Aneet's advice

Actor Aneet Padda offers inspiring advice to a fan on breaking into the film industry without any connections

LEISURE | P2



Russia's N-submarine

Russia launches a nuclear submarine to carry the Poseidon drone, a 'doomsday' weapon

INTERNATIONAL | P10



Steel makers' plea

Steel makers urge govt for more measures to check rising imports from select group of countries including China

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Sundar stars

Washington Sundar enhances his reputation as a T20 hitter as India level series with five-wicket win over Australia

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India eves lift maiden WC trophy

Navi Mumbai, Nov 2: The Indian women's cricket team kept its date with history by winning its first-ever World Cup with a 52-run victory over South Africa to script a golden chapter in the country's pantheon of sporting achievements here Sunday.

Shafali Verma, the 21-yearold, who till last week wasn't even in the reserves, created memories of a lifetime by scoring 87 in India's 298 for 7 and then grabbed a couple of crucial wickets to restrict the Proteas Women to 246 in front of a packed DY Patil Stadium.

The seasoned Deepti Sharma (5/39) and young Shree Charani (1/48) also did their bit under extreme pressure to usher in the most memorable day for women's cricket in the country.

If June 25, 1983 was a watershed moment for Indian men's cricket, when Kapil's Devils beat the mighty West Indies at the Lord's, November 2, 2025 will be a seminal moment for women's cricket movement.

Rohit Sharma, who carries the scars of November 19, 2023, was watching the final from the stands with a prayer on his lips that Harmanpreet Kaur doesn't meet his fate. For Harmanpreet, the lady who has done way more for Indian women's cricket than anyone can envisage, knows



India's players celebrate with the trophy during the presentation ceremony after winning the ICC Women's World Cup 2025, at the DY Patil Stadium, in Navi Mumbai, early Monday

how much it hurts to lose a final as it happened eight summers back and her girls didn't let her down. As she latched on to Nadine de Klerk's offering while back pedaling at extra cover, Ian

Bishop fittingly called the moment "inspiring generations". It

with AR Rahman's rendition of 'Vande Mataram' reverberating across the stands.

displaced villagers' When the company later announced regular recruitment, Angul, Nov 2: Around 120 disonly 36 of the trained villagers were given permanent jobs, while 120 others were report-

'NALCO neglected

placed villagers who lost their land for the establishment of National Aluminium Company (NALCO) Limited in Angul have alleged that the company has neglected them for decades. With neither NALCO authorities nor the district administration addressing their grievances, the aggrieved villagers said they were compelled to move the Orissa High Court seeking justice.

According to the petitioners, NALCO acquired land in 1981 in the undivided Dhenkanal district to set up its plant, covering 39 villages under Talcher, Chhendipada, and Angul Assembly constituencies.

In 1984, NALCO formulated a rehabilitation policy for the displaced families, classifying them into two categories - fully displaced and partially displaced families. The company's 1992 report noted that a total of 2,626 families had been affected by the project.

However, the petitioners claimed that in 2006-07, the company introduced a new policy aimed at harassing the displaced land losers, labeling them as Limited Affected Persons (LAPs). As per the resolutions adopted in high-level company meetings and the Rehabilitation and Peripheral Development Advisory Committee (RPDAC), 297 displaced individuals received skill development training between 1988 and 2005 and were subsequently employed as skilled workers in NALCO.

edly ignored. Frustrated, they approached the High Court and staged a sit-in in front of the Collector's office for 285 days. Protesters claimed that October 24, the Angul Municipality, with police support, forcibly cleared their protest site.

Citing the 1984 policy, the protesters alleged that the company ignored genuine land losers while granting permanent jobs to three or four people from families that had lost as little as two to three decimals of land.

Displaced villager Yogesh Samal said, "They had promised that once permanent vacancies opened, we would be given priority for regular appointments, even if we lacked training certificates or met age limits, Samal said, "But now, NALCO is recruiting new candidates and ignoring us. We have been forced to seek justice in the High Court."

Similarly, NALCO sponsored LAP ITI Displaced People's Association, Talcher, Anugul secretary Shashank Shekhar Samal said, "Around 120 displaced persons have filed a petition in the HC against NAL CO's unlawful practices since

January.' A senior NALCO official. however, said appointments were made based on the candidates' educational qualifications. "Those protesting are demanding more than what is due to them," the official said.

PNN & AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Noted industrialist from Odisha, Sarat Kumar Sahoo, died at a hospital in Mumbai Sunday, his family said.

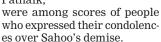
He was 76, and is survived by a son and a daughter.

Sahoo, the founder of Ruchi Foodline, was the executive chairman of Odisha Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises (OASME).

A household name across the state for his company's product 'Ruchi Masala', Sahoo started his business from a small unit on rented premises in Cuttack 49 years ago.

Ruchi Foodline now has 18,000 outlets across seven countries.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Naveen Patnaik,



Taking to X, Majhi wrote, "I am saddened to know about the demise of Dr Sarat Kumar Sahoo, the founder of Ruchi Foodline. This is an irreparable loss for Odisha's industrial sector. I express my deep condolences to his family members and pray to Lord Jagannath to give peace to the departed soul.

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Cloud seeding failed. Time to arrange a frog wedding

'Ruchi Masala' founder Sarat Kumar Sahoo dies Shankar: ₹1K-cr deal behind SI exam scam

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: The arrest of Shankar Prusty, the alleged 'mastermind' of police SI recruitment scam, and his startling revelations have sent ripples in political circles as the accused told the Crime Branch Sunday that a deal to the tune of ₹1.000 crore was struck during the 'previous government' to facilitate the recruitment scam.

Speaking to mediapersons after reaching Bhubaneswar airport, Shankar said, "Had I not surrendered, how could the deal of 1,000 crore have come to the fore? All the evidence regarding the conspiracy to cancel the exam and also those of the conspirators will be produced before the government. I had submitted bail application to the Orissa High Court and planned to approach Supreme Court. The HC has given me one month's time. No case has been lodged against my wife. I have full faith in the law, and I have no connection with any other accused involved in the case.'

After he reached Odisha, he



was taken to Crime Branch headquarters for interrogation.

According to the Crime Branch, a special team was tracing Shankar as he was continuously changing his location to evade arrest. He was nabbed from Nepal boarder in Uttarakhand, Later, he was produced in a local court and brought to

Odisha on transit remand. Following the interrogation, the CB team has seized a Fortuner car, three cellphones and a passport from Shankar. He has been booked under sections 319 (2)/318 (4)/338/336(3)/ 340(2)/111/61(2)/3(5) BNS r/w Sec 11(1) /12(1) of Odisha Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act. CB has collected vital evidence from the simultaneous grilling of Shankar

and Munna Mohanty, another accused, in the scam. Shankar will be produced before the Special Vigilance court in Berhampur Monday, said sources.

Meanwhile, the BJD targeted the state government by alleging that the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) is involved in the recruitment scam. "The mastermind in not Sankar Prusty, its CMO of Odisha as the state government allowed Punchsoft Technologies to conduct the exam," said BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty.

However, BJP refuted the allegations and said that BJD is nervous as their link to the huge scam will be exposed. "The BJD is scared that their link in this scam might get exposed. All the criminals roaming free during BJD rule will be nabbed by this government," said state BJP spokesperson Manoj Mohapatra.

Significantly, altogether 123 people, including 114 candidates, were arrested in the case. While all the candidates have been released on bail, nine mediators are still in iail. Shankar's arrest has taken the total number of arrests to 124.

15 killed as tempo traveller hits truck

Jaipur: At least 15 people died and two others were injured when a tempo trav eller carrying devotees rammed into a stationary trailer truck in Rajasthan's Phalodi on Sunday, police said. The incident occurred near Matoda village on Bharat Mala Highway, they said. Fifteen passengers died, while two others sustained serious injuries. The injured were first taken to a hospital in Osian for primary treatment and later referred to Jodhpur," Jodhpur Police Commissioner Om Prakash said. According to police, the victims were residents of Sursagar area in Jodhpur and were returning from the Kolavat temple in Bikaner after offering prayers at the Kapil Muni Ashram. All the bodies have been kept in the mortuary of the Osian government hospital.

Panchaka: Chaos near Srimandir

Puri, Nov 2: Director General of Police (DGP) YB Khurania Sunday rushed to the Pilgrim City after a chaotic situation erupted near the Srimandir following a large gathering of devotees during 'Panchaka' rituals observed in the holy Kartika month.

The DGP held a high-level meeting with the DIG (Central Range), Puri SP, Collector, and senior officials of the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) to assess the situation near the 12th-century shrine's northern gate.



Though devotees were allowed entry only though Singha Dwar (Lion's Gate), hundreds of people broke barricades and entered the temple through the northern gate leading to chaos. a policeman on duty said.

"Though none was injured in the incident, two women devoby others," a temple priest said, adding that police personnel

were present at the spot.

SJTA officials said devotees are now allowed to enter through the Lion's Gate and exit through the other three gates. The northern gate is occasionally used to facilitate the entry of state guests, they said.

"We have deployed adequate police forces for smooth movement of devotees for a hassle-free darshan," DIG (Central Range) Satyajit Naik, who was monitoring the crowd manage ment, told reporters.

French cyclist survives on red wine for 3 days The elderly biker

Paris, Nov 2: Two weeks after a British teenager was found alive after surviving for 10 days in the Thai jungle eating insects and bark, yet another tale of a miraculous survival came to the fore as a French cyclist, who fell 130-feet into a ravine, survived after three days with nothing but bottles of red wine to drink, according to a report by 'The Independent'.

The 77-year-old man had gone to his local supermarket to buy the drinks in the mountainous Cévennes region of France but missed a turn and careened down a rocky slope near Saint-Julien-des-Points, about 50 miles

from Montpellier. The elderly biker landed on

the banks of Gardon River and shouted every time he heard the sound of a passing car for several days, but to no avail. Then Tuesday, some techni-

cians from the Interdepartmental Roads Directorate who were working on road maintenance heard the man's cries for help and came to his rescue. They spotted the twisted and broken cycle at the bottom of the ravine.

The technicians called the fire brigade at 2:41pm but ultimately a helicopter had to be dispatched to the Gardon riverbed on the bank opposite. The pensioner told his rescuers he did not have the strength to climb the steep walls of the mountain and make it back up to the road himself.

The chief medical officer Laurent Savath said the man was



doing miraculously well, given his ordeal in a mountainous area with bad weather.

"He is safe and sound," Savath told French newspaper Le Lozère Nouvelle. "Nevertheless,

after such a mishap, he was airlifted to the Alès Hospital Centre for a medical examination."

Savath said the cyclist's survival was "a miracle ... given the cold and the rain, with almost dipped into the bottles of red in his shopping bag, after he had an accident in the Cévennes region of France

nothing to eat or drink" other than the wine.

"He is really tough ... he fell into a stream several times trying to scramble back up, so was at risk of hypothermia," he added. The pensioner had minor injuries and mild hypothermia but is set to fully recover, according to the French news outlet Entrevue, said the report.

ISRO launches heaviest satellite from Indian soil Sriharikota: The heaviest

communication satellite to be launched from Indian soil onboard a new generation, homegrown 'Bahubali' rocket was successfully placed into the intended orbit Sunday, ISRO said. Earlier, ISRO had launched its heaviest communication satellite GSAT-11 weighing 5,854 kg, onboard an Ariane-5 VA-246 rocket from French Guiana December 5, 2018. The communication satellite CMS 03, weighing 4,410 kg was flown on a LVM3-M5 rocket enabling the Indian space agency accomplish this rare feat.



eisure



SIMPSON ON HOW ALCOHOL SILENCED HER INTUITION

Jessica Simpson, 45, marks eight years of sobriety, reflecting on how quitting alcohol restored her intuition and dreams. On Instagram, the singer-actress said letting go of self-sabotage helped her align with God's purpose. She shared that alcohol once silenced her intuition and fueled her fears of stagnation.

OFFSET SLAPPED WITH ASSAULT LAWSUIT

American rapper Offset is drawn into legal trouble. The rapper is allegedly being sued for allegedly attacking a security guard. He is the subject of a lawsuit from Jim Sanchez, who has claimed the 33-year-old star lashed out when he was asked to show ID at a cannabis dispensary back in March.



accuracy • reliability • trust

Today is a bright day, and the stars foretell success for you.

If you find yourself in a creative mood, indulge in some activity that will satisfy the urge. But. Ganesha says, if you are driving alone, exercise a great deal of caution to be on the safe side

TAURUS

Ganesha is happy to say that you will acquit yourself well in whatever you do or undertake today. You will show outstanding caliber in handling the responsibilities given to you. If you are participating in a competition, you are likely to be way ahead of others. Those engaged in business can look forward to an exceptionally profitable day.

GEMINI

Maintaining the image you have created in the minds of people, as well as upholding your reputation in society will give you some anxious moments today. You will work hard to improve your social standing, and will get results by the end of the day. It is an auspicious and lucky day for vou, savs Ganesha.

CANCER

Not a good day for you in terms of fortune and opportunities. You will constantly find yourself in unwanted tricky situations without any fault of yours. You, however, are likely to know what to do in such situations by now, for you have been in too many of those in the past. The best course of action will be to stay out of arguments.

You will get good co-operation from your colleagues and subordinates. In your personal life also you will gain the sup-port of your spouse and your friends. Other people will be accomodating of your problems and will try to solve them for vou. Your expenses may increase, leading to some financial worries, says Ganesha.

Today, your soul mate will both

give and demand pleasant surprises, says Ganesha. Your business partners may bring in some good news. Take responsibility of your past mistakes and make plans for the days to come. Do not be shy of the advice of loved ones, as it will help you more than hinder.

Sit back and think hard -

think about what is it that you really want when it comes to your business enterprises, because there are many ways to go about things at work, and they all shall lead your somewhere different. The stars favour you today with a golden touch, so take it in your stride and make hay while the sun shines.

SCORPIO

You are in a mood of introspection and analysis, says Ganesha. This is likely to give you a clear vision in the days to come. Your systematic approach towards work will provide you room to think out of the box. Your innovative ideas may bag applause from superiors and bosses.

SAGITTARIUS You become your own judge

today. Through introspection, you try to find you the various causes that lead to troubles in your life. Though it may take time, eventually you achieve what you want and try to find reasonable solutions for the same.

CAPRICORN

It's going to be a day of pleasant surprises. You will try your level best to help people around you, and will find it exceedingly frustrating when the results won't be as expected, says Ganesha. In fact, this may even dampen your spirit and shake your self-confidence.

AQUARIUS

You will come out top in whatever you choose to do, and success will smell honeysuckle sweet! Naturally, recognition and rewards await you. Take your friends to that trendy café; you needn't wait for a reason to party, says Ganesha.

PISCES

Take one cautious step at a time today, says Ganesha. You will discuss intimate matters at home and official matters at work but be careful about whom you trust and deception from someone close might lead to worry and stress in the future. Even though you are an emotional person, lay onus on working with your head over your heart today as people might try to take advantage of your nature and step on your shoulder, feels Ganesha.



to youth

Mumbai: Saiyaara has emerged as one of Indian cinema's most celebrated love stories, raking in over Rs 329 crore at the box office and catapulting its lead actors, Ahaan Panday and Aneet Padda, to instant stardom. While both actors have largely stayed away from video interviews, Aneet recently addressed her fans during a virtual meet organised by her team. A touching clip from this interaction has gone viral, showcasing Aneet's heartfelt response to a fan asking how to enter the film industry without connections. "You can make anything happen for yourself," she said passionately. "It's

not easy — it wasn't for me either. It can feel impossible, but if you truly belong somewhere, you just know." She went on to recall her days in Amritsar, where dreaming of Bollywood stardom felt foolish, yet she persisted. "I had no choice — mujhe banna hai to banna hai," she stated. Her determination paid off, and her journey now inspires millions, with hashtags like #AneetPaddaInspires and #BeYourOwnSoldier trending across social media. Encouraging others fur-

ther, Aneet said, "The world will always try to limit you. But no matter what, you have to be your own soldier." She currently has two exciting projects lined up — Shakti Shalini with Dinesh Vijan and another film with director Maneesh Sharma.



Mumbai: Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, who recently celebrated her birthday, exudes grace and gratitude as she reflects on her life and career. Calling life "very, very kind," she says her perspective on success has evolved over time, especially since becoming a mother. Her daughter Aaradhya, she admits, is the heart of her universe, and watching her grow has brought her immeasurable joy. Among her fondest memories is her 2008 birthday in Agra, her first after marriage, which she recalls as a

time filled with love, peace, and professional excitement. It was also when she was in talks with actor Ben Kingsley for a proposed film on Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal — a project she describes as intellectually stimulating and emotionally rich, though it never materialised. She also reflects on other missed opportunities, such as playing the elegant Maharani Gayatri Devi in J.P. Dutta's planned film. Yet, one dream still lights her artistic

spirit — portraying the legendary Lata Mangeshkar on screen. "I would love to play Lata Mangeshkar," Aishwarya says, her voice filled with admiration. For her, embodying the Nightingale of India would be both a tribute and a challenge - a chance to delve into the soul of music, discipline, and

devotion that defined an era.



Mumbai: Bollywood actress Sonakshi Sinha, who is gearing up for her upcoming film Jatadhara, has shared that walking in and out of her character in the film was almost a cakewalk The actress spoke with this news agency

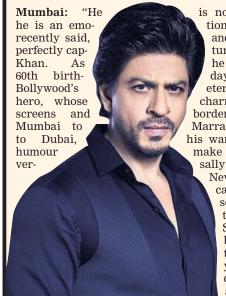
during the promotional run of the film in Mumbai, and said that she is a "Switch-on and switch-off actor". She told, "For me, walking in and out of

characters is generally easy because I am a switch on, switch off actor, I don't take my work home. What I'm on the sets of a film, being in the character, I keep it on sets' She further mentioned, "When I'm at

home, I'm not in my character. For me, it's not that big of a thing to be affected by the intensity of my characters because I don't take my character home with me and I live with it. I, I don't. Everyone has a different method. and each to their own". Jatadhara is a mythological-

supernatural thriller directed by Venkat Kalyan and Abhishek Jaiswal. The film stars Sudheer Babu and Sonakshi Sinha in lead roles. It explores the shadowy intersections of Indian folklore, black magic, and greed, weaving a story around an ancient treasure guarded by demonic forces

The man whose charm never fades



is not just a star; tion," Karan Johar and for millions, it tures Shah Rukh he celebrates his day, SRK remains eternal romantic charm transcends borders. Loved from Marrakech, Delhi his warmth and make him unisally adored. Never shy of

calling himself "the last of the superstars," Shah Rukh has built a legacy that goes beyond stardom, defined enduring charisma and a magic that makes millions believe in love.

