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Women Reservation Bill Will Help To Change 'Disha And Dasha' Of Nation: PM Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that the Women Reservation Bill will help change the "disha and dasha" (direction and condition) of the country's politics by involving half of the population of the nation in decision-making. Outlining the benefits of women's reservation in achieving Viksit Bharat @2047, PM Modi said all those who have opposed this provision have been taught a lesson by women voters. "We are privileged that we have an opportunity to give a new direction to the nation's politics and strengthen democracy," he said, urging parties not to see it

through the prism of politics. Earlier, the introduction was approved in the Lok Sabha on Thursday, following a division of votes in the House. The development came after the Opposition pressed for a recorded vote, leading to a formal division process. Union Law Minister Arjun Meghwal rose in the House to table the Bill, marking a key step in the legislative process. The introduction follows an earlier round of voting in which Members of Parliament supported bringing the Bill forward for discussion. The Constitution (One Hundred and Thirty-First Amendment) Bill, 2026, and the Delimitation Bill 2026 and Union

Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, were introduced. The Lok Sabha had voted in favour of introducing the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirty-First Amendment) Bill, 2026, after the Opposition demanded a division. Following the use of vote slips, the distribution stood at 251 in support and 185 against, announced Speaker Om Birla, adding that it is subject to change. The Lok Sabha typically relies on voice voting to pass motions; however, when the outcome is contested, a "division" is conducted. In such cases, the Automatic Vote Recorder system is used to register votes under "Ayes", "Noes", and "Abstain".

Odisha Inks MoU To Launch Marine Spatial Plan

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent): With an objective to promote coastal economic growth while sustaining marine environmental protection, the State Government has launched a Marine Spatial Plan (MSP). An MoU was signed to this effect today at Lok Seva Bhavan between the State Government's Department of Science & Technology and the National Centre for Coastal Research. Speaking on this occasion, the Chief Minister said that MSP will not only boost the blue economy but also ensure protection of the marine ecology. It will promote local coastal economies while safeguarding marine biodiversity. He added that MSP will set a new benchmark for



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integrated coastal and marine planning. It may be noted that Sustainable Ocean Planning has been underway in India since 2019 with cooperation between the Governments of India and Norway. In the first phase, it was implemented in Puducherry and Lakshadweep. In the second phase, Odisha

has become the first state to implement it. In his address, the Chief Minister stated that Odisha's coastal and marine regions are rich in biodiversity and provide abundant natural resources. These resources play a vital role in livelihoods, economic growth, and environmental balance. However, due to increasing

developmental activities, environmental impacts, and rising sectoral demands, there is a need for scientific management of marine ecosystem. MSP is a timely step in this direction. It will help meet the needs of fisheries, tourism, ports, ocean energy, and other sectors while ensuring the protection of marine ecosystems. The Chief Minister also mentioned that in August last year, the Odisha Marine Biotechnology Research and Innovation Corridor (OMBRIC) was launched to promote the use of biotechnology for marine environmental protection and economic development. This will further strengthen the MSP initiative.

Bengal SIR: Mere Pendency Of Appeals Will Not Confer Voting Rights, Clarifies SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has clarified that persons excluded from the revised electoral rolls during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise in poll-bound West Bengal will be entitled to vote only if their appeals are allowed by the Appellate Tribunals before the stipulated cut-off dates. While ruling that the mere pendency of appeals will not confer voting rights, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant said that if the Appellate Tribunals allow an appeal and direct inclusion in the electoral roll, such directions must be implemented before polling through the publication of a



supplementary revised electoral roll. "There is thus no gainsaying that... if an appeal is allowed by the Appellate Tribunal and a conclusive direction for inclusion or exclusion is issued, such directions shall be duly effectuated prior to the State of West Bengal proceeding to polling," the apex court said in its order passed on Monday. Invoking powers under Article

142 of the Constitution, the CJI Kant-led Bench directed the Election Commission of India (ECI) to give effect to appellate orders by issuing supplementary revised electoral rolls wherever appeals are decided by April 21 or April 27, depending on the relevant phase of polling. "All necessary consequences with respect to the right to vote shall follow," the top

court said. However, the Supreme Court made it clear that excluded persons whose appeals remain pending before the Appellate Tribunals cannot claim voting rights merely on that basis. "It goes without saying that the mere pendency of appeals preferred by excluded persons before the Appellate Tribunals shall not entitle them to exercise their right to vote," the CJI Kant-led Bench observed. The observations were made while dealing with a batch of petitions filed by individuals whose names were deleted from electoral rolls and who sought the interim restoration of their names pending adjudication of their appeals. Rejecting the

prayer, the apex court said that once judicial officers entrusted with the SIR verification exercise had found such persons to be not genuine, the earlier presumption attached to their inclusion in the electoral roll stood displaced. "In our view, the prayers... run contrary to the scheme laid out by this Court, inasmuch as, upon verification by the Judicial Officers... the petitioners have been found to be not genuine," the CJI Kant-led Bench said. In its order, the top court recorded that over 34 lakh appeals have already been filed before the Appellate Tribunals, including by persons alleging wrongful exclusion as well as objectors challenging fresh inclusions in the revised voter list.

Trump announces 10-day Israel-Lebanon ceasefire to "achieve lasting peace"

Washington, DC [US]: US President Donald Trump on Thursday announced that Israel and Lebanon have reached an agreement to initiate a 10-day ceasefire, following intensified diplomatic efforts to reduce hostilities in the region. The US President shared that he held "excellent conversations" with Lebanese President Joseph Aoun and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, confirming that both leaders have committed to the temporary truce as a step towards a broader resolution. Highlighting the historic nature of the recent diplomatic engagement, Trump noted that the two nations recently participated in high-level discussions in the

American capital for the first time in more than thirty years. These talks involved senior US officials, including Secretary of State Marco Rubio. To maintain the momentum of the ceasefire, Trump has tasked Vice President JD Vance and his top security team with facilitating ongoing dialogue between the two countries to secure a permanent settlement. "I just had excellent conversations with the highly respected President Joseph Aoun of Lebanon, and Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu of Israel. These two leaders have agreed that, in order to achieve peace between their countries, they will formally begin a 10-day ceasefire at 5 p.m. EST," Trump stated in a post on social media. Reflecting on the significance of the earlier

trilateral meeting, he added: "On Tuesday, the two countries met for the first time in 34 years here in Washington, D.C., with our great Secretary of State, Marco Rubio." President Trump further outlined the administration's commitment to the peace process, stating: "I have directed Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio, together with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Dan 'Razin' Caine, to work with Israel and Lebanon to achieve a lasting peace. It has been my honor to solve 9 wars across the world, and this will be my 10th, so let's get it done!" The ceasefire comes at a critical juncture for West Asia, following a period of significant volatility along the Israel-Lebanon border.

Turkey: Four Killed, 20 Injured In Another School Shooting

Ankara: As many as four people, including three students and a teacher, were killed and 20 others injured in a shooting incident at Ayser Calik Middle School in Turkey's Kahramanmaraş on Wednesday. Kahramanmaraş Governor Mukerrem Unluer stated that the attacker was an eighth class student who carried weapons to the school, Turkey's leading Anadolu news agency reported. The shooting incident in Kahramanmaraş comes a day after a former

student opened fire in his former school in Siverek, injuring 16 people, including students. Speaking to reporters, Unluer said, "An 8th-grade student, carrying weapons in his backpack, entered two classrooms where students were present and opened fire indiscriminately, causing deaths and injuries. Unfortunately, we have four fatalities. One of them was a teacher, and three were students. We also have 20 injured, four of whom are currently

undergoing surgery and are believed to be in critical condition. Our efforts continue." Mukerrem Unluer stated that an investigation has been launched into the incident. The attacker has died while his father has been arrested. When asked about the shooter's condition, Unluer said, "He also passed away. He shot himself during the commotion. Whether it was suicide or if he shot himself during the commotion is currently unknown.

Hamas has ties with Lashkar-e-Taiba": Israel urges India to designate Palestine group as terror organisation

Tel Aviv [Israel]: Israel's Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar has highlighted the deepening bilateral ties between Jerusalem and New Delhi, noting the "positive trends in the strengthening of Israel's relations with India." In a post on X, the Foreign Minister shared details of his engagement with a global delegation, stating he was "honoured to brief a group of distinguished Hindu leaders from

around the world." During the interaction, he provided a strategic overview of the regional security landscape and the ongoing conflict involving the Jewish state. Building on this context, Sa'ar addressed long-standing hostilities, speaking about the "historic campaign Israel had been forced to fight for the past 2.5 years against radical Islam." He warned of the existential nature of the threat, noting that "their

declared objective is the elimination of Israel, and they act to achieve that goal." Despite these challenges, the Foreign Minister asserted that "Israel demonstrated on all fronts that it has the upper hand." He further claimed that the Israeli military has "dramatically weakened the terror octopus of radical Islam, headed by the Iranian regime," adding that "this struggle has, and will have, implications beyond the Middle East." Tuning to specific

security cooperation and policy, Sa'ar "stressed the importance of Hamas being designated as a terror organisation by India." He underscored the interconnected nature of global militancy, pointing out that "Hamas has ties with all other radical Islamist terror organisations, including Lashkar-e-Taiba." This push for a formal listing follows a consistent diplomatic

effort by Israel, which has urged India to move towards designating organisations operating against it as terrorist groups. Senior Israeli officials have previously noted that New Delhi's stance carries significant regional influence, particularly as Israel has already proscribed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and expects "reciprocation" from India.

Clarification on reported cavity formation in Talcher

Sambalpur (Correspondent): In reference to recent media reports describing a "subsidence" incident near Dera Colliery, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) clarifies that the information being circulated is factually incorrect and misleading. A small cavity (approximately 1 ft diameter and 1 ft

depth) was reported last morning on the Handidhwa-Dera road. MCL acted promptly, prioritising public safety and community concerns, and undertook immediate remedial measures in coordination with local authorities. Detailed preliminary investigations have confirmed that the

underground mine workings beneath the location are more than 80 meters deep, well below any zone that could influence surface stability. While the strata in this area are strong and competent, ensuring structural integrity, the observed cavity was not found related to any underground mining activity.

Saket Court Issues Notice to TMC MP Mahua Moitra Over Varanasi Iftar Controversy

New Delhi: Delhi's Saket Court has summoned Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra in a case stemming from her social media post on an Iftar party held on a boat in Varanasi's Ganga River. Additional Sessions Judge Sonu Agnihotri issued the notice while hearing a revision petition challenging a magistrate's refusal to register an FIR against her; next hearing is May 16. Final-year law student Ram Pravesh Dubey filed the revision after the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) dismissed his March 30 plea seeking FIR under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita sections



196(1) (promoting enmity), 197(1)(c) (prejudicial to national integration), 299 (outraging religious feelings), and 353(1)(b) (spreading rumours). Dubey alleged Moitra's March 19 X post—questioning arrests of 14 Muslim men for the March 15 Iftar event where non-veg waste was allegedly discarded in the river—hurt his religious

sentiments, aimed to incite communal discord, and stoke anti-Muslim bias. The JMFC ruled no prima facie case existed, finding no evidence Moitra's statement disrupted social harmony, insulted religious beliefs, or incited inter-community offences. "No cause to proceed further," the order stated, lacking records of actual disharmony.

