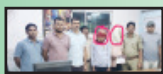




Delhi HC To Hear Appeals Of Two Convicts In IB Officer Ankit Sharma Murder Case

2



Major success for RPF under 'Operation Yat Suraksha': Accused arrested for snatching a gold chain from a passenger on the moving Kantabanji spot Express

3



Julian Alvarez Tells Atletico Madrid 'Count Me Out' as Barcelona Transfer Push Intensifies: Report

7



why constipation increases during winters

6

Court Sentences Former Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad, Other Officials To Death

Damascus: Former Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and several former officials have been sentenced to death after a court convicted them of crimes, including arbitrary detention, premeditated murder, torture and crimes against humanity, local media reported on Tuesday. Judge Fakhr al-Din al-Aryan said that the court convicted Assad of crimes against humanity and other offences, citing his post as the highest decision-maker and his role in issuing orders to state institutions involved in the violations. The court also sentenced Bashar al-Assad's cousin and former political security chief in Daraa city, Atef Najib, to death, Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. The court also announced death sentences against "fugitives" Louay Ali al-Ali, Maher Hafez al-Assad, Fahd Jassem al-Freij, Mohammad



Ayman Ayoush, Qusay Ibrahim Mahyoub, Wafiq Saleh Nasser and Talal Fares al-Aysami. Al-Aryan said the court convicted the defendants of premeditated, intentional murder and torture, which caused death, SANA reported. Former Syrian President Assad's government collapsed on December 8, 2024 following a 12-day offensive spearheaded by the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and allied militant groups. Bashar al-Assad along with his family fled to Moscow after his government collapsed in Syria. After leaving

Damascus in December 2024, Bashar al-Assad released a public statement, in which he mentioned about the chaotic moments leading up to his departure for Russia. He released the statement through Syrian Presidency's Telegram account, addressing rumours surrounding al-Assad's departure and the collapse of his government after over 13 years of civil conflict. Bashar al-Assad said that he did not plan to depart and remained in Damascus until the early morning hours of December 8, performing his duties.

CM Majhi Calls For More Efficient Revenue Collection, Higher Capex Spending

BHUBANESWAR, (correspondent): Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Tuesday reviewed the functioning of the Finance Department and called for making the revenue collection system more efficient while further increasing capital and programme expenditure.

Reviewing the department's activities at Lok Seva Bhawan, Majhi said efficient revenue collection was essential for the overall development of the state, while stressing the need to expand capital and programme spending to accelerate Odisha's growth.

A detailed presentation on the state's revenue receipts and expenditure was made during the meeting. According to the data presented, Central government grants account for 10 per cent of Odisha's



revenue receipts, while the state's share in central taxes constitutes 31 per cent. Own tax revenue accounts for 31 per cent and own non-tax revenue for 28 per cent. The state's total revenue collection from various sources up to July of the current financial year stood at Rs 61,593 crore, registering a 7.3 per cent increase over the corresponding period of the previous financial year. The state's total own revenue during the

period grew by 11.9 per cent compared to July last year. Own tax revenue increased by 9.3 per cent, while own non-tax revenue registered a growth of 14.8 per cent. The state has also recorded higher programme and capital expenditure during the period. Programme expenditure up to July was 19.1 per cent higher than during the corresponding period of the previous financial year. Capital expenditure has also

witnessed a significant increase, with total capex expenditure reaching Rs 11,300 crore by the end of July 2026, against Rs 9,399 crore during the corresponding period last year, marking a 20.2 per cent rise. Majhi said the state government was preparing several plans with the objective of building a prosperous Odisha by 2036, for which substantial investment in infrastructure would be

required. While noting that revenue collection as well as programme and capital expenditure had increased compared to the previous year, the Chief Minister called for further improvement. He directed the Finance Department to strengthen the revenue collection system and asked various departments to expedite implementation and spending to ensure higher utilisation under the capital expenditure head. Additional Chief Secretary of the Finance Department Sanjeev Mishra made the presentation. Chief Secretary Anu Garg, Development Commissioner D.K. Singh, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Saswata Mishra, Special Secretary of the Finance Department Yamini Sarangi and senior officials of the Finance Department attended the meeting.

330 Transit Houses Face Demolition In Bhubaneswar, Protests Erupt

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent): Tension prevailed in the Niladri Vihar area on Tuesday as the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) and Bhubaneswar Development Authority (BDA) launched a demolition drive against 330 transit houses, prompting protests by residents who demanded relocation before the structures were razed. The demolition is being carried out in phases in Niladri Vihar Phases I, II and III. The area has around 890 transit houses, of which 330 have been identified for demolition as part of the



ongoing drive. According to reports, the transit houses were provided in connection with the Buddha Vihar housing project. Several beneficiaries have already been allotted permanent houses but have allegedly continued to occupy the transit units. The

BMC and BDA jointly continued the demolition operation on Tuesday. However, a section of residents opposed the move, claiming that they were eligible beneficiaries but had not yet received permanent houses. The residents demanded that the authorities first provide

them with alternative accommodation or complete the relocation process before carrying out the demolition. Amid apprehensions of a confrontation between residents and officials, police were deployed in large numbers in the area. Three platoons of police personnel were pressed into service, with personnel from Nandankanan, Chandrasekharapur, Chandaka and Infocity police stations deployed to maintain law and order. The demolition work continued amid protests by women residents, local youths and family members.

Supreme Court To Urgently Hear PIL On Odisha DGP Appointment

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent): The appointment of Odisha's next Director General of Police (DGP) has reached the Supreme Court, with a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) challenging the panel of IPS officers sent by the state government to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). The apex court has agreed to urgently hear the petition, which alleges that the Odisha government is attempting to bypass the Supreme Court's guidelines on the appointment of a DGP. Senior Advocate P. Chidambaram, appearing for the



petitioner before a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant, submitted that the State had earlier sent a panel to the UPSC and later withdrew it. According to the petitioner, a subsequent panel allegedly contained three DGP-rank

officers and eight officers of ADGP rank. Chidambaram informed the Court that the UPSC had indicated on August 7 that it would consider only DGP-level officers. He further alleged that an ADGP was being promoted to the

DGP rank so that the officer could be included in a fresh panel, which, according to the petitioner, would violate the Supreme Court's directions laid down in the 2006 Prakash Singh case. Responding to the submissions, Chief Justice Surya Kant observed that the UPSC is well aware of the eligibility criteria and the Supreme Court's directions. "We expect the UPSC to adhere to our judgment," the CJI said. The Court also indicated that if an allegedly ineligible panel is submitted, the UPSC should act in accordance with the apex court's earlier rulings.

India To Import Oil From Diversified Sources: MEA

New Delhi: India is focused on securing its energy needs through diversified sources in order to meet its national priorities amid the supply chain disruptions due to the West Asia conflict, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Tuesday. "Our energy security, what it is predicated on, is meeting our national priorities, which is securing the needs of our 1.4 billion people," Ministry of

External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. "This remains the cornerstone of our energy security approach. And this is what we want to achieve through diversified sources. We want to source our energy through diversified sources," he told journalists in answer to a query. The statement comes against the backdrop of the US Senate passing legislation which grants



President Donald Trump authority to levy tariffs of up to 100 per cent on goods exported by top buyers of Russian oil, including India. Western

countries see these oil imports helping Russia finance its war against Ukraine. "As far as tariffs are concerned, talks are ongoing between the United States and

India on a bilateral trade agreement," the MEA spokesperson added. India has diversified its sources for the import of crude oil to 41 countries compared with 27 earlier, following the outbreak of the Iran war and closure of the Strait of Hormuz, through which 20 per cent of the world's oil and gas exports transit during normal times. India's imports of crude from Russia have shot up, and during July,

accounted for more than half of the country's total oil imports. Similarly, India has also diversified its liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports from six countries earlier to a total of 15 countries in order to secure its energy supplies. The US now accounts for a major chunk of these LNG imports. India imports more than 85 per cent of its crude oil requirement, which makes it crucial for the

country to ensure supply chain resilience and access to multiple sources of energy in order to reduce the risk of sudden disruptions during a period of geopolitical uncertainty in which the global energy market has turned highly volatile. "This diversification has reduced dependence on any particular country, region or transit route and enhanced India's ability to manage supply disruptions

and market volatility," Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas Suresh Gopi told the Parliament on Monday.

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that the risks to energy supplies are regularly monitored and global market conditions assessed in coordination with public-sector oil and gas companies and other stakeholders.

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, 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 TarunKulbe; 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.

Rayagada Forest Division Strengthens Field Preparedness with Four-Day Weapon Training

Rayagada, (correspondent) In a significant initiative to strengthen the operational preparedness and field-level capabilities of forest personnel, the Rayagada Forest Division, in collaboration with the 4th Battalion, CRPF, Rayagada, conducted a four-day intensive weapon training programme under the guidance of the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Rayagada. The training programme focused on the safe handling, operation and basic tactical use of INSAS rifles, 9 mm pistols and Pump Action Guns. As



part of the practical training, the participants were also given an opportunity to undergo supervised live-firing exercises under the guidance of trained personnel. A total of 30 personnel from the Rayagada Forest Division participated in the programme, including two Range Officers and four women forest staff. The

participation of women personnel was also an important aspect of the training, aimed at ensuring that all field staff are adequately equipped with essential skills required for challenging forest protection duties. The programme was organised with an emphasis on discipline, safety, responsible weapon handling and operational readiness.

BJP Suspends Pulwama District President After 'Extortion' FIR In J&K

Srinagar: On the suggestion of advocate Sunil Sethi, Chairman of the disciplinary committee of Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the party on Tuesday suspended its Pulwama District President, Er Syed Showkat Gayoor Andrabi pending inquiry against him in connection with the FIR registered against him in an extortion case. A BJP statement said that on the suggestion of advocate Sunil Sethi and in consultation with Sat Sharma, MP and Jammu and Kashmir BJP President, and Mohammad Anwar Khan, J&K BJP General Secretary, disciplinary proceedings have been

started against Er Syed Showkat Gayoor Andrabi. The statement also added that till completion of the inquiry against him, Er Syed Showkat Andrabi has been suspended from the BJP in view of the FIR of extortion registered against him. The statement said that BJP reiterates its commitment of maintaining highest standards of discipline, integrity and morality in public life. Prior to Tuesday's disciplinary action, J&K BJP unit has suspended nine local functionaries and removed them from their posts on August 7, 2026, following an unauthorised rally in Anantnag on August 5 that featured derogatory and 'anti-women'

slogans regarding the abrogation of Article 370. The BJP leadership said that the Anantnag procession was neither authorised nor organised by the Union Territory's party unit. Party leaders, including J&K General Secretary Ashok Koul and spokesperson Altaf Thakur, publicly distanced the organisation from the objectionable remarks. Nine local office-bearers, including district and constituency functionaries from Anantnag, Shangus, and Pahalgam had their primary memberships suspended pending further inquiry. Mainstream political parties in the Valley heavily criticised the slogans, calling them an insult to the dignity of Kashmiri women.

