

further entrenched disparities. And outdated tax systems have enabled large multinational firms and wealthy individuals to avoid paying their fair share. Taken together, these policies have dramatically shifted the balance between public and private wealth. As governments privatized assets and accumulated debt – often to subsidize or guarantee private capital – public balance sheets deteriorated while private fortunes soared.

The good news is that since these trends are the product of political choices, they can be reversed. But doing so requires a clearer understanding of the problem. Despite the explosion of research and the emergence of promising analytical methods, major blind spots remain, making it harder to design effective policies that curb inequality.

That is the central message of our report. While it includes many policy recommendations, its most urgent and practical proposal is the creation of an international panel of experts on inequality. Loosely modeled on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the proposed panel would rely on voluntary contributions from researchers around the world and serve as an authoritative, accessible source of information for governments and the public. Such knowledge would support policymakers genuinely seeking to reduce inequality. Perhaps more importantly, it would empower citizens to demand the policy changes and reforms needed to build just and equitable societies.

The writer, Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is Co-Chair of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.

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### SPECTRUM SOCIETY

## Countering radicalisation wisely

A new wave of radicalization amongst people, mostly the young generation, frustrated and outraged by current trends in politics and society is raising its ugly head. India’s phase of counter terror strategy must shift from containment to prevention. According to political analysts, radicals must be treated as a strategic priority and their movements and operations watched carefully. The recent blast near the Red Fort in capital Delhi is a testimony.

The term ‘white-collar terrorism’ has suddenly burst into the national consciousness amid charges of a Kashmiri doctor’s involvement in the blast and the arrests of two of his peers in connection with an inter-state and transnational terror module. Some have cautioned against a knee-jerk attribution of the trend to the hold-all phenomenon of radicalisation and stressed the feeling of stage and subjugation many Kashmiris feel.

Delving into the aspect of terror, it may be mentioned that UAPA is India’s third terror statute. India enacted its first anti-terror law called the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act in 1987 to counter the Punjab insurgency.

It soon became a machinery for abuse – torture, coerced confessions and endless pre-trial detentions. Its successor, Prevention of Terrorism Act (2002) repeated the pattern until the UPA-I government repealed it, condemning it as “a slur on democracy”.

The Supreme Court once pruned TADA and POTA by reading in procedural safeguards. Yet it has never constitutionally reviewed the UAPA. The court stated in February 2025 that petitions challenging the 2019 UAPA amendment, which gives the Centre powers to label people as terrorists, must first be heard by the high courts.

The experience of anti-terror laws in India also demonstrates an inherent linguistic challenge. UAPA’s unlawful activity criminalises any act intended to disrupt the ‘sovereignty and integrity’ of India. It empowers the executive to label its enemies as terrorists. Analysts are of the opinion that UAPA stands today as a case study in how legal measures taken in the name of national security can curdle into perpetual exception. The real courage of a free nation lies not in how harshly it punishes its enemies but in how faithfully it restrains them through prop-

er counselling.

In analysing terror and other violence-related activities in different parts of the country, it’s vital to delve into reasons for such actions, which have become frequent. There is a need to understand the societal trends and the anguish and despair of the common people, especially those belonging to Gen-Next. The lack of employment opportunities, the waywardness of youth and their exploitation by political leaders to serve partisan interests have aggravated the situation and upset the social balance.

To stop violence in society and communal frenzy and to understand the despair and frustration of youth, deeper understanding of the political and economic systems of the country is needed. The present policies are moving ahead with misplaced priorities in the development process where concern for the impoverished and marginalised sections is lacking.

There is need to follow a decentralised approach and develop bondage and fellow-feeling within communities for peace and greater understanding.

Interestingly, governments not only in India but across South Asia, notably Pakistan and Bangladesh, are not follow-

ing the path of justice. They are all interested in distracting the attention of the young generation towards caste and religion without weaving out a policy for their rehabilitation. Why is this happening? Can it be called progress, and will it bring harmony in society?

Importantly, there’s a need to generate awareness across the nation. Radicalism can’t be countered by suspicion but through inclusion i.e. by engaging civil society, educators and trusted community leaders towards awareness generation. Counselling, vocational training and reintegration can break this cycle so that the community becomes stronger to counter grievance and distorted beliefs.

Finally, there is need to remember father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi, who throughout his life advocated the need for decentralisation and understanding the problems and aspirations of the masses in weaving out a development policy that benefits them. Sadly, this remains ignored today as a genuine inclusive and judicious development policy is missing. The question arises how soon this transformation will come about, if at all?

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## Letters

### TO THE EDITOR

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

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Bhubaneswar-751010

### Killer exercise

Sir, It is unfortunate that the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) appointed by the Election Commission to conduct the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voters’ list are overburdened with this task. They must distribute new enumeration forms to all voters in their zone, guide them in filling out the forms, collect them after repeated visits, and then hand them over to the respective offices of the EC for data upload into their systems. In addition to this workload, their mobile phones ring incessantly, and they must respond to every call from voters seeking clarification about the enumeration form, which contains many complicated and ambiguous questions. The task of tracing the names and other details of those who voted in 2002 also falls on the BLOs, making the entire process extremely strenuous and time-consuming. It is alleged that many BLOs have committed suicide, unable to cope with the stress caused by the SIR exercise. One wonders why the EC requires voters to go from pillar to post to collect details of their 2002 votes, which could easily be retrieved by the EC itself, since all the records are already in their possession. This would significantly reduce the burden on BLOs and spare the public—especially the less educated—from unnecessary hardship, unless the EC’s intention is to disenfranchise those who are unable to provide such information.

Tharcus S Fernando, CHENNAI

### Manipur ambush

Sir, The recent ambush in Manipur’s Tengenpoul district near India-Mayanmar border resulted in injury of at least four Assam Rifles personnel sparks deep concern. Despite the tight security measures in the region, such invasion by unidentified heavily-armed forces threatens peace and safety. Our soldiers are putting their lives at stake to save the dignity of the nation, yet they face terror assaults one after another on border areas. Government thus must fortify intelligence agencies in order to permanently restrain terrorist elements insuring the lives of selflessly contributing soldiers; the crown and pride of our nation and innocent civilians as well.

Kyamudin Ansari, MUMBAI



# Delhi's AQI improves, still 'very poor'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 29: Even though Delhi's air quality remained in the 'very poor' range Saturday, pollution levels dipped marginally with the average AQI settling at 305 -- a slight improvement driven by favourable wind direction and speed, and the winding down of stubble burning in neighbouring regions.

The air quality is expected to remain in the 'very poor' zone for the next few days. With wind speeds likely to remain on the higher side, the Air Quality Index (AQI) may not slip into the 'severe' category for at least the next two days, Mahesh Palawat, Vice President (Meteorology and Climate Change) at Skymet Weather, said.

Meanwhile, Delhi continued to inhale 'unfit' air, with the av-



erage AQI recorded in the 'very poor' category for the 16th consecutive day. The capital's overall AQI settled at 305 Saturday after logging 369 Friday, 377 Thursday, 327 Wednesday, 352 Tuesday, and 382 Monday, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

According to the CPCB, an AQI between 0 and 50 is considered 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor', and 401-500 'severe'. The CPCB's Sameer app showed that none of the 38 active monitoring station in Delhi recorded AQI in the 'se-

vere' range Saturday, compared to eight stations which displayed 'severe' readings a day earlier.

The Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi has forecast that AQI will remain in the 'very poor' zone over the coming week. Saturday, surface winds blew from the northwest at speeds up to 15 kmph, through the afternoon and evening.

As per CPCB data, out of 38 monitoring stations in the city, 15 recorded 'poor' air quality, one logged AQI in the 'moderate' category, while the rest remained in the 'very poor' range.

The Decision Support System of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, estimated that vehicular emissions contributed 18.7 per cent to Delhi's pollutants Saturday.

It is projected to be around 18.6 per cent Sunday.

# Hopes pinned on snowfall to revive J&K's tourism: CM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Srinagar, Nov 29: In the wake of the Pahalgam attack and Delhi blast, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Saturday said 2025 has not been good for tourism, but pinned hope on snowfall reviving the sector and helping attract more visitors to the valley.

"This year has not been easy for us from a tourism point of view. Be it Pahalgam, Delhi, and Nowgam, it has had a huge impact on our tourism," Abdullah told reporters here on the sidelines of a tourism event.

April 22, 26 persons, mostly tourists, were killed in a terror attack in Baisaran meadows at the famous tourist resort of Pahalgam in south Kashmir. November 10, a car blast took place near the Red Fort in Delhi, killing 15 people, while an accidental blast in Nowgam police station here on November 14 killed 9 people.

"The key to (increasing) footfall is snowfall. We had a totally dry November. It is hoped that God will bless us and we will have good snowfall in December. When it snows, we think places like Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Sonamarg, and Srinagar will benefit from that, but it is up to God. The sooner it snows, the sooner our winter tourism season will start," he said.