Supreme Court Refuses Hearing on Mandatory Voting Petition

New Delhi: The Supreme Court declined to entertain a plea seeking compulsory voting for all voters nationwide. A bench led by Chief Justice Suryakant ruled it a policy matter beyond judicial purview, directing petitioner Ajay Goyal to approach competent authorities. The petition demanded directives



enforcing voting mandates and barring non-voters from government benefits. CJJ Suryakant questioned enforcement

feasibility: "In a rule-of-law democracy, voters should cast ballots voluntarily through a wariness campaigns—not court-ordered arrests." He highlighted practical hurdles: Justice Bagchi traveling to West Bengal on workdays, or impoverished workers prioritizing earnings over polls. "We cannot compel participation," the bench affirmed.

Nitin Nabin Among New Rajya Sabha Members Takes Oath as House Adjourned

New Delhi: On the opening day of Parliament's special three-day session, BJP President Nitin Nabin and other newly elected members took oath in Rajya Sabha Thursday. Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan administered oaths to the inductees before proceedings adjourned till 11 a.m. Friday. Tributes and Agenda Preview Rajya Sabha paid homage to former member Mohsina Kidwai and singer Asha Bhosle. Friday's session launches debate on the



Constitution Amendment Bill for women's reservation plus two others, following Lok Sabha discussions; passage eyed tomorrow. Fresh Voices Sworn In Radhakrishnan swore in Terash Gowala, Jogen Mohan (both BJP Assam), Sujit Kumar (BJP Odisha), Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Vem Narendra Reddy (Congress Telangana), Vinod Kumar Tawde (BJP Maharashtra), Anurag Sharma (Congress Himachal), Sanjay Bhatia (BJP Haryana), Promod Boro

(UPPL Assam), Karmveer Singh Baudh (Congress Haryana), Phulo Devi Netam (Congress Chhattisgarh), Lakshmi Verma (BJP Chhattisgarh), Shivesh Kumar (BJP Bihar), Ramnath Thakur (JD(U) Bihar), and Upendra Kushwaha (RLM Bihar). He congratulated all. Nitin Nabin posted on X: "Taking oath today as Rajya Sabha member marks a new chapter in national service. This proud moment commits me to amplify Bihar's voice, advance Viksit Bharat, and fulfill public aspirations with unwavering dedication."

India and Austria Sign Multiple Pacts, Including Food Security Deal

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker held high-level delegation talks Thursday at Hyderabad House, focusing on bolstering bilateral cooperation. Key agreements, including one on food security, were inked to deepen ties across trade, investment, technology, and global issues. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal attended the meeting. Earlier, Christian Stocker paid floral tribute at Rajghat, commemorating Mahatma Gandhi's legacy of peace, non-violence, and global harmony. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal noted on X that the Chancellor reflected on Babu's timeless ideals during the poignant visit.

Women's Quota Bills Spark Fierce Debate in Parliament

New Delhi: Three pivotal bills advancing women's reservation in Parliament were tabled Wednesday during a special session, igniting immediate opposition backlash. Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal introduced the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, and the Delimitation Bill, 2026, while Home Minister Amit Shah presented the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026. Congress leader K.C. Venugopal accused the government of attempting to "hijack the Constitution." Samajwadi Party MP Dharmendra Yadav demanded quotas for Muslim women, deeming the laws meaningless otherwise; Akhilesh Yadav echoed this, questioning provisions for half the population. Shah retorted sharply, deeming religion-based reservations unconstitutional and suggesting the SP field Muslim women candidates freely. The exchange underscored deep partisan rifts on equity and secularism.

India and Austria Champion Lasting Peace in West Asia: PM Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized Thursday that amid global tensions impacting all nations, military conflict cannot resolve crises—only dialogue and peace can. Speaking at a joint press conference with Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker at Hyderabad House, he affirmed India and Austria's shared commitment to enduring stability in Ukraine and West Asia. PM Modi called for reforming global institutions to tackle rising challenges and reiterated both



nations' resolve to eradicate terrorism. He hailed Stocker's visit—first by an Austrian Chancellor in four decades—as historic, building on the 2026

India-EU Free Trade Agreement's fresh chapter. Boosting Trade, Innovation, and Mobility The trip will accelerate trade and investment,

blending India's "speed and scale" with Austria's "expertise" for reliable global tech and supply chains. Collaboration deepens in defense, semiconductors,

quantum technology, and biotechnology; a new IIT Delhi-Montana University pact marks progress. PM Modi announced enhanced nursing sector mobility under the 2023 Migration and Mobility Agreement, alongside startup-research ties and an India-Austria Working Holiday Programme. Austrian tunneling prowess shone in Delhi Metro and Atal Tunnel; firms now drive green energy and urban development. This landmark visit propels bilateral ties into a dynamic new era.

Harivansh Narayan Singh Set for Unopposed Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairmanship

New Delhi: Harivansh Narayan Singh, nominated by the President, filed his nomination Thursday for Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman at the secretariat, positioning him for a third term following two prior elections as JD(U) MP. Election occurs Friday, with opposition opting out over procedural grievances, ensuring his uncontested return. Opposition Boycotts, Cites Key Grievances Congress leader Jairam Ramesh announced the boycott on X, clarifying no intent to disrespect Harivansh while hoping for greater accommodation in his new tenure. He listed three objections: Lok Sabha's vacant Deputy Speaker post for seven years; unprecedented nomination of a presidential appointee; lack of opposition consultation. Last month, President nominated Harivansh post his April 9 tenure expiry, leaving the role vacant since. As Vice President's ex-officio Chairman absence, the Deputy steers proceedings.

Supreme Court Spurns Plea Against Tetra Pack Liquor Sales in UP

New Delhi: The Supreme Court refused to hear a petition challenging alcohol sales in tetra packs in Uttar Pradesh. A bench headed by Chief Justice Suryakant directed petitioner Meenakshi Tiwari to submit her representation to relevant authorities. The CJJ remarked that those wishing to buy liquor could do so in any form, questioning court intervention.

While noting no explicit excise policy authorization for tetra packs, the bench acknowledged a February 4, 2025, administrative order permitting small packs, now on record. Counsel argued the packaging endangers children and students, who could easily conceal them in schools or colleges. The court upheld deference to state policy on such matters.

Lok Sabha Kicks Off Debate on Trio of Women's Reservation Bills

New Delhi: The government tabled three pivotal bills linked to women's reservation in the Lok Sabha on Thursday, the opening day of Parliament's extended budget session's three-day special sitting. Debate commenced post-formalities, with voting slated for Friday at 4 p.m.; Home Minister Amit Shah will respond. Bills Introduced Amid Procedural Votes At 11 a.m., Minister of Law and Justice (Independent Charge)



Arjun Ram Meghwal proposed the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill-2026. The motions passed 251-185, meeting the simple majority threshold for

Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill-2026. The Speaker allocated 12 hours for combined discussion, extendable per opposition demands.

constitutional amendments. The Speaker allocated 12 hours for combined discussion, extendable per opposition demands.

Rajya Sabha follows April 18 with 10 hours allotted. Partisan Clashes Erupt Congress MP K.C. Venugopal opposed all three; Shah retorted he could raise only technical objections, not merits, vowing firm rebuttals in debate. Samajwadi Party's Dharmendra Yadav affirmed opposition to the package but backed women's quota unwaveringly as their staunchest proponents. The bills aim to secure 33% women's reservation in Lok Sabha and state assemblies post-delimitation.

Asit Tripathy Elected as President of Odisha Steel Producers' Association

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent)—The Odisha Steel Producers' Association (OSPA), the newly formed industry body representing leading steel companies in the state, has unanimously elected former IAS officer Shri Asit Tripathy as its President.

A highly respected administrator with decades of experience in governance, policy, and industrial development, Shri Tripathy currently serves as Advisor at Jindal Steel. His election as the President of OSPA is widely seen as a significant step towards strengthening industry-government collaboration and advancing Odisha's position as a leading steel hub in India. Welcoming his appointment, members



of OSPA expressed confidence in his leadership, noting that his deep understanding of public policy, stakeholder engagement, and infrastructure development will be instrumental in guiding the association. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Tripathy said: "Odisha is at the forefront of India's steel growth story. OSPA will be a strong, constructive voice for the steel industry, aligned with

Odisha's long-term growth ambitions. We will work closely with the Government and stakeholders to create an enabling ecosystem for responsible and inclusive industrial growth in the state". The association has also selected Shri S.K. Popli, IFS (Retd) as Secretary General. Shri Popli, former officer of the Indian Forest Service, has held several key leadership positions in government, contributing significantly to natural resource

management, regulatory frameworks, and sustainable development initiatives. Representatives of 15 leading steelmakers in Odisha—including Jindal Steel, JSW Steel, Jindal Stainless, AMNS, Rungta Mines, Narbheram Steel, MGM Steel, Aarti Steel and Essar Steel—were present in the meeting, signalling industry-wide alignment amid rapid capacity expansion and inclusive industry led development. Member companies agreed to

nominate their representatives for the Apex Committee and sub-committees within the next few days. It was also decided that companies would submit their key operational and policy issues for collective consideration in the interest of the State. The Odisha Steel Producers' Association aims to serve as a unified platform for the steel industry in the state, facilitating collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and constructive dialogue with policymakers and stakeholders at a large. With Odisha accounting for over 50% of India's iron ore production and rapidly expanding its steel manufacturing capacity, OSPA is poised to play a pivotal role in shaping the future trajectory of the sector.