Over three decades, since transitioning from villain to hero in films like Baazigar and Darr, SRK has crafted his own brand of mohabbatein-one that resonates with audiences from seven to seventy. His films became the emotional compass of the 1990s, offering escapism and aspirations, from teen

romances in GAP tees to cross-border love stories and inclusive sports dramas. Central to his appeal is his respectful

portrayal of women. "Most of my love stories have done well because I treated women as equals, he says, highlighting a modern understanding of romance rooted in respect and equality. Shah Rukh's stardom knows no boundaries.

Recognisable anywhere in the world, his face, smile, and charisma have inspired global fandoms and even academic study. From Peru to Poland, Egypt to Indonesia, fans recreate his iconic moments, proving that his charm is truly universal and timeless

PEANUTS



WELL, I FINALLY GOT UP NERVE TO CALL THAT LITTLE RED-HAIRE GIRL, BUT I DIALED MARCIE BY MISTAKE, AND GOT A DATE WITH PEPPERMINT PATTY ...





CALVIN AND HOBBES

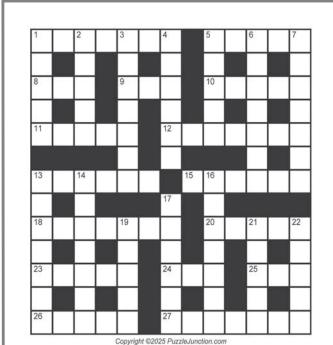


BREVITY



POST

CROSSWORD



20 Knock over

Across 1 Lennon's lady (4,3)

5 Zoo climber

8 Ventilate

9 Golfer's gadget

10 Scotch musician

11 Barter

12 Sea rovers 13 Commendation

15 Divulge 18 Knight in

shining armor

24 Gallivant

23 Watchful

25 Sinuous swimmer 26 Pear-shaped

instruments 27 Dangerous

situations

Down 1 Brewer's need

2 Destiny

16 South American

country 17 Proverbs

19 Abominates 21 Flock members 22 Stories

4 Ukrainian port

5 Bay of Naples

7 Lady's sunshade

isle

6 Get better

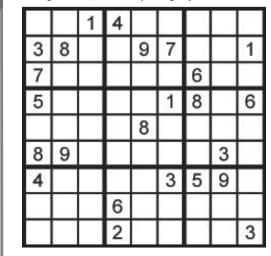
13 Hair style

14 Physical

disorder

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

SUDOKU

ITELLETHAL

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

3 Wall plugs



Odisha to frame SOP for Ratna Bhandar inventory

owntown

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: The Odisha government is set to soon introduce a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to conduct a detailed inventory of the valuables stored in the Ratna Bhandar of the Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri. Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan said Sunday that preparatory measures for the long-awaited assessment of the temple's treasures have already commenced, marking a significant step toward the long-pending inventory exercise.

Harichandan said the inventory process will be carried out inside the Ratna Bhandar itself, and the SOP for this important exercise will be issued soon. He added that the procedure had been delayed due to the heavy rush of devotees during the holy month of Kartika, but the government plans to expedite the process once the Panchuka Brata period concludes.



HARICHANDAN SAID THAT THE INVENTORY OF RATNA BHANDAR WILL BE CONDUCTED INSIDE THE TREASURY

THE EXERCISE WAS DELAYED DUE TO THE HEAVY INFLUX OF **DEVOTEES DURING THE HOLY** MONTH OF KARTIKA

THE LAST OFFICIAL INVENTORY WAS CARRIED OUT IN 1978. MAKING THE UPCOMING **EXERCISE VITAL FOR PROPER** DOCUMENTATION AND SECURITY OF THE TEMPLE'S TREASURES

It is worth mentioning that the last official inventory of the

in 1978, making the upcoming exercise crucial for ensuring proper documentation and enhanced security of the temple's invaluable treasures

Notably, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) completed the repair and restoration of the Ratna Bhandar in July 2025. During the ren ovation, the temple administration had shifted ornaments and valuables from both the inner and outer chambers to two secure rooms within the temple premises. These were restored to the renovated Ratna Bhandar September 23.

A 16-member committee headed by former Orissa High Court judge Justice Biswanath Rath was constituted last year to supervise the opening of the temple treasury and the inventory of its valuables. In addition, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has nominated two officials to assist in the process.



IANAGEMENT: A large number of devotees line up under the shade for the darshan of Lord Jagannath in Puri, Sunday. DGP YB Khurania, along with the SJTA Chief Administrator and SP, reviewed the situation amid the heavy Panchuka rush to ensure safety and order. Additional barricades were installed from Market Chhak to Bagala Dharamshala to streamline traffic and manage the crowd efficiently

Guv for importance of infant nutrition



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati Sunday emphasised that the health, intellect, and vitality of a nation are deeply rooted in the nourishment and care provided to its youngest citizens.

He was speaking at the 15th National Conference of the Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Chapter and the 11th National Conference of the Human Milk Bank (HMB) Association of India, organized by the Indian Academy of Paediatrics. Odisha State Chapter, in Bhu-

Highlighting the significance of the early years of life, the Governor said the first 1,000 days-from conception to the second birthday—are the most critical period for physical growth, brain development, and lifelong well-being. "When we invest in the nutrition of infants and young children, we are not merely addressing a medical concern: we are shaping the very destiny of our society," he said.

Kambhampati appreciated the organisers for promoting sustainable feeding practices and lauded the conference theme: "Nurturing Tomorrow's Legacy: Embracing Sustainable Infant and Young Child Feeding and Breastfeeding Practices."

He noted that while India has made significant progress in reducing infant and child mortality, challenges such as undernutrition, limited awareness. and social barriers continue to hinder optimal feeding practices. "The solutions lie not only in medical care but also within our communities, through education, empowerment, and empathy," he added.

Calling healthcare professionals vital advocates for change, the Governor said their guidance can inspire confi dence among mothers and families to make breastfeeding and balanced nutrition a universal practice. He also commended mothers who selflessly donate their milk to nourish other infants, calling their act a reflection of compassion and shared

Referring to Odisha's initiatives under the National Health Mission and community outreach programmes, Kambhampati said the state has made steady progress in maternal and child health. He urged everyone to reaffirm their shared commitment to ensure every newborn receives the nourishment, care, and protection they deserve.

AP TEMPLE STAMPEDE

CM condoles death of Ganjam woman

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic death of Rangala Rupa, a young woman from Gudiapadar village in Ganjam district, who lost her life in the stampede at the Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Kasibugga, Srikakulam district of Andhra

Conveying his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, the CM announced an ex-gratia of ₹6 lakh from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for the next of kin of the deceased. "This is a deeply painful incident. My thoughts and prayers are with the fami-



ly in this hour of grief," Majhi said in his condolence message. The tragedy occurred No-

vember 1, during the Kartika Ekadasi celebrations at the

in Kasibugga. Thousands of devotees had gathered to offer prayers when a railing near the entrance collapsed due to

heavy crowd pressure. The fall triggered panic, leading to a stampede-like situation that resulted in the death of 10 people, including several women and children, and left more than a dozen injured.

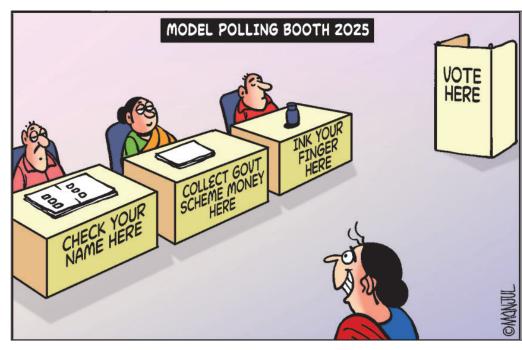
Among the victims was 21-year-old Rangala Rupa, daughter of Rangala Dinesh, who had travelled from Ganjam to participate in the holy occasion. Another woman from Odisha was reportedly among those injured and is currently undergoing treatment in Srikakulam.

Eyewitnesses said the crowd had swelled far beyond the temple's capacity, and the absence of proper barricading or crowd-control measures worsened the situation.

Dec 31 last date for ration card e-KYC

BHUBANESWAR: In a big relief fo the beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA) and State Food Security Scheme (SFSS), the Food Sur plies and Consumer Welfare (FS&CW) department has once again extended the deadline for e-KYC of ration cards till December 31, 2025. Earlier, the October 31, and the department had clarified that it would stop the supply of ration from November 1 to those who fail to complete the e-KYC. The n tification issued by the FS&CW department Sunday said the beneficiaries are being informed that the Aadhaar-based smooth delivery of Public Distribution said that the e-KYC process is being (FPS) across the state, in addition to 314 block offices and 64 sub-divisional offices functioning as ration card of an effort to streamline beneficiary verification and ensure that food security benefits reach the right households

POLITICKLE by MANJUL



Women entrepreneurs shine at Subhadra Shakti Mela

ACCORDING TO REPORTS, THE MELA REGISTERED BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS WORTH OVER ₹50 LAKH ON THE VERY FIRST DAY

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Deputy Chief Minister Prabhati Parida inaugurated the second edition of the Subhadra Shakti Mela at the IDCO Exhibition Ground here Saturday.

The event, aimed at promoting women entrepreneurship and showcasing self-help groups' (SHGs) products from across the state, brings together women artisans, entrepreneurs, and cooperatives to highlight their contributions to Odisha's socio-economic growth.

Among the key attractions of the mela were 300 stalls run by women SHGs, including 50 dedicated food stalls showcasing traditional delicacies. In addition, 11 SHGs from other



states participated, offering a diverse range of products. The inaugural ceremony also featured vibrant cultural per-

formances that enthralled the audience and added colour to the festive atmosphere

The second day of the mela

began with devotional and cultural performances, including a Sambalpuri dance and a Krishna Leela musical drama presented by the Ramanatya Parishad of Puri. This was followed by lively performances by women SHGs and musical ensembles that captivated the audience. The stalls also witnessed heavy footfall, reflecting the growing public interest in handcrafted products made by women SHGs.

As per reports, on the first day alone, the mela recorded business exceeding ₹50 lakh. Adequate security arrangements were made for peace and safety, along with fire services, Red Cross, medical facilities, drinking water, and sanitation.

Stalls exhibited handmade items, including lakh bangles,

rice handicrafts, Sabai grass crafts, and Pattachitra paintings, impressing the visitors. Attendees could witness live demonstrations of the production processes.

At beauty and wellness stalls organised with support from the World Skill Center (WSC), professional trainers offered makeup, hairstyling, and nail care services for women. Traditional weaving stalls provided live demonstrations of weaving techniques, fascinating the visitors. Attendees also got the opportunity to try their hands at live demo stalls under expert guidance.

The Mission Shakti department invited the public to be part of this festival, which highlights and celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit and empowerment of women in Odisha.

OPF alleges bias against OAVS students in NMMS selection

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: The Odisha Parents Federation (OPF), a statewide body representing parents and guardians of government school students, has alleged large-scale discrimination against students of Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan (OAVS) institutions in Khurda district, whose applications for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS) have been summarily rejected by district authorities.

In a memorandum submitted to the Commissioner-cum-Secretary of the School and Mass Education Department, the federation has demanded an immediate reversal of the rejections and reprocessing of all applications, claiming that "hundreds of poor yet meritorious students have been unfairly denied a chance to compete for the NMMS scholarship.'

The National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS) scheme, implemented by the Union Ministry of Education, provides ₹12,000 annually to meritorious students from economically weaker familiesthose with an annual parental income below ₹3.5 lakh—to help prevent dropouts at the secondary level. Eligible candidates are students studying in Class VIII in government, aided, or local body schools.

However, according to the Mahasangha, officials in Khurda district rejected all NMMS applications from OAVS students, assuming these schools to be fully residential like Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JN-Vs) or Kendriva Vidvalavas (KVs). "This assumption is factually and legally incorrect," the Mahasangha stated, clarifying that many OAVS institutions operate as day schools where students do not receive free boarding or lodging.



"The blanket rejection of applications without individual scrutiny violates the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009 and defeats the purpose of the NMMS scheme, depriving poor but deserving students of equitable support," said Basudev Bhatta, President of the OPF.

The letter noted that SCERT Odisha's 2024-25 NMMS circu lar clearly allows OAVS day scholars to apply if certified by the principal as non-residential. Yet, parents from several OAVS institutions in Khurda reportedly received identical messages stating that all applications were rejected at the

district level. The Mahasangha has de manded an immediate review and reprocessing of all rejected OAVS applications in Khurda within seven days, a state-lev el clarification to ensure uniform NMMS eligibility across districts, an inquiry to fix re sponsibility for the lapse, and awareness drives to inform eligible students.

It has warned of approaching the Ministry of Education, NCPCR, and the Odisha High Court if corrective steps are not taken soon. A copy of the letter has been sent to the OAVS Director, while the School and Mass Education Department is yet to respond.

Cong slams Patnaik's Nuapada visit for mere political gain

the election, he suddenly remembers the people of Nua-

pada," Jena said. "The magic

of Naveen's hand wave no lon-

ger works — people have seen

through the deceit of BJD," he

BJP have struck a tacit under-

standing over the by-election,

claiming that both parties are

working together to defeat the

Congress, "BJD intentionally

fielded a non-local candidate.

while BJP chose its nominee

in consultation with BJD strat-

egist VK Pandian and Union

Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw,'

three-cornered, but in reality,

it's a two-way fight — Congress

versus the combined might of

The Congress leader also

said that despite limited finan-

BJD and BJP," he added.

"This election may appear

Jena further added.

Jena alleged that the BJD and



_ _ _ _ . _ _ . _ . _ . _ . _ _ . _ _ .

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) supremo Naveen Patnaik's sudden visit to Nuapada district ahead of the crucial by-election has sparked sharp criticism from Congress, accusing BJD chief whip of "remembering the district only when votes are at stake."

Addressing a press conference at Congress Bhavan here, former PCC president Jayadev Jena launched a scathing attack on Patnaik and said, "The former Chief Minister had neglected Nuapada for 24 years and is now attempting to reconnect with voters merely for political gain."

"Naveen Babu had completely forgotten Nuapada for over two decades. Now, just before tions in the past, this time too,
Ghasiram Majhi will win from
Nuapada," Jena asserted.
Meanwhile, former minister
Debasis Nayak claimed that
a 'political deal' concerning
Nuapada by-poll was finalised
long ago in New Delhi. "The

Debasis Nayak claimed that a 'political deal' concerning Nuapada by-poll was finalised long ago in New Delhi. "The BJD is only pretending to contest. Their campaign is a drama aimed at securing some respectable vote numbers," Nayak said.

strong grassroots support. "We have people power, not money power. Just as Congress won Talsara and Laxmipur by-elec-

In contrast, the Congress has fielded a popular local tribal leader and is fighting the election on issues of social justice and inclusive development, he added.

Party spokesperson Manoranjan Das and other senior leaders were also present at the press meet, reiterating that Congress will continue to expose the 'hidden alliance' between the ruling BJD and the BJP.

BJD Nuapada district president Abani Ranjan Joshi said, "Patnaik will address a public meeting at Komna block November 3, and he is likely to undertake another visit November 7 to seek votes for BJD by-election candidate Snehangini Chhuria."



EXUBERANCE: An artist draws live sketch of school children during Historic Baliyatra Pathotsav at Upper Baliyatra ground in Cuttack Sunday

OVSA to launch non-cooperation movement

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Despondent over the state government's inaction on their long-pending demands, Odisha Veterinary Service Association (OVSA) announced to launch a non-cooperation movement from November 3 across the state.

OVSA president Jadunath Parida said, "The association has been protesting for 69 days, wearing black uniforms, to press for cadre restructuring similar to human doctors, inclusion in DACP and NPA schemes at the central level, and comprehensive reforms in the veterinary service system. Despite repeated appeals over the past four years, the government has neither addressed these demands nor engaged in meaningful discussions with the veterinarians."

Out of the 12 demands put forward by the association, cadre restructuring and legalisation of unsanctioned leave remain unfulfilled, while other demands

are aimed at strengthening people-centric animal husbandry services. The association claims the government's apathy has demoralised veterinary officers, even as the state pushes initiatives to protect animals and develop the cattle sector.

OVSA general secretary Sankarsana Mahunta said, "As part of the upcoming non-cooperation movement, veterinarians will wear black badges and refrain from using their personal equipment—including mobile phones, vehicles, computers. and other tools essential for official work—in government duties. While the association assures that core veterinary services will not be disrupted immediately, there are concerns that the implementation of various people-oriented schemes could be affected."

OVSA has warned that if the government fails to address their demands promptly, the movement will intensify, and the government will bear responsibility for any resulting issues in the veterinary sector.

Min reviews NH projects

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Law, Works, and Excise Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan reviewed the progress of 16 ongoing National Highway (NH) projects in the state at Lok Seva Bhavan conference hall here recently and instructed the concerned officials from different departments to expedite the construction work.

Minister also directed Works department Principal Secretary Sanjay Kumar Singh to quickly resolve issues affecting the projects—like land acquisition, forest land clearance, and environmental approvals—so that construction can move forward without delay



Among others, Works department EIC and special secretary Laxmikant Padhi, Forest, Environment, and Climate Change department Special Secretary Lingaraj Ota, Revenue and Disaster Management department Additional Secretary Madhusmita Sahu, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) regional officer Birendra Singh and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Regional Officer Sunil Kumar were present at the meeting.

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AFFIDAVIT

I, Batakrushna
Mohanty (Old Name),
S/o Basanta Mohanty,
Village-Dhobapalli,
Post- Jayapur, Aska,
Ganjam, Odisha, 761111.
Hereby declares that
I have changed my
Batakrushna Basanta
Mohanty (New Name)
shall be known as
Batakrushna Basanta
Mohanty for all the
future purposes.

Loyola School hosts Inter-Jesuits Schools Basketball tournament



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: To commemorate 25 glorious years of growth and excellence, Loyola School hosted Inter- Jesuits Schools Basketball Tournament. 14 teams across Odisha and Jharkhand (both Boys and Girls) participated in the two-day tournament, which con-

cluded here Sunday.

Pre Asian Basketball Championship former Odisha Team captain Dilip Kumar Parida attended as chief guest at the opening ceremony and Bhubaneswar Basketball Association president Syed Maqbool Ali graced the closing ceremony as chief guest

The teams fought tooth and nail to win the tournament.
The matches were so exciting

that they kept

Spectators were seated at the edge of their seats during the finals. In girls' category, St Xavier's School Lupungutu emerged as the winners, while Loyola School (English Medium) Jamshedpur became the runners-up and Loyola School Bhubaneswar bagged the third prize.

In the boys category, St Xavier's School, Lupungutu bagged the winners' trophy, while Loyola School, Baripada became the runners- up and Loyola School Telco Jamshedpur bagged the third place.

