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severe flooding in Koida: Over 50 families in Kerketa Sahi are marooned; clogged drains leave no outlet for the water	Ganjam District Administration organized 'Tricolor Marathon' in Gopalpur	OSWAN Conference Hall, Open Gym Inaugurated at Rayagada Zilla Parishad	Rourkela Rain: Parent's Irresponsibility Puts Two Children at Risk

Fresh COVID-19 Case Reported In Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar(correspondent): A 50-year-old man from Baramunda in Bhubaneswar has tested positive for COVID-19, marking a fresh case of the infection in Odisha's capital, sources said on Friday. According to hospital authorities, the man underwent COVID-19 testing following which he was found to be infected. He has since been admitted to a private hospital in Bhubaneswar, where he is currently under medical observation and receiving treatment. His present health condition and other details are yet to be ascertained. Authorities are also expected to ascertain the possible source of the infection and whether the patient had any recent travel history or contact with an infected person.

Vinaytosh Mishra Given Additional Charge Of DGP After Khurania's Retirement

Bhubaneswar(correspondent): The Odisha Government has decided that Vinaytosh Mishra, DGP, CID, Crime Branch will hold the additional charge of Director General of Police, Head of Police Force, after the retirement of the current DGP Y.B. Khurania on 16 August, 2026. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has approved the proposal. Mishra will continue to hold the additional charge of DGP with effect from 16 August, 2026, until further orders. Y.B. Khurania is scheduled to retire on 16 August, 2026.



Two Tankers Struck By Drones In Strait Of Hormuz: UKMTO

London: Two tankers were struck by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) while transiting the Strait of Hormuz, sustaining minor damage though all crew reported safe, the United Kingdom's Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) said on Friday. According to two UKMTO advisories, military authorities reported that the tankers were hit by UAVs while conducting outbound transit of the strait. The advisories said both vessels sustained only minor damage. All crew members were reported safe, and no environmental impact has been reported.

Aditya-L1 Findings Offer Fresh Clues To Sun's Super-Heated Corona: Indian Scientists

New Delhi: Observations from India's Aditya-L1 solar mission have provided crucial insights into one of solar physics' biggest mysteries: how the Sun's outer atmosphere remains millions of degrees hotter than its surface and retains that heat despite constantly losing vast amounts of energy through solar eruptions, according to Indian researchers. Scientists studying data from Aditya-L1, India's first dedicated solar observation mission, have reported findings that could help explain the long-standing mystery of why the Sun's corona remains far hotter than its visible surface.

The findings, published in the Astrophysical Journal Letters, were led by Professor R. Ramesh of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA). The study sheds new light on the processes that heat the Sun's outermost atmosphere and replenish energy lost during powerful solar eruptions. The temperature structure of the Sun has puzzled astrophysicists for decades. While temperatures in the Sun's core reach nearly 15 million degrees Celsius, the visible surface, known as the photosphere, is significantly cooler at around 5,500 degrees Celsius. Surprisingly, the corona, located much farther from the core, can reach temperatures of around 2 million degrees Celsius and occasionally soar to as high as 40 million degrees Celsius. This apparent increase in temperature away from the heat source challenges conventional expectations and has remained one of the most enduring unsolved questions in solar science. The corona is also the birthplace of extreme solar weather events, including solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs). During these eruptions, the Sun ejects enormous amounts of energy and charged particles into space. Such events can lead to spectacular auroras on Earth but can also disrupt power grids, communication networks, navigation systems and satellites through geomagnetic storms. According to Prof. Ramesh, the Sun typically produces two to three CMEs each day during periods of low activity. During the peak phase of its 11-year solar cycle, that number can rise to ten or more daily eruptions.

Remember Partition Tragedy, Resolve To Protect India's Unity: CM Majhi

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Friday called upon people to observe Partition Horrors Remembrance Day as a "Day of Resolve" to safeguard the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country, while recalling the suffering and displacement caused by the Partition

of 1947. Addressing a programme organised at the Convention Centre in Lok Seva Bhawan on the eve of Independence Day, Majhi said the Partition was not merely a division of territory but one of the largest episodes of forced migration in human history. He recalled that an estimated 1.5 crore



people were displaced during the Partition, while communal violence claimed

hundreds of thousands of lives. He also referred to the abduction, sexual violence and torture suffered by thousands of women during the period. The Chief Minister said the stories of "blood trains" and "ghost trains" that reached from Pakistan carrying victims of

communal violence continue to haunt generations of families affected by the Partition. Majhi attributed the Partition to the British policy of "divide and rule" as well as the political circumstances and competing interests of the leadership of that period.

सत्यमेव जयते
Government of India

Heartfelt greetings
to all fellow citizens on the
8th
Independence Day

“

I extend my best wishes to all of you on this great festival of Independence. There's only one mantra for 140 crore Indians - Viksit Bharat. To build a Viksit Bharat, we will neither stop nor bow down, and we will build a Viksit Bharat in 2047.

— Narendra Modi”

Live telecast of the Independence Day celebrations from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Doordarshan Network from 6:30 AM onwards.

CBC 22201/13/0019/2627



Poster ofMuch-awaited Odia Documentary 'Habaspuri Weaving' The Second and Last Death' launched on National Handloom Day

BHUBANESWA R,(correspondent) : Odisha is celebrated worldwide for its rich and diverse textile traditions.As part of the National Handloom Day 2026celebrations, on 7th August 2026,Ritupriya Productions, in association with BnR Films and MNM Entertainment, unveiled the Official Poster of the much awaited Odia d o c u m e n t a r y "Habaspuri Weaving: The Second and Last Death ". The documentary has been produced by award winning filmmakerAtish Kumar Rout and directed by acclaimed directors Biswanath Rath

and Mayur Mahapatra.'Habaspuri Weaving' explores the acclaimed yet endangered Habaspuri handloom tradition of Kalahandi district-its history, its present struggles, and the possible pathways for r e v i v a l . T h i s documentary is the spiritual successor to Biswanath Rath's internationally celebrated film 'Kotpad Weaving: The Story of a Race Against Time' (commissioned by DD-PSBT), which has received 60 awards and accolades, screened in 11 countries, and brought much needed global attention and recognition to Kotpad

h a n d l o o m . W i t h 'Habaspuri Weaving', writer director Biswanath Rath takes his second major step toward documenting the lives of Odisha's artisans and examining the challenges and solutions forreviving one of India's timeless textile traditions. This time, he is joined by acclaimed director Mayur Mahapatraand renowned producer Atish Kumar Rout, who together strengthen the creative and production vision behind the project.The film has already earned international attention, having been selected as one of the final 12 documentary project proposals out of 98

international entries at the NFDC Film Bazaar Documentary Co Production Market 2023. Adding to this journey of pride, the first?look poster of 'Habaspuri Weaving' was unveiled at the 77th Cannes Film Festival, where filmmaker Biswanath Rath created history by showcasing Odisha's handloom legacy on the global s t a g e - f u r t h e r strengthening Odisha's presence in the global cultural landscape. The research for the documentary was carried out in multiple phases between 2019 and 2024.Initial research began in August 2019,

led by filmmaker Biswanath Rath, textile designer Anupriya Mridha, and US based library director Corinn Flaherty.The COVID 19 pandemic caused a temporary halt.Research resumed in August 2023, with contributions from Mayur Mahapatra, Siddhant Swaroop and Debasish Pratihari, under Biswanath's guidance.This extensive research forms the backbone of the d o c u m e n t a r y ' s authenticity and depth. Co-produced by Supriya Rout, the film's creative team includes Siddhant Swaroop as Chief Assistant Director, Debasish Pratihari as Assistant Director,

