



KIIT International School Hosts 13th Model United Nations 2026; Eminent Diplomat Sujan Chinoy Inaugurates Event



STUDENT SEATED AT MID-DAY MEAL UNDER SCORCHING SUN



Basant Wins High Jump Silver; Shahnavaz Bags Bronze In Long Jump At U20 Athletics Worlds



5 health benefits of laughing out loud with loved ones

3 Odisha Govt Medical Colleges Secure Place In IIRF 2026 Rankings

Bhubaneswar (correspondent): Three government medical colleges in Odisha have secured places in the Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) 2026 rankings, with SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack, emerging as the highest-ranked institution from the state at 15th position nationally. IMSAR, Burla, has secured the 64th position, while MKCG Medical College and Hospital, Berhampur, has been ranked 74th in the latest rankings. In a notable achievement for Odisha, SCB Medical College and Hospital has ranked ahead of AIIMS Bhubaneswar, which has secured the 16th position. The development comes as a significant boost to the state's government medical education and



healthcare sector. The rankings have highlighted the growing presence of Odisha's government medical institutions at the national level, with three of the state's premier medical colleges finding a place among the ranked institutions. Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Mukesh Mahaling congratulated the doctors, faculty members, students, nursing officers, health workers, administrative

officers and other staff members of the institutions for the achievement. "This ranking is not only a success for us but also an inspiration to take the government medical colleges of Odisha to even higher positions at the national level," Mahaling said. He said the state government was working to strengthen medical education, research, modern infrastructure and quality healthcare in Odisha.

Gen-Z Must Guard Against Digital Threats & Drugs: CM Majhi At 'Ghar Ghar Tiranga' Launch

Bhubaneswar (correspondent): Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi today launched the historic 'Ghar Ghar Tiranga' campaign in Bhubaneswar on the occasion of August Kranti Diwas, and made a special appeal to the state's Gen-Z to carry forward the spirit of patriotism in the digital age. Marking the day, the Chief Minister called upon all 4.5 crore people of Odisha to proudly hoist the national flag in every village, panchayat, town, house, school and office from August 9 to 17. Paying tribute to freedom fighters and martyrs, CM Majhi recalled that the Quit India Movement which began on August 9, 1942 from August Kranti Maidan in Mumbai gave a new



direction to India's freedom struggle. He said the national flag, the Tiranga, is not just three colors but the symbol of identity, glory and aspirations of 140 crore Indians. "Saffron represents courage and sacrifice, white represents peace and truth, green represents prosperity, and the Ashoka Chakra in the center teaches us to keep moving on the path of duty," he said. The

Chief Minister also made a strong appeal to shun plastic flags and use only cloth flags to make the national celebration completely environment-friendly. A grand procession was organized to mark the launch. Students from various schools and colleges, along with Scouts and Guides, NCC and NSS volunteers, marched with tricolors in hand. Cultural troupes from

different parts of Odisha performed traditional folk dances and arts. The Chief Minister along with other dignitaries, eminent sports persons and thousands of students joined the procession chanting "Vande Mataram" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai". Addressing the Gen-Z and youth of the state, the Chief Minister warned that in today's digital age, invisible forces, misuse of social

media and drugs are being used to mislead young people. "That invisible evil force will never succeed in its purpose. Give priority to patriotism and do not fall for their delusions," he advised. The Chief Minister further said Odisha will play the most decisive role in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Viksit Bharat - 2047' vision. He said the state will become a major engine of the country's economic and industrial growth due to the contribution of farmers, workers, youth and women. On the occasion of Independence Day, he urged the public to honour the families of brave soldiers and policemen engaged in the country's security.

India-Japan Cooperation Being Built Around De-Risking Shared Economic Vulnerabilities: Report

Tokyo: The India-Japan relationship looks like a promising strategic partnership, and the cooperation is being built around de-risking shared economic vulnerabilities, said a report. According to the report by Tokyo Review, both Japan and India face the harsh realities of weaponised supply chains, energy insecurity, and dependence on China for critical minerals and pharmaceutical ingredients. It noted that the centre of gravity in the bilateral relationship is 'unmistakably' commercial, and those shared vulnerabilities were addressed directly in the recent India-Japan summit, where both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi participated,



emphasising three priority areas of cooperation in economic security, energy resilience and technology. "During the summit, Prime Minister Modi noted that nearly 129 private-sector agreements had been concluded over the past year, opening the way for more than JPY 2 trillion in Japanese investment. Energy security, defence

technology co-development, and semiconductor resilience: the priorities announced at the summit all point the same way. Business is at the heart of this relationship; economic security cooperation is what will keep it beating for years to come," the report added. It noted that the warmth on display during Takaichi's visit was hard to miss. It

highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi introducing Takaichi as his younger sister, saying it's "a gesture of closeness rarely extended to a foreign head of state." The report also countered the interpretation of Japan's outreach to India as a hedge against an 'increasingly unpredictable' US. The Tokyo Review report called it an

oversimplification and said that the Takaichi visit and the current trajectory of India's relationship with Japan are what the two governments already stated: a "Partnership of Strategic Convergence," and a bilateral partnership worthy of consideration on its own terms, and not a comparison of Japan-US or India-US relations. "Judged on its own terms, as an answer to a different and increasingly urgent set of problems, the India-Japan relationship looks like a promising strategic partnership. Japan's outreach to India is thus better understood as diversification within an alliance framework, rather than preparation of an escape route," the report emphasised.

China Issues Red Alert As Typhoon Dolphin Approaches

Beijing: China's national observatory on Sunday activated a red alert—the highest level in the country's typhoon warning system—as Typhoon Dolphin approached. Typhoon Dolphin is forecast to make landfall along the country's east coast from Sanmen in Zhejiang Province to Fuding in Fujian Province around Sunday evening to the early hours of Monday, according to the National Meteorological Centre (NMC). NMC chief forecaster Wang Haiping said a high alert was required due to the typhoon's heavy rainfall intensity, extensive impact range and prolonged duration, Xinhua News Agency reported. From Sunday to Wednesday, regions that include northern Fujian, Zhejiang, Shanghai, northern Jiangxi, Jiangsu, Anhui, eastern Hubei, central and eastern Henan, and

southern Shandong will be hit by heavy downpours, with some areas in central-eastern Zhejiang and southern Anhui facing severe torrential rain. Addressing key areas of prevention, Wang said the coastal areas of East China and the East China Sea need to focus on guarding against gale-force winds. From Sunday to Tuesday, most parts of the East China Sea, Hangzhou Bay, the coastal areas of Zhejiang, and the Yangtze River Estuary are expected to experience winds of Force 9 to 12, with gusts reaching Force 11 to 14, while gusts near the typhoon centre could reach Force 15 to 16. Relevant provinces also need to guard against secondary disasters triggered by persistent heavy rainfall. The risks of mountain torrents, geological disasters, and flash floods in small and medium-sized rivers are

relatively high in Zhejiang, Anhui, Henan, and Hebei, while some cities face high risks of urban waterlogging. NMC forecasts Typhoon Dolphin to move northwestward and gradually weaken after landfall. After Wednesday, the weakened remnant vortex will turn northward. "A typhoon landfall does not mean its impact is over. After Dolphin makes landfall, it will push further inland," Wang said. From Thursday to Sunday, the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, northern Shandong and Liaoning are likely to see heavy rainfall, with some areas expected to experience severe torrential rain. In response to the typhoon, China's meteorological authority on Sunday upgraded its emergency response for severe meteorological disasters from Level III to Level II.

Consensus Reached On Return Of Stolen Cultural Assets At BRICS Meeting, Says Shekhawat

Jaipur: The three-day series of BRICS meetings on culture, held under India's chairmanship, concluded in Bhopal on Saturday with the adoption of the Bhopal Declaration. At the 11th BRICS Meeting of Ministers of Culture, member and partner countries agreed on a practical and forward-looking framework to strengthen cooperation in culture, heritage, arts,

creative industries and cultural exchange. Addressing a press conference after the meeting, Union Minister for Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said the Bhopal Declaration was not merely a statement of intent but an outcome-oriented document that lays down specific objectives and a roadmap for their implementation. Briefing the media on Saturday,

Shekhawat added that the first meeting of the BRICS Culture Group was held virtually on April 29-30, followed by the second meeting of the working group in Varanasi on June 4-5. The Ministerial meeting in Bhopal built upon the deliberations held during these earlier meetings, culminating in the adoption of the Bhopal Declaration. He said that 14 countries,

including India, participated in the Ministerial meeting in Bhopal, comprising 10 BRICS member countries and four partner countries. A total of 55 delegates attended the meeting. During its chairmanship, India anchored the Culture Group's agenda around "building a strong foundation for resilience, innovation, cooperation, and

sustainable development". Shekhawat said the objective was to promote cultural cooperation that is sustainable, practical and capable of effective implementation. The restitution of cultural assets was among the key issues discussed at the meeting. Countries reached a consensus on strengthening cooperation for the repatriation of

archaeological and cultural artifacts that have been stolen or illicitly trafficked from their countries of origin. Shekhawat said cultural assets are not merely of economic value but represent the sentiments, history and heritage of nations, societies and communities. "Their (cultural assets) return, therefore, is also a matter of cultural justice." The Union

Minister highlighted India's efforts in this regard, saying that before 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office, only 13 archaeological and cultural treasures had been successfully brought back to India from abroad. The number has now crossed 700, Union Minister Shekhawat said, expressing confidence that the

figure could reach 1,000 by the end of this year at the current pace of efforts. A significant feature of the Bhopal Declaration is its outcome-oriented approach. Shekhawat said that, unlike declarations that often remain confined to broad principles, the present document focuses on specific targets, implementation pathways and future action.

Renowned writer Durga Prasad Sahoo presents the book "Gadajata Andolan " to the Parjang MLA

D h e n k a n a l , (correspondent) Eminent writer, activist, politician, social worker and scholar of the Parjang region, Durga Prasad Sahu presented his book ‘Gadajata Movement Dhenkanal and Talcher’ to the Parjang MLA Bibhuti Bhushan Pradhan. During the presentation of the book, Mr. Sahu had a detailed discussion with the MLA about various aspects of the Gadajata movement included in the book. The book presents in detail the political orientation of the country before Freedom to independent India, the history of the states



under the kings, maharajas, nawabs and nizams during the British rules, as well as various incidents of the Gadajata movement. The book also contains a factual discussion about the formation of P r a j a m a n d a l organization in Odisha and the extent of the movement later. This

218-page book mainly records the history of the Gadajata movement of Dhenkanal and Talcher. The book was previously released by former Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. After receiving the book, Parjang MLA Bibhuti Bhushan Pradhan read it himself and thanked the author

Durga Prasad Sahu for writing such a historical matter in the form of a book. Durga Prasad Sahu has earned his special recognition and fame in the state as an acclaimed politician, social worker and writer starting from his teaching career as a Teacher. K u a l o Sarpanch Ajit Kumar Sahu, Renthapat Sarpanch Prasanta Nayak, social workers Amaresh Sahoo, Bibatsa Sahoo and BJP leader Abhimanyu Sahu were prominently present on the occasion of the book release. Everyone thanked the author and politician Durga Prasad Sahu and wished him all the best.

