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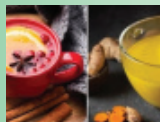
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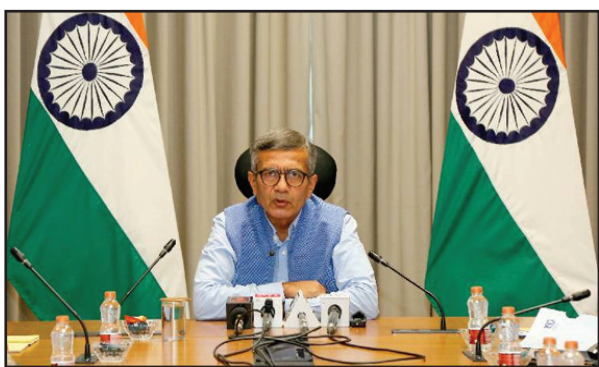


‘Vande Mataram’ To Be Sung From Red Fort For First Time On I-Day

New Delhi/ Bhubaneswar: Vande Mataram will be sung from the ramparts of the Red Fort for the first time on Independence Day this year, marking a historic moment as the country celebrates 150 years of the National Song.

The announcement was made by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh at a press conference in New Delhi on Monday. He said the rendition of Vande Mataram from the historic monument would be a tribute to its enduring legacy and its role in inspiring millions during India's freedom struggle.

The National Song will be sung when



Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives at the Red Fort for the Independence Day celebrations. He will then unfurl the National Flag and deliver his customary address to the nation.

The celebrations this year will have a special focus on Yuva Shakti, highlighting the contribution of India's youth towards the country's development and the

goal of building a Viksit Bharat by 2047, Singh said. The 2026 celebrations assume added significance as they coincide with the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram. Written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, the song became a powerful symbol of India's freedom movement and inspired generations of freedom fighters.

1,326 Get Govt Jobs At 16th Nijukti Mela In Odisha

BHUBANESWAR (correspondent): Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Monday said success in government service is not measured by designations but by the positive change it brings to the lives of citizens, as he handed over appointment letters to 1,326 newly recruited candidates at the 16th Nijukti Mela here. Appointment letters were handed over to candidates across nine departments at a function held at the Bhubaneswar Railway Auditorium. The recruits include 364 Junior Engineers in the Housing and Urban Development Department, 361 Junior Engineers in the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, 12 Junior



Engineers and 228 trainees in the Energy Department and Odisha Hydro Power Corporation (OHPC), 118 Assistant Agriculture Officers, 111 Assistant Professors, 15 Junior Engineers and 71 Livestock Inspectors, 26 Junior Coaches, 10 Instructors and 10 Excise Sub-Inspectors. Congratulating the new appointees, Majhi said public

service should be the primary objective of government employees and urged them to listen respectfully to people's grievances and ensure their timely resolution. "Whenever a person approaches you with a problem, you must, as part of the administration, listen to them with respect and take immediate action," he said, stressing that government facilities

must reach the last person in society. The Chief Minister said Odisha's vision was to become Samruddha Odisha by 2036 and contribute as a growth engine to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. He said the state government had launched large-scale recruitment drives in both the government and private sectors to build

a clean, strong and service-oriented administration. "From June 2024 until today, 45,408 people have already been given appointments at the government level," Majhi said. Highlighting the government's efforts to attract industries and create jobs, he said investments worth nearly Rs 21 lakh crore had come to Odisha in the last two years and were expected to generate around 20 lakh employment opportunities. Referring to his recent Odisha Food Processing Road Show in New Delhi and Noida, Majhi said he held 46 meetings with 208 investors, following which 38 MoUs were signed involving investments of Rs 66,392 crore and creation of 54,135 jobs.

LS passes Tribunals Reforms Bill, aims to improve transparency & efficiency of Tribunals

New Delhi: Lok Sabha has passed the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026. The Bill was passed without discussion amidst opposition uproar. As the pandemonium continued, the Chair adjourned the House for the day to meet again at 11:00 AM tomorrow. Earlier, when the House reassembled after the second adjournment at 2:00 PM, Minister of State for Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal moved the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026, amid the opposition uproar. The bill aims to improve efficiency, ensure independence, transparency, and uniformity in the



qualifications, appointment of service of Chairpersons and Members of various Tribunals, as well as the administration and functioning of the Tribunals. The legislation also proposes to establish a National Tribunals Commission. Mr Meghwal said that the Bill has been brought as part of the

reform express being rolled out across various sectors under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said, the purpose of tribunals is not to replace courts but to function as complementary institutions in modern governance. They deal with specialized matters such as

taxation, company law, environment, securities market, intellectual property, and other regulatory domains, with the objective of ensuring speedy and effective delivery of justice. Mr Meghwal highlighted that under the leadership of Mr Modi, the government initiated the process of rationalisation of tribunals in 2015. The Minister said that the Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2026 has been brought to establish a modern, independent, and uniform tribunal ecosystem. Mr Meghwal highlighted that the bill is aimed at strengthening

governance, appointments, institutional independence, transparency, and efficiency. He said, the National Tribunals Commission will be established and it will be chaired by a former Judge of the Supreme Court or a former Chief Justice of a High Court.

The Presiding Officer, Jagdambika Pal repeatedly requested the protesting members to back to their seat and allow the House to function. He said that the entire nation is watching that who is responsible for the disruption of the House.

At Least 18 Killed In Earthquake In Pereira, Western Colombia

Bogota: At least 18 people died in Pereira in western Colombia in the 7.4-magnitude earthquake, city mayor Mauricio Salazar said on Monday in an interview with Caracol Radio. A 7.5-magnitude earthquake jolted Colombia at 8:34 p.m. on Monday (Beijing Time), according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre (CENC). Xinhua News Agency reported. The epicentre was monitored at 4.85 degrees north latitude and 76.15 degrees west longitude. The earthquake struck at a depth of 80 km, the

centre said. According to the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.8 jolted Colombia at 1234 GMT on Monday. The epicentre, with a depth of 93.7 km, was initially determined to be at 4.86 degrees north latitude and 76.19 degrees west longitude. Colombian President Abelardo De La Espriella said that he assumed leadership of the emergency response in San Jose del Palmar and ordered the establishment of a Unified Command Post at the National Unit for Disaster Risk

Management (UNGRD) to coordinate the attention to the damages and the affected individuals. The President also noted that he requested the UNGRD director for a detailed report on the situation and the most urgent needs. "I will also be personally in Pereira to accompany the affected people and verify the Government's response. You are not alone. The State is present and acting," he noted on X. He also mentioned that he is heading to Bogota to focus on addressing the emergency in the country.

Odisha To Intensify Action Against Vehicles Without Valid Insurance

Bhubaneswar/ Cuttack: The Odisha government will intensify its crackdown on vehicles plying without valid insurance, with Commerce and Transport Minister Bibhuti Bhusan Jena directing officials to strictly enforce motor vehicle rules, officials said on Monday. The state has 1,01,41,951 registered vehicles, of which only 35,68,318 have valid insurance, while 65,73,633 are without valid insurance, according to government data. Under the enforcement drive, vehicles passing through toll gates will be subjected to automatic

checks of insurance, fitness, pollution and other mandatory documents through the e-detection system, officials said. Vehicles found without valid documents will be issued e-challans immediately, while habitual offenders may face cancellation of registration and seizure of their vehicles, they said. The department will also step up enforcement and conduct awareness drives through Regional Transport Offices (RTOs), officials said. Jena stressed the importance of valid insurance in ensuring compensation, as far as possible, to victims of

road accidents, and said uninsured vehicles pose a risk to their owners as well as other road users.

The department also cited the Supreme Court's recent observation that vehicles without valid insurance should not be supplied petrol or diesel, and that the Centre should consider introducing the measure initially as a pilot project. The Commerce and Transport Department has urged vehicle owners to immediately renew their insurance, pollution certificates and other mandatory documents to avoid legal action.

Nine Die As Van Swept Away In Swollen Drain In MP's Rajgarh

Bhopal: Nine people, including three children and two women, were killed when a van carrying 11 passengers was swept away by strong currents in a swollen drain in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district on Monday, police said. Two passengers managed to swim to safety after the accident, which occurred around 9.30 a.m. near Padana on the Pachore-Sarangpur road. The passengers, residents of Dhansad village in the Satwas area of neighbouring Dewas district, were travelling to Kadlavad when the accident occurred. The van was being driven through a culvert over the Jhiri drain, where



water was flowing over the road following heavy rainfall in the area. According to police, villagers and local administration personnel had warned the driver against crossing the waterlogged stretch. The driver nevertheless proceeded, following

which the strong current swept the vehicle into the drain, and it sank within moments. Upon receiving information, the State Disaster Emergency Response Force (SDERF) team also joined the operation, and the vehicle subsequently pulled out

with the help of a crane. Sarangpur Sub-Divisional Officer of Police Arvind Singh said heavy rainfall had caused rivers and drains in the area to overflow. "The driver drove the van into the strong current of the drain near the Padana bypass. The vehicle

was swept away and sank within a short time, resulting in the deaths of nine people," Singh said. A case has been registered at Sarangpur police station, and further investigation is underway, he said. Police identified the deceased as Shankar Singh (50), his wife Sagarbai, Reenu (28), wife of Hukum Singh, their sons Rajveer (3) and Jaspreet, Vishal Chauhan, his wife Pooja (27), Rishika and Anand Singh. The vehicle was registered in the name of Mukesh Singh, who was driving it. Mukesh Singh and Hukum Singh survived the accident and were admitted to a hospital, officials said.

B’desh Personnel Train At Indian Navy Diving School

Kolkata: Political tensions between India and Bangladesh have not diluted military ties between the two countries. Officers and sailors from the Bangladesh Navy were among the 17 trainees from seven Friendly Foreign Nations (FFNs) who completed their clearance diving courses at the Indian Navy Diving School, INS Venduruthy, on Wellington Island in Kochi, Kerala. “Months of relentless training, discipline and resilience culminated in the successful Passing Out of the Clearance Diving Courses at the Indian Navy Diving School, Kochi,” the institute posted on X. “A total of 17 trainees (09 Officers and 08 Sailors) from the Friendly Foreign Countries of Bangladesh, Ghana, Kenya, Malaysia,



Mauritius, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Vietnam completed one of the Indian Navy’s most demanding specialist training programmes, reinforcing professional e x c e l l e n c e , interoperability and enduring maritime partnerships. Ready to dive deeper. Ready to serve. Ready to strengthen bonds across oceans,” it added. Clearance diving

is the most difficult and complex type of diving, involving the handling of explosives and the use of advanced equipment underwater. Such military divers may be deployed to defuse explosives or lay charges to deter the movement of enemy warships. Clearance divers also carry out hull salvage operations and surveillance. Modern day clearance diving

includes basic survival training for clandestine operations, laying the foundation for advanced combat diving courses. Few institutions in the world train clearance divers. INS Venduruthy is the only known one in Asia. Courses range from 22 to 37 weeks, depending on the trainees’ ranks and the m o d u l e s selected. Defence co

operation between India and Bangladesh reached a peak during the Sheikh Hasina regime. Tensions rose after her ouster on August 5, 2024. Relations worsened after Mohammad Yunus took over as head of the interim government in Bangladesh following Hasina’s departure to India. Yunus made moves to restore relations with Pakistan despite the events of 1971, while his ties with China were also a cause for concern for India. Things are gradually improving with Tarique Rahman taking over as prime minister after general elections in February this year. Hasina’s presence in India continues to remain an issue, with New Delhi refusing to accede to Dhaka’s demands to extradite her.