Rector Father Augustine Ezhakunnel SJ and Loyola School Principal Father A Amaladoss SJ congratulated the winners and appreciated the participating teams for displaying true sportsmanship on the court.

KIIT Nanhipari regional audition concludes

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: The regional audition for the 25th edition of KIIT Nanhipari – Little Miss India concluded in Bhubaneswar Sunday. The audition, held at the KIIT campus, saw enthusiastic participation from several contestants aged between 13 and 15 years, representing different parts of the state. The Grand Finale of the event will be held in Bhubaneswar from December 21 to 23.

KIIT and KISS Founder Achyuta Samanta graced the occasion and motivated the participants with his encouraging words. The panel of judges included Ollywood stars Poonam Mishra and Suryamayee Mahapatra, Label Roshan head Roshan Sahu, eminent photographer Akhil Ranjan, Tripura Mishra, and Bauri Raul.

'Ensuring child rights is responsibility of society'



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Ensuring protection and rights of child is the responsibility of society as a whole, emphasised Deputy Chief Minister Pravati Parida while speaking at the 15th foundation day observation of Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OS-CPCR) here recently.

"Every level of society has a role to play in a child's holistic development. Several government schemes are being effectively implemented for the welfare of children and their benefits must reach every child," Parida stressed.

Speaking on this year's theme 'Batsalya: Safe Children, Prosperous Odisha', Parida highlighted the need for parents to focus on the mental and physical development of children from an early age. She highly appreciated the contributions of Anganwadi workers in nurturing children and encouraging their interest in education.

"Through skill training of officials involved in child protection, along with continuous awareness campaigns and public outreach, the goals of ensuring child rights can be achieved." she added.

Joining as guest of honour, Law, Works, and Excise Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan underlined the need to remove barriers in delivering justice to children and to promote child-friendly legal frameworks. He pointed out that the Juvenile Justice Act provides special provisions to strengthen legal safeguards for children during times of distress.

OSCPCR chairperson Babita Patra shared insights on the functioning and objectives of the commission, outlining its work in the fields of child protection, welfare, education, health, and overall development.

Hindi unites India's diverse cultures: Guv

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: Describing Hindi as an emotional bridge that unites India's diverse cultures, Odisha Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati called it a symbol of the nation's identity, representing India's spirit on the global stage.

Kambhampati also called for collective efforts to elevate Hindi as a language of knowledge, science, and innovation, while preserving its rich emotional and cultural heritage.

Speaking at the felicitation ceremony organised by Vishwa Hindi Parishad, Odisha province, at New Abhishek Hall, Raj Bhavan here Sunday, the Governor emphasised the need to strengthen the movement for Hindi and all Indian languages as a means to promote cultural unity and national development.

Expressing his pride in attending the ceremony, Kambhampati lauded the decade-long dedication of Vishwa



Hindi Parishad in promoting and enriching the language. He noted that the event was not only aimed at felicitating eminent writers and scholars but also served as a reaffirmation of the collective resolve to advance the development and dignity of Hindi.

Commending the leadership of the parishad's president and Padma awardee Y Lakshmi Prasad, the Governor said that the organisation has been instrumental in establishing Hindi as a language of literature, knowledge, technology, and innovation.

Referring to the National Education Policy 2020, he highlighted its support for early education in the mother tongue or regional languages, enabling youth to pursue world-class education through Hindi.

"Language is the foundation of national unity," he said, urging everyone to work together to make Hindi a strong medium for science, innovation, and naExpressing his pride in attending the ceremony, Kambhampati lauded the decade-long dedication of Vishwa Hindi Parishad in promoting and enriching the language

tion-building.

Distinguished personalities, including poets, writers, litterateurs, and social workers, were

felicitated during the occasion.
Rajya Sabha MP Mamata
Mahanta, Y Lakshmi Prasad,
and Bipin Kumar shared their
views on the occasion. The welcome address was delivered by
Vishwa Hindi Parishad, Odisha
province president Vikramaditya Singh, while the vote of
thanks was proposed by Vishwa Hindi Parishad, New Delhi
vice president Devi Prasad
Mishra.



	WEATHI	ER					
	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST				
Max Temp	32.7°	31.8°	Light to moderate rain or Thunderstorm				
Min Temp	24.0°	23.0°					
Humidity	74%	85%					
Rainfall	Nil	Nil					

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NUAPADA Campaigning in Chhattisgarhi gains momentum

The Chhattisgarhi-style campaigning in Odisha's border constituencies has become a talking point among political observers

Nuapada, Nov 2: Campaign activities in the Nuapada Assembly constituency are taking on a distinctly Chhattisgarhi flavour this election season. Though the election is being held in Odisha, many border villages with a large Chhattisgarhi speaking population are witnessing campaigning through posters and banners written in Hindi.

For visiting leaders and ministers from the coastal belt. the Chhattisgarhi dialect has become a linguistic challenge.



Residents of most of the villages in the constituency speak Hindi and Chhattisgarhi languages

es in the constituency commuwhich is more easily undernicate primarily in Hindi and Chhattisgarhi language. While many can understand Odia, few

stood in these regions As Nuapada district shares its border with Chhattisgarh, can speak it fluently. Despite here have their distinct language, culture, and traditions that closely resemble those of Chhattisgarh.

Due to the limited penetration of Odia language in these border villages, political candidates and party leaders are campaigning in Hindi and Chhattisgarhi language to connect with the voters. Posters and banners written in Hindi are prominently displayed in several villages.

Janak Ram Dhruw, MLA from Nawa Bindragarh in neighbouring Chhattisgarh, recently campaigned for Congress candidate Ghasiram Majhi in Nuapada, addressing the gathering in Chhattisgar hi. Similarly, Independent candidate Ashraya Mahanand distributed posters in Hindi while canvassing in villages under Chulabhata panchayat.

The Chhattisgarhi-style campaigning in Odisha's border constituencies has become a talking point among political observers. Many note the stark contrast between the electioneering styles of coastal Odisha and western Odisha, with the latter now increasingly influ enced by its Chhattisgarhi

RI saves kid, woman from bee attack

POST NEWS NETWORK

Jharsuguda, Nov 2: A Revenue Inspector (RI) in Laikera block of Jharsuguda district risked his life to save a 10-yearold child and a woman from a swarm of bees, proving that humanity still thrives in society.

Sources said Akelpada RI Birendra Rohidas was returning to his office after field duty Saturday afternoon when he noticed the child and his aunt being attacked by a swarm of bees near the tehsil office. Hearing their cries for help and finding no one else around, Rohidas stopped his bike, rushed towards them, and carried the child to safety

As a result, the swarm turned

on him, stinging him severely After running some distance nearby residents gathered causing the bees to disperse. The woman also managed to flee the scene.

However, Rohidas, the child and the woman sustained serious injuries and were rushed to the district headquarters hospital where they were admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU). Speak ing over the phone Sunday after noon, Rohidas said his condition was stable and that treatment was ongoing. The child and the woman are also recovering under medical supervision. Rohidas's courageous act of selflessness which saved two innocent lives has drawn widespread praise across the district.

Rugby talent hub faces uncertainty sans funds



International rugby players Sandhyarani Tudu and Asima Rani *Majhi – both products* of the Future Star Sports Academy – expressed concern over the situation

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Nov 2: The Future Star Sports Academy of Baripada in Mayurbhanj district, which has earned national and international recognition for promoting rugby among tribal youth, is now battling a severe financial crisis that threatens its very existence.

Founded in 2019 with just five players, the academy has since trained more than 50 athletes—mostly from tribal communities—providing them free coaching, accommodation, food, and equipment. Over the years, its players have brought laurels to the district, state, and the country by winning several medals at national and international levels

As many as 42 players from this academy have competed in national rugby championships, securing three gold medals, while three players have represented India in international tournaments and won silver medals. The institution has become a beacon of sporting excellence in Odisha, thanks to the relentless dedication of its founder and coach, Dibya Ranjan Das.

However, the academy's future now appears uncertain. With absence of government aid and declining local support, it is struggling to provide basic training materials, nutritious food, and sports gear to players. Salaries for staff and rent payments are also delayed, affecting morale within the team.

"We have trained many talented players and helped them reach national and international platforms," Das said. "But the lack of financial support has made it extremely difficult to sustain our efforts. Without government or community backing, we may not be able to continue much longer.'

International rugby players Sandhyarani Tudu and Asima Rani Majhi – both products of the academy – expressed concern over the situation. "This academy gave us the platform to dream," they said. "But now, with the financial crunch, our hopes and those of future players may remain unfulfilled."

Although the Mayurbhanj royal family's Mayurbhanj Foundation provides some monthly assistance, it is not enough to meet the academy's operational expenses. "With adequate financial backing, these young athletes could achieve much greater success," said the foundation's representative Bibhudatta Das.

Local social workers and sports enthusiasts have urged the community and authorities to step forward and support the academy. "Helping this institution will not only preserve a valuable sports platform but also enable tribal youth to realise their potential," they said.

When contacted. District Sports Officer Subhasis Nayak said that the government provides assistance to players participating in national and international events, "We have not received any formal complaint regarding their difficulties, but we will look into the matter and extend necessary support as per rules," Navak added.



MARITIME GLORY: Artists apply brushstrokes to wall painting on a pandal at the Balijatra ground in Paradip Sunday ahead of the inauguration of Kalinga

Montha: Portions of decade-old geo-synthetic sea wall damaged

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: A portion of the geo-synthetic-tube wall, built about a decade back to arrest coastal erosion in vulnerable pockets of Rainagar block in Kendrapara district, was washed away due to the impact of the cyclone Montha.

Meanwhile senior officials of the Water Resources department rushed to the spot Sunday to take stock of the situation and expedite the repair of the damaged synthetic sea wall structure.

The structure was doing a lot to protect the seaside

ra and other coastal pockets from the advancing sea. The Pune-based company which had installed the structure has already been informed to rebuild the damaged gabion boxes of the sea wall, said the Assistant Executive Engineer (saline embankment division), Ashis Kumar

The 505 metre long sea wall is successfully withstanding the onslaught of battering sea waves along the Pentha coast. The sea wall project formed part of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Programme

the World Bank. The project construction work was carried out under the technical expertise and guidance of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Chennai to protect the vulnerable from the onslaught of the crawling sea, said officials

Pentha coast under Brahmansahi gram panchayat under Rajnagar tehsil of Kendrapara district was being constantly battered by marauding sea waves, prompting the state government to install geo-synthetic buffers on the embankment to arrest sea erosion.

Sex racket busted in Malkangiri; 5 held

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Nov 2: In a major crackdown, Malkangiri police busted a sex racket operating in the town and arrested five persons, including two sex workers as well as the alleged mastermind and the queen bee in this connection.



According to sources, the racket had been running for the past several months from a rented house in the Patraguda area under the district headquarters town. Acting on a tip-off, a police team led by Malkangiri SDPO Dibya Da lei, Malkangiri IIC Regan Kindo and other officials raided the premises and nabbed the accused persons. Preliminary investigation revealed that the two women hailed from Jagats inghpur and Bhadrak districts Police also apprehended three clients from Sukma district in

 $neighbouring\ Chhattisgarh.$ Authorities said further investigation is underway to trace others involved in the racket and determine the extent of the network's operations.

DHH guard death sparks tension

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nuapada, Nov 2: Tension gripped the Nuapada District Headquarters Hospital (DHH) Sunday afternoon when the body of a security guard was found behind the hospital building.

The deceased was identified as Laghutam Sahu, 47, a resident of Palsaguda on the outskirts of Nuapada town. According to police, Sahu was on duty from 8am to 2pm and had reportedly completed his shift before his body was found between 3:30pm and 4pm.

On being informed, a team of Nuapada Sadar Police reached the spot and recovered the body. Locals, however, suspect foul play, alleging that Sahu might have been murdered and his body dumped behind the building to make it appear as a suicide.

The exact cause of death remained unclear when the last report came in. Fellow security guards said Sahu had been under mental stress in recent months after the private service provider responsible for hospital security terminated him from service without prior notice. "The company had reportedly withheld his salary for two to four months, leading to frequent emotional outbursts and erratic behaviour," they said.

Outraged by the incident, local youths staged a protest on the hospital premises, refusing to allow the body's removal until representatives from the service provider arrived. "He was treated unfairly, and now no one from the company has shown up," one protester said.

Hit by train, tusker dies in Baripada Women's commission chief

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baripada, Nov 2: A 25-yearold tusker died after being hit by a train at Agria level crossing under Betnoti forest range and Baripada forest division, forest officials said Sunday.

The incident occurred around 11.30pm Saturday when the Shalimaar-Baripada Express train crossed the Jugal railway station.

A herd of elephants from Similipal National Park was roaming in the Betnoti forest range for some days.

Baripada Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Gobind Chandra Nayak visited the spot Sunday and said the elephant's carcass was sent for post-mortem examination.

An investigation is going on in this regard, he added. Railway officials were yet to issue any statement in this regard.

Locals claimed that the elephant could not run away from the track as the level crossing gate was closed due to entry of a train to the sta-

People alleged that they repeatedly urged the railway personnel to open the gate but they refused to listen and kept the gate closed. As a result, the animal was thrown over to the side of the track after being hit by

Meanwhile, the forest personnel brought the two tusks to their office after the veterinarians conducted a post-mortem of the carcass at Manchabandha forest.



Female jumbo dies while being treated

Jaleswar: A female elephant died near Phuljhari under Shyam Nagar panchayat in Jaleswar block of Balasore district Sunday afternoon, following a month-long period of elephant movement in the Raibania area

According to reports, a herd of about 20 elephants from Jharkhand and Similipal had been frequently entering the Raibania region, causing panic among residents. While the herd was roaming near Phuljhari Saturday night, one female elephant reportedly took ill and was left behind.

Upon receiving information, a forest team comprising For-

ester Prahallad Nayak, Assistant Wildlife Guard Jayashree Murmu, Wildlife Inspector Ashwini Das, and other officials rushed to the spot. The team monitored the elephant's movements and provided medication mixed with bananas to aid its recovery.

Despite their efforts, the elephant died around 4pm Sunday. The exact cause of the animal's death remains unclear. A wildlife trust team has been called in to conduct an investigation.

Local residents suspect that the elephant may have died due to complications related to a stillborn calf, though officials have not confirmed the reason.



meets distressed minor girl

POST NEWS NETWORK

Baliapal, Nov 2: The Chairperson of the Odisha State Commission for Women, Shovana Mohanty, has intervened in the case of a minor girl from the Jamkunda outpost area under Baliapal police limits in Balasore district, whose father allegedly attempt-

ed to force her into marriage. Mohanty visited the minor at the Balasore One Stop Centre Sunday and assured her that all necessary measures would be taken for her safety, education, and well-being. According to reports, the girl, who had recently passed her Class X examinations, wanted to continue her studies. However, her father, who had reportedly

taken a loan, tried to marry her off to a 40-year-old man to settle

The girl had lodged a complaint at the Baliapal police station, but after six days of inaction, she again approached the police Saturday evening. Following media inquiries into the matter, police acted promptly and shifted the girl to the One Stop Centre in Balasore.

The Odisha State Commission for Women has taken the case seriously, with its chairperson assuring that strict action will be taken against those responsible for attempting to marry off the minor and that the girl will receive full support from the

In a first, liquid cannabis worth ₹8cr seized

POST NEWS NETWORK

Malkangiri, Nov 2: In a first-ofits-kind operation, Chitrakonda police in Malkangiri district have seized liquid cannabis worth nearly ₹8 crore, Sunday. This was stated by Malkangiri Superintendent of Police (SP) Vinodh Patil said at a press

conference here Sunday. According to the SP, the breakthrough came when a police team was on patrol under Chitrakonda police limits when they were tipped off that eight persons had gathered under a Sal tree near an industrial firm site, about 5 km from Chitrakonda, with eight motorcycles.

Acting swiftly, the police reached the spot, but the suspects fled upon seeing them.

During a search of the area, officers recovered eight motorcycles and a sack containing a liquid substance, later confirmed to be liquid cannabis. This is reportedly the first seizure of liquid cannabis in the district.

The recovered substance weighed around 60 kg.

Police said that 30 to 40 kg dried cannabis can yield just 1 kg liquid cannabis. Ganja oil sells for around ₹12 to ₹13 lakh per kg in black market. Based on this valuation, the total worth of the seized contraband is estimated at ₹8 crore. A search operation has been launched to trace the absconding accused, police said.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. ST-SBP-TENDER-2025-26, Dtd. 27.10.2025 Name of the work: S&T PORTION O

ALLIED WORK IN CONNECTION WITH REMOVAL OF PSR ON CURVE NO. 23(UP AT KM 46/27-47/13 & CURVE NO. 24(DN AT KM 46/28-47/24 IN JUJOMURA (JUJA) KEREJANGA (KPJG) SECTION O SAMBALPUR DIVISION. (2) P.WAY AND OTHER ALLIED WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH REMOVAL OF PERMANENT SPEED RESTRICTION (PSR) ON CURVE NO 36(UP) AT KM 75/1-23 AND CURVE NO 37(DN) AT KM 75/24-2 IN JUJOMURA (JUJA)-KEREJANGA (KPJG) SECTION OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION. (3) P.WAY AND OTHER ALLIED WORK IN CONNECTION WITH REMOVAL OF PSR OF CURVE NO 32(UP) AT KM 66/31-67/17 IN JUJOMURA (JUJA)-KEREJANGA (KPJG) SECTION OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION. (4) PROVISION OF DISTILLED WATER PLANT AT 12 STATIONS OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION Tender Value : ₹ 57,18,193.31. Bid

Security: ₹ 1,14,400.00. Tender closing Date & Time: At 110

hrs. on 19.11.2025 No manual offers sent by Post/Couri Fax or in person shall be accepted against

the e-tenders. Complete information including e-tende documents of the above e-tender is available in website: www.ireps.gov.in Note: The prospective tenderers are advise to revisit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note an Divisional Sig. & Telecom Engineer (Sig)

PR-752/Q/25-26



We must march on with the quiet certitude that what has to be done will be done.





Trump's Bomb

n a move that has stunned world leaders and alarmed non-proliferation experts, US President Donald Trump announced that he has instructed the Pentagon to "start testing our nuclear weapons on an equal basis" with other countries. The announcement, made on his social media platform Truth Social, hinted at the possible resumption of explosive nuclear testing, something the US has not done since 1992. The timing of the post was equally curious as it came just minutes before his scheduled meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in South Korea. Trump's reference to "other countries testing programs" appeared to allude to recent Russian military developments. Just last week, Russian President Vladimir Putin unveiled the testing of a nuclear-powered underwater drone and a cruise missile, both capable of carrying nuclear warheads. Russia too has not conducted any nuclear detonation since 1990. By framing his decision as a matter of "equal basis," Trump's statement evokes chilling memories of the Cold War era's tit-for-tat arms escalation. "That process will begin immediately," he declared in the post, using rhetoric that harks back to a time when nuclear brinkmanship was an everyday global concern.

