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ENGLISH DAILY

RNI Regd No: ODIENG/2019/77780 BHUBANESWAR www.aroundodisha.com VOLUME - 8 ISSUE - 133 Rs-2/- PAGES - 8 MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2026

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Cyclonic Storm 'Murasu' Likely to Intensify Into Severe Cyclone

BhubaneswarCorrespondent: Cyclonic Storm 'Murasu' over the Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a Severe Cyclonic Storm by the early hours of November 2 and cross the south Andhra Pradesh coast between late Monday night and early Tuesday morning, with wind speeds reaching up to 120 kmph, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Sunday.In its latest bulletin, the weather agency said the storm had moved west-northwestwards at a speed of 25 kmph during the preceding six hours and lay centred over the southwest and adjoining westcentral Bay of Bengal at 5.30 pm on Sunday.The system was located near latitude 12.7°N and longitude 84.1°E, approximately 420 km east-southeast of Chennai, 490 km east-southeast of Nellore and 500 km southeast of Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh.It was also positioned around 510 km east-southeast of Kavali, 530 km southeast of Ongole and 560 km south-southeast of Visakhapatnam, the IMD said.The cyclonic storm is very likely to continue moving west-northwestwards and intensify further into a Severe Cyclonic Storm over the westcentral Bay of Bengal by the early hours of November 2.Thereafter, it is expected to move northwestwards and cross the south Andhra Pradesh coast as a Severe Cyclonic Storm between Nellore and Narsapur, close to Ongole.Landfall is likely between 11.30 pm on November 2 and 4 am on November 3, with maximum sustained wind speeds of 100-110 kmph and gusts reaching up to 120 kmph, according to the IMD forecast.

Odisha Announces Major Relief Package For Cyclone 'Arnab'-Hit Families

BhubaneswarCorrespondent: The Odisha government on Sunday announced a comprehensive relief package for families affected by Cyclone 'Arnab', offering 50 kg of rice and Rs 2,500 in financial assistance to each affected family, besides a range of support measures for farmers, fishermen, traders, artisans and other vulnerable groups.The package was announced by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi after a high-level meeting at the Special Relief Commissioner's office to review relief operations, restoration work and damage assessment following the cyclone.Under the package, farmers who have suffered crop losses of 33 per cent or more will be eligible for input subsidies, while

assistance has also been announced for damaged houses, livestock losses, fisheries, small businesses and other livelihood activities.Addressing the media after the meeting, Majhi said the state government was committed to ensuring that every affected person received the necessary assistance.He said he was in regular communication with the Central Government regarding the cyclone's impact and the steps being taken by the state administration. He had also discussed the situation with Union Home Minister Amit Shah.A Central Inter-Ministerial Committee will visit Odisha on November 2 to assess the damage, particularly in the worst-affected districts of Ganjam, Gajapati and Kandhamala, the Chief Minister said.Majhi said that although the impact of Cyclone Arnab had not completely subsided, there was a possibility of another cyclone, 'Murasu', approaching. He directed government teams deployed for relief and monitoring operations to remain in their respective areas and respond to the evolving situation.Farmers who have suffered crop losses of 33 per cent or more will receive input subsidies for a maximum landholding of two hectares.The assistance will be Rs 8,500 per hectare for rainfed areas, Rs 17,000 for irrigated areas and Rs 22,500 for perennial crops. Minimum assistance will be Rs 1,000, Rs 2,000 and Rs 2,500, respectively, for these categories.An assistance of Rs 18,000 per hectare will also be provided for removing sand or silt deposits from agricultural land, subject to a minimum payment of Rs 2,200 per farmer.The government will distribute 1.75 lakh special agricultural mini-kits, comprising 1.2 lakh pulse kits, 5,000 oilseed kits and 50,000 vegetable seed kits.Special assistance will also be extended to sugarcane farmers cultivating 2,000 hectares of affected land. The assistance will be Rs 27,500 per hectare for demonstrating the spaced transplanting method or Rs 12,500 per hectare for ratoon crop management.A 75 per cent subsidy on pesticides and bio-pesticides will be provided during the 2026-27 Rabi season.In areas where crop losses are 33 per cent or more, short-term Kharif crop loans will be converted into medium-term loans for farmers opting for the facility.Joint Liability Groups will also be formed during the current Rabi season to extend credit to sharecroppers, landless farmers and cultivators operating under oral agreements.

8-Member Central Team To Visit Odisha From Nov 2 To Assess Cyclone Damage

BhubaneswarCorrespondent: An eight-member Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) will visit Odisha from November 2 to 4 to assess the damage caused by Cyclone 'Arnab' and the subsequent floods in the state, officials said on Sunday.The team will visit cyclone-affected areas and conduct an on-the-spot assessment of the damage to agriculture, infrastructure, roads, power supply, water resources and other sectors.The team will be led by Ravi Shankar, Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, who is scheduled to arrive at Bhubaneswar airport on the evening of November 2. The other members are expected to reach the state capital

either later that evening or on the morning of November 3.After holding discussions with state government officials, the central team will visit the affected areas in accordance with an itinerary prepared by the state government.The eight-member team comprises officials from various Union ministries and departments.Apart from Shankar, the team includes Dr Man Singh, Director, Directorate of Rice Development, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Patna; Rahul Chaurasia, Deputy Director (PFS), Department of Expenditure, Union Ministry of Finance, New Delhi; and Dilip Kumar Jena, Director, M&A Directorate, Central Water Commission, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Bhubaneswar.The other members are Karan Sareen, Deputy Director, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Union Ministry of Power, New Delhi; Sunil Kumar, Superintending Engineer, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Bhubaneswar; Ajay Kumar Sahu, Under Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, New Delhi; and C. Sai Krishna, Scientist 'D', National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space, Hyderabad.During the visit, the team will also review the ground situation in the affected areas, including rescue and relief operations, and assess the extent of damage caused by the cyclone and subsequent flooding.The state government is making arrangements for the team's accommodation, transportation and other logistical requirements.

Rahul Gandhi Says CEC Gyanesh Kumar Will Go To 'Jail' Over 'Vote Chori'

New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday headlined the INDIA bloc's rally here to demand the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, vowing to save democracy and the Constitution by ensuring that the poll panel Chief faces trial and goes to jail for "vote chori".Addressing the bloc's 'Dilli Chalo' rally, Rahul Gandhi said the "theft" by Gyanesh Kumar is not a normal theft."The vote chori carried out by him (CEC Gyanesh Kumar) is of the 'rarest of rare' category in legal terms," he added.

Accusing the CEC of executing vote theft using EVMs and removal of 13.5 crore names from electoral rolls, Rahul Gandhi said, "What Gyanesh Kumar has done for PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah tantamounts to treason and theft of the voice of every citizen."He added that apart from the CEC, PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah will also have to face consequences for attacking the Constitution and democracy.

"While Home Minister Shah announces that PM Modi is not going anywhere, we want to tell them that we will not let them)PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah) go anywhere till they face the consequences of their acts," Rahul Gandhi said while making insinuations about rigging in 2024 Lok Sabha and several Assembly polls.

PM To Inaugurate Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026 ToDAY

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on Monday inaugurate the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit & Expo 2026, which will bring together representatives from over 130 countries, including more than 40 ministers, according to a PMO statement issued on Sunday.The four-day Summit will be held at the Bharat Mandapam here from November 2 to 5, with the theme 'Invest. Innovate. Inspire." Australia, Denmark, the European Union, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom will participate as country partners.Bharat RE 2026 will serve as a global platform for clean energy investment, industry engagement and technology partnerships with participation of policymakers, investors, financial institutions and industry leaders.A total of 13 states and Union Territories – Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal – will showcase their renewable energy potential, investment opportunities and manufacturing capabilities.