12-hour shutdown in Birmaharajpur

SUBARNAPUR -- A tense situation has arisen in Birmaharajpur, Subarnapur district, over the incident of tearing the photo of Shree Ram. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal are observing a 12-hour shutdown today, demanding strict action against the culprits. It was alleged that the photo of Lord Shree Ram, which was displayed on the main chhak of Birmaharajpur, was removed and torn during a procession organized on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti on the 14th. There was intense dissatisfaction in the area regarding this incident. After this, a



complaint has been filed by the Bajrang Dal at the Birmaharajpur police station. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal Subarnapur branch have called for a 12-hour shutdown today, demanding strict action against the culprits. A bandh has been called from 6 am to 6 pm. Shops, markets,

vehicles, schools, colleges and government and private institutions are closed in the Birmaharajpur area due to the impact of the port. At that time, Bajrang Dal workers worshipped the photo of the venerable Purushottam Sreeram Chandra on the main square and offered flowers and argha

Khaprakhol Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya Chirsmita Bhoi topper

Patnagarh -- (Correspondent) CBSE Class 10th examination results were declared on Wednesday. Khaprakhol Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya (OAV) results were also declared. Chirsmita Bhoi topped the school with the highest marks of 98.8 percent, followed by Malay Ranjan Sahu with 97.4 percent, Roshan Sahu with 96 percent, Pragya Rani Nayak with 95.8 percent, Divya Ranjan Sai with 93.8 percent, Nivedita Singh Thakur with 93.3 percent, Dibesh Patra with 92.6 percent, Shubham Thanapati with 92 percent, Gugul Padh

an with 91.6 percent, Alisa Sahu with 91.4 percent and Aishwaryamayi Pradhan with 90.6 percent. The school's principal Sarita Nayak informed that 97 percent of the students passed the exam.

Crisis in Odisha Adarsha Vidyalayas: Hindi Education Under Neglect

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent) Despite being affiliated with CBSE, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalayas (OAVs) are allegedly violating board norms by denying students the right to choose Hindi as a subject in Classes 9 and 10. Students are reportedly being forced to take Odia instead. Furthermore, permanent recruitment for Hindi and Sanskrit teachers has been stalled since 2019, leaving the education quality dependent on guest faculty.

MP Flags Illegal Road Construction in Forest, Seeks CM's Immediate Intervention

Kantabanji, correspondence: Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Niranjana Bishi has raised serious concerns over alleged illegal road construction inside the Chhatardandi Reserved Forest in Odisha's Bolangir district, urging Chief Minister Mohan Charan Manjhi to intervene immediately. In a letter marked "Most Immediate", Bishi stated that a mining lease company, through contractors, has reportedly undertaken unauthorized construction of a nearly 3-km road from Mandala village to the forest area in Turekela block. The work allegedly involves the use of heavy machinery, including JCBs and earthmovers, leading to large-scale destruction of trees and plantations. The MP highlighted that the affected forest area is a crucial source of livelihood for the predominantly Scheduled Tribe population, which constitutes nearly 80% of

local residents. He noted that fruit-bearing trees such as mango, papaya, drumstick, mahua, sal, fig, guava, and orange are being destroyed, impacting food security and traditional livelihoods. Bishi warned that the activities could result in severe ecological damage, including loss of biodiversity, threat to wildlife habitats, soil erosion, and depletion of water resources. He also expressed concern over the possible displacement of forest-dependent communities and destruction of private orchards. According to the MP, the construction work has been initiated without mandatory approvals, including Gram Sabha consent, forest clearance, and permissions from local authorities and the Divisional Forest Officer. He termed the actions as violations of multiple legal provisions, including the Indian Forest Act,

Forest Conservation Act, Environment Protection Act, and the Forest Rights Act. Bishi further emphasized that such activities undermine constitutional safeguards aimed at protecting tribal rights and environmental integrity. The MP has urged the Chief Minister to: Halt all construction activities in the reserved forest immediately. Order an independent high-level inquiry. Verify all statutory clearances and permissions. Initiate legal action against those responsible. Restore damaged forest areas through afforestation. Safeguard the rights and livelihoods of tribal communities. Calling the issue one of "environmental justice and tribal dignity," Bishi appealed for urgent government intervention to uphold the rule of law and prevent further ecological damage.

New Alternative Underground Power Line to Reduce Outages in Sambalpur

Burla, (Correspondent): In a significant step towards enhancing power reliability, TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL) has successfully commissioned a new alternative 33kV underground line connecting Jail Chowk Power Sub-Station (PSS) to Badabazar PSS.

Earlier, Badabazar PSS—one of the primary power supply sources for Sambalpur was dependent on a single 33kV Cheruapada feeder from Ganeshnagar Grid Sub-Station (GSS). This feeder also supplied electricity to other substations such as Cheruapada PSS, Kainsir PSS, and several extra-high-tension (EHT) consumers. As a result, any maintenance work or fault in this line often caused widespread power disruptions across Sambalpur town, including Badabazar, the Samaleswari Temple area, and major commercial zones. To address this challenge, TPWODL has developed



an alternative (N-1) power supply system by laying a 3.2 km underground (UG) cable between Jail Chowk PSS and Badabazar PSS. In simple terms, this ensures that if one power line fails, electricity can be supplied through another route, significantly reducing

interruptions and improving supply reliability. Despite multiple challenges such as planned shutdowns, Right of Way (RoW) constraints, and difficult terrain conditions, team TPWODL executed the work successfully. A major obstacle was

encountered at a rocky cliff location, where initial attempts were unsuccessful. However, through detailed planning and technical innovation, the team identified an alternative solution and completed the work.

The project has been implemented with an investment of ₹3.37 crore and will benefit around 15,000 consumers of Badabazar, Motijharan, Cheruapada and Balibandha areas, including high-tension (HT) users. With the commissioning of this new underground line, residents and businesses in Sambalpur can now expect more stable power supply and faster restoration during outages.

This achievement highlights TPWODL's strong execution capability and its continued commitment to providing reliable and uninterrupted power supply to its consumers.

Block-Level "Ama Janiba Ama Budget" Programme Held

Rayagada, correspondence: The block-level "Ama Janiba Ama Budget" (Let Us Know Our Budget) programme was successfully arranged at the Sadbhavana Griha in Rayagada Block, aiming to enhance public awareness about government budget allocations and development schemes. The meeting was chaired by Chairperson Ms. Tuni Huika and attended by Vice-Chairperson Sri Har Prasad Hepruka, BDO Sujit Kumar Mishra, ABDO Kalucharan Nayak, and GPDO Smrutirekha Nayak, among other officials. As per the directives of the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Department, Government of Odisha,



awareness activities have been carried out at the grassroots level through Gram Sabhas and Palli Sabhas during the Odia Paksha period. Continuing these efforts, the block-level programme focused on presenting detailed information about various government schemes and budget allocations aimed at rural development. During the session, GPDO Smrutirekha Nayak made a compr

prehensive presentation outlining scheme-wise financial allocations and their intended impact on local development. The initiative seeks to ensure transparency and encourage public participation in governance. Officials expressed that the provisions made in the budget for various people-centric schemes are expected to significantly benefit the rural population and accelerate overall development in the region.

NATIONAL PNG DRIVE 2.0 Commencement of DPNG Supply to Nayapalli

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): In continuation of the initiatives under National PNG Drive 2.0, and on the occasion of the 78th Capital Foundation Day of Bhubaneswar, Domestic Piped Natural Gas (DPNG) supply was successfully commenced on 13th April 2026 at N-6, IRC Village, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar. The event was graced by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Bhubaneswar, Aparajita Sarangi, who attended as the Chief Guest and formally inaugurated the DPNG supply to the area. The programme was also attended by Shri Kausik



Das (GM-CGD & OIC), Bhubaneswar, along with other officials from GAIL CGD and residents of the N-6 area. During the event, Shri Das elaborated on the benefits of Domestic Piped Natural Gas and shared GAIL's roadmap to extend gas supply to every household in the locality. In her address, the Hon'ble

MP shared her personal experience as a DPNG user and encouraged residents to adopt this clean and efficient fuel. She highlighted key advantages of PNG, including enhanced safety, convenience, uninterrupted supply, and cost-effectiveness, urging households to transition towards this eco-friendly energy source.

Dr. Pradip Kumar Hota Promoted As Director Of Public Health

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha Government today issued promotions and new appointments for senior doctors in the Health and Family Welfare Department, aiming to strengthen public health

administration across the state. Dr. Pradip Kumar Hota, currently serving as Chief District Medical Officer (CDMO) of Sambalpur, has been promoted and appointed as the new Director of Public Health. He will

replace Dr. Nilakantha Mishra in this key role. In a similar move, Dr. Mahesh Mohan Panda, who is presently the CDMO of Jharsuguda, has been elevated to the position of Director of Health Services.

EDITORIAL

Living with Addiction: A Journey of Struggle, Strength, and Recovery

Addiction is often misunderstood as a lack of willpower or moral weakness, but in reality, it is a complex condition that affects the brain, behavior, and emotional well-being. Living with addiction is not just about substance use or harmful habits—it is about an ongoing internal battle that impacts every aspect of a person's life, including relationships, health, and self-esteem.

Understanding Addiction

Addiction can take many forms—alcohol, drugs, nicotine, gaming, social media, or even work. What begins as occasional use or behavior can slowly turn into dependence, where the individual feels unable to function without it. Over time, the brain's reward system becomes altered, making it harder to experience pleasure from everyday activities.

The Hidden Struggles

People living with addiction often face feelings of guilt, shame, and isolation. They may want to stop but feel trapped in a cycle they cannot break. Many hide their struggles due to fear of judgment, which only deepens their loneliness. This internal conflict—wanting change but feeling powerless—is one of the most painful aspects of addiction.

Impact on Daily Life

Addiction can disrupt education, careers, and personal relationships. Trust may be broken, responsibilities neglected, and health compromised. Physical effects can include fatigue, poor sleep, and weakened immunity, while mental health issues like anxiety and depression often accompany addiction.

The Role of Society

Society plays a significant role in how individuals experience addiction. Stigma and misunderstanding can prevent people from seeking help. Instead of blame, compassion and awareness are essential. When communities foster acceptance and support, recovery becomes more achievable.

The Path to Recovery

Recovery is not a single event but a continuous process. It begins with acknowledgment—accepting that help is needed. Support can come from family, friends, counselors, or support groups. Healthy routines, therapy, and positive environments are crucial in rebuilding a balanced life.

Relapses may occur, but they should not be seen as failure. Instead, they are part of the recovery journey and an opportunity to learn and grow stronger.

Building a New Life

Living beyond addiction involves rediscovering purpose and self-worth. Engaging in hobbies, pursuing education, and building meaningful relationships can help replace harmful habits with positive ones. Small victories—one day at a time—lead to lasting change.

The Global Challenge of Hemophilia Before the Medical World



Yogesh Kumar Goyal

At the call of the World Federation of Hemophilia, World Hemophilia Day will be observed on April 17. This is not

merely an awareness day, but an opportunity to recognize a silent human struggle that has long remained unseen and unheard. This year, the day will be observed with the theme "Diagnosis: First step to care," emphasizing the reality that despite significant advancements in medical science, more than 75 percent of people living with hemophilia worldwide still remain undiagnosed in time. This figure reflects not only the limitations of healthcare systems but also a deep inequality where millions are deprived of treatment simply because their condition is never identified.