Delhi HC To Hear Appeals Of Two Convicts In IB Officer Ankit Sharma Murder Case

New Delhi: Convicts Nazim and Kasim, who were sentenced to life imprisonment in the murder case of Intelligence Bureau (IB) officer Ankit Sharma during the 2020 North-East Delhi riots, have approached the Delhi High Court challenging their conviction and sentence. As per the supplementary cause list published by the Delhi High Court, the criminal appeals filed by Nazim and Kasim are scheduled to come up for hearing on Wednesday before a Division Bench of Justices Prathiba M. Singh and Vikas Mahajan. Nazim has filed Criminal Appeal No. 764/2026, along with an application seeking suspension of sentence



and bail, while Kasim has filed Criminal Appeal No. 766/2026 with a similar plea. Both appeals arise out of the judgment of the Karkardooma Court, which had convicted them along with former Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) councillor Tahir Hussain, Javed and Anas in connection with the killing of IB officer Ankit Sharma. The trial court had subsequently sentenced all five convicts to life

imprisonment after holding them guilty of offences including murder, kidnapping, rioting and promoting enmity between different groups. While pronouncing the sentence, Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) Praveen Singh had described the crime as a "very serious" incident and observed that Sharma was "brutally murdered" and his body was left "like an animal", adding that the incident

had "shaken the conscience of society". The Delhi Police had sought the death penalty for the convicts, describing Sharma's killing as a "cold-blooded" and "brutal" murder, referring to the 51 injuries found on his body. However, the defence had opposed the plea for capital punishment, arguing that the case did not fall within the "rarest of rare" category warranting the death sentence. The trial court had convicted Hussain, Javed, Anas, Nazim and Kasim under Sections 302 (murder), 365 (kidnapping or abducting with intent to secretly and wrongfully confine a person), 188 (disobedience to an

order duly promulgated by a public servant), 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting, armed with a deadly weapon) and 149 of the IPC. However, all five were acquitted of the charge of criminal conspiracy under Section 120B of the IPC. The court had also acquitted six other accused, holding that the prosecution failed to establish their guilt beyond reasonable doubt. The case relates to the killing of IB officer Ankit Sharma, whose body was recovered from a drain in the Khajuri Khas area on February 26, 2020, during the communal violence in North-East Delhi.

India, Namibia Agree To Boost Trade And Investment Ties

New Delhi: India and Namibia have agreed to strengthen bilateral trade beyond a raw-material-based composition towards value addition, set up investment focal points and new working groups on pharmaceuticals and services at a two-day meeting between official delegations of the two countries, which concluded here on Tuesday. The two countries have also identified structured cooperation across exploration, offtake, processing and downstream beneficiation of critical minerals such as lithium, graphite, copper, cobalt, and rare earth elements, in line with Namibia's priorities of value addition and local employment creation. The two sides have designated Invest India and the Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board as Joint Trade Committee (JTC) investment focal points, with a named official on



each side, according to an official statement issued after the meeting. Closer cooperation has been identified in railways and rolling stock, solar and wind power, battery storage, transmission, green hydrogen, biofuels, and desalination. A dedicated Services Working Group will also be constituted, which will meet no later than February 2027 and submit its work plan to the JTC. Namibian participation has been invited in India's Special Notified Zones at Surat and Mumbai and in the India Rough Gemstones Sourcing Show,

together with training support in diamond cutting, polishing and jewellery design. The first Joint Working Group under the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Health and Medicine will be convened by December 2026, while the Janaushadhi cooperation agreement with HLL Lifecare Limited is at an advanced stage of finalisation. A decision was taken for the continued rollout of the instant payment system built on India's Unified Payments Interface, unveiled in Namibia as "Wayame" on 15 June

2026, with proposals for a FinTech Cooperation Framework between the Reserve Bank of India and the Bank of Namibia. Besides, the terms of reference have been finalised for the India-SACU PTA and scheduled for signature on 12 August 2026, with negotiations to commence within one month of signature and to conclude within one year, the statement added. Cooperation was also taken forward at the session on agriculture and food security, MSMEs, textiles, tourism, and sports. The Fifth Session of the JTC will be held in Namibia in 2028 on dates to be

mutually agreed through diplomatic channels, the statement added. The Indian delegation at the India-Namibia Joint Trade Committee (JTC) was led by Amit Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, while the Namibia delegation was headed by Ndiitah Nghipondoka-Robiati. The bilateral merchandise trade between India and Namibia rose to \$592.94 million in 2025-26 from \$568.40 million in 2024-25, with India's exports at \$349.09 million and imports at \$243.85 million. Trade in services grew by 7.34 per cent to \$380 million in calendar year 2024. India's engineering exports grew by 124.06 per cent to \$30.24 million, led by motor vehicles and components. Exports of pharmaceuticals and medical devices reached \$36.50 million, with India being Namibia's second-largest pharmaceutical source with a 16.4 per cent share.

Char Dham Yatra Crosses 47 Lakh Pilgrims In 114 Days

Dehradun: Despite monsoon challenges, the Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand is set to create a new record this year. In just 114 days, more than 47 lakh devotees have undertaken the pilgrimage, exceeding last year's corresponding figure by over 4.68 lakh. As of Monday, August 10, a total of 47,02,703 pilgrims had visited the four sacred shrines. During the same period last year, the number stood at 42,34,147, marking an increase of 4,68,556 devotees. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has directed officials to prioritise the safety of pilgrims above all else. The state government is regulating the flow of devotees and temporarily pausing operations whenever weather conditions demand caution. The Char Dham Yatra began this year on April 19 with the opening of the portals of Gangotri and Yamunotri. So far, Badrinath has received the highest number of visitors at 16,12,112,

followed by Kedarnath with 14,50,116, Gangotri with 7,37,629 and Yamunotri with 6,62,347. Additionally, 2,40,499 devotees have paid obeisance at Hemkund Sahib. On Monday alone, 15,376 pilgrims visited the four shrines despite inclement weather and administrative alerts. Badrinath recorded the highest single day footfall with 9,559 devotees, while Kedarnath saw 4,170, Gangotri 1,204 and Yamunotri 443 visitors. Dhami said the safety of Char Dham pilgrims is the government's top priority. "Given the active monsoon, the Disaster Management Department is on round the clock alert. District Magistrates have been instructed to remain vigilant so that relief and rescue operations can begin immediately in case of any emergency. Pilgrims are advised to undertake the journey only after considering the weather conditions," he said. The Badrinath pilgrimage, which started

on April 23, completed 110 days on August 10. Compared to last year, 3,50,192 more devotees have visited the shrine so far. Comprehensive arrangements for accommodation, food and security have been made along the entire route. Security personnel have been deployed at landslide prone locations, and the Chief Minister is personally monitoring the situation through the State Disaster Control Room.

AFFIDAVIT

By virtue of an affidavit sworn before the court of the Executive Magistrate Kodala, District- Ganjam, Odisha on dated 10.08.2026, I, Sri Bikram Keshari Sumantaray aged about 35 years, S/O- Gouri Sankar Sumantaray resident of Village - Nuagada, P.O- Angara, P.S - Beguniapada, Dist- Ganjam, Odisha, do hereby solemnly affirm that. Henceforth my father Gouri Sankar Sumantaray and Gouri Shankar Sumantaray is one and same person and there is no such other person.

Bikram Keshari Sumantaray
Deponent

District Congress Committee submits 6-point demand to Governor through Collector regarding farmer registration and other problems

SUBARNAPUR (correspondent) - Subarnapur District Congress Committee has submitted 6-point demand to Governor through Collector regarding farmer registration complexity and other problems. Subarnapur District Congress and District Kisan Congress have staged a protest in front of the Collector's office. This protest was held against the state government's farmer killing policy. Now, while farmer



registration is going on across the state, farmers are being harassed by introducing an impossible policy like Agristech ID. While a high-tech survey is going on in Subarnapur

district, mutations cannot occur, so how can farmers get Agristech ID, the Congress worker has asked. On the other hand, while the fertilizer and seed black market is booming in the

district, the state government and the district administration have become silent spectators. So today, with this idea, we have submitted a demand letter to the Honorable Governor of Odisha through the Collector. In the coming days, if there is no proper arrangement for how the farmers can sell their paddy safely, the agitation will intensify and the District Congress has warned that it will take to the streets.

Fake' medical letter lands Odisha DEO staffer in trouble; High Court rejects bail

Kataka(Correspondent):: Orissa High Court rejected the interim bail plea of Subash Chandra Sahoo, an accounts section staffer at the District Education Office (DEO) in Cuttack. The bail was rejected after a medical letter filed in support of his plea was found to be fake. Sahoo is accused of siphoning off over Rs 51.53 lakh from government funds by allegedly generating salaries in the names of fake employees through manipulation of official financial portals. The State Vigilance arrested him on May 14 this year, as reported by The New Indian Express. Sahoo had sought interim bail on medical grounds, with his wife

as the deponent of the interlocutory application (IA). The application included a letter purportedly issued by Dr Satyajit Padhiary. The application mentioned that Sahoo needed to undergo an angiogram test. During the hearing before Justice Gourishankar Satapathy, additional public prosecutor Sanjay Kumar Das produced documents, including the letter. However, the doctor stated that he had not issued it. Dr Padhiary later appeared before the Court through video-conferencing. In the presence of lawyers representing both sides, he confirmed that he had not issued the letter. The Court

then noted that Sahoo had annexed another letter titled "to whom may it consider" to his IA, claiming that it was issued by the same doctor. Justice Satapathy observed that the document appeared to be fake. Following the development, Sahoo's counsel Abhas Mohanty expressed regret after learning that the medical letter was allegedly forged and urged the Court to pass an appropriate order, including imposing high costs on the petitioner. After considering the documents placed before it, the Court found no merit in the interim bail application and rejected the plea. The case will next come up for hearing on August 24.

Truck Catches Fire on Road Near Ranpur in Sundargarh; Driver Escapes Unhurt

Rourkela/SundargarhCorrespondent: A truck was completely gutted after catching fire on the road near Ranpur under Talasara police station limits in Sundargarh district. According to preliminary information, the truck suddenly caught fire while it was on the road. The exact cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained. As flames rapidly engulfed the vehicle, the driver reportedly jumped out of the truck and managed to save his life. No casualty has been reported in the incident so far. On being informed, fire services personnel rushed to the spot and brought the blaze under control. However, the truck was completely destroyed in the fire. As the burning vehicle remained on the road, vehicular movement on the stretch was severely affected, leading to traffic disruption. Police are looking into the circumstances that led to the fire.