Mayur Mahapatra as Director of Photography, and Dilesshwar Pradhan as Sound Designer. Ajit Narayan Dash has handled the Editing and DI, while the background score is being composed by acclaimed Music Composer Priyabrata Panigrahi.Following the footsteps of 'Kotpad Weaving', this documentary will be showcased at film festivals across India and overseas, before being publicly released on TV, OTT, and digital platforms.BnR Films, knownforisawardwinning projects and global festival presence, will oversee the film'sinternational festival strategy and digital distribution.

Young Students Take Out Tricolour Rally in Bona

Rourkela/Banai:(correspondent) Ahead of Independence Day, a vibrant Har Ghar Tiranga rally was organised by the students and teaching staff of St. Xavier's Semark School under Kendrikala Gram Panchayat in Bonai Block.The rally commenced from the Deogaon Temple Gate and passed through several important locations, including Church Chowk, High School Chowk, Block Chowk, College Chowk, Kacheri Chowk and the Bus Stand, covering various parts of Bonai town. Bonai Sub-Collector Ashok Kumar Das formally inaugurated the rally by cutting the ribbon and waving the Tricolour. He extended his best wishes to the participating students, teachers and staff for their enthusiastic involvement in the patriotic programme.Holding the national flag proudly in their hands, the young students marched through the town chanting “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” and “Vande Mataram.” The sight of the children carrying the Tricolour and participating with patriotic spirit created an atmosphere of national pride and enthusiasm across Bonai. The rally highlighted the spirit of patriotism among the students and conveyed the message of respect for the national flag and the values of unity and national integration.

Hi-Tech Dental College sets rare record, 175 children successfully undergo cleft palate surgery

Bhubaneswar:(Correspondent):- The inauguration ceremony of the 'Madhur Muskan' project (2025-26), jointly organized by 'Mission Smile' and 'Indian Oil Corporation Limited' (IOCL), was successfully held at the Hi-Tech Medical College campus. The program was organized under the direct supervision and guidance of Eng. Madhusmita Tripathi, Director and Executive Chairman, Hi-Tech Dental College and Hospital. Senior officials of Indian Oil from Odisha and Mumbai, staff of 'Mission Smile' from Kolkata, and experienced surgeons and specialists from Hi-Tech Dental College were present at the ceremony. In the current financial year, a total of 175 small children from Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and



Berhampur regions have been successfully operated on for cleft palate. Out of these, Bhubaneswar Hi-Tech Dental College alone has performed around 150 surgeries, bringing smiles to the faces of helpless children and their families. While this treatment and surgery were completely free of cost, Mission Smile and Hi-Tech Dental College have been continuing this great service since 2015, and the continuous support of IOCL has further strengthened this program. On this occasion, Hitech

Group Founder Chairman Dr. Tirupati Panigrahi, Managing Trustee Suresh Panigrahi, Hi-tech Dental College Chairman Prof. Dr. Sangram Patra, Prof. Dr. Abitosh Dev, among others, thanked all the doctors, medical teams and supporting institutions present for their selfless support and service. Dr. Panigrahi said that Hi-tech Dental College and Hospital are committed to providing completely free treatment to such patients in the coming days as well.

IT Proficiency Enhancement Training through OS-CIT for PACS and LAMPCS Officials Launched

Bhubaneswar, (correspondent):In another significant step towards making Odisha's cooperative sector more modern, technology-driven, transparent, efficient and self-reliant, the IT Proficiency Enhancement Training Programme through OS-CIT for PACS and LAMPCS officials was formally launched today.At the inaugural programme held at the State Convention Centre, Lok Seva Bhawan, Shri Pradeep Bal Samanta, Hon'ble Minister of C o o p e r a t i o n , Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts, formally launched the training programme. PACS/ LAMPCS officials from different parts of the State joined the programme



virtually from their respective Authorized Learning Centres (ALCs).The programme is being implemented by Odisha Knowledge Corporation Limited (OKCL) in collaboration with the Cooperation Department, Government of Odisha.Under this initiative, 5,422 officials from 2,711 PACS/ LAMPCS across the State are targeted to be trained, with two officials

from each PACS/ LAMPCS participating in the programme. The registration process for the training has been completed, and the programme has formally commenced from today.The training is being conducted through 540 OKCL Authorized Learning Centres (ALCs) across the State. This decentralised training arrangement will enable P A C S / L A M P C S officials working in

different regions of Odisha to undergo training at ALCs located close to their respective areas.The Cooperation Department is presently undertaking several digital transformation initiatives, including the implementation of the National Level PACS Software (NLPs)/ERP-based digitalisation of PACS, computerisation of the offices of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, and digitisation of records of c o o p e r a t i v e offices.Against this backdrop, the OS-CIT training programme aims to equip PACS and LAMPCS officials with basic computer knowledge, digital working skills and proficiency in the use of

IT tools, enabling cooperative institutions to carry out their day-to-day operations in a faster, more transparent and efficient manner.The OS-CIT curriculum also includes a dedicated module on NLPs ERP. Through this module, PACS officials will acquire foundational knowledge of the ERP environment that they are expected to use in the future.The large-scale digital capacity-building initiative covering 5,422 officials from 2,711 PACS/LAMPCS assumes special significance as one of the pioneering initiatives of its kind undertaken by a State in India for strengthening the digital capabilities of grassroots cooperative institutions.

NTPC Strengthens Educational Infrastructure at Nivaran, Cuttack, to Inspire Brighter Futures

B h u b a n e s w a r,:(correspondent): Reaffirming its commitment to inclusive growth and community development, NTPC Limited has undertaken e d u c a t i o n a l infrastructure development works at Government Upper Primary School (UPS), Nivaran, Niali, Cuttack, Odisha, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.The newly developed facilities were inaugurated by Shri Somes Bandyopadhyay, Regional Executive Director, Eastern Region II), HQ's



NTPC, in the presence of school authorities, teachers, students, NTPC officials, local representatives and members of the community.The initiative aims to provide students with a safer, more comfortable and conducive learning

environment by strengthening essential e d u c a t i o n a l infrastructure and supporting quality education. The improved facilities are expected to benefit students from Nivaran and nearby areas, helping create a more

engaging atmosphere for learning and overall development.Speaking on the occasion, Shri Somes Bandyopadhyay highlighted the vital role of education in building an equitable and progressive society and reiterated NTPC's commitment to implementing impactful CSR initiatives that create lasting value for communities and empower young minds.Through such initiatives, NTPC continues to go beyond powering the nation- powering aspirations, s t r e n g t h e n i n g communities and shaping brighter futures.