Fire Breaks Out In Basement Of Gujarat Secretariat Block; Govt Says Digital Records Remain Secure

Gandhinagar: A fire broke out in the basement of Block No. 9 at Sardar Bhavan in Gujarat’s New Secretariat complex in Gandhinagar on Monday, damaging some physical government records but leaving administrative work unaffected, officials said on Monday. Standby fire brigade teams were rushed to the building after the incident was reported and brought the fire under control. Officials said the situation had subsequently returned to normal and remained under control. No casualties or injuries were reported as per the clarification issued by the state government. Block No. 9 houses offices of the Narmada, Water

Resources, Water Supply and Kalpsar Department, the Women and Child Development Department and the State Election Commission. The fire was confined to the basement, where physical government records were stored. Some of those records sustained partial damage in the incident. However, the Water Resources Division said there had been no loss of important, sensitive or confidential records belonging to the division. The department attributed this to the state government’s e-Sarkar system, under which government files and records have been

scanned and preserved digitally as part of its “Good Governance” initiative. It said the digitally preserved records remained secure despite the damage to the physical documents. “Therefore, the Water Resources Division officially clarifies that no important, sensitive or c o n f i d e n t i a l government records of the Division have been destroyed in the incident,” the department said in its note. “As all data is securely preserved in digital form, citizen services and the administrative functioning of the offices will continue uninterrupted, with no disruption to regular operations,” it added.

JNU Witnesses Sloganeering During Discussion On Umar Khalid’s Book

New Delhi: The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) found itself embroiled in a fresh controversy on Monday over an event discussing Umar Khalid’s book Fractured Communities: Adivasi History and Politics of Power. The event saw several students and teachers participating despite the cancellation of the original venue. However, as the discussion began, two student groups came face to face. The event was originally scheduled at the JNU auditorium but was cancelled by the administration. The JNU Students’ Union (JNUSU) chose to organise it outside the School of Social Sciences II building. Acrimonious scenes and heated exchanges were witnessed as the two factions, representing different ideologies, sparred over the book. The discussion began around 3 p.m. outside the School of Social Sciences II building and was attended by several students

and faculty members. A confrontation broke out when students affiliated with the JNUSU raised slogans demanding Umar Khalid’s release. Many chanted slogans such as “Release Umar Khalid” and “The locks of the jail will break, all comrades will be freed.” Taking objection, students linked to the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), who opposed the event, raised counter slogans. The sloganeering led to a tense situation on the campus. While the heated atmosphere triggered fresh allegations and counter allegations between student groups, JNU clarified that the auditorium booking was secured by providing “incorrect and incomplete” information, leading to revocation of permission. Umar Khalid, a former student leader, has been incarcerated since September 2020 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in the 2020 northeast Delhi riots conspiracy case.

Bengal: Abhishek Banerjee Sends Legal Notice To Bengal Minister

Kolkata: Trinamool Congress general secretary and Lok Sabha member Abhishek Banerjee on Monday served a legal notice to West Bengal Municipal Affairs and Urban Development Minister Agnimitra Paul, accusing her of making i n a p p r o p r i a t e statements to media persons about the Diamond Harbour MP concerning his personal assistant, Sumit Roy. As per the notice, Paul, a fashion designer turned politician, reportedly commented that Abhishek’s attempts to save Sumit were linked to his approaching the Supreme Court to go abroad for medical treatment. On Monday,



a division bench of the Supreme Court permitted Abhishek, nephew of former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, to travel abroad for o p h t h a l m i c treatment. At the same time, Sumit, who was earlier absconding, appeared at the office of the Criminal I n v e s t i g a t i o n

Department (CID) of the West Bengal Police for the third consecutive day to face interrogation in relation to an FIR registered against him in an illegal land grabbing case. In the legal notice served by Abhishek’s counsel Arka Kumar Nag, Paul was accused of falsely quoting Abhishek as saying that

Sumit might have died. “My client reiterates and places on record that he has never made the statement attributed to him by you. My client has never stated that Shri Sumit Ray has died and has never made any statement establishing or suggesting the purported connection referred to by you between Shri Sumit Ray. My client is approaching the Hon’ble Supreme Court for medical treatment abroad. Your statement is therefore wholly contrary to the factual position and is based upon information which my client never stated,” the

notice read. Paul was asked to withdraw the statement and issue a clear, unequivocal clarification recording the correct factual position, particularly that Abhishek had never made the statement attributed to him that Sumit Ray had died. “The said clarification ought to be made in the same public domain in which your statement dated August 9, 2026 was made, so that the correct factual position is brought to the notice of all concerned and the incorrect information publicly stated by you is duly corrected,” the notice stated.

8th Central Pay Commission Has Not Submitted Report Yet: Govt

New Delhi: The 8th Central Pay Commission has not yet submitted its recommendations to the government, the Parliament was informed on Monday. The commission chaired by former Supreme Court Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai was constituted by the government on November 3, 2025. It had been given 18 months from the date of its constitution to submit its recommendations. It may also submit interim reports on matters w h e r e recommendations are finalised earlier. The effective date for the 8th Pay Commission recommendations has not been announced by the government. The government said there

were around 35.77 lakh Central government civilian employees as of March 1, 2026. The number of pensioners and family pensioners stood at around 33.76 lakh as of December 31, 2025, excluding defence pensioners. The Terms of Reference require the commission to examine matters relating to pay revision, allowances, pension, family pension, and service c o n d i t i o n s . The commission is currently holding regional meetings with employee unions, service associations, and p e n s i o n e r organisations. The 8th Pay Commission’s Delhi consultations concluded on Monday, marking another important stage in its exercise to gather views from Central



g o v e r n m e n t employees, pensioners, unions and other stakeholders. These meetings were attended by unions and associations registered in Delhi. Several other organisations, including the National Council-Joint Consultative Machinery (NC-JCM)

and the Federation of National Postal Organisations (FNPO), have, over the past few months, submitted their own demands covering important aspects such as salary revisions, pensions, allowances and service conditions. The 8th Pay Commission will take

into account the views and grievances of all such prominent unions before finalising its recommendations and tentatively sending them to the Central government by May-June 2027. Here are the major demands raised by the Indian Railways Technical Supervisors’

Association (IRTSA). The association previously presented a c o m p r e h e n s i v e memorandum to the commission in Hyderabad. Among its key demands was a revision of minimum pay to Rs 52,600, along with different fitment factors for different pay levels. The IRTSA has proposed a minimum pay of Rs 52,600, calculated using a 2.92 fitment factor. It has been argued that the calculation should reflect modern household expenses, including internet charges, bottled drinking water, and medical insurance. The union has also proposed a 5 per cent annual increment and changes in the career structure of technical supervisors.

EAM Jaishankar Meets Bimal Patel, Congratulates Him For Getting Elected As ITLOS Judge

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar on Monday met Bimal N. Patel and congratulated him on his recent election as a Judge of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea (ITLOS). “Glad to meet Prof. Dr. Bimal N. Patel today. Congratulated him on his recent election as a Judge of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea. Wished him the best for a successful tenure,” EAM Jaishankar wrote on X. Patel was elected by the countries that are signatories to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and he will join the tribunal in September. With his election, India will continue to be represented on the tribunal when Neeru Chadha completes her nine-year term in September. She is currently the Vice President of the tribunal. Patel, an international jurist, currently serves on the UN’s International Law Commission and is the Vice Chancellor of the Rashtriya Raksha University in Gujarat. Among the various offices he holds is membership of the National Security Advisory Board of the National Security Council Secretariat. Patel’s “election takes forward India’s enduring commitment to multilateralism and Law of the Sea”, India’s UN Mission said on X.

Fire Breaks Out In Basement Of Gujarat Secretariat Block; Govt Says Digital Records Remain Secure

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leaving administrative work unaffected, officials said on Monday. Standby fire brigade teams were rushed to the building after the incident was reported and brought the fire under control. Officials said the

situation had subsequently returned to normal and remained under control. No casualties or injuries were reported as per the clarification issued by the state government. Block No. 9 houses offices of the

Narmada, Water Resources, Water Supply and Kalpsar Department, the Women and Child Development Department and the State Election Commission. The fire was confined to the

basement, where physical government records were stored. Some of those records sustained partial damage in the incident. However, the Water Resources Division said there had been no loss of

important, sensitive or confidential records belonging to the d i v i s i o n . The department attributed this to the state government’s e-Sarkar system, under which government files and records have been

scanned and preserved digitally as part of its “Good Governance” initiative. It said the digitally preserved records remained secure despite the damage to the physical documents. “Therefore, the Water Resources

Division officially clarifies that no important, sensitive or c o n f i d e n t i a l government records of the Division have been destroyed in the incident,” the department said in its note.

Farmers' Leaders Participate in Jail Bharo Protest

B a r a g a d a , (correspondent): A significant number of farmers' leaders representing the Sanjukta Krushak Sangathan took part in the nationwide "Jail Bharo" protest organised by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha and central trade unions on Monday. Participants assembled at Gandhi Chhah, proceeded to the SP office while raising slogans, and conducted a peaceful demonstration to draw attention to farmers' concerns. Reports indicate that some farmers were subsequently detained and taken to the reserve



police ground at Chakrakenda. The protesting farmers expressed their opposition to certain policies they believe may negatively impact cultivators and farm workers. SKM central member Aflatoon addressed attendees, offering critical insights into government

policies affecting agriculture and labour. Other speakers emphasised the organisation's 11-point charter of demands, highlighting issues such as fair prices, crop loss compensation, and safeguarding farmers' rights. Farmer leader Utpanna Bhoi also voiced concerns

regarding recent statements on AgriStack, emphasising that such systems should not hinder genuine cultivators. The o r g a n i s a t i o n announced plans to submit a memorandum to the Chief Minister via PACS societies on August 13, urging the removal of AgriStack-

related restrictions. Additionally, a larger protest is anticipated on August 14 if the outstanding issues are not addressed. Key Demands: - Ensure fair MSP aligned with the S w a m i n a t h a n Commission formula. - Implement loan waivers and provide crop damage compensation. - Facilitate registration and procurement of paddy from all genuine farmers. - Remove barriers associated with AgriStack for cultivators. - Safeguard farmland from corporatisation and forced acquisition.