Abdullah stated that while tourists were visiting the valley, the numbers were lower.

"Tourists are coming, maybe not in the numbers that we want them to, but they are coming. When we started the Chrysanthemum garden, tourism got a boost, and when it snows, more tourists will start coming," he said.



**Tourists are coming, maybe not in numbers that we want them to, but they are coming. When we started the Chrysanthemum garden, tourism got a boost, and when it snows, more tourists will start coming**

OMAR ABDULLAH | J&K CM

He expressed hope for an increase in tourists around Christmas and New Year.

The preparations and promotions that needed to be done by the government have been done, the chief minister said.

"Promotion is the main thing in tourism. The more promotion and marketing you can do, the more people can come," he added. Earlier, the chief minister attended the launch of SKÅL International Club's Kashmir Chapter here, marking a significant step towards strengthening global tourism linkages and expanding international outreach in the tourism sector.

The initiative is poised to open new avenues for sustainable tourism, international collaboration, and long-term

growth, while integrating Jammu and Kashmir with global tourism networks.

Addressing the function, Abdullah said that SKÅL's core values resonate deeply with the ethos of Jammu and Kashmir.

"If you look at SKÅL and you look at tourism in Kashmir, you realise that there are synergies that automatically become apparent. The word SKÅL is Nordic, and the translation of those four words is good health, friendship, long life and happiness," he said.

Underscoring the growing emphasis on responsible and sustainable tourism, Abdullah said that tourism must evolve in a manner that protects both people and the environment.

"If tourism is not responsible and sustainable, it will not last. A cornerstone of our recent activities has been to make tourism more responsible and more sustainable," he added.

The chief minister revealed that the government is preparing to develop nine new tourism destinations as a megaproject entailing huge investment.

## Night temp improves marginally in Kashmir

Srinagar: The cold conditions in Kashmir eased a bit as the night temperatures improved at most places owing to cloudy skies but remained below the freezing point, meteorological department officials said Saturday. A layer of fog engulfed most parts of the valley, especially areas around water bodies. Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of minus 3.1 degrees Celsius Friday night, up from minus 4.5 degrees Celsius, the season's coldest, the night before, the officials said. Konibal in south Kashmir's Pulwama district was the coldest place in the valley Friday night with a minimum temperature of minus 6 degrees Celsius. Qazigund, the gateway town to the valley, recorded a low of minus 3.4 degrees Celsius. The mercury settled at minus 4.9 degrees Celsius in north Kashmir's Kupwara.



A person walks past frost-covered plantations on a cold winter morning in Srinagar, Saturday. Kashmir is experiencing its coldest November since 2007, with minimum temperatures dipping below the freezing point across several locations.

PTI PHOTO

# Hot air balloon at Baansera Park draws visitors of all ages

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 29: The hot air balloon rides at the Delhi Development Authority's (DDA) Baansera Park near Sarai Kale Khan Saturday had visitors from all age groups flocking the grounds to witness the unique escapade.

From children to the elderly, people gathered around the towering balloon as it lifted for its voyage across the capital skyline -- with visitors snapping pictures and video clips of the curious ride.

While the privately managed rides started around 4 pm, several visitors -- many of them waiting to experience the balloon ride for the first time in their lives -- reached the venue early to secure themselves a spot.

Anil Jain, an octogenarian from Rajouri Garden, said the hot air balloon ride had peaked his curiosity, drawing him to the park only to witness it in person.

"This is only the second time I have seen something like this here. I had taken a hot air balloon ride nearly 25 years ago



near the Red Fort," he said.

Deepak Jain, who had bought three tickets for his family, was among the first riders of the day.

"It was our first experience, and we were thrilled. From the balloon, we could see the Akshardham Temple, Humayun's Tomb and the beautiful stretch of the Yamuna river," he said.

His wife, Babita Jain, however, said more arrangements should be made for elderly passengers.

"We had to climb into the basket and then get down the same way. There should be a gate or an easier entry way for elderly people," she said.

The inaugural price of the tickets were Rs 2,000 plus taxes, a spokesperson for the private firm said, adding that the balloons went up to around 100 feet in the air.

Each trip lasted between seven and twelve minutes and accommodated four people at a time.

## NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN

# Over 10k letters sent to SC in support of animal rights

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 29: A nationwide letter-petition campaign urging citizens to write to the Supreme Court in support of animal rights and humane coexistence was held Saturday, with Delhi alone contributing nearly 10,000 submissions. The initiative is being led by animal welfare activist Ambika Shukla.

The campaign encouraged people to visit their nearest post office November 29 and mail a handwritten letter to the Supreme Court, highlighting concerns related to animal protection, justice, and compassionate policies.

Templates in English and Hindi were circulated to help participants draft their letters, said Kunal, an animal rights activist.



He said the public response has exceeded expectations.

"This movement shows how deeply people care about animal welfare. A handwritten letter carries sincerity, and by now more than 10,000 letters have already been submitted," Kunal added.

Another activist, Mukesh

Chauhan, said the initiative aims to bring focus to humane and sustainable coexistence with animals. "When someone takes the time to write a letter, they think seriously about the responsibilities we share towards animals. That reflection makes this campaign powerful," he said.

Organisers said the effort seeks to create a unified petition, calling for stronger protections and compassionate solutions for animals. In an order dated November 7, the Supreme Court directed states and Union territories to remove stray dogs from institutional areas and relocate them to designated shelters after due sterilisation and vaccination in accordance with the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023.

## Delhi CM distributes LPG cylinders to 250 women

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 29: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta Saturday distributed LPG cylinders and stoves to 250 women under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) at a programme in the Wazirpur area.

Gupta said the scheme is not merely a benefit but the beginning of a brighter, healthier life, and a significant step for women's well-being and environmental protection. She noted that, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ujjwala Yojana has enabled more than 2.5 lakh families in Delhi to access smoke-free kitchens. Ensuring the availability of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) connections in every household is not only a step towards safeguarding women's health, but also a mission to advance Delhi towards cleaner air and a pollution-free future, the chief minister said.

"Delhi is determined to phase out wood and coal-based cooking practices," she said.

# 'Will cater to region's defence establishment'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, Nov 29: A new Jaipur-Delhi express train service was launched Saturday, aiming to improve civilian access and support strategic mobility in the frontier region.

The train, flagged off from Jaipur by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, will operate as the Swarn Nagari Express.

The announcement comes amid the Centre's broader plan to strengthen transport links across Rajasthan's border districts, which have long faced limited rail options despite high military presence and growing tourism, an official statement said. Addressing the ceremony, Vaishnaw said the service would cater to both civilian passengers and the region's sizeable defence establishment.

Vaishnaw said projects worth Rs

55,000 crore are under implementation in Rajasthan.

He said work on several new lines, including the corridor connecting Anupgarh-Barmer, is progressing through "different technical stages", adding that improved rail access in these districts has strategic relevance.

The minister noted that Rajasthan has seen "a sharp rise in railway allocations over the past decade", enabling

the rollout of new services, track renewal work and station redevelopment. Jaipur station, recently up-

graded at Rs 140 crore, is among 85 stations being modernised in the state at a total cost of Rs 4,000 crore, he said.

"Railway development has gained unprecedented momentum under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guidance. Rajasthan, before 2014, received only Rs 680 crore annually, today, the allocation is close to Rs 10,000 crore," Vaishnaw said.

## EAST COAST RAILWAY

Tender No. 35-KUR-TRD-OT-2025-26

**Name of Work:** PROVISION OF AUXILIARY TRANSFORMERS (AT) AND ONE MODIFICATION IN CONNECTION WITH PROVISION OF INTERMEDIATE BLOCK SIGNALLING (IBS) BETWEEN KENDUAPADA (KED)-MANJURI ROAD (MZZ) STATIONS.

**Advertised Value:** ₹ 21,70,505.09, Earnest Money: ₹ 43,400.00, Period of Completion: 180 Days.

**Bidding Start Date:** 04.12.2025.

**Date & time of tender closing:** At 1300 hrs. on 16.12.2025.

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.

Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website: [www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in)

**Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD) PR-845/Q/25-26** Khurda Road



**OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, NABARANGPUR FOREST DIVISION**  
Phone No.06858-223314 (OFFICE/FAX), Cell No. 09437094840  
Email - [dfo.nabarangpur@odisha.gov.in](mailto:dfo.nabarangpur@odisha.gov.in)



Letter No.6006      **Invitation For Bids (IFB)**      Date : 24.11.2025

**e-Procurement Bid Identification No. DFO(NGP)-FE & CC-02/2025-26**  
No.MM-297 : Bid Documents consisting of Work, Estimated Cost, Cost of Tender Paper, EMD, Time of Completion, Class of Contractors and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e. [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in).

|     |                                                |                                                                         |
|-----|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | Name of the Work                               | Construction of Civil, EI & GPH and Sanitary Works as mentioned in DTGN |
| 2.  | No. of Work                                    | 5 Nos.                                                                  |
| 3.  | Estimated Cost                                 | Rs.10.79/- Lakhs to Rs.16.77/- Lakhs                                    |
| 4.  | No. of Covers                                  | Single Cover                                                            |
| 5.  | Class of Contractor                            | 'D' & 'C' Class Contractor                                              |
| 6.  | Period of Completion                           | 3.5 Calendar Months                                                     |
| 7.  | Date & Time of Bidding                         | 16:00 Hrs of 01.12.2025 to 16:00 Hrs of 10.12.2025                      |
| 8.  | Last date & time for receipt of bids in Portal | 16:00 Hrs of 10.12.2025                                                 |
| 9.  | Bids received online shall be opened on        | 11:00 hours of 11.12.2025                                               |
| 10. | Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid   | Divisional Forest Officer, Nabarangpur Forest Division, Nabarangpur     |

Further details can be seen from the website : [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)  
Sd/- Divisional Forest Officer, Nabarangpur Forest Division  
OIPR-08158/11/0006/2526



**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
RURAL WORKS DIVISION-II, SUNDARGARH**  
E-Mail : [rw\\_rourkela@yahoo.co.in](mailto:rw_rourkela@yahoo.co.in)



**TENDER CALL NOTICE**  
**BID IDENTIFICATION NO. ONLINE-EERKL-21 of 2025-26**

1. Name of the work : Roads, 2. Total No. of work : 02 (Two) Nos, 3. Estimated Cost : Rs 12.12 Lakhs to 17.71 Lakhs, 4. Class of Contractor : "D" & "C" Class, 5. Period of Completion : 01 (One) Calendar Month, 6. Type of Tender : Single Cover, 7. Other details :

|                                                         |                              |                                            |                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Procurement Officer                                     | Bid Identification No.       | Availability of Tender on-line for bidding |                           |
| 1                                                       | 2                            | 3                                          | 4                         |
| Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division-II, Sundargarh | Online - EERKL-21 of 2025-26 | 01.12.2025 from 10.00 A.M.                 | 06.12.2025 upto 5.00 P.M. |

Further details can be seen from the website [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)  
Sd/- Executive Engineer  
RW Division-II, Sundargarh  
OIPR-25193/11/0095/2526



**DHARANIDHAR UNIVERSITY  
KEONJHAR-758001**  
No.3576/Date: 29.11.2025



**Corrigendum to the Advertisement No.3117 Dt.18/10/2025**

No. CAD-2535:- The last date of submission of application for Guest faculty recruitment is hereby extended 07th December, 2025 by 05 P.M. For further detail and other information visit our University website <http://dduniversity.ac.in>.

Sd/- Registrar  
Dharanidhar University, Keonjhar



**Government of Odisha "e" Tender Notice  
Bid Identification No.15 RWS&S/KJR 2025-26**  
No. 2975 Dt.24.11.2025



No O-1581      e-mail: [eerwss22keonjhar@gmail.com](mailto:eerwss22keonjhar@gmail.com)

|                                                                |                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. No. of the work:-                                           | 01 No. of Pipe Line Work                           |
| 2. Estimated Cost:-                                            | Rs.15.28 Lakh                                      |
| 3. Period of completion:-                                      | 03 (Three) Calendar Months                         |
| 4. Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal | From 10.00 Hr 01.12.2025 to 17.00 Hr of 10.12.2025 |
| 5. Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal:-          | 17.00 Hr of 10.12.2025                             |
| 6. Date of opening of Bid from portal:-                        | 10.30 Hr of 11.12.2025                             |
| 7. Name and address of the officer inviting Bid:-              | Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Keonjhar       |

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://tendersodisha.gov.in>"  
Sd/- Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Keonjhar  
OIPR-25023/11/0001/2526

of the day  
**QUOTE**

Railway development has gained unprecedented momentum under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guidance. Rajasthan, before 2014, received only ₹680 crore annually, today, the allocation is close to ₹10,000 crore

ASHWINI VAISHNAW | RAILWAY MINISTER

Gandhiji wrote in (his book) Hind Swaraj that we were not united before the British came, but that is a false narrative taught to us by them

MOHAN BHAGWAT | RSS CHIEF

If ministers are openly making such statements, it only validates the Congress and Rahul Gandhi's repeated allegations of vote theft

HARSHWARDHAN SAPKAL | CONGRESS PRESIDENT, MAHARASHTRA

**SHORT TAKES**

**Myanmar nationals misused Indians' GST**

**New Delhi:** Investigation into a cross-border narcotics trafficking racket has found that Myanmarese nationals “misused” GST credentials of Indians to facilitate purchase of raw material required for manufacturing drugs, the ED said. The federal probe agency had conducted its first-ever searches along the India-Myanmar border November 27 following registration of a money laundering case into a drugs trafficking case of Mizoram. Locations across Aizawl and Champhai (along India-Myanmar border) in Mizoram, Sribhum (Karimganj) in Assam and Ahmedabad in Gujarat were raided under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

**Woman ‘molested’ in moving car, 3 held**

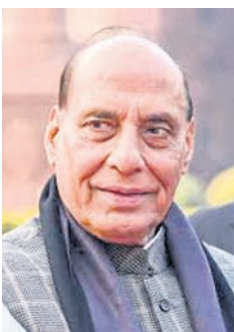
**Kolkata:** A woman was allegedly molested by three persons in a moving car on E M Bypass in the city, a senior police officer said Saturday. Three persons were arrested in connection with the incident, which took place on Friday night. The woman in her complaint said that as she was waiting for bus near Ambedkar Bridge on E M Bypass, a car stopped near her and the occupants offered her a lift. After she boarded the car, the three men molested her and drove the vehicle to different parts of the city after forcing her to drink something laced with drugs, she told the police.

**Old woman allegedly dies by suicide**

**Kolkata:** A middleaged woman died after allegedly setting herself on fire in West Bengal's Purbha Bardhaman district, with her family claiming she was under severe mental stress due to the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, which began November 4. Mustara Khatun Kazi (50), who was unmarried and lived with her parents, had been deeply anxious about the ongoing SIR verification, despite her name appearing in the 2002 voter list, a senior police official said, quoting family members.

**Several leaders in Latur quit Congress**

**Latur:** A number of local Congress leaders in Latur have quit the party and joined the ruling side ahead of the December 2 municipal council and nagar panchayat polls in Maharashtra.



**Operation Sindoor** is a brilliant example of civil-military fusion where the administrative machinery worked seamlessly with the armed forces to communicate vital information and build public confidence

RAJNATH SINGH | DEFENCE MINISTER

**INDIGENOUS STEALTH FRIGATE ‘TARAGIRI’ DELIVERED TO NAVY**

The Navy has received ‘Taragiri’, an indigenous advanced stealth frigate delivered November 28 in Mumbai. As the fourth Nilgiri-class Project 17A ship, it marks a significant milestone in self-reliant warship design, showcasing major advances in stealth, firepower, and automation



**Air pollution in Delhi like ‘slow poison’: Cong**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 29:** Liking the air pollution situation in Delhi to “slow poison”, the Congress Saturday said the government must hold discussions with all stakeholders on this “national problem” and even consider forming an MP-level committee to deal with the issue.

In a swipe at the BJP-AAP, the Congress also said governments will get lot of time to indulge in populist politics but if they will spend all the money on freebies there will not be funds for basic facilities.

Addressing a press conference at the AICC headquarters, party leader Sandeep Dikshit said Delhi’s polluted air has crossed all limits and the current dire situation in Delhi is like “slow poison”.

Doctors also say that Delhi’s polluted air is shortening a normal person’s lifespan by 6 to 7 years, and that sick people are at an even greater risk, he said.

There are many causes of air pollution, but as citizens, we must question governments and hold them accountable for their actions, Dikshit said.

“Only a small portion of air pollution comes from stubble burning and firecrackers during Diwali. A little pollution is felt during the winter, but these are not the major causes. The major cause of air pollution is vehicular pollution, which continues year-round. This accounts for around 35 per cent,” he said.

Dikshit said the average person is suffering amid the accusations and counter-accusations between the BJP-AAP governments of Delhi and Punjab.

The people of Delhi are suffering under the governments’ deception, he said.

The government should control pollution, and if they are unable to do this, they have no right to be called a government, he said.

**CYCLONE DITWAH**

**Rain lashes Tamil Nadu**  
**28 disaster response teams on standby**



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Chennai, Nov 29:** Rain triggered by Cyclone Ditwah, which entered the open sea while approaching the Tamil Nadu coast, lashed coastal areas and Cauvery delta districts Saturday, with Ramanathapuram and Nagapattinam districts bearing the brunt.