15 Killed In Mob Beatings In Bangladesh In October, Govt's Failure To Ensure Justice Emboldening Culprits: Report

Dhaka: At least 15 people have been killed in mob beatings in Bangladesh in October alone, highlighting the continuing failure of repeated government assurances to curb such violence, according to a recent report by a leading Bangladeshi newspaper.In an opinion article examining the persistence of mob violence in the country, The Daily Star expressed concern over the continued incidents despite promises by the government to take strict action against those responsible."We are deeply disturbed by the persistence of mob violence in the country despite repeated assurances from the government that it would take firm action against those responsible. The deaths of at least 15 people in mob beatings this month alone show that those pledges have done little to stop such brutality," it said.The article referred to two recent incidents in Dhaka in which victims were beaten to death on suspicion of being criminals. Late last month, two pickup truck drivers, identified as Jony and Md Nishat, were allegedly beaten to death in the Jatrabari area of the capital after being suspected of involvement in mugging.In another incident, Alam Sheikh, who had reportedly travelled to Dhaka in search of work and was said to have mental health issues, was beaten to death on the premises of Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital after being suspected of being a kidnapper."These violent crimes reflect a dangerous disregard for the rule of law," the article stated.The newspaper also drew attention to a report released by the Bangladesh Home Ministry on October 20, which recorded 40 deaths in 63 incidents of mob beating between January and September this year. The corresponding period last year had seen 63 people killed in 107 such incidents, according to the official figures.However, The Daily Star pointed out that data compiled by independent rights organisations presented a significantly different picture of the scale of mob violence in the country."Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) documented 171 deaths in mob beatings during the first nine months of this year, while the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) recorded 187 deaths and 401 injuries in 398 incidents. This discrepancy between official and independent data raises questions about the government's assessment of the problem," the report said.The newspaper recalled that on September 1, Home Minister Salahuddin Ahmed had pledged to take firm action against mob violence, maintaining that the existing legal provisions were sufficient to prosecute those involved in such crimes."The government's apparent failure to ensure justice in these cases is emboldening perpetrators and perpetuating the culture of mob violence," the article stated.The report also cited the killing of Tofazzal Hossain, who was beaten to death at Dhaka University's Fazlul Huq Muslim Hall in September 2024 on suspicion of theft and arrest warrants against 22 accused persons were issued, but only six of them have been arrested so far.Another case highlighted by the newspaper was the killing of former Chhatra League leader Shamim Ahmed, also known as Shamim Molla, at Jahangirnagar University in September 2024; however, no investigation report was submitted.

TPSODL Restores Power to Over 17 Lakh Consumers in Southern Odisha After Cyclone Arnab

Berhampur, Correspondent : In a major restoration effort following the impact of the very severe cyclonic storm 'Arnab' and subsequent heavy rainfall and flooding, TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL), a joint venture between Tata Power and the Government of Odisha, has restored electricity supply to over 17.23 lakh consumers across Southern Odisha. The company has achieved 96.32% restoration, reconnecting 17,23,185 of the 17,88,942 affected consumers across its eight operational districts.The restoration drive highlights the scale of the coordinated response undertaken by the power distribution utility following a natural disaster that disrupted electricity infrastructure across several districts. Strong winds uprooted electricity poles and snapped power lines, while persistent rainfall, river flooding and waterlogging added to the complexity of restoration operations. TPSODL has restored all 130 affected 33/11 kV Primary Substations (PSS), while 45 of the 46 affected 33 kV feeders have been brought back into service. At the 11 kV level, 651 of the 658 affected feeders have been restored. The company has also restored 277 of the 278 affected Power Transformers (PTRs) and 55,265 of the 56,706 affected Distribution Transformers (DTRs). With electricity supply restored to more than 17 lakh consumers, TPSODL teams continue to work round the clock to reconnect the remaining 65,757 affected consumers, with priority being accorded to locations where flooding and waterlogging have made access and repair work difficult.Ganjam Records Significant Progress Amid Challenging ConditionsGanjam, among the worst-affected districts, witnessed extensive disruption due to torrential rainfall, river flooding and severe waterlogging. Despite challenging ground conditions, TPSODL has restored electricity supply to 7,73,129 of the 8,29,292 affected consumers, achieving 93.23% restoration.

Former Chief Justice of India Justice U. U. Lalit Visits KIIT and KISS

Bhubaneswar, Correspondent: Former Chief Justice of India, Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, visited the KIIT and KISS campuses on Saturday and exhorted the law students to dedicate themselves to the profession with determination and devotion."One should have a strong sense of purpose in shaping one's life", he underlined, delving into various legal provisions, challenges in the field of law and the functioning of the judicial system, drawing from his experience in the corridors of the Supreme Court.Praising the contribution of these two institutions to society, Justice Lalit shared his valuable knowledge, insights and vast experience in the field of law and the judiciary.Justice Lalit cited several landmark judgments and examples relating to fundamental rights and constitutional amendments, offering students deeper insights into the constitutional framework and the legal system.KIIT and KISS Founder Dr. Achyuta Samanta expressed his gratitude to Justice Lalit for sparing his valuable time to visit the campuses. "His guidance and interaction will immensely benefit our academic community," he said.

TPWODL observes Vigilance Awareness Week 2026, reinforces commitment to ethical practices

Burla, Correspondent: Reaffirming its commitment to integrity, transparency and ethical business practices, TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL), a joint venture of Tata Power and the Government of Odisha, is observing Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 from October 26 to November 1 across its operational areas in Western Odisha. Being observed under the theme "Probity for Prosperity", the initiative aims to strengthen ethical conduct, promote accountability and encourage a corruption-free work culture across the organisation.The observance commenced with CEO, TPWODL, Mr. Parveen Verma administering the Integrity Pledge in Odia to employees and senior leaders at the company's corporate office in Burla. Employees across all TPWODL locations also took the pledge under the leadership of their respective Heads and Managers, reaffirming their commitment to upholding honesty, integrity and ethical conduct in their professional responsibilities.As part of the week-long observance, a series of awareness programmes and vigilance meetings have been organised across the Kalahandi, Balangir, Sambalpur, Bargada and Rourkela circles. These initiatives brought together officers, field staff, Business Associates and other employees across Circle Offices, Divisions, Sub-Divisions, Sections and Commercial Offices.The sessions focused on key aspects of the Tata Code of Conduct, Whistle Blower Policy, vigilance reporting mechanisms, consumer grievance management and ethical service delivery. Awareness activities and the display of vigilance banners across offices and operational locations further reinforced the message of "Probity as a Way of Life", encouraging employees to uphold honesty, transparency and accountability in their everyday decisions and interactions with consumers.

JSW Utkal Steel and JSW Foundation Lay Foundation Stone for Concrete Road in Noliasahi Village

PARADIP (Correspondent):: Under the leadership of Mr. Anil Kumar Singh, President of JSW Utkal Steel Limited, the company, in association with JSW Foundation, has taken another significant step towards improving rural infrastructure and enhancing the socio-economic conditions of communities across the Dhinkia, Nuagaon, and Gadakujang Gram Panchayats.In a major initiative to address a long-standing infrastructure need, JSW Utkal Steel Limited and JSW Foundation organised a foundation stone-laying ceremony for a *290-metre-long and 12-foot-wide concrete road in Noliasahi village under Gadakujang Gram Panchayat*.The road will connect Gangamata Temple to the village cremation ground, providing much-needed access for local residents. For years, villagers faced considerable difficulties reaching the cremation ground, particularly during the rainy season. When waterlogging and muddy, uneven pathways made movement challenging. The proposed concrete road is expected to ensure all-weather connectivity, enabling safer and more convenient access and helping villagers perform last rites with dignity.