Hemophilia is a rare genetic disorder that affects the blood's ability to clot. Under normal circumstances, when the body is injured, proteins known as clotting factors help stop bleeding. However, in individuals with hemophilia, these factors are either deficient or entirely absent, causing even minor injuries to result in prolonged bleeding. In many cases, the bleeding is internal—occurring in joints and muscles—which can gradually lead to severe pain, swelling, and permanent disability. One of the greatest challenges of this disease is that it is present from birth, yet its symptoms are not always evident in early life. When a child begins to move and sustain minor injuries, signs such as frequent bruising, prolonged bleeding from small cuts, difficulty stopping bleeding after injections, and joint swelling or pain may appear. Recognizing these signs

in time can change the course of life, which is why the 2026 theme places diagnosis at the center.

Hemophilia is primarily of two types: Hemophilia A and Hemophilia B. Hemophilia A results from a deficiency of Factor VIII, while Hemophilia B is caused by a deficiency of Factor IX. Though symptoms are similar, severity depends on how low the level of the clotting factor is in the body. This disorder is linked to the X chromosome, which is why it predominantly affects males, while females are usually carriers of the gene. In some cases, the disease may arise even without any family history due to new genetic mutations.

The history of World Hemophilia Day is as inspiring as its purpose. It was first observed in 1989, and April 17 was chosen to honor the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel, who dedicated his life to the care and rights of people with hemophilia. Today, this day symbolizes global efforts not only to spread awareness but also to improve access to healthcare services. This year's theme reminds us that diagnosis is not just a medical process but the gateway to treatment. Without identification of the disease, neither treatment can begin nor proper care be provided. This is why in many parts of the world, especially in developing countries, diagnosis is delayed due to lack of laboratories, trained professionals, and awareness. The problem is even more severe in cases of von Willebrand disease and other bleeding disorders, particularly among women and girls, whose symptoms often go unnoticed.

Diagnosis of hemophilia involves various tests, including clotting time tests, measurement of clotting factor levels, and genetic testing. Along with this, the patient's medical history and family background are also critically important. This

comprehensive evaluation not only confirms the disease but also determines its severity, guiding the course of treatment. While there is no permanent cure for hemophilia at present, modern medicine has made its effective management possible. Through factor replacement therapy, the deficient clotting factor is artificially supplied to control bleeding. Preventive treatment involves regular injections to reduce bleeding episodes. Additionally, newer options such as monoclonal antibody therapies have emerged, proving particularly effective for Hemophilia A patients. Physiotherapy and joint care are also essential components of treatment, enabling patients to lead a relatively normal life.

Although hemophilia is a genetic disorder and cannot be completely prevented, its impact can be minimized through awareness and genetic counseling. If there is a family history of the disease, timely testing and counseling can help future generations. Moreover, precautions in daily life—such as avoiding injuries, engaging in safe exercise, maintaining dental hygiene, and avoiding medications that increase bleeding—are extremely important. Overall, World Hemophilia Day urges us to reflect that health is not merely a matter of treatment but also a right to equal opportunity. Until every individual has access to timely diagnosis and treatment, the healthcare system will remain incomplete. Today, there is a need for collective efforts—governments, healthcare institutions, medical professionals, and society must work together to ensure that no one is deprived of treatment simply because their disease was never diagnosed. A timely diagnosis, even a small step, can save an entire life.

Reels, Vlogs and Nonsense



Priyanka Saurabh

If there's one thing spreading the fastest these days, it's "nonsense." The only difference is that this nonsense is no longer

confined to tea shops or community centers, but is being broadcast to society as a whole, emblazoned on smartphone screens in the form of "reels" and "vlogs."

There was a time when young people woke up to their dreams, but today they wake up to notifications. Goals used to be set, but trends are now set. Hard work used to get applause, but now nonsense gets likes and shares. It's this shift that has slowly pushed the younger generation into a direction where there's a lot of noise, but no substance.

Reels and vlogs, originally intended as outlets for creativity and expression, have become a race where the ultimate goal is not quality but "viral." In this race, it's the noise surrounding the content, not the content itself, that matters. The more bizarre, the more sensational, the more popular it becomes. As a result, words like seriousness, sensitivity, and wisdom are gradually being marginalized.

A large segment of today's young generation is racing to become "content creators," but no one is thinking about what they're creating or why. The moment the camera is on, the acting begins, and the moment it's off, the emptiness of reality is

revealed. This is a world where pretense has become the ultimate identity.

The most worrying aspect is that this nonsense has now become considered normal and acceptable. The more time one spends on screens, the more "up-to-date" one is considered. The truth is, this isn't updating, but rather a form of mental fatigue and disorientation.

Today's youth spend hours thinking about what to show in the next reel, but don't take the time to think about what they want to do in life. It's ironic that the generation with the most resources appears the most confused and scattered.

This problem isn't just a waste of time; it's also affecting our ability to think. The habit of constantly watching short videos has weakened our ability to concentrate. The tendency to think deeply, read, and understand is diminishing. Everything is needed quickly—fast entertainment, quick fame, and quick success.

In this era of vlogs and reels, another dangerous trend has emerged—copying. Originality has been replaced by copy-paste. Once a trend catches on, everyone starts replicating it. In this process, nothing new is created, nor is any meaningful message conveyed. It simply results in a pile of the same nonsense.

Its impact on society is clearly visible. Demonstration has replaced dialogue. People now believe more in spectacle than in living. It has become increasingly necessary to capture every event, whether personal or sensitive, on camera. This trend is not only eroding privacy but also

weakening sensibilities.

It's safe to say we've entered a time where "bullshit" has become an industry. It's taking time, money, and—most importantly—the energy of the young generation. But what do we get in return? A few likes, a few followers, and a false sense of satisfaction that fades away in a matter of moments.

To overcome this situation, we must first acknowledge that there is a problem. As long as we ignore it as mere "entertainment," there's no solution.

The younger generation needs to understand that it's not necessary to be a part of every trend. It's not necessary to make every Reel. And most importantly—it's not necessary to watch and share every nonsense.

We need a balance. Use technology, but don't become its slave. Create Reels, but they should have substance. Vlog, but they should have truth. If we use this medium in the right direction, it can become a powerful tool. But if it is allowed to become a medium of nonsense, it will only give this generation noise and emptiness.

Finally, it's important to remember that the future isn't built on likes and views, but on hard work, discipline, and the right direction. If the younger generation doesn't understand this difference in time, "Reels, Vlogs, and Nonsense" will become not just a trend, but a serious social crisis.

Today, the question isn't which video goes viral, but which ideas survive. Because ultimately, it's those ideas that guide society—not nonsense.

Fierce debate in the special Parliament session



Kishan Bhawnani

- India's parliamentary politics stands at a crucial juncture globally. While on

the one hand, a historic effort to grant 33 percent reservation to women is visible, on the other, the potential shift in the political power balance through delimitation has sparked widespread controversy. Three key bills introduced in the special session of Parliament: (1) Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2026, relating to Women's Reservation (2) Delimitation Bill, 2026 (3) Union Territories Amendment Bill, 2026 While the Law Minister introduced the Constitutional Amendment and Delimitation Bills, the Union Home Minister introduced the Union Territories Amendment Bill. I, Advocate Kishan Sanmukhdas Bhawanani, Gondia, Maharashtra, believe that the Constitutional Amendment, Delimitation Bill, and Union Territories Amendment have not only intensified political debate but have also raised serious questions about the country's federal structure, representation, and regional balance. This issue is no longer limited to women's empowerment; it has transformed into a debate about North versus South,

population versus representation, and power versus balance. Of the three bills introduced by the government on the first day of the special Parliament session on April 16, 2026, the focus of most attention was on the Women's Reservation and Delimitation Bills. The Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026 proposes to increase the Lok Sabha seats to 850, with 815 seats reserved for states and 35 for union territories. Additionally, approximately 272 seats are planned to be reserved for women. The opposition was unwilling to put the three bills to a voice vote before introducing them in Parliament, forcing a vote. During the vote, the government received the support of 251 MPs, while 185 opposed. This clearly indicates that this issue in Parliament has become a matter of not just policy but of deep political and regional divisions. The demand for a division instead of a voice vote has made the dispute more formal and serious.

Friends, if we consider the real controversy between women's reservation and delimitation, it is important to understand that the opposition is not opposing women's reservation per se, but rather that its main opposition stems from the fact that women's reservation is linked to delimitation. The opposition argues that women's reservation should be implemented immediately, rather than being delayed by linking it to the

census and delimitation process. In fact, the Nari Shakti Vandan Act, passed in 2023, required a new census to be conducted before delimitation to determine new seats. This is where the controversy begins. The opposition considers this a delaying tactic, while the government calls it a necessary part of structural reform.

Friends, if we consider the mathematics of delimitation: the question of population-based representation, the primary purpose of delimitation is to reorganize constituencies based on population. However, in India, the allocation of seats based on the 1971 census was kept static for a long time to avoid disadvantages for states that promoted family planning. In 1976, it was decided that delimitation would not occur until 2026.

Now that the delimitation process is set to begin after 2026, the biggest question is whether seats will be redistributed based on population. If this happens, the more populous states of North India, such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh, will receive more seats, while the seats of South Indian states with relatively low population growth, such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka, may decrease. This is where the issue transforms from a national debate to a regional conflict. South Indian states argue that they have achieved success

in population control and improved performance in education and health, and are now being punished with underrepresentation. Southern political parties, especially the DMK and Congress, have termed this a threat to the federal structure. They believe this will weaken the South's voice in Parliament and reduce their influence on national policies. This situation could destabilize India's federal balance.

Friends, if we turn our attention to understanding the ruling party's perspective specifically its claim of "equitable growth and balance" we find that the government's stance is distinct. The government asserts that the number of seats across all states will be increased in a proportionate manner, ensuring that no state's current level of representation is diminished. In his address to Parliament, the Prime Minister clarified that this measure has been undertaken to bring women into the political mainstream and to render our democracy more inclusive. The government further claims that the Delimitation Commission will function impartially and that no state will face discrimination. According to them, this process will not be based solely on population figures but will also take into account broader representation and administrative convenience.

Elephant Terror in Boudh

Boudh : Panic gripped Gambharipadar village in Boudh district after a herd of wild elephants destroyed agricultural fields on Tuesday night. According to reports, the elephants entered the village and damaged standing crops, causing significant losses to local farmers. The sudden intrusion left residents frightened, as such incidents have become increasingly frequent in the region. Villagers have urged the forest department to take immediate measures to prevent further damage and ensure safety. The incident highlights the growing concern of human-elephant conflict in the area.

Women's Empowerment Salutation Program

Nimapada, (Correspondent): A Nari Shakti Vandan rally was organized in Nimapada in support of the Nari Shakti Vandan Act. The procession started from the Nimapada New Bus Stand, passed through the main road, and reached near the Nimapada Police Station. A meeting was held in front of the police station.