As normal life in Rameswaram and Nagapattinam was affected by continuous rain accompanied by gusty winds, State Revenue and Disaster Management Minister K K S S R Ramachandran said that about 28 disaster response teams, including SDRF and NDRF teams, are on standby.

Cyclone Ditwah lay centred over the Vedaranyam coast in Tamil Nadu’s Nagapattinam district, according to the latest bulletin from the IMD.

Under its influence, the sea in the coastal districts became turbulent.

Choppy waves damaged a few mechanised fishing boats anchored near Mandapam, while portions of nearby roads were breached due to sea erosion.

The cyclone was centred 110 km southeast of Vedaranyam, 150 km southeast of Karaikal, 250 km south-southeast of Puducherry, and 350 km south of Chennai. It is likely to move north-northwest and approach the North Tamil Na-

du-Puducherry-South Andhra Pradesh coasts by early November 30.

“It will come within 60 km tonight, 50 km on the morning of November 30, and 25 km on the evening of November 30 along the Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coast,” the bulletin said.

According to B Amudha, Director, Regional Meteorological Centre, heavy to very heavy rain is likely at a few places, with extremely heavy rain at one or two locations in Tiruvallur and Ranipet districts. Heavy to very heavy rain is also likely at a few places in Kancheepuram, Chennai, Chengalpattu, Vellore, Tirupattur, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Tiruvannamalai, and Villupuram districts.

“A red alert has been issued for Tiruvallur and Ranipet districts tomorrow due to the possibility of heavy rain. In Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, winds will blow up to 40-60 km/h,” she told reporters.

Minister Ramachandran said it was not yet clear if the cyclone would hit the coast near Chennai, but the state government is fully prepared to launch rescue and relief operations on a war footing.

“About 28 disaster response teams, including SDRF and NDRF, are on standby. We are planning to airlift 10 more teams from other states.

**POST OP SINDOOR**

**Pakistan relocated 72 terror launchpads: BSF**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Jammu, Nov 29:** More than six dozen terror launchpads have been shifted to the “depth areas” in Pakistan after Operation Sindoor, and the force is ready to inflict heavy losses on the enemy if the government decides to resume the cross-border operation, senior BSF officers said Saturday.

However, the BSF is honouring the halt in military action after four days of clashes from May 7-10, they said.

“After the BSF destroyed many terror launchpads along the border during Operation Sindoor, Pakistan government shifted all such facilities to the depth areas... About 12 launchpads are working from the depth areas of Sialkot and Zaffarwal, which are not exactly on the border. Similarly, 60



launchpads are working in the other depth areas away from the border,” BSF DIG Vikram Kunwar told reporters here.

Kunwar, along with BSF IG, Jammu Frontier, Shashank Anand, and DIG Kulwant Rai Sharma addressed a joint press conference to highlight the achievements of the force in 2025, including its role in Operation Sindoor, India’s military response to the April 22 Pahalgam massacre with cross-border links that claimed 26 lives.

The officer said the figures of these launchpads, as well as the terrorists present in them, keep changing.

**RED FORT BLAST**

**Court sends 3 docs, preacher to 10-day judicial custody**

**As of now, the NIA has arrested seven persons accused in the case, which is linked to a ‘white-collar’ terror module busted by the Jammu and Kashmir Police**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 29:** A Delhi court Saturday sent three doctors and a preacher, who were arrested in connection with the Red Fort blast, to 10 days’ judicial custody.

All four accused, Muzammil Ganaie, Adeel Rather and Shaheena Saeed as well as Maulvi Irfan Ahmed Wagay, were produced before Principal and Sessions Judge Anju Bajaj Chandna, who sent them to 10-day judicial custody.

As of now, the NIA has arrested seven persons accused in the case, which is linked to a “white-collar” terror module busted by the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

“The agency continues to pursue various leads in connection with the suicide bombing, and has been conducting searches across states in coordination with the respective police forces in a bid to identify and track others involved in the gruesome attack,” the NIA said in a statement.

Dr Umar-un-Nabi, who was driving the explosives-laden i20 car that detonated outside the Red Fort, had allegedly bought the car in Ali’s name. Wani was arrested after it emerged



that Umar had been trying to “brainwash” him to becoming a suicide bomber, officials said. He was not persuaded but is alleged to have agreed to participate as an overground worker for the banned terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed.

PTI had earlier reported that the sophisticated terror module spearheaded by a group of doctors had been actively scouting for a suicide bomber since last year, with Umar being the alleged key planner.

Officials said Adeel’s interrogation pointed to Umar being a “hardcore radical” who insisted that a suicide bomber was essential for their operations. Following this, Srinagar police sent a team to Qazigund in south Kashmir and detained Wani.

Wani allegedly admitted during his questioning that he had met the “doctor module” in October last year at a mosque in Kulgam, Kashmir, the officials said.

**NIA team arrests 2 from Uttarakhand’s Haldwani**

**Haldwani:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested an imam and one of his associates from the Banbhulpura area here, in connection with a car blast near Delhi’s Red Fort, officials said Saturday. The Delhi Police had received a clue from Haldwani through the call details of a mobile number linked to Dr Umar Nabi, the main accused in the blast outside the Red Fort, and based on it, the accused were arrested, they said. The accused, Mohammad Asif, the imam of the Bilali mosque, and Nazar Kamal, an electrician, were arrested Friday night by an team of NIA with the help of police from Delhi and Haldwani, they said, adding that the duo have been taken to Delhi. Following the arrest, a large force from several police stations, led by Haldwani city Superintendent of Police Manoj Kumar Katyal and Lal Kuan Deputy Superintendent of Police Deepshikha Agarwal, arrived in Banbhulpura. Police have tightened security around the Bilali mosque and the imam’s house, Katyal said.



Excavators being used to demolish residential buildings near the Narendra Modi Stadium as part of a drive by municipal corporation, in Ahmedabad, Saturday, Nov. 29, 2025. Ahmedabad was formally awarded the hosting rights for Commonwealth Games 2030 recently

PTI PHOTO

**BSF boosts drone warfare amid rising aerial threats**

*The BSF has been dealing with drone-based threats since 2019, when cross-border smuggling through unmanned aerial vehicles began in Punjab*

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Jammu, Nov 29:** The Border Security Force Saturday said that drone technology and aerial dimensions have become decisive elements of modern warfare, noting that conflicts worldwide – from Russia-Ukraine to Israel-Palestine – show how adversaries are increasingly exploiting the airspace.

India witnessed a similar tactic during Operation Sindoor in May, when Pakistan attempted to utilise aerial platforms for cross-border activities, Sha-

shank Anand, BSF Inspector General, Jammu Frontier, told mediapersons, flanked by BSF DIGs Vikram Kunwar and Kulwant Rai Sharma.

“The BSF and other agencies are tackling the challenge of drones. We are increasing our capabilities, and we hope to be even more successful in the next year,” IG Anand said.

He said drone and anti-drone innovations are in a continuous process of research and development, with the BSF working closely with its industry partners.

“The future conflicts or cross-border firing incidents will inevitably have a strong aerial component, making counter-drone preparedness a top priority,” he said.

The BSF has been dealing with drone-based threats since 2019, when cross-border smuggling through unmanned aerial vehicles began in Punjab, the



IG said.

In response, the force has upgraded training, procured advanced counter-drone systems and ensured round-the-clock monitoring without disrupting civilian air traffic, he said.

To strengthen its technological edge, the BSF has set up two

drone forensic laboratories – the Central Drone Forensic Laboratory in Delhi and another in Amritsar – which analyse recovered drones and provide actionable intelligence to the investigating agencies, the officer said.

The force has also estab-

**The force has upgraded training, procured advanced counter-drone systems and ensured round-the-clock monitoring without disrupting civilian air traffic**

lished the School of Drone Warfare in Gwalior, signing MoUs with IIT-Delhi, IIT-Chennai and the KF Hussain RJIT engineering institute to train students and force personnel for emerging aerial security challenges.

The IG said that in all the recent wars worldwide, including the brief India-Pakistan conflict in May, the countries involved tried to exploit the aerial dimension in their own way.

The focus of the BSF is on how to keep the border population and those in the hinterland safe during any future conflict, he said.

“A lot of work is being done on this. The government has also announced that community bunkers will be increased in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir,” IG Anand said.

The force is working with the civil administration on the issue of border bunkers and has conveyed a message that “we will make every effort to keep our country and our border areas safe”, he said.

For international security, the IG said, the forces must remain alert, as anti-national elements always look for any shortcomings to exploit the situation in their favour.