TPNODL Partners with Regional Brands to Launch Innovative Consumer Reward Scheme

B a l e s h w a r , (correspondent) - TP Northern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPNODL), a leading power distribution utility committed to operational excellence and consumer satisfaction, today announced the launch of its innovative 'Customer Reward Programme'. Designed to deepen consumer engagement and deliver an enhanced value ecosystem, the initiative marks a major milestone in TPNODL's ongoing efforts to set new benchmarks for consumer-centric services in the power distribution sector. Under this strategic initiative, TPNODL has



collaborated with a broad network of regional and national commercial partners to offer consumers exclusive discounts across lifestyle, hospitality, wellness, and retail categories. Key regional partners include prominent hospitality establishments such as Hotel Nocci Residency and Hotel Niladri Inn in Baleshwar, Hotel Dew Plaza and Hotel Brahmani in Jaipur, and Hotel Atithi in Bhadrak.

The reward network also features popular recreation and wellness entities including Wonderla Amusement Park in Bhubaneswar, Padmavati Water Park and Resort in Baleshwar, as well as Vivid Unisex Salon and Spa and Absolute Fitness in Bhadrak. Additionally, through an integration with Xoxoday, consumers gain access to benefits across renowned national brands in apparel, consumer electronics,

travel, and health and wellness. The scheme was launched today by Mr. Dushyant Kumar Tyagi, Chief Executive Officer - TPNODL, in the presence of Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, CFO - Tata Power's T&D Cluster, alongside senior TPNODL executives and representatives from partner commercial enterprises. During the event, partner representatives commended TPNODL for its reliable power infrastructure and exemplary customer service standards across Northern Odisha, expressing strong satisfaction in aligning their brands with TPNODL's service ecosystem.

KIIT International School Hosts 13th Model United Nations 2026; Eminent Diplomat Sujan Chinoy Inaugurates Event

B h u b a n e s w a r , (correspondent) : The 13th edition of the Model United Nations (MUN) at KIIT International School (KiiTIS) was inaugurated on Saturday, bringing together young minds from across the country for deliberations on global issues. The event was formally declared open by former diplomat Sujan Chinoy, Director General of the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA), New Delhi. The two-day conference aims to foster critical thinking, diplomacy and leadership skills among students, providing them with a platform to understand international



relations and collaborate on solutions to global challenges. Addressing the students, Chinoy shared his long association with KIIT and its Founder, recalling a visit two decades ago when Prof. Achyuta Samanta had brought a team of young rugby players from his institutions to Australia. He highlighted how, despite rugby not being a traditional Indian

strength, the students performed exceptionally well, underscoring the power of vision, discipline and encouragement. He emphasised that values such as simplicity, hard work and teamwork are fundamental to success. “There is no substitute for industriousness. Even a lion must rise and hunt; success does not

come on its own,” he said, urging students to imbibe these qualities in their lives. Chinoy also stressed that collective effort and shared vision are essential, noting that achievements of great institutions are always the result of strong teamwork. Founder of KIIT and KISS, Prof. Achyuta Samanta, expressed his happiness over the successful organisation of the 13th MUN and thanked the chief guest for gracing the occasion. Recalling their first meeting in Australia, he described Chinoy's distinguished diplomatic career spanning over four decades and his expertise in international relations, defence and policy-

making. Highlighting the achievements of KIIT and KISS, Prof. Samanta noted that the institutions have made significant strides in sports and education. He said KIIT has produced more than 24 Olympians and contributed substantially to India's medal tally in international events such as the World University Games and Asian Athletics Championships. He also pointed out that KIIT students recently secured multiple medals at the Commonwealth Games and have consistently performed well in national competitions like the Khelo India University Games.

BJD Sweeps Bargarh Planning Board — All 15 Members Elected Unopposed

Baragada(correspondent) :- The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) achieved a clean sweep in the Bargarh District Planning Board elections on Friday, with all 15 seats declared won by party candidates unopposed, officials said. The District Election Officer and District Magistrate announced that no challengers filed nominations, resulting in 15 District Council members being elected without contest. Elected members include Govinda Sahu (Barpali-1), Anant Seth (Barpali-2), Iswar Chandra Sahu (Bhatli-2), Manini Bhoi (Bijepur-1), Mohan Luha (Bargarh-3), Nil Kumari Naik (Ambabhona-1), Nilamani Bariha



(Gaisilet-1), Padmini Gartia (Bhedan-1), Prabhasini Pradhan (Bargarh-2), Purnima Rana (Raj Boda Sambar-2), Pushpa Bhoi (Bargarh-1), Ranjit Sahu (Attabira-2), Rosy Naik (Sohela-3), Sudam Charan Sahu (Bijepur-3) and Sushil Marai (Jharbandh-1). Senior BJD leaders present to congratulate the members included District President Susanta Mohapatra, Padmapur MLA Barsha Singh Bariha, former ministers Snehangini Chhuria and Rita Sahu, former MLA Debesh

Acharya, Municipal Chairperson Kalpana Majhi and other local office-bearers. Party officials called the unopposed victories a mandate for focused district-level planning and accelerated development. Analysts said the absence of opposition candidates reflects the BJD's strong local organization and may ease coordination between the board and state development programs. Civil society groups urged the newly formed board to ensure transparent, participatory planning as it begins its work.

Newborn Found Alive Near Drain in Rourkela Despite Heavy Rain

Rourkelacorrespondent): : In a remarkable case of survival, a newborn baby boy was found alive near a drain at Shitalpada under Uditnagar police station limits in Rourkela on Friday morning. The infant, believed to have been abandoned shortly after birth, was allegedly left near the drain by an unidentified person. Local residents spotted the newborn and, shocked by the discovery, immediately informed the police. A 112 emergency response team reached the spot and rescued the baby. The newborn was subsequently taken to the Mother and Child Care unit of Rourkela Government Hospital for medical attention. What has left residents stunned is that the infant survived despite being left outdoors amid heavy rainfall. Locals said the baby's survival was nothing short of a miracle, with many recalling the age-old saying, “Whom the Almighty protects, none can harm.” Police are looking into the circumstances surrounding the abandonment and efforts are underway to ascertain the identity of the person responsible for leaving the newborn at the spot.

Nayagarh Police Launches Cyber Alert Campaign Under SP Suwendu Patra

NAYAGARHcorrespondent): With cyber fraud cases posing a growing threat to the public, Nayagarh Police, under the direction of SP Suwendu Patra, has stepped up its cyber-awareness drive and appealed to citizens to remain alert against online fraudsters. Police cautioned that fraudsters are making calls by impersonating officials of the Police, CBI, banks, Customs and other agencies, and attempting to deceive people into transferring money. Nayagarh Police advised the public to follow three important safety rules: never share OTP, CVV, UPI PIN or banking details; never transfer money on the instructions of unknown callers; and never click on suspicious links or install APK files received from unknown sources.

National Conclave & Policy Dialogue on Tuberculosis Concludes at AIIMS Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, correspondent): AIIMS Bhubaneswar successfully hosted the National Conclave & Policy Dialogue on Tuberculosis, bringing together policymakers, public health leaders, scientists, clinicians, researchers, officials of the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP), development partners and healthcare professionals to deliberate on strengthening tuberculosis (TB) diagnosis, surveillance and research, and accelerating India's vision of a TB-Mukt Bharat. The valedictory ceremony of the two-day conclave was graced by the Hon'ble Speaker of the Odisha Legislative Assembly, Smt. Surama Padhy, as the Chief Guest. The Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, Dr. Mukesh Mahaling, also attended the ceremony. Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Speaker Smt. Surama



Padhy underscored that the vision of a TB-Mukt Bharat, as envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, is not merely a public health initiative but a national movement driven by collective responsibility, scientific advancement and community participation. She called for greater collaboration between AIIMS Bhubaneswar, the Government of Odisha and other stakeholders to translate scientific evidence into effective public health implementation. She also advocated exploring pilot initiatives involving

advanced genotypic testing to generate evidence that could inform future policy decisions. Highlighting the continuing challenge posed by drug-resistant tuberculosis, she stressed the importance of early detection of drug resistance. She noted that Universal Drug Susceptibility Testing (UDST) can significantly contribute to improving patient outcomes, reducing transmission and strengthening public health systems. The Hon'ble Health Minister, Dr. Mukesh Mahaling, stated that effective TB elimination requires

coordinated efforts involving government agencies, medical institutions, researchers, laboratories, frontline health workers, development partners and communities. The Minister expressed the State Government's willingness to collaborate with AIIMS Bhubaneswar and other stakeholders in implementing evidence-based pilot projects to evaluate the feasibility, affordability and scalability of advanced diagnostic technologies within the public health system. He emphasized that innovations in diagnostics must ultimately reach

patients in rural, tribal and remote areas, where timely and accurate diagnosis remains crucial. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ashutosh Biswas, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, highlighted its commitment to advancing TB research, molecular diagnostics, genomics and evidence-based policy development, particularly for Eastern India. He informed that discussions are underway for AIIMS Bhubaneswar to initiate advanced TB testing in two districts of Odisha on a pilot basis, with the objective of generating evidence for wider

implementation. Dr. Prabhas Ranjan Tripathy, Medical Superintendent, AIIMS Bhubaneswar; Shri Nandish Pethani, Founder, Policy Resilience Foundation (PRF); Dr. Prasanta Raghav Mohapatra, Organising Chairman; and Dr. Sourin Bhuniya, Organising Secretary, along with senior officials of the Government of Odisha, representatives of NTEP, scientists, clinicians, microbiologists, public health experts, researchers, development partners and healthcare professionals, attended the programme. Experts at the conclave emphasized the need to establish a robust collaborative framework involving AIIMS Bhubaneswar, the Government of Odisha, NTEP, research institutions, development partners and public health agencies to strengthen TB surveillance, diagnostics, operational research and implementation science.

Biswa AdivasiDiwas Celebrated at SankhaBhawan

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent):Respecting the rich culture and traditions of tribal communities, the BijuJanata Dal o b s e r v e d BiswaAdivasiDiwas and KrantiDiwas at SankhaBhawan. The programme was organised under the leadership of the BijuJanata Dal Tribal Cell. At the beginning of the programme, floral tributes were paid in the early morning to the statues of great tribal personalities at various places. Thereafter, at the general meeting organised at SankhaBhawan, BJD President and Leader of Opposition Shri Naveen Patnaik joined the programme and addressed the gathering. Senior Vice President Shri Debi Prasad



Mishra coordinated the programme, while Media Coordinator and tribal leader Dr. Priyabrata Majhi conducted the proceedings on the stage. Tribal brothers and sisters welcomed Shri Naveen Patnaik to the stage with traditional

dances and songs. Shri Naveen Patnaik paid floral tributes to the portraits of freedom fighters and paid his respects to their sacrifices. Addressing the general meeting, Shri Naveen Patnaik said that during the BijuJanata Dal

government, several landmark programmes were initiated for the development and empowerment of tribal communities. The BJD government had taken several steps to empower tribal people by promoting development in various fields, ranging from higher education to livelihoods and means of income. During the BJD g o v e r n m e n t , Panchayats were given rights over the collection of forest produce, thousands of hostels were established, the A n w e s h a p r o g r a m m e w a s introduced to facilitate higher education, and forest land rights were provided, thereby connecting tribal brothers and sisters with the process of development. Tribal

development was also promoted through the Special Development Councils (SDCs). The BijuJanata Dal had submitted a proposal to the Central Government for the inclusion of 169 tribal communities in the Scheduled Tribe list. The BijuJanata Dal is the best friend of tribal brothers and sisters. Tribal empowerment is the goal of the BijuJanata Dal. The BijuJanata Dal has always remained committed to the development and welfare of tribal communities. The BJD's struggle will continue to promote and protect the culture and traditions of tribal communities and ensure their inclusion in the mainstream of society.