If Trump's directive indeed refers to renewed explosive testing, such a decision would almost certainly trigger reciprocal actions by other nuclear-armed powers, particularly Russia and China, setting off a new arms race with unpredictable and perilous consequences.

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), signed by 187 nations, was created precisely to prevent such outcomes. Though the US signed the treaty in 1996, it never ratified it. Still, as a signatory, Washington is legally obligated not to act in violation of its spirit and purpose. For much of the Cold War period, nuclear testing was used to measure the destructive power of atomic and hydrogen bombs. These experiments helped military planners understand both how to use such weapons and how to defend against them. But by the early 1990s, advances in computer modelling and subcritical testing rendered live detonations redundant. The US conducted its last nuclear explosion in 1992, France stopped in 1996. Russia and China have also refrained from full-scale testing since the 1990s. North Korea is the only country that has conducted such tests this century, the most recent being in 2017.

Trump's announcement comes at a time when global nuclear tensions are at their highest in decades. In recent years, almost all major arms control treaties that kept the nuclear order in check have either collapsed or been abandoned. The last remaining pillar of arms control, the New START Treaty — between the US and Russia – is set to expire in February 2026.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Russia currently holds roughly 5,459 nuclear warheads, followed by the US with 5,177, and China with about 600. Meanwhile, all three powers have been investing heavily in next-generation delivery systems such as hypersonic missiles, stealth bombers, and tactical nukes that blur the lines between conventional and nuclear warfare.

The danger is not just in numbers, but also in the posturing. Several nuclear states have increased the number of warheads "available for use," those actively deployed or on high alert. These are the weapons most vulnerable to miscalculation or accidental launch, capable of triggering catastrophe within seconds.

Amid this backdrop, Trump's call for testing threatens to unravel decades of painstaking progress toward nuclear restraint. It risks normalising the very behaviour that the international community has worked to outlaw. Moscow has already revoked its ratification of the CTBT, citing the need to maintain "parity" with Washington. If the US now proceeds with tests, Russia could quickly follow — and others, including China and North Korea, may see it as license to accelerate

The world's nuclear powers are investing in more accurate, longer-range, and faster systems of delivery mechanism while simultaneously abandoning the treaties that once restrained them. Trump's latest pronouncement, made without apparent consultation or clarity. threatens to accelerate this dangerous trajectory. The US was the first nation to test a nuclear bomb in 1945 — and remains the only country ever to use one in war with catastrophic consequences. To resume testing now would not only resurrect the ghosts of Hiroshima and Nagasaki but also imperil the fragile global consensus that has, for

WISDOM CORNER

Truth, like gold, is to be obtained not by its growth, but by washing away from it all that is not gold.

LEO TOLSTOY

Not only does God play dice, but... he sometimes throws them where they cannot be seen.

Human beings must be known to be loved; but Divine beings must be loved to be known.

BLAISE PASCAL

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1793:** Olympe de Gouges, a French social reformer considered one of the world's first feminists, was executed for her political views during the French Revolution.
- 1903: Influenced by Philippe-Jean Bunau-Varilla and U.S. interests, a revolutionary junta proclaimed Panamanian independence from Colombia. 1912: The Bulgarian siege of Adrianople began, a major event of the First Balkan War.
- 1956: The film The Wizard of Oz (1939) aired on television for the first time and was seen by an estimated 45 million viewers; its repeated airings on TV helped make the movie an enduring classic.
- **1957:** Laika launched into space. On this day in 1957, Laika, a stray dog picked up by the Soviet spaceflight program, became the first living creature to be launched into space and orbit Earth.
- **1978:** Dominica gains independence. The Caribbean Island nation gained its independence from the British after being colonized in 1805.
- **1998:** Bob Kane, who created (with Bill Finger) the comic-book characters Batman and Robin, died in Los Angeles.

EAT THE WATERMELONS

A farmer in the country has a watermelon patch and upon inspection he discovers that some of the local kids have been helping themselves to a feast. The farmer thinks of ways to discourage this profit-eating situation. So he puts up a sign that reads: "WARNING! ONE OF

THESE WATERMELONS CONTAINS

CYANIDE!' He smiled smugly as he watched kids run off the night without eating any of his melons. The farmer returns to the watermelon patch a week later to discover that none of the watermelons have been eaten, but finds another sign that reads: "NOW THERE ARE TWO!

FOCUS GEOPOLITICS

EMERGING REALIGNMENT

appear to be reshaping India's regional landscape, hinting at a subtle yet significant realignment of strategic interests. These shifts could mark the early stages of a new regional balance — one that may open fresh avenues for India and alter long-standing equations across Indo-Pacific, West and South Asia. The US decision to relax sanctions on Iran's Chabahar port for six months has revived India's long-stalled \$370 million project, strengthening its role in regional logistics and security Combined with a new 10-year defence pact with Washington, these moves point to a quiet reconfiguration of the Indo-Pacific and West and South Asian order on the sidelines of ASEAN defence ministers' meeting.

Together, these moves sig nal a recalibration of Washington's South Asia policy - one that appears to recognise India's pivotal role and extends cooperation well beyond trade or tariff disputes.

The significance of these developments cannot be overstated. The Chabahar relaxation comes at a time when the US-Taliban standoff over Bagram airbase remains unresolved and the global energy market is under stress from continuing instability in the Middle East. If these changes continue on their current trajectory, they could have lasting implications for the global strategic order - especially given the overlapping signals from Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump's Alaska dialogue, the Xi-Trump trade understanding on tariffs and rare-earth supplies, and the quiet thaw between India and China on limited trade and security matters.

During the ASEAN meeting, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh remarked that India



Chabahar remains the only Iranian entity explicitly exempted from US sanctions - an indicator of its unique place in American strategic calculations

"no longer remains China-focused," suggesting a broader approach to regional security. His statement came after talks with US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, where both sides reaffirmed a shared vision of peace, prosperity, and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

The Chabahar Port project lies at the heart of this emerging realignment. For Washington, it provides a controlled avenue to support Afghanistan's reconstruction without strengthening Pakistan's leverage. For New Delhi, it is a crucial instrument to counter Chinese and Pakistani influence in the region. Strategically located almost opposite Pakistan's Chinese-built Gwadar Port, Chabahar offers India a rare geopolitical advantage.

The port's inclusion in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) further boosts its relevance. It links India not only to Iran but also to Russia, Central Asia, and Europe via sea, rail, and road networks. Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, both landlocked. have expressed interest in using Chabahar as their gateway to the Indian Ocean Region, reinforcing India's status as a logistics hub for Eurasian trade. The Chabahar project, rooted in the 2016 India-Iran-Afghanistan Trilateral Agreement, gives India a vital overland route to Afghani-

stan—symbolising strategic

autonomy from China and

Pakistan's regional hold.

The US had previously revoked the Chabahar waiver in September 2025, exposing Indian entities like India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) to potential sanctions under the Iran Freedom and Counter-Proliferation Act (IFCA). The renewed relaxation, therefore, is both symbolic and strategic — an exception carved out for India amid an otherwise hostile US policy toward Tehran.

Notably, Chabahar remains the only Iranian entity explicitly exempted from US sanctions — an indicator of its unique place in American strategic calculations. Although not directly tied to Chabahar, the 10-year India-US Defence Pact represents a deeper phase of cooperation. The framework builds on the Security of Supply Arrangement signed in 2024, which allows both countries to request

materials from private suppliers in each other's markets.

In 2024, India-US trade stood at \$118.2 billion, with India enjoying a \$36.8 billion surplus – exporting \$77.5 billion and importing \$40.7 billion. However, the relationship remains textured: President Trump's imposition of 24% reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods, followed by a 25% penalty over New Delhi's Russian oil and defence purchases, reflects the persistent friction within an otherwise expanding partnership.

Analysts see these moves as part of a broader US recalibration in West and South Asia, where the search for reliable partners has grown urgent. The six-month sanction pause on Chabahar may not amount to a full policy reversal toward Iran, but it clearly indicates that Washington is ready to make selective exceptions for India when strategic imperatives demand flexibility.

In the long run, this could mark the beginning of a more pragmatic US regional strategy — one that looks beyond its traditional alliances with Israel and Pakistan and acknowledges the complexity of a multipolar Asia. For India, the developments reaffirm its growing ability to engage simultaneously with the US, Russia, Iran, and China, maintaining autonomy amid global rivalries.

For now, any US-Iran rapprochement remains distant. Relations between the two remain at their lowest point in decades, $clouded \ by \ deep \ mistrust, nuclear$ tensions, and the June 2025 military confrontations. Yet, both sides share overlapping interests — from ensuring Iran's stability $to\,combating\,extremist\,networks$ — that could, over time, provide a basis for limited cooperation.

Francesca Mascha

Klein & Laura Schäfer

IN THE ABSENCE

OF POLITICAL

LEGAL SYSTEM

HAS BECOME

A KEY DRIVER

OF CLIMATE

PROGRESS

WILL, THE

Shivaji Sarkar

THE US

DECISION

TO RELAX

SANCTIONS

ON IRAN'S

CHABAHAR

PORT FOR SIX

MONTHS HAS

REVIVED INDIA'S

STRENGTHENING

LOGISTICS AND

LONG-STALLED

\$370 MILLION

PROJECT.

ITS ROLE IN

REGIONAL

SECURITY

SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

Courts shaping future of climate action

tensions, pressure to comply with climate obligations increasingly comes from courts. Earlier this year, both the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) issued landmark advisory opinions affirming that countries must address climate change, and that failure to do so may carry serious legal consequences.

This renewed legal clarity comes at a critical moment. Last year was the hottest on record, with global average temperatures exceeding 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels, yet the gulf between the urgency of the climate threat and the policy response continues to widen. In the absence of political will, the legal system has become a key driver of climate progress. As the COP30 in Brazil approaches, the groundwork has been laid for stronger, fairer, and more accountable climate action. The most immediate implication of the ICJ and IACtHR opinions is that national climate plans - known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) – must reflect the "highest possible ambition" and be consistent with the 2015 Paris climate agreement's goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

temperatures are on track to rise by up to 3.1°C by the end of the century. Following the September deadline for new NDCs, only half of GHG emissions are covered by updated climate pledges, most of which fall well short of science-based targets.

The ICJ and IACtHR decisions, however, offer some cause for hope. At COP30, negotiators and civil-society representatives can push for ambitious measures, as noncompliance with the Paris agreement's temperature goals can be challenged not only in diplomatic forums but also in courts.

A rapid phaseout of coal, oil, and gas remains essential to effective climate action. But despite the so-called "UAE consensus" to move away from fossil fuels, many countries continue to obstruct progress. Here, too, the ICJ provides negotiators with new tools, explicitly recognizing that governments may he held liable for failure to reduce GHG emissions, including through fossil-fuel production, consumption, exploration, and subsidies. The legal shift is particularly evident in climate finance. For decades, developed countries have treated funding for climate adaptation and loss and damage as discretionary. Consequently, despite the establishment of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage at COP28, contributions remain far below what is needed.

The path forward is clear. The ICJ's opinion affirms that wealthy countries have a legally binding duty to support mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage efforts across the developing world. To meet these obligations, at least \$1.3 trillion must be mobilized annually by 2035, with dedicated provisions for loss and damage.

Crucially, the private sector is not being let off the hook. The ICJ, IACtHR, and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea have all recognized that governments must regulate corporations where necessary to protect the environment, safeguard the climate system, and uphold human rights.

At the same time, corporate accountability is taking shape in domestic courts. In a landmark decision, Germany's Higher Regional Court of Hamm ruled that large emitters can, in principle, be held liable for climate-related impacts. The case, brought by Peruvian farmer Saúl Luciano Lliuya, shows that individuals on the front lines of the climate crisis can force polluters to pay their fair share.

Remarkably, climate lawsuits, by plaintiffs ranging from indigenous groups in Canada to farmers in Korea, are already invoking the ICJ's reasoning

and a Brazilian court explicitly cited it when ordering a fossil project to cease operations.

Instead of waiting for the next court ruling, governments should now take steps to uphold the rule of law and assume responsibility for confronting the climate crisis. That means charting a credible path toward drastic emission cuts, accelerating the phaseout of fossil fuels, and ensuring that climate finance is effective, equitable, and fit for purpose. At COP30, international policymakers should harness the current legal momentum by proposing a global levy on fossil-fuel profits and high-emitting sectors, including shipping and aviation.

A decade after the Paris agreement, the world can no longer afford half-measures. Vanuatu has already announced plans to pursue a new UN resolution aimed at translating the ICJ's opinion into concrete political action. By supporting this initiative and acting decisively now, policymakers can build a global climate regime capable of delivering real solutions at the speed and scale this crisis demands.

Francesca Mascha Klein is Legal Officer at Germanwatch, Laura Schäfer is Head of the Division for International Climate Policy at Germanwatch. ©PROJECT SYNDICATE

Multiplier effect

Alarmingly, as of 2024, global

Sir, This refers to "GST registers 4.6% growth," Orissa Post, Nov 2. Despite a massive reduction in GST rates, the recent surge in GST collections marks a remarkable achievement for India's economy. This development signifies that the multiplier effect of the economy has worked efficiently, generating higher revenues even at lower tax rates. The Centre's strategic timing and calculated restructuring of the GST framework have proven to be a masterstroke—stimulating consumption, encouraging compliance, and widening the tax base. Businesses and consumers alike have benefited from the simplified tax regime, which has reduced costs and enhanced market efficiency. The buoyancy in collections also reflects increased formalisation of the economy, improved digital monitoring, and stronger administrative mechanisms. It highlights the success of reforms aimed at balancing growth with fiscal prudence. The steady rise in revenue despite lower rates confirms the resilience of India's macroeconomic structure, demonstrating that growth-led taxation can yield better outcomes than higher rates. This upward trajectory in GST performance not only reinforces confidence in India's economic governance but also establishes the nation as a model for progressive and sustainable fiscal reform.

N Sadhasiva Reddy, BANGALORE

Tipsy drivers

Sir, Even as a surge in drunk driving by bus drivers has been reported from across the country, the Maharashtra government has decided to install breath analysers near the driver's seat in all newly introduced state government buses. This is hoped to prevent tipsy drivers from operating the buses, a much needed relief for passengers. Random and surprise inspections of bus drivers and other staff are also being conducted. Employees under the influence of alcohol will face suspension. Patrolling of highways, to spot intoxicated drivers, is being done on a war-footing. That being said, the authorities need to curb convenient access and easy availability of alcohol. Abysmal fines and inconsistent punitive action have emboldened drunk drivers; strict and steady enforcement of the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act cannot be overstressed.

Ganapathi Bhat, AKOLA



TO THE EDITOR

are most welcome to contribute letters

requested to send their contact

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

suggestions, preferably by email, to:

Readers of Orissa Post

(100 words), articles and

words). Contributors are

numbers and full postal

columns (between 600-1000



TWO STATES





Lakhnawi food connoisseurs hail UNESCO recognition



Lucknow, Nov 2: It's 'der aaye, durust aave' for Lucknow, according to prominent chefs and food connoisseurs as they hailed the long overdue recognition for 'Lakhnawi cuisine' with the Uttar Pradesh capital officially inducted among the UNESCO creative cities for 'Gastronomy'.

It is also a validation of Lucknow's culinary traditions and rich history that have enchanted locals and visitors alike with the symphony of flavours that showcase a 'mini-India', they said.

"Better late than never. This recognition to Lucknow was expected. I think it is a very long delayed honour, which has come to Lucknow, because this is one city of India which is considered to be the Mecca of Gourmet," Pushpesh Pant, the president of Cuisine Society of India. told PTI

"Other cities may have equal claims. Some people may say Hyderabad or Delhi. But the fact of the matter is that there is a strong Lucknow connection everywhere, he said.

Pant said that Lucknow is not only an inheritor to Nawabi food, but is a melting pot of several vegetarian rural streams like "Bania, Khatri, Brahmin, as well as Dalit".

"It truly is mini-India, including Prabasi Bengali, Kashmiris and pre-partition Punjabis and Khatris," he said.

Prominent chef Ranveer Brar, who hails from Lucknow, said, "Der aaye, durust aaye. This recognition by UNESCO

This recognition by UN-**ESCO** was long overdue for Lucknow. It validates the

city's deep culinary heritage

and the love we hold for our

was long overdue for Lucknow. It validates the city's deep culinary heritage and the love we hold for our food."

"More importantly, it brings a sense of responsibility -- for every Lucknowite, including me, to elevate our hospitality and showcase our cuisine to the world with even greater pride and authenticity." he said.

Delving into the history of Lakhnawi cuisine and its influence, Pant said, "Lucknow food had a very deep impact on Delhi food, and it became more sophisticated and princely after being deeply influenced by Avadh. Before this, Mughal food was largely 'lashkari' (nomadic)."

"The Mughals never had a cuisine of their own, as they came from Central Asia. All this myth about Mughalai food and its development in Delhi is baseless and absurd," Pant said, and added that the Delhi food became 'khaane laayak (edible)' when Lucknow's influence entered into it.

Historical documents also state that it was Lucknow's food which came to Delhi, though the issue has been a bone of contention among experts.

"In the book Bazm-e-Aakhir by Munshi Faizuddin Dehlvi, he says about the final 'das-

cer Rajesh Kumar said Sunday

that approximately 100 tonnes

of scrap materials have been

used to create these sculptures,

which have been strategically

placed at major intersections

in Varanasi. These artworks.

created by fine arts students in

collaboration with the VDA and

BLW, are designed to enhance

A Nandi idol has been in-

stalled at the Varanasi Cantt station, which has become a ma-

the city's aesthetics.

both locals and tourists

BEAUTIFICATION DRIVE

Artworks made from scraps installed

across Varanasi to enhance aesthetics

Zafar. The menu consisted of typical Lakhnayi foods ranging from 'dumpukht' (food cooked using steam and raw spices) and 'do pyaajaa'," Pant said.

The refined nature in the Delhi food came from Lucknow. He said that after the death of Emperor Aurangzeb, "no

Mughal emperor stayed in Delhi for 40 years. All the weak Mughal emperors (except Bahadur Shah Zafar) took shelter in Avadh when they were harassed by Nadir Shah, Ahmed Shah Abdali, Marathas and Jats. At that time, they acquired the taste of Lakhnavi food. When they came back to Delhi, they took the chefs (baavarchis) with them.'

Himanshu Bajpai, a storyteller and author, said Lakhnavi food, which was already known across the globe, will further cement its place among the food connoisseurs with this recog-

"As a Lucknowite, we know about the various culinary delights of Lucknow, their relevance and their importance. The award will definitely give spontaneous happiness to us, but the bigger takeaway is that the Lakhnavi food, which was already known across the globe, will further cement its place

among the food connoisseurs. "People from far and wide will now evince more interest in Lakhnavi food," Bajpai said.