BNSS Section 163 imposed at Banki-Dampada block office amid political tension

KatakaCorrespondent):: : Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) was imposed in and around Banki-Dampada block office in Kataka district on Tuesday amid tension between supporters of MLA Devi Ranjan Tripathy and local BJP leader Bulu Chakraborty. The restrictions were enforced amid apprehension of a possible confrontation after several BJP workers planned to visit the block office and gherao the Block Development Officer (BDO) over an issue that has triggered political tensions in the area. The block office has subsequently been placed

under tight security, with three platoons of police personnel deployed on the premises. As many as 14 senior police officers have also been stationed to maintain law and order and prevent any untoward incident. Under the restrictions, gatherings, protests, strikes and other forms of agitation have been prohibited within the block office premises and its surrounding areas. Police have directed people and political supporters not to assemble or organise any demonstration in the restricted zone. The administration has taken precautionary measures in view of the possibility of a face-off

between supporters of the Opposition-side MLA and the BJP leader. Security personnel have been deployed at strategic points around the block office to prevent any escalation. The imposition of BNSS Section 163 is aimed at maintaining public order and preventing potential disturbances during the period of heightened political tension. Police officials are keeping a close watch on the situation and have urged both parties to maintain peace and cooperate with the authorities. The restrictions may remain in force as the administration assesses the situation and monitors any further developments.

"Section 163 has been promulgated, and police forces, along with officers, are currently deployed. We are ensuring that only those with essential work go to the block office. We have also instructed everyone that not more than five people should gather, as per the District Collector's orders," Cuttack Additional SP, Pradeep Kumar Sahu, said. "We are present here to ensure compliance. Currently, three platoons and one section of forces are deployed, and about 14 officers are also present. We have stationed personnel at strategic points to ensure the order is properly implemented," the senior cop added.

Major success for RPF under 'Operation Yatri Suraksha': Accused arrested for snatching a gold chain from a passenger on the moving Kantabanji Ispat Express

RourkelaCorrespondent: The RPF achieved a major breakthrough under 'Operation Yatri Suraksha' by arresting an individual accused of snatching a gold chain from a passenger on the moving Kantabanji Ispat Express. The RPF handed the accused over to GRP Rourkela. A message regarding the gold chain snatching incident (Reference No. 2026080807497) was received. Subsequently, on August 9, 2026, the complainant, Sarthak Sanket Samal (29)—a resident of Master Colony, Rajgangpur (Police Station: Rajgangpur, District:

Sundargarh)—arrived at Rourkela. He reported that on August 8, 2026, at approximately 11:10 AM, he had boarded the general coach of Train No. 12871 (Kantabanji Ispat Express) at Tatanagar Railway Junction, intending to travel to Rajgangpur. Later, after speaking with the TTE, he moved to coach D4. During the journey, as the train had passed Kalunga Railway Station and was moving slowly while approaching Kansbahal Railway Station, an unidentified person approached him, snatched the gold chain from his neck (at approximately 15:52



hours), and jumped off the moving train. He lodged a complaint regarding the incident on 'RailMadad' and disembarked at Rajgangpur Railway Station. He was unable to report the matter on the day of the incident due to dizziness; however, he was confident that he could identify the perpetrator if he saw him again. Consequently, he registered a case at

Rourkela GRP Station for legal action (Rourkela GRP Case No. 114, Date...). On August 9, 2026, a case was registered under Section 304(2) of the BNS. The victimized passenger was contacted and accompanied to the scene of the incident (POI)—located 30 km from Rourkela Railway Station—where the surrounding area was thoroughly inspected;

however, no CCTV cameras were found at the spot. Subsequently, the victim was shown photographs of known offenders involved in gold chain snatching but could not identify any of them. A CCTV back-tracing team examined footage from Rourkela Railway Station, specifically reviewing footage related to Train No. 12871; a suspect was observed boarding coach D4 of the train—an individual previously apprehended multiple times in connection with TOPB (Theft on Running Trains/Platforms/Buses) cases. Following this identification, a joint team

comprising RPF (Rourkela Post) and GRP (Rourkela) personnel inspected the residence of the suspect, Deepak Mukhi alias Mukhiya (42)—a resident of Gopabandhu Palli, Police Station: Plant Site, District: Sundargarh (Odisha)—and conducted raids in the Gopabandhu Palli area, while also utilizing local sources to locate him. On August 10, 2026, during patrols and inquiries in Gopabandhu Palli, information regarding Deepak Mukhi was obtained; the joint RPF and GRP team then proceeded to the location, raided the

accused's home, and took him into custody. During interrogation, he confessed to the crime and revealed that he had [handed over/sold] the snatched gold chain to Upendra Prasad alias Pallu (42)—also a resident of Gopabandhu Palli, Police Station: Plant Site, District: Sundargarh, Odisha...had sold it; subsequently, a raid was conducted at Upendra Prasad's residence, and he was apprehended. He confessed to the crime and revealed that he had purchased the gold chain from Manna Kumar Shah for ₹45,000.

Patriotic Tricolour March Sends a Message of National Pride; 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Campaign Gains Momentum in Binjharpur

JAJPUR (Correspondent): As the country prepares to celebrate its 80th Independence Day, a massive public outreach march was organised in the Binjharpur Assembly Constituency following the call of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to strengthen the spirit of patriotism by hoisting the national flag at every household. The grand march began from the Mahakal Peetha in Kalyanpur Mandal and proceeded up to the Rahas Guhali Hanuman shrine under the leadership of State Executive Committee Member Smt. Babita Mallick. Hundreds of women, along with a



large number of party workers and supporters, participated in the march carrying the Tricolour and raising p a t r i o t i c slogans. Through the march, the public was urged to hoist the Tricolour on the rooftops of their respective homes and pay respect and salute to

Bharat Mata. The people were also made aware of the importance of preserving the glorious tradition of Independence Day and strengthening the spirit of national unity, integrity and patriotism. Nari leaders Sanjulata Panda, Namita Nayak, Mamina Ray, Sridhar Jena, Jyotiprakash

Nayak, Srikant Mallik, Debendra Mallik, Rabindra Panda, Ratnakar Mallik, Vivekananda Das, Tukuna Sahu and Subhranshu Samal, along with a large number of party workers and supporters, were present at the programme.

Orissa High Court allows no-confidence motion against Chameli Ojha to proceed

Kataka (Correspondent):: The no-confidence motion against Tikiri Sarpanch Chameli Ojha from Mahakalapada block in Odisha's Kendrapara district will continue, following an interim direction issued by the Orissa High Court. Hearing a petition filed by Chameli challenging the no-confidence motion, the High Court directed that the election process may proceed as scheduled. However, the court has imposed a restriction on the declaration of the result. The High Court directed that the result of the no-confidence proceedings must not be declared without its permission. Chameli had approached the High Court challenging the no-confidence motion

brought against her. The court's interim order allows the proceedings to continue while keeping the final outcome subject to further orders. "The court has directed the state government and both parties that the election will proceed. However, the result of the election will not be announced without the court's permission," said Chameli Ojha's lawyer Sukanta Dalei. Notably, 21 of the 22 ward members have extended support to the no-confidence motion against Tikiri Sarpanch Chameli Ojha. The ward members have shown strong dissatisfaction with the functioning of Chameli.

ROURKELA CYBER FRAUD NETWORK BUSTED

Rourkela: Big breakthrough by Rourkela Police in an inter-state cyber-fraud case. Four more accused have been arrested from Deoghar in Jharkhand, exposing a sophisticated cyber-fraud network operating across Odisha and Jharkhand.

Voice Over: The action comes in connection with Uditnagar Police Station Case No. 326, registered on August 6, 2026. According to police, the accused allegedly used malicious APK files disguised as government-scheme applications, including a fake PM-KISAN application, to gain unauthorised access to victims' mobile phones and UPI accounts. Once the victims installed the malicious applications, the fraudsters allegedly accessed their digital accounts and diverted money through UPI transactions, ATM withdrawals and merchant QR codes. The illegally obtained money was then allegedly routed through multiple bank accounts to hide the trail. Major Investigation Breakthrough Rourkela Police carried out technical investigation, field operations and sustained interrogation to identify members of the network. Police said transactions worth more than 3.5 crore have so far been linked to the accused.

EAST COAST RAILWAY	
'E' PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS	
Tender Notice No.: Sr.DMM/KUR/EP/2026-27/08, Dtd. 10.08.2026	
SL. NO. 01 : TENDER NO. 81266110, BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS : SET OF IV JUMBER ASSEMBLY FOR 3 PHASE MEMU RAKE AS PER ITEM DESCRIPTION, QUANTITY : 3 SET.	
SL. NO. 02 : TENDER NO. 81266128, BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS : MICROPROCESSOR BASED ENERGY CUM SPEED MONITORING UNIT FOR WAG-7 ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES, QUANTITY : 25 SET.	
SL. NO. 03 : TENDER NO. 81266086, BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS : VIGILANCE CONTROL DEVICE (VCD) COMPLETE FOR CONVENTIONAL LOCOMOTIVES, QUANTITY : 40 SET.	
Date of Closing : On 07.09.2026 (for SL No. 01), On 31.08.2026 (for SL No. 02 and 03).	
Time of Closing : At 1500 hrs. (for all SL No.).	
The following tender have been uploaded on website: www.reps.gov.in.	
Sr. Divisional Materials Manager/PR-356/R/26-27	
Khurda Road	

EDITORIAL

Blood Pressure Without a Machine: Can Your Body Give the Warning Signs?

Blood pressure is one of the most important indicators of cardiovascular health, yet it is often called a “silent” condition because high blood pressure may produce no obvious symptoms. This raises an interesting question: Can we know whether our blood pressure is high without using a blood-pressure machine?

The short answer is: not reliably. A person cannot accurately determine their blood pressure simply by feeling their pulse, checking their face, observing their eyes, or judging how they feel. Someone may have significantly elevated blood pressure and feel completely normal, while another person with a normal reading may experience headache, dizziness, or anxiety.

Symptoms sometimes associated with very high blood pressure can include severe headache, visual disturbances, chest discomfort, shortness of breath, weakness, confusion, or other unusual symptoms. However, these symptoms are not specific to blood pressure and should never be used as a substitute for measurement.

Why Measuring Blood Pressure Matters

Blood pressure changes throughout the day depending on physical activity, stress, sleep, emotions, caffeine intake, medications, and other factors. A single sensation cannot reveal the actual pressure inside the arteries.

A blood-pressure monitor measures two important values:

Systolic pressure — the pressure when the heart contracts.

Diastolic pressure — the pressure when the heart relaxes between beats.

Together, these numbers provide information that cannot be obtained simply by touching the wrist or feeling the heartbeat.

Can the Pulse Tell Us Anything?

Feeling the pulse can tell us about the heart rate and rhythm, but it cannot tell us the blood-pressure level. A strong or fast pulse does not necessarily mean that blood pressure is high, and a soft pulse does not necessarily mean that it is low.

This is an important distinction because many people assume that a “strong pulse” means high blood pressure. That is not a dependable method.

International Youth Day – A Signature of Deep Consciousness and Values



MANOJA KUMAR SATAPATHI

Life is another name for dynamism, and youth is the truest reflection of that motion. Every year, August 12 is observed worldwide as International Youth Day. This is not merely a formal occasion, but a sacred opportunity to honor the inherent talent, creativity, and unstoppable will of youth to transform society.

In 1999, the UN General Assembly declared August 12 as International Youth Day, following a recommendation from the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth. Its core objective was to bring youth issues to international attention and ensure their active participation in global development processes. History bears witness that whenever humanity has faced a crisis, youth power has played a monumental role in changing the course of history.

Youth is not merely a physical or post-adolescent stage; it is a radiant convergence of sincerity, courage, and values.

