

DSPL-400



GLOBAL
ENERGY LEADERS'
SUMMIT PURI 2025
Sufficiency | Balance | Innovation



Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



Shri Mohan Charan Majhi
Chief Minister, Odisha

Powering States to Energise India

Bringing Together

Union Ministers | State Energy Ministers | Union & State Secretaries
Policymakers & Global Leaders | Researchers & Think Tanks
Innovators & Technology Pioneers

5-7 December 2025

www.gelsodisha2025.com



SUFFICIENCY



BALANCE



INNOVATION

PARTNERS



INDIAN INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY,
KANPUR



TONY BLAIR
INSTITUTE FOR
GLOBAL CHANGE

FORTUNE FORECAST




GaneshaSpeaks.com

accuracy • reliability • trust


FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES



A favourable day as any can be, says Ganesha. You are happy and content with what you have, and you've planned and are working towards what you want. A romantic date may prove interesting or throw up a controversy – decide where you want to take it.

TAURUS




There is every possibility that you will enjoy a good rapport with people around you, predicts Ganesha. You will think with your stomach today, craving for delicacies. Such a feeling might be because of repressed hunger. Something refreshingly different might be on the cards today, says Ganesha.

GEMINI




You will witness a marked improvement in your emotional quotient, says Ganesha. This change may either come through watching a film, listening to a song or just a simple insight. At the workplace, people will be lavishing praise on you for your excellent performance.

CANCER



There is a fat chance that you will take pleasure in the company of your close friends and relatives, predicts Ganesha. You may have an awesome time with your mate. There may be a few minor problems here and there, but your family will rally behind you and will help you in solving your problems.

LEO




It may be that the best daffodils bloom early in the morning, but good ideas can come any time of the day, says Ganesha. So spruce up your management skills, as you shall need them to help organise and cash in on the multitude of ideas that will bombard you today. Remember, says Ganesha, a good idea can change your life, just the way a good poem can help you win a wife! So, if it is some love that you are fishing for, then express yourself without inhibitions today.

VIRGO



A la Sisyphus, you may realise the futility of your efforts and constant failure in achieving success. But do not despair, says Ganesha. Recharge your imagination, inquisitiveness and intelligence and focus on your long-term goals, says Ganesha.

LIBRA




It sure is tiring to run with the herd. You may feel the desire to get away from the rat race at work today. Maybe it is the monotonous and stressful environment in office that is pushing you to your limits.

SCORPIO



There is a big black hole in your pocket, and it's high time you looked for remedies there. Loved ones will make use of your money as suntan cream – liberally and carelessly. You are most likely to burn the holes larger by spending lavishly, especially to impress a member of the opposite sex.

SAGITTARIUS




A la a phoenix from the ashes, find yourself reborn as the perfect family person. You are bound to shower love and care on your betrothed. Children, too, will receive your share of love, and they will love it. Enjoy spending quality time with your loved one, says Ganesha.

CAPRICORN




Work will suck you dry of your energy today, says Ganesha. Business rivals will go out of their way to mar your reputation and project you as incompetent. But to their dismay, you will prove to be way too smart to let them succeed in their sinister motives. In fact, you will hit where it hurts most and show your foes that you have all it takes to be a winner.

AQUARIUS



You get a pat on the back due to your brilliant academic standing. People will admire your business acumen and may imitate your choices. But this doesn't mean you become haughty and unapproachable. Carry on the good work with a humble attitude, says Ganesha.

PISCES



Anticipation is all the fun. Sadly, this only alludes to your months-in-preparation travel plans that are most likely to be delayed today on one count or the other. Though, if this is any consolation, your trip, when it finally occurs, will bring you as much pleasure and satisfaction that you expected out of it, if not more, says Ganesha.



SCARLETT JOHANSSON IN TALKS FOR THE BATMAN 2

Scarlett Johansson is in talks to feature in *The Batman Part II* alongside Robert Pattinson. If the actor joins the project, it will also be the first collaboration for Johansson and Pattinson. Directed by Matt Reeves, the movie is set to release in 2027

CATTRALL MARRIES THOMAS IN INTIMATE WEDDING

Hollywood icon Kim Cattrall has married her long-time partner, Russell Thomas, in a private ceremony at London's Chelsea Old Town Hall. The intimate gathering saw just 12 guests witness the couple exchange vows. Cattrall looked elegant in a Dior skirt suit, while Thomas sported a sharp custom black suit



Sonakshi on hitting rough patch in love

Mumbai: Actors Sonakshi Sinha and Zaheer Iqbal, who tied the knot in 2024, are often seen as one of Bollywood's happiest star couples, thanks largely to their adorable social media PDA, from affectionate posts to playful pranks. But behind the picture-perfect moments, their long relationship had its own challenges. Before getting married in a civil ceremony, the two dated for seven years. And while many couples talk about the 'seven-year itch,' Sonakshi recently revealed that she and Zaheer experienced something different, a 'three-year itch.'

Speaking on Soha Ali Khan's podcast, the actress shared that around the third year of their relationship, they hit a rough patch. She described it as a phase where they constantly clashed and struggled to understand each other's perspectives. Despite the frustration, both knew deep down that they wanted the relationship to work. It was Zaheer who suggested couples therapy, expressing his determination to save what they had.

Sonakshi confessed she was open to the idea, and surprisingly, just two sessions made a remarkable difference. Therapy helped them understand each other's communication styles, intentions, and emotional triggers. It taught them not to take things personally and to see where the other person was coming from. Those simple insights strengthened their bond and helped them grow closer.



Aish rejects 'comeback' terminology

Mumbai: Aishwarya Rai, one of Indian cinema's most celebrated actor, has noticeably stayed away from frequent film appearances in recent years. The ongoing conversation around her absence and the idea of a 'comeback' recently surfaced again, prompting the *Dhoom 2* star to clarify her stance.

In an interview, Aishwarya shared that she does not believe in terms like 'comeback,' explaining that an artist remains an artist regardless of time away. She added that audiences consistently reaffirm this belief through their unwavering support.

Her comments come amid increasing curiosity about her next project, especially since she has been selective about her work post-*Fanney Khan* in 2018.

After a brief pause, she returned to the screen with Mani Ratnam's *Ponniyin Selvan I* (2022) and *Ponniyin Selvan II* (2023), where she played dual roles; Nandini, a woman fueled by revenge, and Mandakini Devi, a mysterious mute figure. Aishwarya has often prioritised her life as a mother and her family commitments, openly acknowledging that her choices reflect what feels right for her at this stage.

Despite fewer public appearances and limited releases, her global fan base remains deeply loyal. Aishwarya expressed heartfelt gratitude for their constant love and encouragement, noting that they continue to be her greatest strength. While anticipation grows, she has yet to announce her next film.



Divya talks about showbiz toxicity

Mumbai: Divya Khossla recently engaged with fans through a candid AMA session on Reddit, where she answered questions about her career, personal beliefs and experiences in Bollywood. During the session, Divya made a bold statement about the film industry, describing it as a place "with crocodiles all around," where one must constantly navigate challenges to survive. Her remark reflected the unpredictability and competitive nature of showbiz.

Talking about how she maintains her mental and emotional balance, Divya stressed the importance of staying grounded. She shared that she never intends to compromise her values for work, adding that remaining true to oneself and carrying good karma is more important than any professional gain.

When asked about her most memorable filming experience, Divya instantly named *Savi*. She recalled shooting in the UK in freezing temperatures of nearly minus 10 degrees for 42 days. Despite the extreme conditions, the exceptional production quality made the experience stand out and set a benchmark for her future projects.

Badshah set to create history

New Delhi: Badshah is set to become the first Indian rapper to perform at The O2 Arena in London, where he will have his concert March 22.

The event is produced and promoted by TCO Group, in partnership with TM Ventures and Rock On Music.

"Fans can expect a landmark live spectacle as Badshah commands the arena with an expansive three-hour performance, featuring his chart-topping

hits, cult favourites and recent anthems from across his decade-long catalogue," according to a press release.

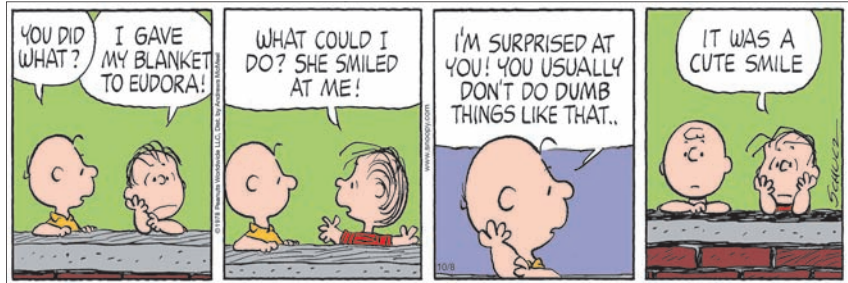
Badshah said performing at The O2 is "more than a milestone" for him. "It's a dream I've carried for years. Desi hip hop belongs on the global stage, and this show is our declaration. London, we're about to make history together — louder, prouder and bigger than ever. 22nd March 2026 will be a night we remem-

ber forever," he said in a statement.

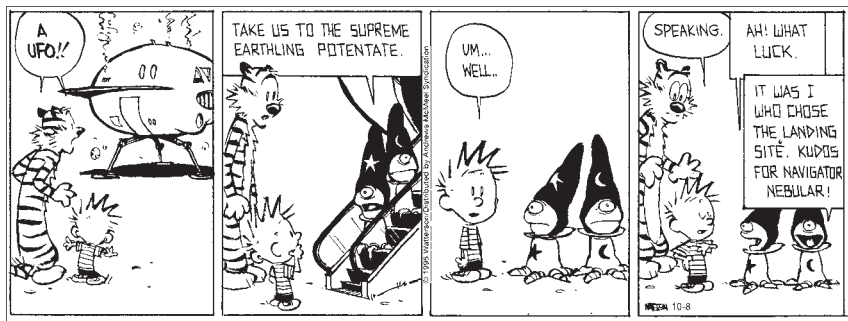
The general ticket sales will start December 12. Neal Karia, managing director of TCO Group, added, "This concert is a historic milestone for South Asian music globally. Badshah leading The O2 demonstrates the scale, ambition and global appeal of Indian music. It's a celebration of talent, culture and the movement Badshah has built over generations."



PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

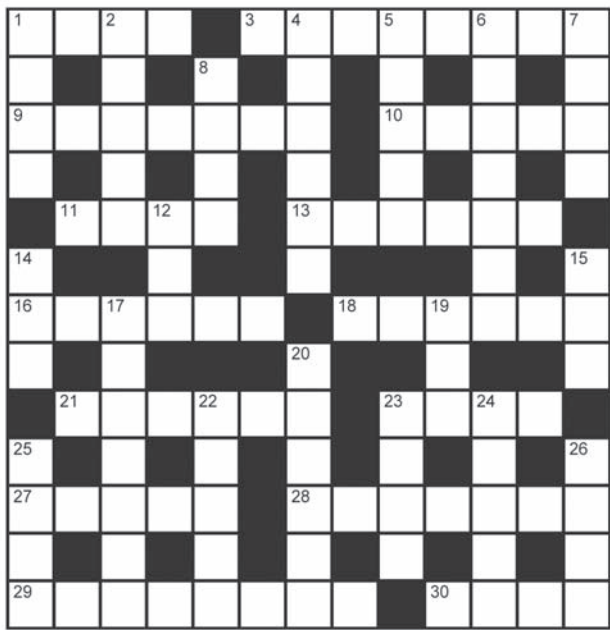


BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD



Across

- Warty hopper
- Pedigreed racehorse
- Highly proficient, like a surgeon
- Office stations
- Mongrel
- Shell wearer
- Cash in, as a coupon
- Adders
- Argentine grassland

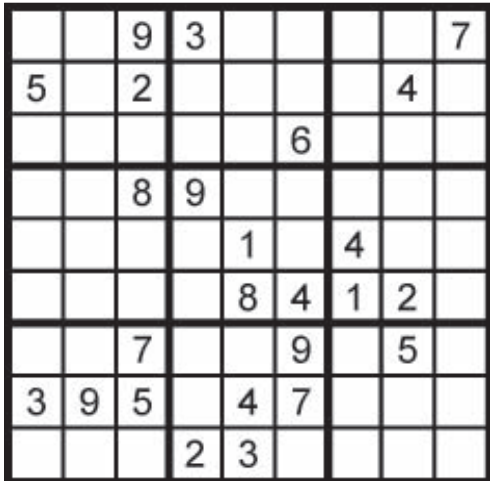
Down

- Deep-six
- French farewell
- Modernise
- Pillow filler
- Firmness of purpose

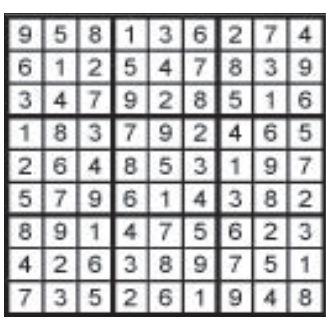
- Two tablets, maybe
- Skirt feature
- Informal wear
- Wrath
- Query
- Baby's wear
- Beer garden
- Chaperone
- Flower feature
- Young newts
- Opera chant
- Blue yonder starter
- Use acid

SUDOKU

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



SOLUTIONS



CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW



"My daughter's wedding happened November 23 and we had organised a reception at our native place in Hubballi for people here. The flight kept getting delayed and at the last moment, at around 4 am, it got cancelled. Now what could we do after that. We had to come up with some



2 teachers suspended after boy found chained at hostel



Jatin Kumar Parida Raghunath Bugudai

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nilagiri, Dec 5: The headmaster and an assistant teacher of Begunia UGUP School in Nilagiri block of Balasore district were suspended Friday after a video showing a Class IV boy chained to his bed in the school hostel went viral.