DIG Sharma said the force is gradually moving from border guarding to border management.



of the day

quote

The Trump administration is taking every measure possible – in the face of unrelenting Democrat opposition – to get these monsters out of our country and clean up the mess made by the Biden administration



ABIGAIL JACKSON | WHITE HOUSE SPOKESPERSON, USA

While it is disappointing that we have not been able to conclude discussions on UK participation in the first round of SAFE, the UK defence industry will still be able to participate in projects through SAFE on third-country terms



NICK THOMAS-SYMONDS | MINISTER FOR EUROPEAN UNION RELATIONS, BRITAIN

Do you (Israel) expect a war later? It's possible sometime. Yes, this possibility is there, and the possibility of no war is also there



NAÏM QASSEM | HEZBOLLAH CHIEF, LEBANON

SHORT TAKES

Indian national held in Pakistan

**Lahore:** Pakistan's Punjab police have claimed to have arrested an alleged Indian national who "inadvertently" crossed into the country and was detained by Pakistan Rangers for over 100 days without any legal formalities. According to police, the alleged Indian national, BJ Singh, 31, from Assam, crossed into Pakistan on August 16, near the Ajmal Shaheed Post opposite the Indian Bachan Singh Post. The police said that Rangers' personnel arrested him near the India-Pakistan border and interrogated him for over three months. Singh was handed over to Sadder police station in Kasur, some 50 kilometres from Lahore this week after nothing suspicious was recovered from him, they said.

Georgia's opposition figure arrested

**Tbilisi:** Georgian authorities arrested a leader of an opposition party Saturday on suspicion of attempted arson of the court chancellery building in the capital Tbilisi. The Interior Ministry said Aleksandre Elisashvili had broken into the building at dawn by smashing a window with a hammer, and then poured gasoline and attempted to set the building alight. Elisashvili, 47, is a founder of the Citizens party, which is part of the Lelo-Strong Georgia coalition, one of Georgia's three main opposition groups. Those groupings are facing a ban by the ruling Georgian Dream party, which has said it will soon file a lawsuit to the Constitutional Court to outlaw their activities.

Military coup: AU defers Guinea-Bissau

**Dakar:** The African Union suspended Guinea-Bissau following a military coup, saying it won't tolerate unconstitutional changes. In a resolution adopted by the AU Peace and Security Council Friday, the organisation reiterated it has "zero tolerance on unconstitutional changes of government" and moved to "immediately suspend the Republic of Guinea-Bissau from participating in all activities of the Union, its organs and institutions, until constitutional order is restored in the country." Guinea-Bissau, one of the world's poorest countries, has been dogged by coups and attempted coups since its independence from Portugal more than 50 years ago, including a coup attempt in October. The country of 2.2 million people is known as a hub for drug trafficking between Latin America and Europe, a trend that experts say has fueled its political crises.

SL declares emergency

Reeling under the devastating cyclone, the island nation's death toll stands at 123 while 130 are still unaccounted for

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Colombo, Nov 29:** Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake has declared a state of emergency throughout the island in view of the emergency situation that has emerged following the devastation caused by a powerful cyclone even as India delivered more relief supplies to the island nation.

Under its Operation Sagar Bandhu, India Saturday sent around 21 tonnes of relief materials in two military transport aircraft, a day after delivering the first tranche of over six tonnes of essential supplies.

India also sent two urban search and rescue teams comprising 80 National Disaster Response Force personnel even as two Chetak helicopters on board aircraft carrier INS Vikrant joined the rescue efforts, according to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

A total of around 27 tonnes of relief materials delivered by air and sea and more is on the way, he said on social media.

As flight services were severely disrupted, the Indian High Commission in Colombo announced that it is setting up an emergency helpline at the Bandaranaike international

airport in the Sri Lankan capital city to help Indian citizens in need of support.

The High Commission of India is providing all required assistance including food and water to Indian passengers stranded at the airport, the mission said.

According to an official gazette dated Friday and released Saturday, the state of emergency has been declared throughout the island.

At an all-party meeting, the opposition leaders called for the state of emergency to be declared. The doctors' trade union in a letter addressed to Dissanayake underscored the need to impose a state of emergency, Friday.

The regulations are expected to expedite the process of relief coordination and rescue operations.

The need for speedy deployment of troops, police, the health sector, civil administration and the civil defence force to tackle the crisis situation is to be facilitated through the state of emergency, officials said.

Cyclone Ditwah Saturday

CYCLONE DITWAH



Under its Operation Sagar Bandhu, India Saturday sent around 21 tonnes of relief materials

exited Sri Lanka that left more than 120 dead, amid a trail of destruction and damage to infrastructure, entering the south Indian coastal line, meteorological officials said.

"We noticed Ditwah exiting Sri Lanka and heading towards the Indian coast," Athula Karunanayake, director general of the meteorology department, told reporters.

However, its indirect impact

You (migrants) have 111 days to leave Chile voluntarily. If not, we will stop you, we will detain you, we will expel you. You will leave with only the clothes on your back

JOSÉ JARÍ | PRESIDENT, PERU

HK BLAZE SPOOKS CHINA

China announced a sweeping inspection of fire-safety standards in high-rise buildings nationwide Saturday after a deadly fire in Hong Kong left at least 128 people dead, moving to avert any comparable disaster on the mainland



Protests in Germany after far-right party launches youth wing



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Giessen Nov 29 :** Thousands of demonstrators gathered in the western German city of Giessen on Saturday as the far-right Alternative for Germany's new youth organization was set to kick off its founding convention.

Groups of protesters blocked or tried to block roads in and around the city of some 93,000 people in the early morning. Police said they used pepper spray after stones were thrown at officers at one location.

The new youth organization of the anti-immigration Alternative for Germany, or AfD, is to be set up in a meeting at Giessen's convention centre. Its predecessor, the Young Alternative — a largely autonomous group with relatively loose links to the party — was dissolved at the end of March after AfD decided to formally cut ties with it. AfD wants to have closer oversight over the new group, expected to be called Generation Germany. The party finished second in Germany's national election in February with over 20 per cent of the vote and is now the country's biggest opposition party.

Ahead of Putin's visit, Russia, India edge closer to defence agreement

The RELOS agreement aims to streamline coordination for joint military exercises, disaster relief and other operations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Moscow, Nov 29:** The Russian lower house of Parliament is set to ratify a crucial military pact with India ahead of President Vladimir Putin's state visit on December 4-5 for the 23rd bilateral summit, according to reports.

Signed on February 18, 2025 in Moscow by the Indian Ambassador Vinay Kumar and erstwhile Deputy Defence Minister Alexander Fomin the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) is to enhance military cooperation between the two strategic partners.

The State Duma has uploaded the RELOS in its ratification database along with the Russian government's note and said that "the Russian government believes that the ratification of the document will strengthen cooperation between Rus-



sia and India in the military sphere", official news agency TASS reported.

The RELOS agreement aims to streamline coordination for joint military exercises, disaster relief and other operations.

According to local defence sources, RELOS will enhance military cooperation by simplifying procedures for joint activities, including exercises and disaster relief.

Agreements of this kind expand the geographic opportunities for peacetime operations for both participating parties. It is possible that the provisions

of this agreement will apply to joint exercises in the Arctic, as India ships LNG from the Yamal Peninsula, Izvestia daily noted at the time of its signing.

The Indian Navy's Talwar class frigates as well as INS Vikramaditya aircraft carrier are equipped to sail in freezing climate of Arctic can use the Russian naval bases for logistic support while Russian Navy can use Indian facilities to boost its presence to offset Chinese and other outside countries presence in the Indian Ocean Region, experts here believe.

Widow of Karachi cop pushes back against 'Dhurandhar' narrative

In the movie, veteran star Sanjay Dutt portrays Chaudhary Aslam. The police officer was assassinated by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Taliban's Mohmand chapter

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Karachi, Nov 29:** The widow of Chaudhary Aslam, a Pakistani police officer who became famous as an encounter specialist and for his bravery against terror and criminal gangs in Karachi, has threatened to take legal action if her husband is falsely and negatively portrayed in the upcoming Bollywood film "Dhurandhar".



Headlined by Ranveer Singh and directed by Aditya Dhar, the movie is a high-stakes espionage thriller. The film's official trailer, which was released earlier this month, offers a glimpse into a story set in Karachi's notorious Lyari



neighbourhood, once dominated by two rival criminal gangs. In the movie, veteran star Sanjay Dutt portrays Chaudhary Aslam. The police officer was assassinated by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Taliban's Mohmand chapter who claimed responsi-



bility for carrying out a bomb attack on his car on the Lyari Expressway January 9, 2014, in which two other police officers, his driver, and guard were also killed.

Aslam was well-known for leading law enforcement

agencies crackdown on Lyari gangsters, including Rehman Dakait and Uzair Baloch as well as Taliban terrorists. He had earlier survived a bomb attack at his residence in 2011, in which eight people were killed.

In an interview with Geo Digital platform, Aslam's wife Naureen Aslam said she is waiting for the film to come out in Indian theatres December 5 as only then will she know how the filmmakers have portrayed her husband.

She also took offence to a dialogue in the trailer where Aslam is described as the child of the "devil and a jinn".

"We are Muslims and such words are disrespectful to not only Aslam but his mother as well who was a simple honest woman," Naureen Aslam said.