Retired Labour Officer gets 3 year jail term and fine

Bhawanipatna: (Correspondent) A special Vigilance Court of Odisha's Bhawanipatnahas pronounced jail term and imposed monetary penalty, in a bribery case to a retired labour officer of Nuapada district on Thursday. The special judge of vigilance court, in his adjudication, PS case No.3 dt.07.01.2021 U/s 7(a) PC Amendment Act, 2018, has passed this judgement- a 3 year simple jail term and a monetary punishment at the tune of Rs 80,000/- to a retired District Labour Officer Sarat Kumar Panigrahi, for his involvement in a crime 'demanding and accepting bribe money Rs 40,000/- from a trainer'. Following the conviction order, the court will move for further action 'stoppage pension of guilty' confirmed, in press release. In the process of hearing the PPs Sudhir Kumar Panda and Imran Khan jointly conducted the case on behalf of the prosecution. The bribery case had been investigated by Koraput Vigilance Division. Ex-DSP A.P. Mallik, which basis the judgement was pronounced, added in the press note.

Plot dealer missing. Police team has been deployed to search for him

Gopalpur (correspondence): A complaint has been filed at the Gopalpur police station that a plot dealer living at Satya Narayanpur Karapally main road is missing. The missing youth has been identified as Sudhir Kumar Patra, aged around 47. According to information, Sudhir is a plot dealer and is known to be a good volleyball player. On Wednesday, he went to the volleyball ground at Bargaon (Bhabinarayanpur) on his bike number OR 07 N 3527. He left there at around 6:30 and was returning home via Bargaon and Mandiapalli village roads. After a long delay, when he did not return home, the family called Sudhir's mobile. Since the mobile was switched off, they informed his friends. When the friends came to see him, Sudhir was

missing from the spot when the bike fell on the road. After searching for Sudhir, the family filed a complaint with Gopalpur police station about Sudhir's disappearance. On receiving the complaint, the police registered a missing person case under case number 18/26 and reached the spot and started investigation. They seized Sudhir's bike and checked the CCTV footage in the area.

Today, Additional SP Alok Jena, Sadar SDP and Suvranshu Shekhar Parida went to Sudhir's house to inquire about everything and formed a police team and went to various places to investigate. Since Sudhir is a plot trader, the family suspects that miscreants have kidnapped him for some reason and the family has requested the police to rescue him safely and hand him over to the family.

HUSBAND AWARDED LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR KILLING WIFE OVER DOWRY DEMANDS

Paralakhemundi: (Correspondent): - In a deeply disturbing tale where the sanctity of marriage was shattered by greed and brutality, justice has finally prevailed. In a chilling case of dowry-related violence, a husband who mercilessly ended his wife's life barely a year after their wedding has been sentenced to life imprisonment by the court. The accused, Regati Dhanunjaya alias Rakoti Dhanunjaya (38), a resident of Machamara under Gurundi police limits in Gajapati district, had subjected his wife to relentless mental and



physical torture over persistent demands for additional dowry. The cruelty reached its tragic crescendo when he strangled her to death using a clutch wire. Delivering a stern and resolute judgment, the learned Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bishnu Prasad Panda, convicted the accused under Section

302 of the Indian Penal Code, sentencing him to life imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 10,000. Failure to pay the fine will result in an additional six months of rigorous imprisonment. In addition, under Section 498A of the IPC for domestic cruelty, the convict has been awarded three years of rigorous imprisonment

with a fine of Rs 5,000, with a further three months of imprisonment in default. For the offence of dowry demand under the relevant legal provision, the court has imposed two years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 2,000, with an additional two months of imprisonment in case of non-payment.

The case was diligently prosecuted by Additional Public Prosecutor Saroj Kumar Rath, as informed by in-charge Public Prosecutor Rajesh Kumar Mishra.

Aditya Birla Public School Rayagada Achieves Stellar CBSE X Results; Subhasree Dash Scores 99.4%

Rayagada (Correspondent): Aditya Birla Public School (ABPS), Rayagada, operated by Utkal Alumina, a unit of Hindalco Industries under the Aditya Birla Group, has achieved yet another milestone with an outstanding performance in the CBSE Class X Board Examinations 2026, reaffirming its commitment to academic excellence. Out of 39 students who appeared for the examination, an impressive 14 students scored above 90%, reflecting the school's strong academic culture. The school's pride, as well as the district topper, Ms. Subhasree Dash, brought laurels by securing an exceptional 99.4%. The overall performance has been highly commendable, with 14 students achieving Distinction, 10 securing First Class, and one

student placed in Second Class, showcasing consistent and balanced academic outcomes. Chairman Shri Rabi Narayan Mishra and FH-HR Shri Narayan Mitra extended their heartfelt appreciation to the Principal and the entire teaching staff for their dedication, guidance, and commitment to nurturing students and achieving such excellent results. Principal Shri Aniruddha Tiwari congratulated the students and acknowledged the unwavering support of parents and the relentless efforts of the faculty in bringing about this remarkable success. Aditya Birla Public School, Rayagada, continues to uphold its legacy of excellence by fostering a culture of discipline, perseverance, and holistic development among its students.

Success of Swapanjit, the first national swimmer from Subarnapur district

SUBARNAPUR (Correspondent): Swapanjit Mishra, a student of P.M. Shree Kendriya Vidyalaya, Subarnapur district, has succeeded in the CBSE 10th class board examination by scoring 98.2 percentile marks. He has got the reward of his hard work and effort by going to school in the morning, swimming for four hours in the afternoon and studying in the evening. Apart from this, he was selected from Odisha and went to Chennai on the occasion of

the diamond jubilee of the Scouts and trained there for about a month and was awarded at the international level. He has also brought glory to the district and school by participating in the SGFI held in New Delhi. He has won many gold and silver medals in various regional, state level and national level swimming competitions of Kendriya Vidyalayas held in Odisha, Delhi and Bangalore and has received a certificate from the Subarnapur Collector Dr. Nruparaj Sahu as the first

swimmer of the school and the district. He has also achieved success in the Hajakathan held in Hyderabad. Swapanjit credits his success to his elder brother Chinmaya, the head of the family and school, a teacher and his home tutor Rajesh Mendli. He is currently studying in Bhubaneswar for higher education along with swimming. Swapanjit is the younger son of Ajit Lal Mishra, Headmaster of Boudh District Bahira High School and Swarnaprabha Mohapatra, Health Department

employee of Manamunda Community Health Center, and the grandson of Umakant Mohapatra, retired Headmaster and Astrologer of Boudh Butupali and teacher Kalpana Kumari Mishra. Along with achieving national success in swimming, he has now become a role model for other children. In the future, he hopes to become a software engineer and try to prevent various cyber crimes committed through mobile phones.

Human Rights Team Visits Sijimali Villagers Allege Deep Nexus Between Political Parties and Mining Corporates

Rayagada, (Correspondent): A fact-finding team of the International Human Rights Forum (Social Justice & Freedom) visited the conflict-hit Sijimali region in Odisha's Kashipur block, where tensions have escalated over proposed mining activities involving major corporate players. Led by National Secretary Anubrata Bara, the team held discussions with villagers in Cherketa and nearby tribal-dominated areas such as Sijimali, Kantamal, and Sagabari. The visit aimed to assess ground realities and promote peace following recent clashes between villagers and police. Villagers Allege Systematic Suppression Residents accused the district

administration and police of "brutal repression," alleging human rights violations, arbitrary arrests, and excessive use of force. They claimed that the region, once peaceful, turned volatile only after the entry of mining interests linked to companies like Vedanta and Maitree. According to villagers, repeated petitions—from the District Collector to the President of India—against mining in the Sijimali hills have gone unheard. They alleged that despite their opposition, road construction for mining access was initiated, triggering protests. Violent Clash Raisers Questions Tensions peaked when police reportedly entered villages in the early hours



to detain locals, leading to a violent confrontation. Both police personnel and villagers were injured, while allegations of tear gas use and forceful crack downs surfaced. Villagers further alleged that the administration imposed a "siege-like situation," questioning the necessity of heavy police deployment in a region with no history of militancy or large-scale unrest. Allegations of Fake Consent and

Legal Violations Serious concerns were raised over alleged "fake Gram Sabha approvals" and violations of laws governing tribal land in Scheduled Areas. Villagers questioned how mining-related activities could proceed without lawful consent or formal agreements. They also criticized remarks allegedly made by officials questioning land ownership, pointing out protections under the Fifth Schedule and tribal

land rights laws. Political-Corporate Nexus Under Scrutiny In a strong statement, members of the human rights team accused political parties across the spectrum of maintaining a "deep-rooted nexus" with corporate entities. "It is ironic that leaders from all parties are now shedding tears for tribal rights, while benefiting from corporate funding during elections," a member of the

delegation said. The team suggested that electoral funding links between political parties and mining corporations may be influencing administrative actions on the ground, raising serious concerns about conflict of interest. Call for Judicial Probe The delegation condemned both the alleged police excesses and the violence against police personnel, emphasizing that "law must be equal for all." They demanded: An independent judicial inquiry by a sitting High Court judge Immediate restoration of normalcy and withdrawal of prohibitory orders Protection of tribal rights over land, and

resources The team urged villagers to maintain peace and avoid taking the law into their own hands, assuring continued support in their struggle for justice. Growing Discontent The visit saw participation from over 300 villagers, many of whom expressed frustration over political inaction. Serious questions were raised about the role of elected representatives, with growing concerns that their indifferent stance may reflect deeper links with corporate interests. As tensions simmer, Sijimali is fast emerging as a flashpoint—highlighting not just a local land conflict, but a broader pattern of alleged collusion between political power and corporate interests in resource-rich tribal regions.

Krishna Vikas Group Dominates CBSE Results Across Odisha

Bargarh (Correspondent): The Krishna Vikas Group has delivered a sensational performance in the CBSE Class 10 Board examinations, raising the bar for academic excellence across Odisha. In a stunning display of brilliance, 29 students scored above 95%, 88 crossed the 90% mark, and an impressive 173 secured over 80%. The highlight was a phenomenal 99.2% top score, setting a new benchmark for the region. Vikas Residential School emerged as a powerhouse of achievement, with Managing Director Vivek Dashri applauding the students' grit and discipline. Executive Principal Shishir Prasad Rawal praised standout performers, including Samvidhi Panigrahi (99.2%) and Achha Agarwal (98.8%), among many high scorers.

Adding to the glory, the Urdu department achieved a flawless 100% pass rate, surpassing national averages—an accomplishment lauded by Senior Secondary Headmaster Chittaranjan Pati.