AIIMS Bhubaneswar Organises Walkathon to Mark Vigilance Awareness Week 2026

Bhubaneswar, ,(Correspondent): AIIMS Bhubaneswar organised a Walkathon as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026, witnessing enthusiastic participation from doctors, faculty members, officers, staff, and medical, nursing and paramedical students. The Walkathon, held yesterday, aimed to sensitise participants and the wider community about the importance of vigilance and integrity in everyday life. An Integrity Pledge Ceremony was also organised on the occasion, during which the pledge was administered by the Executive Director, Dr. Ashutosh Biswas. The enthusiastic participation of students and staff reflected the importance of collective responsibility in building a culture of transparency and ethical conduct.
The programme was attended by Dean (Academic) Dr. Dillip Kumar Parida, Medical Superintendent Dr. Prabhas Ranjan Tripathy, Chief Vigilance Officer Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohanty, and DDA Lt. Col. Abhijit Sarkar.As part of the week-long observance, AIIMS Bhubaneswar organised a series of activities to strengthen awareness and encourage a culture of integrity and ethical conduct. These included a Gram Sabha at Sijua Village, a Quiz Competition, a Poster Design Competition, and a Capacity Building Programme for faculty members and staff.The Gram Sabha at Sijua Village focused on sensitising the local community to the importance of integrity, transparency, accountability and responsible citizenship. The initiative aimed to highlight the role of ethical values in building an informed, aware and responsible society.A major highlight of the observance was the Capacity Building Programme for faculty members and staff, featuring Shri M. Akhaya, IPS (Retd.), as the resource person. The session focused on strengthening awareness of vigilance, integrity, ethical conduct, transparency and accountability in professional and public life.Earlier, at the commencement of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026, AIIMS Bhubaneswar participated in the Integrity Pledge Ceremony administered by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri J. P. Nadda.

Rashtriya Ekta Divas celebrated at NTPC Talcher Thermal

Talcher ,(Correspondent):NTPC Talcher Thermal observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) on October 31, 2026, commemorating the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, whose visionary leadership and extraordinary contribution helps to build a strong, united and resilient India.On this occasion Shri Vijay Chand, Executive Director, NTPC Talcher Thermal and Smt Vibha Agrawal, President, Sagarika Ladies Club paid floral tribute in the presence of Shri Om Prakash Solanki, GM (O&M), Shri Prabir Kumar, GM (Project), Shri Rakesh Kumar, GM (Maintenance & ADM), Heads of Departments, representatives of employees' unions and associations, and employees. Shri Vijay Chand and Shri Om Prakash Solanki, GM (O&M) administered unity pledge to all employees, reaffirming the collective commitment of employees towards preserving the unity, integrity and security of the nation while upholding the ideals of national integration, harmony and solidarity shown by Sardar Patel. Addressing the employees Shri Vijay Chand advised all to follow the principle of Sardar Patel, whose visionary leadership helped to integrate 562 princely states to the Union of India, will inspire the generations to keep the country united.

Physical Education Teacher Baibasuta Pradhan's Dedicated Efforts Bear Fruit

PADAMPUR, ,(Correspondent)Shubham Bhoi, a promising young talent from Mandosil village under Padampur Sub-Division, has been selected to represent Odisha in the Junior Kabaddi team at the upcoming 52nd National-level Kabaddi Championship.Shubham is the son of Khita Bhoi and Alladin Bhoi. His selection has brought pride and happiness to Mandosil village and the surrounding areas.Earlier, Shubham represented the Rajborasambar team in various Kabaddi competitions, where he showcased his sporting talent and skills. He also underwent one year of specialised Kabaddi training in Delhi, which further strengthened his abilities.Behind the growing sporting achievements of young players in Mandosil and neighbouring areas is the dedicated guidance and continuous effort of Physical Education Teacher Baibasuta Pradhan. Known for his commitment to sports development, Pradhan has been instrumental in nurturing local talent. Every year, several of his students get opportunities to represent their region at state and national-level competitions.As the Physical Education Teacher of Mandosil Higher Secondary School, his contribution to promoting sports and encouraging young athletes has become a source of inspiration for the region.Shubham's selection for the national championship has been widely appreciated by sports enthusiasts and intellectuals. Congratulatory messages and appreciation are pouring in for both Shubham Bhoi and his mentor, Baibasuta Pradhan, for their dedication and contribution to the field of sports.

Rayagada Observes Vigilance Awareness Week 2026

Rayagada, Correspondent : A district-level awareness rally and meeting were organised in Rayagada on Saturday as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026, highlighting the importance of transparency, integrity and ethical conduct in public administration.Collector Ashutosh Kulkarni presided over the meeting and stressed the need for transparency and accountability in government offices. He said the observance provided an opportunity for public servants to reaffirm their commitment to their responsibilities and work towards a corruption-free society. He urged government officials and employees to discharge

their duties with honesty and integrity.Chief Development Officer-cum-Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad Akshay Kumar Khemundu made a pertinent observation that maintaining probity in public life goes beyond government policies, rules and administrative guidelines. He emphasised that integrity ultimately rests on an individual's personal commitment to ethical conduct, honesty and accountability, making it a matter of personal conviction rather than merely institutional compliance.Educationist Dushmanta Kumar Mohanty, attending as the chief speaker, spoke on the importance of ethical values, honesty and a sense of responsibility in public life. Bar Association president Brajasundar Nayak and Government Advocate Padmanabha Das also highlighted the adverse consequences of corruption and the role of citizens in preventing it.Among those present were Superintendent of Police Raj Prasad, Special Development Council vice-chairperson Manjula Miniaaka, Additional District Magistrate (General) Rabindranath Kahanr, Rayagada Block Development Officer Sujit Kumar Mishra, Vigilance Deputy Superintendent of Police Suryakanti Takri and District Information and Public Relations Officer Debaraj Takri.The speakers called for collective commitment to combating corruption and strengthening transparency and integrity at every level of society.

Odisha Jail DG Booked on Former Woman Jailor's Complaint of Harassment, Threats

KatakaCorrespondent : Odisha Police have registered a criminal case against Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services Sushant Kumar Nath, IPS, following allegations of sexual harassment, criminal intimidation and retaliatory administrative action by former Choudwar Circle Jailor Santoshini Dash.Dash lodged a written complaint at Choudwar Police Station on October 31, following which police registered Choudwar PS Case No. 713 under Sections 75(2), 351(2) and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Inspector-in-Charge of Choudwar Police Station Bikash Sethi is investigating the case.The allegations, which are yet to be established through investigation, relate to alleged attempts to arrange private meetings, subsequent departmental action against the complainant and pressure to withdraw an earlier criminal case.According to the complaint, the sequence of events began after a jail inspection in mid-2025. Dash alleged that a person identified as Kuldeep Ratha, whom she was introduced to as an associate or friend of the prison chief, obtained her mobile number and subsequently sent her messages containing suggestive emojis.Ratha allegedly invited her to dinner at a restaurant named Blast on August 29, 2025, and at Hotel Pramod on September 25 or 26 of the same year. On both occasions, he reportedly conveyed that the DGP wanted to meet her privately, according to the complaint.Dash claimed that she declined the invitations and made it clear that she would meet her superior officer only in an official setting.The former jailor alleged that a series of adverse administrative measures followed her refusal to attend the proposed private meetings.According to her complaint, she was suspended on February 19, 2026. She further alleged that her salary and subsistence allowance were stopped and that five departmental proceedings were initiated against her.Dash also claimed that during meetings on September 7 and 8, 2026, Nath made a remark suggesting that she would not have faced the adverse consequences had she agreed to meet him. She has alleged that the statement indicated a connection between her refusal and the subsequent administrative action.These claims remain subject to police investigation and independent verification.

Crime Branch Arrests 13th Accused in Balianta Murder Case

KatakaCorrespondent: The Odisha Crime Branch has arrested another accused in connection with the Balianta murder case, taking the total number of arrests to 13. The accused, identified as Chinmay Mohanty alias Bubu (33), was apprehended from the Singla area of Balasore district on the night of October 31.According to a press release issued by the CID Crime Branch, Mohanty, a resident of Balikanthia village under Balianta police station in Khordha district, was formally arrested at 10.30 am on November 1 following his apprehension. He is being forwarded to the court of the Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate (SDJM), Bhubaneswar.The case relates to a murder that took place on May 7, 2026, in the Bhingarpur-Kaja area under Balianta police station. The Odisha Government had entrusted the investigation to the CID Crime Branch, which has been pursuing the case on the basis of evidence collected during the investigation.Before Mohanty's arrest, 12 accused persons had been taken into custody and were lodged in judicial custody. His arrest marks another significant development in the ongoing investigation.The Crime Branch is continuing its efforts to identify and trace other persons suspected of involvement in the incident. Further investigation is underway.