"If I see my husband being portrayed wrongly or any propaganda against him in the film, I will definitely take all legal steps I can," she added.

Naureen Aslam said it is strange that Indian filmmakers find no other subjects but to malign Pakistan.

"My husband was a brave and courageous police officer and his name was feared by criminals and terrorists... I am surprised that they have portrayed Rehman Dakait as a big terrorist although I know from my husband he was a extortionist, kidnapper and a criminal," she said.

Actor Akshaye Khanna plays the role of Dakait in the movie, while actor R Madhavan essays Indian spy master Ajay Sanyal and Arjun Rampal as Major Iqbal from ISI. The detail of Singh's character has not been revealed but he seems to be playing an Indian agent who infiltrates the gangs of Lyari.

"Dhurandhar" is produced by Dhar and his brother Lokesh Dhar through their banner B62 Studios alongside Jyoti Deshpande of Jio Studios.

of the day

quote

The 8.2 per cent growth reflects the host of reform measures taken by the government. Number of measures have been taken to boost domestic manufacturing and promote ease of doing business

**PIYUSH GOYAL** | COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER

Tier 2 cities remain the key engines of India's growth story. Expanding employment opportunities, improving infrastructure, and stronger connectivity continue to drive sustained demand across residential, commercial, and retail real estate

**SAMIR JASUIA** | FOUNDER AND CEO, PROPEQUITY

Balanced funds tend to emerge as a strong category: in years where equity returns are volatile, the debt portion helps protect returns; and when equity is moving upwards, they capture the upside

**SHANTANU AWASTHI** | CO-FOUNDER & CEO, MAVENARK WEALTH

SHORT TAKES

Jio adds 20L users

**New Delhi:** Reliance Jio added 19.97 lakh mobile subscribers in October this year - its highest gains among operators in India, as the telco increased user count to 48.47 crore, according to data released by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai). Bharti Airtel's wireless users grew by 12.52 lakh, bolstering the mobile subscriber tally of the Sunil Mittal-led telecom firm to 39.36 crore in October from 39.24 crore in September. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd onboarded 2.69 lakh mobile users during October 2025. The subscriber base of the state-owned telecom corporation rose to 9.25 crore at the end of October. Vodafone Idea lost 20.83 lakh wireless subscribers; its mobile user base dipped to 20.07 crore in October (from 20.28 crore in September). Jio cemented its position with wireless subscriber gains at 19.97 lakh, and its mobile user base swelled to 48.47 crore in October from 48.27 crore in September.

Lenskart profit rises

**New Delhi:** Eyewear company Lenskart Solutions has reported a 19.8 per cent jump in consolidated profit after tax to ₹103.4 crore in the second quarter ended September 30, 2025, a company filing said Saturday. The company had recorded a profit after tax of ₹86.3 crore in the same period a year ago. Lenskart posted a 21 per cent jump in the consolidated revenue from operations to ₹2,096.14 crore during the reported quarter, from ₹1,735.68 crore in the September 2024 quarter.



I firmly believe for the Tata Group, Air India is just not a business opportunity. It's a responsibility

**N CHANDRASEKARAN** | CHAIRMAN, TATA SONS

ANANT GOENKA NEW FICCI PRESIDENT

Anant Goenka, Vice Chairman of RPG Group, Saturday took over as FICCI President for 2025-2026, the industry chamber said. He has replaced Harsha Vardhan Agarwal, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Emami Ltd, a FICCI statement said. Vijay Sankar, the Chairman of The Sanmar Group, has taken charge as Senior Vice President of FICCI. Puneet Dalmia, Managing Director and CEO, Dalmia Bharat Ltd, is the new Vice President of the chamber



Repo rate: RBI may maintain status quo

The upcoming RBI MPC meet comes amid robust GDP growth, all-time low inflation

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, Nov 29:** The monetary policy review meeting of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) next week comes at a time when inflation is at an all-time low and growth on a high trajectory path.

As per the latest data, the real GDP of India, adjusted for inflation, is estimated to grow by 8.2 per cent in Q2 of FY 2025-26 against the growth rate of 5.6 per cent during Q2 of FY 2024-25.

Moreover, India's inflation trajectory in October reflects a remarkable softening, underscoring the economy's robust fundamentals and effective price management measures. Headline inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) eased to 0.25 per cent over the previous year, marking the lowest level recorded in the current CPI series.

According to economists Saturday, it would be a close call on the repo rate at the upcoming RBI MPC.

"Given that monetary policy is forward looking and inflation in Q4-FY26 and FY27 is likely to be in the 4 per cent plus region, yielding a real repo rate of 1-1.5 per cent, the policy rate appears

« The monetary policy committee had left the repo rate unchanged in the last two reviews, held in August and Oct, in order to keep inflation in check



to be at a fair level. Under these conditions we do not think that there should be any change in the policy rate," said Madan Sabnavis, Chief Economist, Bank of Baroda.

However, as liquidity, though in surplus, is at the lower end of the 1 per cent of Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) mark, there could be a case for announcing some Open Market Operations (OMOs).

"This will be helpful during December when the advance tax payments flow out of the system. On the forecasts side, we do expect downward revision in inflation forecast by 0.1-0.2 per cent and an upward revision in GDP forecast of 0.1-0.2 per cent for FY26," Sabnavis added.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said earlier this week that there was headroom for a repo

« Before that the central bank reduced the repo rate by 100 basis points from 6.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent between February and June

rate cut to spur growth at the next monetary policy review meeting in December due to favourable macroeconomic indicators. Malhotra also stated after the last monetary policy committee meeting in October that there was scope for a repo rate cut going ahead as inflation had declined, leaving space for the RBI to focus on growth.

He also said that the central bank has two mandates -- to maintain price stability and maintain growth. "We don't remain aggressive on growth, nor do we remain defensive," Malhotra remarked.

Morgan Stanley expects the RBI to reduce the repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.25 per cent. The report said the broader policy stance is likely to stay prudent, with the central bank poised to become data-dependent once this step is taken.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds unveils 'Royale Polki Jewellery Show'



POST NEWS NETWORK

**Bhubaneswar, Nov 29:** Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one of India's largest jewellery retail chains, inaugurated its 'Royale Polki Jewellery Show' at the Chandrasekharpur showroom Saturday.

The exhibition, which runs from November 29 to December 7 features an exclusive range of traditional and contemporary Polki jewellery designs under the brand's signature Viraz Royal Polki collection.

The show was inaugurated by Ollywood actress Sushree Sabita Palei, in the presence of the Malabar Gold & Diamonds Chandrasekharpur manage-

ment team. The collection showcases handcrafted pieces known for their artistic finesse and intricate detailing.

To mark the occasion, the brand announced special offers including up to 30% off on making charges for gold, uncut, and gemstone jewellery, and up to 30% off on diamond value for diamond jewellery.

"We are delighted to launch the Royale Polki Show at our Chandrasekharpur showroom and introduce exquisite designs that celebrate the excellence of our jewellery craftsmanship. Customers in the city can enjoy the highest quality, purity, and fair pricing," said MP Ahammed, Chairman, Malabar Group.

Central Bank holds Mega Retail Credit Outreach Programme

**Bhubaneswar:** With an objective to reach out and empower every customer with easy, affordable, hassle free and tailor made retail loan solutions, Central Bank of India launched a 'Mega Retail Credit Outreach Programme' across the nation. Simultaneously, Bhubaneswar Region also organised a outreach campaign at its Palashpalli Branch, Bhubaneswar. The programme was held in the presence of Pankaj Kumar, Regional Head, Suresh Chandra, Deputy Regional Head and Gajanan Bhoi, AGM Janpath Branch along with other senior bank officials. The programme witnessed an active participation of more than 100 prospective customers. Kumar emphasised upon the market competitive interest rate and zero processing charges levied on retail loan products offered by the bank viz. Cent Gold Loan, Cent Home Loan, Cent Grih Lakshmi Home Loan (exclusively for women), Cent Mortgage Loan & Cent Vehicle loan. Further he also stressed upon activating DEAF accounts under the scheme "Aapki Punji Aapka Adhikar". On this occasion, sanction letters were distributed to the customers from different branches, aggregating to an amount of ₹20 crore. The programme was coordinated by Bandana Sarangi, Senior Manager and vote of thanks was delivered by Swarnalata Samal, Branch head Palaspalli Branch.



Customer conference by SBI

**Cuttack:** A Customer Connect Programme (Town hall meeting) was organised at a hotel in Shikharpur. The Regional Manager of SBI Regional Office, Cuttack Choudhury Ashmin Anupam Praharaj presided over the said meeting. Praharaj congratulated the customers and apprised them about the various services and facilities available at the bank. AGM Kirtikant Swain of the local head office of the bank attended the event and sensitised the customers about cyber security and various types of online fraud. Hundreds of customers who attended the meeting appreciated the bank's ongoing digital processes and modernised services. He explained how customers benefit from the bank's available deposit, loan and insurance schemes. Customers expressed their satisfaction with their long association with the bank. The young entrepreneurs described how they have grown their businesses with the help of the bank and provided employment to many people. In the said programme, the employees of all branches and Regional Office were present. The bank officials highlighted various benefits of 'SBI Wealth' scheme, various insurance plans and discussed in detail about the bank's toll-free number, YONO application and digital services.