Sanitation workers protest

Nimapada, (Correspondent): More than 61 contractual sanitation workers of the Nimapada Notified Area Council (NAC) staged a protest today in front of the NAC office premises after halting their work in the morning, as they had not received their dues for the past one and a half months. They also surrounded the office during the protest. According to reports, these 61 workers have been working for many years as sanitation workers under a contractor, Royal Security Services, within the jurisdiction of the Nimapada NAC. They alleged that they have not been receiving their salaries on time and that their EPF (Provident Fund) contributions have not been provided for the past 5 to 7 years. In protest, they stopped work and sat on a demonstration. The protesting workers attempted to meet the Executive Officer of the NAC to discuss their grievances. However, they alleged before the media that the Executive Officer threatened to terminate them from their jobs and even ordered them to be pushed out of the office. Protesters including Raghunath Ghadei, Bikash Ghadei, Sabita Ghadei, Minati Ghadei, Bishnu Das, and Akshaya Gochhayat made these allegations. When asked about the matter, Executive Officer Chinmaya Das stated that the workers would be paid their salaries by 3 PM and that a show-cause notice had been issued to the contractor, Royal Security Services. He also denied the allegation that he had threatened to terminate the workers.

"Big honour for years of consistency": Vikas Khanna on TIME 100 milestone, reveals Priyanka Chopra among first to congratulate

Celebrity chef Vikas Khanna has been named in the popular TIME magazine's 2026 list of the 100 most influential people, marking a proud moment for Indian culinary artistry on the global stage. Celebrating the remarkable milestone with the coveted spot, Vikas Khanna, in a conversation with ANI, expressed much gratitude and pride. "I feel more for all the people who have stood by me all these decades. This is a big achievement for both our Indian culture and cuisine. I believe this will help volumise our voices in Indian cuisine," Khanna said. He spoke about how the recognition brings a "big honour for the years of consistency" for him. "Even if people don't show up, I believe Indian food is the game," Vikas Khanna added. As the recognition sparked a wave of joy for proud Indians, Khanna received one of the first greetings from Priyanka Chopra Jonas. "Priyanka Chopra is among the first people in the world to text me for such a big moment. She is one of the first people I told when we heard the news," Khanna said, adding that in her text, she said, "This is a big moment for our cuisine and our culture right now." Released on Wednesday, TIME magazine's 2026 list of the 100 most influential people featured Vikas Khanna alongside the likes of Bollywood star Ranbir Kapoor, chef Vikas Khanna, and Google CEO Sundar Pichai. Vikas Khanna has expressed his happiness at making it to TIME's 100 list. Sharing his thoughts, Vikas, in a press note said, "Being on the 2026 TIME 100 list of the most influential people in the world is a matter of immense pride

for me. I owe this recognition to my grandmother, mother, and sister; they always believed in me, and it is their sacrifices, blessings, and guidance that have helped me reach where I am today.

Madhuri Dixit, Triptii Dimri's 'Maa Behen' has a latest update

Actors Madhuri Dixit and Triptii Dimri starrer 'Maa Behen' is now moving to the next stage. Director Suresh Triveni, in a social media post, shared a glimpse from the film's sets featuring the lead stars in a candid moment. "Agle padav ki taiyaar #maabeheh," he wrote. Madhuri Dixit, along with Triptii and Dharna Durga, could be seen joining the frame as the trio smiled, looking at the mobile phone. Many commented on the post, as many expressed high anticipation for the film. Triptii dropped heart emojis in the comment section. The teaser of 'Maa Behen' was unveiled in January this year. Directed by Suresh Triveni, the film centres around the constantly squabbling mother and daughters who find themselves in the "middle of a situation with a dead body in their kitchen." Madhuri plays Rekha, while Triptii Dimri and Dharna Durga play her daughters in the film. In the teaser, the 'Animal' actress was seen fighting with her on-screen mother, Madhuri Dixit, over her mannerisms as she wears a sleeveless blouse in the house. The situation takes a downturn when they discover a dead body in their kitchen. After getting over a panic attack, the trio decides to team up to cover the crime. Ravi Kishan also plays a prominent role in the film.



These 7 Summer-Special Recipes Are Light On The Stomach



The summer season brings lots of fruits and vegetables with it. But during this weather, we hardly feel like having anything heavy or spicy. These foods in the heat can often make us feel acidic or leave a heavy feeling in the stomach. So, it's best to keep your meals light and healthy during this time. However, if you are unsure what all light recipes can be cooked, let us help you out! Here we bring you some unique summer recipes that will be easy on your stomach. These recipes are easy to make and delicious! And the best part is that they don't even require much time to cook. With the use of your everyday ingredients, these special summer dishes will indeed become a routine part of your menu!

Summer Recipes That Will Be Easy On The Stomach

1. Kadhhi: Kadhhi is one of the simplest recipes to make. A few spices mixed with besan and buttermilk - this dish is ideal for this heat. You can either have it with some rotis or even rice. The best part about this recipe is that there is not one but many ways to make a kadhhi. However, if you want to keep it light, we recommend trying out the Rajasthani kadhhi.

ldnbn8mo

2. Kurkuri Dahi: Tikki Looking for an appetiser? Try making this kurkuri dahi tikki! This tikki is made with a mix of hung curd, light spices and some veggies of your choice. In this recipe, you can choose to pan-fry it instead of deep-frying. It will be perfectly crisp from the outside and soft from the inside

3. Stuffed Lauki : Bottle gourd is one of those green vegetables that aren't particularly popular, but you're sure to win over a few new lovers with this unique twist. A delicacy you must try is a

blanched bottle gourd marinated in lime, packed with cottage cheese, and baked wonderfully.

4. Nuchinunde: If this is your first time hearing about this delicacy, trust us when we say that these dumplings are delicious and nutritious. This popular breakfast meal in South India is created with two types of dal, spices and then steamed until perfectly cooked.

5. Mango Dal: This incredibly tangy dal recipe will boost your dal chawal game up a notch. Toor dal is used in this dish, which is cooked with various Indian spices and fresh mango before being tempered with red chillies, curry leaves, and mustard seeds. **6. Cucumber Soup:** Cucumber is one of those items found in almost any local market. So, why not give it a fresh look and turn it into soup? This soup dish is simple to make and uses common ingredients. It will take only 10 minutes to prepare.

7. Allahabadi : Tehri This meal is distinguished by its bright yellow colour, and the aromatic spices used to flavour plain rice. Tehri is a delicious and simple dinner that can be prepared in no time. You can even add veggies of your choice to amp up its taste!

Can Brazil Nuts Help With Thyroid Health?

If you're dealing with thyroid imbalances- be it hypothyroidism or hyperthyroidism- you're probably well aware of how sensitive and vital this tiny gland in your neck is. But here's some good news from the world of nutrition: a small, humble nut could be a great support in your thyroid journey. We're talking about Brazil nuts, a selenium-rich superfood that can play a significant role in supporting thyroid function naturally. Nutritionist Nupur Patil, on Instagram, explained why Brazil nuts deserve a spot in your daily diet if you're trying to manage thyroid issues. Also Read: Thyroid Diet: 6 Ways To Heal Thyroid with Food How Are Brazil Nuts Good For Thyroid? "Brazil nuts are packed with selenium, a mineral that plays a crucial role in regulating thyroid hormone production. It also helps reduce inflammation, which is key because thyroid disorders are essentially inflammatory in nature," she said.

Selenium acts as a cofactor for enzymes involved in the conversion of T4 (thyroxine) into T3 (triiodothyronine)-the active form of the thyroid hormone. Without enough selenium, this conversion can be impaired, leading to fatigue, weight gain, and other classic thyroid symptoms."

Foods to Avoid if You Have Thyroid Issues: While adding the right nutrients helps, avoiding certain foods is equally important. Here are the top culprits that can interfere with thyroid function, especially if you have hypothyroidism: **Soy Products:** Soy contains isoflavones, which can interfere with thyroid hormone absorption and function. **Cruciferous Vegetables (in excess):** While cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli are healthy, they can disrupt thyroid function when consumed raw in large quantities due to their goitrogenic compounds. **Processed Foods:** These often contain high levels of sodium, which can worsen symptoms like high blood pressure if you're already on thyroid medication. **Gluten:** People with autoimmune thyroid diseases like Hashimoto's may benefit from a gluten-free diet, as gluten can trigger inflammation. **Sugary Foods:** Excessive sugar can disrupt hormone levels and lead to weight gain, a common issue for those with hypothyroidism.



Can Eating Just Fruits Make You Gain Weight?

Summer feels like the perfect excuse to eat as many fruits as possible. They are cool, juicy, refreshing, and so vibrant that they seem like a great snack on hot days. From watermelons to mangoes, fruit bowls have become a popular snack choice for many. Because they are packed with nutrients,

many people believe that going on an all-fruit diet is the quickest way to lose weight. You might think that what could possibly be wrong with just eating fruits, but these water-rich treats will not benefit your body the way you expect. If you are someone who loves fruits and eats them daily, read on to understand how eating only fruits might make you gain

weight rather than shed it.

Should You Eat Just Fruits To Lose Weight?

According to nutritionist Lovneet Batra, there is nothing wrong with eating fruits, but if you consume only fruits throughout the day, you might experience glucose and insulin spikes. Moreover, your liver will store more fat, and you will not be able to satisfy your hunger hormones. This can lead to constant food cravings.

Why? Fruits are high in natural sugars like fructose and glucose. When overconsumed, Batra explains, this can lead to fat storage. What else? Fruits also

lack protein and healthy fats, so they do not keep you full for long, and you will eventually end up eating more. If you think drinking fruit juices is okay, you are mistaken. The expert says fruit juices are packed with sugars and calories and lose most of their fibre during processing. This reduces their ability to regulate appetite and curb hunger. **What To Do If You Want To Lose Weight:** If weight loss is your goal, the best approach is a balanced diet. Batra points out that your body needs a mix of micro and macronutrients, and eating only fruits is not the solution. Instead, make sure to include foods from all food groups to keep your body nourished and your stomach full for longer.