Navneet Sehgal, Chairman of Prasar Bharati, who had been a district magistrate of Lucknow and was a senior bureaucrat, told PTI, "It is great... it is a recognition of the culinary traditions and rich history in serving various dishes for the palate of millions of food lovers.

Sehgal also congratulated the then Divisional Commissioner of Lucknow, Roshan Jacob, for "putting in untiring efforts" and also the Tourism department.

"Under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath ji, the law and order situation has improved a lot and many tourists are visiting UP and Lucknow for the culinary ex-

Kerala offers free bus travel for cancer patients

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 2: The KSRTC said it has issued an order granting free travel to cancer patients for treatment-related journeys to any hospital within the state.

Earlier the Transport Minister KB Ganesh Kumar had announced plans to introduce

According to the order issued by Kerala State Road Transport Corporation Chairman and Managing Director Pramoj Sanker October 29, cancer patients can now travel free of cost on KSRTC buses-from or-

dinary to superfast servicesfor chemotherapy, radiation, and other treatment-related

According to the order, eligible patients must apply for a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) card through the website keralartcit.com.

Applicants are required to upload a passport-size photograph, a copy of their Aadhaar card, proof of residential ad-

Education reality show to

Once the documents are verified by the KSRTC headquarters, the RFID card will be delivered to the applicant's residence by the respective unit officer, the order said.

The corporation also warned that if any of the submitted medical documents are found to be fake, legal action would be initiated and the card would

Previously, cancer patients travelling to the Regional Cancer Centre (RCC) were eligible for a 50 per cent concession on KSRTC's ordinary and city ser

This fourth edition follows

In the third edition of

Haritha Vidyalayam, the first

prize of Rs 20 lakh was jointly

won by Govt HS Odappallam

from Wayanad and GUPS Pu

rathur from Malappuram, and

was presented by Chief Minis

ter Pinarayi Vijayan, the state

A total of 100 schools

will be selected for the pre-

liminary round from the

pool of applicants. "KITE

will undertake video docu-

mentation of these select

ed schools. Furthermore

schools chosen for this

round will be provided with

a maximum of Rs 20,000 to

cover costs related to their

presentation, travel, and ac

commodation," Sadath said

The programme will be tele

cast on KITE VICTERS ed

ucational channel starting

ment further said.

At public grievance meet. officials find out police land encroached since '92

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mathura (UP), Nov 2: Senior officials at a public grievance hearing in Mathura were in for a rude surprise when two police officials came to them with a complaint of land en-

While land grab is not unusual, the case stands out as the property was allotted for the construction of police quarters 33 years back, according to

Mathura District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh and Senior Superintendent of Police Shlok Kumar were told that police have failed to clear the alleged encroachment during a 'Sampoorna Samadhan Diwas' held in Mant tehsil to hear public grievances.

Superintendent of Police (Rural) Suresh Chand Rawat said the police department is taking necessary action in the matter.

The DM and SSP were informed that in 1992, the then head of Mant Mula village. Lahari Shankar Rawat, had allotted more than three acres of land on the main road to the gram panchavat for the construction of police quarters, according to locals present at the grievance hearing.

The SSP expressed his displeasure with the two officials and said, "When police are unable to vacate their own land. how can the common man expect any relief from them?"

spotlight school excellence

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 2: Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) is set to launch the fourth edition of its unique-in-India educational reality show, 'Haritha Vidyalayam,' this December.

KITE is the technical arm of the state General Education

Haritha Vidyalayam is a pioneering initiative aims to showcase the achievements and best practices of the state's public education sector on a national platform, officials said in a statement here Sunday.

Government and aided schools are invited to apply for this edition by November 15

Applications are sought separately for primary schools and high school/higher secondary school categories.

K Anvar Sadath, CEO, KITE. said schools will be selected for the preliminary round based on various crucial parameters, including academic and co-curricular activities, infrastructural facilities, social participation, digital education integration, recognised accolades, and unique, innovative school-specific activities.

"The primary objective of the program is to recognise creative and exemplary work carried out by schools, bring

the successful shows conducted in 2010, 2017, and 2022.

of the program is to

exemplary work carried out by schools, bring them to the public's attention, share these successful models with other institutions, and ultimately raise the overall standard of public education

K ANVAR SADATH | CEO, KITE

them to the public's attention, share these successful models with other institutions, and ultimately raise the overall standard of public education," This platform will facilitate

discussions on the comprehensive advancements implemented by the Education Department within the public education sector, he said. "It is a deserved recognition for Kerala's schools, which now

He further said special awards selected for the final round and to the ultimate winners during the Grand Finale in February 2026, the statement added.

from the end of December. will be presented to the 10 schools provide state-of-the-art physical facilities, excellent academic support, and technology-based

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C). **DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES, ODISHA, CUTTACK** E-MAIL: eefedcuttack@gmail.com

Bid identification No. 1863/Dt.28.10.2025// 04 (FOUR) Number of works

No. of works Rs 92 92 Lakhs

Approximate Estimated Cost Class of Contractor Manufacturer/Supplier

Name of Office inviting Bid

Date of Sale & Receipt

Dt.15.11.2025 (Working days only) Dt.17.11.2025 at 11:00 A.M

Executive Engineer (C), Directorate of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack

45 (FORTY-FIVE) Calendar days.

Dt.04.11.2025 to 2.00 P.M. of

Further details can be seen in the bidding documents & can be down loaded from the Government of Odisha website (http://www.odisha.gov in). Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof Sd./- Executive Engineer (C)

CHILIKA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PLOT NO.493(P), PALASPALLI, POKHARIPUT ROAD BHUBANESWAR-751020, ODISHA

OIPR-

Directorate of Fisheries. Odisha, Cuttack

jor attraction for both tourists and residents. Similarly, nine idols representing traditional dance styles from various Indian states have been placed in the Nadesar area, attracting Women collect damaged wheat crops at a waterlogged field after heavy rainfall, in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh

A teacher's global classroom for Malayalam poetry

SARASAMMA TEACHER'S POPULAR YOUTUBE ACCOUNT. 'KAVITHARAMAM' WITH AROUND 1.30.000 SUBSCRIBERS. IS ONE OF HER NEW CLASSROOMS FOR SHARING THE LANGUAGE'S POETRY WITH LOVERS OF VERSE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Varanasi (UP), Nov 2: In a bid

to beautify the city, unique art-

works made from scrap materials have been installed at vari-

ous crossroads and prominent

locations, through the joint

efforts of Banaras Locomotive

Works (BLW) and the Varanasi

Development Authority (VDA).

BLW Public Relations Offi-

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 2: Sarasamma Teacher, 80, is neither a poet nor an author, but something perhaps more vital -- a devoted conduit for Malayalam poems, ensuring they flow to a new generation.

In her retirement, she has defied her age, turning to You-Tube and other online platforms to bring this rich literary tradition to a modern, global audience.

Her popular YouTube ac-'Kavitharamam' with count, around 1.30.000 subscribers. is one of her new classrooms for sharing the language's poetry with lovers of verse from all walks of life. The teacher is already a well-known figure among the children who compete in the State School Kalolsavam in Malayalam poem recitation: she says most of the participants render the poems they have learnt from her You-

"More than 75 singers have recited poems on my YouTube channel as it is growing in popularity. Both children and adults recite the poems for my viewers," Sarasamma Teacher told PTI Videos.

Her YouTube channel features recitations of close to 500 poems drawn from the works of famous Malayalam poets.

She was honoured by the Kerala chief minister for her contributions in encouraging the Malayalam language during the Official Language Week celebrations in the State Secretariat November 1, Kerala's 69th birthday.

Hailing from Elanji in Ernakulam district, her passion for Malayalam poetry started during her school days. After she became a teacher.

she continued teaching children Malayalam poems, introducing the great Malayalam poets to the vounger generation.

"After retirement, I started having poetry classes at my house. I had a good number of children coming to me for help with reciting poems for competitions. But the classes had to be discontinued when COVID-19 struck," the teacher said.

She said it was then her children came to her aid, teaching her how to launch online classes and start a YouTube channel.

"I only knew how to take calls and speak on the smartphone. But then my children taught me the wide possibilities of the smartphone, and I started conducting my classes online.' the Teacher said.

Now, Sarasamma Teacher has

a committee that selects poems to be presented on the YouTube channel, as many new writers want their poems to be featured. "Our committee goes through the poems in detail and selects only those that are of high quality and have literary merit," she said.

The government identified her contributions in popularising Malayalam poems, both old and new, at a time when poetry is slowly being sidelined by readers of literature.

She was honoured at a ceremony in the famous Darbar Hall of the Kerala Secretariat, alongside Dr M M Basheer, a noted linguist, critic, and writer.

In his speech, Chief Minister Vijayan said Sarasamma teacher has been training children and interested adults across generations in art forms such as Aksharaslokam, Kavyakeli, and Kavyalapanam.

Supported by her husband PN Kesavan Nair, who is also a Malayalam teacher and writer, Sarasamma Teacher vows to continue her good work as she feels poetry is the most important and beautiful form of literature available, rating it higher than novels and short stories.

e-PROCUREMENT Tender Call Notice No.1580/CDA/2025 Dtd.29.10.2025 01. Name of the Work Renovation of Scientist's Hostel at WRTC, Chandraput. Rs.29,08,170.00 (Excluding GST) 2 (Two) Calendar Months Estimated Cost Period of Completion 31.10.2025 at 11.00 A.M. to Date & Time of availability 15.11.2025 upto 5.00 P.M. of Bid document in the 15.11.2025 upto 5.00 P.M. Last Date/Time for submission of Bids in the On 17.11.2025 at 11.30 AM in 06. Date & Time of opening the O/o the Chief Executive, Chilika Development Authority, Plot No.493(P), Palaspalli, Bhubaneswar- 751020 Name and Address of the Addl. Chief Executive, Chilika Development Authority, Odis ha, Bhubaneswar, Plot No.493 (P), Palaspalli, Pokhariput Road, Bhubaneswar-751020 from the e-procurement portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in". Adden-

dum/ Corrigendum if required will be available only in the Website e-Procurement portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in Sd./- Addl. Chief Executive **Chilika Development Authority**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA E.Mail- rw sundargarh@yahoo.co.in OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS DIVISION, SUNDARGARH **E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

BID IDENTIFICATION NO.ONLINE-SESNG-15 OF 2025-26

No.O-1275:1. Name of the Work: Road Works, 2. Total No. of Works: 08 Nos Road, 3.Estimated Cost Rs.8.01 Lakhs to Rs.48.14 Lakhs. 4. Class of Contractor:- 'B', 'C' & 'D', 5. Period of Completion: 01 Calendar Months. 6. Type of Tender: Single Cover. 7. Other details:

Procurement	Bid	Availability of Tend	er on-line for bidding		
Officer	Identification No.	From	То		
1	2	3	4		
Executive Engineer,	Online-SESNG-15 of	04.11.2025	17.11.2025		
Rural Works Division, Sundargarh	2025-26	11.00 A.M.	05.00 P.M.		
Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in					

Sd./- Executive Engineer Rural Works Division, Sundargarh

national



Since the EC has not accepted our request to hold the SIR of electoral rolls after the 2026 Assembly polls, by giving adequate time to carry out revisions without confusions and doubts, we have passed a resolution in today's all party meeting to approach the Supreme Court

CABLE CAR PROJECT **IN PAHALGAM**

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has given its nod to the Jammu and Kashmir government for a cable car project in Baisaran in the tourist resort of Pahalgam, the site of the April 22 terror attack, officials said Sunday



of district judges did not ditioners. We have approved

that too. It is no longer a luxury but a necessity. If ever the Bar gets angry, the cool air from the Bench's AC may help calm things down a bit

YOGI ADITYANATH | UP CM

The BJP-led Centre has issued a 'Nader Shahi farman' (decree of **Emperor Nader** Shah), which

is totally against Punjab and its rights. The notification to dissolve the Panjab University's Senate is totally unconstitu-

BHAGWANT MANN PUNJAB CM



model' to fight Type I diabetes a global model to emulate. Recently, Harvard Medical School Associate Professor Gene Bukhman, considered an authority on non-communicable diseases, visited our SSKM Hospital and appreciated the

MAMATA BANERJEE | WB CM

SHORT **TAKES**

Wolf shot dead in Bahraich

Patna: A female wolf was shot dead by forest department after a 15-month-old girl was suspected to have been attacked by the wild animal while she was sleeping beside her mother in the courtyard of their home in Kandauli village of Kaiserganj tehsil. The girl, Shanvi, was snatched by the animal at 5 am Sunday. Based on the footprints found in the area, the animal was suspected to be a wolf, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Ram Singh Yadav said.

29 injured as tempo overturns in Shimla

Shimla: Twenty-nine people were injured when their tempo traveller overturned in Kumarsain, about 81 kilometres from here, in the early hours of Sunday, police said. Barring the driver, all the other injured are Nepalese nationals, police said. The incident occurred around 1 am, when the tempo traveller was on its way to the Nepal border in Rupaidiha in Uttar Pradesh's Bahraich.

10-vear-old Dailt girl raped in UP

Mathura: A 10-year-old Dalit girl was allegedly raped in a village in the Mathura district, police said Sunday. The incident took place Saturday when the survivor and her sister were washing clothes near a well in their village, police said. The elder sister left early, after which two men arrived and allegedly took the younger sister on their bike to a nearby temple, where they allegedly raped her, according to police.

2 killed as car crashes into Metro station pillar

Pune: Two persons were killed and one was seriously injured after their speeding car rammed into the pillar of a Metro station in Maharashtra's Pune city early Sunday, police said. The incident took place at around 4.30 am in Bund Garden area, an official from Koregaon Park police station said. "A car hit a pillar of Bund Garden Metro station. As per the primary information, two persons in the car died while the third person sustained serious injuries," senior police inspector Sangita

Jadhav said.

Bus, truck collision kills 15 in Rajasthan

Jaipur, Nov 2: At least 15 peo ple, including 10 women and four children, died and two others were injured when a tempo traveller rammed into a stationary trailer truck in Rajasthan's Phalodi area Sunday evening, police said.

The incident occurred near Matoda village on the Bharat Mala Highway when the tempo traveller was carrying devotees from Bikaner's Kolayat temple to Jodhpur, said Jodhpur Police Commissioner Om Prakash. "Fifteen passengers died on

the spot, while two women sustained serious injuries. The injured were first taken to a hospital in Osian and later referred to Jodhpur," the officer said. Prime Minister Narendra

Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives in the incident and announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh from the PM's National Relief Fund for the next of kin of each deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured. According to officials, all vic-

tims were residents of Nainchi Bagh near Chandpol Bada Ramdevra in Jodhpur.

They were returning from Bikaner's Kolayat temple after offering prayers at the Kapil Muni Ashram on the occasion of Devuthani Ekadashi, they said.

The accident occurred about 80 km ahead of Jodhpur.

Mahipal Saran, a witness to the accident, said small roadside eateries had been set up along the Bharat Mala Highway. "The trailer was parked in front of one of those eateries. The tempo traveller, running at high speed, was trying to overtake a truck when it suddenly rammed into the stationary



Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives in the incident and announced an ex gratia of ₹2 lakh from the PM's **National Relief Fund** for the next of kin of each deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured

trailer," he said.

The impact of the collision was so severe that the front portion of the tempo traveller was completely crushed.

Osian sub-district hospital in-charge Dr Pradeep Singh Choudhary said all bodies were sent to Jodhpur's Mathuradas Mathur and Mahatma Gandhi hospitals for post-mortem, which will be conducted Monday morning.

Condoling the deaths, PM Modi, in a post on X, said, "Saddened by the loss of lives in the accident in Phalodi, Rajasthan. My condolences are with the bereaved families. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured." He announced that an ex gra-

tia of Rs 2 lakh from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund would be given to the next of kin of each deceased, while the injured would receive Rs 50,000 each.

Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma also expressed deep sorrow over the tragedy and directed officials to ensure all possible assistance to the victims' families and proper medical care for the injured.

Former chief minister Ashok Gehlot offered condolences, say ing the incident was extremely tragic. Other leaders, including Union Minister Gaiendra Singh Shekhawat, Health Minister Gajendra Singh, and former CM Vasundhara Raje, also expressed grief over the tragic

SC to hear stray dogs case today

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi. Nov 2: The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear November 3 the case concerning stray dogs in which it had directed the chief secretaries of all the states and Union Territories, except West Bengal and Telangana, to remain pres-

While hearing the matter October 27, the top court had directed the chief secretaries to remain present before it November 3 to explain why compliance affidavits were not filed despite the court's August

The apex court August 22 asked the states and UTs about the steps being taken for compliance of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules.

The matter is slated to come up for hearing Monday before a three-judge special bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and N V Anjaria. On October 31, the top court refused to exempt the chief secretaries of states and UTs from appearing before it physically November 3, saying there was "no respect" for the court's order. The bench had expressed displeasure over the non-compliance of its August 22 order and observed that by October 27, compliance affidavits were not filed by the states and UTs, except West Bengal, Telangana and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). If had made clear that the chief secretaries would have to appear in the court and explain as to why no compliance affidavits were filed by them. The bench had said when the matter was taken up for hearing October 27. compliance affidavits were filed only by West Bengal, Telangana and MCD. On October 27, the top court had slammed the states and UTs, which had not filed their compliance affidavits in the matter, and said continuous incidents were happening and the country was being "shown as down" in foreign nations.

DULAR DEATH CASE

Bihar Police arrests Anant Singh, 2 others

Patna. Nov 2: Former Bihar MLA Anant Singh, the JD(U) candidate from the Mokama seat, was arrested early Sunday in connection with the murder of Jan Suraaj supporter Dular Chand Yadav, police said.

Singh has been under the scanner since the death of Yadav, who recently clashed with his sympathisers, and was picked up from his house in Barh, about 200 km from the state capital, Patna.

Police also arrested two other persons, Manikant Thakur and Ranjeet Ram, in connection with the killing of Yadav. All three will be produced

before a court during the day. Yadav died while he was campaigning for Jan Suraaj Party's candidate Piyush Priyadarshi in Patna's Mokama area Thursday.

The incident had taken place close to the Bhadaur and Ghoswari police stations in the Mokama area.