ROURKELA RAILWAY STATION SHED COLLAPSES, THREE SERIOUSLY INJURED

R o u r k e l a , (correspondent):: A shed constructed at the entrance of Rourkela Railway Station collapsed on Monday morning following heavy rainfall, raising serious concerns over passenger safety and construction quality. The incident occurred at the station's entry point when the tarpaulin-covered shed, supported by an iron-pipe structure, suddenly gave way. Three persons, including a woman who was inside a car at the time, sustained serious injuries in the collapse. They were rushed to a private hospital for treatment. The collapse has also raised questions

over the safety arrangements at the railway station. Since the incident is related to passenger safety, a probe committee has reportedly been constituted to investigate the circumstances leading to the collapse. Preliminary reports suggest that water accumulated on the tarpaulin following the morning's heavy rain, increasing the load on the structure beyond its capacity and causing it to collapse. Sources said structural defects had reportedly been noticed in the shed about a month ago as well. The railway authorities have stated that a penalty of ₹90 lakh was imposed on the contractor responsible for

constructing the shed. Meanwhile, allegations have surfaced that both lapses by the contracting agency and possible design-related shortcomings on the part of railway engineers may have contributed to the incident. The exact cause, however, will be established only after the inquiry is completed. The collapse has triggered strong public reactions, with commuters and local residents questioning how a recently constructed structure at a major railway station could fail in such a manner and put lives at risk.

BJP Government Has Failed to Fulfil Its Promises in the Employment Sector: BJD

B h u b a n e s w a r , (correspondent): The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) today said that while Chief Minister Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, attending the 16th Employment Fair organised by his government, claimed that his government is committed to providing employment to unemployed youth in the State, the BJP Government has completely failed to fulfil the promises it made during the elections in the field of employment. The BJD further said that the BJP Government's claim of having provided employment

to 45,000 youth in the last two years is misleading, as advertisements for nearly 39,000 of these appointments had already been issued during the tenure of the Naveen Government. In a press statement issued by the Biju Janata Dal, party spokesperson and Media Coordinator Dr. Lenin Mohanty said that the BJP Government has failed to keep its promises regarding employment. Chief Minister Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, in his statement today, claimed that his government had made appointments to



45,000 government posts during the last two years, which is misleading. In reply to a question in the Odisha Legislative Assembly, Chief Minister Shri Mohan Charan Majhi had provided detailed information regarding the appointments made during the last two years and the dates on which advertisements for recruitment to these posts had been issued.

Three arrested while planning robbery: Car with deadly weapon seized

S U B A R N A P U R (correspondent): Subarnapur district Tarbha police have achieved great success. Tarbha police have arrested three people after raiding a group planning a robbery and seized a white Hyundai Venue car (No. OD - 02-DK 6373) and a firearm. Two more robbers have fled from the scene. Information revealed that the last On Sunday, 09/08/26 at 9.50 am, SI Prasannajit Behera of Tarbha police station in Subarnapur district was on patroling duty in Tarbha police station area along with other police personnel. Recently, some suspects gathered in a white Hyundai Venue car



(No. OD-02-DK 6373) and the police had received information that they were carrying deadly weapons. They were planning to rob passengers and drivers traveling on the Shibtala-Khari road. On receiving the information, the police arrested three robbers while it is learnt that two

of them are absconding. The arrested accused are Pushpa @ P. Ramalu Rao (25) of Sishupalgarh under Dhauli police station in Bhubaneswar, Pratyush Priyanshu Naik (20) of Dhenkanal Bajichowk (current address - Kadali godown) in Buddha Nagar, Bhubaneswar) and Rajesh Ranjan Naik

(24) of Shibtala village under Tarbha police station in Subarnapur district. The police have seized a White Colour Hyundai car bearing Regd no. OD -02-DK 6373, a Bhujali , a knife, an iron pipe, a chilli powder packet, three black masks, a rope and two sticks from them. A case has been registered in Tarbha police station No. 294/09/8/2026/U s-310(4)/310(5)BNS / 25(IB)(b)Arms Act and further investigation is underway. P. Ramalu Rao is a well-known criminal of Bhubaneswar and there are many cases registered against him in various police stations of Bhubaneswar UPD

area. According to the information received, there are many cases registered against the accused Pushpa @ P. Ramalu Rao in Badagarh, Khandagiri, Bharatpur, Capital police stations of Bhubaneswar UPD area, while another accused Pratyush Priyanshu Naik has multiple cases registered against him in Bhubaneswar Laxmi Sagar, Badagarh and Dhenkanal Town police stations. This was informed by Subarnapur S. P. Narayan Nayak at a press conference held at Subarnapur District Police Headquarters today. Other police officers were present in this press conference.

Assistance by 'Bindumina Seva Foundation' in Tribal-Dominated Khaliapali Panchayat on World Tribal Day: Umbrellas and Slippers Distributed to 820 People

K a l a h a n d i , (Correspondent):- A noble social service program was personally organized in Khaliapali Gram Panchayat, a tribal-dominated area under Golamunda block of Kalahandi district. Free assistance was provided to helpless people by the 'Bindumina Seva Foundation' at the local Dhan Mandi (paddy procurement center). In this program, umbrellas and slippers were distributed free of cost to about 820 helpless elderly men, women, widows, and specially-abled individuals of the region. Bindu Mahanand, Chairman of the Bindumina Seva



Foundation and Chairman of Golamunda Block, was personally present at the event and distributed these items. Participating in the distribution program, Foundation Chairman Bindu Mahanand stated that serving the poor and helpless people is the core objective of the organization. While

senior BJP leader Manoj Meher attended the distribution program as the chief guest, Jayanta Singh, Baishakhu Ketaki, Ganesh Sahu, Hare Mallick, Jai Krishna S a h u , H a m a n t a Bag, local Sarpanch Jimuta Bahana Harpal, Senior Journalist Ashutosh Raut, Sushant

Dalei, Soumya Ranjan Agasti, Subas Bag, Duhsashan Bag, Manoj Agrawal, Suresh Mangaraj, Mantu Sahu, Ananta Sahu, Ashok Mangaraj, Jagujiban Sethia, and Mohan Lal Agrawal attended as guests of honor and praised the work of the foundation. On the other hand, Raju Bag,

Rabindra Sunani, Kshirasindhu Jagat, Trilochan Bag, Puni Bag, Saroj Munda, Pitambar Behera, Pinda Jal, Shambhu Sunani, Lingaraj Singh, Aniruddha Bag, Nath Bag, Anup Sunani, Aniruddha Bag, Jagadish Mangaraj, Nara Tandi, Pakhi Tandi, Kshirasindhu Chalan, Dubarna Naik, Duraman Naik, and Kasturi Bag from Khaliapali Gram Panchayat supported the Seva Foundation and remained present to make the distribution program a success. The local residents have highly praised this public welfare work of the foundation.

Brown sugar worth Rs 27.5 lakh seized, one arrested

C u t t a c k , (Correspondent):- Excise Intelligence and Enforcement Bureau Unit-1 (Flying Squad) Kataka today seized brown sugar worth Rs 27.5 lakh. One accused has been arrested in this case. The arrested accused is Sipu Behera (32) of Balaram Prasad area under Nalco Nagar police station in Angul district. Accused Sipu was produced in court by the Excise Department today (Monday). After being denied bail, he has been sent to judicial custody. 275 grams of brown sugar has been seized from the accused. The estimated market value of which is Rs 27.50

lakh. In this regard, a case under the NDPS Act has been registered by the Excise Department and investigation is underway. According to the Excise Department, on receiving information from any source, the Excise Department conducted a surprise raid at Mahishapat Chowk, National Highway-55 under Dhenkanal Town Police Station and arrested the accused Sipu Behera. A team was formed under the direction of Excise Superintendent Shri Samarjit Das and under the direct supervision of

Deputy Excise Superintendent Shri Roshan Isu Hansada. The team included Sub-Inspector Balbir Gadnayak, Assistant Sub-Inspector Kishore Kumar Rout, Constable Ranjit Sahu, Constable Shivanand Sadangi, Constable Sumit Kumar Naik as members and the raid was carried out with the joint cooperation of the accused.



OLA Organizes 11th Annual Convention & Seminar on AI and the Future of Libraries

B h u b a n e s w a r (Correspondent): The Odisha Library Academy (OLA) successfully organized its 11th Annual Convention & Seminar on the theme "Reimagining Information and Education through Online Libraries and Artificial Intelligence (RIEOLA)", along with the Librarians' Day Celebration, at the Regional Institute of Education (RIE),

Bhubaneswar, on 9 August 2026. The programme was organized to commemorate the 134th birth anniversary of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, the Father of Library Science in India, and focused on the emerging role of Artificial Intelligence, online libraries and digital technologies in education, research and information services. The inaugural

ceremony commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and floral tribute to Dr. S. R. Ranganathan. Shri Kali Prasanna Mohapatra, IAS, Director, Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his address he stated "Books and libraries are his passion and his weakness. He further announced that the recent recruitment for the post of librarian has



taken place this year, such recruitment would occur regularly every

year, thereby fulfilling the dreams of thousands of eligible

candidates." Prof. (M r s .) Manasi Goswami,

Principal, Regional Institute of Education, Bhubaneswar, attended as the Guest of Honour also stated "Libraries and educational institutions complementing to each other; education is worthless without libraries." Shri Bijoy Ketan Panda, Secretary, Odisha Library Academy, delivered the welcome address, while Dr. Bibhuti Bhushan Sahoo, President, OLA,

addressed the gathering. The keynote address on the occasion of Librarians' Day was delivered by Dr. Banamber Sahoo, Retd. Head, Library & IT Division, ICMR-RMRC, Bhubaneswar. He highlighted the changing responsibilities of library professionals and emphasized the importance of adopting digital technologies and innovative information services.

EDITORIAL

Young Voices, New Politics: Gen Z on Campus

For generations, the college campus has been more than a place for academic learning. It has been a space where young people have debated ideas, questioned authority, organised movements, discussed social issues and developed a sense of citizenship. Many important political and social movements have found their early voices in classrooms, student unions, libraries and campus gatherings.

Today, however, campus politics is changing. A new generation—Gen Z—is entering higher education with different expectations, communication habits and political experiences. They have grown up with smartphones, social media, instant information and a rapidly changing world. Their understanding of politics is therefore not necessarily shaped by traditional student organisations alone. It is increasingly influenced by digital conversations, online campaigns, global events and issues that directly affect their everyday lives.

This raises an important question: Can Gen Z give campus politics a new lease of life?

The answer may be yes, but perhaps not in the traditional form.