Tata Power's Rooftop Solar Business Targets 30,000 Crore Revenue by 2030

B h u b a n e s w a r,:(correspondent)Tata Power's rooftop solar business is gearing up for its next phase of growth, targeting 30,000 crore in annual revenue by 2030 as rising consumer adoption, favourable government policies and declining technology costs accelerate India's distributed solar market.

The company has already served more than 5 lakh rooftop solar customers across India and aims to expand its customer base to 30 lakhs by 2029. Tata Power is also targeting a 25% share of India's rapidly growing rooftop solar market. The business has recorded strong growth in both revenue and profitability over the past four years. Revenue increased nearly four-fold, rising from ?342 crore in Q1 FY24 to ?1,350 crore in Q1 FY27, representing a 58% CAGR. EBITDA grew at a 74% CAGR, from ?38 crore to ?197 crore, while Profit After Tax (PAT) rose at an 84% CAGR, from ?23 crore to ?145 crore

during the same period. Tata Power is also expanding its rooftop solar offering beyond conventional solar installations. With the addition of battery energy storage solutions, the company is positioning the business as an integrated home energy platform. The combination of rooftop solar and storage is aimed at helping consumers optimise solar generation, improve power reliability and increase energy independence. The company expects this integrated approach to significantly expand the addressable market as households increasingly look for complete clean-energy solutions rather

than standalone rooftop solar systems.India's ongoing energy transition, supportive policy environment, increasing electricity demand, rapid urbanisation, falling technology costs and growing consumer awareness are expected to provide sustained momentum to the distributed solar segment.

Jharsuguda Engineering School Observes 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day'

J h a r s u g u d a , (correspondent): The 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' was observed at Jharsuguda Engineering School on August 14. The programme was organised to remember the immense suffering, pain and sacrifices endured by people during the Partition of India in 1947, while

reaffirming the importance of preserving the freedom and unity of the nation. District Information and Public Relations Officer and In-charge Culture Officer Ritakanti Baliarsingh, District Child Protection Officer Sunanda Maharana, District Skill Development and Employment Officer

Sangeeta Meher, and the institution's Principal Kambupani Meher attended the programme as distinguished guests. The Academic Coordinator, along with all teachers, staff members and a large number of students, were also present. On the occasion, a special video depicting

the historical events of the Partition and the painful journey of displacement was screened for the students. In memory of the countless innocent people who lost their lives or were affected during the Partition, all the guests, teachers and students observed a two-minute silence and paid tribute.

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severe flooding in Koida: Over 50 families in Kerketa Sahi are marooned; clogged drains leave no outlet for the water

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Ganjam District Administration organized 'Tricolor Marathon' in Gopalpur

7

OSWAN Conference Hall, Open Gym Inaugurated at Rayagada Zilla Parishad

6

Rourkela Rain: Parent's Irresponsibility Puts Two Children at Risk



MESSAGE OF
HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF ODISHA
ON THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY-2026

On the auspicious occasion of our Independence Day, I greet all my sisters and brothers of Odisha and extend my heartfelt wishes. I call upon all to work collectively and dedicatedly to transform Odisha into a Viksit Odisha and one of the best States of the Country.



(Hari Babu Kambhampati)

15001/87/2627



୮୦ତମ ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଦିବସ
ଅବସରରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା

ପବିତ୍ର ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତା ଦିବସ ଅବସରରେ ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀ ଭାଇ ଭଉଣୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ମୋର ହାର୍ଦ୍ଦିକ ଶୁଭେଚ୍ଛା ଓ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି ।

ଆମ ଦେଶର ପ୍ରତ୍ୟେକ ନାଗରିକ ମହାନ ଭାରତୀୟ ମୌଳିକ ମୂଲ୍ୟବୋଧର ଆଦର୍ଶରେ ଅନୁପ୍ରାଣିତ । ସେହି ମୂଲ୍ୟବୋଧ ଆମକୁ ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ନିର୍ମାଣ ପାଇଁ ଆମର ଦାୟିତ୍ୱ ଓ କର୍ତ୍ତବ୍ୟ ସମ୍ପର୍କରେ ସଚେତନ କରିଚାଲିଛି । ରାଜ୍ୟର ସମୃଦ୍ଧି ଓ ଦେଶର ବିକାଶ ଆମ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ଏକମାତ୍ର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ।

ଆସନ୍ତୁ, ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଓ ବିକଶିତ ଭାରତ ଗଠନ ଦିଗରେ ସଂକଳ୍ପବଦ୍ଧ ହୋଇ କାମ କରିବା ।



(ମୋହନ ଚରଣ ନାୟକ)
ମୁଖ୍ୟମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା

OIPR-15001/15001/2/26-27/0087



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6.31 lakh Jute Farmers supported under ICARE Scheme; their income increased by Rs.10,000/hect and jute productivity increased by 22%.

45,000 Girl Children of the Jute Mills & Jute MSME Units' workers awarded scholarship.

No. of Jute Mills increased to 120 by opening 30 new Mills.

Annual purchase of jute bags under mandatory packaging norms increased to over Rs. 12,000 Cr. ensuring guaranteed protection to the interest of 40 Lakh Jute Farmers and 7 Lakhs workers.

Highest ever MSP procurement of 7.32 lakh bales during 2023-24.

Under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan 1450 Toilet Blocks constructed in Jute Mills.

Total Jute & Jute Goods export increased to Rs. 3380/- crore in 2025-26 from Rs. 2122 crore in 2013-14

Jute diversified products export increased to Rs.1292 crore in 2025-26 from Rs. 484 crore in 2013-14

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- Narendra Modi

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Celebrating

80th

INDEPENDENCE DAY



CBC 41129/13/0002/2627

EDITORIAL

Freedom brings responsibility



Alekha Chandra Samal

After years of slavery and bondage under the British Empire, India got its independence in 1947 on the 15th of August. It was not an easy task. It took a lot of selfless effort on the part of great people like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Subash Chandra Bose, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Lala Lajpat Rai, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, B. R. Ambedkar, etc. They had to make a lot of sacrifices to attain freedom from British rule because they loved the country and cared for the people. They could not stand the sight of people being oppressed and tortured to work like slaves in their own land. This is the thought that encouraged the freedom fighters, as we call them, to gather the courage and stand for what they believe in and deserve.