Supreme Court Collegium recommends transfer of two Orissa High Court Judges

Kataka (correspondent): The Supreme Court collegium has recommended transfers of two judges from Orissa High Court. The Supreme Court Collegium, in its meeting held on August 6, has recommended the transfer of Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak and Justice Krushna Ram Mohapatra of the Orissa High Court. According to the official statement, Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak (Parent High Court: Gauhati) has been recommended for transfer from the Orissa High Court to the Gujarat High Court. Justice Krushna Ram Mohapatra has been recommended for transfer from the Orissa High Court to the

Chhattisgarh High Court. The recommendations were made as part of the Collegium's regular exercise of recommending transfers of High Court judges. Against the sanctioned strength of 33 judges, Orissa High Court is currently operating with 17 judges, including the Chief Justice. With the transfer of two judges, the tally will come down to 15. Justice Pathak was Standing Counsel of Education Department, Government of Assam since February 2005 as well as Standing Counsel of Gauhati High Court till appointment as Additional Judge of Gauhati High Court. He was elevated as Additional Judge of the Gauhati High Court on

May 22 2013 and became a permanent Judge w.e.f. 12.11.2018. On transfer, he is serving as a Judge of the High Court of Orissa since July 21, 2025. Prior to the appointment of a judge, Justice Mohapatra was also serving as Additional Standing Counsel for Odisha as well as Orissa Public Service Commission and advocate for Central Cooperative Banks Limited., Keonjhar, National Institute of Open Schooling under the Ministry of HRD, Government of India, and Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited, Bank of Baroda etc. He was elevated as Judge of the Orissa High Court on April 17, 2015.

Stone statue stolen from Gopalpur Jagannath Temple

Gopalpur, 08/08 (correspondent): A complain has been filed with the police station regarding the theft of a stone statue in front of the Maa Lakshmi temple in the Jagannath temple complex at Gopalpur Shigidi Sahi under Gopalpur police station. According to the complaint, a person jumped over the temple wall and entered the temple complex at around 2:45 am on Friday night. After this, the person wandered

around the temple complex for about half an hour and tried to lift a stone statue in front of the Maa Lakshmi temple and also tried to remove some other stone statues around the temple, but was unsuccessful. As a result, only one stone idol was taken away. This morning, when the devotees went to the temple premises to perform puja, they noticed that the stone idol in front of the Lakshmi temple was missing and informed the management

committee. After this, the management committee members reached temple and checked the CCTV footage installed there and found out that a person had stolen such a statue. The committee has also submitted a written complaint regarding the incident and the CCTV footage has been given to the police station. When the police went to the temple premises and investigated the incident, it is found that they have started trying to track down the thief based on

the CCTV footage. On the other hand, there is a discussion about how to prevent an incident like breaking the lock of the temple after a thief stole only one stone idol from the temple. Some say that it was done by a madman, while others are discussing that the thief did not dare to steal it out of fear of Jagannath. In any case, there is a general demand from the police to tighten night patrolling.

STUDENTS EAT MID-DAY MEAL UNDER SCORCHING SUN

Paralakhemundi:(Correspondent):- A distressing picture of the mid-day meal arrangement has surfaced at the Government High School in Adava under Mohana block of Gajapati district, where students are reportedly forced to sit in an open field under the scorching midday sun to have their lunch. The school has around 535 students from Bal Batika to Class X, but lacks adequate space and a dedicated dining hall for students to sit and eat their mid-



day meals. A similar scene was witnessed on Thursday, with students sitting outdoors in the afternoon heat while

been eating their meals in the open throughout the year. The lack of a proper dining facility has triggered resentment among parents and local residents. They questioned how students can be provided a dignified mid-day meal when there is no suitable place for them to sit and eat. Parents and residents have urged the authorities to construct a dining hall at the earliest, ensuring that students can have their mid-day meals in a safe, comfortable and hygienic environment.

Are Liquor Shop Owners Themselves Opposing a Liquor Shop in Jajpur? Strong Opposition to Opening a New IMFL Shop; Who Is Behind the Protest?

J A J P U R , (correspondent): The opening of a new foreign liquor shop in Jajpur town has sparked intense discussions ranging from politics to business interests. In particular, strong resentment has emerged in the local area over the opening of the IMFL Jajpur Town No. 2 Foreign Liquor "Off Shop" near the river embankment in Ward No. 1 of Jajpur Municipality. Following the opening of the shop yesterday, a section of local residents opposed the move and demanded that the shop be closed. However, the protest has now raised another

question—could the interests of other liquor traders be behind the opposition to the new liquor shop? Although such discussions are gaining momentum at the local level, no clear official evidence has so far emerged to establish the truth of these allegations. Therefore, whether the opposition is driven solely by public interest or by commercial competition has now become a matter requiring investigation and clarification. Public Opposition or Commercial Competition? On one hand, local residents are demanding the closure of the liquor shop. On the other, different

discussions are reportedly taking place among sections associated with the liquor trade in the town regarding the ongoing opposition. Questions have also been raised as to whether anyone is indirectly encouraging the protest out of concern that the opening of a new shop could affect existing businesses. If the opposition is genuinely based on public demand, then all details concerning the complaints of local residents, legal norms, the location of the shop and the permissions granted for its operation should be made public. On the other hand, if commercial competition is

behind the opposition, the administration should conduct an impartial inquiry into that aspect as well. Focus on the Role of the Administration Attention is now focused on the role of the Excise Department and the local administration in the matter. It is the responsibility of the concerned authorities to clarify whether all necessary licences, location-related regulations and other legal requirements for opening the shop have been duly complied with. At the same time, if the grievances raised by local residents are genuine, addressing them is also the responsibility of the

administration. However, if any commercial interest is operating behind the façade of public opposition, that aspect too needs to be brought to light. Are the People Opposing the Liquor Shop—or the Traders? This is now the biggest topic of discussion in Jajpur town. Is the opposition to the new liquor shop genuinely coming from the public, or is it being driven by business interests? The answer to this question will depend on the facts, official records and an impartial inquiry.

Banigocha Police Detect NDPS Case; 5 Kg Ganja and Motorcycle Seized, Two Arrested

Nayagarh (correspondent): Banigocha Police have detected an NDPS case and arrested two persons in connection with the illegal transportation of narcotic substances. During the operation, police seized 5 kg of contraband ganja and one motorcycle used for transportation. The action was carried out under the direction of Nayagarh SP Subendu Patra, who has taken serious measures against the illegal possession and supply of narcotic substances in the

district. Nayagarh Police have also intensified action against illegal liquor supply, theft and kidnapping, with strict legal measures being taken against those involved in such offences. Police said that the drive against the drug menace will continue and anyone involved in the illegal possession, transportation or supply of narcotic substances will face stringent legal action. Further investigation into the case is underway.

Humans and AI Must Work Together, Says Sanjeev Agarwal at KSOM HR Conclave

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent):: Emphasising that the future of work lies in collaboration between humans and technology, Sanjeev Agarwal, CEO of Protiviti Member Firm for Middle East and India, said it is "about Humans and AI, not Humans vs AI," while addressing the 17th National HR Conclave at KIIT School of Management (KSOM). Delivering the keynote address at the conclave themed "The Equalizing Effect of Generative AI: Bridging the Skills Gap," Agarwal

highlighted how Generative AI is transforming talent acquisition, performance management and workforce development. He noted that AI has the potential to democratise access to knowledge and learning resources, thereby helping bridge skill gaps across diverse sections of society. As organisations become increasingly technology-driven, HR is at a critical turning point, he added. Prof. Saranjit Singh, Vice Chancellor, KIIT-DU, formally opened the conclave



and stressed the need for a responsible and human-centric approach to AI integration. While acknowledging AI's role in bridging skill gaps, he underscored the importance of inclusivity and ethical decision-making in its

adoption. Earlier, Prof. Kumar Mohanty, Director, KSOM, welcomed the gathering and spoke on the growing relevance of AI-driven transformation in HR practices. He emphasised the need for continuous upskilling in

a rapidly evolving professional landscape. The inaugural session also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen academia-industry collaboration. The keynote speaker was felicitated, and winners of the pre-conclave competitions were announced. The conclave featured two parallel panel discussions on "AI for All or AI for Few? The Reality of Skill Equalization," where experts debated whether AI is truly

bridging opportunity gaps or creating new divides. Key issues such as digital accessibility, algorithmic bias and inclusive learning ecosystems were discussed. In the second half, Synergistics—interactive workshops and expert-led sessions—were organised on topics including AI in HR, the impact of Gen Z on hybrid workplaces, AI for reducing workload and stress, and employee voice in AI implementation.

Odisha HC rejects anticipatory bail plea of regional TV channel editor over remarks made against Minister Gond

Kataka: Odisha High Court dismissed the anticipatory bail application filed by Sudhanshu Sekhar Rout, Editor-in-Chief of the Focus Plus TV channel, in connection with a criminal case registered at the Capital Police Station. Justice V. Narasingh declined to grant pre-arrest protection to Rout after reviewing the case diary and materials gathered during the police investigation. As reported by The New Indian Express, the legal proceedings stem from a complaint lodged on July 14 regarding statements made during an Odisha Swabhimana Mancha programme on July 12. According to the FIR, Rout allegedly claimed that School and Mass Education Minister Nityananda Gond tried to bribe him to suppress news reports concerning alleged errors in school textbooks. During the hearing, the state strongly opposed the pre-arrest bail plea, pointing to Rout's criminal background and informing the bench that 20 criminal cases have been registered against him across various police stations.

EDITORIAL

National Pride and Democratic Rights

A nation's true strength lies not only in its military power, economic progress, or geographical boundaries, but also in the values upheld by its citizens. National pride and democratic rights are often portrayed as opposing ideas, yet they are, in reality, complementary pillars of a healthy democracy. A nation flourishes when its citizens enjoy their constitutional freedoms while also respecting the dignity, unity, and integrity of their country.

India, the world's largest democracy, is founded on the principles of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. The Constitution guarantees every citizen fundamental rights, including freedom of speech and expression, equality before the law, freedom of religion, and the right to education. These rights empower people to participate in governance, express their opinions, question policies, and contribute to public discourse. However, every right is accompanied by a corresponding responsibility. Freedom is meaningful only when exercised with wisdom, respect, and accountability.

National pride is much more than symbolic acts such as saluting the national flag or singing the national anthem. It reflects a deep commitment to the nation's constitutional values, cultural diversity, democratic institutions, and collective progress. Citizens demonstrate genuine patriotism by obeying the law, protecting public property, paying taxes honestly, preserving the environment, and contributing positively to society.

One of the cornerstones of democracy is the freedom of expression. The ability to express different opinions, debate public issues, and offer constructive criticism strengthens democratic governance. Constructive criticism helps governments improve policies and become more accountable. At the same time, freedom of expression should be exercised responsibly. Speech that promotes violence, hatred, misinformation, or threatens national security undermines both democracy and social harmony. In today's digital era, social media has amplified every citizen's voice. While digital platforms have expanded opportunities for participation and awareness, they have also made the spread of misinformation, fake news, and divisive content easier than ever before. Responsible digital citizenship requires verifying information before sharing it, engaging respectfully in discussions, and using technology to promote knowledge rather than conflict. National pride is also reflected in the everyday contributions of citizens. Students who pursue excellence in education, scientists who make groundbreaking discoveries, entrepreneurs who create employment, artists who preserve cultural heritage, athletes who represent the country internationally, and volunteers who serve their communities all contribute to enhancing the nation's reputation. Patriotism is demonstrated through actions that improve society and inspire future generations.