From slogans to issues

Earlier generations of student politics were often strongly associated with campus elections, rallies, debates, demonstrations and affiliation with larger political organisations. These activities created opportunities for students to understand leadership, public speaking, negotiation and collective action. Gen Z may approach politics differently. Many young people are less interested in ideological labels and more interested in specific issues. Climate change, employment, education costs, mental well-being, gender equality, technology, privacy, discrimination, public safety and opportunities for young people can become more immediate political concerns than traditional party identities. This does not mean that young people are politically indifferent. In many cases, they are deeply concerned about public affairs but prefer issue-based participation over permanent political affiliation. The campus of the future may therefore see a shift from “Which organisation do you belong to?” to “Which issue are you willing to work for?” The smartphone as the new political noticeboard The political noticeboard of the past was physical. Students gathered around posters, pamphlets and wall notices to discover what was happening on campus. Today, a political conversation can begin with a post, video, message or online discussion and reach thousands of students within minutes. Social media has dramatically lowered the barriers to political participation. A student who may hesitate to speak before a large gathering can express an opinion online. A campus issue that once remained confined to one institution can quickly attract wider attention. But this transformation has a darker side. Speed does not always produce understanding. Social media can encourage emotional reactions, misinformation, polarisation and simplified arguments. Students may encounter political content designed to provoke rather than inform. A short video can generate strong opinions without providing sufficient context.

"It is ideas not vested interests, which are dangerous for good and evil." (Keynes)



Uma sankar prasad

In the nineteenth century, the idea of "Socialism" was born and gained popularity during that same century. Those who accepted "Socialism" as a real ideology and tried to implement it proved that it was viable. There was a major difference between theoretical concepts and practical implementation—the difference between the spoken word and the written action, or between the writer and the subject.

Those who accepted "Socialism" as truth and held fast to it believed they were working for the welfare and advancement of the general public. However, under the cover of ideology, they ended up indulging in power, wealth, and self-interest, misguiding society. The core analysis of economy during the rise of "Socialism" began to shift toward a market-oriented framework around 1800. Although state control over the economy began to take shape, it was not entirely successful. In India, toward the end of the 18th century, foreign rulers took control of the economy.

When the "welfare state" began to take shape, economists began reforming the economy. Gradually, a "market economy" (which is not entirely free) emerged. However, Indian economists could not fully accept the old

structures (this is a kind of class bias). As a result, state control grew stronger, but the state was unable to provide economic stability, freedom, or genuine freedom of speech; instead, we lost our economic independence.

When any economic ideology fails to perform or demonstrate efficiency, what does our "failure" mean? Marxian ideology cannot be blamed for this. But Marx's critique was aimed at the spirit of "capitalism," reminding us that it doesn't just exploit society's resources, but distorts them. As "human-

ity" began to decline, socialist thinkers started presenting state-centric ideologies. Thus, "Socialism" gradually transformed into "Statism" (state control over society and economy).

Entering the late 20th century, starting around the 1970s, it became clear that our plan-driven economy was failing. Therefore, a new economic structure became necessary, forcing us to rely on private enterprise and market forces. We must bridge the gap between cities and villages. This does not mean that we will give up our 20th-century achievements; rather, it means that at the turn of the century, India must build a new identity. What do economists mean by economic modernization?

When leaders fought for independence, it was not just political—it had an economic dimension as well. To achieve that, citizens needed to be given economic rights. That is why our "welfare state" program expanded into "social justice" programs. Today, as the burden of "unemployment" grows, we must address it urgently.

Trying to control everything through "controls" must be abandoned. Similarly, Japan's model of industrialization and growth shows us the way forward. Relying solely on controls created an over-regulated environment where "rights" became separated from "duties."

If our environment and people cannot adopt a matching economic model, our mindset and structure will not upgrade (especially in backward regions with dense populations). Reconstruction suitable for the 21st century will not be possible. Therefore, "market forces" must first be understood. Over-regulation has made our economy rigid and inefficient. That is why leaders spoke of "swadeshi" (self-reliance) and rural upliftment. They advocated for decentralization. Today, leaders must show courage to free the economy from rigid control and rebuild it. Our nation's future and sovereignty depend on this. This is the new imperative for our economy.

Reconstructing Democracy...

...they became rulers instead of servants. They acted as masters, not public servants. And those who were supposed to serve became bosses.

When we look at the concept of "capitalism," some village leaders or local figures interpreted it in their own way. But they could not capture its true essence. That is why planned economic growth remained out of reach for small farmers and marginalized groups. A "mixed economy" was created to combine public and private enterprise, but it failed to deliver the expected benefits to the common people. Is it because our leaders lacked vision? No, but they gave us a hybrid model—what is called a Hybrid model in English. This system was put into practice, but without real depth.

When we view the economy from a "mixed economy" perspective, we see that during periods of crisis, government intervention helped us pull through. At that time, we created state-run enterprises and relied on public sector undertakings. But over time, these became inefficient and burdened with debt. They lacked competitive strength and innovation.

In terms of economic freedom, we did not create space for private initiative. Those who were supposed to drive growth became dependent on state subsidies. As a result, public sector management proved inefficient. When we examine our economic policies, we find that we failed to build adequate infrastructure or provide market-oriented education in rural areas. Consequently, rural populations could not integrate into the modern industrial economy.

In conclusion, our economic planning must move away from top-down control toward empowering people. We must foster an environment where local talent and entrepreneurship can flourish, ensuring that economic growth reaches every corner of society. This is the path to true self-reliance and democratic renewal.

Life, Livelihood, and Indian Politics



Bishnu Prasad Das

Human beings are born to live, and a livelihood is essential for sustaining life. Therefore, life and livelihood are two sides of the same coin. The force that has the greatest impact on protecting, strengthening, and enriching both is politics. Politics is not limited to elections, political parties, or the formation of governments; rather, it determines a country's policies, economy, social justice, and path of development. Therefore, there is a close relationship between Indian politics and the lives and livelihoods of ordinary people.

India is the world's largest democracy. Here, the people elect their representatives to form the government. The government, in turn, determines the country's direction through policies related to agriculture, education, healthcare, industry, employment, trade, and social welfare. Every government policy, directly or indirectly, affects the life of every citizen. The prices farmers receive for their crops, the wages of workers, employment opportunities for young people, business conditions for traders, educational opportunities for students, and social security for the elderly are all influenced by political decisions.

Since independence, India has achieved remarkable progress in many fields. Self-sufficiency in food production, advances in information technology, achievements in space exploration, the expansion of digital services, improvements in road and railway infrastructure, and progress in healthcare and education are all the results of sound political policies and long-term planning. However, challenges such as unemployment, inflation, poverty, farmers' distress, income inequality, and corruption continue to hinder the nation's progress. These problems directly affect the lives and livelihoods of millions of people.

In today's politics, issues of caste, religion, language, and regionalism often take precedence over development. During elections, political parties make numerous promises, but many of them remain unfulfilled. As a result, dissatisfaction and distrust grow among the people. If the primary aim of politics is merely to gain power, public welfare is pushed into the background. However, when politics is guided by service, integrity, transparency, and accountability, it can pave the way for the nation's overall development.

A large section of India's population still depends on agriculture and the unorganised sector for its livelihood. Therefore, quality education, skill

development, industrialisation, the growth of small and medium enterprises, and employment generation are essential for ensuring economic security. The true success of politics will be reflected when every young person has access to dignified employment, farmers receive fair prices for their produce, workers earn fair wages, and no family suffers because of hunger, poverty, or unemployment.

In a democracy, responsibility does not rest solely with politicians; citizens also have a vital role to play. The responsible exercise of voting rights, social awareness, respect for the rule of law, and a firm stand against corruption are the pillars of a healthy democratic system. When people cast their votes based on integrity, competence, and development rather than caste, religion, or personal gain, meaningful political change becomes possible.

In conclusion, life, livelihood, and Indian politics are closely interconnected. Good governance, transparent administration, people-centred policies, and responsible citizenship form the foundation of a prosperous India. If politics truly becomes an instrument of public service, every citizen can enjoy a life of dignity, security, and prosperity. This will be the true success of Indian democracy.

(A book can be sold, but a true reader cannot be bought)



Dr Satywan Saurabh

Globally, A book is more than just a book's pages. They embody the author's thoughts, experiences, emotions, imagination, and years of creative work. A good book fosters a connection with its reader that transcends momentary fame or commercial success. But in today's publishing industry, the term "bestseller" has become a mere publicity tool. Little information is available about a book's actual sales, yet it can be promoted as a bestseller through its cover, advertisements, social media pages, or authors. This raises an important question: Can the mere label of "bestseller" make a book a bestseller?

Ideally, "bestseller" should imply actual sales and sustained reader demand. When a book

sells reliably and transparently, and sells a large number of copies, it can be considered a bestseller. However, if sales or ranking figures, platforms, or measurement periods are not provided, the claim becomes questionable. It's natural for readers to ask, "Bestseller according to which list? How many copies sold? During what period? On which platform was the book most popular? Is there any independent verification of the figures?" If you don't know the answers to these questions, "bestseller" will become a marketing gimmick rather than a genuine achievement.

With the advent of social media, this type of promotion has become much easier. Creating eye-catching posters,

taking appropriate photos for book launches, making videos, securing support from schools, and receiving reviews and congratulatory messages can all make a huge impact. A book can be found anywhere on the web and thus appear to be very successful. However, there is no clear correlation between visibility and readership. A hundred likes doesn't necessarily mean you have as many readers. Seeing a photo of someone holding a book doesn't mean they actually read it. Similarly, having a lot of comments doesn't mean readers are deeply interested in the content.

You can buy a book, but you can never buy a true reader. Sometimes, hundreds or thousands of copies of books are sold during a campaign, institutional event, network, or organized promotion. But this is not a lack of sales. Both

authors and publishers have the right to profit from and promote their books. The problem begins when sales are exaggerated to create the illusion of popularity. There is not much difference between honest and misleading promotion, but it can have a profound impact on readers' trust.

This creates a true readership. A true reader buys a book, reads it carefully, ponders its contents, discusses it, and recommends it to others. A reader who reads such a comment is far more valuable than hundreds of artificial promotional comments. There's nothing better for an author than having someone say years later, "I read your book, and it changed my perspective on something." This kind of response doesn't come from advertising. It's only possible through quality writing.

The problem isn't

limited to book sales. Excessive praise isn't limited to other areas of art: the same applies to book reviews. In the modern era, almost every new book is called "brilliant," "historic," "unforgettable," or "a work of genius." When every book is called a masterpiece, it becomes difficult to distinguish it from other books. A good book review focuses on the positive aspects of a book but also highlights its shortcomings. Providing constructive criticism is not an insult to an author. Literature is an important aspect of literary development. If people receive honest criticism, they can improve themselves as writers, and they have a better basis for deciding what they should read.

Readers should consider the subject matter, the quality of the writing, the author's previous works, unbiased reviews, and

suggestions from writers whose literary criticism they respect. Readers should draw their own conclusions from reading this book. Literature becomes meaningless if it is not analyzed and appreciated.