Independence Day is celebrated throughout India with grand ceremonies including raising the National Flag, speeches/skits on freedom fighters and various movements, traditional dances, drills, competitions, singing the National Anthem and so on. The day is observed in commemoration and honour of all the people who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of our country.

It is in New Delhi, the capital of India, that the most magnificent of celebrations happen. The preparations for this day are extraordinary. The Address to the Nation would be given by the Prime Minister on the eve of Independence Day. The events of the day start with the hoisting of the National Flag, followed by 21 honorary gunshots and the National Anthem. The Prime Minister then gives a speech about the struggles and achievements of our freedom fighters, who are the reason behind the independent country we are a part of.

The Independence Day Fair follows next. This is a collection of various events, including the march past of the army and a showcase of the cultures, traditions and specialities of the different states of India. It is something that should not be missed. Everyone across the country witnesses the celebrations in person, on television or social media platforms and cannot but feel proud and elated to be a citizen of India.

India got freedom from British rule on August 15, 1947. On this day, we honour the sacrifice of our freedom fighters. The whole nation celebrates independence by hoisting the national flag. Independence Day is an important national holiday for our country. I would like to start by wishing you all a very Happy Independence Day! Today, we are celebrating the day when our country got its Independence from the British Raj. This day holds great significance as we honour the sacrifices of our forefathers who fought for our freedom. Freedom brings responsibility.

Breast Cancer Awareness Know the Facts, Save Lives



Dr. Sachin sekhar Biswal

Breast cancer occurs when cells in the breast grow uncontrollably and form a tumor. It can start in the ducts, lobules, or other breast tissue. While it mainly affects women, men can also develop it. Early detection greatly improves treatment success.2. Who is at risk?“Risk increases with age, family history of breast or ovarian cancer, genetic mutations like BRCA1/BRCA2, early menstruation or late menopause, no children or late first pregnancy, obesity, alcohol use, and hormone therapy. However, many people with no known risk factors still develop breast cancer, which is why screening matters for everyone.3. What are the warning signs to look for?“A lump in the breast or underarm, change in breast size or shape, skin dimpling or puckering, nipple discharge other than breast milk, nipple inversion, or persistent pain in one spot should not be ignored. Most lumps are not cancer, but any new change should be checked by a doctor.4. How is breast cancer detected early? Self-breast awareness: Check monthly for changes in look and feel Clinical breast exam: Annual check-up by a healthcare professional Mammogram: Recommended yearly from age 40, or earlier if you have high riskEarly-stage cancer is often too small to feel, so regular mammograms are critical.5. Can breast cancer be prevented?“Risk can’t be eliminated, but it can be lowered. Maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly, limit alcohol, avoid smoking, and breastfeed if possible. For high-risk individuals, preventive medication or surgery may be advised by specialists.6. What treatment options are available?“Treatment depends on type and stage. Options include surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, hormone therapy, targeted drugs, and immunotherapy. Most patients receive a combination. Advances in personalized care have improved survival and quality of life significantly.7. Why does awareness matter?“In India, 1 in 29 women may develop breast cancer in their lifetime, and late diagnosis remains common. Awareness leads to early detection, which can raise 5-year survival rates to over 90%. Talking openly removes stigma and encourages timely screening.8. What should you do today?“Know your risk, learn self-exam techniques, schedule your mammogram if due, and encourage loved ones to do the same. If you notice any change, consult a doctor immediately. Early detection is not just a medical advantage—it’s a life-saving choice. Talk to a healthcare professional for guidance specific to you.



Celebrating the 80th Independence Day - An unforgettable saga of India's struggle for freedom



Shyam Sundar Sahoo

Our country India is a nation known to imbibe in itself a rich cultural heritage, plethora of traditional rituals, and voluminous array of historical and mythological evidence enriching our glorious past. We are blessed and privileged to have been born in this sacred land that we proudly call our motherland. We are nurtured by its soil, water, and air, and therefore we are truly the sons and daughters of this soil.

It has rightly been said: "Janani JanmabhoomischaSwargadapi Gariyasi" (Mother and Motherland are greater than heaven.)

Indeed, India, our motherland, is dearer to us than anything else.

Diving deep into the history of our country reveals that India remained under foreign domination for nearly two centuries before attaining independence on 15 August 1947. Although I was not born during the freedom struggle, history bears witness that India's independence was not achieved overnight. It was the result of the collective sacrifices, unwavering perseverance, and indomitable spirit of countless freedom fighters who laid down their lives for the nation's freedom that we are enjoying today.

We are commemorating the Independence Day annually on 15th August which is a Red Letter Day in the history of India's struggle for Independence and a ready reckoner for the future citizens. It is an unforgettable and memorable day offering a nice opportunity to learn about the history of our motherland, its struggle for Independence and significance of the August occasion.

18th Century symbolizes the fulcrum of India's freedom struggle whence East India Company spread its wings in the lengths and breadths of our country leading to direct rule by British crown in the aftermath of "1857 Sepoy Mutiny" resulting in economic exploitation, political oppression and irreversible suppression of indigenous cultural and

spiritual well-being.

History serves as the greatest source of information, wisdom, and inspiration. It enables both individuals and nations to understand their past, learn from it, and move confidently towards a brighter future. Therefore, Independence Day is not merely a national celebration but also an opportunity to remember the sacrifices of our forefathers and reaffirm our commitment to the ideals for which they fought.

After prolonged suffering and exploitation for centuries, came the 19th and 20th century which witnessed a miraculous upheaval of long and arduous journey by the Indians and the rise of Nationalistic Movement comprising the entire country men from various strata of life under the great leadership of Bapu, the father of our Nation. Countless freedom fighters and patriotic leaders of various ideologies and religions congregated under the key roles of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Lala Lajpat Rai, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose and many others and rekindled the flame of patriotism in the hearts of millions. The Britishers were awed and astonished to put down such revolutionary rebellion. With the clarion call of Mahatma Gandhi, Indiansenmassjoined the Salt Satyagraha , Non-Cooperation Movement , Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement which ramshackled the backbone of the foreign invaders.Following the end of the Second World War in 1945, Britain's political, military, and economic strength had diminished considerably. Unable to sustain its vast colonial empire, Britain gradually transferred power to its colonies, including India.

At the stroke of midnight on 14-15 August 1947, India achieved independence, breaking free from the shackles of colonialism. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, delivered his immortal "Tryst with Destiny" speech in the Constituent Assembly, heralding the birth of a free nation.

On 15 August 1947, the Indian National Flag-the Tiranga-was hoisted for the first time at the

Red Fort, Delhi, by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. The tricolour fluttered proudly in the sky, symbolising the hard-earned victory of India's long freedom struggle. Across the country, from villages to metropolitan cities, people celebrated by hoisting the national flag and rejoicing in the dawn of freedom.

However, Independence Day is much more than a public holiday or a ceremonial flag-hoisting event.