The Indelible Saga of the Quit India Movement



Yogesh Kumar Goyal

The Quit India Movement, also known as the 'August Revolution', symbolizes a decisive turning point in the history of the Indian freedom struggle that deeply shook the foundations of British rule. This was not merely a political movement, but a powerful example of the Indian populace's unyielding desire for freedom, willpower, and the culmination of sacrifice. Every year, 8 August is celebrated as 'Quit India Movement Day', reminding us of that historic struggle when the entire nation stood up in unison against British rule. During the Second World War, the political situation in India had become extremely complex. The British government dragged India into the war without its consent, causing widespread discontent among Indian leaders and the public. Meanwhile, in 1942, the 'Cripps Mission' came to India, proposing to grant Dominion Status to India after the war, but this proposal was vague and incomplete. Indian leaders rejected it because there was no clear guarantee of immediate independence. This failure set the backdrop for the movement.

On 8 August 1942, the historic session of the All India Congress Committee took place at Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay (now Mumbai), which is today known as 'August Kranti Maidan'. The 'Quit India' resolution was passed in this very session. On this occasion, Mahatma Gandhi inspired his fellow countrymen for the final struggle for freedom with his famous slogan 'Do or Die'. This slogan was not just a call, but it became a symbol of the self-confidence and resolve of the India of that time.

The greatest feature of this movement was that it became a complete mass movement. On the morning of 9 August 1942 itself, Gandhiji, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, and other prominent leaders were arrested. The objective of the British was to crush the movement by eliminating the leadership, but it had the opposite effect. Following the arrest of the leaders, the movement became even more fierce and widespread. The public spontaneously took to the streets across various parts of the country. Students, laborers, farmers, and women participated in this movement in large numbers.

During the Quit India Movement, violent incidents also occurred at many places. Railway lines were damaged, telephone and telegraph services were disrupted, and government buildings were attacked. Although Mahatma Gandhi's movement was non-violent, the suppressed anger within the public manifested in a fierce manner at several places. The British government also took harsh steps to crush this movement. The police and the army used force, thousands of people were arrested, and firing took place at many places, in which hundreds of people were martyred. The role of women in this movement was also extremely significant. Many women, including Aruna Asaf Ali, Usha Mehta, and Sucheta Kripalani, not only actively participated in the movement but also led it. Usha Mehta broadcast information and messages about the movement across the nation through 'Congress Radio'. This shows that the movement was not limited only to men, but saw participation from every section of society.

An important aspect of the Quit India Movement was that it made the British rule realize that it was no longer possible to rule over India. Although this movement could not bring immediate

independence, it weakened the administrative and mental grip of the British. After this, the British government understood that their rule in India could not last for long. The impact of this movement was also observed at the international level. During the Second World War, Britain was already under economic and military pressure. Such a widespread mass movement in India further weakened its position. After the war, when Britain's condition deteriorated further, granting independence to India became an absolute necessity for it. The greatest contribution of the Quit India Movement was that it taught the Indian public the lesson of self-reliance and self-confidence. This movement proved that when the public stands united for a goal, even the most powerful empire cannot stand before it. This movement was the final and decisive phase of the Indian freedom struggle, which strengthened the foundation of the independence achieved in 1947. Today, when we celebrate 'Quit India Movement Day', it is not merely an occasion to remember history, but also a source of inspiration for us. It reminds us that freedom is not just a right, but the result of countless sacrifices that we must always cherish. In present times, when the country is facing various challenges, the spirit of this movement (unity, courage, and resolve) can serve as a guiding light for us. The Quit India Movement is not just an event of the past, but an idea, an inspiration that makes us aware of our duties and responsibilities. The message of 'Do or Die' remains just as relevant today, inspiring us to dedicate ourselves to our nation and fulfill our responsibilities. This is the greatest legacy of this historic movement, which we must pass on to future generations.

Drug-Free Youth, A Stronger Tomorrow



SUBRAT KUMAR DAS

Youth are the future of every country. Their talent, energy, and dreams can build a better society. Sadly, many young people today are becoming victims of drugs and alcohol. Peer pressure, unemployment, emotional stress, and a lack of awareness often lead them towards addiction. If the younger generation loses its potential to substance abuse, the progress of the nation is also affected.

Addiction is one of the greatest challenges facing modern society. It affects people of every age, gender, and background. Whether it is alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or other harmful substances, addiction slowly takes control of a person's life. It damages health, destroys relationships, weakens families, and creates problems for society. Breaking the chains of addiction is not only important for individuals but also for the future of every nation.

Many people begin using addictive substances out of curiosity, stress, loneliness, or the influence of friends. Some believe that these substances help them forget their worries or make them feel

confident. However, this temporary feeling soon turns into dependence. What begins as a simple habit gradually becomes a powerful addiction that is difficult to overcome.

The effects of addiction are serious. It harms both physical and mental health. Long-term addiction can lead to heart disease, liver damage, cancer, depression, anxiety, and many other illnesses. It also affects a person's ability to think clearly, make good decisions, and perform daily responsibilities. Many people lose their jobs, face financial problems, and become separated from their families because of addiction.

The fight against addiction begins at home. Parents should spend time with their children, listen to their concerns, and teach them the importance of healthy living. Schools and colleges should organize awareness programmes, discussions, sports activities, and cultural events to help students develop confidence and make positive choices. Teachers can inspire young minds by guiding them towards education, discipline, and good values.

Communities also have an important role to play. Social organizations, religious institutions, youth clubs, and the media can spread

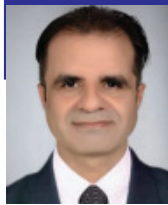
awareness about the dangers of addiction. Campaigns, street plays, health camps, and public meetings can encourage people to stay away from harmful substances and seek help when needed.

Governments must take strict action against the illegal sale and trafficking of drugs. At the same time, rehabilitation centres and counselling services should be made easily available. People struggling with addiction need understanding, treatment, and support rather than rejection. Recovery is possible when society offers compassion and a second chance.

Breaking the chains of addiction is not an easy journey, but it is a journey worth taking. Every individual who chooses a healthy life becomes an example for others. Every family that supports recovery helps build a stronger community. Every young person who says "No" to drugs and "Yes" to life becomes a source of hope for the nation.

So, let us all join hands to create a drug-free society where every person has the opportunity to live with dignity, good health, and hope. Together, we can break the chains of addiction and build a brighter, healthier, and more peaceful future for generations to come.

The United Nations declared the Goal of the Month for August 2026 as the Goal of the Month under Sustainable Development Goal 10



Kishan Bhawnani

Today, every country has entered a new era of economic progress, artificial intelligence, digital revolution, and scientific achievements. However, behind this glow of development, many new layers of inequality are emerging. The United Nations has officially announced Reduced Inequalities as the Goal of the Month for August 2026 under Sustainable Development Goal 10 (SDG) on its official UN Sustainable Development website (UN Goal of the Month) on August 3, 2026. The UN Sustainable Development Goal 10, Reduced Inequalities, aims not only to reduce income disparities but also to strengthen socioeconomic and political inclusion and ensure equal opportunities for all. The UN believes that inequality can undermine long-term

social and economic development, impact the pace of poverty eradication, and undermine people's trust in opportunities and institutions. This announcement comes at a juncture when the entire world is grappling with challenges like economic inequality, social polarization, and unequal distribution of resources. This vision of the United Nations clearly demands that every nation in the world review its internal policies so that the last person at the bottom of society (the underprivileged) can be included in the mainstream of development. I, Advocate Kishan Sanmukhdas Bhawnani, Gondia, Maharashtra, would like to point out that the United Nations usually releases a detailed report and announcement of that month's special global campaign, or Goal of the Month, on the first or early days of each

new month (e.g., between the 1st and 3rd). This time, this special campaign for August 2026 has been made public on August 3rd, 2026, with full details (data and global priorities). When we see this international paradigm being implemented on the Indian ground, our attention is directly drawn to India's most sensitive and historic policy: the reservation system. Currently, parallel to this call for global equality, campaigns like the Reservation Hatao Andolan are emerging with great intensity on India's digital and social landscape. This contradiction is a living proof that a deep ideological gap has emerged between the traditional tools of social justice and modern economic realities in the country.

Friends, a balanced answer to this question is impossible without understanding the constitutional concept of reservation. The purpose of reservation in India was not to

privilege any class, but to provide opportunities for advancement in education, government employment, and representation to communities affected by historical social exclusion, discrimination, and inequality of opportunity. The Indian Constitution's equality framework is not limited to formal equality; it also allows for special provisions towards real and meaningful equality. The special measures for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and socially and educationally backward classes were intended to reduce the barriers that had long kept many communities out of education, administration, and social prestige.

Friends, Seventy Years of Journey and the Current Relevance of Reservation: After more than seven decades of Indian independence, the question has become absolutely unavoidable: is reservation still truly necessary? To understand this debate, it is essential to objectively assess both the historical

structure and contemporary progress of Indian society. The reservation policy was incorporated in the Indian Constitution as a form of political representation for a fixed period and as an affirmative action for the upliftment of socio-educationally backward classes. This system has certainly empowered a large section of the country's exploited, deprived, and marginalized sections to raise their voices in the administrative, educational, and political systems over the past 70 years. Without this policy, Indian democracy would probably not have been so inclusive. However, the problem arises when, even after seventy years, a large section of society is still forced to live in the same primitive backwardness, illiteracy, and extreme social deprivation. This ground reality indicates that the reservation policy has been only partially successful in fully achieving its original objectives. This is why today's younger

generation and modern thinkers are raising serious questions about the sustainability and functioning of this policy.

Friends, the administrative elite and the crisis of intergenerational benefits. The most pressing and pressing question at the center of this entire discussion is whether future generations of those who have reached the top echelons of society on the strength of reservation—such as IAS, IPS, senior officers in the central services, prominent politicians, and financially wealthy industrialists—also need this protective shield. There is intense outrage in social media and current intellectual discourse about the fact that the benefits of reservation are being passed down from generation to generation within the same family. When a person from a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe reaches the highest position in the civil service, their future progeny automatically

benefits from the country's most expensive convent schools, the state-of-the-art infrastructure of metropolitan cities, and all the economic comforts. Therefore, comparing that affluent child to a child of the same category living in a remote rural area, a farm laborer, a manual scavenger, or a remote tribal region, seems completely illogical and unjust. In fact, has this policy anomaly created an elite or creamy layer within the reserved categories, monopolizing the rights of the poorest, most exploited, and most backward members of their own caste?

Friends, promoting social, economic, and moral inequality. This form of the current reservation system is fostering a new kind of social, economic, and moral inequality in society, which is completely contrary to the principles of the United Nations SDG 10. At the social level, instead of creating harmony between castes, this system is deepening animosity

and division. When qualified youth from the general category are denied employment or education despite achieving very high marks, and candidates from reserved categories from more affluent backgrounds are selected with much lower marks, it gives rise to dissatisfaction and mental frustration in society. At the economic level, this inequality is increasing because the basis for reservation continues to be primarily based on caste by birth, not a person's current economic distress. This is a serious crisis from a moral perspective as well. Ethics demands that the most vulnerable in society be supported first. However, in the current system, the refusal of morally affluent families to voluntarily relinquish this benefit, and the failure of the state to impose any strict limits on it, is a grave moral injustice to the last person who still struggles for primary education and two meals a day.