A bestseller is primarily driven by commercial success, while a timeless book is driven by cultural success. Bestseller lists change, publicity periods expire, and market trends fade. However, a valuable book can remain relevant for many years. A book that is little read at the time of publication sometimes becomes very popular later. Its true success can be gradual, as readers discover it, appreciate it, and tell others about it. Word of mouth remains the best and most reliable way to spread the word about a literary work. Advertising can bring the reader to the

book and the book can keep them in the book.

Therefore, transparency in the use of the term "bestseller" is essential. It is crucial for authors and publishers to clarify the basis for making such claims, on which platforms, and over what period. Literary institutions and publishing platforms can also establish systems that keep reliable records of sales and assess actual readership. This will prevent readers from being misled and ensure truly successful authors receive the recognition they deserve.

A work is truly created only after it's completed. Words like "great," "popular," "excellent," and "bestseller" may attract readers' attention, but the final decision rests with readers and time. An author can promote a book, but they can't create a genuine love connection with readers.

There are no statistics

available to determine what constitutes the best book in literature—the most important achievement isn't the number of copies sold. Rather, it's the number of readers who feel a change within themselves after reading it. A book may be a bestseller, but that doesn't necessarily give the author more readers. True readers are attracted by honest writing, powerful ideas, rich use of language, and emotional connection.

Ultimately, the market can provide visibility, advertising can arouse curiosity, and a bestseller can make an impression. However, trust is only established by a good book. So, while sales figures can tell us how many copies were sold, it's only over time that we can determine how many readers remember a book. This is the difference between a book that sells and one that stays.

Public Grievance Hearing Camp Held at Khandapada Block

Khandapada, (correspondent): A public grievance hearing camp was organised by the Nayagarh district administration at the Khandapada Block Conference Hall on Monday. Nayagarh Collector Madhumita Rath and senior district officials heard the grievances of people from different areas. Sub-Collector Karnadeb Samadar, Zilla Parishad Chief Development Officer Lagnajit Raut, Additional Collector Rojina Dash, Additional SP Subash Chandra Panda, Khandapada



SDPO Saroj Kumar Sahu, BDO Ankur Abhilash, Additional Tahasildar Rina Rani Swain and Khandapada CHC Medical Officer Dr Abhisar Panda were present at the camp. Senior officials from various departments, including

Rural Development, Public Works, Minor Irrigation, Agriculture and Horticulture, also attended the programme. A total of 147 petitions were received during the camp. Of these, 116 were related to individual grievances,

four concerned village-level issues and 27 applications were submitted seeking assistance from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The administration took up 64 grievances for immediate hearing, while the Collector directed the BDO and concerned departmental officials to take prompt steps for early resolution of the remaining complaints. The camp was conducted with the cooperation of officials and employees of the Khandapada Block administration.

District Magistrate's Joint Public Grievance Hearing held

Kataka (correspondent): A joint public grievance hearing of the District Magistrate was held today at the Block Office of Kataka Sadar. A total of 55 grievances were received in this joint public grievance hearing held under the chairmanship of Additional District Magistrate Shri Kamaljit Das. Out of which, 47 were individual grievances and 08 were collective grievances. Appropriate steps were taken for the speedy resolution of 15 grievances in the grievance hearing camp. During the hearing of these grievances, DCP, Khilari Rushikesh Dyandeo, Chief Development Officer and Executive Officer, District Council, Shri Prashant Kumar

Nayak, Additional Superintendent of Security, Meenakshi Thakur, Kataka Sadar Deputy Magistrate, Shri Divya Jyoti Smriti Ranjan Deo, B.D. Pratyeka Sahu and other departmental officers and engineers were present. Various officers and engineers have been instructed to take immediate action after hearing various registered complaints related to drinking water, old age allowance, disabled allowance, health, education, agriculture, livestock, etc. in the presence of local people. It is worth mentioning here that a joint public grievance hearing will be held on the 17th at the Oswan Quarters of the District Collector's office.

26-Elephant Herd Spotted at Mahabir Hill, Residents Alarmed

Rourkela/Sundargarh: A herd of around 26 elephants has been spotted at Mahabir Hill near Kadopada under the Badgaon Forest Range in Sundargarh district, triggering concern among residents of the nearby villages. The elephant herd is currently staying inside the forest area. Following the movement of the elephants, forest officials have heightened vigilance in the surrounding areas and are closely monitoring the situation. The Forest Department has advised local residents, particularly those living in and around Kadopada, to remain alert and avoid venturing alone into forest areas. People have also been cautioned against approaching the elephants and advised to maintain a safe distance from the herd. Forest officials are keeping a close watch on the movement of the elephants with the help of drones. Residents have been urged to immediately inform the Forest Department if they notice any movement of the herd towards nearby villages or human habitations.

Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign: Huge 'Tiranga Rally' organized in Binika

SUBARNAPUR (correspondent)--- Subarnapur district administration has organized a huge 'Tiranga Rally' dedicated to the great spirit of "Vande Mataram". On Monday morning at 10 am, the Tiranga Rally reached College from Papakshay Ghat Chowk via Binika bus stand. On this occasion, thousands of public of Binika NAC joined and made the rally a success. Birmaharajpur MLA Er. Raghunath Jagdala was present in this huge gathering and said that the Har Ghar Tiranga program going on across the country will also be reflected in Subarnapur and he said



that the message of unity, integrity, peace and friendship has been given through this rally. Social worker Benudhar Das, MP representative Nalini Panda, Collector Dr. Nruparaj Sahu, Additional District Magistrate (Revenue) Rajendra Majhi,

Additional District Magistrate (General) Anjalina Pradhan, Zilla Parishad Chief Development Officer cum Executive Officer Aswini Meher, Binika Notified Area Council Chairman Subash Chandra Bhoi, Executive Officer Binika Manas Bhoi,

Binika Tehsildar Rasna Bhoi and all district and Binika block level officers were present. Students from various schools, colleges, members of social organizations and women of self-help groups participated in the program and made it successful.

Complaint letter filed against the lease of government land in Laudigaon Mauja to a private medical college

Gopalpur, 10/08 (correspondent): The residents of Laudigaon Mauja, Plot No. 252, Plot No. 726, total area 57.447 acres from uninhabited to uninhabited and provide land on lease in the name of Praveen Medical Education and Research Foundation. Which has been opposed by the residents of Laudigaon village, public representatives and the general public under Kanisi Tahasil.

proposal has been made to convert the land of Lodigaon Mauja, Plot No. 252, Plot No. 726, total area 57.447 acres from uninhabited to uninhabited and provide land on lease in the name of Praveen Medical Education and Research Foundation. Which has been opposed by the residents of Laudigaon village, public representatives and the general public under Kanisi Tahasil.

According to the complaint, this organization is not an institution, this organization has not contributed anything to the society in the field of health services and it is a new organization in Andhra Pradesh. They have alleged that there is a well-planned conspiracy to grab valuable government land in Laudigaon Mouja. In addition, the Kanishi Tehsil office has not informed the village about the land lease

through the village bulletin board or has not sent a letter to the Gram Panchayat office for public information. Before this, there is a precedent of various organizations taking government land on lease in many places in Kanishi Tahasil and later selling it in their own names. Therefore, if this is done, the Kanishi Tahasil has alleged that the people of the area will be forced to take to the highways in the coming days.

Disaster Management Related Capacity Building and Training Program

Gopalpur (correspondent): A disaster management related capacity building and training program was held today at the conference hall at Raghunathpur under the chairmanship of DM Sankarshan Behera of Odisha Forest Development Corporation Berhampur. Ganjam Deputy Collector Shivashish Baral attended as the chief guest and highly appreciated such programs and expressed that facing the disaster with patience, staying safe



and protecting others is the primary duty. The main speaker was Berhampur DF O Shanni Khokar who spoke about the role and responsibility of the forest department before and after the disaster. Executive Engineer Tapas Kumar Dash, Chhatrapur

ABDO Sudhansu Shekhar Tarei, Revenue Supervisor Itimayi Behera, Chhatrapur Fire Officer D. Mallick, Chamakhandi Police Station ASI Parmeshwar Mallik, ODRF Havildar Nirmal Kumar Behera, SDM Mohana jajati Kishore Nandi were

prominently present and gave their views on the work of the Fire Department, Defence Department, Revenue Department, ODRF, and the role and responsibilities of the Forest Department before and after the disaster and demonstrated the demo. SDM Khallikot Manoj Kumar Sahu conducted the meeting while Berhampur SDM Titan Sethi proposed the vote of thanks. Forest Development Corporation officers and employees, timber traders, tree cutters, and volunteers were prominently present.

IIRF ranking: Odisha medical colleges shine, SCB moves ahead of AIIMS

Kataka (correspondent): Three major government medical colleges in Odisha secured remarkable positions in the national IIRF rankings. The SCB Medical College and Hospital in Kataka secured a higher rank than AIIMS Bhubaneswar. As per reports, SCB MCH ranked 15th, while AIIMS Bhubaneswar secured the 16th position. VIMSAR in Burla ranked 64th, and MKCG Medical College in Berhampur secured the 74th position. The rankings highlight the performance of Odisha's government



medical institutions in areas including medical education, research, infrastructure and healthcare. Health Minister Mukesh Mahaling congratulated the doctors, faculty members, students and staff of the medical colleges for their performance in the

rankings. The Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) is an independent, non-governmental annual assessment of medical and MBBS institutions in India. Established in 2015, it evaluates institutions on areas such as teaching quality, infrastructure, and

research and placement performance. AIIMS New Delhi is among the institutions that frequently rank at the top. The ranking considers several parameters, including teaching and learning resources and pedagogy, covering faculty strength, student-teacher ratio and academic delivery. It also assesses medical infrastructure, including laboratory facilities, the scale of hospital attachments and modern clinical facilities. Research and future orientation are evaluated through areas such as publications, clinical trials and student readiness. External perception and social inclusion also form part of the assessment, covering industry reputation, public health outreach and diversity.

Joint Public Grievance Redressal Camp Held at Rasulpur Block Office

JAJPUR (Correspondent): A Joint Public Grievance Redressal Camp organized by the Jajpur District Administration was held at the conference hall of the Rasulpur Block Office. Jajpur Collector Ambar Kumar Kar attended the camp and heard various grievances and complaints from the public.

The Collector stated that the concerned departmental officials would verify the complaints and take all possible steps to resolve the issues of eligible beneficiaries. A total of 74 grievances were registered during the camp. Of these, 46 were related to individual problems, 2 to community issues, and 26 were applications seeking assistance from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF). Immediate disposal was made in 26 cases. The Joint Public Grievance Redressal Camp was attended by Jajpur Superintendent of Police Yash Pratap Shrimal, Additional District Magistrate Judhishthir Naik, Chief Development Officer-cum-Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Jajpur Debi Prasad Mahanty, Sub-Collector Tapas Ranjan Deshury, District Chief Medical and Public Health Officer Dr. Nagendranath Mahapatra, Deputy Collector, Grievance Cell Saraswat Sahu, Rasulpur Block Development Officer Satyananda Das, Rasulpur Tahasildar Siddhartha Kumar Behera, along with district-level, field-level and block-level officials.