Independence also brings with it constitutional rights accompanied by equally important constitutional duties. Every responsible citizen must understand these duties and actively contribute towards the nation's development. Since 1947 , India has witnessed a sea of changes through its journey from being an underdeveloped nation to becoming the 6th largest economy in the world today.

As we celebrate 80 years of Independence, India looks forward to our duties and responsibilities for the future upliftment, the onus of which lies on the shoulders of the future generations to help promote and preserve the glorious legacy that we have inherited from our forefather and makers of the country's destiny.

The teachings of our national leaders continue to inspire us:

" Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, taught us truth, peace, tolerance, and non-violence." Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation for modern India's scientific and industrial development.

" Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, through his stirring call, "Give me blood, and I will give you freedom," inspired unparalleled courage, patriotism, and sacrifice.Inspired by these timeless ideals, we must work together for the progress and prosperity of our motherland. Every citizen should remain prepared to serve the nation selflessly and, if circumstances demand, even make the ultimate sacrifice for its honour and sovereignty.

As proud Indians, let us pledge to build a "Viksit Bharat" - a stronger, prosperous, inclusive, and compassionate nation for future generations.

The Meaning of Swatantra and Swarajya



Bikram Mohapatra

Independence Day in India is celebrated every year on August 15th. It marks the historic day in 1947 when India won its freedom from British rule. On this national holiday, people hoist the Tricolour flag, sing the national anthem, and remember the brave freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the country. The independence we celebrate today was finally achieved and proclaimed at midnight on August 14, 1947. What exactly does the word 'independence' mean?

It means we are not dependent on anyone, any longer. We are dependent on ourselves alone. The Indian word for independence is Swa-tantra. It means 'our Tantra'. The word Tantra means 'the Atma'... So Swatantra means independence from everything

except the Atma. One should always follow only one's heart; that is our only Guru and God. There should be no dependence on the others. This is the stage of Swarajya, becoming the sole monarch of oneself. The word Swaraj, commonly used for an independent state, connotes only absence of worldly dependence. Independence can be enjoyed by man only if he gets rid of bondage to the senses which drag him into tantalisng ventures. The attainment of Yoga, involving sense-control, expansion of love, and cleansing the consciousness, is the true goal. Only when this happens can God's glory be reflected in the heart of every individual.

Love for one's motherland is good. But it should not lead to hatred towards the motherland of others. Your prayer has to be, "May everyone everywhere be happy and peaceful." For, only when the world has peace and prosperity, can India be peaceful and happy... Your peace and happiness are linked

with the world's peace and happiness. Any act of hatred or violence committed by you will pollute the atmosphere of the world. When you adore any living being, the adoration reaches God, for He is in every being. Similarly insult to any living being too reaches God. So, expand love towards all, everywhere.

The flag is the symbol of victory, of the joy of Independence. Each nation has a flag for itself. Pay attention to another flag to symbolise another laudable victory. And this is over one's lower instincts, impulses, passions, emotions and desires. This is the flag which has to be unfurled in every human heart. When you achieve this victory, you will become the true inheritors of Bharatiya culture.

Independence Day is a time to feel proud of our country and celebrate our unity. It also reminds us of our duty as good citizens to keep our nation peaceful, strong, and progressive.

Eternal Freedom and Our Commitment: Introspection and Moral Reflection



MANOJA KUMAR SATAPATHI

Freedom is not merely a collection of letters; it is the heartbeat of human life, the liberation of the soul, and the highest symbol of human dignity. As we celebrate the eightieth Independence Day of our country today, this occasion transforms from a mere formal celebration into a sacred opportunity for introspection and moral reawakening.

The true purpose of celebrating this day is to awaken our present sense of responsibility alongside the remembrance of the past. The priceless soil whose fragrance is alive in our breath today is drenched in the sacrifices of countless lives. The core objective of this day is to remember that history and move forward on the path of duty.

Sacrifices of the Great Freedom Fighters: Bhagat Singh's joyous embracing of the gallows, Mahatma Gandhi's non-violent satyagraha, Subhas Chandra Bose's bold call, and the selfless sacrifices of tribal communities and common people were not just events, but an epic of self-surrender.

They sacrificed their present so that we could breathe in a free sky today.

Responsibilities of Governance, Administration, and Leadership:

Philosopher Robert K. Greenleaf introduced the concept of "servant-leadership", stating:

"The servant-leader is the servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first."

"A servant-leader first considers himself a servant. This is a natural instinct where taking care of others and developing others takes priority, not controlling them."

To keep the integrity and sovereignty of freedom uncompromised, the chief rulers, ministers, and the entire administrative system of the country/state should adopt the following paths:

Moral Leadership: Power is not a right, but a sacred responsibility. Rulers must sacrifice their personal interests and place public welfare above all else.

Transparency and Accountability: Establishing transparency at the administrative level and a corruption-free system is necessary, ensuring that even a person on the last tier can receive justice.

Upholding the Constitution: Putting the core pillars of the Constitution—justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity—into practice must be the primary religion of governance.

Role of Ordinary Citizens and Values of Life:

A country is not run merely by laws, but is shaped by the moral consciousness of its citizens. ?Devotion to Duty: Fighting for rights while diligently performing one's daily duties defines a true citizen.

Social Harmony: Unity in diversity is the heartbeat of our culture. It is essential to maintain mutual tolerance and humanity.

Duties of the Future Generation:

?Today's youth are not just citizens of tomorrow, but the foundation of the nation. Their duty is to respect past sacrifices, integrate modern technology with morality, and build a strong, beautiful, and self-reliant nation.

Freedom is not a gift; it is a continuous penance. Just as a lamp burns itself to distribute light all around, keeping our freedom alive requires the fire of patriotism and morality to remain brilliantly illuminated within every citizen. Let us pledge on this Independence Day to always keep the glory of our motherland elevated through our actions, thoughts, and consciousness.