World Tribal Day celebrated

Malkangiri, correspondent :On the occasion of 'World Tribal Day' on August 9, the District Tribal Society Mahasangh, Malkangiri, organized a large gathering at the D.N.K. Sports Stadium in Malkangiri along with a procession and cultural program in Malkangiri city. Through this gathering, a memorandum has been submitted to the Governor, Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and Secretary of the Scheduled Tribes and Caste Development Department through the Malkangiri District Magistrate for the constitutional rights of the tribal



community, land and forest rights, protection of language and culture and solving the burning problems of the district. In the morning, after the tribal people gathered from the outskirts of the district, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Floral wreaths were offered at the statue of Ambedkar. A grand cultural procession, dressed in traditional attire and accompanied by music, started from the D.N.K. Sports Complex and paraded around Malkangiri town. The meeting was presided over by District Tribal Society Mahasangh President, Bandhu Muduli. The chief guest was Lakma Kabasi, MLA of Sukma district of Chhattisgarh, bordering the district. The program was attended by Malkangiri MLA Narasing Madkami, Chitrakonda MLA Mangu Khil, General Secretary, Debendra Nath Khila, Treasurer, Executive President, Jarasabar Madhi, and many more people.

Huge quantity of ganja seized

SUBARNAPURcorrespondent ---Subalaya police get big success. Police have seized 1302 packets of ganja worth more than 12 quintals from a container. According to information, the said container was coming towards Birmaharajpur from Kadaligarh area with ganja in it. After receiving information from some source, Subarnapur Superintendent Of Police Narayan Nayak, the police had tightened patrolling and the Subalaya police chased the container. The driver, who was chasing the police, left the container in the Sarakhandi area near Govindpur Chhak on the Subalaya-Birmaharajur road and fled. The police reached the spot and seized the container and while weighing the seized ganja in the presence of Executive Magistrate Ajit Mirddha, the police informed that its quantity would be more than 12 quintals. However, there is no clear information about how many people were in the container, including the driver. Further investigation is underway, said Sanjeev Bastia, officer-in-charge of Subalaya police station

Truck owner’s body spotted near Paradip railway line

Jagatsinghpur, (correspondent). A truck owner’s body was spotted lying at Rangiagada railway station near Paradip. He was identified as Deepak Parida hailing from Padmanavpur village under Balikuda block in Jagatsinghpur district. Railway police seized the dead body, performed postmortem at Kujanga hospital, and later handed it over to family members for cremation. The report said that the deceased Parida, who owns two trucks, was residing at Madhuban area in Paradip town and carrying out truck business for two decades. On Wednesday night, he had been reported missing in residence; as a consequence, his wife had lodged an FIR at Adarsha police station in Paradip. Police launched an investigation based on the complaint and found a dead body was spotted near Rangiagada overbridge adjacent to the railway station. Later, the body was identified as missing Deepak Parida.

Prajapita Brahmakumari Divine University's drug-free campaign promises

P a r a d i p , correspondent: A grand campaign was organized by Paradip P r a j a p i t a Brahmakumari Iswariya Vishwavidyalaya Paradip, Madhuban Seva Kendra on 10 vows to free oneself from addiction. The vows included abstaining from any kind of addiction, adopting the values ??of purity, positivity and self-respect in life, inspiring others to lead a drug-free life in their family, friends and society, making good use of their body, mind, time and energy, and contributing positively to building a



drug-free, healthy and better India. The drug-free promise program began at 12 noon today at the office premises in Madhuban. The guests of the program were Chairman of Paradip Municipality Sri Basant Kumar Biswal, journalists Surendra Biswal and Pravat Kumar Mahapatra and Ullash Chandra Behera. The head of Paradeep Service Center, B.K. Suman sister conducted the program. Among others, Prakash Chandra Jena, Vivekananda Nayak, Captain Amit Kumar, Kahnu Charan Nayak, Shashmita Swain, B.K. Aarti and all the brothers and sisters of Paradeep Service Center were present. Sister Suman, the operator of Paradeep Service Center, made everyone promise.

Floodwaters Rise Again in Baitarani River: District Collector Visits Affected Areas

J A J P U R (correspondent): Due to incessant rainfall and the rising water levels of the Baitarani and Kani rivers, several areas of Dasarathpur block in Jajpur district have once again been affected by floods. Owing to heavy rainfall in the upper catchment areas of the Baitarani River, the water level near Dasarathpur crossed the danger mark of 9.52 metres and was flowing at 10.60 metres as of 4:00 PM today (09.08.2026).In view of the critical situation, Jajpur District Collector Mr. Ambar Kumar Kar visited the flood-affected areas of Dasarathpur block



today and reviewed the overall situation. The District Collector particularly visited the vulnerable and flood-affected areas of Dovabil, Khasalpur, Kasapa and Mallikapur, among others, and inspected the ongoing breach repair work at Ahiyas. The District Collector directed that as soon as the floodwater recedes, the breach repair work should be completed rapidly, in a strong and durable manner, while maintaining proper quality standards. He also instructed all departmental officials to give the highest priority

to relief and restoration operations and ensure that essential relief materials, cooked food, dry food and polythene sheets reach every flood-affected family. According to information from the District Emergency Section, a total of 13,422 people from 4 Gram Panchayats and 10 villages under **2 blocks of the district— Dasarathpur and Barchana—**have been affected by the flood. At present, 10 free kitchens/relief centres have been opened, providing cooked food to 4,964 people, including 3,898 adults and 1,066 children. Today, 0.50

quintal of flattened rice (chuda) and 0.10 quintal of jaggery were distributed among the affected people. For immediate rescue and emergency response, one ODRAF (Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force) team has been deployed in Dasarathpur. It has also been clarified that no loss of life has been reported in the flood so far. During the visit, the Dasarathpur BDO, along with other departmental officials and local residents, was present. The district administration remains fully alert and is keeping a close watch on the evolving flood situation.

Demand for inclusion of Subarnapur in Special Development Council

SUBARNAPUR (correspondent):- Today, World Tribal Day was celebrated in Subarnapur land not only as a festival, but also as a powerful public voice of tribal identity, pride, culture, unity and constitutional rights in a grand and e n t h u s i a s t i c atmosphere. Thousands of tribal brothers and sisters, dressed in traditional attire, dance, songs, drums, flags and various tribal instruments, took part in a huge procession around Sonpur town. The entire town was festive in the unprecedented gathering of tribal culture, tradition and



pride. Later, a huge public meeting was held at Subarnapur Town Hall. Niranjana Bishi , former Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Subarnapur Collector Dr. Nruparaj Sahu, Chairman of Boudh SDC, Chairman of Subarnapur District Tribal Welfare Association Jogendra Bhoi, all block presidents and secretary, all district and block level tribal leaders, women, youth and thousands of tribal participated. The meeting had an in-depth discussion on the constitutional rights of the tribal society, water-forest-land, education, employment, land and forest rights, socio-economic justice, protection of culture and

tradition, rights of village council and various pressing problems faced by the tribal society. It was strongly felt that the protection and rights given to the Scheduled Tribes by the Indian Constitution should not be limited to the pages of the law but should be fully, sincerely and effectively implemented at the

7-year-old disabled student drowns in water

SUBARNAPUR(correspondent):---A sad news has been received that a disabled child drowned in water. The incident took place at a school for the disabled in Panisiali, Subarnapur district. The deceased child is the Arakshit Kheti 7-year-old son of Rohit Kheti of Sandunguripali village of Kashurbandh panchayat in Boudh district. Yesterday evening, Arakshit had gone to play with a friend in the school premises. After some time, the friend returned to the room, but Arakshit did not return. After a search, the school authorities rescued him from a ditch. Later, he was rescued and taken to the district headquarters hospital for treatment, but the doctor declared him dead. The most surprising thing is that the autopsy was done very late today (Sunday). The circumstances under which the boy died can be known only after an investigation

ADIVASI MANCH RAISES VOICE FOR TRIBAL RIGHTS

Paralakhemundi: (Correspondent):-The Akhil Bharat Adivasi Manch (AITF) observed World Indigenous Peoples’ Day with a public meeting and rally at S. Burda village under Partada Gram Panchayat in Kashinagar block of Gajapati district on Sunday.



speakers particularly referred to Sijimali in Rayagada and Lanjiberna in Sundargarh, alleging that tribal communities are being pressured into the interests of large corporate entities. They also alleged that government land was being placed in land banks

instead of being allotted to landless tribal families. Expressing concern over the implementation of the Forest Rights Act, the speakers said many tribal people were yet to receive their legitimate forest rights even two decades after

the law came into force. They also alleged neglect of tribal languages, scripts, literature and culture despite tribals constituting nearly one-fourth of Odisha’s population. The speakers criticised what they described as attempts to

divide tribal communities on religious lines for political interests. The naming of the government medical college in Kandhamal district also came under criticism, with the speakers demanding recognition of Chakara Bisoi, leader of the anti-British Ghumsar tribal uprising. Tribal leader Junes Medi presided over the programme, while Kedar Sabar, one of the convenors of the Akhil Bharat Adivasi Manch, addressed the gathering. Tribal leaders Kaduka Sabar, Chaitanya Sabar, Ganeshri Sabar and Niyapali Sabar, among others, attended the event.

32001/665/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Office of the Engineer-In-Chief, Water Resources, Secha Sadan, Bhubaneswar

Email Address: cemech.eicwr.od@gmail.com

e-Procurement Notice- Bid Identification No.- CEM/MDS-01/ 2026-27

1. Name of work	: Mechanical Gate Works
2. No of work	: 01 (One)
3. Category of executors	: SSI Units registered under DIC/ NSIC/ MSME for Irrigation Shutters / Hydro mechanical gates.
4. Bid Identification No.	: CEM/MDS-01/2026-27
5. Estimated Cost	: Rs. 23,39,040.00
6. Period of Completion	: - 60 (Sixty) calendar days
7. Date & time of availability of bid documents in the Portal	: - From dt.11.08.2026 (10.00 AM) to dt.24.08.2026 (5.30 PM)
8. Last date/ time for receipt of bid In the Portal	: dt.24.08.2026 (up to 5.30 PM)
9. Date and Place of opening of Bid	: dt. 25.08.2026 (12.00 Noon onwards in the O/o the undersigned
10. Name of the Officer inviting bid	: Chief Engineer, Mechanical, O/O the E.I.C., Water Resources, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