Acting on the direction of the Nilagiri Sub-Collector and the District Education Officer (DEO), Block Education Officer (BEO) Satyaranjan Bhuiyan suspended headmaster Raghunath Bugudai and assistant teacher Jatin Kumar Parida for dereliction of duty.

The order stated that both teachers would receive only 50 per cent of their salary until further instructions. Parida has been transferred to Mitrapur Nodal School, while Bugudai has been posted at Kathapal UGUP School.

The 40-bed hostel accommodates children from nearby villages. The incident surfaced Wednesday when a video showed the boy — from Kumarakhali village — with a metal chain around his leg. The visuals triggered public outrage after Balasore MP Pratap Chandra Sarangi alerted the District Collector, the District Welfare Officer and the Nilagiri Sub-Collector, seeking an immediate inquiry.

Following the MP's intervention, the Balasore Collector formed a probe team and assigned the investigation to the Sub-Collector and the DEO. Further action will be taken after the inquiry report is submitted to the district administration.

2 Andhra trawlers seized for violating annual fishing ban

PNN & AGENCIES

Berhampur, Dec 5: Forest officials in Ganjam district have seized two fishing trawlers from Andhra Pradesh for alleged illegal fishing near the Rushikulya river mouth, violating the seasonal ban, an official said Friday.

The trawlers, containing over 70 kg of fish catch, were seized and eight fishermen handed over to the Marine Fisheries department, he said.

To protect the endangered Olive Ridley turtles during their breeding and mating season, the state government has imposed a 7-month ban on sea fishing within 20 km of the coast at the Rushikulya, Dhamra and Devi river mouths from November 1 to May 31.

During joint patrolling by forest staff, police and fishery personnel, the Andhra Pradesh fishermen were found operating in the prohibited zone, said Dibya Shankar Behera, Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF), Khallikote.



“After thorough verification, we have handed over the seized items along with the detained fishermen to the Fisheries department to take action,” Behera said.

“We have registered a case against the fishermen under the Odisha Marine Fishing Regulation Act (OMFRA), 1982,” said Devadutta Mohanty, Assistant Fishery Officer, Ganjam.

Rushikulya mouth is considered one of the major rookeries for the Olive Ridley turtles as thousands of the marine creatures visit the area for mass nesting.

Admin demolishes illegal eco-retreat at Talamali

POST NEWS NETWORK

Koraput, Dec 5: In a decisive action against land encroachment, the Koraput administration has demolished an illegal eco-retreat that had come up at Talamali, a major tourist attraction in Semiliguda block, officials said Friday.

Revenue officials and police personnel jointly carried out the enforcement drive.

Around 70 cottages spread across nearly 30 acres of government land were dismantled. The structures, operating under the banner ‘Go Koraput Eco Retreat’, had been set up without any official approval. Located close to Deomali, Odisha's highest peak, Talamali draws hundreds of visitors every week, and the unauthorised resort had begun restricting access to regular tourists.

A group of businessmen from Semiliguda had erected the cottages about a month ago. Authorities found multiple violations, including unauthorised digging, dumping of waste, use of heavy construction materials, and poorly built sanitation units—activities that threatened the fragile forest environment.

Following repeated complaints from locals and public representatives, the district administration ordered an inquiry led by Koraput Sub-Collector Premlal Hial.

Cyber scam: UP man held for duping Angul resident

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Dec 5: A man from UP was arrested by the Odisha Police for allegedly duping a resident of Angul district through an online fraud, officials said Friday.

The accused, Md Adil, was arrested from Prayagraj district in Uttar Pradesh, they said. In his complaint, the victim Sukanta Kumar Pradhan alleged that he received an APK file named ‘RTO Challan’ from an unknown WhatsApp number, and

after installing it, a total amount of Rs 7.20 lakh was fraudulently debited from his bank account. He subsequently deleted the WhatsApp chat and the file and lodged a police complaint.

After analysing the money trail and SIM card details, a police team from Angul conducted a raid in the Prayagraj area and arrested the accused.

Adil was brought to Angul on transit remand. The police have seized a mobile phone, a debit card, and other documents from him.

Forester held for taking bribe

POST NEWS NETWORK

Brajarajnagar, Dec 5: Vigilance officials Friday arrested a forester attached to the Bandhabahal section of the Brajarajnagar forest range in Jharsuguda district for allegedly accepting a bribe of ₹5,000.

According to Vigilance sources, Forester Gauranga Sahu had demanded the bribe from a resident for permitting the cutting and transportation of dried eucalyptus trees. The complainant had earlier informed the Vigilance



department, following which a trap was laid.

Sahu was caught red-handed within his office premises while accepting the bribe. A team from the Rourkela Vigilance Division conducted the raid. Officers said the forester attempted to flee but was quickly overpowered and taken into custody.

The Rourkela Vigilance Zone has registered a case in connection with the incident. Sahu was arrested and produced in a Vigilance Court.

FEMALE ELEPHANT CARCASS FOUND IN KEONJHAR

Keonjhar: Forest officials Friday discovered the carcass of a female elephant, estimated to be 8-10 years old, near Kasada village under the Suakati section of the Bhuyan Juanga Pirha range in the Keonjhar forest division. Although the exact cause of death has not yet been confirmed, preliminary observations by the Forest department noted that the elephant's mouth and tongue had turned dark blue. Officials also reported signs of involuntary urination and dung near the spot, indicating the animal may have collapsed suddenly. Initial suspicion pointed to possible electrocution; however, forest officers said no evidence of electrocution was found within a radius of 1.5 km. “The elephant is believed to have died early this morning. There were no signs of significant struggle, though it appears the animal lay down at a couple of places before dying. Rigor mortis is still present,” said Dhanraj HD, Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar. A post-mortem examination will be conducted Thursday morning by a team of veterinarians as per protocol. The cause of death will be determined after the post-mortem and analysis of samples at the Centre for Wildlife Health in Bhubaneswar, the DFO added.



FORGOTTEN MONEY IN YOUR OLD BANK ACCOUNTS?



RBI will help you recover what's yours

Money in Inoperative Accounts (inactive for more than 2 years and up to 10 years) lying with your bank / Unclaimed Deposits (Beyond 10 years) is transferred to DEA Fund of RBI. You or your legal heirs can claim it anytime.



3 EASY STEPS TO CLAIM YOUR MONEY

1. Visit any branch of your bank, even if it's not your regular branch
2. Submit a form with KYC documents (Aadhaar, Passport, Voter ID, or Driving Licence)
3. Receive your money with interest, if any, after verification

To find your unclaimed deposits

Search your bank's website or check RBI's UDGM portal (<https://udgam.rbi.org.in>) covering 30 banks currently

Visit Special Camps on Unclaimed Assets being conducted in all districts across the country during October to December 2025



For more details, visit <https://rbikehtahai.rbi.org.in>
For feedback, write to rbikehtahai@rbi.org.in

Official WhatsApp No. 99990 41935



Issued in public interest by
भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

13th Convocation Ceremony

6TH DECEMBER 2025 at 9.30 a.m.



His Excellency Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati

Hon'ble Governor of Odisha and Visitor of Centurion University

Will preside over the Ceremony

The Commencement and Convocation Address will be delivered by the following Distinguished Dignitaries



Dr. V Narayanan
Secretary,
Department of Space,
Chairman,
Space Commission
and ISRO



Dr. BK Das
Director General (ECS),
Defence Research
and Development
Organisation (DRDO)



Prof. Amit Chakma
Vice Chancellor,
The University of
Western Australia



Prof. Yogesh Pratap Singh
Vice Chancellor,
National Law
University, Tripura

Venue :
Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha
Bhubaneswar Campus



1933: In what was considered a landmark ruling, a U.S. federal judge held that James Joyce's *Ulysses* was not obscene, thus allowing for greater freedoms in literary works.



*Peter Bryant is Oceans
Program Director at
Builders Vision. Sindre
Østgård is Managing
Partner at We Are Human.*

©PROJECT SYNDICATE

But, how do people who have deposited and forgotten know that they had the money in a particular bank? There could be many cases where people deposited money and died without disclosing it to anyone; how can the legal heirs know that there is some money belonging to them lying in the banks to make a claim? They

Ranganathan Sivakumar, CHENNAI



CULINARY HERITAGE TAKES SPOTLIGHT

UP set to launch ‘One District, One Product’ 2.0

The aim of ODOP 2.0 is to ensure that the state’s traditional products become a strong foundation for larger markets, increased exports, and sustainable livelihoods

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lucknow, Dec 5: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Friday underscored the need to implement the “One District, One Cuisine” (ODOC) concept to give each district a unified identity through its distinctive culinary heritage.

Adityanath, in a high-level meeting here, said, “The ‘One District, One Product’ (ODOP) initiative, now a defining feature of ‘Brand Uttar Pradesh’, is set to advance to its next phase, ODOP 2.0, which will further boost local industries, self-employment, and exports”

He noted that in the context of evolving global markets, modern consumer expectations, technological progress, and new benchmarks for quality and packaging, ODOP must be expanded in a more comprehensive, commercial, and outcome-driven manner.

Together, ODOP and ODOC will propel Uttar Pradesh firmly on the path of “local to global”, the chief minister said.

“The aim of ODOP 2.0 is to ensure that the state’s traditional products become a strong foundation for larger markets, increased exports, and sustainable livelihoods,” he added.

“ODOC reflects the cultural essence of Uttar Pradesh, where



ODOC reflects the cultural essence of Uttar Pradesh, where every region boasts a unique food tradition, some renowned for their ‘halwa’, others for their ‘dalmoth’

YOGI ADITYANATH | CHIEF MINISTER, UTTAR PRADESH

every region boasts a unique food tradition, some renowned for their ‘halwa’, others for their ‘dalmoth’,” Adityanath said in an official statement.

Mapping each district’s signature dishes, he emphasised, should be accompanied by efforts to improve their quality, hygiene, packaging, branding, and marketing.

Meanwhile, Lucknow city was officially inducted into UNESCO’s Creative Cities Network (CCN), under the ‘Gastronomy’ category, marking a global acknowledgement of its culinary heritage. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay designated 58 cities October 31 as new members of the CCN.

During the meeting, it was

highlighted that since its launch in 2018, the ODOP initiative has become the backbone of Uttar Pradesh’s exports and local industries.

According to the statement, over 1.25 lakh toolkits have been distributed, loans exceeding Rs 6,000 crore have been sanctioned, and more than 8,000 entrepreneurs have received direct marketing support.

Thirty Common Facility Centres (CFCs) have been approved, and 44 ODOP products have been granted Geo tags. ODOP products are now sold on leading e-commerce platforms and account for more than 50 per cent of the state’s total exports, the statement said.

The scheme has also earned

a national award for the second consecutive year, it said.

Speaking about ODOP 2.0, the chief minister said, “It is no longer just a scheme but a powerful catalyst for sustainable employment, local enterprise development, and export growth.”

He stressed the importance of prioritising the units and entrepreneurs who performed exceptionally well in the first phase, further enabling them to scale their businesses.

He added that future plans must empower Uttar Pradesh’s products across four key areas -- technology, packaging, quality, and market reach.

The Common Facility Centres under ODOP will be made more effective, the statement said. The chief minister directed that each CFC should have expert involvement so that small entrepreneurs can access comprehensive support, including technical guidance, design, packaging solutions, and production assistance, all under one roof.

The chief minister further instructed that ODOP products must not remain confined to traditional markets but should be integrated into major retail chains and modern marketplaces.

He directed the establishment of dedicated ODOP sections in Unity Malls being set up across various states and emphasised the need to coordinate with major retail networks to ensure prominent placement of Uttar Pradesh’s products.

Additionally, the ODOP products will receive certification and enhanced brand value through reputed institutions to strengthen their identity in global markets, the statement said.

U’KHAND HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT

Over 900 lives lost since 2000

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dehradun, Dec 5: Attacks by tigers, leopards, bears and other animals has claimed more than 900 lives in Uttarakhand in the last 25 years, highlighting alarming levels of human-wildlife conflict in the hilly state, according to government data.

The latest such incident occurred on Thursday when a 45-year-old man was killed in a leopard attack in Gajald village in Pauri -- a district that has seen the highest animal attack cases, prompting its administration to take several measures.