Dedication to Duty and Integrity: A young person's ethical responsibility is not limited to per-

sonal advancement alone; their inner consciousness must always remain awakened to secure justice for the oppressed and neglected segments of society.

Empathy and Cooperation: True youth consciousness becomes meaningful when collective welfare and humanity surpass personal ambition.

"Every moment of youth is like a blazing flame that pierces through the darkness to seek the light."

From the perspective of life, youth is a season of devotion and resolution. The seeds sown during this period determine the tree and its fruit for the future.

Success Through Struggle: The courage to face and combat hardships and adverse conditions along the path of life, rather than fearing them, belongs uniquely to the youth.

Agents of Change: Breaking away from ancient inertia, blind faith, and social superstitions to build a new, healthy, and progressive society is the supreme duty of the youth.

Based on various international surveys (such as the Charities Aid Foundation's World Giving Index) focusing on global philanthropy, altruism, and humanitarian thinking, youth and citizens in many

countries are at the forefront of a humanitarian outlook and providing assistance. Indonesia: This country ranks at the top globally in terms of highest generosity and humanitarian aid. Its youth and citizens are pioneers in helping strangers, donating money, and engaging in voluntary work.

Ukraine: Even amidst crisis and war, Ukraine's youth and general public have emerged as one of the world's leading nations in helping others and demonstrating humanity.

Kenya and Nigeria: Due to traditional values like social unity and "Ubuntu" (the spirit of a humane society) in African countries, youth are far ahead in cooperating with each other during times of danger and distress.

Generally, countries where values, social responsibility, and the spirit of embracing one another are stronger see their youth consistently leading from a humanitarian perspective.

On this International Youth Day, let us pledge to dedicate our energy, intellect, and thoughts not just to personal success, but toward building a beautiful, peaceful, and prosperous world. May the hearts of the youth be inspired by action and their minds illuminated by truth.

Sweets sold on the streets and in the neighbourhoods without production date



Dr Satywan Saurabh

The arrival of monsoon brings a special charm to North India. During Sawan and Teej, the festive atmosphere is filled with joy and happiness, with lush green fields, swings, mehndi, folk songs, and more. Ghevar holds a special place among the many traditional dishes of this season. In Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, and many other parts of North India, Ghevar is more than just a sweet. It is also associated with family traditions, affection, festivals, and the emotional bond between daughters and their parents' home.

During Teej and other monsoon festivals, Ghevar is commonly given to daughters, relatives, and friends as a symbol of love and good wishes. Known for its unique texture, crunchiness, and sweetness, it's a favorite festival delicacy. Yet, a worrying issue is being overlooked, and it's one that deserves serious public discussion: food adulteration, unsanitary practices, and the sale of sweets without proper

information about freshness or shelf life.

With the onset of the festive season, Ghevar is seen not only in traditional sweet shops, but also in makeshift stalls and small shops set up in neighborhoods and streets. The surging demand presents a lucrative business opportunity for vendors. On the other hand, this also leads some traders to compromise on quality to fulfill orders and increase profits.

One of the biggest concerns is the lack of information regarding the manufacturing date and shelf life of sweets. In many local markets, customers purchase loose ghevar based on the vendor's claim that it is fresh or "made today." However, consumers generally lack independent means to verify these claims. Relevant information helps consumers make informed decisions about packaged sweets. An additional challenge related to freshness and safe storage becomes even more severe in the case of loose sweets. Proper storage and handling of Ghevar is also essential. Regular Ghevar and those made with cream, khoya, or other perishable ingredients may require different storage conditions. Heat,

humidity, dust, and unsanitary conditions can affect food quality. Humidity is high during the monsoon months, making proper handling even more important. The sweet may look good on the outside, but improper storage can lead to spoilage on the inside.

Adulteration is also a serious problem. Sweets are made with artificial colors, cooking oil, ghee, khoya, and milk; the quality of all these ingredients directly impacts the safety of sweets. When the ingredients used are not of high quality, consumers may be at risk. It is equally important not to conclude that any sweet sold openly is adulterated without any evidence. Food quality should be assessed based on proper inspection, sampling, and laboratory testing, not on conjecture or rumors.

Food safety monitoring shouldn't be limited to well-known sweet shops or large commercial markets. The food supply chain also includes small local shops, makeshift stalls, and local vendors. In fact, these smaller outlets deserve more attention because they may have limited storage and sanitation facilities.

For Viksit Odisha, the Librarian Must Become a Knowledge Architect



Satyajit Nayak

Every year on August 12, India observes National Librarians' Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, the father of library science in India. His Five Laws of Library Science placed the reader, the effective use of information and the wider social purpose of libraries at the heart of the profession. The day is often marked by seminars, lectures and ceremonial functions. But it should also be a moment for a more important conversation. For Odisha, which has set its sights on becoming a "Viksit Odisha for Viksit Bharat", the question is no longer simply how many libraries the State has, but what kind of library system it needs to build for the future. The question matters because Odisha's Vision 2036 & 2047 is not merely an economic roadmap. It places education, human capital, technology, research, innovation, culture and inclusive development at the heart of the State's transformation. The Vision document envisages Odisha becoming a USD 1.5 trillion economy by 2047 and identifies people-first development, technology leadership, prosperity for all, and citizen-centric governance as central priorities. Behind every

one of these ambitions lies something less visible but more fundamental: access to reliable knowledge. That is where libraries and librarians acquire renewed significance. Odisha's Vision document sets an ambitious educational agenda. It seeks universal enrolment, stronger foundational literacy and numeracy, greater use of technology and, ultimately, a 100% literacy rate. The document records the State's current literacy rate at about 77% and sets a goal of raising it to 100% by 2047. This cannot be achieved by classrooms alone.

Learning does not end when the school bell rings. A child needs a place where curiosity can continue to grow, while a student often needs books and other learning resources beyond the prescribed syllabus. For a young person preparing for a competitive examination, access to reliable information can make a significant difference. A farmer may need useful agricultural information in Odia, while an aspiring entrepreneur may need access to digital and financial information. Even senior citizens increasingly need help accessing government information and digital services. This wider role of libraries finds a place in Odisha's development

vision. The Odisha Vision 2036 & 2047 proposes strengthening Panchayat-level schools as holistic learning centres and promoting Odia literature and culture through libraries and reading spaces. The emphasis is not only on providing books, but also on encouraging an appreciation of local heritage and creative writing. This points to a larger idea: a library can be much more than a collection of books. It can be a space for learning, cultural engagement and community participation. The proposed introduction of smart classrooms and digital libraries further suggests that Odisha's educational infrastructure must integrate traditional reading resources with new technologies. In such a setting, the library can become a bridge between the printed word and the digital world, ensuring that access to knowledge keeps pace with the changing needs of learners and communities.

The librarian of the twenty-first century cannot be defined merely as the custodian of books. The modern librarian must help users discover, evaluate and ethically use information. In an age of artificial intelligence, misinformation, algorithmic recommendations and an overwhelming volume of digital content, information

literacy is becoming as important as literacy itself. This is particularly relevant to Odisha's ambition to create a digitally capable population. The Vision document seeks 100% digital literacy among students and universal access to technology-enabled education. Digital access without information literacy, however, can create a new problem. Having access to millions of webpages does not mean having access to trustworthy knowledge. A professionally trained librarian can teach students how to search scholarly databases, distinguish credible sources from misinformation, use digital resources responsibly, understand copyright and plagiarism, cite information properly and use artificial intelligence critically rather than mechanically. In higher education, librarians can support systematic literature searches, research data management, bibliometric analysis, open-access publishing, and scholarly communication. This is precisely the direction in which Odisha's research ambitions are moving.

The Odisha Vision 2036 & 2047 describes research and knowledge creation as cornerstones of economic growth and social advancement. It seeks to establish Higher Education Institutions as Centres

of Excellence and knowledge hubs, promote industry-driven research, attract premier research institutions and create the Odisha Research and Innovation Fund. The targets are striking. By 2047, Odisha aims to raise research and development expenditure to 3.5% of its GSDP, produce more than 4,000 Tier-1 journal publications per million population and facilitate more than 50,000 patents annually. Such ambitions require more than laboratories and funding. They require a knowledge infrastructure. A university cannot become a research-intensive institution without strong libraries, digital repositories, scholarly databases, discovery systems, research support services and professionals capable of managing the changing scholarly ecosystem. The librarian, therefore, has a place in the research enterprise, not at its margins.

One of Odisha's persistent development challenges is the uneven distribution of opportunity between urban and rural areas. The Vision document places considerable emphasis on rural empowerment and on expanding educational access. It proposes at least two higher education institutions in every block and a multidisciplinary education and research

university in every district. The library can become the connective tissue between these institutions and communities. A well-designed network of school, college, public, community and digital libraries could allow a student in a remote district to access many of the same learning resources available in Bhubaneswar or other major urban centres. The proposed Panchayat-level learning centres offer an important opportunity. If these centres are equipped not merely with shelves but with broadband connectivity, digital collections, local-language resources, assistive technologies and trained librarians, they could become genuine community knowledge centres. That would make the idea of inclusive development tangible. Development must not come at the cost of cultural memory. Odisha's language, literature, folklore, manuscripts, local histories, tribal knowledge systems and traditional cultural expressions constitute an enormous intellectual heritage. The Vision document itself emphasises Odia literature, culture and local heritage, while proposing the preservation and promotion of indigenous languages and knowledge systems. Libraries can become custodians of this heritage through

systematic digitisation, metadata creation, preservation and open scholarly access. A digitised manuscript is not merely an electronic file. Properly preserved and described, it becomes part of Odisha's permanent intellectual record.

National Librarians' Day should therefore move beyond ceremonial recognition. Odisha needs to place libraries within its larger development conversation. The State could consider a renewed library agenda centred on five priorities: universal access, digital transformation, professional manpower, local-language knowledge and research support. Every major educational institution should have a functional and professionally managed library. Panchayat-level learning centres should incorporate library and information services. Public libraries should be connected through interoperable digital networks. Librarians should receive continuous training in AI, digital scholarship, research support and information literacy. Odisha's rich literary and documentary heritage should be systematically digitised and preserved. Most importantly, libraries should be treated as investment in human capital rather than as expenditure on books and buildings. The Odisha Vision 2036 & 2047 seeks to create a

State driven by knowledge, skills, innovation and technology. Its higher education vision aims to benchmark 100 institutions to global standards, while its research vision seeks to establish Odisha as a leading innovation and knowledge hub. None of this can be sustained without a strong culture of reading, access to information and institutions that organise and preserve knowledge. That is why the librarian deserves to be seen differently. The librarian is not simply the person who issues a book. The librarian connects people with knowledge. The librarian protects memory, enables discovery, supports research, promotes reading and helps citizens navigate an increasingly complicated information environment.

For Odisha, the message of National Librarians' Day should therefore be simple: if the State wants to build a knowledge economy, it must first build a knowledge society. And the library must be one of its foundations. The road to Viksit Odisha may be measured in investment, infrastructure, jobs, patents and economic growth. But its deepest measure will be the capacity of its people to learn, question, create and participate. In that journey, the librarian is not a bystander. The librarian is a knowledge architect of Viksit Odisha.