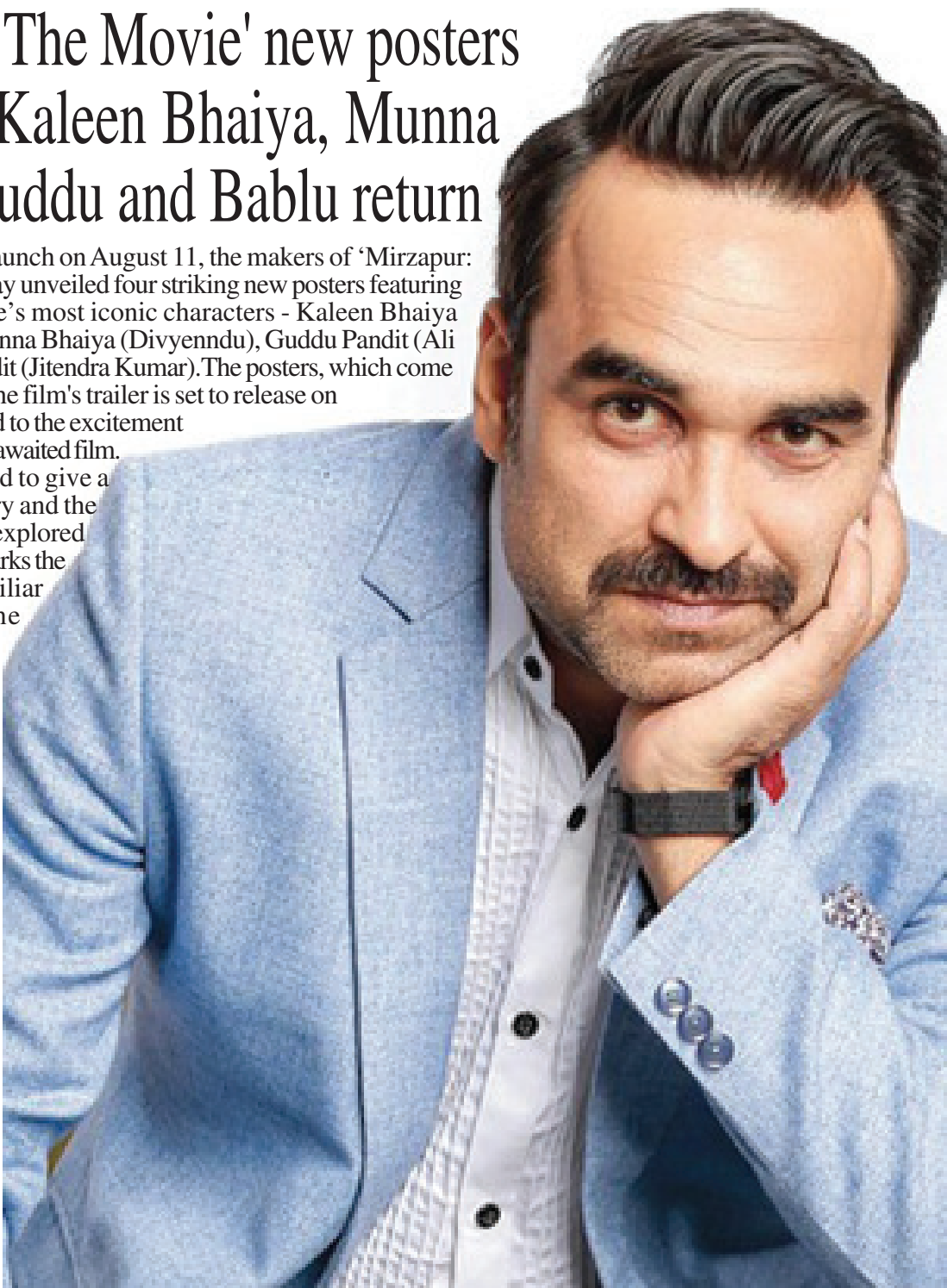
Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any further issue of Addenda/ Corrigenda/ Cancellation Notice shall be uploaded in the aforesaid website only.

Chief Engineer, Mechanical
O/o- Engineer-In-Chief,
Secha Sadan, Bhubaneswar

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Mirzapur: The Movie' new posters unveiled; Kaleen Bhaiya, Munna Bhaiya, Guddu and Bablu return

Ahead of the trailer launch on August 11, the makers of ‘Mirzapur: The Movie,’ on Sunday unveiled four striking new posters featuring some of the franchise’s most iconic characters - Kaleen Bhaiya (Pankaj Tripathi), Munna Bhaiya (Divyenndu), Guddu Pandit (Ali Fazal) and Bablu Pandit (Jitendra Kumar). The posters, which come just two days before the film's trailer is set to release on August 11, have added to the excitement surrounding the much-awaited film. The trailer is expected to give a closer look at the story and the conflicts that will be explored in the film. The film marks the return of several familiar characters from the Mirzapur universe as the story moves from the popular series to the big screen. Jitendra Kumar is taking on the role of Bablu Pandit, a character earlier played by Vikrant Massey in the series. Directed by Gurmmeet Singh and written by Puneet Krishna, the film is presented by Amazon MGM Studios and Excel Entertainment. It is produced by Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar, with Kassim Jaggamania and Vishal Ramchandani as co-producers.



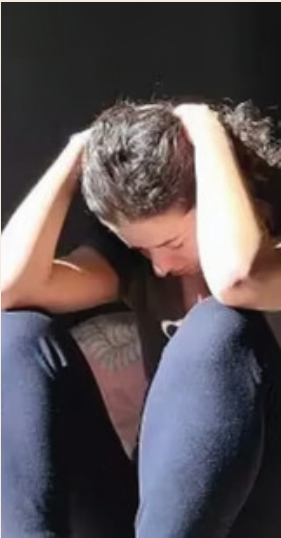
Varanasi: Mahesh Babu's first look as Rudhra unveiled on his birthday

Mahesh Babu's first look as Rudhra from SS Rajamouli's pan-Indian epic 'Varanasi' has been unveiled on the actor's birthday, giving fans a new glimpse of the rugged character at the centre of one of the most anticipated action-adventure. The still was shared on the film's official Instagram handle, with the caption: "Another trip around the Sun... before we travel across time. Happy Birthday Rudhra." The newly released images feature Mahesh Babu in a rugged avatar, sporting a beard and casual outdoor gear. One of the visuals places Rudhra amid the African wilderness, with zebras and giraffes visible in the background. Another shows the actor relaxing on a bamboo raft or cot surrounded by dense greenery. The images were captured during the film's Africa schedule, which included filming around Mount Kilimanjaro and the Masai Mara. Director SS Rajamouli revealed the locations added a dimension that could not have been recreated on a set. "Rudhra was born to fulfil a purpose much larger than himself. He carries a destiny he did not ask for. He is witty, he is vulnerable, and he is fierce. That's what Mahesh brought to him. Anyone can play fierce; very few can play fierce and fragile in the same breath," Rajamouli revealed. He added, "These frames are from our Africa schedule, and the land gave us something no set could. Shooting around Kilimanjaro and in the Masai Mara, I was stunned. There were mornings I felt even the 1.43:1 IMAX frame could not hold what was in front of us."



Are you being toxic to yourself ?

Often, we end up being harmful towards ourselves without understanding the repercussions of our own behavioural patterns. Being a constant harsh critic and being mean to ourselves can only bring our own morale down and decrease our self-worth. “Recognising these toxic behaviours and patterns is the first step towards addressing and changing them. It’s essential to cultivate self-compassion, set healthy boundaries, and prioritise your well-being,” wrote therapist Israa Nasir as she shared how our behaviours can be toxic for ourselves.



Being mean to motivate ourselves:

When we constantly put ourselves down, negate our own achievements, with the intention of pushing ourselves to do better, it can have negative implications.

Perfectionism:
When we strive to achieve perfectionism, we set unrealistically high standards for ourselves, and criticise ourselves for even the smallest of mistakes. This can further bring our motivation down and make us overwork.

Instant gratification:
To avoid feeling discomfort in the moment, we often delay tasks and responsibilities. This can lead to procrastination.

Self-neglect:
While we work on ourselves getting better, it is equally important to focus on our needs and boundaries. We cannot make everyone happy – we don’t even need to.

Always being available:
The constant urge to be available for everyone

and everything can make us feel emotionally and physically drained. This, when continued for a prolonged period of time, can lead to burnout and frustration.

Having the hero complex:
When we believe that we should handle everything by ourselves and reject help from others, we end up being toxic to ourselves. It is okay to seek help.

Emotional avoidance:
We should focus on expressing our emotions instead of suppressing them. When we suppress our emotions for a long time, they tend to show up in uncontrollable ways.

Staying stuck in the past:
We need to learn to accept the mistakes that we made in the past – we should forgive ourselves and move on.

Hustle culture:
Constant productivity and overworking should not be glorified. We need to find a healthy balance between work and life.

Being ultra-connected:
When we spend excessive time on social media, we can fall victim to negative comparisons and cyberbullying and develop a distorted view of reality.

8 vegetariansources of Vitamin B12 you must include in the diet

Vitamin B12 or cobalamin is an important nutrient for production of red blood cells, DNA and brain and nerve function. Vitamin B12 binds to the protein in the foods we eat. It is naturally found in animal foods and vegetarians are at an increased risk of its deficiency. Dairy items like milk and yoghurt, and fortified foods must be consumed by vegetarians for sufficient levels of Vitamin B12. Fish, shellfish, liver, red meat, eggs, poultry, milk, cheese and yoghurt are primary sources of Vitamin B12. The deficiency of this Vitamin B12 can lead to shortness of breath, headaches, indigestion, loss of appetite, palpitations, trouble with vision, memory issues, numbness, weakness, diarrhoea and other neurological issues

While animal products are the richest sources of Vitamin B12, there are several vegetarian options that can help you meet your daily needs. Dr Rohini Patil, MBBS & Nutritionist Founder Of Nutracy Lifestyle shares a list of foods that vegetarians can have to meet their Vitamin B12 requirement.

Top vegetarian sources of Vitamin B12

1. Fortified cereals are a convenient source of vitamin B12 for vegetarians. Consuming fortified cereals regularly provides a direct and good intake of this essential nutrient, supporting nerve function, DNA synthesis, and red blood cell formation.
2. Fortified fruit juices are a good source of vitamin B12 for vegetarians. Drinking fortified juices can help maintain adequate B12 levels, supporting overall health and preventing deficiency-related

issues such as anaemia and neurological problems.

3. Soymilk fortified with vitamin B12 serves as a dairy-free alternative for vegetarians. Incorporating unsweetened soymilk into the diet ensures a consistent intake of this essential nutrient, vital for energy metabolism and maintaining healthy nerve function.
4. Plain yogurt provides vegetarians with a source of vitamin B12. Including yogurt in the diet helps meet B12 requirements, supporting red blood cell production and promoting optimal neurological function.
5. Cow's milk naturally contains vitamin B12, making it an essential component of a vegetarian diet. Drinking milk regularly ensures an adequate intake of B12, which is crucial for DNA synthesis and preventing deficiency-related health issues.
6. Swiss cheese is a good source of vitamin B12 among dairy products. Incorporating cheese into meals helps maintain optimal B12 levels, supporting cardiovascular health and promoting overall well-being.
7. Eggs are a versatile source of vitamin B12 for vegetarians. Including eggs in the diet provides a significant amount of B12, essential for neurological function and preventing deficiency-related symptoms such as fatigue and weakness.
8. Nutritional yeast fortified with vitamin B12 is a flavorful ingredient commonly used in vegetarian cooking. Adding fortified nutritional yeast to dishes ensures a direct intake of B12, supporting red blood cell formation.

5 health benefits of laughing out loud with loved ones

Nothing beats a hearty laugh with the ones we love. Be it family, friends or our romantic partner, sharing a hilarious moment with them that has you rolling on the floor laughing makes up for the best memories to be cherished forever. The best times often have the element of fun, happiness, and laughter with our near and dear ones. Laughter is the best medicine and nothing beats that literally. Be it having a bad mood or not feeling great about ourselves, sharing some laughter with our loved ones can fix our days. Laughter is excellent for mind and body as well.