Two Arrested in Rourkela with Country-Made Pistol and Bhujal

RourkelaCorrespondent: In a major breakthrough, Uditnagar Police arrested two persons during motor vehicle (MV) checking near S.K. DAV Polytechnic College in Basanti Colony, Rourkela, on Sunday, after they allegedly attempted to flee on a motorcycle without a registration number plate.The arrested persons have been identified as Gulzar Singh (37), a resident of Orampada under Uditnagar Police Station, and Rahul Singh (24), a resident of Ambedkar Nagar in Basanti Colony, Rourkela.According to

police, the two were intercepted while riding a Bajaj Pulsar NS 160 motorcycle without a number plate. When signalled to stop, they allegedly attempted to escape, following which police apprehended them and conducted a search. During the search, police recovered and seized a country-made single-barrel pistol, a Gorkha knife (Bhujali), two suspicious registration number plates bearing Jharkhand registration number JH-01GW-4429 and Madhya Pradesh registration number MP-34ZA-4868, along with two mobile phones and other articles.The seized items include:One Bajaj Pulsar NS 160 motorcycle without a registration plate.One country-made single-barrel pistol.One Gorkha knife (Bhujali), measuring 40.5 cm in length.Two suspicious number plates bearing registration numbers JH-01GW-4429 nd MP-34ZA-4868.One Redmi A4 5G mobile phone.
One OPPO A6x 5G mobile phone.Two black bags, one marked 'Fancy' and the other 'Priority'.During the course of the investigation, police reportedly found that the accused had allegedly planned to commit a robbery at a jewellery shop in Rourkela Township during the Dhanteras festival.Further investigation is underway to ascertain their involvement in other criminal activities and establish the source of the seized weapons and suspicious registration plates.

Excise Raids in Kakirigumma and Laxmipur

Foreign Liquor, 970 Litres of Illicit Liquor and Wash Seized; One Arrested

Laxmipur, Correspondent: The Excise Department has intensified its crackdown on the illegal liquor trade in Koraput district. In two separate raids conducted on October 30, the department seized foreign liquor, country liquor and a large quantity of fermented mahua wash. One person was arrested in connection with one of the cases.In the first incident, excise officials seized 4.680 bulk litres of foreign liquor from the Kakirigumma area. The accused, identified as Brundaban Bisoi (52), son of late

Gopinath Bisoi, was arrested in this connection. A case was registered under PR No. 152/2026-27, and the accused was forwarded to court.In a separate raid at Toyaput under Laxmipur police station limits, officials seized 900 litres of fermented mahua wash (F.M. wash) and 70 litres of illicit country liquor (I.D. liquor). The case has been registered as an unclaimed seizure under PR No. 153/2026-27, as no accused was identified.
ASI Komala Kumari Mahankud of the Laxmipur Excise Police Station acted as the investigating officer in the second case.Excise Officer Kusha Jaal stated that raids would continue in the area to curb the illegal manufacture and sale of liquor.

Alleged Recovery of Migrant Workers' Advances Raises Questions Over Police Role

Kantabanji, correspondence: Serious questions have been raised over the alleged role of police in recovering advance payments made to migrant labourers by a labour contractor (dadan sardar), instead of focusing on preventing distress migration and protecting workers.ccording to allegations circulating in Balangir district, an officer-in-charge of a police station was allegedly entrusted with recovering money given to migrant workers by a labour contractor, who is also said to be a politician. The alleged incident has triggered concerns over the possible misuse of police authority.A reliable source has claimed that family members of eight migrant workers were allegedly kept at the police station from morning until late at night in connection with the recovery of the advance money. They were reportedly made to remain in cold conditions for an extended period. Allegations have also surfaced that the police accepted illegal gratification from the labour contractor in the matter.However, these allegations have not been independently verified, and the circumstances surrounding the incident remain unclear. It is yet to be established whether the family members were formally detained, why they were brought to the police station and what role the police actually played in the alleged recovery.If established, such conduct would raise serious concerns regarding the protection of migrant workers and their families. A fair and impartial inquiry is needed to ascertain the facts, fix accountability and ensure that workers are not subjected to coercion or harassment over advance payments.The incident has also raised questions over what action the authorities will take if the allegations are found to be true. An official clarification and an impartial investigation are awaited.

National Unity Day Celebrated in Jharsuguda

Jharsuguda correspondence:: The Jharsuguda district administration celebrated Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day)* with great enthusiasm on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, India's first Deputy Prime Minister, popularly known as the Iron Man of India. The programme was jointly organised by the District Sports Department and the District Information and Public Relations Department.The celebration aimed to uphold the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the nation. The event, held at the conference hall of the District Collector's Office, witnessed the participation of senior district officials, employees, intellectuals and a large number of students.As part of the celebrations, a grand awareness rally titled 'Unity Rally' was organised in the morning. The rally commenced from Kisan Chowk at Beheramal, passed through various important roads of the town and culminated at the District Collector's Office. Students from various schools and colleges, young sportspersons, NCC cadets, members of social organisations and administrative officials participated in the rally, carrying the national flag and placards highlighting the ideals of Sardar Patel. Slogans such as "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Long Live National Unity" filled the atmosphere with patriotic fervour.

KALAHANDI KURMI SAMAJ OBSERVES NATIONAL UNITY DAY

Bhabanipatna: (Correspondent) The Kalahandi District Kurmi Kshatriya Anchal Sangha (KDKKAS) celebrated Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) on the birth anniversary of iron man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with great enthusiasm at Bhabanipatna. On this occasion, a grand procession (Shobhajatra) was taken out from Purunapada which culminated at the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel near Manikeshwari High

School Chowk of this town. Members of the community offered floral garlands at the statue of iron man , raised slogans, and highlighted the life and contributions of the great leader who saved India from balkanization. The programme was presided over by Anchal President Ashwini Pradhan. Social worker Pankaj Sangham, who hail from Gujarat, joined as Chief Guest and delivered the memorial address. Among others, Kuladhipati-Maheswar Pradhan, President's Award-winning teacher Gangadhar Pradhan, Siddharth Nayak, Pratap Pradhan, Santosh Pradhan, Dukhishyam Pradhan, Amit Nayak, Shivaram Pradhan, Krishna Chandra Pradhan, Mangalu Pradhan, Parakhit Biswal, Dharmendra Pradhan, Surendra Nayak, Sitakanta Pradhan, Debraj Pradhan, Nabin Nayak, Malay Bihari Nayak, Sudam Pradhan and others were present.

34001/1080/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid identification No. S'E' CBT (R&B) ll/ 2026-27
charbatiadivision1 @qmail'com

1. Name of the work : -Barricading works-O1 No
ii..Estimated cos : Rs 26'46'1701-
iii. Period of comPletion : 07 Days
iv. Date & time of availability of uid documents in the portal: from 10'00 AM of 02.11.2026to Og.1'f iOi'O up to 5'00 PM for 'online" bidding
V. Lastdate/time for receipt of Bids in the portal :09.11'2026 upto 5.00PM
VI.Name and address of the officer inviting Bid : superintending Engineer' charbatia (R&B) Division, Ghoudwar
Further detairs can be seen from the e-procurement portal http://www .tendersorissa.gov.in
Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Superintending Engineer
Charibatia (R&B) Division

OIPR:34001/34092/1/26-27/0007

EDITORIAL

Beyond the Thesis: IIT Ropar Redefines the PhD

Higher education is undergoing a significant transformation. Traditionally, a PhD has been associated with years of academic research, lengthy thesis writing and the publication of scholarly papers. However, the changing needs of industry and society are encouraging universities to explore new ways of evaluating research scholars. The focus is gradually expanding from theoretical knowledge to practical innovation, problem-solving and the development of useful technologies.

A New Approach to Doctoral Research

IIT Ropar has introduced a Product/Startup-Driven PhD pathway that offers a different approach to doctoral education. Under this model, research scholars can focus on developing products, creating patents, transferring technology and establishing startups. The objective is to connect advanced research with practical applications that can benefit industry and society.According to the institute's programme document, doctoral degrees under this pathway are linked to research outcomes associated with the creation, development and scaling of products or startups. This approach encourages scholars to transform their ideas into practical solutions rather than limiting their work to conventional academic outputs.