According to government data, human-wildlife conflict has claimed over 900 lives in Uttarakhand over the past 25 years with leopard attacks claiming 548 lives, elephant attacks 230 lives, tiger attacks 106 and bear attacks 70.

Snakebites claimed 260 lives in the state during this period, the data showed.

Meanwhile, 2,127 people were injured in attacks by leopards, 2,013 injured in bear attacks, 234 in elephant attacks and 1,056 were injured due to snake bites, it stated.

According to experts, leopard attacks are seen in almost every part of the state throughout the year, with bear attacks peaking between October and December.

The Uttarakhand government has announced that the state will bear the entire cost of treatment for the injured and will provide a compensation of Rs 10 lakh to the families of those killed in the attacks.

Rajendra Nautiyal (45) was killed in a leopard attack in



Gajald village of Pauri district Thursday, prompting the administration to order the shooting of the animal and declare a two-day holiday for schools in the area, officials said.

The incident sparked panic in the area, and residents took to the streets in outrage. Villagers protested against the local MLA and forest department personnel.

Seeing the growing resistance among the villagers, the district magistrate has immediately ordered the installation of a cage in the village. Schools and Anganwadi centres have been temporarily closed as a precautionary measure.

According to the district magistrate, two shooters have been deployed at the scene and have been given permission to kill the leopard.

The villagers have alleged that the department attempts to hush up the situation with formal action, while the leopard menace continues to grow in the area. Instead of relief, villagers are experiencing growing anxiety.

Accusing the state government of not giving a concrete and permanent policy to prevent human-wildlife conflict,

they said that this lack of a solution is leading to a steady increase in casualties in hilly villages.

Schoolchildren also expressed their anguish and said that due to the school being far from the village, they are forced to stay at home due to fear of leopards.

Uttarakhand Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Ranjan Kumar Mishra acknowledged that Pauri is a district with the highest human-wildlife conflict in Uttarakhand -- especially in terms of bear and leopard attacks.

He appealed to people not to throw green waste, rotten fruits, or food waste in the open in the villages.

Mishra added that several bears were recently seen on garbage dumps in Joshimath, and such conditions affect animal behavior and make them aggressive.

The Forest Department has initiated the installation of solar and fox lights at several locations. Meanwhile, the Congress has accused the BJP-led Uttarakhand government of negligence regarding wildlife attacks.

ଶ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ
ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ରାଜ୍ୟ
ପୁସ୍ତକ ମହୋତ୍ସବ
୨୦୨୫
୨-୧୭ ଡିସେମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୫
ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀ ପଡ଼ିଆ, ଯୁନିଟ୍-୩, ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର
ଶୁଭ ଉଦ୍ଘାଟନ
ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଅତିଥି
ଶ୍ରୀ ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ମାଝୀ
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା
ଗରିମାମୟ ଉପସ୍ଥିତି

ଶ୍ରୀମତୀ ପ୍ରଭାତୀ ପରିଡ଼ା
ଉପ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

ଶ୍ରୀ ସୂର୍ଯ୍ୟକାନ୍ତ ସ୍ୱରଜ
ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଉଚ୍ଚଶିକ୍ଷା, କ୍ରୀଡ଼ା ଓ ଯୁବସେବା ଏବଂ
ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା, ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି

ଶ୍ରୀ ବାବୁ ସାହେ
ବିଧାୟକ, ଏକାମ୍ର-ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର

ଡଃ. ପ୍ରତିଭା ରାୟ
ବିଶିଷ୍ଟ ସାହିତ୍ୟିକ ଓ ଜ୍ଞାନପୀଠ ପୁରସ୍କାର ବିଜେତା

୨ ଡିସେମ୍ବର ୨୦୨୫, ସନ୍ଧ୍ୟା ୬.୦୦ ଘଟିକା
ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା, ସାହିତ୍ୟ ଓ ସଂସ୍କୃତି ବିଭାଗ

OIPR-03001/13/0008/2526

of the day **quote**

The aim of ODOP 2.0 is to ensure that the state's traditional products become a strong foundation for larger markets, increased exports, and sustainable livelihoods



The vision of a fully developed India includes the well-being of every citizen, and in order to achieve that goal, focusing on the cooperative, agriculture, animal husbandry, and rural development sectors is essential



Giving back to the society that supported us is the real responsibility



SHORT TAKES

Five engineering students killed

Chilakutpeta (Andhra Pradesh): Five engineering students who were observing Ayyappa Swamy deeksha (penance) have been killed in an accident here in Palnadu district when their car crashed into a truck from behind, said a police official. Police said the accident occurred late Thursday on the new bypass road in Chilakutpeta after the truck driver allegedly slowed down his vehicle suddenly.

Tributes paid to Jayalalithaa

Chennai: Rich tributes were paid to late Tamil Nadu chief minister J Jayalalithaa on her death anniversary Friday. On the occasion, AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami appealed to the party cadres to end the "family rule" in Tamil Nadu. Former AIADMK leader K A Sengottaiyan, who recently joined actor Vijay-led TVK, recalled the late leader's "sacrifices" and said her fame will last forever.

Scindia participates in Hornbill fest

Kohima: Union Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia Friday took part in the traditional Angami Naga stone-pulling ceremony at Tuophema village, the home of Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio in Kohima district, as part of the 26th Hornbill Festival. Scindia, dressed in traditional Angami attire, along with his son, joined Rio, deputy chief ministers Y Patton and T R Zeliang and thousands of people in the traditional stone-pulling ceremony.

Protest in Gangtok

Gangtok: The Citizen Action Party Sikkim Friday held a dharna in Gangtok, alleging that the process for the police sub-inspector recruitment was "severely compromised" with most selected candidates having links to the ruling SKM. The dharna was held near the district administrative centre in the state capital, with agitators raising slogans denouncing the Prem Singh Tamang government.

J'khand Assembly adjourned

Ranchi: The first day of the winter session of the Jharkhand Assembly was adjourned Friday after obituary references were made to eminent personalities who died recently. The session will now be convened Monday and will conclude December 11, with five working days scheduled.



"We still have a lot to cover. Whatever we could do this year, it is before you. Our opponents will always tell you that this or that has not been done, but they will not tell you what has been achieved"

FAROOQ ABDULLAH | NC PRESIDENT

HC REJECTS MOSQUE'S PLEA TO USE LOUDSPEAKER

The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court refused to grant relief to a mosque seeking permission to use loudspeakers, noting it was not entitled to use the device to practise religion as a matter of right. The court, while relying on Supreme Court judgments, said that no religion mandates prayers to be offered through voice amplifiers or beating drums

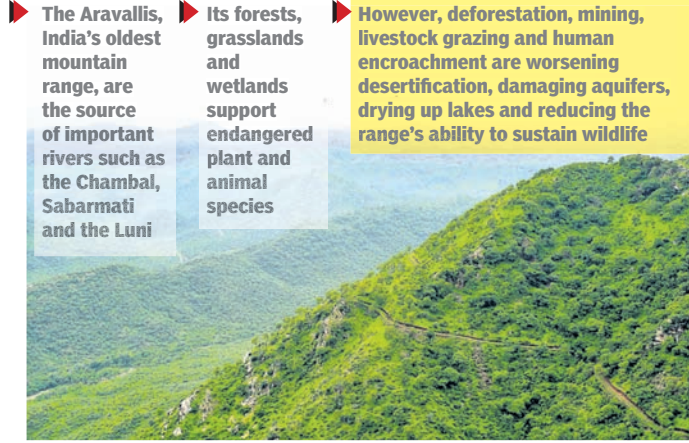


Aravali's 100-metre rule may harm its ecosystem, experts warn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: The Aravali Hills – one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world that spans approximately 700 km in length – has long served as a natural shield for blocking sand and dust from the Thar Desert while also aiding groundwater recharge and sustaining rich biodiversity for multiple states, including the Delhi-NCR region.

But, with the Supreme Court recently accepting a new government definition that only hills taller than 100 meters will count, experts have warned that many parts of the ecologically vital Aravalis may no longer be protected and thus could expose many regions, including Delhi, to harsher weather and drought conditions. Expressing disappointment over the Supreme Court's decision, Harjeet Singh, founding director, Satat Sampada



The Aravalis, India's oldest mountain range, are the source of important rivers such as the Chambal, Sabarmati and the Luni

Its forests, grasslands and wetlands support endangered plant and animal species

However, deforestation, mining, livestock grazing and human encroachment are worsening desertification, damaging aquifers, drying up lakes and reducing the range's ability to sustain wildlife

Climate Foundation, highlighted that labelling only hills that surpass 100 metres as 'Aravalis', "erases the landscape that keeps North India breathing and feeds the wells."

"Aravali Hill" will be defined as any landform in designated Aravali districts with an ele-

vation of 100 metres or more above its local relief, and an "Aravali Range" will be a collection of two or more such hills within 500 metres of each other.

While the Supreme Court directed the authorities to identify permissible areas for "mining and ecologically sen-

Lok Sabha clears pan masala cess Bill

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: The Lok Sabha Friday passed a Bill to levy a cess on manufacturing units of pan masala, and utilise the fund for strengthening national security and improving public health.

Replying to the debate on the Health Security se National Security Cess Bill, 2025, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the cess will be shared with the states, as public health is a state subject. The Bill was later passed by voice vote by the Lok Sabha.

The bill seeks to augment the resources for meeting expenditure on national security and for public health by levying a cess on the machines installed or other processes undertaken to manufacture pan masala and similar goods. The purpose of the bill is to create a "dedicated and predictable resource stream" for two domains of national importance – health and national security, she said. Sitharaman said pan masala will be taxed at the maximum 40 per cent rate under Goods and Services Tax (GST) based on its consumption, and there will be no impact of this cess on GST revenues.

Asked about party MP Tharoor getting invited to the banquet and accepting the invitation, Khera said, "Ask Mr. Tharoor. All of us who are in the party, if our leaders don't get invited and we get invited, we need to question our own conscience and listen to our conscience. Politics has been played in inviting or not inviting people, which in itself is questionable and those who accept such an invite is also questionable," Khera said.

Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera accused the government of breaking protocols daily and not believing in democratic principles

New Delhi, Dec 5: The Congress Friday said Leaders of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi have not been invited to the banquet for Russian President Vladimir Putin, and took a swipe at its own MP Shashi Tharoor for accepting the invite.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said, "There has been speculation whether the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha have been invited for tonight's official dinner in honour of President Putin. The two LoPs have not been invited."

Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera accused the government of breaking protocols daily and not believing in democratic principles.

"There is no invite to both the LoPs, Mr (Mallikarjun) Kharge and Mr (Rahul) Gandhi. This comes as a surprise but I don't think we should be surprised. This government is known to be breaching all protocols. What else to say, ask the government," he told PTI Videos on the sidelines of an event.

Earlier, Tharoor said there was a time when the chairman of the external affairs committee was routinely invited but that practice seems to have stopped from some years.

On the LoPs reportedly not getting an invite, Tharoor said, "I don't know on what basis invitations were sent. I think the custom that usually used to be followed was for a wide representation. Certainly, I remember in the olden days, they used to invite not only the LoPs, (but) various other cross section of representatives of different parties. It conveys a good impression." Gandhi Thursday had alleged that the government tells visiting foreign dignitaries not to meet the Leader of the Opposition due to its "insecurity".

SC: Temple money belongs to deity

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: The Supreme Court Friday said that money belonging to a temple deity cannot be used to prop up financially distressed cooperative banks.

The sharp observations were made by a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi while hearing appeals filed by a few cooperative banks challenging a direction of the Kerala High Court asking them to return the deposits to the Thirunelly Temple Devaswom.

"You want to use the temple money to save the bank? What is wrong with directing that the temple money, instead of being in a cooperative bank which is breathing with great difficulty, should go to a healthy nationalised bank which can give maximum interest," the CJI asked. Temple money belongs to the deity and hence, the money has to be "saved, protected and utilised only for the interests of the temple" and it can-

not become a source of income or survival for a cooperative bank, the CJI said. The pleas against the high court order were filed by Mananthawady Co-operative Urban Society Ltd and Thirunelly Service Cooperative Bank Ltd. The high court had directed five cooperative banks to close the Devaswom's fixed deposits and refund the entire amount within two months, following repeated refusals by the banks to release the matured deposits.

The bench was unconvinced with the submissions of the banks that the abrupt direction of the high court was causing difficulties. The bench said the banks should establish credibility among the people. The top court refused to entertain the pleas. It, however, permitted the banks to approach the high court for extension of time to comply with the impugned order. The case arose from a plea filed by the Thirunelly Devaswom after several cooperative banks refused to repay the temple's fixed deposits despite repeated requests.



Farmers sit on railway tracks during a statewide 'rail roko' protest called by the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, Punjab Chapter, against the central government's draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and other issues, at Devi Das Pura near Amritsar

PTI PHOTO

World Book of Records honours Nitish for 10th term as CM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Patna, Dec 5: The World Book of Records, London, Friday recognised Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's "milestone" of having taken oath as chief minister for the 10th time.