4 BUDDING CRICKETERS OF GAJAPATI SCRIPT A LEAP INTO U-17 NATIONAL ARENA

Paralakhemundi: (Correspondent):- In a moment of pride and promise, four budding cricketers from the culturally rich land of Gajapati have carved their names on the national canvas by securing selection in the prestigious Under-17 national-level cricket. These young talents had earlier showcased their brilliance by clinching the championship title at the state school-level Under-17 cricket tournament, heralding their arrival as players of remarkable potential. Their recent national selection now stands as a testament to their dedication,



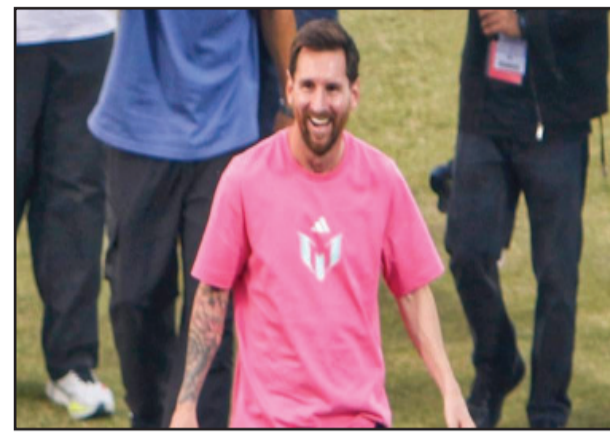
discipline, and undying passion for the game. The promising quartet—Kotla Madhav, Santosh Kumar Lankap

set to join the Odisha team's preparatory camp at Jajpur on April 19. Thereafter, they will proceed to Jacherla in Telangana, where they will participate in the national coaching camp from April 26 to May 1, further honing their skills amidst the country's finest young cricketers. As these rising stars embark upon their journey, waves of good wishes and encouragement have poured in from every corner of Gajapati, with people from all walks of life wishing them resounding success and a future filled with sporting glory.

ulureddi Karthik, and Israla Bhargava Rao—carry with them the hopes and aspirations of an entire district. They are

Lionel Messi Acquires Spanish Club UE Cornellà

New Delhi: Lionel Messi has made a significant move into football ownership by fully acquiring UE Cornellà, a Catalan team currently playing in Spain's fourth tier, the Tercera RFEF. Messi's investment highlights a deeper connection to Catalonia and a long-term plan to develop local talent. In the official statement, the purpose of the acquisition was clear: "With this operation, Messi strengthens his close relationship with Barcelona and his commitment to developing sports and local talent in Catalonia. This connection dates



back to his time as an FC Barcelona player and has remained strong over the years." Founded in 1951, Cornellà is currently having a successful season, sitting third in their group and just five points behind leaders Manresa. They have already secured a

spot in the promotion play-offs. Messi is expected to support the club with a solid investment plan, focusing on enhancing the youth academy and helping the team reach higher levels in Spanish football. A major reason for Messi's choice is Cornellà's reputation as a talent

hub. The club has consistently developed players who go on to succeed at the top level. The announcement emphasized this legacy: "Throughout its history, the club has stood out for its strong work with the youth academy and its ability to compete at the highest level within Spanish semi-professional football, establishing itself as a leader in training young players." It further stated, "Through its ranks, players have come through who later reached the elite of national and international football, such as David Raya, Jordi Alba, Gerard Martín, Javi Puado, Keita Baldé, Aitor Ruibal, and Ilie Sánchez."

Clinical Bengaluru Overpower Lucknow to Rule Points Table

NEW DELHI: Royal Challengers Bengaluru ascended to the peak of the IPL 2026 standings after a commanding five-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium. The hosts chased down a target of 147 in just 15.1 overs, showcasing a ruthless batting display that left the visitors struggling for answers. This victory marks a significant shift in momentum for the Bengaluru franchise, which now boasts four wins from five matches. Bowling first, Bengaluru's attack dismantled the Lucknow lineup with surgical precision. Young pacer Rasikh Salam Dar emerged as the standout performer, claiming a career-best 4 for 24. His ability to



execute pinpoint yorkers in the closing stages prevented any late scoring surges. Bhuvneshwar Kumar provided veteran support with 3 for 27, ensuring Lucknow was bundled out for a meager 146. Notably, Krunal

Pandya reached the milestone of 100 IPL wickets during this encounter, a rare highlight for the visiting side. Virat Kohli, entering the fray as an Impact Substitute for the first time, ignited the chase with a blistering 49 off 34 balls. He

dismantled the powerplay bowling, allowing the required run rate to plummet early. While he narrowly missed a half-century, his aggression set the foundation for Rajat Patidar and Jitesh Sharma to finish the

job. Patidar's rapid 27 off 13 balls further solidified the dominance, ensuring the "12th Man Army" had plenty to celebrate. Historically, the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium has been a high-scoring graveyard for bowlers, yet Bengaluru's recent tactical shift toward disciplined seam bowling is redefining their home-ground advantage this season. Despite a late double-strike from Prince Yadav, Romario Shepherd and Tim David remained composed to seal the result with 29 balls to spare. Bengaluru now holds a superior net run rate of 1.503, officially leapfrogging Rajasthan Royals to secure the number one position.

ICC Chair Jay Shah Named In Young Global Leaders Class Of 2026

New Delhi: The chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC), Jay Shah has been named to the Young Global Leaders Class of 2026 by the World Economic Forum. This recognition shows his growing influence in shaping the future of global cricket. Shah, who was the youngest secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), has played an important role in various aspects of the sport's development. He has overseen key parts of the Indian Premier League, promoted the growth of women's cricket, and secured major media rights deals. His work has significantly impacted the game. He has also been a key figure in getting cricket included in the

2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. A press release that announced his selection highlighted his influence on the global stage. It stated, "Shah's selection underscores his growing influence in international cricket administration. As ICC Chairman, he has focused on expanding the sport's global footprint, strengthening international partnerships, and positioning cricket for long-term growth across established and emerging markets." The release also pointed out his vital role in a major recent event for cricket. "He has also played a key role in cricket's re-induction into the Olympics for the LA 2028 Summer Olympics. Through this recognition, Shah joins a global network of leaders driving impact across

sectors, reinforcing India's presence on influential international platforms while lending further momentum to the growth of the game," it added. The Young Global Leaders (YGL) community includes 118 leaders under 40 from 55 countries. They come from fields such as public service, science, business, civil society, and culture. This cohort reflects a diverse group of individuals contributing to global progress and innovation. "This year's cohort includes global figures such as Tomas Okmanas, Co-Founder and CEO of Nord Security; Thea LaFond; Jennifer Zhang, Co-Founder and CEO of WIZ.AI; and Professor Sally Nuamah, among others," the release noted.

Pat Cummins Cleared for IPL Return, Fully Fit to Bowl Unrestricted

New Delhi: Australian pace spearhead Pat Cummins has received medical clearance to bowl without restrictions following recent scans in Sydney, paving the way for his eagerly anticipated comeback in the Indian Premier League (IPL). The all-clear confirms his back stress injury—sidelining him to just one professional match since August last year—is now fully healed. Cummins heads back to India on Friday to rejoin Sunrisers Hyderabad for the remainder of the tournament, partnering compatriot Travis Head. Though SRH face Chennai Super Kings this weekend and Delhi Capitals next Wednesday at home, he plans a measured return, targeting the April 25 clash against Rajasthan Royals in Jaipur. His reintegration could restore his captaincy, vacated by Ishan Kishan during absence; SRH sits fourth with two victories. This aligns with Cummins' strategy to feature in the IPL's business end and playoffs, priming for Australia's grueling Test slate—potentially 21 matches over 12 months starting August against Bangladesh. In a recent 'Business of Sport' podcast, Cummins reaffirmed commitment to all formats, prioritizing key Test and ODI series as captain while scheduling 2-3 month breaks for fitness. "I still want to play all three formats... Test cricket means the world to me. Hopefully, I can keep going for the next 3-5 years without dropping it," he shared. Australia's Tests kick off with two in Bangladesh (Darwin, Mackay), followed by three in South Africa, four versus New Zealand at home, five in India (Jan-Feb 2027), the MCG's 150th anniversary Test in March, a likely Lord's World Test Championship final in June, and five-ashes clashes. SRH coach Daniel Vettori hailed Cummins' "outstanding" conditioning after prolonged layoff. "Preparing to bowl fully fit is a long, arduous process—he's excelled in strength and conditioning," Vettori noted, underscoring Cummins' resolve to honor his near A\$4 million IPL contract.

IPL 2026: Kohli's 49 Powers RCB To Comfortable Win Against LSG

Bengaluru: Impact player Virat Kohli top scored with 49 runs as Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) chased down a small target of 147 runs in just 15.1 overs while losing five wickets against Lucknow Super Giants in the 23rd match of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 played at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday. With this win, RCB are back at the top of the points table with 8 points in five games. Chasing a modest target, Royal Challengers Bengaluru got off to a slow start, managing just six runs in the opening over. Phil Salt, who survived a close run-out chance on the final ball of the first over, attempted to accelerate but was clean bowled by Prince Yadav in the following over for 7 off 8 balls. Virat Kohli then shifted gears, breaking the shackles with three consecutive boundaries off Mohammed Shami,



who had earlier bowled a tight opening over. Kohli continued his aggressive approach, smashing four boundaries in the next over against Prince Yadav to put the opposition under pressure. His attacking intent helped RCB race to 60/1 at the end of the powerplay, with Kohli contributing 40 off just 20 balls. With Rishabh Pant unavailable after sustaining an elbow injury in the first innings, Nicholas Pooran led Lucknow Super Giants on the field. Despite

being sloppy in the field, LSG managed a breakthrough in the eighth over when Avesh Khan dismissed Devdutt Padikkal for 10. Kohli continued to anchor the innings, rotating the strike effectively, while Rajat Patidar played the aggressor's role. However, Kohli fell just short of a half-century, getting caught at long-on for 49 off 34 balls in the 13th over, an innings that included six fours and a six. Following his dismissal, Patidar and Jitesh

accelerated the scoring. Jitesh struck two sixes and two fours in a single over, while Patidar added a quick 27 off 13 balls before both fell in quick succession to Prince Yadav. In the end, Tim David and Romario Shepherd remained unbeaten on 14 each, guiding RCB to victory with 29 balls to spare. Avesh Khan chipped in with two important wickets for LSG. Prince was the most successful bowler for LSG as he finished with good figures of 3-32. While Avesh Khan

also took two crucial wickets. Earlier, asked to bat first, LSG struggled to get going as openers Mitchell Marsh and Aiden Markram found it tough against the tight new-ball spell from Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Josh Hazlewood, reaching just 14/0 after two overs. Marsh briefly shifted momentum with a towering six, but Markram departed for 12 after mistiming a slower ball from Rasikh. LSG suffered a significant setback when captain Rishabh Pant injured his elbow and retired hurt after facing only three deliveries. Nicholas Pooran failed to capitalise on the opportunity, falling cheaply to Hazlewood. Marsh then stitched a quick 36-run stand with Ayush Badoni before being bowled by Krunal Pandya for 40. Krunal struck again to remove Abdul Samad for a

duck, further denting LSG's innings. Badoni (38) and Mukul Choudhary (39) attempted to rebuild with a steady partnership, but regular wickets kept halting LSG's progress. Pant returned later but could only manage one run. Rasikh wrapped up the innings efficiently, finishing with four wickets, while Bhuvneshwar claimed three and Hazlewood maintained excellent control. Their collective effort ensured RCB restricted LSG to a modest total. Brief Scores: Lucknow Super Giants 146/10 in 20 overs (Mitchell Marsh 40, Mukul Choudhary 39; Rasikh Dar 4-24, Bhuvneshwar Kumar 3-27) lost to Royal Challengers Bengaluru 149/5 in 15.1 overs (Virat Kohli 49, Rajat Patidar 27; Prince Yadav 3-32, Avesh Khan 2-23) by five wickets.