Vedanta Aluminium Empowers 180+ Girls in Odisha and Chhattisgarh with Industry-Relevant Skills Through Project Panchhi

BHUBANESWAR,(correspondent) : As India accelerates its journey towards becoming a global manufacturing and innovation powerhouse, empowering more young women to contribute to the nation's industrial progress is both an opportunity and an imperative. Guided by the vision of Vedanta Chairman Mr. Anil Agarwal, Project Panchhi was launched as a first-of-its-kind initiative aimed at empowering young girls from economically disadvantaged communities across rural

India. By supporting their higher education, fostering industry exposure and creating pathways to meaningful careers, the initiative is helping transform young aspirations into achievements while cultivating the next generation of women professionals for India's manufacturing, mining and metals sectors. As part of the program, Project Panchhi deployed over 180 young women from engineering, management, commerce and science disciplines as interns at Vedanta Aluminium's world-class

operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh, providing them with opportunities for hands-on industry exposure, AI-enabled learning and practical experience across more than 30 business functions. Through structured projects, cross-functional engagement and mentorship from industry professionals, participants gained valuable insights into advanced manufacturing and mining practices, sustainability, digital transformation and corporate functions. By enabling young women to apply their classroom



learning to real-world business challenges, the programme equips them with industry-relevant skills, professional experience and career readiness, while strengthening the pipeline of future talent for India's evolving manufacturing ecosystem. Speaking on

the initiative, Rajesh Kumar, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, "India's growth story will be shaped by how effectively we create opportunities for every section of society to participate in and contribute to economic progress. Project Panchhi reflects

our commitment to fostering greater inclusion by encouraging young women to step forward, pursue their aspirations, and become active contributors to the nation's development. We are proud to support an initiative that helps create a stronger foundation for a more diverse and inclusive future." Praveen Purohit, Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO), Vedanta Aluminium, added, "At Vedanta Aluminium, we believe that true empowerment comes from opportunity. Through Project

Panchhi, we are uplifting young women by providing them with a platform to explore their potential, gain valuable industry exposure, and access opportunities that can transform their aspirations into meaningful careers. Our goal is to help these talented women break barriers, build greater financial independence, and emerge as role models within their communities. When women are given the chance to learn, contribute, and succeed, the impact extends far beyond individuals, creating

lasting change for generations to come." As part of the programme, students from engineering, management, commerce, economics, biotechnology, chemistry, physics, mathematics and data science worked on live business assignments across manufacturing, mining, finance, sustainability, digital transformation, logistics, commercial, quality, environment, occupational health, administration, CSR and business excellence functions.

Khandapada Police Launch Major Crackdown on Crime, Arrest Several Accused

Khandapada, (correspondent): In a major crackdown on criminal activities, police teams under the supervision of Khandapada SDPO Saroj Kumar Sahu conducted special operations across Khandapada, Gania and Fategarh police station areas and arrested several accused involved in different cases. The coordinated operations targeted long-pending warrant offenders, illegal liquor transportation, a POCSO case and alleged illegal cattle transportation. Gania Police Arrest Long-Absconding Warrant Accused



Gania Police arrested Narendra Nayak, son of late Sukadev Nayak of Chamundia village, who had allegedly been absconding for several years. Police said that four separate warrants had been issued against him by different courts. He had reportedly been moving from place to place across the state to evade arrest. Acting on

specific information received by Gania IIC Tankadhar Chhatrya on Thursday night, an ASI identified as Khan, along with his team, conducted an operation and successfully apprehended the accused.

Khandapada Police Arrest Liquor Supplier and Warrant Accused

Under the leadership of Khandapada IIC Krutibash Harichandan, police arrested Ramesh Barad of Natugaon while he was allegedly transporting 25 litres and 750 ml of illicit country liquor. Police also arrested Naguli alias Pradip Jena of Anlamoda village, who was reportedly wanted in connection with a POCSO/rape case

registered around two months ago. Fategarh Police Act Against Illegal Cattle Transportation

Fategarh Police, led by IIC Ajaya Sahu, also conducted an operation against alleged illegal cattle transportation. Police arrested an accused and seized a vehicle allegedly being used to transport cattle illegally near Salajharia village. The series of operations reflects the efforts of SDPO Saroj Kumar Sahu to strengthen law enforcement and take stringent action against criminal activities across the Khandapada police subdivision. Further legal action in the respective cases is underway.

Cybercrime and Online Safety Awareness programmes held

RAYAGADA (correspondent):: As part of its ongoing efforts to create awareness about cybercrime and promote safe digital practices, Rayagada Police conducted a series of cyber awareness programmes for school and college students at Ugratara College, Kuntulpeta, Sevashram School, Gulunthi, and Aravinda Government Higher Secondary School, Naira.

During the programmes, students were sensitised about various forms of cybercrime, including online scams, phishing, fraudulent links, fake calls and other cyber-related threats. Police officials also highlighted the importance of protecting personal information, passwords and banking credentials and urged students to remain cautious while using social media and other digital platforms.

Students were advised not to click on suspicious links, share OTPs or confidential information with unknown persons, or respond to unsolicited messages and calls. The importance of responsible and secure use of smartphones, social media and online services was also emphasised.

Rayagada Police urged students to remain alert and spread cyber safety awareness among their families and communities. The programme conveyed a clear message: "Be Aware. Be Secure. Stay Safe Online."

Jajpur –Dhamra Railway Line Raises New Hope!

MP Rabindra Narayan Behera Meets Railway Minister; Demands Two Train Halts at Brahmani Halt

J A J P U R (Correspondent): Fresh hope has emerged over a possible transformation in Jajpur's railway connectivity. Jajpur MP Dr. Rabindra Narayan Behera met Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav in New Delhi and discussed the progress of the proposed Jajpur – Dhamra railway line. The MP also demanded halts for two trains at Brahmani Passenger Halt.

During the meeting, discussions focused on the present status, progress and future importance of the proposed railway line from Jajpur Road to Dhamra. If the project becomes a reality, it could bring a major improvement in connectivity between



Jajpur, Dhamra and coastal Odisha.

Another major issue raised by the MP was the stoppage of the Keonjhar–Khurda Fast Passenger trains (68425/68426) at Brahmani Passenger Halt. If these trains halt at Brahmani, thousands of passengers from nearby areas could benefit. Students, employees, businessmen, patients and daily commuters would particularly benefit from improved transportation facilities.

It would also reduce the difficulties faced by local residents who currently have to travel to distant stations to board trains.

The Jajpur–Dhamra railway connectivity would not be limited to passenger transportation. Improved connectivity with Dhamra Port, industrial areas and commercial centres could create new opportunities in freight transportation, trade and industrial development.

Better railway connectivity could also

make Jajpur's tourist destinations more accessible and provide a boost to the district's overall economic activities.

The MP's discussion with the Railway Minister and his demand for two train halts at Brahmani have generated fresh expectations among local residents. People are now waiting to see when these demands will become a reality and when the Jajpur – Dhamra railway project will move forward.

Better railway connectivity does not merely reduce distances; it expands the possibilities of development. For the people of Jajpur, that is the new hope surrounding the proposed Jajpur – Dhamra railway line.