Announcing the development, Janata Dal (United) national working president Sanjay Jha posted on X, "It is a matter of great joy and pride to share that the World Book of Records, London, has recognised the extraordinary milestone achieved by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar, who has taken oath as Chief Minister for the 10th time."

He described it as a "truly rare distinction" in the country's

democratic journey.

JD(U) chief Kumar first became chief minister in 2000, though he had to step down within seven days after failing to prove a majority in the floor test.

Since 2005, Kumar has continued as CM, except for a brief period of less than a year when he handed over the post to Jitan Ram Manjhi in the wake of the party's poor performance in the Lok Sabha elections in 2014.

Kumar's third oath came after a sweeping mandate in the 2010 assembly elections, and his fourth came ahead of the 2015 state polls, as he took over the reins from Manjhi following a political tussle.

His political journey has in-



cluded alliances with both the NDA and the Mahagathband-

han. In 2015, Kumar formed a grand alliance with his rival

Lalu Prasad of the RJD and the Congress, taking oath for the fifth time. He resigned in July 2017, citing corruption charges against Lalu's son and deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav.

Within 24 hours of his resignation, he was sworn in for the sixth time with the BJP's support, returning to the NDA fold.

After the 2020 Bihar polls, he took oath for the seventh time, but as tensions grew over caste census and alleged dominance by the BJP, he walked out of the alliance in 2022.

Kumar rejoined the RJD and Congress and was sworn in for the eighth time.

Mahagathbandhan 2.0 lasted for 17 months before Kumar quit the alliance ahead of the

2024 Lok Sabha elections, saying "things were not right".

He again allied with the NDA before the 2024 polls, taking oath for the ninth time.

Kumar took the oath for the 10th time after the recent assembly elections, wherein the NDA swept the polls, winning 202 out of 243 seats.

Jha said the "organisation's commendation notes that this remarkable feat is a reflection of his unwavering public service, stable governance, and the enduring trust reposed in him by the people of Bihar. To lead a state across ten terms is not merely a personal achievement; it stands as a historic moment for Bihar and a testament to its democratic strength."

of the day quote

Let there be no doubt whatsoever that the project to vilify Jawaharlal Nehru is the main objective of the ruling establishment today. Their goal is not just to erase him; it is actually to destroy the social, political, and economic foundations on which our nation has been founded and built

SONIA GANDHI | CONGRESS LEADER

Before Magh Bihu, I feel we will complete our discussion with AGP regarding poll alliance and seat sharing agreement

HIMANTA BISWA SARMA | ASSAM CHIEF MINISTER

The evolution of free speech jurisprudence in India reflects a larger constitutional commitment to ensure that the state's power to restrict expression does not overshadow the citizen's right to think, to speak and to participate freely in the democratic set-up

BR GAVAI | FORMER CJI

POST OF THE DAY

The criminalisation of marital rape is an urgent necessity in India's legal framework.

I introduced my Private Member's Bill today to amend the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and remove the marital rape exception, reaffirming that marriage cannot negate the woman's right to grant or deny consent. India must uphold its constitutional values and move from "No Means No" to "Only Yes Means Yes,". Every woman deserves the fundamental right to bodily autonomy and dignity within marriage, protections our legal system fails to provide. Marital rape is not about marriage but about violence. The moment for action has arrived.

@ShashiTharoor

SHORT TAKES

Meeting fails to resolve Tezpur varsity deadlock

Tezpur: In a dramatic turn of events at Tezpur University, which has been under complete shutdown for the last seven days, the senior-most faculty member assumed charge as acting vice chancellor suo-motu Friday, citing the varsity's laws. The new 'acting VC' Dhruva Kumar Bhattacharyya said he is making arrangements to hold the stalled end-term exams from December 8, though the agitating students declared that the shutdown would continue till their demand, the ouster of incumbent Vice Chancellor Shambhu Nath Singh, is met.

Police book TN BJP chief, 112 others

Madurai (Tamil Nadu): The police Friday registered a case against 113 people, including Tamil Nadu BJP President Nainar Nagenthiran, senior party leader H Raja, and six women, who participated in a protest December 4 to push for the lighting of a lamp at the top of the Thiruparankundram hill, officials said.

Delhi court extends Bishnoi's NIA custody

New Delhi: A Delhi court Friday extended the NIA custody of deported gangster Anmol Bishnoi by seven more days. Special Judge Prashant Sharma ordered the extension during a hearing conducted at the National Investigation Agency's (NIA) headquarters here amid high security.



The overall punctuality of Railways has touched 80 per cent, which is a significant achievement. In 70 railway divisions, the punctuality is more than 90 per cent. The Indian Railways is better in punctuality than several European countries

ASHWINI VAISHNAW | RAILWAYS MINISTER

TRANSFER OF HC JUDGES MADE IN PUBLIC INTEREST

All transfers of high court judges are made in "public interest" for promoting better administration of justice and there is no timeline for such transfers, the government said Friday



IndiGo cancels over 1K flights

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi/Mumbai, Dec 5: IndiGo cancelled over 1,000 flights Friday and said operations are expected to normalise in the next 10 days, as the country's largest airline received flight duty norms relaxation from watchdog DGCA, which will probe the disruptions that have impacted thousands of passengers for four straight days.

As a large number of flights got cancelled and delayed, chaos continued at major airports across the country, with frustrated passengers scrambling for updates and searching for their baggage. Many passengers vented out their anger on social media, and airfares also sailed northwards for many routes.

The operations of IndiGo, which controls about two-thirds of the country's domestic traffic and generally operates around 2,300 flights daily, failed to plan properly for the new flight duty norms that provide for increased rest periods and lesser night landings.

With air travel chaos continuing for the fourth consecutive day, DGCA Friday provided temporary exemption from the Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) norms, including on night landings and definition of night time, to the airline, which had sought the relaxations to normalise its operations.

The airline was required to implement the FDTL norms from November 1.

Civil Aviation Minister K Rammoohan Naidu Friday said various operational measures, including keeping new flight duty norms in abeyance, will help address the IndiGo flight disruptions, and complete restoration of services is expected in next three days.



Stranded passengers search for their luggage near a counter after IndiGo cancelled more than 400 flights, at the Kempegowda International Airport, in Bangalore, Karnataka

PTI PHOTO

NORTHERN RLY INCREASES AC COACHES

NEW DELHI: The Northern Railway Friday decided to increase 3AC and Chair Car coaches in four premium trains for the convenience of travellers in view of the disruption of Indigo airline's flight services. Himanshu Shekhar Upadhyay, Chief Public Relations Officer, Northern Railway, said that one 3AC coach each in 12425/26 Jammu Rajdhani express and 12424/23 Dibrugarh Rajdhani express have been increased after experiencing a surge in passengers' travel needs. According to sources, the railways is working to increase the number of all types of AC coaches in several premium trains running between New Delhi and Patna, Mumbai and New Delhi, and Ahmedabad and New Delhi among many others due to a sudden surge in the passengers' demand.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has constituted a four-member panel to ascertain the reasons that have led to the disruptions and also said that prima facie, the situation indicates deficiencies in internal oversight, operational preparedness, and compliance planning, "warranting an independent examination".

The FDTL relaxations have been provided for only IndiGo's A320 family planes, which account for the majority of its fleet, till February 10, 2026, officials said. "This exemption has been granted solely to facilitate operational stabilisation and in no way amounts to dilution of safety requirements. During

this period, DGCA would review after every fifteen days, the action taken by IndiGo to address the situation including hiring of adequate crew to ensure FDTL compliance," the civil aviation ministry said in a statement.

Earlier in the day, the regulator eased the FDTL norm, saying leaves can substitute weekly rest periods for pilots. These moves meant that more pilots will be available for operations and that will help in stabilising the situation.

On a day when IndiGo cancelled more than 1,000 flights, IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers on Friday said the situation is anticipated to normalise between December 10-15.

Assam govt relaxes two-child norm for SC, ST, other communities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Guwahati, Dec 5: The Assam government Friday diluted the two-child norm for ST, SC, tea garden, Moran and Matak communities, amending its policy in this regard.

According to a notification, members of these groups having up to three children are eligible for government employment, contesting elections and receiving incentives for Self Help Groups (SHGs).

In the notification, the Health and Family Welfare Department Commissioner and Secretary Patibandla Ashok Babu said the order regarding abolishing the two-child norm for some select communities and relaxing it to three children has come into effect immediately.

"The Governor of Assam is pleased to enunciate the Population and Women Empowerment Policy of Assam (Amendment), 2025," he said. The order stated that the Population and Women Empowerment Policy of Assam, 2017 has been amended accordingly. On October 23, the Assam Cabinet had decided to abolish the two-child norm for ST, tea garden, Moran and Matak communities in respect of getting government jobs, and the notification came Friday.

Addressing a press conference after the state cabinet, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had said the government took the decision to keep these groups outside the purview of population control norms to protect them from extinction. "If we stick to the policy, these populations will lose their distinct identities and gradually become extinct in the next 50 years," he had added.

Delhi's AQI remains 'very poor'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: A thick veil of smog descended over the capital Friday, with the average AQI settling at 327, in the 'very poor' category, while the city shivered on its coldest December morning so far this year with the mercury dipping to 5.6 degrees Celsius.

The 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI) was recorded at 327, after clocking 323 during the morning hours when 30 monitoring stations across the capital logged 'very poor' air quality. Bawana reported the worst AQI at 373, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data.

By 6 pm, 31 of the 39 stations assessed had fallen into the 'very poor' range, with R K Puram registering one of the highest AQI readings at 370, the CPCB's Sameer app showed. According to the CPCB standards, an AQI between 0 and 50 is classified 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor' and 401-500 'severe'.

Meanwhile, according to the Decision Support System (DSS) for Delhi's air quality management, vehicular emissions remained the highest local contributor at 15.3 per cent.

Government of Odisha No.O-1674
Office of the Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Jharsuguda
Email : eervw_jharsuguda@yahoo.co.in, Tel. : 06645-271643
Bid Identification No. Online - SEJSG - 12 of 2025-26
NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR ROAD WORK IN ODISHA
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
1 Name of the work : Road works as per DTCN available in the www.tendersorissa.gov.in
2 Total No. of Work : 06 (Six) Nos.
3 Estimated Cost : Rs. 5.04 Lakh to 31.93 Lakh
4 Period of completion : 01 (One) & 03 (Three) Calendar Months
5 Period and Time of availability of bid document in the portal for bidding : Dt. 08.12.2025 at 11.00 A.M. to 18.12.2025 upto 05.00 P.M.
6 Date and Time of bid opening : Dt. 19.12.2025 at 11.00 A.M.
7 Name and address of the officer inviting Bid : S.E., R.W.Division, Jharsuguda
(1) Other details can be seen from Detailed notice Inviting Tenders, available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in
(2) Corrigendum if any shall only be published in the above website.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer
R.W. Division, Jharsuguda
OIPR-25104/11/0047/2526

File No. 35/59/2020-DC (Pt-I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Subject: Advertisement for the engagement of Consultant B on contractual basis in M/o Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
Applications are invited for (01) One Consultant B in Desertification Cell, National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board (NAEB), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change on payment of Consolidated monthly fee Rs.80,000/- for Consultant B. Full details of the vacancy circular are available on Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change website www.moef.gov.in under the link Circular.
The last date of receipt of application is 21 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the newspaper.
Deputy Inspector General of Forest (NAEB)
cbc 13101/11/0023/2526

IFSCA
INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRES AUTHORITY
2nd and 3rd Floor, Pragya Tower, GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
File No.73/IFSCA/Consultants/2020-21
VACANCY NOTIFICATION
International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), a statutory unified regulatory body under the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, invites applications from eligible Indian citizens for filling up various positions of Young Professionals/Consultants Grade 1/ Consultant Grade 2 on contract basis. The place of posting is GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
2. The candidates wishing to apply are requested to refer www.ifsc.gov.in/career for detailed vacancy notification. The last date for receipt of application along with requisite documents by post is 16.12.2025 by 6.00 P.M.
General Manager
Dept. of General Administration
CBC 15228/12/0006/2526

MECON LIMITED
(A PSU Under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India)
H.O.: Doranda, Ranchi - 834002, Phone: 0651-2483000
CIN No.: U74100JH7973CO001199
EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION
1. MECON Limited requires 44 (Forty Four) Nos. of Experienced Personnel in Regular Scale of Pay (Adv. No. 11.73.4.3/2025/Reg./07 Dated: 06.11.2025) as follows:

Post Code	Name of Posts	No. of Posts	Pay Scale	Grade
1.	Junior Engineer (Mechanical)	03	Rs 30,000 - 3% - 1,20,000/-	E-O
2.	Junior Engineer (Mechanical)	05		
3.	Junior Engineer (Civil)	25		
4.	Junior Engineer (Civil)	05		
5.	Junior Engineer (Electrical)	02		
6.	Junior Officer (HR)	02		
7.	Junior Officer (Admin.)	02		