From Research Papers to Real-World Solutions

A traditional thesis remains an important means of demonstrating a scholar's research ability, originality and understanding of a subject. Nevertheless, research can also produce valuable outcomes in the form of new technologies, innovative products, industrial processes and entrepreneurial ventures.

For example, an engineering scholar might develop an affordable medical device, a scientist could create a more efficient water-purification system, or a technology researcher might establish a startup that addresses agricultural challenges. Such achievements can demonstrate the practical value of research.

The new pathway raises an important question: should the success of doctoral research be judged only by the number of papers published and the length of a thesis, or should its real-world impact also receive substantial recognition?Opportunities and Responsibilities

This model could provide new opportunities for scholars who wish to combine academic research with entrepreneurship and industrial innovation. It may also strengthen cooperation between universities, businesses and research institutions.

The Month of Kartika in Odisha: Faith, Tradition and Maritime Heritage

Dr.Satyanarayan Mishra

An enduring celebration of devotion, self-discipline and Odisha's glorious cultural heritage.

Among the months of the Hindu calendar, Kartika holds a special place in Odisha's religious and cultural life. It is not merely a month of fasting and worship but a period that brings together spirituality, traditional practices and memories of ancient maritime glory.

Considered especially auspicious for worshipping Lord Vishnu, Kartika is also closely associated with Lord Jagannath. From the famous temple at Puri to village shrines across the state, the month brings an atmosphere of devotion.

Habisha Brata: A Month of Self-discipline

One of Odisha's distinctive Kartika traditions is Habisha Brata, observed particularly by women known as Habishyalis.

During this month, devotees rise early, take ritual baths, offer prayers and follow a simple, traditionally prescribed vegetarian diet. The observance represents purity, devotion and self-control.

Puri becomes an important centre of this tradition, attracting numerous Habishyalis who spend the month in religious observance.

Panchuka: The Sacred Five Days

The final five days of Kartika are known as Panchuka. They hold special significance for devotees of Lord Jagannath.

The Jagannath Temple at Puri witnesses special rituals and ceremonial attire of the deities. Devotees gather in large numbers for darshan, prayer and religious observances.

Boita Bandana: Remembering Ancient Kalinga's Maritime Glory

Perhaps the most fascinating tradition of Kartika is Boita Bandana, celebrated on Kartika Purnima.

The festival commemorates the maritime heritage of ancient Kalinga, whose merchants and seafarers maintained trade and cultural connections with distant lands, particularly Southeast Asia.On this occasion, people gather beside rivers, ponds and the sea to float miniature boats made from banana stems and other materials, often carrying small lamps and traditional offerings.

The celebration is accompanied by the familiar Odia folk verse:

Aa Ka Ma Bai, Pana Gua Thoi.

Boita Bandana is more than a religious observance; it represents Odisha's historic maritime connections and cultural identity.

Kartika and the Jagannath Tradition

Kartika is deeply connected with the worship of Lord Jagannath. Devotees visit Puri for darshan and participate in special religious observances.

Tulasi worship is another important feature. In Vaishnava tradition, Tulasi is considered especially dear to Lord Vishnu. Lighting a lamp before the Tulasi plant remains a cherished practice in Odia households.

A Message of Harmony and Compassion

Kartika also encourages charity, compassion and community participation. Feeding the needy, serving elderly devotees and joining collective worship reflect the social values associated with this sacred month.

These traditions remind us that spirituality extends beyond rituals into service, discipline and harmony.

Conclusion: A Living Cultural Heritage

For Odisha, Kartika is much more than a month in the religious calendar. It is a living expression of faith, history and cultural continuity.Habisha Brata represents devotion and self-discipline, Panchuka reflects the spiritual attachment to Lord Jagannath, and Boita Bandana preserves memories of ancient Kalinga's maritime heritage.

Kartika is not merely a celebration of religious faith; it is a celebration of Odisha's enduring spiritual and cultural identity.

Know the significance of the holy month of "Kartika"

Gangadhar Samal

The month of Kartika is believed to be the holiest of all months in the Hindu lunar calendar. It is known to be the best month of the year to become one with the Supreme Being. It is the sin-destroying month and almost overlaps October and November in the English calendar.

Kartika is the most awaited month of the year, particularly for widows and women of Odisha. Kartika Brata is observed for the whole month and important rituals that are followed include partial fasting and reading the Kartika Mahatmya from Padma Purana. A large number of pilgrims (particularly widows and women) flock Puri to serve Lord Jagannath and observe Kartika Brata.

This month holds a lot of significance for the Odias who observe many traditional festivals and rituals like "Habisha", "Baluka Puja", "Panchuka", "Kartika Purnima" and "Boita Bandano". According to Odia Hindus, someone who observes Kartika Brata will get happiness in life because it is the favourite month of both Vishnu and Shiva.

Kartika Brata: Most devotees observing the Brata, take pre-dawn bath and visit Jagannath Temple daily early in the morning during Mangal Arati. During the entire month they take food only once a day in the afternoon, which is known as "Habisa" and the devotees undertaking the Brata are known as "Habisiali".

In the Habisa food, a certain number of vegetables are prohibited from being used, such as brinjal, sweet potato, different varieties of gourds, a number of pulses and leafy vegetables.

The Panchuka: The last five days of the Kartika month are considered highly auspicious and are known as "Panchuka". During these five days, Odia Hindus are prohibited for eating non-veg food. And many people come to Puri to behold Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra. During these five days, the three sibling deities and Sudarshan are dressed in five different Beshas (attires) each day.

Kartik Purnima: The most important day of Kartika is the full moon day or Kartika Purnami as it is referred to by Odias. This day is the day when Sadhabas or merchants of Odisha used to sail to far off lands with goods to do business. Till this day and age, Odias perform the ritual of "Boita Bandana" to celebrate the glorious past of Odisha or Kalinga as it used to be known in the past. The theme song of the "Boita Bandana" is – "Aka Ma Bai, Pana Gua Thoi, Pana gua tora, Masaka dharama mora" the song of devotion.

Why is discontent growing among youth around the world?

Mahendra Tiwari

The world is changing rapidly. Unprecedented progress is being made in science, technology, education, and communication. Large industries are being established, and claims of economic growth are being made. Despite this, the young generation in many countries around the world is worried about their future. Lack of employment, inflation, expensive housing, rising education costs, and economic insecurity pose serious challenges for young people. This is why their concerns are no longer limited to personal problems but are becoming an international issue.

Recent youth-led protests in several European countries, including Germany and France, have brought this problem to global attention. In these movements, young people have demanded better education, employment opportunities, affordable housing, and relief from the rising cost of living. These events clearly demonstrate that economic growth statistics and the actual living conditions of ordinary citizens do not always align.

According to a report published by the International Labour Organization in August 2026, the global youth unemployment rate rose to 12.4 percent in 2025. Approximately 67 million young people were unemployed. The report also indicates that finding employment has become more difficult for young people in developed economies. In North America, the youth unemployment rate increased from 8.3 percent in 2023 to 9.8 percent in 2025. In Northern, Southern, and Western Europe, the rate was around 15 percent.

These statistics don't just mean that young people are struggling to find jobs. A major problem is the quality of employment. Many young people struggle to find work commensurate with their qualifications. Some find temporary employment, while others are forced to work for low wages. Even after finding a job, there's no certainty that their income will be regular and their future secure.

When achieving economic independence even after completing an education becomes difficult, it's natural for young people to become frustrated.

Another major cause of youth economic concerns is the rising cost of living. Expenses for food, transportation, electricity, healthcare, and housing constantly strain their budgets. High rent rates, especially in large cities, are making it increasingly difficult for low-income

youth to live independently.Housing and inflation were prominent issues during recent protests in Europe. When a large portion of a young person's income is spent solely on rent and essential goods, it becomes difficult to save, start a family, or invest for their future.large cities across many developing countries, including India, young people struggle to balance education, employment, and housing. The dream of economic independence remains unfulfilled when meeting basic needs becomes a challenge despite a regular income.