Ex SDC chairman Adama Raba suspended from the BJD party

Malkangiri, correspondent : Malkangiri's well-known tribal leader Adama Raja was suspended from the BJD today for anti-party activities, District BJD

President and former MLA Manas Madkani informed the media. Adama Raba was in the BJD for 22 years, was a twice Sarpanch, once a Samiti member, twice the Special development

Council Chairman, twice the District Biju Youth President, but due to the opposition in the BJD, he resigned from the BJD as a priority member on the 13th August. However, Today,

Mr. Manas Madkani announced that Adama Raba was suspended from the BJD for anti-party activities. It remains to be seen which party Adama Raba will join in the coming days.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Auction Catalogue No. & Date : DCM-JDB-PARK-1, Dated 10.08.2026
Auction Lot No.
PARKING-RGDA-JDB-MX-5-26-1
Asset Description of work : PARKING LOT FOR TWO WHEELERS, THREE WHEELERS AND FOUR WHEELERS AT LOCATION - CIRCULATING AREA OF JAGDALPUR RAILWAY STATION IN (DIVISION RAYAGADA).
Period of contract : 03 years.
Rate Unit : Annual Licensing Fee .
Auction Start Date & Time : At 1100 hrs. on 25.08.2026, Auction Close Date & Time : At 1130 hrs. on 25.08.2026
Complete details are available at website : www.ireps.gov.in.
Divisional Commercial Manager(Co-ord)/ PR-363/R/26-27 Rayagada

13001/1545/2627

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KENDUJHARGADA
At/P.O.-Kendujhargada, Dist.-Keonjhar, Odisha, Pin-758001
Phone/Fax: (06766) 255413, E-mail:-keonjhar.hud@rediffmail.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RPF)
RPF NO-9454 Date-14.08.2026

The Executive Officer, Keonjhar Municipality, Keonjhar, (Odisha) on behalf of Keonjhar Municipality invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for "Selection & Engagement of State PSU /Central PSU/ State Cooperative / Central Cooperative Registered with any Department or Ministry for "Development and Execution of Library Building, Keonjhar under MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KENDUJHARGADA "

- Intending bidders have to participate through "Off-Line" bidding only.
- The bid documents will be available in the website- www.kendujhar.odisha.gov.in from 11.00 A.M of Dt. 18.08.2026 to 5.00 P.M of Dt. 17.09.2026 for offline bidding.
- Bids received will be opened at 11.00 A.M onwards on Dt. 18.09.2026.
- Further details are available in this EOI.

Executive Officer
Kendujhargada Municipality
OIPR-3001/13115/1/26-27/0011,

13001/1542/2627

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL: JATANI
Housing & Urban Development Department, Govt. of Odisha
At/Ps- Jatani, Dist-Khordha (Odisha), Pin-752050
E-mail - municipalityjatani@gmail.com, Phone. No. 0674- 2490826

No. 6572 /Jatani, Date- 14/ 08 /2026
"E" PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bid documents consisting of work, estimated cost, cost of tender paper, EMD, time of completion, class of contractor and the set of terms & conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> .

1. Tender Reference No.	: EO/JMC/ 93/2026-27
2. Tender I.D No.	: 2026_ORULB_138311
3. Name of the Work	: Civil construction works as mentioned in website
4. No. of works	: 02 nos.
5. Estimated cost	: Rs. 2576483.16 to Rs.4255962.43
6. Period of completion	: 180 days
7. Date and time of bidding	: 10.00 AM of 17.08.2026 to 5.30 PM of 07.09.2026
8. Last date and time for receipt of bids in the portal	: 07.09.2026 upto 5.30 PM
9. Bids received online shall be opened on	: 08.09.2026 at 11.00 AM
10. Name and address of the Officer inviting Bid	: Executive officer, Jatani Municipality

Futher details can be seen from the procurement portal i.e <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> .

OIPR-13001/13041/1/26-27/0019 Executive/officer
Jatni Municipality

32001/690/2627

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DIVISION-IHP BUILDING,UNIT-8,DELTA SQUARE,BHUBANESWAR-751012 [Phone No.2561040(O), email:executiveengineerhpbsr@gmail.com]

"e" Procurement Notice No. 960 of 2026-27 Dt-12.08.2026
Bid Identification No. GWD DIV-1BBSR-07/26-27

Executive Engineer, GWD Division-I , Delta square, Unit- 8, Bhubaneswar on behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Odisha invites on-line percentage-rate tender through "e" Procurement in Single cover system for execution of the following work.

1	Nature of the Work	Civil Work
2	Name of the Work :	Construction of 11nos of Recharge shafts under ARUA scheme in Bolagarh block ph-III of Khordha district for the FY - 2026-27.
3	Approximate amount put to tender	Rs.18.12 Lakh
4	Period of Completion	2 (Two) Calendar Months
5	Class of Contractor	"C" & "D" Class Contractor
6	Date & time of Availability of Bid document in the portal	Dt. 20.08.2026 at 11.00 AM to 31.08.2026 up to 11.00 AM
7	Last date & time of receipt of Bids in the Portal	Dt. 31.08.2026 up to 11.00 AM
8	Date, time & place of opening of Technical/ Financial Bid/s	Dt. 31.08.2026 at 11.30 AM in 0/o the EE GWD Divn-I
9	Name & address of the officer inviting Bid	OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DIVISION-I IHP ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING,UNIT-8,DELTA SQUARE,BHUBANESWAR-751012

Further details can be seen from the Govt. website www.tendersodisha.gov.in.
Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
GWD division I
OIPR-32001/32331/1/26-27/0004



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YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

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Gopabandhu Health Insurance Scheme OJU Birmaharajpur unit submits demand letter to Chief Minister

SUBARNAPUR (correspondent): -- While there are repeated complaints that both the state and central governments have been ignoring journalists, the Odisha Journalists Union (OJU) has opposed the government's attempt to rename the Gopabandhu Health Insurance Scheme (Gopabandhu Swasthy Bima Yojana) for journalists as Ayushman Bharat Yojana by the Double Engine government. On the instructions of the state president, today, the Odisha Journalists Association Birmaharajpur sub-



divisional unit submitted a demand letter to the Chief Minister through the Sub Collector. In this, under the leadership of Birmaharajpur sub-divisional unit president Arttatan Panigrahi, state executive member

and unit secretary Nilakamal Mishra, members Sanjib Meher, Himanshu Sahu, Brajagopal Panda, Ksheer Sindhu Meher were present at the time of submitting the demand letter to the Sub Collector Surendra Meher.

OSWAN Conference Hall, Open Gym Inaugurated at Rayagada Zilla Parishad

RAYAGADA, (correspondent):: Collector Ashutosh Kulkarni on Thursday inaugurated a newly constructed OSWAN conference hall and an open gym on the premises of the Rayagada Zilla Parishad office. The OSWAN conference hall is expected to strengthen digital connectivity and administrative coordination in the district, providing facilities for video conferencing, online meetings, government programmes and other official engagements. The open gym has been set up to promote regular exercise and physical well-being among officials and employees. The two facilities are aimed at supporting the modernisation of district administration while improving workplace efficiency and employee welfare. Zilla Parishad chairperson Saraswati Majhi, Chief Development Officer-cum-Executive Officer Akshay Kumar Khemundu, Additional Executive Officer Khirabdi Tanaya Sahu, District Information and Public Relations Officer, Executive Officer of Rayagada Municipality, Rayagada BDO and officials from various departments were present at the inauguration. The new facilities are expected to make administrative functioning more efficient and organised while promoting the physical and mental well-being of employees.