2. MECON Limited requires 01 (One) No. of Experienced Professional on contract basis as follows:

Post Code	Advertisement No.	Nature of Employment
1.	11.73.4.1/2025/Cont/05 Dated: 18.11.2025	FTFT Basis

For further details please visit the link "Careers" Section of our website www.meconlimited.co.in.
Note: Further, any corrigendum(s)/amendment(s) against this advertisement will be uploaded in "Careers" Section of our website www.meconlimited.co.in
Chief General Manager (HR),
MECON Limited, Vivekananda Path,
Doranda, Ranchi - 834002, Jharkhand
CBC 40110/12/0018/2526

No. A.40011/05/2023-Ad. VII
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
Admin VII Section
Invitation of application for appointment as Young Professionals and Consultants on contract basis in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi
The Department of Economic Affairs proposes to engage Young Professionals and Consultants for specific assignments on contract basis. The detailed guidelines and Terms of Reference for applying for the posts are available on the website of the Department (<https://dea.gov.in/offering-vacancies>). Interested candidates may apply on web portal: <https://mofapp.nic.in/cadre> within 21 days of publication in the Newspapers.
Under Secretary to the Government of India
CBC 15201/11/0008/2526

यूरेनियम कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का एक उद्यम)
प.ओ. - जादुगुड़ा माइन्स, जिला: एवं सिंहभूम जिला- 832 102
(CIN: U 12000 JH 1967 GOI 000806)
Website: www.uraniumcorp.in
बिम्बिन परीक्षों के लिए मतो सूचना
विज्ञापन संख्या: UCIL-07-2025
URANIUM CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise)
P.O.: Jaduguda Mines, Dist.: East Singhbhum
Jharkhand - 832 102
(CIN: U 12000 JH 1967 GOI 000806)
RECRUITMENT OF TRAINEES
Advertisement No. UCIL-07-2025
यूरेनियम कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड निम्नलिखित पदों के लिए भारतीय पदों के लिए भारतीय नागरिकों से ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है। इस विज्ञापन से संबंधित कोई भी प्रश्न/सूचना/विस्तार/सुझाव आदि केवल यूसीआईएल वेबसाइट www.uraniumcorp.in पर उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा।
Full details of vacancies viz. Qualifications, Experience, Scale of pay etc. are available at UCIL website www.uraniumcorp.in. Any queries/information/extension/corrigendum etc. with respect to this advertisement shall be made available on the UCIL website www.uraniumcorp.in only.
ऑनलाइन आवेदन जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 31.12.2025 है।
Last date of submission of online application is 31.12.2025.
cbc 48134/12/0033/2526

'No deadline extension for Waqf registration'



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju Friday ruled out extending the deadline for registering Waqf properties on the UMEED portal but said the his ministry, recognising the concerns of 'mutawallis' or caretakers, will not impose any penalty or take strict action for the next three months as a humanitarian and facilitative measure.

He also said that 1.51 lakh properties had been registered by Friday morning. The minister stressed that those 'mutawallis' (Waqf property caretakers) who have not registered on

the portal at all can approach their respective Waqf tribunals

The Centre launched The Unified Waqf Management Empowerment, Efficiency and Development (UMEED) Act central portal on June 6 to create a digital inventory.

According to the provisions of the portal, details of all registered Waqf properties across the country must be uploaded within six months. The six-month deadline for registration ends at 11:59:59 pm December 6, 2025.

The six-month deadline mandated under the Waqf Amendment Act cannot be extended due to the provisions of the act, and clear directions of the Supreme Court, the minister said.

However, recognising the concerns of 'mutawallis', the minister assured that the ministry will not impose any penalties or take strict action for the next three months as a "humanitarian and facilitative measure".

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender Notice No.: ST-OT-SIG-ZONAL-PURI-522, Dt. 28.11.2025
Name of Work:- SIGNALLING ZONAL WORK EACH COSTING RS. 5,00,000/- OR LESS IN THE SECTION UNDER JURISDICTION OF SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER SIGNAL (SSES)/PURI OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION, EAST COAST RAILWAY FOR ONE YEAR.
Tender Value: ₹ 33,63,014.57, **EMD:** ₹ 67,300.00.
Bidding Start Date: 08.12.2025.
Tender closing Date & Time: At 1100 hrs. of 22.12.2025.
No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against the e-tenders.
Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website : www.ireps.gov.in
Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ Corrigenda issued for this tender.
Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Khurda Road
PR-870/Q/25-26

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
For & on behalf of the President of India, Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRS), South Eastern Railway, Bondonmunda invites open E-Tender for the under mentioned work. Manual offers are not allowed against the tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.
E-Tender Notice No.: TRS-BNDM-03-2025-26, Dated: 04.12.2025. Description of work: Repair, refilling and replacement of defective parts of different types of fire extinguishers under jurisdiction of ELS/Bondonmunda for a period of 02 years. **Approx. Cost of work:** ₹ 7,74,405.50. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 15,500.
Date & time for closing of E-Tender: 15.00 hrs. of 26.12.2025. **Website particulars & details:** www.ireps.gov.in. The complete particulars of the E-Tender will be available on website. (PR-921)

EAST COAST RAILWAY
File No. DRM/Engg/KUR/25-26/ E-Tender/89, Dt. 02.12.2025
(1) Tender No. : e-TenderSouthKUR-301-2025, Dtd. 21.11.2025
Description: ALL REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF P WAY ZONAL WORKS FOR A PERIOD UPTO 30/09/2026 FROM KM. 631.20 TO 678.33 BETWEEN ICHHAPURAM-PALASA STATION UNDER SENIOR SECTION ENGINEER (SSE) (PWAY)/SOMPERTA OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.
Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 100.95 Lakhs, EMD : ₹ 2,00,500.00, Completion period : 12 (Twelve) Months.
(2) Tender No. : e-TenderSouthKUR-300-2025, Dtd. 21.11.2025
Description: PROPOSED CONVERSION & REBUILDING OF ARCH BRIDGE NO. 1111 (UP), 1166 (UP), 997 (UP) AND RCC SLAB BRIDGE NO. 919 DN INTO RCC BOX BRIDGES BETWEEN SECTION KHURDA ROAD-PALASA OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.
Approx. cost of the work : ₹ 185.32 Lakhs, EMD : ₹ 2,42,700.00, Completion period : 10 (Ten) Months.
Tender closing Date & Time: At 1500 hrs. of 12.12.2025 (for both tenders).
No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders.
Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website : www.ireps.gov.in
Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website ten days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender.
Sr. Divisional Engineer (South), Khurda Road
PR-875/Q/25-26

EAST COAST RAILWAY
E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS
Tender Notice No. PGMM/EP/2025-26/17, Dated : 02.12.2025
SL. NO. 01 Tender No. 02251446, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:** SET OF CYLINDRICAL ROLLER BEARING. **QUANTITY:** AS PER TS.
SL. NO. 02 Tender No. 03251794A, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:** DOUBLE ACTING HIGH DRAULIC SHOCK ABSORBER. **QUANTITY:** 1000 NOS.
SL. NO. 03 Tender No. 09253605A, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM :** M 8 FLAT SIZE 40 MMx6 MM IN LENGTH OF 3 MTRS. **QUANTITY:** AS PER TS.
SL. NO. 04 Tender No. 03253925B, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:** BRAKE CALLER UNIT. **QUANTITY:** 104 NOS.
SL. NO. 05 Tender No. 03251470A, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM:** KNUCKLE OF CBC COUPLER FOR LHB COACHES. **QUANTITY:** 233 NOS.
SL. NO. 06 Tender No. 04251001A, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM :** VALVE REGULATED LEAD ACID BATTERIES. **QUANTITY:** AS PER TS.
SL. NO. 07 Tender No. 06255429, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM :** 1 IN 8.5 WELDABLE CMS CROSSING B.G. **QUANTITY :** AS PER TS.
SL. NO. 08 Tender No. 02251711, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM :** OVER HAULING KIT FOR CONTROL PORTION ER 787776-1994. **QUANTITY:** AS PER TS.
SL. NO. 09 Tender No. 04254313A, **SHORT DESCRIPTION OF ITEM :** BRUSHLESS SENSOR LESS DC RAILWAY CARRIAGE FANS. **QUANTITY:** 3906 NOS.
Tender Opening date : 15.12.2025 (for sl. no. 1 & 5), 18.12.2025 (for sl. no. 2 & 3), 16.12.2025 (for sl. no. 4), 29.12.2025 (for sl. no. 6 & 7), 17.12.2025 (for sl. no. 8) and 05.01.2026 (for sl. no. 9).
Regarding detailed notice, EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.ireps.gov.in and www.eastcoastrail.indianrailways.gov.in
Principal Chief Materials Manager/ Khurda Road
PR-873/Q/25-26 Bhubaneswar

of the day

quote

Recently, Prime Minister Takaichi's remarks about stability and peace in the Taiwan Strait moved us all very, very much. They represent justice and peace

CHO JUNG-TAI | PREMIER, TAIWAN

Unity between Americans and Europeans on the Ukrainian issue is essential. And I say it again and again, we need to work together

EMMANUEL MACRON | PRESIDENT, FRANCE

These domestic terrorists use violence or the threat of violence to advance political and social agendas, including opposition to law and immigration enforcement; extreme views in favor of mass migration and open borders; adherence to radical gender ideology, anti-Americanism, anti-capitalism, or anti-Christianity

PAM BONDI | ATTORNEY GENERAL, USA

SHORT TAKES

EU slaps X with €120M fine

London: European Union regulators Friday fined Elon Musk's social media platform X 120 million euros (\$140 million) for failing to comply with the bloc's digital regulations. The European Commission issued its decision following an investigation it opened two years ago into X under the 27-nation bloc's Digital Services Act. Also known as the DSA, it's a sweeping rulebook that requires platforms to take more responsibility for protecting European users and cleaning up harmful or illegal content and products on their sites, under threat of hefty fines.

Iran fires barrage in hormuz drill

Tehran: Iran launched massive missiles in the Sea of Oman and near the strategic Strait of Hormuz during the second day of a naval drill, state TV reported Friday. The report said the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard launched the missiles from the depth of Iran's mainland, hitting targets in the Oman Sea and neighbouring area near Strait of Hormuz in a drill that began Thursday. It identified the missiles as cruise Qadr-110, Qadr-380 and Ghadir that have a range of up to 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles.) It said the Guard also launch a ballistic missile identified as 303, without elaborating.

Saudi extends \$3bn pakistan deposit

Islamabad: Saudi Arabia has extended the maturity of its \$3 billion deposit placed with Pakistan's central bank for another year, continuing a financial lifeline that has helped bolster the country's foreign exchange reserves amid ongoing liquidity crunch, a media report said Friday. While some analysts framed Saudi assistance as something that may carry future geopolitical expectations tied to defence cooperation, others argued that the rollover reflects weakness, not success, for Pakistan.

NDRF completes rescue op in cyclone-hit SL

Colombo: India's National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams left for home Friday after successfully completing search, rescue and relief operations in cyclone-hit Sri Lanka, according to the Indian mission here. The island nation has been grappling with widespread flooding, landslides and severe infrastructure collapse following Cyclone Ditwah, which has left over 600 people dead till Friday.

US sets 2027 deadline for Europe-led NATO defence



REUTERS

Washington, Dec 5: The United States wants Europe to take over the majority of NATO's conventional defense capabilities, from intelligence to missiles, by 2027, Pentagon officials told diplomats in Washington this week, a tight deadline that struck some European officials as unrealistic.

The message, recounted by five sources familiar with the discussion, including a US official, was conveyed at a meeting in Washington this week of Pentagon staff overseeing NATO policy and several European delegations.

The shifting of this burden from the US to European members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization would dramatically change how the United States, a founding member of the post-war alliance, works with its most important military partners.

In the meeting, Pentagon officials indicated that Washington was not yet satisfied with the strides Europe has made to boost its defense capabilities since Russia's expanded invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

US could withdraw from some NATO planning mechanisms if unsatisfied with progress

Unclear how US would measure progress

Trump rhetoric towards alliance runs hot and cold

NO CLARITY ON HOW US WOULD MEASURE NATO'S PROGRESS

Conventional defense capabilities include non-nuclear assets from troops to weapons and the officials did not explain how the US would measure Europe's progress toward shouldering most of the burden.

It was also not clear if the 2027 deadline represented the Trump administration position or only the views of some Pentagon officials. There are significant disagreements in Washington over the military role the US should play in Europe.

Several European officials said that a 2027 deadline was not realistic no matter how Washington measures progress, since Europe needs more than money and political will to replace certain US capabilities in the short term.

Among other challenges, NA-

TO allies face production backlogs for military equipment they are trying to purchase. While US officials have encouraged Europe to buy more US-made materiel, some of the most prized US-made weapons and defense systems would take years to be delivered if ordered today.

The US also contributes capabilities that cannot simply be purchased, like unique intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance that have proven key to the Ukrainian war effort.

Asked for comment, a NATO official speaking for the alliance said European allies had begun taking more responsibility for the continent's security, but did not comment on the 2027 deadline.