18-Year Girl Dies at Bhapur Health Centre Family Alleges Wrong Injection, Road Blockade Follows

Nayagarh (correspondent): Tension prevailed at the Bhapur Community Health Centre (CHC) on Tuesday following the death of an 18-year-old woman, with her family alleging that she died after being administered a wrong injection during treatment. The deceased has been identified as Santoshi Behera (18), daughter of Gopal Behera of Golapokhari village under Bhapur block. According to family members, Santoshi was brought to the Bhapur CHC on Tuesday morning after she complained of illness and dizziness. An AYUSH doctor on duty examined her and reportedly administered an injection. Shortly



thereafter, she allegedly became unconscious and died at the health centre. Following the death, the family members alleged medical negligence and accused the doctor of administering an inappropriate injection. Their allegations led to tension on the health centre premises. On being informed, Fategarh Police Station IIC Ajay Kumar Sahu,

along with a police team, reached the health centre and took steps to maintain law and order. The family members, however, demanded an impartial investigation, legal action against the doctor concerned and adequate compensation for the deceased's family. Later, local residents and family members staged a road blockade in front of the health centre and at

Bhapur market, demanding a fair investigation and action against the doctor. The blockade disrupted vehicular movement on the main road connecting Khandapada with Bhubaneswar. As the situation became tense, Khandapada SDPO Saroj Kumar Sahu reached the spot and tried to pacify the agitating people. He

reportedly said that the exact cause of death would be known after the post-mortem examination report is received. Meanwhile, the incident has triggered strong reactions among local residents, who have demanded that the Nayagarh Chief District Medical and Public Health Officer (CDM&PHO) and the District Collector look into the matter and take appropriate action based on the findings of the investigation. The actual cause of the girl's death is yet to be officially established, and the allegations of medical negligence are subject to investigation and the post-mortem report.

DEATH GIVES LIFE: JIBARATNAM DONATES FIVE ORGANS

Paralakhemundi, (correspondent): In a rare act of humanity, 45-year-old C.H. Jibaratnam of Gaudatalasingh village under Sabara panchayat in Gosani block of Gajapati district has given a new lease of life to others through organ donation after his death. Jibaratnam died three days after sustaining critical injuries in a road accident near Jangalapadu village. He was reportedly walking towards Gangarajapuram village in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh to visit his father-in-law when an unidentified vehicle hit him and fled. He was first shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital at Paralakhemundi by



Gurandi police and later referred to a private hospital at Srikakulam as his condition deteriorated. After doctors indicated little hope of recovery, his family decided to donate his organs. Following his death, his heart, liver, kidneys and other vital organs were retrieved for transplantation, potentially saving multiple lives. The Andhra Pradesh Government reportedly honoured the

family with an appreciation certificate, while hospital authorities paid tribute to Jibaratnam for his noble gesture. Jibaratnam, a carpenter by profession, belonged to a poor family and is survived by his wife, a young son and a daughter. Local social worker Binod Parichha and others have urged the government to provide financial assistance to the bereaved family. Though his untimely death has left his family and villagers grief-stricken, Jibaratnam's decision to donate his organs has transformed his loss into a gift of life for others. His act is being hailed as a rare and inspiring example of humanity in Gajapati.

BENGAL POLICE TAKEN AWAY PARALA WOMAN IN KIDNAPPING CASE

Paralakhemundi, (correspondent): A woman was reportedly arrested by a team of West Bengal Police from Paralakhemundi in Gajapati district in connection with the alleged kidnapping of a minor girl from North 24 Parganas district.

According to police sources, the minor went missing from the Habra area on July 31, following which her family lodged a complaint at Habra Police Station on August 1. A case, No. 477/26, was registered under Sections 137(2) and 140(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. Acting on the investigation, a team of Habra Police reached



Paralakhemundi and, with the assistance of local police, traced and apprehended the woman.

Sources said the woman had allegedly been in contact with the minor through Instagram. The investigation is underway to ascertain the circumstances under which the minor allegedly came to

Paralakhemundi and the role of the woman in the case.

The West Bengal Police reportedly conducted the woman's medical examination before taking her to West Bengal for further investigation.

Police are also verifying reports regarding the woman's alleged involvement in previous criminal cases.

Min Harichandan takes stock of situation arising out of excessive rainfall in Chilika

Khordha (correspondent): On Tuesday, Odisha Law Minister and Chilika MLA Prithviraj Harichandan visited the Kumandala, Kaluri area of Chilika block, which was affected by the heavy rain. The repair work of small embankments has started on an urgent basis. In addition, Minister Harichandan has directed the concerned officials to make an accurate assessment of the damage caused by the rain and take immediate necessary steps in the affected areas and ensure safe movement of the public and provide a permanent solution. The Minister visited various affected areas and assessed the situation at ground zero. On this occasion concern departmental officers and PRI members were present.



Two women died after being struck by lightning

Rourkela / Banai (correspondent) On Tuesday, lightning strikes in various parts of Sundargarh district resulted in the deaths of two women—identified as Sunita Orang and Draupadi Kisan—who were working in a paddy field in Indrapur village (under the Banai police station limits); both reportedly died on the spot. Several other women from the village were also working in the field at the time. In a



separate incident in Jhiridapali village, a woman was critically injured; she was initially taken to Banai Hospital for first aid and subsequently referred to Rourkela

for further treatment. These incidents have once again highlighted the dangers faced by agricultural workers during thunderstorms and lightning strikes in the region.

One-year jail term for man in Jana Seva Kendra theft case

R A Y A G A D A (correspondent): The Gramya Nyayalaya-cum-JMFC, Kolanara, has sentenced Pukaka Pabitra of Mukundapur village to one year's simple imprisonment for dishonestly receiving stolen property in connection with a Jana Seva Kendra theft case. Presiding over the court, Nyayadhikari Jyotirmoyee Sarangi convicted Pabitra under Section 411 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The case dates back to April 18, 2024, when Jana Seva

Kendra operator Laxman Behera of Mukundapur lodged a complaint at Chandili police station reporting the theft of ₹1.70 lakh kept in a locked drawer at the centre. The cash represented the previous day's transaction collection. Police found that the premises had been breached through a hole dug in the rear wall.

During investigation, Sub-Inspector Ashutosh Sahu recovered ₹1.20 lakh of the stolen cash from Pabitra's residence. The accused had initially faced

charges under Sections 457, 380 and 411 IPC, but was ultimately convicted under Section 411. Assistant Public Prosecutors Debasish Pattanaik and Ch Nirmala Raju conducted the prosecution. Public Prosecutor Bikram Kumar Kunda provided legal guidance, while Assistant Director of Prosecution Dibya Lochan Pradhan monitored the case. The case was registered as Chandili PS Case No. 111/2024 and GR(GN) Case No. 47/2024.

18 surrendered Naxals given Rs 19.73 lakh Financial assistance

Malkangiri, (correspondent): Malkangiri district border The administration is continuing to provide assistance for the rehabilitation of surrendered Naxals who have abandoned the path of violence and returned to normal life in Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh. A total of Rs 19 lakh 73 thousand was distributed as an incentive to each surrenderer in a program organized at the office of the Superintendent of Police on Monday. The amount was distributed in the presence of Superintendent of Police Sandeep Kumar Patel and Additional District Magistrate Birendra Bahadur Panchbhui. As per the government's surrender and rehabilitation policy, money has been sanctioned for 50 people who surrendered with weapons. On this occasion, SP Shri Patel called upon the surrenderers to take advantage of the rehabilitation scheme and build a peaceful and self-reliant life. Additional SPs Ajay Singh, Akshay Sabda and Sub Collector Saurabh Diwan were present at the event.

MLA requested Dy CM & Minister of Tourism for sanction a grant of Rs 12.5 crore for upgrading Jaduguda temple

Malkangiri (correspondent): Malkangiri MLA Shri Narasinga Madkani today met the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister and Tourism Minister and requested for a grant of Rs. 12.50 crore for the comprehensive redevelopment of Jaduguda Shiva Temple and the eco-tourism area adjacent to it. In this regard, MLA Madkani submitted a written proposal along with a DPR and said that Jaduguda Shiva Temple holds religious, mythological and cultural importance for the local people. By developing



the natural environment around it as an eco-tourism center, it can emerge as an important religious, cultural and tourist destination in Malkangiri district. The existing basic amenities and tourist facilities need to be improved. In

addition, it is proposed to improve the beautification of the temple complex, passenger accommodation, roads and parking facilities, community hall and shops, nature trails, landscaping, drinking

water, sanitation, electricity, lighting, signboards, tourist information center, security and waste management, etc. If this project is implemented, the tourist experience will be enhanced and Jaduguda will be known as a prominent destination in the harmony of spirituality, nature and tribal culture. It will create new employment and livelihood opportunities for local youth, women, artisans and people of other communities and will contribute to the socio-economic development of the district.

Allegations of Mismanagement at Kantabanji Medical Centre

K A N T A B A N J I, correspondence: Allegations of mismanagement have once again surfaced at the Kantabanji Community Health Centre in Balangir district. State Youth BJD Secretary Ajit Joshi raised the issue during a press conference, highlighting problems faced by patients at the medical centre. Joshi alleged that patients are facing various difficulties at the hospital and that adequate ambulance services are not

available during emergencies. He said the lack of timely ambulance services is causing serious difficulties for critically ill patients and their families, particularly when patients need to be referred to higher medical facilities. Expressing concern over the situation, Joshi said it was unfortunate that such problems continued at the hospital despite Kantabanji MLA Laxman Bag serving as the Chairman of the Rogi Kalyan Samiti. He further alleged that the Kantabanji area

was being neglected by the government despite the presence of the Health Minister and Deputy Chief Minister in Balangir district. Joshi demanded immediate steps to address the problems at the medical centre and improve emergency healthcare and ambulance services. He warned that if the issues are not resolved soon, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) would launch a major agitation in the coming days.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA 25001/911/2627 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CENTRAL RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR Phone-0674-2540742 Email- se_ccrw@yahoo.co.in	
No. 4271 Dtd. 11.08.2026	
T.C.N No. Tender- Online-C.C-15 of 2026	
1. Name of work	: Road works under Periodical Renewal work of 5 years Completed PMGSY (POST DLP) roads for the year 2025-26
2. Total No. of Packages	: 1 No. of Package
3. Estimated Cost of the Package	: Rs. 58.83 lakhs
4. Class of Contractor	:
a) Estimated cost more than Rs. 20.00 lakhs up to Rs. 3.00 Crores	B Class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities
5. Period of Completion	: As mentioned in Column-8 of Annexure
6. Offered rates by bidder	: The offered rate by the contractor shall be excluding GST.
7. Other details	:
i) Officer inviting tender	Chief Construction Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar
ii) Availability of Tender	Dt. 17.08.2026 from 11.00 hours to Dt. 01.09.2026 up to 5.00 PM
iii) Seeking clarification of Tender	: Dt. 31.08.2026 Up to 5.00 PM
iv) Date of opening of Technical Bid	: Dt. 02.09.2026 at 11.00 AM
v) Date of opening of Financial Bid	To be intimated later on
Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersorissa.gov.in	
OIPR -25001/25082/1/26-27/0015	
Chief Construction Engineer Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar	

The Rohit Sharma Show: Indian cricketer set for Television debut

Indian cricket star Rohit Sharma is set to embark on a new innings in the entertainment industry with his television debut. Following his retirement from Test and T20 international cricket, the former India captain is all set to host his own show, ‘The Rohit Sharma Show’. The show, which is being billed as Rohit’s “biggest entertainment debut,” has already generated considerable buzz among fans. Sony TV Network recently released a new teaser, offering viewers a glimpse of Rohit in his new role.