On October 31, 2026, youth-led protests took place in 34 cities across Germany. Protesters demanded increased investment in education and healthcare, lowering the cost of living, and opposing compulsory military service. Most demonstrations were peaceful, although incidents of violence and vandalism occurred at some locations.In France, youth and other social groups also protested against problems in the education system, public services, inflation, and employment. These movements reflected a common sentiment. Young people felt their concerns were not being taken seriously enough and that their needs were not given due consideration when formulating policies.

These incidents should not be viewed solely as law and order issues. Peaceful protests are a means of expressing one's voice in a democracy. Governments should consider the economic and social causes of discontent while preventing violence.Artificial intelligence and automation have created new opportunities in the employment world, but they are also changing the nature of some traditional jobs. According to a report by the International Labour Organization, approximately 6.1 percent of jobs held by youth aged 15 to 29 are in sectors most likely to be impacted by changes related to artificial intelligence.

This does not mean that all these jobs will disappear. Rather, the nature of many jobs may change, increasing the need for new skills. Problems arise when the education and training system fails to adapt to this change in a timely manner.Therefore, instead of simply providing certificates, emphasis should be placed on developing practical knowledge, technical proficiency, creative thinking, and problem-solving abilities. Furthermore, working people should also be provided with opportunities to learn new skills.India's youth population represents one of the country's greatest potentials. But to transform this potential into real strength, it is essential to provide adequate and respectable employment. The aspirations of educated youth are rising. They seek economic independence, a secure future, and opportunities to advance according to their abilities.If quality jobs don't increase alongside economic growth, the gap between youth expectations and actual opportunities could persist. Lack of employment opportunities in rural areas, limited availability of work for women, and inconsistent employment opportunities are some of the reasons behind this.

Farmer Consumes Poison Unable to Bear Flood Losses, Dies During Treatment

Hinjilicut/Sheragada, Correspondent : A farmer from Bakilikana village under the Dengapadar panchayat in Sheragada block, Ganjam district, allegedly committed suicide by consuming poison due to the distress of losing his crops in a flood. The deceased has been identified as 55-year-old Arjun Panda of the same village.According to reports, Arjun Panda had cultivated various vegetables, including cauliflower, cabbage, and chillies, on approximately seven bharana (local land measurement unit) of land. However, all his crops were completely destroyed by floodwaters. Unable to bear the scale and loss of the crop failure, he consumed poison yesterday around 7:00 PM.Upon noticing this, his family members, with the assistance of local Sarpanch Binod Sethi, immediately rushed him to the Hinjilicut Community Health Center. As his condition deteriorated, doctors provided primary treatment and referred him to the MKCG Medical College and Hospital in Brahmapur. He passed away around 10:00 PM while undergoing treatment there. Following the post-mortem examination on Sunday, his body was brought back to the village. His wife Sabita Panda, two sons, and a married daughter were present by his side at the time of his death. This tragic incident has cast a shadow of deep grief across the entire region and the grieving family.

9 Arrested in Connection with Vandalism and Misbehavior Towards Female Staff at a Restaurant

Gopalpur, (correspondent):The Gopalpur police have arrested 9 individuals and forwarded them to the court in connection with an incident involving an attack, vandalism, and misbehavior towards staff at the 'Shine Wine and Dine' restaurant in Gopalpur. The arrested accused are Ganesh Dakua from Dhumachhai (under Belaguntha police station); Anil Kumar Nayak and Kahnu Charan Pradhan from Ambapur; D. Tejeshwar Rao from Kali Palli (under Chamakhandi police station); Narayan Sahu from Shradhapur (under Polasara police station); Madan Sahu from Pudapadar (under Chhatrapur police station); and Anshuman Sahu from Landei Sahi (under Bhanjanagar police station). Sanket Kanderekar from Manakuda and Rohit Rathod from Alupuranda (under the jurisdiction of the Yadgiri police station in Karnataka). A Bullet motorcycle (OD 07 H 9294), a scooter (OD 02 DA 5488), and another scooter (OD 07 BG 9294) have been seized from them. On October 30, at 5:00 PM, the arrested accused arrived at the restaurant to dine. As there was no space available, the staff asked them to wait; however, they attempted to force their way into the family section. When some employees objected to their behavior, the youths used abusive language and assaulted the staff. Furthermore, they vandalized the restaurant's kitchen, shattered glass windows, and mistreated a female housekeeping staff member, even manhandling her. Following a written complaint filed at the police station by Surya Sahu—an employee at the restaurant who hails from Chhatrapur—the Gopalpur Police registered a case (Case No. 638/2026) and initiated an investigation. It is reported that the police were able to apprehend the accused by utilizing footage from the restaurant's CCTV cameras and tracing the registration number of the motorcycle they had used.

Dr. A. Naik Felicitated at World's First Bidura Temple Pratishtha Utsav

Rourkela A : Kuchinda, Sambalpur: The world's first temple dedicated to Mahatma Bidura, the close friend of Lord Krishna, was consecrated at Kuchinda on November 1, 2026, on the occasion of his birth anniversary. Thousands of devotees and visitors attended the grand Pratishtha Utsav.The temple beautifully showcases the life and history of Mahatma Bidura, intricately sculpted in stone by eminent sculptor and distinguished recipient of the Padma Shri and Padma Vibhushan, Shri Sudarshan Sahoo.On the occasion, Prof. Dr. A. Naik was felicitated in recognition of his outstanding contributions to diabetes care across Odisha.

District-Level Job Fair Held in Jajpur: Appointment Letters Distributed to 37 Servitors

JAJPUR (Correspondent): A district-level job fair was organised at the Collectorate Conference Hall in Jajpur on the morning of November 1, 2026, under the joint initiative of the Jajpur District Administration and the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and Backward Classes Welfare Department (SSD, M&BCW Department).Additional District Magistrate (ADM) Judhishthir Nayak and District Welfare Officer (DWO) Sarat Chandra Behera attended the programme and formally distributed

appointment letters to 37 servitors (Sevaks and Sevikas) out of 41 selected candidates.The appointments are expected to strengthen the district's educational infrastructure, particularly in tribal language education and welfare-oriented educational institutions. The recruitment of Sevaks, Sevikas and Tribal Language Teachers will help students in underprivileged and remote areas gain access to quality education and better institutional support.The initiative is also expected to promote the preservation of local languages and cultural traditions while improving educational standards in tribal-dominated areas.The recruitment drive has brought new hope to the district's youth by providing employment opportunities. It is considered a positive step towards addressing unemployment and improving the economic condition of several families.Intellectuals have welcomed the initiative, expressing the view that such employment-oriented welfare measures by the state government and district administration can contribute significantly to the social and economic development of Jajpur district.

Unitech Public School Organises Grand Educational Fair 2026

Nayagarh, (correspondent):::: As in previous years, Unitech Public School organised a grand educational fair on its campus this year. The Educational Fair 2026 was formally inaugurated by School Director Prabir Kumar Pusti and Principal Rosalin Patra through the ceremonial lighting of the lamp.A large number of students from both junior and senior sections participated in the innovative academic event. They showcased a wide range of attractive and knowledge-based projects covering various subjects, including Science, Mathematics, English, Sanskrit, Hindi, Odia and Social Science. Each project reflected the students' innovative ideas, hard work and creativity.A total of 214 students participated in the educational fair. The participation included 74 students from the youngest category, 56 students in Mathematics and Science and 15 students in English, Hindi and Social Science from the junior section. Similarly, 52 students presented Mathematics and Science projects, while 17 students participated in English, Social Science and Sanskrit projects in the senior section.The projects were evaluated by a distinguished panel of judges comprising Dr Geetanjali Tripathy, Bharati Mishra, Dr Santosh Kumar Behera, Keshab Chandra Rautray, Krupasindhu Swain, Bijayalaxmi Sahu, Purnima Tripathy, Lakshmidhar Sahu, Dandapani Patra, Smitarani Kar and Shubhashree.