Heavy Rain Submerges Rourkela Railway Station Entry Gate

Rourkela (correspondent): Heavy rainfall on Monday morning once again exposed the city's drainage woes, as the entrance area of Rourkela Railway Station was submerged in rainwater. The station's second entrance near Gopabandhu Pali was also inundated, causing inconvenience to passengers and commuters. Despite the area facing similar waterlogging during previous spells of heavy rain, no effective or permanent measures appear to have been taken to improve drainage and ensure proper water discharge.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender No.: ELOP-T-07-2026
Name of work: ONE TIME REPAIR AND THREE YEAR COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (CAMC) FOR CCTV SYSTEMS IN MEMU RAKES AT THE MEMU CAR SHED, KHURDA ROAD.
Advertised Value: ₹ 80,90,400.00, EMD: ₹ 1,61,800.00, Tender Documents Cost: ₹ 3,900.00, Period of Completion : 36 Months.
Bidding Start Date: 14.08.2026.
Date & time of tender closing : At 1530 hrs. on 28.08.2026.
Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.
Complete information including e-tender documents are available in website www.ireps.gov.in.
Divisional Electrical Engineer/ MEMU/ OPI/ PR-353/R/26-27 | Khurda Road

AFFIDAVIT
Swapna Mohanty having Aadhar No-2608 6557 5987 and PAN No-DZEPM8199A age about 48 years W/o Sanjaya Kumar Mohanty and (D/o Jagannath Pattnaik) by occupation House wife, resident at C/o Sanjaya Kumar Mohanty, Near MPL High school, Purunabasti, Jharsuguda, Odisha-768202 as declare before the Executive magistrate Jharsuguda, Odisha CF.No. 10886/ Dt.10.08.2026 declare that after my marriage to Sanjaya Kumar Mohanty (Aadhar No 7041 9326 2347) my surname changed from Pattnaik to "Mohanty", and since then I am known as Swapna Mohanty W/o Sanjaya Kumar Mohanty.

13001/1482/2627
House & Urban Development Department Govt. of Odisha
ଘରାଢ଼ୀୟ ଯୌର ପରିଷଦ, ଘରାଢ଼ୀୟ
OFFICE OF THE PARADEEP MUNICIPALITY, PARADEEP
ଘରାଢ଼ୀୟ, ଜିଲ୍ଲା-ଜଗତସିଂହପୁର, ୭୫୪୧୪୨
At/Po-Paradeep, Dist- Jagatisinghpur (Odisha), Pin-754142
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Tender Call Notice No. 4250/31.07.2026
Bid Identification No. EO/PDPM/W-07/2026-27
Tender ID 2026_ORULB_137596
Nature of works Civil works
Number of works 88
Tender Value 2/78Lakh to 21.25 Lakh
Available Period Dt. 11.08.2026 from 05.30PM to dt. 24.08.2026 05.30 PM
Tender Opening Date Dt. 25.08.2026 at 11.30 AM
Bidders are requested to read the NIT & DTCN at www.tendersodisha.gov.in carefully and participate with their civil license with valid Registration certificate before the closing date.
OIPR-13001/13120/1/26-27/0013
Executive Officer
Paradeep Municipality

Farah Khan Responds to ‘Biased Host’ Trolls After Shreya Kalra Wins Lock Upp 2

Farah Khan has responded to social media users who accused her of being biased towards Shreya Kalra during Lock Upp season 2. Shreya emerged as the winner of the Netflix reality show last week after beating Shivangi Joshi in the finale. Farah Khan and Riteish Deshmukh presented her with the winner’s trophy and the ₹1 crore prize. Following the finale, some viewers questioned the result and argued that other finalists, including Shivangi and Yogesh Rawat, were more deserving. Farah was also criticised online, with some users alleging that she had favoured Shreya during the season. Farah asks Shreya about their connection. In a recent vlog, Farah visited Shreya’s home in Mumbai and directly addressed the controversy. Farah asked Shreya whether they had known each other before Lock Upp 2. Shreya said they had not. Farah then explained that she only discovered a connection between them after viewers began accusing her of favouritism. According to Farah, both she and Shreya’s YouTube management were associated with Qyuki, a company that manages several content creators. Farah said she contacted the team after seeing the online comments and learned that Shreya was also associated with the company. Farah questioned how she could have favoured Shreya when she did not know her before the show.



Cricketer Ramandeep Singh Marries Actor Charlie Chauhan in Intimate Punjabi Wedding

Kolkata Knight Riders cricketer Ramandeep Singh has married television actor Charlie Chauhan in an intimate Punjabi wedding ceremony attended by family, friends and celebrities from cricket and television. Cricketer Ramandeep Singh has begun a new chapter in his personal life. The Punjab all-rounder tied the knot with television actor Charlie Chauhan in a traditional Punjabi wedding ceremony surrounded by their loved ones. The private celebration brought together friends and colleagues from the cricket and entertainment industries. While the couple kept most details of the wedding away from the public eye, glimpses from the ceremony have surfaced on social media. Several cricketers and close friends of Ramandeep attended the wedding celebrations. Among those spotted at the ceremony were India pacer Arshdeep Singh, Mumbai Indians batter Naman Dhir,

Mumbai Indians fast bowler Ashwini Kumar and Punjab cricketer Jassinder Singh.

10 friendly beverages to boost immunity, hydration

BEST BEVERAGES TO COMBAT DEHYDRATION

- 1. Herbal teas:** If you are a tea person, you can go for herbal teas like peppermint, green tea, chamomile, ginger, and lemon. To add in healthy twist to the teas, 2 tablespoons of soaked chia seeds can be added which are good source of omega 3 FFA.
- 2. Sattu drink:** Sattu is a nutritious flour made from roasted chickpeas (chana) which is a good source of energy and protein. Mix it with hot water, a pinch of black salt and a dash of lemon juice for a satisfying and protein-rich drink. To add flavour, it can be combined with roasted cumin powder and jaggery powder (optional). It is a healthy drink for pregnant and lactating mothers.
- 3. Warm winter fruit punch:** Take fruit juice of ½ litre orange, 250 ml pineapple juice and 250 ml apple juice. Heat the mix of all fruit juices in a saucepan and add 1 medium sized cinnamon stick, few cloves, nutmeg and cinnamon powder. Heat over low flame, simmer for 20 minutes and turn off the stove. Let it cool slightly. Once it turns warm, filter it and serve it by adding fresh cut fruits like oranges, apple, lemon juice and 2-3 tablespoons soaked chia seeds as they are good source of omega 3 FFA and garnish with mint leaves and serve warm. As it contains citrus juice and spices too, they help in fighting against the infection and also maintain the body temperature.
- 4. Warm infused water:** A healthy and delightful infused drink can be made by adding slices of cucumber, lemon, orange, mint, piece of ginger to a pitcher of hot water. Once the mix turns lukewarm, filter the infused water and serve it with soaked chia seeds and 1.2 tsp honey (optional) which is a healthy alternative for hydration. It also works as a detoxifier.
- 5. Soups:** Healthy as well nutritious, veg soups or meat broths which are rich in vitamins and minerals can be taken to maintain hydration, warmth and energy. Sprinkling pepper definitely helps in case of cold/nose congestion.
- 6. Golden milk:** In a sauce pan, add 2 cups milk, pinch each of turmeric powder, pepper, cinnamon and grated ginger (½ inch). Mix all the ingredients and bring it to boil. Lower the heat and let it boil for another 5 minutes and serve hot. For sweetness, 1 tsp of honey can be added (optional).



- . Turmeric has anti-inflammatory properties, which helps to keep the infections at bay during winter. All the spices provide warmth to the body.
- 7. Warm jeera water:** Add one cup of water and one teaspoon of jeera or 1 tbs of jeera powder in a saucepan and boil well. Strain it and drink warm. During winter, consumption of lukewarm jeera water helps to provide relief from cold and sore throat due to its hot nature. It has strong anti-congestive property and it helps in clearing the mucus collected in the chest/respiratory tract. The anti-bacterial property of jeera water aids in fighting against infection-causing bacteria.
 - 8. Cinnamon tea:** A pinch of powdered cinnamon can be added to the boiling water and simmered for sometime. It can then be filtered and consumed with a few drops of honey and lemon. It is a healthy and refreshing drink which also helps in boosting the metabolism during winters.
 - 9. Hot barley water:** Take ½ cup of barley along with 4 cups of water. After washing the barley, add it to the water and pressure cook for 3 whistles. Strain the water and add flavouring of your choice like black salt, lemon, pepper, honey etc. Barley has excellent antioxidant properties and it also helps to maintain the body temperature and hydration in winter.
 - 10. Classic warm ragi malt:** Add 2-3 tbs of ragi malt to a cup of hot milk and mix well without forming lumps. Add jaggery for taste (optional) along with a pinch of cinnamon and elaichi powder. Ragi is a good source of calcium and iron apart from providing warmth. Hence, it’s a good option for pregnant women and growing children due to its nutritional benefits.

Drink coriander leaves water on empty stomach for lowering cholesterol, boosting immunity

Coriander or Dhaniya is a powerful herb that has been in use since ancient times for lowering cholesterol levels and treating digestive issues. Fragrant and flavourful, both coriander seeds and leaves are widely used in Indian curries for enhancing taste. Coriander leaves are ground into delicious chutney that can go with a wide range of recipes. An excellent source of vitamins, fibre, minerals, and antioxidants, coriander leaves can be an amazing addition to your diet. Coriander leaves water can be a wonderful remedy for managing blood sugar levels and keeping at bay many chronic diseases. Coriander has many natural compounds that can combat high cholesterol. High in antioxidants and dietary fibres, coriander water can play also help in reducing LDL or 'bad' cholesterol levels. Coriander is full of phytosterols, the plant compounds that can inhibit the absorption of cholesterol in the intestine. This also help prevent heart disease. The herb coriander acts as a diuretic. It is also shown by research that it can help reduce harmful cholesterol (LDL) thus reducing risk of atherosclerosis and prevention of coronary artery disease," says Dr. Dipankar Roy, MBBS, MD (MEDICINE), Golf View Healthcare & Research Centre. "Coriander water can help relieve PMS, acidity, thyroid, migraine due to excess heat, night sweats, hot flashes, mid-night sweats and all kinds of pitta issues," shares Dr Dixa Bhavsar Savaliya in her recent Instagram post.

How to make coriander leaves water

Just take a handful of coriander leaves and boil it in 500 ml of water for 10 minutes, then strain and sip on it while its lukewarm or at room temperature.

Right time to drink coriander leaves water
You can drink coriander leaves water at any time be it first thing in the morning or 45 minutes before or after your meals.

What makes coriander leaves so nutritious

"Coriander leaves are an excellent source of Vitamin A and Vitamin C. Along with these nutrients, each serving of coriander leaves is loaded with a potful of nutrients like dietary fibre, iron, manganese, calcium, vitamin K, phosphorus, etc," says Dr Savaliya.