Addressing a late-night joint press conference with Patna District Magistrate Thyagarajan S M, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Patna. Kartikeva Sharma, said, 'Police have arrested three persons — Anant Singh, Manikant Thakur and Ranjeet Ram – in connection with the murder of Dular Chand Yadav." According to Yadav's

of cardiorespiratory failure due to shock caused by injury to the heart and lungs by a hard and blunt substance, the SSP said. Investigations also revealed

post-mortem report, he died

that all three were present at the time of the incident, Sharma said. "They have been arrested as part of a police investigation into the murder



Singh has been under the scanner since the death of Yadav, who recently clashed with his sympathisers, and was picked up from his house in Barh

of Yadav. A total of four FIRs, one pertaining to the violation of the model code of conduct, have been registered by the police to investigate the incident," the SSP said, adding that Singh was named in one of the FIRs. Singh, a local strongman.

has been named as an accused along with four others in one of the FIRs, filed on the basis of a complaint by the grandson of Yadav, a gangster-turned-politician who was named in a number of criminal cases. Singh, the multiple-term for

mer MLA, whose wife Neelam Devi currently represents the Mokama seat, has also been booked for model code of conduct violation, as instances of his movement in large cavalcades have come to the fore.

When asked about the kill ing of Yadav, Singh had ad mitted to a clash between his supporters and the deceased. but also sought to put the blame on Suraj Bhan, his old rival in the underworld and local politics, whose wife Veena Devi is contesting the seat on an RJD ticket.

Family targeted: Ex CJI Ramana reveals attempts to 'coerce' him



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Amaravati, Nov 2: Former Chief Justice of India N V Ramana has said that cases were filed against his family members to "coerce" him.

Addressing the VIT-AP University 5th Convocation, Justice Ramana, without taking the previous YSRCP regime's name, said even members of the judiciary who upheld the constitutional principles faced pressure and persecution. Families of judges who had no role became collateral to political organisations. "All of you present, most of you present here, know how my family was targeted and criminal cases were filed against them. All this was

done only to coerce me, and I was not alone. During that difficult phase, all those who empathised with the cause of the farmers faced intimidation and coercion," he said Saturday.

ring to the farmers' agitation against then YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's government for scrapping Amaravati as the sole capital of Andhra Pradesh and espousing "three capitals" formula with Visakhapatnam being the Administrative capital, Amaravati-Legislative capital

and Kurnool-Judicial capital. In such times, when many political leaders hesitated to take a stance or remain silent, it was the jurists, lawyers, and the courts of this country who stood by their constitutional

promise, he further said. While governments may change, the courts and rule of law remain the anchor of stability. And the rule of law survives only when people repose their public trust, decline to surrender their integrity for convenience, he said.

health significance.

The top five pathogens detect-

ed were Influenza A in acute

respiratory infection (ARI)/

severe acute respiratory in-

fections (SARI cases), dengue

virus among acute fever and

haemorrhagic fever cases, Hep-

atitis A in jaundice cases, Noro-

virus in among acute diarrheal

disease (ADD) outbreaks and

Herpes simplex virus (HSV) in

Acute Encephalitis Syndrome

(AES) cases.

search (ICMR)

Naxal-affected districts down to 38, LWE to 11

in April, with only four 'districts of concern' and three 'most affected districts' remaining.

The evaluation is undertaken as part of the 'National Policy and Action Plan to Address Left Wing Extremism (LWE) 2015'. in which the central and state governments work together to tackle the menace. The latest categorisation was notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) October 15. Official records and sources in the security establishment told PTI that a "marked improvement" was recorded in the insurgency theatre and hence the number of districts covered under the Security-Related Expenditure (SRE) has come down to 38 now from



46 April 1. The SRE is a top-level LWE policy scheme under which the Centre provides financial assistance to states to fight the

The SRE districts are further categorised into 'LWE-affected districts' and 'Legacy and

according to the sources. The number of LWE-affected districts has dropped to 11 from 18 in April and they are sub-categorised as 'most affected districts', 'districts of concern' and 'other LWE-affected districts'.

gorisation, only three 'most affected districts' remain, down from six April 1. This sub-category under the LWE-affected districts was created in 2015 with 35 districts to ensure "focused" deployment of resources.

The four 'districts of concern' are Kanker in Chhattisgarh, West Singhbhum in Jharkhand, Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh and Gadchiroli in Maharashtra.

Districts put under this head are those where Naxal influence is waning but focused development of resources is still required. In April, four out of the six districts were removed from this category and two were added after the review, the sources said.

Teachers put scorpion in Dalit boy's pants

Shimla, Nov 2: Three teachers of a government school in Shimla, including the headmaster, have been booked for repeatedly assaulting an eight-year-old Dal it boy and placing a scorpion in his pants, police said Sunday.

In a police complaint, the fa ther of the boy -- a Class 1 student of Government Primary School at Khaddapani area in Rohru sub-division of Shimla district -- accused headmaster Devendra and teachers Babu Ram and Kritika Thakur of fre quently physically assaulting his son for almost a year. The complainant said that continuous beating caused the child's ear to bleed and damaged his eardrum. Following the complaint, police have registered a case under Sections 127(2) (wrongful confinement), 115(2) (voluntarily causing hurt) 351(2) (criminal intimidation). 3(5) (criminal acts in further ance of a common intent) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and for cruelty towards a child under the Juvenile Justice Act

The spread of infectious diseases rose from 10.7 per cent in the first quarter to 11.5 per cent in the second quarter of 2025, according to the report by the Indian Council of Medical Research

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 2: Pathogens were found in 11.1 per cent of the 4.5 lakh patients tested by the network of labs under the Indian Council of Medical Research as part of efforts to identify viral infections of public

Justice Ramana was refer-New Delhi, Nov 2: The latest review of categorisation of Naxal violence-affected districts in the country saw their number come According to the latest catedown to 38 in nine states from 46

internal security problem.

Thrust Districts'

The Naxal violence and influence graph has seen a dip under all these heads following aggressive action by security forces as part of the Union government's declaration to end Naxalism by March 2026.

1 in 9 tested positive for infectious disease: ICMR

need for stronger monitoring of

According to a senior scien-

infection trends.

rus (EBV) and astrovirus were

tist while this increase may not appear large, it should not be underestimated - it could serve as a warning for seasonal diseases and emerging infections. If we continue tracking quar-

terly changes in infection rates, future epidemics could be prevented in time. The VRDL network acts as an early warning system for the country.

The ICMR report found that between April and June this year, 191 disease cluster were investigated and infectious diseases such as mumps, measles, rubella, dengue, chikungunya, rotavirus, norovirus, varicella

identified. Between January and March.

389 disease clusters were inves tigated and infectious diseases such as mumps, measles, rubella, hepatitis, dengue, chikungunya, rotavirus, influenza, Leptospira, Varicella zoster vi rus and Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) were identified.

From 2014-2024, more than 40 lakh samples were tested with pathogen identified in 18.8 per cent.

The VRDLN expanded from 27 laboratories in 2014 to 165 laboratories across 31 states and UTs by 2025. Through this network, 2.534 disease clusters have been identified across the country so far.

The spread of infectious diseases rose from 10.7 per cent in the first quarter to 11.5 per cent search and Diagnostic Laboin the second quarter of 2025, ratories (VRDL) network of according to the report by the ICMR, between January and Indian Council of Medical Re-March, out of 2,28,856 samples, 24,502 (10.7 per cent) were According to the Virus Re-

from April to June 2025, 26,055 (11.5 per cent) out of 2,26,095 samples tested positive. Thus, the infection rate rose by 0.8 percentage points over the found to contain pathogens previous quarter, signalling the

zoster virus, Epstein-Barr vi-

national



Carbolic acid has been poured in the pits to drive out the snakes who will be caught and deported. The EC has applied the right medicine through SIR

KASHI TO CELEBRATE DEV DEEPAWALI NOVEMBER 5

Preparations are being made to celebrate Dev Deepawali in Kashi November 5, when millions of lamps will be lit on the city's ghats, lakes and ponds, the Uttar Pradesh government said Sunday





Every district local realities. The an opportunity to identify such scalable and replicable models that can inspire cross-learning and guide policy improvement across states

ASHOK KK MEENA I DDWS SECRETARY

Had a very productive meeting with Hon'ble Minister Shri @Ashwini-Vaishnaw Ji this morning... We



HIMANTA BISWA SARMA | ASSAM CM

With this initiative, the no longer need to visit various to obtain key infor-



SUKHVINDER SINGH SUKHU | HIMACHAL PRADESH CM





spray water near AOI monitoring centres to manipulate data, it took real action and declared a climate emergency, declared a war footing action plan on pollution. What is stopping Delhi from doing it when it now has a 4 engine BJP govt?

@RoshanKrRaii

SHORT **TAKES**

UP boat accident: **Toll rises to three**

Bahraich (UP): Two bodies were recovered Sunday evening, four days after a boat capsized in the Kaudiyala river near Bharathapur village here, taking the death toll to three, officials said. According to police, six villagers are still missing after the boat carrying 22 people overturned in the river Wednesday evening. Thirteen passengers were rescued that night, while the body of a 60-year-old woman was recovered earlier. The bodies of boatman Shivnandan (50) and a passenger, Suman (28), were found by National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams about three to four kilometres downstream, near the Lakhimpur district border.

PM Modi to inaugurate ESTIC

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first Emerging Science and Technology Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2025 November 3 and launch a mega fund to promote private sector-driven research and development in the country, an official statement said Sunday. ESTIC is billed as a flagship event of the government in the field of science and technology, and will be held every year.

Top woman **Naxal surrenders**

Balaghat/Bhopal: A woman Naxalite carrying a reward of ₹14 lakh on her head surrendered in Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh, a police official said Sunday. Sunita laid down arms on November 1 before Rupendra Dhurve, assistant commander of Hawk Force, a specialised anti-Naxal unit of the MP police, he added.

Air quality worsens in national capital

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 2: Delhi's air quality worsened Sunday as weak winds trapped pollutants, raising the overall AQI to 366 in the "very poor" category with three monitoring stations recording readings above 400 in the "severe" category, Centre Pollution Control Board data showed.

The PM2.5 concentration stood at 189.6 micrograms per cubic metre and PM10 at 316. PM2.5 refers to fine inhalable particles with diameters that are 2.5 micrometres or smaller, while PM10 includes slightly larger particles up to 10 micrometres in diameter, as per CPCB. At such levels, these pol-

lutants can cause breathing discomfort, especially among people with lung or heart diseases, children and the elderly.

The overall AQI rose sharply from 303 recorded a day earlier, CPCB data showed.

Neighbouring cities in the National Capital Region (NCR) also reported "very poor" air quality -- Ghaziabad (351), Gurugram (357), Noida (348) and Greater Noida (340). Faridabad, however, recorded a "poor" AQI of 215.

According to the Air Quality Early Warning System (AQEWS) for Delhi, the wind speed dropped below 8 kmph from the northwest direction during the evening and night hours, reducing the disper-

RJD pointed a 'katta' at Cong's head: Modi

Arrah/ Nawada, Nov 2: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday claimed that the Congress had been unwilling to accept Tejashwi Yadav as the INDIA bloc's chief ministerial candidate and relented only after the RJD pointed a "katta" an unlicensed country-made gun, at its head.

The PM made the statement on the campaign trail in Bihar, where he addressed backto-back rallies in Bhojpur and Nawada districts, and highlighted the RJD's reputation for alleged strong-arm tactics and its troubled equations with alliance partners.

"The Congress never wanted to announce the chief ministerial candidate in favour of the RJD. The RJD secured it by placing a 'katta' on the head of the Congress. They have learnt their lessons in the school of 'jungle raj'. Such elements can never do good for Bihar," he alleged. Modi said Congress wanted to defeat the RJD in the Bihar polls, and urged people to wait for the second phase of polling to be over November 11 to see them fighting".

Without mentioning Congress leader Rahul Gandhi or Yadav by name, the PM said. "The crown prince of 'jungle raj' has been wary that the 'Vot-



'yuvraaj' may be denting his own prospects. Hence, the RJD has put up its candidate against the state president of the Congress. Let the polls be over. The two allies will be breaking each other's heads." The allusion was to the reserved Kutumba seat where the RJD had reportedly planned to field a candidate against sitting MLA and state Congress president Rajesh Kumar. Although the RJD decided against doing so, the two allies have ended up in "friendly fights" at a number of places.

The PM also predicted a "record victory" for the ruling NDA, which would continue providing a government that was "upright" and "foresighted" and build a "developed Bihar" that was necessary for "Viksit Bharat". "'Jungle raj wallahs' are set to get the worst drubbing in history. The people of Bihar have not forgotten the 'jungle raj'," he added. The PM, who

huge turnouts, said, "Analysts sitting in Delhi, who are racking their brains over poll arithmetic. would do well to come here and experience for themselves which way the wind is blowing".

Modi said the manifesto released by the NDA last week was honest and put forth a vision for the future, unlike the charter of promises of the INDIA bloc which was "a dossier of lies". He also envisaged a future in which people of the state will not migrate under economic compulsions and "the youth of Bihar will work in Bihar and make their motherland proud".

Listing the achievements of the NDA government in the state, he said, "The condition of power connectivity was such that people used to dry clothes on electrical wires, but we changed it.

"Modi also helped open bank accounts for small farmers who have been ignored since Independence," he said.

ISRO's 'Bahubali' rocket launches heaviest satellite

Pradesh), Nov 2: The heaviest communication satellite to be launched from the Indian soil onboard a new generation. homegrown 'Bahubali' rocket was successfully placed into the intended orbit Sunday, ISRO said.

The communication satellite CMS-03, weighing 4,410 kg was flown on a LVM3-M5 rocket enabling the Indian space agency accomplish this rare feat. CMS-03 is a multi-band communication satellite and would provide services over a wide oceanic region including the Indian landmass, according to ISRO.

The satellite was placed in the desired Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO). It is also a replacement to the GSAT 7 series, launched in 2013, ISRO Chairman V Narayanan said the launch vehicle successfully injected the communication satellite in the required orbit.

The "4410 kg satellite is precisely injected," he said. In his address from the Mission Control Center post launch, he described the LVM 3 satellite as 'Bahubali,' in an apparent reference to its heavylift capability. He recalled that the rocket's previous launch was the "most prestigious Chandrayaan 3 which brought pride to nation."

It achieved "yet another pride" Sunday after succeeding with the "heavier satellite."

All the eight LVM 3 launches, including its experimental



mission, have been successful showing a 100 per cent success rate. The satellite was designed to provide communication ser vices for at least 15 years and is "yet another shining example of Atmanirbhar Bharat" (self-re liant India)," Narayanan, also Secretary, Department of Space added. The ISRO scientists had a tough time with the mission since the weather was not coop erative, but they worked hard and ensured success, he said.

Prior to Sunday's launch, the Indian space agency has been utilising the services of Kourou launch base in French Guiana by Ariane rockets offered by France-based Arianespace, for launching heavier satellites.

On December 5, 2018 ISRO had launched its heaviest communication satellite GSAT-11 weighing 5,854 kg, onboard an Ariane-5 VA 246 rocket from French Guiana LVM3-M5, a three stage launch vehicle with two solid motor strap-ons (S200), a liquid propellant core stage (L110) and a cryogenic stage (C25) gives ISRO full self-reliance in launching heavi er communication satellites that

President lauds 64% female graduates at Patanjali varsity

ship of women," the President

said, adding that it represents

the continuation of India's an-

cient tradition, where promi-

nent women like Gargi, Mai-

treyi, Apala, and Lopamudra

played vital intellectual and

women, who make up 50 per

cent of India's 1.4 billion pop-

ulation, are integral to the country's growth. "To develop

India by 2047, we need the full

participation of both sons and

daughters. If only sons strive

and daughters lag behind, the

dream of a developed India will

remain unfulfilled," she said.

sity's contribution to the pro-

motion of yoga, Ayurveda, and

naturopathy, Murmu remarked

that the university is playing a

pivotal role in preserving and

advancing India's ancient cul-

Praising Patanjali Univer-

The President asserted that

spiritual roles



Dehradun/Haridwar, Nov 2: President Draupadi Murmu Sunday emphasised the need for collective cooperation of the entire nation, including women, to realise the vision of a developed India by 2047.

Speaking as the chief guest at the second convocation ceremony of Patanjali University, Murmu highlighted the significant role women are playing in the educational landscape.

Murmu expressed her delight at the fact that 62 per cent of the students at Patanjali University and 64 per cent of the graduates at the convocation were girls.

Notably, the number of female students receiving medals was four times greater than that of their male counterparts.

"This is not just a statistic: it symbolises the progress of a developed India under the leader-

President noted that by choosing to study at a university that blends modern education with Indian cultural values, they have embraced a rich tradition. She commended both the students and their parents for their commitment to this noble path. Murmu also underscored the imoortance of environmental protection and adopting a lifestyle aligned with nature to ensure the future of human society.

tural heritage, especially in the

region of the Himalayas, which

is known for its spiritual and

Addressing the students, the

intellectual legacy.

The convocation ceremony, which celebrated the academic achievements of the students, highlighted the growing role of women in higher education and the importance of cultural integration with modern learning.

A total of 1.454 students were awarded degrees at the convocation, including 62 scholars who received the title of Vidya Varidhi and three scholars who received the title of Vidya Vachaspati, Uttarakhand Governor Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh (Retd), Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, Chancellor of Patanjali University Swami Ramdev, Vice Chancellor Acharya Balkrishna and Haridwar MP Trivendra Singh Rawat were also present at the



People take part in the second edition of the Kashmir Marathon 2025 in Srinagar

Zero tolerance for violence: CEC on Bihar elections

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kanpur (UP), Nov 2: Any act of violence will not be tolerated and voters will be able to cast their votes peacefully and freely in Bihar, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar asserted Sunday, a day after the poll body took action against officials in Patna following violence during campaigning in Mokama.

'The Election Commission has zero tolerance towards any form of violence during polls." the CEC told reporters here. "Any act of violence will not be tolerated. All voters will be able to cast their votes peacefully, freely and transparently. The Election Commission is fully prepared for this, he said.

The Election Commission Saturday ordered the transfer of Patna Superintendent of Police (Rural) and action against three other officials, taking a stern view of violence in Bihar's Mokama in which gangster-turned-politician Dular Chand Yadav was killed during poll campaigning.

Former Bihar MLA Anant Singh, the ruling JD(U)'s candidate from the Mokama seat, was arrested early on Sunday in connection with the case.

Police also arrested two other persons. Manikant Thakur and Ranjeet Ram Yaday died while he was campaigning for Jan Suraaj Party's candidate Piyush Pri yadarshi in Patna's Mokama area Thursday. The CEC asserted that everyone is equa before the EC, whether it is the ruling side or the opposition. CEC Kumar said all voters in Bihar will get the opportunity to celebrate the festival of democracy and expressed confidence that it will be a model election.

Rahul jumps into muddy pond, interacts with fishermen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Begusarai/Khagaria (Bihar), Nov 2: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi Sunday jumped into a muddy pond in Bihar and interacted with fishermen present at the spot, whom he told that they always had his

The leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, who addressed a rally in Begusarai district, went to a nearby pond along with former state minister Mukesh Sahni, whose Vikassheel Insan Party is a junior partner in the INDIA bloc.