Sonali Singh Parmar Appointed as Jharsuguda Superintendent of Police

Jharsuguda, (correspondent):: Sonali Singh Parmar has assumed charge as the new Superintendent of Police (SP) of Jharsuguda district. She has been promoted from her previous post as Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) in Khordha district and transferred to Jharsuguda as SP.
Meanwhile, Jharsuguda SP Gundala Raghavendra has been promoted and transferred to Cuttack district as Assistant Inspector General (AIG).

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender No. ELS-ANGL-OT-26-27-13
NAME OF WORK : DISMANTLING, CLEANING AND MINOR ATTENTION OF TRACTION MOTOR FOR CONVENTIONAL AND THREE PHASE ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES OF ELECTRIC LOCO SHED, ANGUL.
Advertised Value : ₹15,24,530.30, EMD:₹30,500/-, Tender Document Cost: ₹2,360/-, Period of Completion : 24 Months.
Bidding Start Date : 06.11.2026
Tender Closing Date and Time : 20.11.2026 At 1500 Hrs.
Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.
Complete information including e-Tender documents and corrigendum is available in website www.ireps.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRS), Angul
PR- 528/R/26-27

16 Beneficiaries Receive Pushcarts to Start Their Own Businesses

Nayagarh , (Correspondent): : In an initiative aimed at promoting self-employment and economic independence, the National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC) distributed pushcarts to 16 beneficiaries from the Khandapada Assembly constituency in Nayagarh district on Saturday.The initiative was made possible through the special efforts of Abhilash Panda, Odisha State

President of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM).The pushcarts provided by NECC will enable the beneficiaries to start their own small businesses and earn a livelihood independently. The initiative is expected to create new employment opportunities and help them support their families financially.Dr. Ajil Kumar, head of NECC, was present at the programme and distributed the pushcarts among the beneficiaries.Among others, Abhilash Panda, Soumyaranjan Sahu, Sambit Kumar Sahu, District Yuva Morcha President Satyendu Sekhar Mishra, youth organiser Jitendra Kumar Katia and Parameswar Mohanty attended the programme.The initiative is expected to benefit unemployed youth and economically weaker sections of society by providing them with opportunities for self-employment and financial independence.

Pragyan Mission organizes block-level Bhagavad Gita Shlok Recitation Competition

Patnagarh - (Correspondent) Pragyan Mission organized a Bhagavad Gita Shlok Recitation Competition under the chairmanship of School Chairperson Sarita Naik at the Balangir district khaprakhol Odisha Adarsh ??Vidyalaya campus. Balangir District Nodal Chairperson kshyama Nidhi Jhankar was the chief guest in the program and spoke about the indispensable role of Bhagavad Gita in shaping public life, duty and character. Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya, Patharchepa Sanskrit Teacher Seshadeva Mishra was the guest of honor. On this occasion, a Gita Shlok Recitation Competition was organized among students.Sanskrit teachers Devadatta Bhoi, Madhusudan Sahu, Amar Behera, Chudamani Patel, Deepak Kumar Naik, Chhotu Behera, Pradeep Kumar Panda, Sameer Dev Chauhan and Fakira Rana were the judges for the evaluation of the competition. In the junior category of the competition, Amrita Meher won first place, Adyasha Priyadarshini Meher second and Anjali Bag third place, while Archita Sahu won the consolation prize. In the senior category, Alisha Karwan won first place, Adyasha Naik second and Manisha Sahu third place.

25001/1424/2627

'e' PROCUREMENT NOTICE N0.16/2026-27

1. Name of work.	: Road Work
2. Total No. of Work	: 01 (One) work
3. Estimated Cost.	: Rs.36.97 lakhs.
4. Period of Completion.	: 03 (Three) Calendar Months.
5. Class of Contractor	: 'C' & 'B' Class

Other details as follows:

a) Procurement officer. : Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Kataka
b) Availability of tender online for bidding : Frorn dt.04.11.2026 at 11.00 A.M. to dt.17.11 2026 up to 5.00 P.M
c) Last date & time of seeking of tender clarification. : dt.l6.11.2026 up to 5.00 P.M ..
d) Date & Time of Opening of Tender : :dt.18.11.2026 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the web site- www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Sauperitending Engineer
Rural Works Division
Kataka

OIPR::25001/25053/1/26-27/0018

Minor girl kidnapping and rape case: Accused jailed

SUBARNAPUR(Correspondent)- Subarnapur Additional District Session Judge cum Special POCSO Court Hon'ble Judge Dilip Kumar Biswal has sentenced the accused Alok Barik of Goudapada village under Binika police station to rigorous imprisonment after giving the final verdict in the case of kidnapping and rape of a minor girl. The accused Alok Barik has been sentenced to 23 years, 5 months and 10 days in prison. According to the details of the case, a 17-year-old minor girl who had come to appear for an examination at Binika Women's College was kidnapped on April 5, 2023. After a written complaint was filed by the victim's family at the Binika police station, the police registered a case under Case No. 79/

2023 and rescued the victim after seven days and arrested the accused and tried him in court. The investigating officer filed a charge sheet against the accused under Sections 363/366/376(2)(n) of the Indian Penal Code and Section 6 of the POCSO Act. In its verdict on Saturday, the Hon'ble Court sentenced the accused to undergo imprisonment for 23 years, 5 months and 10 days and a fine of Rs.25,550 under Section 6 of the POCSO Act. The fine was suspended and one year of imprisonment was imposed. In addition, under Section 363 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the accused was ordered to undergo three years of imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 10,000 and under Section 366, the accused was ordered to undergo four years of imprisonment and a fine of Rs.3,000. All the sentences were ordered to run concurrently. In case the fine is not paid, the accused will have to undergo more imprisonment and the fine amount to be collected will be paid as compensation to the victim, the court clarified in its verdict. The case was handled by Special Public Prosecutor Bipin Bihari Bidyadhar on behalf of the government under the direct supervision of Deputy Director of the Subarnapur District Prosecution Directorate Benulal Pradhan and was assisted by Joint Director Himanshu Sekhar Panda.

13001/2318/2627

Kataka Municipal Corporation
Biju Bhawan, Choudhary Bazaar,
Kataka-753001

RFQ FOR "SELECTION OF EVENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR EXECUTION OF BALIJATRA-2026 AT KATAKA-IN-KATAKA, KMC

The Commissioner, Kataka Municipal Corporation (KMC) hereby invites Request for Quotation (RFQ) from eligible Agencies, as per the terms and conditions described elsewhere in this tender document, with requisite financial, managerial and technical expertise and experience **for "Selection of Event Management Agency for Execution of Balijatra-2026 at Kataka-in-Kataka, KMC.** The interested and eligible Agencies, as specified in Detailed Tender Call Notice (DTCN), may apply for the same in OFF-LINE mode. (For details visit https://cmccuttack.odisha.gov.in)

SL No.	List of Key Events	Critical Dates
1	Availability of Application form in the website	**From 12.00 P.M. of 02.11.2026 to 09.11.2026 up to 3:00 P.M.**
2	Last date for Hard Copy submission of application	**09.11.2026 up to 3.00 P.M.**
3	Date for Opening of Application Form	**09.11.2026 at 4.00 P.M.**
	Date For Presentation	**11.11.2026 at 4.00 P.M.**
4	Date for Opening of Financial Bid	**To be intimated**
5	Mode of Receipt of application	**Through Speed Post/ Registered Post (India Post)/Courier and by no other means.**
6	Correspondence Address	**The Commissioner Kataka Municipal Corporation, Biju Bhawan, Choudhary Bazaar, Kataka-753001**

The complete bidding documents, fee details, descriptions of items and key dates can be viewed/downloaded from the KMC website: **https://cmccuttack.odisha.gov.in .** Please note that KMC reserves the right to accept or reject the Bid process at any stage without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/-
Commissioner,
Kataka Municipal Corporation

OIPR::13001/13031/1/26-27/0076

R. Madhavan Teams Up with Director Vishal Furia for New Horror Feature Film 'Chhorii'

Acclaimed actor R. Madhavan is set to return to the horror genre, joining forces with director Vishal Furia for an untitled supernatural feature film.The project is backed by producer Rohit Ranjan under his banner, Frostlit Production Limited.Furia, celebrated for crafting rooted, emotional, and psychological horror narratives such as Lapachhapi, the Chhorii franchise, and Maa, will complete a decade in the Indian film industry in 2027. Calling Madhavan the "OG horror star" for his legendary performance in the cult classic 13B, Furia expressed excitement about the collaboration.He shared that Madhavan's experience as a writer, director, and actor brings rare depth to the project, aiming to deliver a chilling experience that audiences "will feel in their bones".Madhavan's return to horror follows his previous genre outings in 13B and Shaitaan. Principal photography for the untitled project is slated to commence in early 2027.Additional details regarding the rest of the cast and crew are expected to be officially announced in the coming months.