- "A wonder herb consisting of 11 essential oils, very low in saturated fat, contains a good amount of linoleic acid which imparts numerous health benefits. As per NIN, 100 gms of coriander leaves has 31 kcal, 2 gms of carbohydrates, 4gms of protein, 0.7 gms of fat, 146 mg of calcium, 5.3mg of iron, 4.7gms of fibre, 24mg of Vitamin C, 635mg of Vitamin A and more," she adds.
- ### Health benefits of Dhaniya or coriander leaves water
- 1. Improves vision:** Coriander is high in Vitamin A which can help nourish your retinas. It also helps retain the right amount of moisture in your eyes.
 - 2. Boosts immunity:** Coriander leaves are full of Vitamin C and Vitamin A along with Vitamin A. This can help boost your immune system. The wonderful antioxidants and plant-based compounds are further beneficial for your health.
 - 3. Manages blood sugar levels:** According to WebMD, coriander has been shown to significantly lower blood sugar in people who have diabetes.
 - 4. Reduces bad cholesterol (LDL):** Coriander leaves has wonderful compounds that can help cut bad cholesterol and improve heart health.
 - 5. Fortify bone health:** Coriander leaves is a storehouse of calcium, manganese, magnesium and phosphorus, all the essential minerals that work wonders for your bone health.
 - 6. Enhances gut health:** Eating coriander leaves can help boost appetite and reduce symptoms of bloating and discomfort.
 - 7. Promotes skin health:** Coriander leaves have powerful antioxidants that can aid in fighting against free radicals that can damage the skin.
 - 8. Boosts heart health:** Apart from lowering cholesterol, coriander leaves can act as a diuretic, which could help remove extra sodium from your system and lower your blood pressure.



Hockey World Cup 2026: New Format Puts Greater Emphasis On Pool-Stage Results

New Delhi: The FIH Hockey Men's and Women's World Cup 2026 will feature a revamped competition structure, with the traditional quarterfinal stage scrapped and the top two teams from each of the two crossover pools advancing directly to the semi-finals as Belgium and the Netherlands jointly host the tournament from August 15 to 30. The new format means teams will have little margin for error from the outset, with results from the opening pool stage potentially carrying over into the next phase. India's men have been drawn alongside England, Pakistan and Wales in Pool D, while the Indian women will face

China, England and South Africa in their Pool D campaign. The tournament will begin with the 16 teams in each competition split across four pools of four. From August 15 to 20, every team will play three matches against the other sides in its pool, with the final standings determining the composition of the next phase. The top two teams from Pools A and D will move into Pool E, while the leading two teams from Pools B and C will form Pool F. The teams finishing third and fourth in Pools A and D will make up Pool G, with the corresponding teams from Pools B and C placed in Pool H. The second phase, scheduled from August 21 to 24, will see teams play three more matches.



However, one result from the opening phase will carry forward — the outcome of the Phase I match between the two teams that progress from the same original pool. This makes every pool

match particularly significant, especially for sides targeting the semi-finals. The top two finishers from Pool E and Pool F will advance directly to the last four. The semi-final matchups will be Pool E

winners vs Pool F runners-up and Pool F winners vs Pool E runners-up. The remaining teams will compete in classification matches for positions 5th to 16th. Indian women's

team's chief coach Sjoerd Marijne acknowledged that while he would have preferred the traditional quarterfinal route, the new structure presents opportunities that his team must exploit. "It's an interesting schedule, but my preference is to have quarterfinals in a tournament format. I understand that for higher-ranked teams in the world they will prefer this, but I think quarterfinal matches are among the most exciting matches in a tournament. But it is how it is, and we will deal with this and make the best of this format. I am always thinking in opportunities, and there are opportunities also within this format," Marijne said. For the Indian men's team,

coach Craig Fulton stressed that the importance of the opening pool matches has increased considerably because of the carry-forward system. "The format of this tournament has obviously changed drastically — from having quarter-finals to not having them. So the emphasis on the pool games is really, really important, because it's obviously the top two that go through. And the head-to-head result between those two teams matters: if one beats the other, those three points carry into the next round, and that puts you in the driving seat to get out of the next group and into the semi-finals," said Fulton. Fulton also highlighted the

significance of goal difference, particularly in a format where a tightly contested pool could be decided by fine margins, adding, "So yes, it's different — it's not good or bad. We can make it an advantage for us if we start well. We really have to manage our goal difference well. The team that finishes top of the group is decided by the most wins, and then it goes to goal difference — so if there's a draw, goal difference decides it." Following the crossover phase, the classification matches and semi-finals will be held on August 27 and 28. The women's tournament will conclude in the Netherlands on August 29, with the bronze-medal match followed by the final.

PM Modi Laughs as Boxer Narender Berwal Recalls Pakistan Opponent's 'I Hate the Name Narendra' Remark

NEW DELHI: Indian boxer Narender Berwal left Prime Minister Narendra Modi laughing after recalling a memorable exchange with a Pakistani opponent from the 2015 World Military Games. Berwal shared the story during a felicitation ceremony at the Prime Minister's residence following his silver-medal performance at the Commonwealth Games 2026. Recalling the 2015 bout, Berwal said he had been urged by Indian military officials not to lose against his Pakistani opponent. "You must not lose to Pakistan," Berwal recalled being told before the fight. Berwal defeated



Pakistani opponent in 2015. Berwal said he won the bout after taking the first round 4-1 and the second round 3-2. Both boxers suffered cuts during the contest and later went to a hospital together for stitches. It was during that visit that the Indian boxer said his opponent made an

unexpected comment about his name. Berwal explained that his coach at the event was also named Narendra Rana. The boxer from Pakistan reportedly noticed that Berwal, his coach and India's prime minister all shared the name Narendra. "I hate the name Narendra": What the

boxer told Berwal. According to Berwal, his Pakistani opponent told him: "Your name is Narender, your coach's name is Narender, and your Prime Minister's name is Narendra." The boxer then jokingly added that he had started to "hate" the name Narendra.

Berwal's account prompted laughter from PM Modi during the interaction. PM Modi meets Commonwealth Games medal winners. The anecdote was shared during PM Modi's interaction with Indian athletes following their Commonwealth Games campaign. The Prime Minister held one-on-one conversations with several athletes and praised their performances and contribution to India's sporting achievements. Berwal's silver medal at CWG 2026 added another notable chapter to his career, while his story from the 2015 World Military Games provided a lighter moment during the athletes' felicitation.

PM Modi Praises Lovlina Borgohain for Raising Incorrect India Map Issue at Glasgow Restaurant

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday praised boxer Lovlina Borgohain for raising concerns over an incorrect depiction of the Indian map at a restaurant in Glasgow during the 2026 Commonwealth Games. Modi made the remarks while meeting Indian athletes who returned from Scotland after the Commonwealth Games. Borgohain, who won a silver medal in the women's 75kg boxing category, had earlier flagged the issue during a celebratory dinner with the Indian boxing contingent. Lovlina flags missing Northeast from India map. Borgohain noticed that a map displayed at the Glasgow

restaurant did not include India's Northeast. The Assam-based boxer subsequently brought the issue to the attention of the restaurant management. "Please don't take this the wrong way. I felt a little hurt by this. In the map of India, our Northeast is missing," she told the restaurant staff, according to the report. She explained that the omission was particularly significant to her as someone from the Northeast and requested the establishment to ensure that the map was correctly represented in the future. The incident later drew attention on social media. PM Modi praises boxer. During his interaction with the

Commonwealth Games athletes, Modi referred to the incident and asked Borgohain about her interaction with the restaurant staff. Borgohain explained that the team had been celebrating their Commonwealth Games success when she noticed the map. She said she had politely raised the issue with the restaurant and that the establishment had agreed to make changes. Modi praised her for taking note of the issue even while celebrating her sporting achievement. He said recognising the significance of the map at such a moment was a thoughtful gesture and suggested that the video of the incident would be remembered for a long time.

Second Edition Of Coal India Open To Kick Off On Friday

Kolkata: Coal India Limited and the Professional Golf Tour of India (DP World PGTI), the official sanctioning body of men's professional golf in India, will be jointly staging the second edition of the Coal India Open from August 11 to 14, 2026, at the Tollygunge Club in Kolkata. The tournament offers a total prize purse of Rs 1 crore. The event will have a field of 132 players, including 131 professionals and one amateur. The impressive field at the tournament will feature leading Indian professionals including PGTI Order of Merit leader Saptak Talwar, Veer Ahlawat, Om Prakash Chouhan, Manu Gandas, Khalin Joshi, Shaurya Bhattacharya and defending champion Angad Cheema, to name a few. The leading foreign



professionals in the field are Sri Lankans N. Thangaraja and Mithun Perera, Thailand's Tanapat Pichaikool, Bangladeshis Jamal Hossain and Badal Hossain, Nepal's Sukra Bahadur Rai and Subash Tamang, Czech Republic's Stepan Danek, Americans Dominic Piccirillo and Koichiro Sato, Japan's Koichiro Ishika and Taiga Tanaka and Ugandan Joshua Seale, to name a few. The field includes some prominent names

from the host city of Kolkata, including Shankar Das (former PGTI Order of Merit champion), Rahul Gangjee, Viraj Madappa, Mohammad Sanju, Divyanshu Bajaj, 2026 DP World PGTI NexGen Order of Merit Champion Sunit Chowrasia, Feroz Ali Mollah, Indrajit Bhalotia, and Karan Verma. Amandeep Johl, CEO, DP World PGTI, said, "The staging of the second edition of the Coal India Open bears testament to Coal India's

strong commitment to Indian professional golf and its belief in the growth and development of the sport. We thank Coal India for providing our professionals with a valuable, competitive platform at the revered Tollygunge Club, further enhancing the stature of the current DP World PGTI season. We are confident that this year's edition will build on the success of the inaugural event and showcase the very best of Indian professional golf in the sports-loving city of Kolkata."

Toronto Open Quarterfinals: Osaka Downs Fernandez, Bencic Stops Eala

NEW DELHI: Naomi Osaka and Belinda Bencic produced commanding performances at the Toronto Open, advancing to the quarterfinals while ending Alexandra Eala's spirited campaign. Osaka defeated Canadian star Leylah Fernandez 6-4, 6-4 in one hour and 22 minutes. The four-time Grand Slam champion broke early in the first set and maintained control with powerful groundstrokes. Fernandez kept the score close but failed to convert crucial points as Osaka closed out both sets with composure. "It's a big confidence boost," Osaka said after the match. "Coming back after pregnancy, I was eager to play the best players, and now I'm able to go toe-to-toe with them." The victory marks Osaka's



fourth consecutive quarterfinal appearance on the WTA Tour, underscoring her successful comeback. Meanwhile, Belinda Bencic ended Eala's impressive run with a 6-4, 6-0 victory. The Swiss star attacked Eala's serve from the outset, breaking early and dictating rallies with aggressive returns. Eala fought back in the

first set, breaking twice to stay in contention, but Bencic's crucial lob at 4-4 shifted momentum. She sealed the set 6-4 before racing through the second set without dropping a game. Eala, fresh off her maiden WTA title in Washington, acknowledged the challenge: "Tough one today. Belinda put me in tough situations. I wasn't

able to get myself out of a certain mode." The Filipino star drew strong support from fans inside Sobeys Stadium, but Bencic's dominance proved decisive. With Osaka and Bencic advancing, the Toronto Open quarterfinals promise high-intensity clashes as the tournament heads into its decisive stages.