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Doraguda, Kuchelpadar
Rayagada

Tricolour Rally Held

KANTABANJI, correspondence : A Tricolour Rally was organised at Kantabanji Vocational College on Friday, creating an atmosphere of patriotism among students and staff. Students carrying the national flag participated in the rally and raised patriotic slogans. The programme aimed to spread the message of national unity, patriotism and respect for the Tricolour. College staff and students took part enthusiastically in the rally, which passed through the surrounding areas of the college.

5-foot-long python rescued

SUBARNAPUR, (correspondent): ---A 5-foot-long python was rescued from Badakarle-Amamunda road in Dunguripali block of Subarnapur district. The python was spotted near the road and rescued by locals. Later, the python was handed over to the forest department staff to be released safely in the forest. Locals are happy that the python was rescued safely

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Happy 80th INDEPENDENCE DAY

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Jindal Stainless wishes everyone a **Happy 80th Independence Day.**

15 ऑगस्ट स्वतंत्रा दिवस की हार्दिक शुभेच्छा

इफको नैनो यूरिया प्लस एवं इफको नैनो डीएपी का वादा, उपज अधिक और लाभ ज्यादा

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INDIAN FARMERS FERTILIZER COOPERATIVE LIMITED, PARADEEP UNIT

Fategarh Police Arrest Three for Illegal Cattle transportation

Fategarh,(correspondent):Fategarh Police have arrested three persons for allegedly transporting cattle illegally in a Tata Ace vehicle bearing registration number OD-05-CJ-5618. The arrested persons have been identified as Benudhar Parida, son of late Subala Charan Parida of Bijipur; Pratap Rout, son of Gati Rout of Manatini; and Dillip Kumar Mallik, son of Fakir Charan Mallik of Karabara.



ଡିଜିଟାଲ ସମାଧାନ ଦ୍ଵାରା ଭାରତକୁ ସଶକ୍ତ କରିବା



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Happy **80th** Independence Day

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80th स्वतंत्रता दिवस
Independence Day

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80
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Rourkela Rain: Parent's Irresponsibility Puts Two Children at Risk

Rourkela,(correspondent): The aftermath of Thursday's torrential rainfall in Rourkela has thrown up several heartbreaking incidents, but one particular episode involving a parent and two young children has sparked widespread concern and anger among residents. According to a video that has gone viral on social media, a man was travelling in a pickup van with his two small children when the vehicle entered the underpass near TCI Chowk, where a large volume of rainwater had accumulated. The situation quickly turned dangerous when the vehicle broke down and became stranded in the middle of the deep, waterlogged stretch. With the water surrounding the vehicle, the father somehow managed to get his two children out of the van and place them on the bonnet, apparently in an attempt to keep them above the rising water. The tense situation soon drew the attention of several young men in the area. Showing remarkable courage, they reportedly swam through the deep water, surrounded the stranded vehicle and rescued both children. The youngsters then moved the children to a safer location, bringing a potentially tragic situation under control. The incident also reportedly led to the father being strongly reprimanded by the youths for putting his young children at such serious risk. While the rescue was ultimately successful, the episode has raised an important question about parental responsibility during extreme weather conditions. Authorities and residents have repeatedly urged people not to enter waterlogged roads, underpasses or submerged stretches during heavy rainfall, as water levels can rise suddenly and vehicles can stall without warning. Thankfully, the two children were rescued in time. But the incident serves as a stark reminder that a moment of poor judgement during extreme weather can put innocent lives in grave danger. Parents, in particular, need to exercise the utmost caution and avoid taking children through flooded or waterlogged areas.

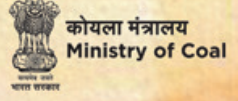


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RBI Regulatory Reset Could Unlock \$50 Billion In Capital
New Delhi: India's banking sector could attract nearly \$50 billion due to the Reserve Bank of India's recent liquidity measures and regulatory changes, potentially strengthening capital buffers and liquidity, a report said on Friday.

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Two DARPAN Shivirs held at Rourkela Steel Plant

R O U R K E L A, (correspondent) Two consecutive DARPAN Shivirs organised at Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) concluded on August 13, 2026, with the participation of senior executives and 85 delegates from various SAIL plants and units, including Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP), Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL), Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP), IISCO Steel Plant (ISP), Alloy Steel Plant (ASP), Central Marketing Organisation (CMO), Central coal Supply Organisation (CCSO), Chandrapur Ferro Alloys Plant (CFP) and the Corporate Office, along with representatives of Boston Consulting Group (BCG). During the concluding session, Mr. Atish Chandra Sarkar, CGM In-charge (Services) and Mr. Manas Ranjan Rath, Chief General Manager (HR), of Rourkela Steel Plant, handed over participation certificates to the delegates. Senior officers of Rourkela Steel Plant and officials

from BCG were also present on the occasion. The DARPAN initiative, which stands for "Driving Advancement by Reimagining Performance Assessment and Nurturing," aims to make performance management

more transparent, objective and outcome-oriented. The programme focuses on defining clear roles, developing SMART Key Performance Areas (KPA's), and establishing measurable targets for improved individual and

organisational performance.

The first Shivir was inaugurated by Mr. Tarun Mishra, ED (HR), on 10th August, while the second Shivir in the series was formally inaugurated by Mr. Biswa Ranjan Palai,

Executive Director (Works), on 12th August at the Indo-German Club, Rourkela. The sessions featured valuable insights and interactive discussions involving senior officers, delegates and BCG representatives.

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Leading the Power Sector

Sensex, Nifty End Marginally Lower As Oil Prices Rise On Strait Of Hormuz Concerns

Mumbai: Indian equity benchmarks ended modestly lower on Friday after oil prices gained following reports that the United States may continue the naval blockade at the Strait of Hormuz for an indefinite period, raising concerns about energy supplies and inflation. The Sensex fell 71 points, or 0.09 per cent, to settle at 78,009.25, while the Nifty declined 29.85 points, or 0.12 per cent, to close at 24,366.00. Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that the index traded largely below the 24,400 zone, although the 24,300 region emerged as an important buying-interest area and during the second half, recovery attempts pushed the index briefly above 24,400, with an intraday high of 24,405, but the move faced immediate supply pressure, highlighting continued resistance at higher levels. "On the downside, 24,300-24,250 remains the immediate support," an analyst stated. Market sentiment remained cautious as higher crude oil prices increased concerns about import costs for India, one of the world's largest oil-importing nations. The uncertainty surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, a key global energy shipping route, further dampened risk appetite. Among the Nifty constituents, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles, Jio Financial Services and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) emerged as the top losers, dragging the benchmark indices lower. The broader market also witnessed selling pressure. The Nifty MidCap index ended 0.53 per cent lower, while the Nifty SmallCap index declined 0.69 per cent.

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