TRADE TROUBLE

Tariff blow: Exports to US plunge 28.5%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**New Delhi, Nov 29:** India's exports to its largest foreign market, the US, have suffered a sharp reversal due to aggressive tariff hikes, think tank GTRI said in a report Saturday.

Between May and October 2025, shipments fell 28.5 per cent, from \$8.83 billion to \$6.31 billion, it said.

The decline followed a rapid escalation in US duties that began at 10 per cent April 2, rose to 25 per cent August 7, and reached 50 per cent by late August, making Indian goods among the most heavily taxed of any US trading partner, it added.

In comparison, China faced tariffs of about 30 per cent, while Japan dealt with only 15 per cent.

Tariff-exempt items such as smartphones, pharmaceuticals and petroleum products accounted for 40.3 per cent of October exports but still fell 25.8 per cent, from \$3.42 billion in May to \$2.54 billion in October -- a contraction of \$881 million, the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said.

It added that products facing uniform global tariffs -- mainly iron, steel, aluminum, copper and auto parts -- formed just 7.6 per cent of shipments in October.

Exports in this category fell 23.8 per cent between May and October, sliding from \$629 million in May to \$480 million in October, or about \$149 million, it said.

The steepest decline occurred in labour-intensive products



where India alone faced 50 per cent tariffs.

These goods, which represented 52.1 per cent of October exports, collapsed 31.2 per cent, falling from \$4.78 billion to \$3.29 billion -- nearly \$1.5 billion erased in just five months, it said.

"Smartphones, India's single biggest product line to the US, suffered a 36 per cent decline, sliding from \$2.29 billion in May to \$1.50 billion in October -- a loss of almost \$790 million," GTRI Founder Ajay Srivastava said.

Monthly exports fell consistently from \$2 billion in June to \$1.52 billion in July, crashed to \$964.8 million in August, eased further to \$884.6 million in September, and finally recovered to \$1.5 billion in October, he said.

Pharmaceutical exports, he said, also dipped marginally 1.6 per cent, from \$745.6 million to \$733.6 million.

Gold sees notable rally over the week

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**New Delhi, Nov 29:** The price of 24-carat gold (10 grams) surged by ₹1,324 over the week, supported by safe haven buying and surging expectations of US Federal Reserve rate cut. The price of 10 grams of 24-carat gold closed the week at ₹1,26,666 -- up from ₹1,25,342 at the end of Monday, according to data published by the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA).

The probability that the Federal Reserve would lower rates by 350 to 375 basis points at its December monetary policy meeting has risen to 86.9 per cent from 71 per cent a week earlier, according to the CME FedWath Tool.

Analysts said that gold has retested resistance in the \$4,215 to \$4,240 zone and needs a solid trigger to climb above \$4,240.

They added that a sustained climb could target the prior record high of \$4,400 (Rs 131,500), while a drop could see a retreat to \$4,100 (Rs 123,000). The yellow metal however declined Friday after the end of the US government shutdown, which in turn faded concerns about economic disruption.

India re-elected to International Maritime Organisation Council

The IMO is the premier body that oversees the world's maritime sector, which in turn underpins international trade, transport and all maritime activities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**London, Nov 29:** India has been re-elected to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council with the highest vote in its category at elections held at its Assembly in London for the 2025-26 biennium.

India's election in Category B Friday falls under the collection of 10 states with "the largest interest in international seaborne trade," alongside Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The newly elected Council will meet for its 136th session December 4 and will elect its

Chair and Vice-Chair for the next biennium, the IMO said.

"India re-elected to the IMO Council securing the highest vote in Category B with 154 votes," the Indian High Commission in London announced following the vote.

"We thank our partners for putting their trust in India, and pledge to continue to work for the global maritime sector," the mission stated.

The IMO is the premier body that oversees the world's maritime sector, which in turn underpins international trade, transport and all maritime activities. The Council is the executive organ of IMO and is responsible, under the Assem-



bly, for supervising the work of the organisation.

In July, the Secretary at the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways had launched India's candidature for re-election as he revealed the ministry's plans to invest \$1 trillion in the sector over the next 25 years.

TK Ramachandran invited representatives from around the world to "partner with India in this quest for us to become one of the leading maritime nations in the world."

"India embraces the philosophy of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future,' and we bring this

vision to life through fostering robust and collaborative maritime efforts," said Ramachandran at the time.

"Under our Vision 2047, we see maritime growth as a corner of global progress, and we deeply value a growing engagement with the IMO and its member states... we have several pillars, including ship-building, ship recycling, ship financing, ship ownership and ship flagging, the entire ecosystem," he said.

The IMO Assembly normally meets once every two years in a regular session. It is responsible for approving the work programme, voting the budget and determining the financial arrangements of the organisation. It also elects the organisation's 40-Member Council at these meetings for the next two-year period.

Vedanta's winter preparedness drive

**Bhubaneswar:** Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, organised a winter preparedness drive in the Sundargarh and Jharsuguda districts of Odisha, distributing warm winter blankets to people in need. The initiative reached out to more than 3,000 people across



villages in Jamkhani, Ghogharpalli and Kuraloi, including elderly persons, pregnant and lactating women, SHG members, women-led households and persons with disabilities. The company plans to expand the programme to support more communities during the winter season. The programme was inaugurated by Sanatan Nayak, Sarpanch, Kuraloi Gram Panchayat; Rangadhar Dilla, Sarpanch, Piplimal Gram Panchayat and Madhav Barik, Panchayat Samiti Member, Ghogharpalli. Rajiv Kumar, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, "Children, families, and communities are at the heart of our social impact vision. Our social interventions are driven by the needs of the communities we serve. This winter preparedness drive reflects that commitment." The company remains committed to driving transformation in Odisha through social impact initiatives spanning education, healthcare, sustainable livelihoods, rural infrastructure, and grassroots sports and culture. Collaborating closely with local authorities and community stakeholders, the company ensures its interventions lead to tangible socio-economic progress in its operational areas.

SULTAN AZLAN SHAH CUP

India storm into summit clash



India have topped the pool standings and will play the final against Belgium Sunday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Ipoh, Nov 29:** Jugraj Singh scored four goals as the Indian men's hockey team thrashed Canada 14-3 in a high-scoring encounter to top the pool standings and make the final of the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup here Saturday. Having lost only to Belgium by a goal earlier in the tournament, India were upbeat after a sensational 3-2 win against New Zealand in their previous game. India will play Belgium in the summit clash Sunday. The match began with an ear-

ly goal by Nilakanta Sharma in the fourth minute, followed by a 10th minute goal by Rajinder Singh who has been in good nick, since his debut in the senior side. It was a thrilling start to the game with Canada responding to the early goals by creating PCs and even converting from them. In the 11th minute, Brendan Guraliuk converted a fine PC. Two more goals were scored in the following minutes through Jugraj Singh and Am-it Rohidas in the 12th and 15th minute respectively. The 4-1 lead put India in good stead to build on their performance in the second quarter. With senior stars in the team rested for this tournament, the onus to outshine was on a younger lot and they did well to hold off pressure from the Canadian defence.

A flurry of goals continued in this quarter with Rajinder scoring in the 24th minute, Dilpreet Singh in the 25th minute and Jugraj scoring his second goal in the 26th minute. Ahead by 7-1, India were unstoppable but Canada came in to the third quarter with slight modifications in their attack that led to a penalty stroke in the 35th minute. Matthew Sarmiento made no mistake in pumping this one in to the post to take the scoreline to 7-2. Meanwhile, Jugraj scored his hat-trick in this quarter when he struck in the 39th minute, and Selvam Karthi scored in the 43rd minute to extend India's lead to a massive 9-2. The final quarter was just a formality but this is where maximum goals came with both teams upping the ante. Six goals were scored in this quarter.