The leaders took a boat to reach the middle of a pond, where Sahni, who had stripped down to his vest and underpants, cast a net, impressing Gandhi with his prowess.

The former minister, who likes to be called 'son of Mallah', a nickname highlighting that the former Bollywood set designer was back home to champion the cause of the fisherman's community to which he belongs, appeared excited with his catch and jumped into the chest-deep waters.

The Congress leader, who kept donning his trademark white T-shirt and cargo pants, followed Sahni, evoking roars of 'Rahul Gandhi zindabad'.

A large number of fishermen were also present at the spot, some of whom dived to join the leaders in chest-deep waters. Congress leader Kanhaiya Kumar was also among those present.



A video clip of the incident was shared by the Congress on its X handle, stating Gandhi al-

so discussed with the fishermen "challenges and struggles they face in their work"

The social media post also highlighted the INDIA bloc's promises like an insurance scheme for pisciculture and financial aid of ₹5,000 to every family of fishermen for the "three-monthlong lean period" during which fishing remains prohibited.

The party's state unit also shared the video clip, with the tongue-in-cheek remark, "This is a real pond"

The allusion was to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's plans for a dip in River Yamuna at Delhi on the occasion of Chhath Puja, which, according to Gandhi, was given up when it came to light that the chosen spot was "a puddle created with the help of clean, piped water".

An indignant BJP has been reacting to Gandhi's jibe, accusing him of "insulting" the most popular festival of Bihar. Meanwhile, Gandhi seemed to have won over many villagers in Begusarai.

Local news channels reported villagers expressing their delight over the former Congress president "shaking hands with us"

One channel reported that Gandhi later went to a nearby house for a change of clothes, where the occupants, all women, gushed, "He washed himself under the hand pump out there and used the decrepit washroom nearby, all without making any fuss.

The Congress leader also made a mention of the incident at the subsequent rally that he addressed in Khagaria.

international

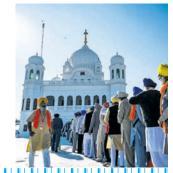


Britain's former prince Andrew is due to be stripped of his last remaining military position as part of **King Charles' decision** to remove his brother from public life

JOHN HEALEY

OVER 2K SIKHS TO VISIT PAK FOR GURU NANAK BIRTH ANNIV

As many as 2.150 Indian Sikhs are expected to arrive at Lahore via Wagah border to take part in festivities related to the 556th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev November 5, a top official said Sunday. The main event will be held November 5 at Gurdwara Janamasthan Nankana Sahib, some 80 kms from Lahore, the place where Guru Nanak was born



SHORT TAKES

Blaze at Mexico store kills 23

Mexico City: A festive holiday weekend turned tragic for families in northwestern Mexico Saturday when a deadly blaze engulfed a discount store in the city center of Hermosillo, killing at least 23 people and injuring a dozen. Mexico is celebrating the Day of the Dead this weekend with colourful festivities in which families honor and remember deceased loved ones. "I have ordered a thorough and transparent investigation to clarify the causes of the accident," Alfonso Durazo, governor of the state of Sonora home to the city, said in a video on social media, adding that children were among the victims. Most of the deaths appeared to have been from inhalation of toxic gases, said Gustavo Salas, the state's attorney general, citing its forensic medical service.

5 German climbers killed in avalanche

Rome: Five German climbers have died after being caught in an avalanche in the Italian Alps, local authorities said Sunday. The climbers had set out Saturday to scale Cima Vertana in the Ortler mountain range near the village of Solda. The avalanche struck as they headed for the summit. The cascade of snow and ice swent away members of two separate rope teams. The bodies of two men and a woman were recovered Saturday while the two other victims, a father and his 17-year-old daughter, were found Sunday. Two other climbers escaped unharmed.

Louvre jewel heist: Two more charged

Paris: A woman and a man were placed under formal investigation over the \$102 million Louvre Museum jewel heist, the Paris prosecutor said Saturday, bringing the total number charged in the case to four. The man, 37, known to police for previous thefts, was charged with organised theft and criminal conspiracy The woman, 38, was charged with complicity in organised theft and criminal conspiracy. Three other people who had been arrested October 29 along with the man and the woman were freed without charge, the

prosecutor's office said.

Russia launches new N-sub

The nuclear submarine 'Khabarovsk' was launched by Russian Defence Minister Andrei Belousov at a solemn ceremony in the presence of Russian Naval Chief Admiral Alexander Moiseyev and other top shipbuilding officials in Severodvinsk at Sevmash shipyards



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Moscow, Nov 2: Russia has launched its latest nuclear submarine to be armed with a 'Poseidon' nuclear drone, also known as 'doomsday missile' capable of "wiping out" coastal nations, according to media reports.

The nuclear submarine 'Khabarovsk' was launched by Russian Defence Minister Andrei Belousov at a solemn ceremony in the presence of Russian Naval Chief Admiral Alexander Moisevey and other top shipbuilding officials in Severodvinsk at Sevmash shipyards.

"Today marks a significant event for us - the heavy nuclear-powered missile cruiser Khabarovsk is being launched from the stern of the renowned Sevmash," Belousov said in

his televised remarks late Saturday night.

Sevmash shipyards had earlier retrofitted INS Vikramaditva aircraft carrier for India.

The Russian defense minister emphasized that the submarine carrying underwater weapons and robotic systems will enable Russia to successfully ensure the security of its maritime borders and protect its national interests in various regions of the world's oceans, according to TASS, the Russian news agency

The Khabarovsk nuclear submarine was designed by Rubin, the Central Design Bureau of Marine Engineering, and is intended to address Navy missions using modern underwater weapons, including robotic systems for various purposes, the Russian Defence

Ministry said on its website. This nuclear submarine

would be the carrier of underwater weapons and robotic systems to successfully address the challenges of ensuring the security of Russia's maritime borders and protecting its national interests in various parts of the world's oceans, it underscored

Commenting on the launch of the latest nuclear submarine, business daily Kommersant reminded that last week Russia tested the Poseidon underwater drone, equipped with a nuclear propulsion system.

"The Poseidon is capable of exceeding the speed of submarines and modern torpedoes. travelling at great depths and over intercontinental distance es. The Khabarovsk-class submarines are expected to be the

Russian attacks on Ukraine kill 2

Kviv: Russian air attacks on Ukraine killed two people overnight and left tens of thousands more - and the entire eastern Donetsk region - without power, Ukrainian officials said Sunday Moscow has stepped up missile and drone strikes on Ukraine as winter approaches, triggering outages and force ing emergency crews to quickly repair damage and manage rolling blackouts. The two deaths were reported in Ukraine's southern Odesa region, where officials said cargo trucks had come under attack, while nearly 60,000 residents in the southeastern Zaporizhzhia region lost power, local authorities said. All of Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, where Russia is pressing forward on the battlefield was also facing emergency power outages after attacks on energy infrastructure, its governor Vadym Filashkir said, Russian attacks on Ukraine's energy system have been matched by its grinding offensive aimed at eventu ally capturing the industrialised region as diplomatic efforts to end the war have stalled.

primary carriers of this weapon," Kommersant daily said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin had announced the successful test of nuclear powered 'Poseidon' Wednesday, which he said was launched from a mother-submarine and has a nuclear power plant 100 times smaller than the reactor of a strategic submarine.

Deputy Chairman of the Russian Security Council Dmitry Medvedev described this drone as the "Doomsday missile."

In a media interview, Chair of Duma Defence Committee Andrei Kartapolov said it was "capable of wiping out whole coastal nations.

2 British men held over UK train mass stabbings



REUTERS

Huntingdon, England, Nov 2: British police said Sunday that a knife attack on a train which put 11 people in hospital was not a terrorist incident, adding that two men - both British nationals had been arrested.

Counterterrorism police had helped with the initial investigation after the mass stabbing of passengers on a train in eastern England Saturday

"At this stage, there is nothing to suggest that this is a terrorist incident." Superintendent John Loveless from British Transport Police told media Sunday. The two men arrested on suspicion of attempted murder were a 32-year-old male, a Black British national, and a 35-year-old British national of Caribbean descent, Loveless said. Both were born in the UK, he added. "We continue work to establish the full circumstances and motivation for this incident." he said.

to speculate on the cause. ARMED POLICE BOARD TRAIN

"It would not be appropriate

The arrests were made by

armed police after the train made an emergency stop at Huntingdon around 80 miles (130 km) north of London. Of the 11 people hospitalised,

vo victims in life threatening

wo British men arrested, both in their 30s

King Charles appalled and shocked

four have since been discharged and two patients remain in a life-threatening condition, police said. Prime Minister Keir Starmer

called it an "appalling incident" which was "deeply concerning" while King Charles said he was "truly appalled and shocked". Knife crime in England and

Wales has risen 87% over the past decade, with 54,587 offences last year alone, a 2% rise from 2023 and among the highest rates in Europe, according to figures from Britain's interior ministry show.

In her statement, Interior Minister Shabana Mahmood said she was "deeply saddened". while urging people to avoid speculation about the incident

The government is keen to stop rumours spreading on social media following an incident in Southport in northwest England in 2024, when internet claims over the murder of three young girls sparked days of rioting across the country.

Hegseth urges closer ties with Vietnam

REUTERS

Hanoi, Nov 2: The United States wants deeper military ties with Vietnam US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Sunday at the start of a visit to Hanoi, amid prolonged talks for the potential supply of military equipment to Washington's former foe. The Southeast Asian nation, which relies heavily on Russian weapons, has been looking to diversify its arsenal for years. Talks with the United States, which lifted an arms embargo in 2016,

gained momentum during the Biden administration but have not yet yielded any formal announcement on major items.

"Deeper (military) cooperation will benefit both of our countries," Hegseth, who arrived in the Vietnamese capital after meetings in Malaysia with Asian counterparts, said prior to meeting Defence Minister Phan Van Giang. The United States had already delivered three cutters to the Vietnamese coastguard and three T-6 trainer aircraft, from an order of 12.

Philippines, Canada sign defence pact

Manila: The Philippines and Canada signed a pact Sunday for their armed forces to train on each other's soil, boosting defence cooperation to tackle common security concerns in the Indo-Pacific region. Canada's first such deal in the region, the Status of Visiting Forces Agreement (SOVFA) takes to five the number of accords on troops Manila has concluded with allies, in the face of China's increasingly assertive regional stance. The deal broadens the Philippines' network of security ties while complementing a longstanding alliance with its treaty partner, the United States, The pact sets up a framework or expanded military and defence cooperation, to improve coordination of operations

Israel urges Lebanon to disarm Hezbollah under ceasefire terms

Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Sunday that Hezbollah was seeking to rearm and that Israel would exercise its right to self-defence under last year's ceasefire accord if Lebanon failed to disarm the militant group. At the start of a cabinet meeting Netanyahu said Israel would "act as necessary", if Lebanon does not take steps to prevent its territory from becoming a renewed front. The US brokered a truce in November 2024 between Lebanor and Israel after more than a year of conflict sparked by the war in Gaza, but Israeli strikes across the border have continued sporadically. The Israeli military said in a statement Sunday that it had killed four Hezbollal members. Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz also said the Lebanese government must fulfill its commitment to disarm Hezbollah and remove the group from southern Lebanon.

Syrian prez to visit White House in early November

Washington: Syrian Foreign Minister Asad al-Shaibani confirmed Sunday that President Ahmed al-Sharaa will visit the White House in early November and discuss the reconstruction of Syria. US Special Envoy Tom Barrack said the previous day that Sharaa would visit Washington, with a White House official later saying the visit would happen around November 10, "There will be many issues on the table, starting with the lifting of sanctions and opening of a new chapter between the United States and Syria We want to establish a very strong partnership between the two countries," Shibani added. According to the US State Department, no previ ous Syrian president has paid an official visit to Washington. Sharaa addressed the UN General Assembly in New York in September.

WEEK'S BEST PICS



Chinese artists perform the 'Adi Kavya-The First Poem', a dance drama based on Ramayana, directed by Chinese Bharatanatyam dancer Jin Shanshan, at the Embassy of India, in Beijing, China, Nov. 1



A woman dressed in a costume poses for a portrait during the West Hollywood Halloween Carnaval in West Hollywood, California, October 31



A protester wearing Catrina-inspired makeup and a Statue of Liberty-style headpiece takes part in a "No Kings" protest against U.S. President Donald Trump's policies, outside City Hall in Los Angeles, California, October 18



A drone view shows people walking in an affected area after Hurricane Melissa made landfall, in Crane Road, Black River, Jamaica, October 30



A couple stand near the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France, October 26

business



There are clear signs of earnings recovery now. If brisk demand conditions are sustained, earnings will improve, which in turn will make valuations fair. In such a scenario, FPIs are likely to remain buvers

VK VIJAYAKUMAR | CHIEF INVESTMENT

OYO EXTENDS APPLICATION **DEADLINE OF BONUS ISSUE**

Oyo, Sunday announced that it has extended the application deadline for the bonus issue, linked to its potential IPO, for its unlisted equity shareholders from November 1 to November 7. In its message to shareholders, the company said it has received feedback during the postal ballot process and decided to provide investors ample time to choose the bonus option that suits them. Under the bonus issuance, shareholders will get one preference share for every 6,000 equity shares held



Govt mulls FDI in inventory

based e-comm for exports

The proposal is to permit e-commerce entities in the

inventory-based model of e-commerce, exclusively for

the export of goods and products manufactured or

produced in India, in compliance with the



grow and our infrastructure evolves, innovation must quide every to execution.



Training for engineering & O&M personnel on climate-resilient designs and digital-monitoring systems



generation capacity. PIYUSH GOYAL | CEO, VOLKS ENERGIE

one accident happens in a particular stretch, say 500 meters, then the contractor will face a penalty



V UMASHANKAR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS SECRETARY

SHORT **TAKES**

Roval Enfield reports

13% rise in sales New Delhi: Motorcycle make Royal Enfield, Sunday reported a 13 per cent rise in total sales at 124,951 units in October as compared to 110,574 units

in the same month last year. Domestic sales were at 116,844 units as against 101,886 units in October 2024, up 15 per cent, Royal Enfield said in a statement. Exports were, however, down 7 per cent at 8,107 units last month as compared to 8,688 units in the

Tata Chemicals profit dips

Mumbai: Tata Chemicals. Saturday reported over 60 per cent decline in consolidated net profit at Rs 77 crore during the September quarter. The company's net profit stood at Rs 194 crore in the year-ago period. Tata Chemicals said in a regulatory filing.

Pidlite expects double-digit growth

New Delhi: Pidilite Industries expects a "double digit underlying volume growth" in the second half of the current fiscal, its Managing Director Sudhanshu Vats has said. The company expects to continue the momentum in H2 with a higher EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation), as input costs remain benign.

Orient Cement profit up

New Delhi: Orient Cement Ltd, now part of Billionaire Gautam Adani-led Adani Group, Saturday reported a multi-fold jump in net profit to Rs 49.08 crore in the September quarter, helped by gains from tax reversals and increase in volume. The company reported a net profit of Rs 2.32 crore for the July-September quarter a year ago.

JK Cement net rises

New Delhi: JK Cement Ltd, Saturday reported an increase of 17 per cent in consolidated net profit to Rs 159.25 crore for the September quarter. The company had posted a profit of Rs 136.15 crore in the July-September period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing

GHCL loss widens

New Delhi: GHCL Ltd, Saturday reported a 32 per cent decline in consolidated net profit to Rs 106.70 crore for the September quarter, impacted by lower sales and pricing pressure from cheap imports. The company had posted a net profit of Rs 154.83 crore in the July-September period of the preceding 2024-25.

Steel makers seek govt support

New Delhi, Nov 2: Steel makers have urged the government ing imports from select group of countries including China which has produced 746.3 MT of crude steel in January-September period, over six-fold of the domestic output.

As per global body World Steel Association (worldsteel), India has produced 122.4 MT of crude steel in January-September. While in September alone China has produced 73.5 MT of crude steel, over 5-fold higher from 13.6 MT of domestic production.

As per market data, stainless steel is also unable to reach 100 per cent capacity utilisation of the total installed capacity of 7.5 million tonnes. It remains around 60 per cent only due to impact of imports

The government has taken several measures to curb the imports to protect the competitiveness of domestic steel industry. Over the past few years, the Ministry of Steel has come up with more than 100 quality control orders (QCOs) which

Gold may consolidate

New Delhi, Nov 2: Gold prices

are likely to see consolidation

for the third straight week as

traders focus on key macroeco-

nomic indicators and policy de-

velopments, including the US

Supreme Court's tariff hearing,

The focus will be on the man-

ufacturing and services PMI

data from key regions as well

as China's trade and growth

In the US, private data, in-

cluding ADP non-farm payroll,

consumer sentiment and infla-

tion expectations, will also be

closely watched as they will

steer the bullion prices in the

"Also in focus will be the tar-

iff hearing in the US Supreme

Court on November 5 and any

decision, positive or negative,

markets may see a significant

reaction," Pranav Mer, Vice

President, EBG - Commodity

& Currency Research, JM Fi-

On the Multi Commodity Ex-

change (MCX), gold futures for

December delivery dropped by

Rs 2,219, or 1.8 per cent, during

the past week to settle at Rs

1,21,232 per 10 grams, Friday.

from the recent highs of Rs

1,29,000 per 10 gms to around

Rs 1,21,000 per 10 grams as

on October 31, mainly due to

easing tensions between US

and India on the tariff as well

as strengthening dollar in-

dex, which is at three-months

high," Prathamesh Mallya,

DVP - Research, Non - Agri

Commodities and Curren-

Commodity markets will

remain closed, Wednesday on

account of Guru Nanak Dev

cies, Angel One, said.

"Gold prices corrected

nancial Services Ltd, said.

near-term, they added.

numbers

November 5, analysts said.

for third week amid

weak global cues

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BIZ BUZZ

Union Bank of India observes Vigilance Awareness Week

gional Head Rajat Kumar Panda presided and informed everyone about the rally.

Sanjib Kumar Sahoo, Chief Manager (Vigilance) Berhampur, informed about the importance of Vigilance Awareness and its need for everyone especially in the

wake of spurt in fraud cases. Deputy Regional Head Meghrai Marndi and Bibbhuti Bhusan Mohanty highlighted about the importance of Vigilance Awareness Week

and the need for vigilance in current scenario. The vigilance rally started at 7.30

am from the Regional office premises and ended at the Regional office via Tata

Benz Square, Giri Road, Station Road, Khallikote College, Subarao Square and Ja-

branch heads and officers under Berhampur City were present on this occasion.