The teaser shows Rohit interacting with the cameraman and other members of the crew, while also giving them instructions and suggestions. The light-hearted clip has further increased anticipation surrounding the show. The first promo, released in May, featured Rohit’s popular “Garden mein ghoomne” dialogue, which had previously gone viral among cricket fans. In the promo, Rohit jokingly remarked, “I just said two lines and they went so viral. What will happen when the full show comes out?” While the makers have kept most details about the programme under wraps, it has been confirmed that Rohit Sharma himself will serve as the host. Gaurav Banerjee, CEO of Sony Pictures Networks India, has also confirmed Rohit’s role as the presenter. The show is expected to combine humour and entertainment, with Rohit bringing his trademark wit and relaxed personality to the television screen. More details about the format, guests and launch date are yet to be revealed.

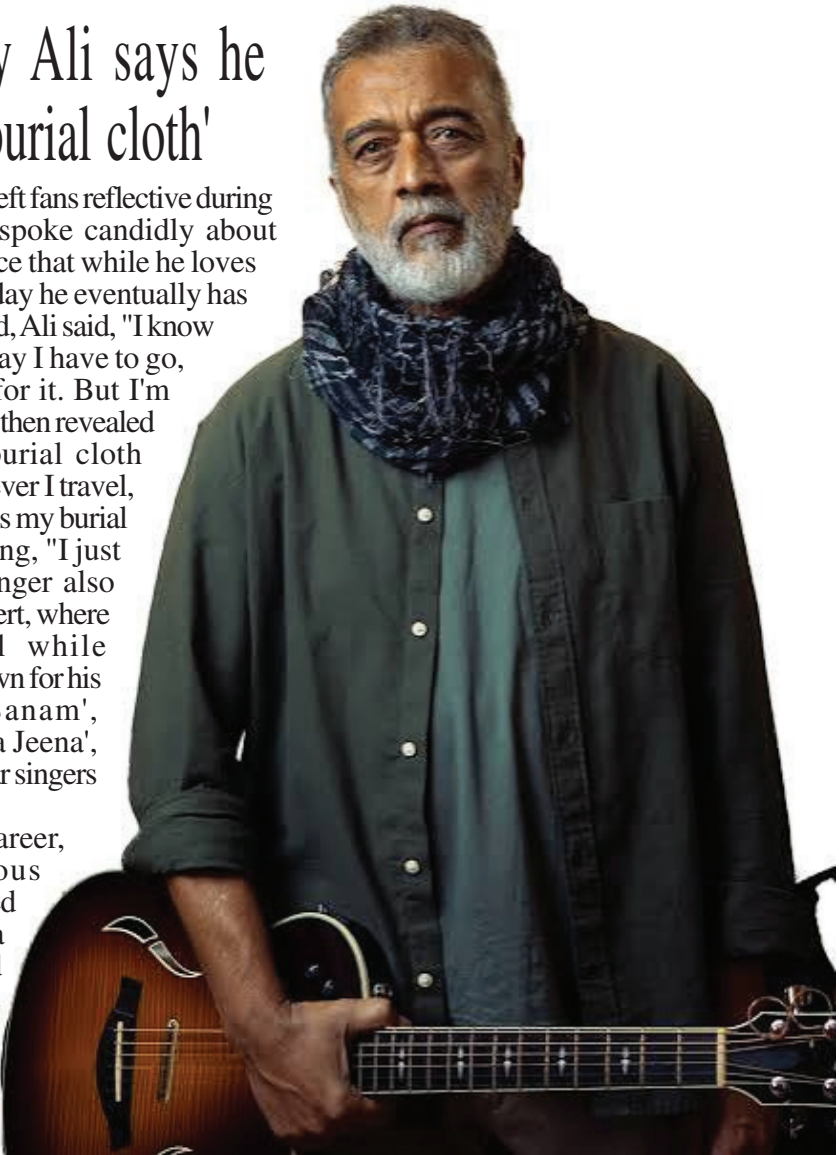
Rohit Sharma’s current cricketing careerRohit announced his retirement from T20 international cricket after India’s triumphant 2024 T20 World Cup campaign. He later retired from Test cricket in May 2025. He currently remains active in ODI cricket. In his most recent ODI appearance against England at Lord’s, Rohit produced a memorable 138-run innings. He also became the first Indian batsman to score an ODI century at the iconic Lord’s Cricket Ground. With his cricketing career entering a new phase, fans will now get an opportunity to see Rohit Sharma in an entirely different avatar—as a television host.



Emotional Lucky Ali says he travels with his 'burial cloth'

Celebrated singer Lucky Ali left fans reflective during a recent concert when he spoke candidly about mortality, telling the audience that while he loves them, he is prepared for the day he eventually has to leave. Addressing the crowd, Ali said, "I know I love you all too. But one day I have to go, na. I'm not preparing you for it. But I'm prepared actually." The singer then revealed that he carries his own burial cloth whenever he travels. "Whenever I travel, I travel with my Iram, which is my burial cloth," he said, before adding, "I just didn't let go yaar." The singer also shared a video from the concert, where he appeared emotional while addressing the audience. Known for his iconic songs like 'O Sanam', 'Safarnama', and 'Ek Pal Ka Jeena', Lucky Ali is one of the popular singers of India.

Reflecting on his life and career, Lucky Ali, in a previous conversation with ANI, shared that before becoming a musician, he considered himself useless or without direction. "I was a 'Vela, a total 'Vela' before that. Good for nothing. That's what I was before I even became a musician. I couldn't keep a job because I wasn't cut out to have a job." Recalling his childhood, Lucky Ali said that his early education and experience were related to "animal husbandry" and "horse breeding", which didn't offer him professional opportunities at that time in India.



why women should eat pumpkin seeds: Benefits for PMS symptoms like period cramps and headaches



Women’s Health. "Besides cramps, symptoms can include nausea, diarrhea, and headaches. This is where magnesium is important," Dr Astha Dayal, Lead Consultant-Obstetrics and Gynaecology, CK Birla Hospital, Gurugram, tells Health Shots.

If you’re a woman, you likely have your own stories about menstrual discomfort. Dealing with cramps, irritability, and bloating can be challenging each month. Many women use over-the-counter pain relievers to help. However, some natural options are worth trying. One suggestion is pumpkin seeds, a simple, healthy snack recommended by a gynaecologist. Pumpkin seeds are important for managing Premenstrual Syndrome (PMS) symptoms because they contain magnesium, a key mineral our bodies need.

Does magnesium help with period cramps?

To understand how pumpkin seeds can help, it is important to look at magnesium's role in managing menstrual cramps. Many women experience severe period pain, called dysmenorrhea, affecting about 50-90 percent women during their reproductive years, according to research in BMC

250 mg of magnesium daily can help manage dysmenorrhea symptoms. To ease discomfort naturally, consider eating foods high in magnesium. How many pumpkin seeds should I eat daily to get enough magnesium?

"Pumpkin seeds are not only tasty and versatile but also a great source of magnesium, with about 150 mg per ounce", says Dr Dayal. In addition to magnesium, pumpkin seeds are a rich source of other nutrients, making them a healthy choice for any diet.

Rich in healthy fats and fiber: Pumpkin seeds are a great source of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids. “These healthy fats can help reduce inflammation, which may relieve PMS symptoms,” says the doctor. They also have a lot of fiber, which promotes digestive health and helps you feel full longer.

Packed with antioxidants: "Pumpkin seeds contain antioxidants that may help reduce PMS symptoms by fighting oxidative stress", says Dr Dayal. These antioxidants also help maintain overall hormonal balance.

Contains zinc and iron: These important minerals support immunity and energy levels, which many women feel they need during their menstrual cycles. Iron is beneficial for replacing losses, especially for those with heavy periods.

A source of tryptophan: Pumpkin seeds can help improve mood by increasing serotonin levels. "Women dealing with mood swings from PMS can add pumpkin seeds to their diet to feel better mentally", says Dr Dayal.

why constipation increases during winters 6 tips to prevent: Consuming papaya, herbal tea

Nature's call is regarded as one of the most dreaded moments in the winter, when you have to abandon your warm blanket and step away from the toasty heater to waddle to the cold bathroom. And if constipation decides to show up, the wait gets even longer and freezing. Furthermore, if you don't take proper precautions in the colder months, you are likely to suffer from constipation, leaving you stranded far longer.

To understand what makes one more vulnerable to gut issues like constipation in winter months, HT Lifestyle spoke to Dr Sanil Parekh, additional director, interventional endoscopy, Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital, Mumbai.

Let's take a closer look at what the seasonal factors contributing to the surge of constipation cases, along with simple steps to keep your digestion comfortable.

Why does constipation increase in winter?

As per Dr Parekh, winter majorly changes your daily habits, which are responsible for how you digest and how your gut functions.

Elaborating on these changes, he said, “Some

factors include colder water makes people drink less, leading to dehydration and harder stools; the cold generally encourages people to be more sedentary, which slows digestion.”

6 tips to prevent winter constipation

But reducing constipation risks in winter is not rocket science; it is really about sticking to healthy habits. The changes in habits are one of the key reasons for gut discomfort to arise.

1. Keep hydrated

Even when it's cold outside, it's important to drink plenty of water to keep all bodily functions running smoothly. Being dehydrated can cause stool to harden and be difficult to pass.

Drink at least 2–3 litres of water daily, even if you don’t feel thirsty.

Add warm liquids, such as herbal teas, soups, and broths, to the diet, which can help the body maintain fluid levels and activate digestive processes.

Avoid excessive caffeine and alcohol because such substances dehydrate your body.

2. Add fibre to your diet

It helps in regulating digestion because it adds



bulk to the stool and regulates bowel movements.

Include apples, oranges, guavas, and pears as fresh fruits.

Eat vegetables high in fibre, such as carrots, beets, spinach, and cabbage.

Incorporate whole grains like oats, brown rice, and quinoa.

3. Stay physically active

Even moderate exercise can boost digestion by helping your intestines function efficiently. Aim for at least 30 minutes of activity daily, such as walking, yoga, or light stretching.

4. Follow a regular schedule

Digestive systems generally thrive on routine, so eat meals at regular times.

Establish a bathroom routine to help regulate bowel movements.

5. Limit processed foods

Processed snack foods and fast foods contain very little, if any, fibre content. Replace chips, sweetened snacks, and fried foods with roasted nuts, fresh fruits, or whole-grain crackers.