IFFCO Launches Nationwide Nano Fertilizer Awareness Mega Campaign : Dileep Sanghani

New Delhi, IFFCO, India's largest fertilizer cooperative, today officially launched the Nano Fertilizer Awareness Mega Campaign. Addressing a press conference, Chairman Mr. Dileep Sanghani said that this is a comprehensive national campaign aimed at promoting the use of nano fertilizers among Indian farmers. The campaign has been initiated with the inspiration of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, in alignment with national missions such as "Atmanirbhar Bharat" and "Sahkar Se Samridhi." The inclusion of Nano NPK Liquid (8-8-10) and Nano NPK Granular (20-10-10) in the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) is a significant milestone in India's agricultural innovation journey. IFFCO's innovation hub at



IFFCO-Nanoventions in Coimbatore and the upcoming nano fertilizer plant in Brazil, expected to be operational by June 2026, highlight India's growing global strength in nano technology in agriculture. Mr. Sanghani stated that India is at a historic point where tradition and technology are coming together to reshape agriculture. The campaign reflects the vision of "Sahkar Se Samridhi" and supports the goal of self-reliant agriculture. He emphasized that

awareness must be driven at the grassroots level through PACS and field demonstrations so that farmers can see results and build trust. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Sanghani called for making the campaign a mass movement. He said nano fertilizers are not just products but tools to protect soil, improve the environment, and increase farmers' income. He urged everyone to adopt the vision of lower cost, higher productivity, and a healthier environment, stating that nano fertilizers in every field

represent the future of a self-reliant India. IFFCO has recorded sales of over 21.8 million bottles of Nano Urea Plus Liquid and 6.426 million bottles of Nano DAP Liquid. Nano Zinc and Nano Copper have also achieved strong first-year sales of 5.7 million and 0.2 million bottles respectively. Notably, 20.826 million bottles of Nano Urea Plus are equivalent to 0.937 million metric tonnes of conventional urea, while 5.789 million bottles of Nano DAP are equivalent to 0.289 million metric tonnes of

DAP, resulting in major savings in logistics, energy, and import costs. IFFCO's nano product range includes Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP, Nano NPK (Liquid and Granular), Nano Zinc, Nano Copper, and the bio-stimulant "DharaAmrut," which is enriched with amino acids, alginate acid, humic acid, essential minerals, and banana extract, and is gaining popularity among farmers. For FY 2025-26, IFFCO's profit before tax is expected to exceed ₹4,200 crore. Through continued innovation in nano technology, drone technology, AI, and data analytics, IFFCO is playing a key role in transforming India's agriculture sector. The event was held at IFFCO Sadan, New Delhi, in the presence of Managing Director Mr. K. J. Patel, board members, officials, and employees.

Aditya Aluminium, Lapanga is actively implementing community development initiatives across six Gram Panchayats

Sambalpur (Correspondent): Aditya Aluminium, Lapanga is actively implementing community development initiatives across six Gram Panchayats of Rengali Block. Under these initiatives, Project UNNATI is working with farmers to promote sustainable agricultural practices. A key focus area of the project is empowering farmers through structured capacity-building training programs. A training cum Exposure program to KVK, Sambalpur on the theme "Organic Practices in Horticultural Crops" was organized, in which 30 farmers from Katarbaga and Ghichamura Panchayats of Rengali Block participated. The session was conducted by Dr. Swagatika Srichandan, Senior Scientist and Head, Krishi Vigyan



Kendra, Chiplima, Sambalpur. She provided comprehensive insights into the use of organic fertilizers, their advantages, and their positive environmental impact. The program also included a field visit, enabling farmers to gain practical exposure to organic farming practices and the Integrated Farming System (IFS) model. Additionally, an interactive session was held with Dr. Atanu Sen, Scientist (Entomology), AICRP on Rice at RRTTS, Chiplima, where

farmers learned about effective insect pest management in crops. At the end farmers also awarded with certificates from KVK. The program was inaugurated in the presence of CSR Cluster Head Mr. Siba Mohapatra, CSR Head Mr. Ravi Niwas, and Mr. Manoranjan Behera. They interacted with the farmers and assured continued support through similar initiatives in the future. The initiative was highly appreciated by the participating farmers for its relevance and practical benefits.

RoofStage Marks 7th Foundation Day with 'Jashn-e-Retro' Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): RoofStage, an Indian online music community platform that connects independent musicians, fans, has celebrated its 7th Foundation Day with a vibrant musical evening, "Jashn-e-Retro," at Geeta Gobinda Sadan, Bhubaneswar paying tribute to the timeless Black & White era through evergreen Hindi and Odia songs. Members and audience dressed in classic black and white, creating a nostalgic ambience. The event featured 23 soulful performances by RoofStage artists, captivating the audience throughout. Founded in 2020 as a musical movement to revive passion



for singing, RoofStage today brings together over 70 members across 8 countries, united by the mission of spreading joy through music. The platform supports India's growing indie movement by bridging gaps between talent and opportunity. It helps performers reach new audiences without major label backing and encourages local

collaborations across genres and languages. RoofStage India also amplifies visibility through social media integration, community events, and curated content partnerships, making it a notable grassroots contributor to the modern Indian music landscape. Founder Pradeep Mohapatra, in his welcome address, highlighted the role of music in fostering positivity

and emotional well-being and mentioned how it has grown over six years into an international platform, connecting artists across more than six countries and giving emerging talent opportunities to perform and gain recognition. The evening was graced by eminent personalities including eminent singer Sri Subhas Das, Sri Debashish Mohapatra, Dr Himanshu Khatua, Dr (Col) Deepak Mishra, Dr Ranjan Mohapatra, Sri Aurobindo Behera, Sri Manoj Kar etc. The program was engagingly anchored by Amit Gope and Chandana Das, with seamless coordination by the inhouse organizing team including Samir Mishra and Bikash Roychoudhury.

Turkish Airlines Serves Up Locally Curated Menus for Indian Travellers

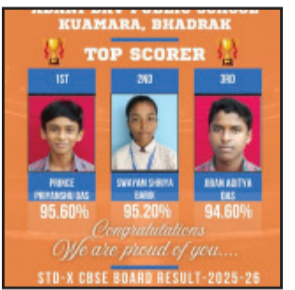
NEW DELHI: Turkish Airlines, the airline flying to more countries than any other, has renewed its Economy Class catering on India routes in collaboration with specialty chefs renowned for their expertise in local cuisine. Effective 1 February 2026, the enhanced offering has been introduced on Mumbai and Delhi flights under the airline's OneTeam Passionately Turkish initiative, delivering a refined onboard experience rooted in Turkish hospitality. The new menu has been thoughtfully curated to appeal to local taste preferences while maintaining global quality standards. The new outbound menu from India features hot breakfast choices such as omelette with tandoori paneer, chickpea

(Chana) masala with garlic spinach and poori bread, and banana pancakes accompanied by a wholesome selection of starters including süzme yoghurt with honey and dried fruits, cheeses, olives, fresh tomato and cucumber, pita and naan bread. The inbound menu offers hot meal options such as butter chicken and curry five spiced broccolini with basmati rice, dal makhani and spiced vegetables with basmati rice, and rigatoni alongside starters like Shepherd's salad, white chocolate mousse, cheese, butter, pita and naan bread. In line with its commitment to delivering a premium travel experience, Turkish Airlines has also expanded the eligible departure countries under its Stopover in Istanbul program,

enabling more guests to enjoy complimentary hotel stays before continuing to their final destinations. Economy Class passengers can stay one night in a 4-star hotel, while Business Class passengers can enjoy a two-night stay in a 5-star hotel free of charge. Additionally, passengers who have a connecting flight from Istanbul and have a layover time between 6 and 24 hours can benefit from the Touristanbul program. It is a complimentary guided city tour service for international transfer passengers with a 6-24-hour layover at Istanbul Airport. It includes transportation, meals, and museum entrance fees for, covering major sights like the Blue Mosque and Grand Bazaar.

Adani DAV Public School Achieves 100% Success in CBSE Board

Dhamra, (Correspondent): Adani DAV Public School, Kuamara, Bhadrak has achieved a remarkable milestone by securing a 100% pass result in the CBSE Class X Board Examination. Demonstrating academic excellence, all students of the institution passed with First Division, marking a proud moment for the school community. Among the top achievers, Prince Priyanshu Das secured the first position with an outstanding 95.60%, followed closely by Swyam Shriya Barik, who attained the second position with 95.20%. Jeevan Aditya Das stood third with an impressive 94.60%. Their exceptional performance reflects the dedication and perseverance of the students, as well as the high academic standards maintained by the institution. The atmosphere at the school was filled with joy and celebration, as students and parents expressed immense happiness over the outstanding results. Guardians wholeheartedly appreciated the relentless efforts and commitment of the teachers, acknowledging their pivotal role in ensuring such exemplary success. The Principal, Mrs.



Krishnapriya Sarangi, extended her heartfelt congratulations to the students for their tireless efforts and for setting a remarkable benchmark. She also expressed sincere gratitude to the teaching staff for their unwavering guidance, to the parents for their constant support, and to the Adani Foundation for its continued encouragement and assistance. Congratulatory messages also poured in from distinguished dignitaries, including Dr. Keshav Chandra Satapathy, Regional Director, DAV Institutions, Odisha Zone; Dr. Sujata Sahu, Regional Officer; Mrs. Ipsita Das, Assistant Regional Officer and Chairman of the School Management Committee.

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): Bhubaneswar is rapidly emerging as a major fashion hub in eastern India, said Bhubaneswar Mayor Sulochana Das while addressing the inauguration of the 14th edition of "Kirti Kalpana 2026," the graduate fashion show of the School of Fashion Technology, KIIT University. Highlighting the city's growing prominence, Das remarked that Bhubaneswar has already transformed into a national centre for fashion. She praised the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta for bringing to

14th edition of 'Kirti Kalpana 2026' Inaugurated at KIIT



the city prestigious events like the Femina Miss India. The grand finale will be held on April 18 at the KIIT campus. Natasha Grover, National Director and Brand & Operations Head of the Miss India Organization,

expressed her delight at being part of the event. Recalling her own graduation days, she said the occasion brought back fond memories. She highlighted the enriching journey of the 30 state winners of Miss India, noting that their

experiences in Odisha have been deeply meaningful. "The moment you take people along with you, you have achieved success. Be honest—hard work always pays off," she advised. Fashion designer Anuj Durga

Sharma from Delhi also shared his insights with the students, inspiring them to innovate and uphold sustainability-driven design philosophies. Addressing the gathering, KIIT Vice Chancellor Prof Saranjit Singh encouraged students to pursue their aspirations with sincerity and purpose. "Whatever you want to be in life, ensure you are a true ambassador of KIIT and KISS and, above all, a good human being," he said. The programme also featured felicitation of guests, jury members, and student achievers, followed by the launch of the event brochure.