National Space Day Celebrated at GIET University ISRO Rocket Models and Chandrayaan-3 Mission Displayed

Gunupur (Correspondent): National Space Day was celebrated at Gandhi Institute of Engineering and Technology (GIET) University, Gunupur, with a two-day programme jointly organised by the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Sriharikota, and GIET University.

National Space Day is observed in India on August 23 to commemorate the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the lunar surface. It is a matter of pride that GIET University has been selected as the only educational institution in Odisha to host the National Space Day programme this year. As part of the celebrations, an exhibition showcasing various ISRO rocket



models and the successful Chandrayaan-3 mission was inaugurated. Dr. T. V. Ramana Reddy, Distinguished Scientist and Deputy Director, ISRO, and Dr. Chandra Dhvaj Panda, Vice President, GIET University, jointly inaugurated the exhibition. An inaugural ceremony was subsequently organised

at the university's Mega Auditorium. Dr. T. V. Ramana Reddy, Deputy Director, SDSC SHAR, who attended the programme as the Chief Guest, highlighted the significant role of scientists in the development and progress of the nation. He emphasised the contribution of scientific research and innovation towards India's

advancement. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Chandra Dhvaj Panda, Vice President, GIET University, said that institutions such as ISRO have created new milestones in establishing India's technological and nuclear capabilities on the global stage. Dr. Gautam Ghosh, Vice Chancellor, GIET University, spoke about

the importance of scientific innovation in contemporary society and the role of scientists in shaping the future. Scientist from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Debashish Mahapatra, delivered the welcome address, while Dr. K. Murali Gopal, Principal, School of Engineering and Technology, GIET University, proposed the vote of thanks. The inaugural programme also featured an interactive session in which several ISRO scientists joined virtually and interacted with the students, responding to their questions and sharing insights into India's space missions and scientific achievements. Professor A. V. N. L. Sharma, Vice Chancellor (Material Science), Dr. Balakrushna Tripathy,

Pro Vice Chancellor (Computational Science), Dr. N. V. J. Rao, Registrar, and Dr. P. Vijay Kumar, Controller of Examinations, along with several ISRO scientists and senior university officials, attended the programme. The exhibition witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of educational institutions across the Gunupur region. Students had the opportunity to observe ISRO's rocket models and learn about India's achievements in space exploration. As part of the National Space Day celebrations, a quiz competition on space science and India's space missions was also organised for students from various educational institutions.

Sensex, Nifty End Flat Amid Strait Of Hormuz Uncertainty

Mumbai: Benchmark equity indices ended marginally higher on Monday after trading in a narrow range for most of the session, as investors remained cautious amid uncertainty surrounding a potential deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Gains in select sectors helped markets stay positive despite weakness in PSU banks and FMCG stocks. The Nifty settled 13.15 points, or 0.05 per cent, higher at 24,583.80, while the Sensex advanced 43.27 points, or 0.06 per cent, to close at 78,542.44. Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that the 24,600–24,700 zone continues to act as the immediate resistance area. "A sustained breakout above 24,700 could strengthen buying momentum and open the way towards the 24,800 level," an analyst stated. "On the downside, 24,500 remains the immediate and crucial support, and holding above this level will be important to prevent renewed weakness. A decisive break below 24,500 could increase selling pressure and expose the index to the 24,400–24,300 region," a market expert mentioned. Both indices moved within a narrow range throughout the session before ending slightly in the green. Market sentiment remained cautious as traders monitored global developments that could influence crude oil prices and broader risk appetite. The muted movement in benchmark indices reflected a wait-and-watch approach among investors. Among Nifty constituents, State Bank of India, ITC and Eternal emerged as the top laggards, weighing on the headline indices. The broader market delivered a mixed performance.

KIMS Observes Bone and Joint Week with Extensive Health Camps and Awareness Drives

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent): The Department of Orthopaedics at Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) celebrated the 15th Bone and Joint Week from August 3 to 8, 2026, under the theme "Strong Bone, Strong Joints Lead to a Better Life – Stronger India." The week-long programme was organised in line with the call of the Indian Orthopaedic Association (IOA) and Odisha Orthopaedic Association (OOA). Bone and Joint Day, observed annually on August 4 as decided by the IOA, marks the separation of Orthopaedics from General Surgery in 1971. On this occasion, orthopaedic specialists across the country conduct free health check-ups and awareness programmes focusing on musculoskeletal health. At KIMS, a series of activities were conducted throughout the week, covering key areas such as screening of children for developmental deformities, osteoporosis detection, fall prevention among the elderly, promotion of correct



posture to prevent back pain, and injury prevention at workplaces and on roads. The initiative also emphasised the importance of maintaining good health among surgeons for better patient care. On August 5 and 6, a team comprising Prof. Dr. Basant Kumar Behera, President of OOA, along with Dr. Dibya Sahu and Dr. Bibhudatta Sahu, visited Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), where they conducted health screenings of a record 1,235 students. A special session for orthopaedic doctors was held on August 6 at the KIMS seminar hall, focusing on stress management and maintaining overall well-being.

Jindal Stainless signs MoU with MIT World Peace University (MIT-WPU) to launch specialised course on stainless steel applications in tunnel engineering

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent): Jindal Stainless, India's leading stainless steel manufacturer, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MIT World Peace University (MIT-WPU), Pune, to introduce a specialised course titled 'Stainless Steel: A Sustainable, Green & Innovative Material for Tunnel and Underground Space Construction.' The collaboration aims to strengthen industry-academia engagement by equipping future engineers with practical knowledge of stainless steel, advanced



materials and their applications in sustainable tunnel construction. With India witnessing significant investments in metro rail, highways, railways, hydropower and Pumped Storage Projects (PSPs), underground infrastructure is

emerging as a critical component of future development. As tunnels are increasingly designed for longer service lives and operate in challenging environments involving groundwater, humidity and corrosive conditions, there is a growing need for

engineers with expertise in advanced materials, lifecycle-based design and sustainable construction practices. The first batch of the course will commence today. The MoU was signed by Chief Executive Officer, Jindal Stainless, Mr Tarun Khulbe; Chief of Business Unit, Jindal Stainless Steelway Ltd., Mr Madhur Gupta; and Head – Strategic Business & Tunnel Infra, Jindal Stainless Steelway Ltd., Mr Sandeep Singh. Representing MIT World Peace University (MIT-WPU), the MoU was signed by Dean,

Faculty of Engineering & Technology, Dr Siddharth Chakrabarti; Professor and Program Director, Department of Civil Engineering, Dr Shantini A. Bokil; Director, Center of Excellence for Tunneling and Underground Construction (CoETUC) and Head, Tunnel Engineering Programme, Dr Sandeep Potnis; and Assistant Professor and Academic Coordinator, Dr Abhaysinha G. Shelake. The agreement is valid for a period of three years and establishes a framework for the joint administration, delivery, and continuous enhancement of the specialised programme.

TPWODL Celebrates Indigenous Heritage and Voices Across Western Odisha

Burla (Correspondent): TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL), a joint venture of Tata Power and Government of Odisha celebrated the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples across five districts of its operational area in Western Odisha, bringing together five tribal communities to celebrate indigenous heritage, raise awareness about tribal rights. Organised under TPWODL's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Affirmative Action (AA) initiative, the celebrations brought together Self-Help Groups (SHGs), members from schedule tribe and schedule cast and other Indigenous groups in Sundargada, Nuapada, Kalahandi, Debagada. The programme engaged five communities, namely Kondh, Saura, Gond, Santala and



Bhuiyan, creating a platform for dialogue and greater awareness around the contributions and aspirations of Indigenous and tribal communities. The programme highlighted the importance of preserving rich cultural heritage, traditional practices and Indigenous knowledge systems passed down through generations. Discussions also focused on the significance of protecting Indigenous rights and ensuring that traditional wisdom continues to find

relevance in a rapidly changing world. A key focus of the celebrations was the role of Indigenous communities in environmental conservation and climate resilience. Their traditional, nature-based practices and deep understanding of local ecosystems offer valuable lessons in sustainable living and responsible management of natural resources. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Parveen Verma, CEO, TPWODL, said, "Indigenous and tribal communities are

custodians of a rich legacy of culture, knowledge and traditions that have evolved over generations in close harmony with nature. Recognising their voices and preserving this heritage is an important part of building truly inclusive and sustainable communities. Through our CSR initiatives, TPWODL remains committed to strengthening community participation, creating opportunities for empowerment and supporting the preservation of

indigenous knowledge and cultural identity." Indigenous knowledge systems have sustained the well-being of Indigenous Peoples for generations. Rooted in holistic worldviews that connect territory, spirituality, community and ways of life, they encompass values, practices and forms of care that have been developed and passed on over time. The celebrations reinforced TPWODL's commitment to inclusive development and meaningful community engagement, while providing a platform for Indigenous and tribal communities to share their perspectives, traditions and knowledge. Through initiatives such as Affirmative Action (AA), TPWODL continues to engage with communities across its operational areas, with a focus on empowerment, inclusion and sustainable community development.

EAST COAST RAILWAY GENERAL MANAGER INSPECTS ARANG MAHANADI-TITLAGARH SECTION

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent): Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager East Coast Railway, conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Arang Mahanadi-Titlagarh Section today. The inspection focused on reviewing the safety measures, traffic facilities, passenger amenities and the ongoing infrastructure works across several stations in the section. During the inspection, Shri Funkwal thoroughly reviewed the status of various traffic facility works, passenger amenities and infrastructure development projects at various stations including Arang Mahanadi, Mahasamund, Khariar Road, Nawapara Road, Harishankar Road and Kantabanji. General Manager emphasized



the importance of ensuring safe and smooth train operations and directed officials to take necessary precautions. Shri Funkwal also reviewed the progress of several ongoing infrastructure projects aimed at enhancing passenger facilities. These include improvements in parking areas, circulating areas, and landscaping at stations. He focused on the progress of station redevelopment works

under the Amrit Station Scheme, which aims to elevate passenger experience across the network. The General Manager stressed upon timely completion of these critical projects, underscoring their significance in improving overall service quality for passengers. Shri Subash C Chaudhary, Divisional Railway Manager, Sambalpur and other senior officials from Railways were present during the inspection.