"Allies have recognized the need to invest more in defense and shift the burden on conventional defense" from the US to Europe, the official said.

The Pentagon and the White House did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

European nations have broadly accepted US President Donald Trump's demand they take more responsibility for their own security and have pledged big increases in defense spending.

Our relationship with Japan continues to grow from strength to strength - underpinned by close strategic alignment, mutual ambition and enormous potential

RICHARD MARLES | DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, AUSTRALIA

MILITARY STEPS UP RELIEF FOR FLOOD-HIT SUMATRA

Indonesia's military stepped up its relief efforts in three provinces on Sumatra island devastated by deadly floods and landslides, with many residents still stranded without access to government aid. The death toll from last week's cyclone rose to 867 people Friday evening with 521 listed as missing. The storm systems also killed about 200 people in southern Thailand and Malaysia



Asim Munir officially appointed as Pak's first Chief of Defence Forces

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Dec 5: Pakistan's defence ministry Friday officially notified the appointment of Field Marshal Asim Munir as the first Chief of Defence Forces (CDF), a move aimed at the major restructuring of the military command since the 1970s.

The development came a day after President Asif Ali Zardari approved Munir's appointment.

The "president, on the advice of the prime minister, is pleased to appoint Field Marshal Asim Munir (NI) M as the chief of army staff, concurrently the chief of defence forces for a tenure of five years," Dawn reported, citing the notification.

Last month, the parliament passed the 27th Constitutional Amendment, creating a new post of CDF with the objective of a unified command and expediting decision-making in critical situations.

The CDF replaced the Chair-



man, Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), a position now abolished. The new arrangement consolidates operational, administrative and strategic authority in a single office - CDF.

Munir was appointed as Army Chief in November 2022 initially for three years, but his tenure was extended in 2024.

Munir, who was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal just days after the four-day conflict with India in May, is only the second military officer in Pakistan's history to be elevated to the position, after Field Marshal Ayub Khan in the 1960s.

Indians among delivery riders detained for working illegally in UK



The UK Home Office Immigration Enforcement teams undertook an 'Operation Equalise' over seven days last month, which involved stopping to check the documents of delivery riders operating in villages, towns and cities across Britain

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

London, Dec 5: Indians are among 171 delivery riders caught working illegally in a UK-wide crackdown and have been detained for deportation from the country, the British government has said.

The UK Home Office Immigration Enforcement teams undertook an 'Operation Equalise' over seven days last month, which involved stopping to check the documents of delivery riders operating in villages, towns and cities across Britain.

Those found to be working illegally, which also included Bangladeshi and Chinese nationals, were arrested on the spot and detained for removal to the countries of their origin.

"On 17 November, officers were deployed to the High Street in Newham (east London). Four riders of Bangladeshi and Indian nationality were arrested for illegal working. All four were detained for

removal," the Home Office said in a statement Thursday, giving some breakdowns on a total figure of 171 arrests.

"And on 25 November, officers attended Norwich city centre (eastern England) where they conducted a crime reduction operation. Three riders of Indian nationality were arrested with two detained for removal. The third individual was placed on strict immigration bail," it stated.

The Home Office said the crackdowns form part of Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood's "sweeping reforms" to tackle illegal migration in Britain, which includes increasing deportations. According to its latest data, the government claims its enforcement action to disrupt illegal working last year reached "record breaking levels", with over 11,000 checks and 8,000 arrests - a 51 per cent and 63 per cent rise, respectively.

Nearly 50,000 people with no right to remain in the UK are said to have been removed since July 2024, with people smuggling arrests, convictions and seizures reportedly up by 33 per cent in the past 12 months.

"These results should send a clear message: if you are working illegally in this country, you will be arrested and removed," said UK Border Security Minister Alex Norris.

Last week, Norris held meetings with food delivery majors Deliveroo, Just Eat and Uber Eats to discuss action being taken to tackle illegal working on their platforms and further steps required.

PAK-SINDH PROBES ALLEGED FORCED CONVERSIONS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Karachi, Dec 5: Some Hindu girl students in Pakistan's Sindh province have allegedly been told to convert to Islam to continue their studies, prompting the government to order an inquiry, an official said Friday.

In late November, parents of some Hindu girl students at the Government High School in Mirpur Sakro in Sindh told the media that the school's headmistress had allegedly asked the Hindu students to convert to Islam to continue their education.

It sparked outrage as the parents alleged that the Hindu students were being forced to recite the Kalma and being mocked for their faith.

The parents also claimed some students were sent home after refusing to convert to Islam or reciting the Kalma.

Minister of State for Religious Affairs Kheeso Mal Kheal Das told the Senate Thursday that the provincial education minister had ordered an inquiry into the matter.

A spokesperson for the Sindh Minister for Education Syed Sardar Ali Shah confirmed a committee had been formed to visit Mirpur Sakro and unearth the truth. "The committee members have already recorded statements from the affected students, their parents, the headmistress, and other teachers," he said Friday.

He said no one is allowed to use coercion or threats to force conversion. Sindh, which has the highest population of Hindus in Pakistan, mostly belonging to the lower income groups, is already dealing with frequent cases of abduction of young Hindu girls and their marriage to older Muslim men.

GERMAN PARL BACKS MILITARY SERVICE LAW

REUTERS

Berlin, Dec 5: Germany's parliament approved a controversial new military service law Friday that aims to boost Bundeswehr numbers and meet NATO targets as tensions with Russia spur calls for stronger defence capabilities across Europe.

The legislation, backed after months of heated debate, introduces a dual-track system: a more lucrative voluntary service is intended to attract young recruits, but if enlistment falls short, lawmakers can activate needs-based conscription.

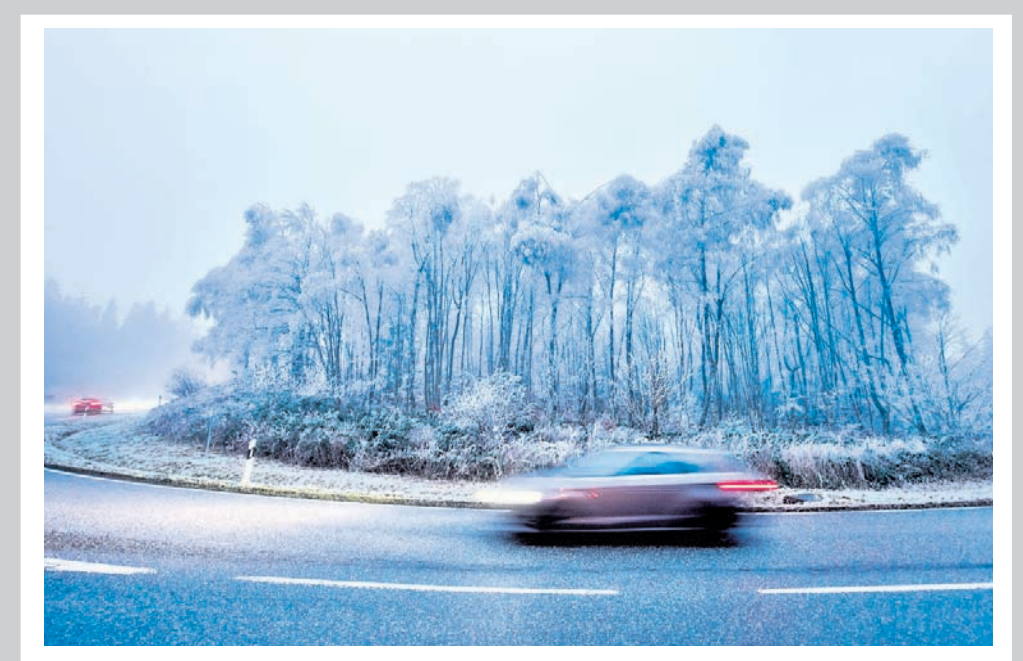
This would require a separate Bundestag vote and

could involve random selection if more are eligible than needed.

The defence ministry will report recruitment figures to parliament every six months. The bill sets ambitious expansion goals for the Bundeswehr, targeting up to 260,000 active soldiers - up from 183,000 currently - and at least 200,000 reservists by 2035.

In a move not seen since conscription was suspended in 2011, all men born after January 1, 2008, will undergo medical evaluation, phased in as capacity allows.

Both 18-year-old men and women will receive requests to declare willingness to serve, though only men must respond.



Cars drive along frozen trees in the Taunus region near Frankfurt, Germany, Friday

PTI PHOTO

PANDA DIPLOMACY

French first lady reunites with Panda Yuan Meng

French First Lady Brigitte Macron visited China to meet Yuan Meng, the beloved giant panda she helped send from France years ago, marking a warm reunion that highlights ongoing cultural and conservation ties

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chengdu, Dec 5: French first lady Brigitte Macron caught up with an old friend — a giant panda born in France — at the tail end Friday of a visit to China with President Emmanuel Macron.

At a panda reserve in southwest China that Yuan Meng now



calls home, the first lady marveled at how big he has grown. She helped chose his name — which means "accomplishment of a dream" — when he was born in a French zoo in 2017.

"When they're born, they're like this," she said, holding up two fingers a short distance

apart. Meanwhile, the chunky male roamed in his enclosure, feasting on bamboo and ignoring bystanders who cried out his name, hoping to elicit a reaction.

"They have a very independent character," she said. "They do only what they want."

For decades, China has de-

ployed what's often called "panda diplomacy" to smooth and promote relations with other countries, gifting the animals to friendly nations and loaning pandas to zoos overseas on commercial terms.

Emmanuel Macron's state visit this week to China, his fourth as president, included meetings with Chinese leader Xi Jinping and other officials, discussing Russia's war in Ukraine, trade ties and other issues.

The China Wildlife Conservation Association said during the visit that it signed a letter of intent to send two of the animals to the Beauval Zoo south of Paris in 2027 under what would be a new 10-year round of panda co-operation with France.

The French zoo sent two 17-year-old pandas — Huan Huan, a female, and her partner Yuan Zi

— back to China last month after 13 years on loan in France.

Yuan Meng was their cub, conceived using artificial insemination. Despite being made in France, he officially belonged to the Chinese government. Yuan Meng bid 'adieu' to France in 2023, sent off to a new life in the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding in southwest China where Brigitte Macron, considered to be his "godmother," dropped in to see him.

Huan Huan and Yuan Zi also produced female twins in France in 2021.

Huanlili and Yuandudu are also expected to leave the Beauval Zoo for China in the future. The China Wildlife Conservation Association has previously said that it expects them to remain at the French zoo until January 2027.



We are now talking to about 7-8 countries, including many in East Asia, to have UPI transactions

M NAGARAJU | SECRETARY, FINANCIAL SERVICES

MEESHO DRAWS \$28BN IN IPO

Indian e-commerce platform Meesho received bids worth about Rs 2.5 trillion (\$27.79 billion) for its \$604 million initial public offering, becoming one of the most sought-after public issues in the country



Quote of the day

Coupled with the income-tax relief measures announced in the Union Budget 2025-26 and the landmark GST 2.0 reforms, this creates strong enablers for further enhancing affordability and accessibility

SHAILESH CHANDRA | PRESIDENT, SIAM

The success not only strengthens IIFCL's ability to channelise long-term international capital into priority projects but also paves the way for other institutions to tap global funding more effectively

PALASH SHRIVASTAVA | DEPUTY MD, IIFCL

The success not only strengthens IIFCL's ability to channelise long-term international capital into priority projects but also paves the way for other institutions to tap global funding more effectively

ASHWANI GUPTA | CEO & WHOLE-TIME DIRECTOR, ADANI PORTS AND SEZ

SHORT TAKES

Forex reserves drop
Mumbai: India's forex reserves dropped by \$1.877 billion to \$686.227 billion during the week ended November 28, the RBI said Friday. In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had declined by \$4.472 billion to \$688.104 billion. For the week ended November 28, foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, decreased by \$3.569 billion to \$557.031 billion, the data showed. Value of the gold reserves increased by \$1.613 billion to \$105.795 billion during the week, the RBI said. The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were up by \$63 million to \$18.628 billion, the apex bank said. India's reserve position with the IMF was also up by \$16 million to \$4.772 billion in the reporting week.

BoB, Bol slash interest rate

New Delhi: Hours after the RBI slashed key policy rate, state-owned lenders, Bank of Baroda and Bank of India, announced an interest rate cut on loans linked to repo rate by 25 basis points, a move expected to be followed by other lenders too. Bank of India reduced Repo Based Lending Rate to 8.10 per cent from 8.35 per cent effective, Bank of India said. Baroda Repo Based Lending Rate to come down to 7.90 per cent as against the existing 8.15 per cent, BoB said.

SBER launches fund tracking Nifty50

Mumbai: Russia's largest bank Sberbank and JSC First Asset Management have introduced a new mutual fund -- First-India -- offering investments linked to the performance of the Nifty50 index, providing Russian retail investors direct exposure to India's stock market. The launch of the fund was announced at an event at the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) by Sberbank CEO and Chairman of the Executive Board Herman Gref during his business visit to India, the bourse said in a statement on Thursday. "We are opening another window of investment opportunities for our Russian clients, this time to South Asia. Our new product provides a convenient way to gain exposure to one of the world's key economic markets -- the Indian stock market," Gref said. NSE MD and CEO Ashishkumar Chauhan said the initiative reflects strong confidence in India's markets and deepens the India-Russia financial cooperation.