Whenever possible, prepare meals at home using fresh, unprocessed ingredients.

6. Consider natural remedies

If the constipation problem persists, there are a few home and natural remedies that may help. Prunes are considered a natural, mild laxative. Other ingredients that could help this include papaya, lemon water, and ghee.



Odisha AM/NS India Kho Kho High Performance Centre Athletes Shine at 14th Odisha State Junior Kho Kho Championship 2026

P u r i , (correspondent):Athletes of Odisha AM/NS India Kho Kho High Performance Centre delivered commanding performances at the recently held 14th Odisha State Junior Kho Kho Championship 2026, at the Kho Kho Academy, District Sports Complex, Puri. Representing teams of various districts and KISS University, a total of 21athletes, including 11 girls and 10 boys of Odisha AM/NS KHPC showcased exceptional skill, blistering speed, and fierce competitive temperament, underlining the Centre's pivotal role in shaping the future of Kho Kho in the state and in the country.In the Girls category, the Championship title was clinched by KISS



University with major contributions from fiveOdisha AM/NS KHPC athletes - Lisarani Raita, Ashika Kujur, Raktima Bhandra, Subhashree Mallick and Chinmayee Pradhan. Jagatsinghpur team represented by Odisha AM/NS KHPC athlete Lipina Nath, was the runners-up, while Puri, powered by K. Bhavani, secured the second runners-up position. The brilliance of the centre was further

highlighted with the excellence and individual honours of Lisarani Raita being adjudged the Best Attacker, while Somali Dehury received the Best Emerging Player award. The Boyscategory witnessed equally inspiring performances by ten of the centre's athletes. Sports Hostel, Purilifted the championship Trophy, powered by the contributions of Odisha

AM/NS KHPC athletes Aditya Das, Subham Biswal and Soumya Ranjan Swain. Supported by Ramlal Birua of the centre, Kiss University secured the second runners-up position. T Naveen of the centre helped Ganjam team finish in the third place.Adding to the achievements, Soumya Ranjan Swainof the centre was honoured with the Best Emerging Player award for his outstanding

performance during the tournament.Congratulating the participating athletes of the Odisha AM/NS KHPC,Shri Ashutosh Telang, Director & Vice President - HR & Administration,AM/NS India, said, "Our athletes' continued success is a testament to their unwavering commitment, discipline, and determination to excel. These accomplishments exemplify the impact of our collective efforts to create a centre of excellence in Kho Kho, supported by world-class coaching, cutting-edge sports science, and a professional training environment. We stand committed tobuilding brighter futures and shaping champions who are ready to raise the bar and represent India with distinction on national and global platforms."

India's Surge Continues At Commonwealth Fencing C'ship With Seven-Medal Haul On Day 2

Lagos: India's fencing team maintained its impressive run at the Commonwealth Fencing Championship in Lagos, Nigeria, winning seven medals on the second day.In the Senior Individual events— Women's Sabre, Women's Epee, and Men's Foil—Team India secured one gold, two silver, and four bronze medals, strengthening its position and showcasing the country's depth in the senior circuit.The Indian team delivered an excellent performance in the Senior Women's Epee event, dominating the podium standings. Tanishka Khatri won the gold medal through an outstanding display, while Khushi Dabhade earned silver.Prachi Lohan contributed to the medals by sharing the bronze with Australia's Harrison

Asley, resulting in India's impressive three-medal haul in this discipline.In the Senior Women's Sabre individual category, India showcased a remarkable performance by securing three podium positions. Aakhari earned a well-deserved silver medal after finishing behind England's Brierley, who took gold.Jefarlin and Shruti Joshi both won bronze medals for India. In the Senior Men's Foil event, Tejas Patil put in a commendable effort against a competitive international field, earning a bronze medal alongside England's David William. The gold was won by Cyprus's Alex Tophalidas, and Silver went to England's Oliver Starange.The squad's ongoing success is attributed to the Indian coaching and support

team, which includes coaches Bharatji Thakor, Shrihari Pise, and Shankar Narayan, physiotherapist Amruta Balkawade, and team manager Manu Tyagi. Their guidance, preparation, and support have been crucial in maintaining the athletes' top performance as the tournament in Lagos continues through August 14.Rajeev Mehta, Secretary General of the Fencing Association of India, praised all the medal-winning athletes, coaches, support staff, and officials for their relentless dedication and exceptional achievements.The federation expressed complete confidence that the Indian team will sustain its winning streak and continue to perform strongly for the rest of the championship.

West Indies Miss Direct World Cup 2027 Qualification, Afghanistan Secure Automatic Spot

NEWDELHI: West Indies will have to take the Qualifier route to reach the 2027 ODI World Cup after Afghanistan secured an automatic qualification spot with their win over Ireland in Belfast on Monday.The two-time World Cup champions have now missed out on direct qualification for the tournament for the third consecutive time. They successfully came through the Qualifier in 2019 but failed to make the 2023 World Cup after losing in the qualifying tournament. Afghanistan seal automatic qualification. The top eight teams in the ICC ODI rankings as of September 30, 2026, excluding co-hosts South Africa and Zimbabwe, will qualify directly for the 2027 World Cup. Afghanistan's victory over Ireland confirmed their place among those teams, leaving West Indies outside the



automatic qualification bracket.Afghanistan will join defending champions Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, England, Bangladesh, South Africa and Zimbabwe in the tournament lineup. West Indies face another Qualifier West Indies are currently ranked 10th and have two ODI matches remaining before the September 30 cut-off. They are scheduled to travel to India to face Shubman Gill's

side.However, even two victories would not be enough for West Indies to secure direct qualification. They will therefore have to enter the World Cup Qualifier in February 2027.How can West Indies qualify for World Cup 2027?The ICC Board approved changes to the 2027 Men's ODI World Cup qualification structure on July 15, with the tournament retaining a 14-team format.The main Qualifier will feature 10 teams, with four ultimately earning World Cup berths.

West Indies and Ireland will enter the Qualifier directly as the two lowest-ranked non-host Full Members. They will be joined by four teams from CWC League 2 and four teams from the Qualifier Playoff.The winner of the main Qualifier will advance directly to the second round of the World Cup. The teams finishing second, third and fourth will enter a three-team Super Series, with the winner claiming the remaining qualification spot..

Julian Alvarez Tells Atletico Madrid 'Count Me Out' as Barcelona Transfer Push Intensifies: Report

NEWDELHI:Julian Alvarez has reportedly made his desire to leave Atletico Madrid increasingly clear, with Barcelona still pushing to sign the Argentine striker in the ongoing transfer window.Atletico, however, remain firm on their decision to retain the 27-year-old and have reportedly rejected multiple approaches for the forward. Alvarez determined to join Barcelona According to Mundo Deportivo, Alvarez is going "all in" to secure a move to Barcelona. The Argentine reportedly returned to Atletico's training ground on Tuesday but was frustrated after he was unable to meet manager Diego Simeone or club CEO Miguel Angel Gil Marin, who were both absent.The report



claims Alvarez then made his position clear to people at the training ground, reportedly saying, "Count me out."He is expected to speak with Simeone when the Atletico manager returns from Ibiza on Wednesday and reiterate his desire to leave the club and join Barcelona. Atletico demand huge release clause Atletico have consistently maintained that they do not want to sell Alvarez. The club have also reportedly insisted that any potential suitor must trigger his release clause, which is said to be worth more than \$500 million.Barcelona

have made several attempts to sign the striker, but their proposals have reportedly been rejected.Real Madrid also made an approach for Alvarez, but Atletico turned it down, after which the Spanish giants ended their pursuit. Alvarez reportedly believes Atletico had assured him in February that he would be allowed to leave during the summer transfer window. Atletico complained to FIFA over Barcelona The transfer saga has also escalated off the pitch. Atletico Madrid reportedly filed a complaint with FIFA last

month, accusing Barcelona of approaching Alvarez without the club's permission.Barcelona's continued interest has nevertheless kept speculation over the Argentine's future alive.Simeone backs Atletico's decision Simeone has previously reiterated Atletico's stance on Alvarez, saying the club's position was clear.Ahead of a pre-season friendly against Manchester City in Seoul, the Atletico manager backed the club's decision while praising the striker's contribution.Simeone said the club had made its decision and highlighted how pleased Atletico were to have a player of Alvarez's quality.The manager also said the club would continue helping the Argentine improve and deliver his best performances.

30 Teams To Compete At 16th Hockey India Jr Women National C'ship In Pune

New Delhi: The 16th Hockey India Junior Women National Championship 2026 will take place in Pune, Maharashtra, starting on August 12. It will feature 30 teams from all over the country competing in a three-division format. The tournament runs until 23rd August, with teams vying for the national title as well as opportunities for promotion and relegation between divisions. The championship includes Division 'A', Division 'B', and Division 'C', offering a clear pathway for teams to compete at their appropriate levels and advance in the national system. This

division-based structure encourages teams to compete not just for the title but also for promotion to a higher division.Hockey India president Dilip Kumar Tirkey said, "The Junior Women National Championship is an important platform for identifying and nurturing the next generation of Indian hockey talent. With teams competing across three divisions, the tournament will provide young players with valuable competitive exposure while strengthening the domestic pathway." Hockey India secretary general Bhola Nath Singh said, "We are pleased to see teams from across the country



coming together for this championship. The division-based format encourages healthy competition and gives teams an opportunity to progress through the national structure. We look forward to an

exciting tournament in Pune."Division 'A', with 12 teams, is split into four pools. Pool A includes Hockey Jharkhand, Hockey Punjab, and Hockey Chandigarh. Pool B features Hockey

Haryana, Hockey Odisha Association, and Hockey Bengal. Pool C has Uttar Pradesh Hockey, Hockey Maharashtra, and Manipur Hockey. Pool D comprises Chhattisgarh Hockey,

Hockey Madhya Pradesh, and Hockey Himachal. The division 'A' league stage starts on August 16, with each team competing against others in its pool. The top two teams from each pool will move on to the quarter-finals on August 21. The semi-finals are set for August 21, followed by a rest day on August 22. The tournament concludes with the 3rd/4th place match and the final on August 23.The 12 teams in division 'A' will compete for the prestigious national championship, while the teams finishing 11th and 12th will be relegated to Division 'B' for the next tournament.Division 'B' will consist of 10 teams

split into two pools. Pool A includes Hockey Andhra Pradesh, Assam Hockey, Delhi Hockey, Kerala Hockey, and Hockey Mizoram. Pool B features Hockey Karnataka, Hockey Uttarakhand, Hockey Uttar Pradesh, Hockey Bihar, and Goans Hockey. The two highest-ranked teams from Division 'B' will be promoted to Division 'A', while the two lowest-ranked teams will be relegated to Division 'C'.Division 'C' comprises eight teams split into two pools. Pool A includes Hockey Arunachal, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu Hockey, Hockey

Rajasthan, and Tripura Olympic Association. Pool B features Le Puducherry Hockey, Hockey Gujarat, Hockey Jammu & Kashmir, and Telangana Hockey. The two best teams from Division 'C' will advance to Division 'B' in the next edition.The championship kicks off on August 12 with matches from division 'B' and division 'C'. Division 'A' starts on August 16, featuring Hockey Jharkhand versus Hockey Chandigarh, Hockey Haryana against Hockey Bengal, Uttar Pradesh Hockey versus Manipur Hockey, and Chhattisgarh Hockey versus Hockey Himachal in the first round.