PNB Sambalpur organises CSR Activity

nana Hospital Road. All the departmental heads and staffs of the Regional office,

UCO Bank organises Vigilance Awareness Week

public service. He highlighted the role of vigilance in maintaining transparency and accountability in all institutions. The quiz competition witnessed enthusiastic

participation, with Bijaylaxmi Pradhan, Subhalaxmi Pani, Shaswati Swarupa Sukla emerging as the top three winners. The event was supervised by College Director

Staffs also participated in the Walkathon held at Star House Bhubaneswar around

(2KM) market area. The event was graced by GM Vikas Krishna, Bhubaneswar ZM

Kumar Das, FGMO AGM Ashok Kumar Jena, SMECC AGM SK Mohanty & Jaydev Vi-

har Branch AGM Soumya Ranjan Behera, and all staff members of the FGMO, Zonal office & SMECC Bhubaneswar. The Human Chain and Walkathon aimed to spread

Shared responsibility", encouraging all to uphold integrity in every sphere of life.

the message of "Say No to Corruption, Commit to the Nation", "Vigilance Our

Bijoy Kumar Malik, FGMO DGM Rajnikanth Bhuiyan, DZM Bhubaneswar Shyamal

Bijan Kumar Jena, CEO Rashmita Jena, and Bank officials Madhusmita Naik.

BOI observes Vigilance Awareness Week

BHUBANESWAR: UCO Bank's Chan-

tion with the Zonal Office, Bhubane-

swar, organised a Quiz Competition at

Netaji School and College of Nursing, November 1, 2025, on the occasion

of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025, which is being observed from October

27 to November 2, 2025. Branch Manager Santosh Kumar Sahani addressed

nificance of vigilance in daily life and

the students, emphasising the sig-

refrain from non-BIS compliant steel products to enter the Indian market.

The QCO of June this year had put restrictions on even import of inputs of certain steel The validity of QCOs can be

and cheap materials from entering the country, an industry player said. The government can come up

extended to avoid sub standard

with more similar measures to protect the domestic industry, both steel and stainless steel. which looks make crores of investment to increase capacity to meet future demand in line

BERHAMPUR: Union Bank of India, Regional Office, Berhampur observed "Vigilance Awareness Week-2025" from Oct 27 to Nov 2. As a

part of VAW, RO conducted Vigilance Walka-

Various activities like Tree Plantation, Gram

sabhas, Quiz competitions, Drawing competi-

BHUBANESWAR: Punjab National Bank,

Sambalpur Circle has organised a CSR activity at Saraswati Sishu Mandir, Sambalpur in

presence of Circle Head Ajit Kumar Meher. In

this event, bank has donated a Voltas Water

Mohapatra, Anmol Ustav, and Rashmi Ranjan

Cooler, Aiit Kumar Meher, Partha Sarathi

Padhan were present on this occasion.

tions were organised to create awareness. Re-

than to sensitise general public, November 1.

with Atmanirbhar initiative of the government, said the industry player.

In March, the commerce ministry's investigation arm DGTR had recommended the imposition of a 12 per cent provisional safeguard duty for 200 days on certain steel products with an aim to protect domestic players from a surge in imports.

After this stainless industry also approached the government to investigate stainless steel imports as the safeguard duty did not cover their con-

A high level committee of NITI Aayog is likely to meet week over the issue of import, a source said.

As per BigMint data, domestic steel prices slumped to a five-year low in October, impacted by multiple factors, including surging imports.

Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has flagged a surge in steel imports, largely driven by lower import prices. It has also called for policy support to boost the competitiveness of domestic steel production.

In September this year, India imported 0.79 million tonnes (MT) of finished steel, up from 0.69 MT in August, marking the country's sixth consecutive month as a net steel importer.

Imports from Korea, Russia, and Indonesia increased, while shares of China, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand and Taiwan declined compared with September 2024.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Nov 2: The Com-

merce and Industry Ministry

has floated a note seeking

views from various central

government departments on

a proposal to allow foreign

direct investment (FDI) in

the inventory-based model of

e-commerce solely for export

India's exports without impacting the businesses of small

The proposal aims to boost

At present, the country's

FDI policy does not permit

overseas investments in the in-

ventory-based model of e-com-

merce. It is 100 per cent allowed

through the automatic route

in firms that are operating

through a marketplace model

only, like Amazon and Flipkart.

e-commerce entities in the in-

ventory-based model of e-com-

merce, exclusively for the

export of goods and products

manufactured or produced in

India, in compliance with the

existing FDI policy, the official

According to the FDI policy,

the inventory-based model of

e-commerce means an e-com-

merce activity where the in-

ventory of goods and services is

owned by e-commerce entities.

ketplace-based model of e-com-

merce means providing an in-

formation technology platform

by an e-commerce entity on a

digital and electronic network

to act as a facilitator between

According to experts, the

policy talks about selling these

goods in the domestic market

The FDI policy also states

buyer and seller.

and not exports.

On the other hand, the mar-

The proposal is to permit

purposes, an official said.

retailers

During the first half of FY26. India remained a net importer of steel, with inbound shipments exceeding exports by 0.47 MT. This is despite a 40 per cent rise in export volumes to

Festival fuels petrol sales: diesel sees marginal drop

New Delhi, Nov 2: India's petrol sales surged to a five-month high in October on festive travel boost, but diesel consump tion remained flattish, defying the trend, according to preliminary industry data.

million tonnes in September.

el in the country, accounting for almost 40 per cent of the fuel consumption basket - posted a marginal drop in sales at 7.6 million tonnes in October compared to 7.64 million tonnes in the same month of the previous year.

Historically, diesel consumption dipped with the advent of the rainy season in June, as demand for fuel to run irrigation pumps dropped and vehicular movements slowed. But sales rebounded from October as rains receded and the festive season

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Petrol consumption rose 7 per cent year-on-year to 3.65 million tonnes in October, as the onset of festival season increased demand for the fuel. The sales were higher month-on-month as well when compared to 3.4 Diesel - the most consumed fu-

fuelled a rise in trucking.

existing FDI policy, the official said that an e-commerce entity providing a marketplace will not exercise ownership or control over the inventory, i.e. goods purported to be sold. Such ar ownership, or control over the inventory, will render the business into an inventory-based

The proposal was mooted by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and is being examined by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

Last month, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goy al said the proposal is under consideration. The minister added that if

such e-commerce firms want to keep inventory for exports then "I think we have no objection to that" E-commerce stakeholders.

too, have asked for a relook at the FDI policy on this issue. The proposal is important as

the government is looking at ways to boost exports through the e-commerce medium. It is working on measures such as setting up e-commerce export As per estimates, the coun-

try's e-commerce exports currently stand at \$2 billion compared to China's staggering \$350

The global e-commerce trade is about \$800 billion and estimated to reach \$2 trillion by

A report by economic think tank GTRI said India's e-commerce exports have the potential to reach \$350 billion by 2030, but banking issues hinder growth and increase operation

India's e-commerce industry is driven primarily by small businesses that export products valued between \$25 and \$1,000. The popular items include Handicrafts, art, books, readymade garments, imitation jewellery, gems and jewellery home decor, ayurveda products and sports goods.

India has set a target of \$1 trillion of merchandise exports by 2030, and cross-border e-com merce trade has been identified as a source to meet this aim.

Sahoo's legacy endures in Odia households

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Nov 2: From a modest beginning in a rented premises at the Industrial Estate, Cuttack, in 1976, Ruchi Products Pvt. Ltd. (then known as Om Oil & Flour Mills) has grown into one of Eastern India's most trusted names in the food processing industry. What started with the production of pure turmeric powder has now expanded into a diverse range of spices, noodles, pasta, readyto-eat meals, and condiments, enjoyed by millions of consum-



ers in India and abroad. The driving force behind this inspiring journey is Dr Sarat Kumar Sahoo, the visionary Founder and Managing Director of Ruchi Products. His commitment to quality, innovation,

and ethical business practices laid the foundation for the com pany's enduring success. With nearly five decades of leadership, Dr Sahoo transformed Ruchi into a symbol of purity and authenticity in every Indi an kitchen.

Today, continuing his legacy, Arbind Sahoo and Rashmi Sahoo, Directors of the company, are taking the Ruchi brand to new global heights. With a strong presence across, Ruchi Products stands as a shining example of Indian entrepreneurship and excellence.

India to emerge as world's green hydrogen hub: Kant

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Javanti.

hydrogen has emerged as a key fuel to cut emissions in difficult sectors such as steel. fertilisers, shipping, aviation, and road transport as the world fights the war against climate change, according to an article by former G20 Sherpa and NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant. Europe, Japan, Korea, and

New Delhi, Nov 2: Green

the Middle East are investing billions into renewable hydrogen, India has the right mix of resources, policy, and demand to emerge as the world's pre-eminent hub for this new energy vector, states the article by Amitabh Kant in India

The article identifies five decisive strengths that are work-

ing in India's favour. First, India offers globally

unmatched rates for roundthe-clock renewable energy, with prices ranging from Rs 4.60 to Rs 5 per kWh, making green hydrogen production extremely cost-competitive. Second, government policy

Bhubaneswar Zone organised a Human Chain Formation activity under

Vigilance Awareness Week-2025, Bhu-

baneswar FGMO & ZO team formed a

Human Chain at Star House Bhubane-

swar to promote Vigilance Awareness.

has been both consistent and ambitious: the National Green Hydrogen Mission sets clear targets and provides the regulatory confidence that investors and companies seek. Third, India's industrial

base is already strong, spanning engineering capabilities, pipelines, refineries, and ports, providing a ready ecosystem for scaling green hydrogen. Fourth, India's large do-

mestic demand for fertilisers, refining, steel, and chemicals ensures that hydrogen uptake will be driven not just by exports but also by domestic consumption.

Lastly, the global export opportunity is immense. Markets like Europe and Japan are actively seeking clean hydrogen imports, and India is uniquely placed to serve them, the article

Highlighting the achieve-

ments of India's green hydrogen drive, the article points out that the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has awarded contracts for 450,000 tonnes per annum of green hydrogen production with leading firms like Reliance, Greenko, ACME,

and L&T in the fray. SECI has also finalised a 724,000 tonne green ammonia tender aggregating demand from 13 fertiliser plants nationwide. his tender achieved a re-

cord-low price of Rs 55.75 per kilogram, among the most competitive globally. Similarly, Indian Oil Corporation has awarded a landmark project at its Panipat refinery, and Bharat Petroleum has partnered with Singapore's Sembcorp to develop green hydrogen and green ammonia projects in India.

The article also states that while the risks associated with expanding India's green hydrogen industry are significant, they are not insurmountable. High capital costs can be addressed through concessional finance, sovereign green bonds,

and blended finance models. Certification disputes must be preempted by adopting international standards and securing bilateral recognition agree ments with major markets. Skill shortages can be mitigated through a national skilling mission tailored to hydrogen and allied industries. The challenge of tender cancellations and delays can be improved by better bid design and more realistic project timelines. By producing the cheapest

green hydrogen in the world, building value-added products like green steel, ammonia, and fertilisers, and establishing itself as the trusted supplier for the world, India can leap frog into global leadership in the clean economy. The green hydrogen race is underway, and while many countries are running hard, India is uniquely positioned to finish in front says Kant.

INDIA'S WONDER WOMEN

Harmanpreet's trailblazers lift game-changing **ODI World title**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Navi Mumbai, Nov 2: From heartbreaks to history, Indian women's crick-

completits long, unfinished journey glory as Harmanpreet

Kaur's fearless team outlasted South Africa by 52 runs in a gripping final to lift their first-ever ICC Women's World Cup crown here Sunday.

Indian women's cricket finally touched its Everest as years of toil and near-misses culminated in an evening of redemption and history for the

in the 13th edition the global showpiece them onfourth team joining the trophy. Australia (7), England (4) and New Zealand (1) in the pantheon of champions.

Harmanpreet's team finally buried the ghosts

India's breakthrough win

With the victory

of past



heart-

breaks

the 2005 and

2017 finals — and

delivered India's

much-awaited World

title, a watershed mo-

ment for the game in the

After posting 298 for 7 — the

246 in 45.3 overs.

ment history — India held

their nerve to bundle

out South Africa for

The Proteas' charge

revolved around cap-

tain Laura Wolvaardt's

magnificent 98-ball 101, but

the brilliance of Deepti Shar-

ma (55 and 5/39) and Shafali

Verma (87 and 2/36) ensured

India's moment of destiny

could not be denied.

second-highest total in tourna-

Fittingly, India's triumph was shaped by two players with contrasting iournevs

Deepti, the ever-reliable workhorse, finished as the tournament's highest wicket-taker (21) and bowled with guile and grace on the grandest stage.

Shafali, on the other hand, was a story of second chances — drafted into the squad from outside the preferred group after Pratika Rawal's injury.

Confined to domestic cricket with Haryana weeks ago, the 21-year-old dynamo returned to the world stage with an innings of audacity and maturity — 87 off 84 balls — before taking two crucial wickets to tilt the game decisively India's way. Her re-entry

into the XI

proved a

masteras she and Smriti Mandhana (45) gave India the perfect launchpad with a 104run opening stand, forcing South Africa's bowlers into

Mandhana's dismissal denied her a half-century, but it capped off a record-breaking campaign

disarray after a two-hour rain

If June 25, 1983 was a watershed moment for Indian men's cricket, when Kapil's Devils beat the mighty West Indies at the Lord's, November **2, 2025 will be a** seminal moment for women's cricket

movement

— 434 runs at 54.25, the most by any Indian batter in Women's World Cup history, including a century and two fifties.

Star of India's semifinal win over mighty Australia, Jemimah appeared to be prepping up for another long haul in the middle, but a superb low catch from skipper Laura Wolvaardt at cover off Khaka foiled her plans in the 30th over.

With two set batters back in the dugout, India's hopes were pinned on skipper Harmanpreet for a defining innings, but that was not to be

A VICTORY FOR **GENERATIONS**

night The was soaked in symbolism. Harman-

preet lifted the trophy that eluded Mithali Raj and Jhulan mi.

ers

decades For the younger generation

Goswa-

India's

torchbear-

for over two

Jemimah Rodrigues and Richa Ghosh, it marked the dawn of a new era where Indian women's cricket finally stood shoulder to

shoul-

der

with

led by Mandha-

the sport's powerhouses. works lit up the Navi Mumbai sky, the emotion on Harmanpreet's face said it all. The

wait was over. From heartbreak to history, India's women had finally rewritten their story and this time, they wrote it in gold.

Rohit Sharma, who carries the scars of November 19, 2023, was watching the final from the stands with a prayer on his lips that Harmanpreet Kaur doesn't meet his fate.

For Harmanpreet, the lady who has done way more for Indian women's cricket than anyone can envisage, knows how much it hurts to lose a final as it happened eight summers back and her girls didn't let her down.

As she latched on to Nadine de Klerk's offering while back

by the Indian team

pedaling at extra cover, Ian Bishop fittingly called the moment "inspiring generations".

For head coach Amol Muzumdar, who couldn't wear the whites that he richly deserved the global triumph with the women's national team would certainly heal those wounds that he has carried for years.

Brief Scores: India 298/7 in 50 overs (Shafali Verma 87, Deepti Sharma 54, Richa Ghosh 34 Ayabonga Khaka 3-58) beat **South Africa** 246/10 in 45.3 overs (Laura Wolvaardt 101 Annerie Dercksen 35; Deepti Sharma 5-39, Shafali Verma 2-36) by 52 runs.







Williamson

retires from T201 Auckland: Charismatic batter and former New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson Sunday called time on his T20 International career days before the commencement of a five-match series against the touring West Indies. Williamson, who played 93 T20I games for New Zealand, was recently appointed the strategic advisor for the IPL franchise Lucknow Super Giants for the 2026 season. Following the announcement, the 35-year-old toporder batter was not included in the 14-member T20I squad for the series against the West Indies beginning here Wednesday. Williamson, who amassed 2575 runs T20Is but never scored a century, will also miss the ensuing ODI series to focus on the three Tests against the Caribbean side. He retires as New Zealand's second-highest men's T20I runs-scorer at an average of 33, including 18 half-centuries and a highest score of 95. The cricketer, who has more than 19,000 runs across formats, had made his T20I debut in 2011 and went on to lead the side on 75 occasions, including captaining them to two T20 World

Cup semifinals, in 2016 and 2022,

and the final in 2021.

Bhagat, Kadam lead India's triumph Washington stars in series levelling win

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jakarta, Nov 2: India's para-badminton contingent shone brightly at the Indonesia Para-Badminton International with the pair of Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam, four others clinching gold medals across categories to cap a dominant campaign.

Tokyo Paralympic champion Pramod teamed up with Sukant to claim the men's doubles SL3-SL4 gold, defeating Indonesia's Dwiyoko and Setiawan 21-16, 21-12 in straight games.

"It's an incredible feeling to win gold with Sukant after such a demanding tournament. Every medal reflects our hard work and the pride of representing India," Bhagat said after the win.

Kadam added, "Our connection on court was strong all week. Beating the local pair for gold shows the level we are now playing at. This win gives us great momentum for the season ahead.'



India's dominance extended to the SL3 and SL4 men's singles categories, where Nitesh Kumar and Sivakumar emerged champions after commanding performances throughout the tournament.

Pramod also added a bronze medal in mixed doubles, while Tokyo Paralympic champion Krishna Nagar earned a bronze in men's singles SH6 and a silver in mixed doubles SH6.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hobart, Nov 2: Washington Sundar enhanced his reputation as a T20 hitter with India batting in top gear through the innings to comfortably chase down a target of 187 for a series levelling five-wicket win over Australia here Sunday.

Tim David (74 off 38) bludgeoned the Indian bowling attack to take Australia to 186 for six after the visitors opted to bat.

With the firepower India possess, they were expected to overhaul the target but Nathan Ellis (3/36) made their job tougher with his sharp and testing spells. India eventually got home in 18.3 overs.

Abhishek Sharma (25 off 16) once again produced a flurry of boundaries in the powerplay before skipper Suryakumar Yadav (24 off 11), Tilak Varma (29 off 26), Axar Patel (17 off 12) and Washington (49 not out off 23) did their bit.

Jitesh Sharma (22 not out off



12), playing his first game of the series, got valuable time in the middle and got the job done alongside Sundar.

Washington, who is rather underrated as a power-hitter, showed he can use the long handle effectively with majority of his sixes coming in the cow corner region.

The absence of Josh Hazlewood in the opposition camp -- the pacer's focus now shifts to the Ashes, also made India's task a lot easier.

Barring Ellis, who troubled the Indian batters with short balls at express pace, Austra lian bowlers were not able to test the Indians enough. The fourth T20 of the five

match series will be played in Gold Coast November 6.

Opting to bowl in nippy conditions, India started well courtesy Arshdeep Singh who struck twice in a two-over spell on his return to the side. His performance earned him the Player of The Match award.

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