Repo rate cut to boost growth: Experts

RESERVE BANK SLASHES KEY BENCHMARK INTEREST RATE BY 25 BASIS POINTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SIX MONTHS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: The Reserve Bank has sent a clear and reassuring signal that policy instruments are being actively deployed to safeguard India's economic growth amid persisting global headwinds, said experts Friday.

Home, auto and other loans are likely to cost less as the RBI cut key benchmark interest rate for the first time in six months and vowed to provide Rs 1 lakh crore liquidity boost to the banking sector to support a "goldilocks" economy in the face of high US tariffs.

The experts were commenting on the central bank's decision to reduce short-term lending rate by 25 basis points and continue its neutral monetary policy stance.

President of industry body Ficci Anant Goenka said this calibrated easing will help stimulate credit offtake, reduce borrowing costs for industry and consumers, and reinforce the current growth momentum.

"Today's monetary policy sends a clear and reassuring signal that policy instruments are being actively deployed to safeguard India's growth tra-



HIGHLIGHTS

- Repo rate reduced by 25bps to 5.25%
- 4th rate cut, totalling 125 bps, since Feb 2025
- MPC also decided to continue with neutral stance
- GDP growth forecast for FY26 raised to 7.3% from 6.8%
- Inflation estimates lowered to 2% from 2.6%
- Policy space exists to support growth momentum
- High-frequency indicators suggest economic activity holding up in Q3
- RBI to conduct OMO purchases of G-secs of ₹1L-cr
- RBI will also conduct 3-year USD/INR buy-sell swap of \$5bn
- Asset quality, profitability of banks continue to remain robust
- Guv says committed to provide sufficient durable liquidity to banking system
- Current Account Deditc expected to remain mod-est during 2025-26
- As on November 28, forex reserves stood at \$686.2bn

jectory and support economic expansion amid a challenging global environment," he said.

President of ASSOCHAM Nirmal Minda said the RBI rate cut, coming after cumulative reduction of 125 bps this year, will lower borrowing costs, spur industrial expansion, and create significant employment opportunities across sectors.

A repo rate cut will lead to lower borrowing costs for individuals as well as corporates because it reduces the interest

banks pay to borrow from the RBI. With cheaper funding, banks can lower lending rates such as MCLR and base rates, making home, auto, and business loans more affordable.

This reduces EMIs, encourages consumers and businesses to borrow more, and supports economic activity.

SC Ralhan, President of exporters' body FIEO, said a 25-bps cut in the repo rate will significantly lower the cost of credit for exporters, enabling them to invest more freely in working capital, technology upgradation, and international marketing efforts.

Next meeting of the MPC is scheduled for February 4-6, 2026.

Rate cut helps D-St pare weekly losses

AGENCIES

Mumbai, Dec 5: India's stock benchmarks closed Friday with gains after the Reserve Bank of India lowered key lending rates by 25 basis points and left room for further cuts, helping bourses nearly erase weekly losses from profit-taking in recent sessions.

The Nifty rose 0.6% to 26,186.45 and the Sensex added 0.5% to 85,712.37 Friday. They ended flat for the week.

The central bank has now cut rates by a total of 125 basis points since February 2025, the most aggressive easing since 2019.

"Markets are likely to read this as supportive rather than surprising since expectations for a cut had already strengthened after the recent CPI prints softened," said Sonam Srivastava, founder and fund manager at Wright Research PMS.

Heavyweight financials rose 1%, while other rate-sensitive sectors like auto and real estate gained 0.7% and 0.3%, respectively, on the day.

Lower rates make borrowing cheaper, aiding loan demand and reducing funding costs, which help banks and non-bank



lenders. Cheaper loans also help improve the affordability of vehicles and homes.

Eleven of the 16 major sectors fell for the week. The broader small-caps and mid-caps also lost 1.8% and 0.7%, respectively.

The RBI rate cut and a likely US rate reduction next week could fuel a short-term market rebound, supporting a so-called Santa Claus rally, analysts said.

Information technology companies, which derive a substantial share of revenue from the United States, jumped 3.5% this week on rising bets for a Fed rate cut.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,944.19 crore Thursday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought stocks worth Rs 3,661.05 crore, according to exchange data.

Hollywood shakeup: Netflix eyes Warner Bros acquisition

REUTERS

Washington, Dec 5: Netflix Friday agreed to buy Warner Bros Discovery's TV, film studios and streaming division for \$72 billion, a deal that would hand control of one of Hollywood's most prized and oldest assets to the streaming pioneer.

The deal represents a dramatic plot twist for Netflix, which rewrote the Hollywood script, upending how and when consumers watch movies and television shows. Suddenly, it has become the thing it disrupted - a mainstream studio.

"I know some of you are surprised that we're making this acquisition - and I certainly understand why," Netflix Co-CEO Ted Sarandos said on a call with investors. "Over the years, we have been known as builders, not buyers ... but this is a rare opportunity that's going to help us achieve our mission to entertain the world, and

bring people together through great stories."

The agreement follows a weeks-long bidding war in which Netflix offered nearly \$28 per share, eclipsing presumed front-runner Paramount Skydance, which made a series of unsolicited bids to acquire all of Warner Bros Discovery, including the cable TV assets slated for a spinoff.

Netflix, which has spent a decade developing such original series as "Stranger Things," "Bridgerton" and films like "KPop Demon Hunters," will gain access to Warner Bros' vast trove of content, built over the last century, including marquee franchises such as "Game of Thrones" and "Harry Potter," and DC Comics' roster of superheroes, including Batman and Superman.

The two companies together will "help define the next century of storytelling," said Sarandos, who had once said "the goal

Netflix's \$27.75 a share bid tops Paramount's offer



is to become HBO faster than HBO can become us."

Warner Bros Discovery shares rose 3.2% to \$25.33, while Netflix fell about 0.2% and Paramount 6.1%.

Paramount offered \$30 a share for Warner Bros Discovery, CNBC reported. Reuters could not verify the report and it was not immediately clear when the offer was made.

The Netflix deal, however, is

COMPLETE CHAOS

Airfares skyrocket after IndiGo fiasco

Shares of InterGlobe Aviation, the parent of IndiGo, dropped over 7% in the past four days ever since a crisis engulfed the airline, where it cancelled a large number of flights, leaving thousands of passengers stranded

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Dec 5: Airfares reached levels never seen before on Friday, with a one-way one-stop economy-class SpiceJet Kolkata-Mumbai flight ticket for December 6 costing up to Rs 90,000, and a similar ticket of Air India for Mumbai-Bhubaneswar going up to Rs 84,485, according to the airlines' websites.

A similar trend was noted on many other high-traffic routes.

With IndiGo cancelling over 1,000 flights Friday owing to crew shortage as the second phase of the pilots flight duty and rest period norms kicked in, huge capacity was out of the market, leading to airfares tripling and quadrupling from over the normal range, a travel industry executive said.

"The situation is such that you can't predict what are going to be the ticket prices when you book a flight. It may be two times, three times or even more than the normal fare range," he said.

IndiGo operates around 2,300 flights a day and has been can-



celling flights in hundreds over the last four days as it struggled to secure adequate crew to operate its widespread and dense network.

"The last minute fares are generally 2-3 times of the normal average fares. But in this situation, we have seen them surging even six times," the source said.

"If a Rs 10,000 ticket is being sold at Rs 60,000, at any place, I would call it black marketing, profiteering. So there is a dire need to look at it," said Nomad Travel CEO and Travel Agents' Association of India former president, Ajay Prakash.

Slamming the surge in airfares, he said it appears that the business of civil aviation is aimed only at making money.

A market where one air-

line has 64-65 per cent of the market share is as good as a monopoly, Prakash said, advocating for capping of fares to prevent such high fares in times of crisis.

Delhi-based Stick Travel's Founder and Former President of Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) Subhash Goel said, "I have written to the civil aviation ministry that there should be capping on airfares like it was during the Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

In November, IndiGo had already recorded more than 1,200 cancellations across its network.

On Thursday alone, over 500 flights were cancelled nationwide, making this one of the carrier's most severe operational breakdowns in recent years.

3RD TIME IN 6 MONTHS

Glitch in Cloudflare disrupts ops of Zerodha, Groww, other platforms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Dec 5: A glitch in content delivery service firm Cloudflare due to the roll-out of a system update disrupted operations of several online platforms, including trading apps like Zerodha and Groww and graphic designing tool Canva.

This was the third major disruption for Cloudflare users in India within a period of six months between July and December.

Internet platform downtime tracker platform Downtime-detector showed several users complaining about outages of Cloudflare during the afternoon. "Due to a cross-platform downtime on Cloudflare, Kite is currently unavailable. Please use the Kite WhatsApp backup to manage your trades while we investigate," Zerodha, which operates the Kite app, posted on X at 2.25 PM.

The trading platform updated that the problem had been resolved at 2.45 pm.

Later in the evening, Zerodha Co-founder Nithin Kamath posted on X that not just the company's trading platform was affected, but several other fintech platforms were down too.

"Cloudflare powers approximately 20-25 per cent of all internet traffic globally. It's the infrastructure behind millions of websites and apps — from content delivery and DDoS protection to DNS services. When Cloudflare has an outage, it doesn't just affect one company; it impacts a significant chunk of the internet simultaneously. Today, they had a brief outage that affected Kite along with numerous other brokers, fintech platforms, and online services worldwide," Kamath said.

He said that the company is also working on reducing dependency on Cloudflare.

"I'm really sorry for the inconvenience today," Kamath said.

Online graphic design tool Canva also shared an update after its services were resumed.

"We're really sorry for the interruption and appreciate your patience while we got things restored," Canva said in a message to its users after an outage.

When contacted, Cloudflare said the disruption on its network was not due to any cyber attack but due to the implementation of an update.

"A change made to how Cloudflare's Web Application Firewall parses requests impacted the availability of Cloudflare's network at approximately 8:47 GMT and concluded approximately 9:13 GMT. This was not an attack; the change was deployed by our team to help mitigate the industry-wide vulnerability disclosed this week in React Server Components," the company said.

bly exposed within Netflix, although it has survived difficult owners for a lot of its existence."

David Ellison-led Paramount, which kicked off the bidding war with a series of unsolicited offers and has close ties with the Trump administration, had questioned the sale process earlier this week and alleged favorable treatment to Netflix.

Even before the bids were in, some members of Congress said a Netflix-Warner Bros Discovery deal could harm consumers and Hollywood.

Cinema United, a global exhibition trade association, has said the deal poses an "unprecedented threat" to movie theaters worldwide, while former WarnerMedia CEO Jason Kilar said he could not think of "a more effective way to reduce competition in Hollywood than selling WBD to Netflix."

Looking to allay some concerns, Netflix said the deal would give subscribers more

shows and films, boost its US production and long-term spending on original content and create more jobs and opportunities for creative talent.

The company argued in deal talks that a combination of its streaming service with HBO Max would benefit consumers by lowering the cost of a bundled offering.

Netflix's Co-CEO Greg Peters told investors the company could package the streaming services together in a bundle -- or find ways to introduce HBO Max to Netflix subscribers. The streaming service has a long history of building audiences for television series, as it did for "Breaking Bad" or the legal drama "Suits."

The company has told Warner Bros Discovery it would keep releasing the studio's films in cinemas in a bid to ease fears that its deal would eliminate another studio and major source of theatrical films, according to media reports.

FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JUNIOR WC

Colts enter semis



India beat Belgium 2-2 (4-3 SO) in a thrilling QF; sets up semifinals with seven-time champions Germany

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, Dec 5: Princedeeep Singh was India's cynosure in defence while Sharda Nand Tiwari struck thrice in the shootout as a spirited Indian junior men's hockey team held its nerves to beat Belgium 2-2 (4-3 SO) in a high-octane quarterfinal clash at the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025 in Chennai Friday.

Princedeeep Singh was the hero of the match with some incredible saves in the shootout that brought about glimpses of his coach, PR Sreejesh, the former custodian of the Indian senior team.

Awarded the Player of the

Match, Princedeeep was extremely effective in the regulation time too, keeping Belgium at bay - particularly in the third quarter when they won back-to-back PCs. "Have learnt a lot from Sreejesh and the confidence is up watching him, learning from him. It was a sensational match, and the crowd support in Chennai has been incredible," expressed Princedeeep.

Sharda Nand Tiwari too stood tall in India's shootout, with his insatiable penalty strokes that kept India in the hunt. He scored thrice while Ankit Pal scored the winning goal for India, taking the scoreline to 4-3 in the tense shootout.

Earlier in the match, India had remained patient until they snatched the lead from Belgium in the 45th minute when Captain Rohit broke the gridlock with a sensational dragkick that equalised the score 1-1.