Every year, International Joke Day is celebrated

on July 1. The day focuses on the importance of sharing jokes, having a laugh and locking the happy times in the treasure chest of our minds. As we gear up to celebrate the special day filled with fun and jokes, here are a few ways by which laughter can benefit us.

Laugh out loud, for these benefits:

Stimulate organs:
When we laugh, it helps in the intake of oxygen-rich air, thereby stimulating the heart, lungs and muscles. It also helps in the release of endorphins that helps in elevating the mood.

Relieve stress response:
When we feel stressed and anxious, laughter can

increase and cool down the stress response, then regulate the heart rate and blood pressure. This makes us feel relaxed.

Soothe tension:
Sharing a laugh with the ones we love helps in stimulating circulation and boosting muscle relaxation. This helps to reduce the physical symptoms of stress, depression, and anxiety.

Boost immunity:
When we are filled with negative thoughts, it can affect the body by bringing more stress and decreasing immunity. However, laughing induces positive thoughts, which further



Six Odisha Naval Tata Hockey HPC Cadets Selected to Represent India at the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2026

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): The Odisha Naval Tata Hockey High Performance Centre (ONTHHPC) proudly celebrates yet another milestone as six of its talented cadets have been selected to represent India at the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2026, scheduled to be held in Moqi, China, from 30 August to 13 September 2026.

Leading the contingent is Anmol Ekka, who has been entrusted with the responsibility of captaining the Indian team. Joining him are fellow ONTHHPC cadets Vivek Lakra, Rohit Kullu, Adrohit Ekka, Sanjit Tirkey, and Aryan Xess, reflecting the Centre's continued commitment to nurturing world-class hockey talent. The selection of six players from a single High Performance Centre is a



testament to the robust athlete development ecosystem at the Odisha Naval Tata Hockey HPC. Through structured coaching, scientific training, performance analysis, and holistic player development, the Centre continues to produce athletes capable of excelling on the international stage.

Speaking on the achievement, Mr Gurmeet Singh Rao, Project Director, Odisha Naval Tata Hockey High

Performance Centre, said: "The selection of six of our cadets to the Indian team for the Men's Junior Asia Cup is a matter of immense pride for all of us. We congratulate each player on this remarkable achievement, with special congratulations to Anmol Ekka on being named captain. This accomplishment reflects the dedication of our athletes, coaches, support staff, and everyone associated with the High

Performance Centre. We wish Team India every success in Moqi and are confident our boys will make the nation proud."

The Men's Junior Asia Cup serves as one of Asia's premier junior hockey competitions, bringing together the continent's best young talent. The tournament also plays a significant role in preparing athletes for future international competitions and strengthening India's hockey pipeline.

The Odisha Naval Tata Hockey High Performance Centre extends its heartfelt congratulations to Anmol Ekka (Captain), Vivek Lakra, Rohit Kullu, Adrohit Ekka, Sanjit Tirkey, and Aryan Xess on this outstanding achievement and wishes the Indian team the very best for a successful campaign in China.

Basant Wins High Jump Silver; Shahnavaaz Bags Bronze In Long Jump At U20 Athletics Worlds

Eugene: Basant won silver in the men's high jump at the U20 Athletics Championships in Eugene, Oregon, equalling his personal best jump of 2.21m. The 19-year-old from Ganganagar, Rajasthan, became the first Indian to win a high jump medal at any world-level event. Basant first sailed over 2.06m, followed by 2.12m and 2.17m; then a huge 2.21m was enough to place him firmly on the podium. The top three men shared that 2.21m height, but Basant's clutch clearances held strong on countback to secure silver. Algeria's Younes Ayachi took the gold while Britain's Otis Poole pocketed the bronze. Meanwhile, Shahnavaaz Khan bagged the bronze in



the men's long jump with a best jump of 7.84m to win the first world-level medal by an Indian men's long jumper. Trailing early, Shahnavaaz dug deep with a monster 7.84m in round 3, then backed it up with 7.83m in round 5 to hold his nerve and his podium place against the world's best. Italy's Inzoli, with a best effort of 7.97m, clinched the gold, while the silver went to Australia's McGregor (7.96m). This is now

India's third medal of the ongoing championship, following Ashish Yadav's silver in the javelin throw on Friday. "With this, the Indians matched their best-ever performance at the U20 World Athletics Championships in 2021 with a total of three medals, and can register their best-ever medal haul with one day to go before the event concludes."

Earlier, India's women's 4x400m quartet of Bhoomika

Nehate, Tahura Khatun, Tanu Chaudhary and Thiya Arumugam made it to the final after finishing in top three of their heat, clocking 3:39.53, behind USA (3:32.66) and Australia (3:33.68 season's best). Bhoomika set the tone with a fearless lead-off (55.81). Tahura kept India in the fight (54.54) while Tanu unleashed a blistering third leg to power the charge (53.87) and Thiya Arumugam brought it home under pressure (55.31). On Saturday, Ashish opened India's medal account, winning a silver medal in javelin throw event. The 19-year-old Ashish Yadav from Uttar Pradesh became the first thrower to bag a U20 World medal since Neeraj Chopra did it in 2016.

Their Success Will Motivate Many Youngsters', PM Narendra Modi Celebrates CWG Medal Winners

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the success of India's Commonwealth Games 2026 medal winners will inspire a new generation of athletes as he hosted the country's outstanding performers from the Glasgow Games at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg. "Delighted to host our outstanding medal winners from the Commonwealth Games 2026 at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg. Heard about their experiences from the Games. "Each one of them has made our nation proud through their exceptional performances. Their success will motivate many youngsters," PM

Narendra Modi posted on X. After India had come fourth in the medal table in Glasgow with 39 medals—13 gold, 17 silver and nine bronze—the Prime Minister held talks with the athletes, although the team had taken part in a greatly reduced programme that omitted sports which usually yield a high number of medals such as wrestling, badminton, table tennis, hockey and shooting. India's team in boxing delivered one of the finest showings of the Games, bringing home seven gold and three silver medals. The gold medals were won by Preeti Pawar (in the 54kg category), Jaismine Lamboria (in



the 57kg category), Sakshi Chaudhary (in the 51kg category), Priya Ghanghas (in the 60kg category), Arundhati Choudhary (in the 70kg category), Sachin Siwach (in the 60kg category) and Ankush Panghal (in the 80kg category). The

silver medals were won by Jadumani Singh (in the 55kg category), Lovlina Borgohain (in the 75kg category) and Narendar Berwal (in the 90 + kg category). India's seven gold medals were also the best performance ever achieved by

women boxers at the Commonwealth Games. India achieved its best performance in judo at the Commonwealth Games to date. The nation took part in 12 judo events in Glasgow and secured four medals—two gold, one silver and

one bronze—thus beating the three medals it had won at the 2022 edition, when it did not win any gold. The breakthrough was initiated by Khelo India athletes Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh, who made history by securing India's first ever gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in judo. Asmita won gold at the Commonwealth Games and thus became the first Indian woman judoka to do so, while Harsh achieved the same feat and thus became the first Indian man to do so. India's overall medal count included ten medals from athletics, consisting of five silver and five bronze.

Barabati Stadium Set To Host Odisha T20 League From Sep 18

Cuttack: The iconic Barabati Stadium is set to host the upcoming season of the Odisha T20 League, with the tournament scheduled to begin on September 18. The league will bring together some of the state's leading cricketers alongside emerging talent, offering young players an opportunity to compete at a higher level and showcase their skills on a bigger platform. The tournament will also highlight Odisha's regional cricketing culture, with franchises representing different parts of the state, including Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Keonjhar and other regions. The regional representation is expected to add to the competitive edge of the league and provide a platform for local rivalries to develop. Speaking ahead of the tournament, Odisha Cricket Association (OCA) Secretary Sanjay Behera said the league would play an important role in the development of players in the state. "We are extremely delighted to kickstart the Odisha T20 League. This tournament will play a vital role in the development of our players. It will provide young cricketers with the opportunity to compete against some of the best talent in the state, gain valuable experience and prepare themselves for bigger stages in the future," he said. Behera also underlined the OCA's focus on creating opportunities for players while ensuring an engaging experience for spectators.

'This Medal Means A Lot To Me': Ariha After Winning India's First-Ever Asian Gold In Aerobic Gymnastics

Manila: Indian aerobic gymnast Ariha Pangambam said her historic gold medal at the Asian Aerobic Gymnastics Championships was the result of her determination to make amends after narrowly missing out on a podium finish at the previous edition, revealing that she trained for around six hours every day in preparation for the competition. Ariha created history by becoming the first Indian to win a gold medal in the Senior Women's Individual category at the Asian Championships. She scored 19.100 points in the final held in the Philippines, including 8.650 in artistry, 7.600 in execution and 2.850 in difficulty.

"At that moment I was totally overwhelmed. This medal means a lot to me because I really wanted to have a medal not just for myself but for our whole country," Ariha told IANS. The 19-year-old had finished fourth at the previous Asian Championships, missing out on a medal by a narrow margin. That disappointment became a major source of motivation as she prepared for the latest edition. "In the previous Asian

Championship, I was in fourth position just by some few points. I regretted a lot. So, I always thought that next time I need to take a medal," she said. "Rather than taking a medal, what I used to think is that being a performer, I always wanted the people, whether the judges or the audience, to understand what I am trying to tell with my performance. I tried to bring it on the stage, and I would say that's how I got the medal," she added. The road to the historic achievement involved an intense training routine, with Ariha putting in around six hours of work every day across morning and evening sessions. "I train for like six hours daily, morning and evening sessions. And not just that, I would say it is because of my coach and my parents as well, because without them I won't be able to achieve this much," Ariha said.

Her gold medal marked a landmark moment for Indian aerobic gymnastics, with the country winning its first-ever Asian Championships gold in the discipline after 10 editions of the continental competition.

Inderjeet Singh Rathour,

Head of the Indian delegation, which included 50 athletes, described the achievement as a major breakthrough for the sport in India. "It is a very big achievement because this is the 10th Asian Championship. In gymnastics, it had never happened that our national anthem has been played, so we have got the gold. This was a very big achievement for us," Rathour told IANS. Rathour believes the historic success could also help increase awareness and participation in aerobic gymnastics, which remains relatively less known in India compared to several other sports. "After this, we will find that in gymnastics there will be a lot of improvements. It is not so much a known sport, but after we get something like this, a gold and big achievements, different children and different parents are always interested to adopt that game. So, we find a great future ahead for that," he said. Rathour also highlighted the sustained efforts behind Ariha's development, saying the team had been working towards such a breakthrough for nearly a decade.

Odisha Clinch 16th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2026 Title

Coimbatore: Hockey Association of Odisha emerged champions of the 16th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2026 – Division 'A' after defeating Hockey Madhya Pradesh 2-1 in an exciting final held in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The final witnessed an intense battle between two determined sides, with Odisha making a strong start to take an early lead. Mandeep Kerketta opened the scoring in the second minute, giving Odisha an early advantage and putting Madhya Pradesh under pressure. Hockey Madhya Pradesh fought back strongly and continued to create opportunities, but Odisha's defence remained resilient. The match remained closely contested as both teams battled for control in the midfield and looked to create openings in the



attacking circle. Madhya Pradesh eventually found the equaliser through Sohil Ali in the 37th minute, setting up an exciting final quarter. However, Odisha responded with renewed intensity and regained the lead through their captain, Deepak Pradhan, who found the back of the net in the 45th minute. With the championship title at stake, Madhya Pradesh pushed forward in search of another equaliser in the closing stages. Odisha, however, held their shape and defended

resolutely to preserve their 2-1 advantage until the final hooter. The victory saw Hockey Association of Odisha crowned champions of the 16th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2026. In the third-place match, Hockey Punjab produced an impressive attacking display to defeat Hockey Jharkhand 6-3 and secure the bronze medal. Punjab made a strong start, with Gurwinder Singh finding the net in the 11th minute. Jarman Singh, who captained the side, then scored

twice in quick succession in the 34th and 36th minutes. Charanjeet Singh added two goals in the 52nd and 53rd minutes, while Ajaypal Singh completed Punjab's tally with a goal in the 41st minute. Jharkhand fought until the final whistle, with Patras Hassa completing a hat-trick through goals in the 33rd, 40th and 56th minutes. However, Punjab's attacking efficiency ensured they secured a convincing 6-3 victory and finished third in the tournament.