INDIA FACE BUOYANT SOUTH AFRICA IN FIRST ODI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Ranchi, Nov 29:** India will look to address several lingering selection puzzles when they take on South Africa Sunday in the first ODI of the three-match series where Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli return to the set-up for a short audition that could well shape their 2027 World Cup fate. Both Rohit and Kohli now compete in just one international format, and with India scheduled to play only six ODIs in the next two months -- three against the Proteas and three versus New Zealand at home in January -- the stakes have rarely been higher for two of Indian cricket's modern-day greats. The performance in these games could have a direct bearing on their prospects for the 2027 ODI World Cup. It may not seal their 2027 World Cup destinies, but it begins a high-stakes audition -- one that could either extend two legendary careers or nudge them closer to an inevitable sunset. Incidentally, it was at this very JSCA Stadium back in 2013 that Rohit Sharma was first backed as a full-time opener -- a defining moment that transformed not only his white-ball career but also India's 50-over outlook for years. More than a decade later, the 37-year-old walks into Ranchi again, this time seeking a different kind of revival as India attempt to rebuild after losing the home Test series. For India, the ODI series comes in the shadow of the T20 World Cup at home next year, a tournament that will invariably dictate selection priorities. Head coach Gautam Gambhir, too, enters this series under scrutiny though his job is not under threat since his contract runs till 2027 World Cup. His tactical calls and team selections were questioned



MOST INT'L APPEARANCES FOR RO-KO

Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli will become the pair to play the most international matches together in Indian cricket history. This achievement will give them an opportunity to break the record of Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid. The Sachin-Dravid pair had played 391 international matches together, which is a record to date. The Rohit-Kohli pair has also reached 391 matches, and with the Ranchi match, they will surpass this record

after the Test setback -- his second major failure since taking charge. This ODI series is an important opportunity for Gambhir to stabilise the narrative and showcase clarity in India's white-ball direction. While the ODIs may not be his immediate priority with the T20 World Cup at home looming next year, Gambhir will nevertheless be keen to restore stability and demonstrate direction in India's white-ball approach.

**UNSETTLED BATTING ORDER**  
In this series too, India's XI remain far from settled with

several senior players missing. Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj have been rested, while regular captain Shubman Gill and Shreyas Iyer are nursing injuries. Their absence not only weakens the line-up but also forces stand-in skipper KL Rahul and head coach Gambhir to juggle roles and responsibilities. The middle-order puzzle is even more delicate. The management needs to decide whether to back Washington Sundar as the spin-bowling all-rounder or the hard-hitting Nitish Kumar Reddy.

SQUADS:

**India:** KL Rahul (C), Rohit Sharma, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Tilak Varma, Rishabh Pant, Washington Sundar, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Harshit Rana, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Prasidh Krishna, Arshdeep Singh, Dhruv Jurel.  
**South Africa:** Temba Bavuma (C), Aiden Markram, Dewald Brevis, Nandre Burger, Quinton de Kock, Marco Jansen, Tony de Zorzi, Rubin Hermann, Ottneil Baartman, Corbin Bosch, Matthew Breetzke, Keshav Maharaj, Lungi Ngidi, Ryan Rickelton, Prenelan Subrayen.

QATAR GP

Piastrì wins sprint race



Norris needs to finish four points ahead of Piastri Sunday to clinch his first F1 title — as long as he is also one point ahead of Verstappen, who is chasing a fifth straight F1 crown

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Lusail (Qatar), Nov 29:** Oscar Piastri won the Qatar Grand Prix sprint race from pole position Saturday to move 22 points behind McLaren teammate Lando Norris heading into Sunday's main Formula 1 race. Piastri's sprint win gave him eight points with seven going to Mercedes driver George Russell in second place. The championship leader Norris took six

points for his third-place finish, and Verstappen got five for finishing fourth. "Yeah, car was good," Piastri said. "Let's keep it going." Norris started the sprint from third on the grid and Verstappen from sixth. The Dutchman was let through by his Red Bull teammate Yuki Tsunoda on the first lap but could not get close enough to pressure Norris. Heading into Sunday's penultimate race of the season, Norris had 396 points, Piastri 374 and Verstappen 371. Norris needs to finish four points ahead of Piastri on Sunday to clinch his first F1 title — as long as he is also one point ahead of Verstappen, who is chasing a fifth straight F1 crown. There is a night-time qualifying session later Saturday for Sunday's race.

Srikanth, Treesa-Gayatri enter finals

Indian women's singles campaign came to an end in the semifinals, with both Unnati Hooda and Tanvi Sharma suffering straight-game defeats

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Lucknow, Nov 29:** Former champion Kidambi Srikanth and defending women's doubles winners Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand notched up contrasting wins to progress to the men's and women's doubles finals of the Syed Modi International badminton tournament here Saturday. The 32-year-old Srikanth, who lifted the title in 2016, staved off a spirited challenge from compatriot and 2023 national champion Mithun Manjunath to prevail 21-15 19-21 21-13 in a pulsating last-four clash. A 2021 World Championships silver medallist, Srikanth, who had earlier reached the final of the Malaysia Masters this season, now awaits the winner of the other semifinal between Hong Kong's Jason Gunawan and Japan's Minoru Koga. Moments before Srikanth's victory, world No.14 Treesa

SYED MODI INTERNATIONAL



and Gayatri displayed sharp tactical awareness and excellent control of the conditions to record a commanding 21-11 21-15 win over Malaysia's world No 33 Ong Xin Yee and Carmen Ting in the women's doubles semifinals. The Indian pair, playing only their second event since Gayatri's return from a five-month shoulder injury layoff, will face Japan's eighth seeds Kaho Osawa and Mai Tanabe in Sunday's final as they seek to defend their crown. However, Indian women's singles campaign came to an end in the semifinals, with both Unnati Hooda and Tanvi Sharma suffering straight-

game defeats. Unnati went down 15-21 10-21 to Turkey's Neslihan Arin, while Tanvi, who had stunned former world champion Nozomi Okuhara earlier in the event, lost 17-21 16-21 to Japan's Hina Akechi. Earlier, the mixed doubles pair of Hariharan Amsakarunan and Treesa bowed out with a 17-21 19-21 loss to Indonesia's Dejan Ferdinansyah and Bernadine Anindya Wardana.



Defending champs MI to take on RCB in WPL Season 4 opener Jan 9

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Mumbai, Nov 29:** Harmanpreet Kaur-led defending champions Mumbai Indians will face 2024 winners Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the opening match of the fourth Women's Premier League January 9 at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai. In a first for the tournament, the WPL final will not be held on a weekend, with the summit clash scheduled for a Thursday (February 5, 2026), likely to avoid a clash with the men's T20 World Cup, which begins the same week in India and Sri Lanka. The T20 World Cup opens with a match between Pakistan and Netherlands February 7 (Saturday) in Colombo. The 28-day, 22-match WPL will be played across two venues. DY Patil Stadium, which witnessed India's maiden women's ICC global title -- the ODI World Cup win over South Africa earlier this month -- will host the first 11 matches, including afternoon double-headers on January 10 and 17, as per the schedule announced Saturday.

Pratyasa bags 5 medals

**Bhubaneswar:** Odisha swimmer Pratyasa Ray created ripples in the pool at the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2025 in Rajasthan. The 23-year-old Pratyasa bagged as many as five medals, including three gold. Representing Utkal University, Pratyasa topped the women's 50m, 100m and 200m Backstroke events. She also won silver in 200m Freestyle and a bronze in 400m Freestyle. Pratyasa was the most successful female athlete of the KIUG, held in northeastern states in March 2024, with a haul of four gold, a silver and bronze medals each. She was awarded the Ekalabya Puraskar last year.



Iran to boycott FIFA World Cup draw

President Donald Trump's administration announced in June a travel ban on citizens from 12 countries including Iran

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**Dubai, Nov 29:** Iran has decided to boycott the 2026 World Cup draw in Washington next week because the U.S. denied visas to members of its delegation, the state-run IRNA news agency reported. The agency quoted Iranian soccer federation spokesman Amir-Mahdi Alavi as saying

US VISA RESTRICTIONS

Friday that officials faced visa obstacles that go beyond sports considerations. There was no immediate comment from the White House. Alavi said the federation had reached out to FIFA and hoped it could help resolve the issue. Soccer's ruling body didn't immediately reply to a request for comment. President Donald Trump's administration announced in June a travel ban on citizens from 12 countries including Iran. The list also included Haiti, which last week qualified for the World Cup. Exemptions, however, were promised for "any athlete or member of an athletic team,



including coaches, persons performing a necessary support role, and immediate relatives, traveling for the World

FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JR WC

Goal-fest as India maul Oman

India are now on top of the points table with 24 goals

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

**Chennai, Nov 29:** Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team continued their fine show in the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025 with yet another scintillating 17-0 win in their pool B encounter against Oman. In their previous outing, India had convincingly beaten Chile 7-0 and today their attacking hockey was on full display with Manmeet Singh (17', 26', 36'), Arshdeep Singh (4', 33', 40') and Dilraj Singh (29', 32', 58') scoring a hat-trick of goals while Anmol Ekka (29'), Ajeet Yadav (34', 47'),



Gurjot Singh (39', 45') Ingalemba Thounaojam Luwang (43', 50'), Sarda Nand Tiwari (55') contributed to India's scoreline. With this win, India are on top of the points table with 24 goals ahead of Switzerland. The opening quarter was quite a contrast though with Oman doing well in defence despite allowing an early 4th minute goal.