Belgium had scored in the 13th minute of the match through a field goal by Gaspard

Cornez-Massant, giving them a roaring start and putting India on the back foot early in the game. The following quarter, Belgium put on a brilliant defensive structure that kept blocking away any chance India could create.

But the third quarter was where all the action unfolded when India returned from the half-time break with new vigour. India custodian Princedeeep, meanwhile, was on absolute fire, making some splendid saves - almost reminding one of his coach PR Sreejesh's style of safeguarding India's post. In the 48th minute, Sharda Nand Tiwari put India ahead by 2-1 with a well-executed PC. The goal brought up big celebrations across the stadium in Egmore. But it was short-lived as Belgium found an equaliser in the 59th minute, through Nathan Rogge.

Next up, India will take on seven-time champions Germany in the Semifinal December 7.

ASHES TEST

Australia take lead as England fumble

REUTERS

Brisbane, Dec 5: Australia dominated day two of the second Ashes test Friday with a punishing batting assault on a lifeless Gabba pitch as England shot themselves in the foot with five dropped catches.

Five dropped catches and some wayward bowling dented England and allowed the batters to capitalize.

Half-centuries for top-order batters Jake Weatherald (72), Marnus Labuschagne (65) and Steve Smith (61) made light work of England's first-innings 334 as Australia went to stumps at 378 for six with a 44-run lead.

Wicketkeeper Alex Carey (46 not out) and tailender Michael Naser (15 not out) held firm through the last half-hour under the floodlights and will look to press home Australia's advantage on day three.

"It was a crucial last hour there for us," said number three batter Labuschagne, who scored his second fifty of the series. "To get to the end of play six (wickets) down, it gives us a bit of time in the morning session and obviously pushes our bowling later into the night."

While England grabbed three wickets in the final session, they also spilled four catches under the lights. Ben Duckett grassed two chances, the first relieving Carey on zero after Carse sent a delivery pinging off the batter's gloves.

Moments later, number seven batter Josh Inglis (23) sent a shot flying through Duckett's hands in the gully. The fumbling continued as Carse dropped Naser on six off a Jofra Archer ball before Joe Root reacted late to a nick in the slips from Carey when the wicket-keeper was on 25. Root dropped the one-handed chance, denying pacer Gus Atkinson a first wicket in the series.

AMID CHAOS, TICKETS SOLD OUT AT BARABATI



Cuttack: A familiar scene of Indian cricket mania unfolded in Cuttack Friday, as thousands of eager fans gathered outside the Barabati Stadium for tickets to the first T20I between India and South Africa December 9. Odisha Cricket Association officials informed that all 10,000 tickets made available for general public sale have been sold out. Accordingly, the box office will remain closed, and no further tickets will be available for purchase Saturday. What began as a routine offline sale quickly spiralled into chaos, with a viral video showing a frenzied crowd pushing, sprinting and squeezing through gaps to get ahead in the queue — all for a chance to watch the Men in Blue live. Barabati Stadium, a venue known for cricket-crazy crowds, last hosted an international fixture in February — the second ODI against England, which India won by four wickets. With the feverish response Friday, it is clear that the demand for international cricket in Cuttack remains as intense as ever.

PIC: RAJKISHORE MOHANTY

Another ‘Ro-Ko’ show on cards in series decider

After Test debacle, Men in Blue look to avoid another embarrassing series loss to South Africa

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Visakhapatnam, Dec 5: The spotlight, like most times, will be on Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma but the pressure would also be on India's younger crop when the home side looks to avoid another embarrassing series loss to South Africa in the must-win third and final ODI here Saturday.

A Raipur-like fumbling by India will see South Africa bag the ODI series too, closely after their 2-0 triumph in Tests.

Consecutive series defeats are unthinkable for India in the current scenario, particularly when the dressing room is perceived to be pulling in different directions.

A victory in this rubber can quell the chatter around the team for a while, and for that, Kohli and Rohit have to do the heavy lifting once again.

Both have been the undisputed masters of the 50-over format, and no strangers to such tight situations. After all, their legacy is built around taking down difficulties -- an exhilarating ride in itself in the last decade and half.

Now, standing at the door that opens only to the sunset, Kohli and Rohit will want another glorious chapter to be added to the long book of achievements. It's not a mere ambition either.

Kohli has two hundreds and a fifty in his last three innings, while Rohit has a hundred and two fifties in his last four outings.



Those numbers tell about their touch, class and hunger even in late 30s, indicating that they can still save the day for the team.

But they would not complain about some meaningful support from the younger batters like it came forth in the last match through Ruturaj Gaikwad, who struck his maiden ODI hundred.

But Yashasvi Jaiswal is still to find his range in this series as an opener, and the gifted young man will be keen to convert his starts into a bigger score, for his and the team's sake.

There is an obvious flaw in his batting against left-arm quicks, be it Jayden Seales of the West Indies or Marco Jansen and Nandre Burger in this series.

He has been dismissed by left-armers 30 times (9 in Tests,

19 in T20Is and 2 in ODIs) in his career, predominantly while attempting a cut and its many versions, his staple diet outside the off-stump.

Jaiswal and the team management cannot remain oblivious to something so obvious, and the work might have already begun to rectify it.

But if the trend continues, the management might just be forced to look at other options, and they have a genuine opener in Gaikwad in their ranks.

A training session under lights Friday will help India understand the conditions and thereby decide the combination a bit better.

Irrespective of that, India will hope that their young pacers Prasidh Krishna and Harshit Rana will tidy up their act and strongly support the impressive Arshdeep Singh.

SHORT TAKES

India-Netherlands Davis Cup tie in Bangalore

Bangalore: Bangalore was on Friday awarded the hosting rights for the upcoming India-Netherlands Davis Cup Qualifiers tie February 7-8, pipping Delhi in the bidding. Delhi Lawn Tennis Association (DLTA), that hosted Togo in February this year, had also expressed interest in conducting the crucial tie. Bangalore last hosted a Davis Cup tie back in 2017 against Uzbekistan with the hosts winning 4-1. Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA) had recently hosted the Billie Jean King Cup Play-offs in the city. India beat Switzerland in round one of World Group I in September to reach the Qualifiers stage while Netherlands lost by the same margin to Argentina in the second round of the Qualifiers. It was India's first victory on European soil since 1993. Led by Sumit Nagal and Dhakshinewar Suresh and the result was India's best since the Davis Cup format overhaul in 2019.

Senthilkumar, Anahat emerge champions

Chennai: National champions Velavan Senthilkumar and Anahat Singh clinched the men's and women's titles respectively at the Squash Indian Tour 4, which concluded at the Indian Squash Academy, here Friday. Top seed and World No 46 Senthilkumar overcame Egypt's Adam Hawal 11-7, 11-9, 9-11, 11-4 to lift the men's crown. The Chennai player displayed superior control in the closing stages to quell the challenge of the rising Egyptian. In the women's final, Delhi teenager and World No 29 Anahat Singh battled past former World No. 10 and veteran compatriot Joshna Chinappa in a pulsating five-game contest, winning 11-8, 11-13, 11-13, 11-6, 11-8. This was Anahat's second straight victory over the seasoned campaigner after the Daly College Indian Open last month. "Nice to see rising talent from here," said Joshna, 39, acknowledging Anahat's impressive run. Senthilkumar, Anahat, Joshna and Abhay Singh will represent India at the Squash World Cup beginning here next week.

Minerva Academy to be honoured during Messi's GOAT India Tour

New Delhi: Minerva Academy FC's youth team that won three titles in Europe earlier this year will be honoured during the Delhi leg of Lionel Messi's 'GOAT India Tour' later this month. The Under-14/15 squad of 22 players toured Europe in July-August and won three trophies including the Gothia Cup in Sweden, the Dana Cup in Denmark and the Norway Cup in Norway. During Messi's stopover in Delhi, these young players will be honoured in the presence of the global football icon. Following the felicitation ceremony, the children could get to play a special 9-v-9 match with Messi. Minerva Academy FC is owned and managed by Ranjit Bajaj, who also runs I-League club Delhi FC. The tournaments in the Scandinavian region are considered among the most prestigious youth football competitions around the world and Minerva Academy FC's team, which remained unbeaten in 26 matches, scored as many as 295 goals while conceding very few.



LeBron's dominant 1,297-game double-digit scoring streak ends



Toronto: LeBron James' streak of 1,297 consecutive double-digit regular-season scoring efforts ended when the NBA's career points leader was held to eight points in the Los Angeles Lakers' 123-120 win over the Toronto Raptors. James could have tried to win the game — and extend the streak — on the final possession, but he instead passed the ball to Rui Hachimura in the left corner Thursday. Hachimura's 3-pointer dropped as time expired, and James — who has said countless times over his 23-year career that he always tries to make the right and smartest play — threw his hands in the air in celebration. "Bron told me right before this, I got you. It's going to come to you," Hachimura said in an on-court televised interview. With that, the streak ended. The win was all that evidently mattered.



It's not the Nobel, but Trump finally gets a peace prize

Washington: US President Donald Trump's mission of winning an international peace prize may finally come to an end Friday. Instead of the coveted Nobel Peace Prize, however, he is likely to be awarded the inaugural FIFA Peace Prize. Trump, who has openly campaigned for the Nobel Peace Prize, had been heavily favoured to win the newly created FIFA prize. He and FIFA president Gianni Infantino are close allies, and Infantino had made it clear that he thought Trump should have won the Nobel for his efforts to broker a ceasefire in Gaza. "This is your prize, this is your peace prize," Infantino said. He has repeatedly spoken about soccer as a unifier for the world, but the prize is a departure from the federation's traditional focus on sport. Trump told reporters upon arriving at the Kennedy Centre that he didn't know whether he was going to get the award, and added: "I don't need prizes. I just want to save lives." FIFA has described the prize as one that rewards "individuals who have taken exceptional and extraordinary actions for peace and by doing so have united people across the world."

Formula One revs up for a three-way title showdown

F1'S THRILLING FINALE ECHOES A HISTORY OF DRAMATIC CHAMPIONSHIP DECIDERS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Abu Dhabi, Dec 5: A thrilling Formula 1 season ends Sunday in Abu Dhabi with precisely the kind of showdown race fans want to see: three drivers in title contention and the championship leader under mounting pressure.

Over the years, F1 title deciders have seen deliberate crashes, unexpected heartbreak and perhaps the most controversial finish of them all, when Max Verstappen beat Lewis Hamilton on the final lap in 2021.

Final race scenarios

McLaren's Lando Norris is 12 points ahead of Red Bull driver Verstappen, who is chasing hard for a fifth straight F1 title, and 16 ahead



of teammate Oscar Piastri. Norris will win the title if he finishes on the podium Saturday, regardless of what Verstappen and Piastri do.

If Verstappen takes the race win, he needs Norris to be fourth or lower. If Piastri wins

the Grand Prix, Norris would have to finish sixth or lower.

Three-way fights

Kimi Raikkonen won the 2007 title with Ferrari, despite trailing both Fernando Alonso and rookie Lewis Hamilton two rac-

es before the end. The Finnish driver won both to clinch his only F1 title.

Sebastian Vettel won the 2010 title for Red Bull at the last race of the season in Abu Dhabi. Vettel entered the race behind teammate Mark Webber and Ferrari's Fernando Alonso, who was the heavy favorite.

Vettel won the Abu Dhabi GP from pole and clinched the title along the way, mainly because Alonso was stuck behind another driver following a Ferrari strategy error.

In 1986, a three-way battle ended in heartbreak for a British standings leader. Nigel Mansell was ahead of Alain Prost and Keke Rosberg on points ahead of the final race in Adelaide, Australia, but had to stop with a puncture.

Tanvi shines bright at Sub-Jr Nat's

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Dec 5: Local star Tanvi Patri has electrified the 37th National Sub-Junior Badminton Championship held at the Dalmia Bharat Gopichand Badminton Excellence Centre (Shuttle) within the Kalinga Stadium Complex, by securing a spot in the finals of both the Girls' Singles Under-15 and Under-17 categories Friday.

The fifth day of the prestigious tournament saw all final line-ups determined across both age groups, setting the stage for a thrilling finale Saturday.

Odisha's own Tanvi Patri delivered a high-calibre performance to ensure her dual final appearances. In the Girls' Singles U-15 semi-final, Patri defeated Hamsini Chadaram of Telangana in straight games with scores of 21-12, 21-19. She will face Avani Vikram Govind of Telangana in the final, who overcame Inayat



Gulati of Punjab (21-14, 21-13).

Tanvi continued her dominant form in the Girls' Singles U-17 semi-final, displaying class to beat Hasana Shree of Andhra Pradesh 21-11, 21-4. She is set to clash with Deeksha SR of Tamil Nadu in the final.

The local success extended to the doubles category, where the Odisha pairing of Swati Nayak and Nimisha Ojha fought hard to reach the Girls' Doubles U-15 final. They will face the Maharashtra duo, Sarayu Ranjane and Soyara Sellare, who defeated a Tamil Nadu pair in the other semi-final (21-14, 21-12).