National Conference of Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Sanstha 10 eminent personalities, including Dr. Tirupati Panigrahi, were conferred with the Gaurav Samman

Bhubaneswar: (Correspondent) :- The National Conference of Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Sanstha was organized at the Hi-tech Medical College campus. The program discussed in detail about the Vikasit Bharat 2047 Roadmap and expressed the view that Odisha should be its launchpad to realize this huge potential. The program was attended by the State Government's Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari as the chief guest while the founder chairman of Hi-tech Group, Dr. Tirupati Panigrahi, was the guest of honor. In order to fully develop the country by 2047, it is necessary to first develop the rural sector



and ensure education, employment and health for all, said Dr. Panigrahi. On this occasion, Dr. Panigrahi was honored with the Gaurav Samman - 2026. In his various fields, Nine other eminent personalities who have contributed to the development of the country by demonstrating their skills were honored with the Gaurav Samman - 2026. Speaking at the

event, senior RSS pracharak Ravi Kumar said that the country will not develop only through the efforts of one person or a few individuals, but it will be possible through collective efforts, sacrifice and dedication. Dr. Mahesh Sharma, founder and chief of the Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Sanstha, said that the country will be fully developed by 2047,

through the performance of the youth and a safe road map, the basic foundation of which will be education, technical training, self-reliance, industrialists and the development of industry. Dr. Chidatmaka Khatua said that the foundation of a developed India should be laid from the land of Shri Jagannath, Odisha, if the people's power is pooled and

they work together for the country, our country can definitely become a developed India by 2047, that possibility is seen in the eyes of every countryman, he said. Similarly, RSS senior pracharak Ravi Kumar, head of Bikashit Bharat Sankalp Sanstha Dr. Mahesh Sharma, director of IIT Bhubaneswar Professor Shripad Karmakar, Cuttack Sadar MLA Prakash Sethi, Telkoi MLA Dr. Fakirmohan Nayak, Ekamra MLA Babu Singh, former NALCO chairman Tapan Chand, former MLA Parvat Biswal, Dr. Rajnikant Mishra, BJJM General Secretary Santosh Kumar Sahu, representatives from 8 states and representatives from 22 districts of Odisha were present.

EAST COAST RAILWAY TO OPERATE ONE WAY SPECIAL TRAIN FROM SAMBALPUR TO CHARLAPALLI



Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent) :- To accommodate the increased travel demand from Odisha to Andhrapradesh & Telangana and provide additional passenger convenience, East Coast Railway to operate a One Way Special train between Sambalpur and Charlapalli. Train No. 08309 Sambalpur-Charlapalli One Way Special will commence its journey from Sambalpur at 11:45 hrs on Friday, 14th August 2026, and will arrive at

Charlapalli at 11:30 hrs on Saturday, 15th August 2026. En route, the special train will halt at Baragada Road, Balangir, Titlagarh, Kesinga, Muniguda, Rayagada, Parvatipuram Town, Bobbili, Vizianagaram, Kottavalasa, Pendurti, Simhachalam North, Duvvada, Samalkot, Rajahmundry, Vijayawada Junction, Guntur, Miryalaguda and Nalgonda providing convenient connectivity to passengers travelling to these important destinations. The special

train will comprise 21 coaches, including 12 Sleeper Class Coaches, 06 General Second Class Coaches, 01 2nd AC coach and 2 Luggage-cum-Divyang Friendly Coaches, ensuring a d e q u a t e accommodation for passengers of different travel categories. For updated train information, passengers may visit the National Train Enquiry System (NTES) or use official railway enquiry services before commencing their journey.

CSTT Concludes Five-Day National Meetings

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent): The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), Ministry of Education, Government of India, successfully concluded the five-day national meetings on the review and evolution of Fundamental Glossaries in Political Science, Economics and Commerce in the Odia language. The meetings were held from 03 to 07 August 2026 at KISS Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar. The Valedictory Session was graced by Dr. K. Bijay Kumar, Former Chairman, CSTT, as the Chief Guest and Dr. Prashanta Kumar Rouray, Registrar, KISS Deemed to be University, as the Guest of Honour. At the outset, Prof. Benu Gopal Mohapatra,



Professor & Director, Consultancy, KIIT Deemed to be University and Chief Coordinator of the three meetings, presented a detailed report on the activities undertaken during the five-day programme. Under his able leadership, meticulous planning and continuous guidance, all three meetings were conducted successfully in a highly systematic, academically enriching and result-oriented manner. His outstanding coordination in bringing together subject experts, language experts and academic institutions ensured the smooth and

successful conduct of the programme, which was widely appreciated by the Commission and all participating experts. The officials of CSTT, Ministry of Education, Government of India, Dr. Shahzad Ahmad Ansari, Assistant Director, CSTT and Officer Incharge (Political Science), Dr. Pradeep Kumar, Assistant Director, CSTT and Officer Incharge (Economics) and Mr. Inderdeep Singh, Assistant Scientific Officer, CSTT and Officer Incharge (Commerce) presented the outcomes of the five-day meetings.

Vedanta Aluminium Unveils Metal Bazaar Exports for International Buyers

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent) :- Vedanta Aluminium Metal Limited (BSE: 544780 | NSE: VAML) today announced the expansion of its flagship digital e-commerce platform, Vedanta Metal Bazaar (VMB) to the international market. As one of the first Indian digital aluminium marketplaces to expand into global trade, the platform now enables international customers to directly order and buy premium aluminium products online with unprecedented ease, transparency, and convenience. Riding on the immense success of the platform in the India market, Vedanta Metal Bazaar will now be available across Asia, Europe, Africa and Americas. In FY26



alone, the platform processed transactions worth nearly \$4.1 billion (over ₹38,000 crore) and fulfilled more than 23,000 orders. The platform has also witnessed growing adoption among Indian manufacturers. In addition to large OEMs, more than 550 MSMEs regularly use Vedanta Metal Bazaar for their aluminium requirements. Commenting on the strategic expansion, Rajesh Kumar, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, "The

global expansion of Vedanta Metal Bazaar marks a significant milestone in our journey to redefine aluminium procurement through digital innovation. As the first Indian metals platform of its kind to enter global markets, this expansion strengthens our commitment with international customers while reinforcing India's growing role in global trade, advanced manufacturing and sustainable industrial growth. As one of the world's largest aluminium

producers, Vedanta Aluminium is proud to contribute to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of 'Make in India for the World' by delivering world-class, Made-in-India aluminium solutions to global markets." Speaking on the platform's impact, a Vedanta Metal Bazaar customer, Paramount Comm Ltd - Arvind Gupta, Procurement Head said, "Vedanta Metal Bazaar has made aluminium procurement significantly faster, more transparent and easier to manage. From live pricing and online order placement to shipment tracking and financing support, the platform gives us greater visibility and control across the buying journey. For growing businesses like ours, this has helped reduce procurement complexity, improve

planning and respond more quickly to market requirements." The launch was marked by a dedicated global customer webinar attended by more than 600 participants from across international markets. By extending this proven digital model to international buyers, Vedanta Aluminium is opening new global trade corridors. The expansion will enable overseas enterprises and SMEs to access the same transparent, efficient and seamless buying experience that has driven strong adoption among Indian manufacturers. Engineered to function as a world-class, 24x7 digital gateway, the platform significantly reduces supply chain complexity through automated workflows, bringing B2C ease to global B2B procurement.

IndiaTrek Delegation Returns with Fond Memories of Odisha, KIIT and KISS

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent): A 38-member delegation from the City University of New York (CUNY), USA, has returned with fond memories after visiting KIIT and KISS as part of the IndiaTrek initiative under the Achyuta Samanta India Initiative, CUNY Crest Institute (ASIICCI). The delegation comprised 10 distinguished professors and 28 students from different universities. During their 15-day stay, the delegates participated in various knowledge and cultural exchange programmes with students of KIIT and KISS. On the final day, they paid a courtesy visit to Founder Dr. Achyuta Samanta and shared their experiences at KIIT and KISS. They expressed amazement at the educational environment and infrastructure of both



institutions. They also said that they would never forget the warmth, hospitality and affection extended to them during their stay. The delegates expressed their gratitude to KIIT and KISS Founder Dr. Achyuta Samanta for initiating such a unique programme. Through the IndiaTrek initiative, KIIT

and KISS have undertaken a distinctive annual effort to showcase Odisha to the global community. Participants in the programme get first-hand exposure to the culture, heritage, cuisine, traditions and major tourist destinations of Odisha. They also visit Delhi and the Taj Mahal in Agra. As they

return to their respective countries, they carry with them not only memories of KIIT and KISS but also cherished experiences of Odisha and India. One of the key objectives of their visit is to learn about and gain knowledge of India, particularly Odisha, including its art, culture, heritage and socio-

e c o n o m i c conditions. Among others, the farewell reception was attended by Prof. Neal Hudson Phillip, Professor & Chairperson - Department of Chemistry, Earth Sciences & Environmental Sciences, Bronx Community College; Co-Director - CUNY CREST Institute's International Partnership and Global Networking Pillar; Associate Director - Achyuta Samanta India Initiative, City University of New York (CUNY); Prof. Paramita Sen, Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Earth Sciences and Environmental Sciences at Bronx Community College, City University of New York; Salil Kader, Former Advisor - Strategic Planning

AM/NS India Launches Next-Generation Heavy Plate Solutions for Infrastructure and Manufacturing Sectors

Mumbai / Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent) :- ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) today announced the launch of STRUCTROMAX and WELDSTAR, two new heavy steel plate brands designed for India's growing infrastructure, manufacturing, construction, energy, transportation and heavy engineering sectors. Developed at AM/NS India's state-of-the-art plate mill facility at Hazira, the new products combine advanced rolling and heat-treatment technologies with precise metallurgical and quality control. STRUCTROMAX is designed using Thermo-Mechanical Controlled Processing

(TMCP) to support bridges, high-rise buildings, offshore projects, railways, wind energy, and other heavy-duty sectors. It offers superior weldability, toughness, load-bearing capability, corrosion resistance, and fabrication performance, enabling engineers and project developers to build structures that remain stable under demanding operating or climatic conditions. WELDSTAR is a range of ultra-high-strength steel plates that allow engineers to optimize weight, increase payload capacity, improve fuel economy, and reduce lifecycle costs without compromising on safety or durability. It is mainly designed for cranes, mining

equipment, transport systems, offshore projects and other critical applications to decrease long-term operating costs. Ranjan Dhar, Director and Vice President - Sales & Marketing, AM/NS India said: "India's next phase of infrastructure and manufacturing growth will require steel solutions that deliver greater strength, reliability and efficiency in increasingly complex projects. STRUCTROMAX and WELDSTAR broaden the advanced heavy plate options available to Indian engineers, fabricators and manufacturers, while strengthening domestic capability for high-value applications."