Jindal Steel Founder's Day: Plant and Mines Units Honour Shri O.P. Jindal on His 96th Birth Anniversary

Joda/Badabil: (Correspondent):- Jindal Steel celebrated the 96th birth anniversary of its founder, Shri O.P. Jindal, fondly remembered as Bauji in the Jindal Parivaar, on August 7, 2026. The day was marked by a series of spiritual, cultural, and sporting events across the Badabil Pellet Plant, Kasia, Tensa, and Roida-I Iron Mines (BKTR Units). At the Badabil Pellet Plant, puja and havan ceremonies were organized at the township's Deveshwar Mahadev Temple, followed by a floral tribute to Shri O.P. Jindal. The event was attended by Unit Head Shri Satish Sinduria, Shri S.K. Sharma, Vice President, Head HR & ES Shri Bikash Ghosh, along with other senior executives, employees, and their family members. In the evening, a "Bhajan



Sandhya" programme was organized in the township, and the Jindal Nagar Ladies Club hosted a special tribute event in honour of Bauji at the JSPLEX Community Hall. At the Kasia Iron Mine, employees also observed the day with devotion by organizing puja and havan at the township temple. The event witnessed the participation of the Cluster Head of the BKTR Units, Shri Pramod Kumar Patra, along with senior executives, employees, and their family members.

A colourful cultural programme was organized at the Kasia Township to commemorate the occasion. The Tensa Unit also held rituals at its township temple, attended by Unit Head Shri Rajesh Patel, employees, and their families. The CSR team distributed school bags to tribal students at Govt. SSD High School, Dengula, in the presence of the Unit Head and prominent village leaders and teachers. Writing on the social media platform X, Hon'ble Member of

Parliament (Kurukshetra) and Chairman of Jindal Steel, Shri Naveen Jindal, paid tribute to the legendary visionary, stating, "Success is not determined by circumstances, but by resolve, courage, and action. Bauji, your thoughts and values continue to light our path even today." On the 96th birth anniversary of the revered Bauji Shri Om Prakash Jindal Ji, I pay my heartfelt tribute to him. His thoughts and ideals continue to inspire the Jindal family and millions

of Indians on the path of nation-building."

The Jindal Foundation also organized various community sports and welfare activities involving villagers and schoolchildren under the leadership of CSR Head Mr. Vargil Lakra. Debate, quiz, drawing, and essay-writing competitions were held at nearby schools. Jindal School, Soyabali, Badabil, also celebrated its Foundation Day with grandeur, featuring cultural performances by students. National and international Wushu champions were felicitated by Cluster Head Shri Pramod Kumar Patra and Badabil Unit Head Shri Satish Sinduria. Nutritious food was distributed to hundreds of students at the Adivasi Vikas Samiti. The event was attended by Padma Shri Tulasi Munda and other prominent local villagers.

Border Row Brews in Nabarangpur as Road Dug Up Near Odisha-Chhattisgarh Border

umarkot, (Correspondent) A potential border dispute between Odisha and Chhattisgarh has surfaced in Nabarangpur district after a road near the inter-state boundary was allegedly dug up with a JCB, triggering concern among residents of border villages.

The incident reportedly took place near Majhidhanua gram panchayat under Kosagumuda block. The road has been used for years by villagers from both Odisha and Chhattisgarh for regular movement.

Majhidhanua sarpanch Dayaram Pujari alleged that a JCB was used to dig up the road from the middle after allegedly entering the Odisha side. The development raised apprehension among villagers that the



issue could snowball into a larger boundary dispute.

Acting on the report, Kodinga tehsildar Tula Muduli, Kosagumuda police IIC Gopal Krishna Agupatra, revenue officials and the local sarpanch visited the spot and assessed the situation.

The officials later restored the damaged portion of the road by filling it with soil and sand and levelling it with tractors.

The swift intervention has brought relief to villagers, who expressed satisfaction

that the administration acted before the situation could escalate into a major dispute like the long-pending Kotia border issue.

Meanwhile, the Kodinga tehsildar said the local administration had not yet ascertained who dug up the road or why the excavation was carried out. An inquiry is underway to establish the circumstances behind the incident.

Officials said the area would be closely monitored to prevent any further tension along the Odisha-Chhattisgarh border.

EAST COAST RAILWAY MAINTAINS STRONG FREIGHT PERFORMANCE IN 2026-27

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent):- East Coast Railway has maintained a strong performance in freight transportation during the first four months of the financial year 2026-27. During the period from April to July 2026, ECoR recorded originating freight loading of 81.40 million tonnes (MT). The achievement reflects the sustained focus of East Coast Railway on efficient freight operations, optimal utilisation of railway infrastructure and timely movement of freight traffic across its jurisdiction. The performance assumes significance in the backdrop of the recent reorganisation of the railway network and the formation of the new Rayagada Railway Division. Among the



divisions, Khurda Road Division handled 59.02 MT, while Rayagada Division recorded 13.71 MT and Sambalpur Division handled 8.67 MT during April-July 2026. The newly formed Rayagada Railway Division has made a significant contribution to the freight performance of East Coast Railway. During April-July 2026, the division

handled 13.71 MT of originating freight, reflecting its growing role in freight transportation within the reorganised railway network. In July 2026 alone, Rayagada Division handled 3.14 MT of freight. Iron ore continued to be one of the major commodities handled by the division, with 2.28 MT loaded during the month. Bauxite loading stood at 0.19 MT.

KIMS Bhubaneswar hosts 3rd Annual Nephrology Conference KNC 3.0

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent):- The Department of Nephrology at KIMS organised the 3rd Annual Nephrology Conference 'KNC 3.0', bringing together leading experts, faculty members, researchers and students from across the country to deliberate on the latest advancements in kidney care. The conference was centred on the theme "Advances in Nephrology & Kidney Care", highlighting emerging innovations and evolving practices in the field. In his introductory address, Organising Secretary Prof. (Dr.) Nikunj Kishore Rout emphasised that nephrology is undergoing a



transformative phase, moving beyond traditional dialysis and transplantation towards precision medicine and technology-driven care. He highlighted advancements such as genomics, artificial intelligence, novel immunotherapies, next-generation dialysis technologies and new classes of drugs including SGLT2 inhibitors, non-steroidal MRAs and HIF

inhibitors, which are redefining treatment approaches. The scientific programme of KNC 3.0 featured a wide range of sessions covering glomerular diseases such as IgA nephropathy and lupus nephritis, nephrogenetics in PRAKI, innovations in chronic kidney disease management, transplant immunology and emerging therapies. The conference included

expert lectures, case-based discussions, interactive academic sessions and a hands-on POCUS workshop, providing a comprehensive platform for knowledge exchange.

Renowned experts from premier institutions across India participated as speakers and chairpersons, sharing insights on cutting-edge research and clinical practices. Topics such as new paradigms in CKD management, anaemia treatment using HIF-PH inhibitors, advances in renal transplantation and strategies for managing complex dialysis cases were extensively discussed during the sessions. The inaugural

session was attended by Advisor to the Founder Dr. R. N. Samanta, Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) C. B. K. Mohanty, Dean & Principal Prof. (Dr.) R. C. Das, along with eminent speakers, delegates and students. Senior Professor, Department of Nephrology, Dr. Aswini Prasad Patnaik, and Dr. Scientia Sanjeevani actively participated in the conference, contributing to the academic deliberations. KNC 3.0 served as a platform for postgraduate students and DM residents to engage with leading nephrologists, enhancing their clinical understanding and research exposure.

TPCODL Organises Vendors' Meet to Strengthen PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana Implementation

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent):- TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited (TPCODL) organised a vendors' meet through its Renewable Energy (RE) Cell under the aegis of REC at the TPCODL Management Development Centre, Bhubaneswar, to strengthen the implementation of the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana and accelerate rooftop solar adoption across its operational areas. The programme was attended by nearly 300 empanelled vendors, including 190 participants who joined virtually. The discussions focused on addressing field-level challenges, streamlining installation processes, maintaining quality standards and



ensuring timely execution for smooth and large-scale deployment of rooftop solar systems.

The session also provided a platform for collaborative discussions on practical solutions to operational challenges, improving coordination and enhancing consumer experience. With the monsoon season underway, TPCODL also emphasised strict adherence to safety

protocols and safe installation practices to ensure the well-being of workers and consumers.

TPCODL officials highlighted the importance of quality, safety and timely execution in supporting the Government of India's vision of expanding clean energy adoption. The participants were also briefed on TPCODL's ongoing awareness and outreach initiatives aimed at encouraging

greater consumer participation in the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.

During the programme, TPCODL's Chief Commercial Services, officials from REC, the TPCODL RE Cell and other senior executives engaged with the vendors and discussed actionable measures to address field challenges and further strengthen the implementation of rooftop solar projects.

Jindal Stainless' Jajpur unit organises blood donation, community outreach and welfare initiatives on Founder Late Shri O P Jindal's birth anniversary

Jajpur, (Correspondent: Jindal Stainless' Jajpur unit commemorated the birth anniversary of Founder, Late Shri O P Jindal, through a series of employee-led community service and welfare initiatives, reflecting his enduring vision of compassion and collective and inclusive development. The observance began with a pushpanjali and floral tribute ceremony at the statue of Late Shri O P Jindal within the plant premises. Chairman, Jindal Stainless, Mr Ratan Jindal, Unit Head - Jajpur, Jindal Stainless, Mr Deepak Agrawal, along with employees, business associates and senior leaders, paid homage to the visionary industrialist whose values continue to



guide the organisation. A key highlight of the day was a blood donation camp organised in association with the Indian Red Cross Society and the District Headquarters Hospital, Jajpur. The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from employees, business partners and contractors, resulting in the collection of about 550 units of blood, which will help

support critical healthcare requirements in the region. Also as part of the initiatives on the day, volunteers distributed fruit baskets to patients at the Community Health Centres in Danagadi and Jajpur road. Extending support to underprivileged communities, the Company distributed grocery kits to residents of the leprosy colony in Danagadi and organised meals at an

old age home and a children's home, reinforcing its continued engagement with the local community. Speaking on the occasion, Unit Head - Jajpur, Jindal Stainless, Mr Deepak Agrawal, said, "Late Shri O P Jindal believed that businesses have a responsibility to contribute meaningfully to society. Founder's Day is an opportunity for us to relive our commitment to his values of compassion, integrity, excellence, and service. As we honour his memory, the enthusiastic participation of our employees, business partners and associates in the initiatives reflects the values that continue to define our culture and strengthen our connection with the communities we serve."