Some Things Are Private': Jiyaa Shankar Breaks Silence on Breakup Rumours With Fiance Kaaran Dhanak

Actor and Bigg Boss OTT 2 star Jiyaa Shankar has responded to intense online speculation surrounding her relationship status with fiancé Kaaran Dhanak (KD), asking fans and media outlets to refrain from drawing conclusions about her personal life based on social media activity.?Addressing the breakup rumours directly via an Instagram Stories statement on Saturday, October 31, 2026, the 31-year-old actor urged the public to respect her personal boundaries without confirming or denying the state of her engagement.

?Rumours of a rift began circulating after fans noticed Shankar resharing a series of melancholic reels and quotes centered on heartbreak, emotional healing, and betrayal across her public profile.?Among the widely circulated reposts was one stating, "Two things I know for sure: Prayers work and tables eventually turn," alongside another that read, "Some nights I don't want healing. I want the universe to admit that what happened was cruel."?Reacting to the viral speculation, Shankar issued a clear statement urging followers not to extrapolate details from her digital footprint:?

Know what a 20-year study of older men reveals about milk, stroke, and heart disease

Milk has long been at the center of diet debates, praised by some and blamed by others for heart trouble. A long-running study out of South Wales offers another take. Tracking older men over two decades, researchers found no convincing evidence that drinking milk increases the risk of heart disease or stroke. The research comes from the Caerphilly cohort, a representative population sample of men living in South Wales who were between 45 and 59 years old when the study began in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

What the numbers actually showed

Out of the men approached, 665 returned diet diaries that met the study's standards, representing 87 per cent participation. The researchers split participants based on milk intake, comparing those who drank at least the median amount of milk with those who drank less.

After adjusting for other factors, men with higher milk consumption showed a lower risk of ischaemic stroke. Their relative odds were 0.52, with a confidence range of 0.27 to 0.99. In plain terms, they experienced about half the stroke risk of lower milk drinkers over the study period.

For ischaemic heart disease, the pattern leaned in the same direction but was less clear-cut. The relative odds came in at 0.88, with a confidence range of 0.56 to 1.40. That result did not show a strong or definitive effect either way.

Deaths from all causes looked nearly identical between the two groups. The relative odds stood at 1.08, suggesting no meaningful difference in overall mortality tied to milk intake.

What this means

The researchers were careful with their conclusions. The findings do not support claims that milk drinking raises the risk of vascular disease. If anything, the data suggest a reduced risk of ischaemic stroke among men who consumed more milk, and possibly a modest benefit for heart disease as well.

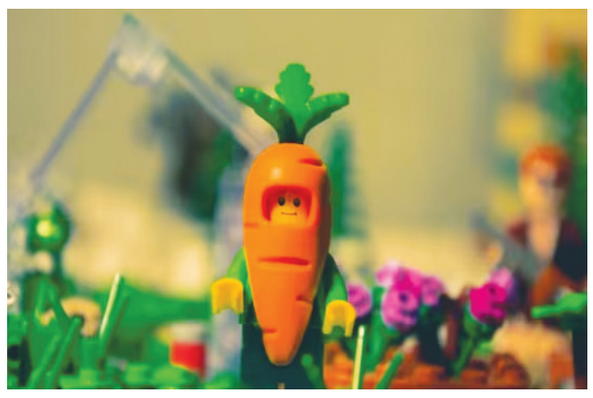
The results also line up with earlier research. The authors noted agreement with a previous overview of 10 large, long-term cohort studies that relied on food frequency questionnaires rather than weighed diet records.

Still, the study does not argue that milk is protective in all cases, nor does it suggest people should increase intake for heart health. It simply challenges the idea that milk, on its own, is a cardiovascular risk.

For a topic often driven by fear and headlines, the takeaway here is restrained. Milk, at least in this group of older men, did not do the damage it is sometimes accused of.

7 amazing benefits of adding a glass of carrot juice to diet daily for your heart, immunity, and energy levels

Carrot juice is a delicious and healthy drink that can do wonders for your body. Packed with vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, it is an easy way to support overall health. Here are seven benefits of drinking fresh carrot juice daily:



Health benefits of carrot juice

1. Boosts antioxidant levels

According to the National Library of Medicine, carrots are rich in carotenoids like ß-carotene and a-carotene. Drinking carrot juice increases your body's antioxidant capacity, helping fight harmful free radicals that can damage cells and cause heart problems.

2. Reduces fat breakdown in the body

Carrot juice helps lower malondialdehyde, a substance that indicates fat oxidation. This can protect your blood vessels and reduce the risk of heart disease.

3. Supports heart health

Regular carrot juice consumption may slightly reduce systolic blood pressure, helping your heart work more efficiently. Nutrients like potassium, nitrates, and vitamin C in carrots play a key role, the National Library of Medicine states.

4. Rich in vitamins and minerals

Carrots are packed with vitamin A, C, E, and minerals like potassium. These nutrients support vision, immunity, skin health, and proper body function.

5. Could help balance gender-specific healthrisks

Studies show men often have higher oxidative stress, while women have higher fat and leptin levels. Drinking carrot juice can help reduce harmful fat breakdown in men, supporting balanced heart health for both genders.

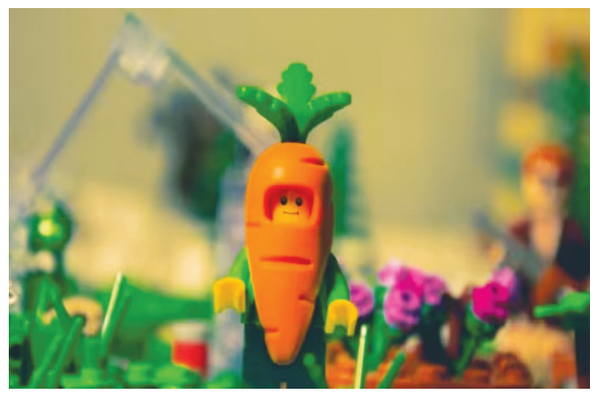
6. Natural and easy to include in your diet

Unlike supplements, fresh carrot juice is natural and easy to add to your morning routine. One glass a day provides a concentrated source of nutrients without extra calories or chemicals.

7. Supports overall wellness

Carrot juice is high in fiber, antioxidants, and beneficial plant compounds. These nutrients can help reduce inflammation, boost energy, and promote long-term heart health.

While carrot juice alone won't fix all health issues, it is a simple and tasty way to improve antioxidant levels, support heart health, and add essential nutrients to your diet. For best results, combine it with a balanced diet and regular exercise.



Matar Kachauri

Ingredients

1 cup green peas (coarsely ground)
2 cups all-purpose flour
2 tablespoons oil
1 teaspoon cumin seeds
1 teaspoon ginger-garlic paste
1 teaspoon garam masala
Salt to taste
Oil for frying

Instructions

1. Mix all-purpose flour, coarsely ground green peas, oil, cumin seeds, ginger-garlic paste, garam masala, and salt to form a firm dough.
2. Divide the dough into small balls and roll them into small discs.
3. Heat oil for frying and deep fry the discs until they puff up and turn golden brown.

Making Time: Approximately 40-50 minutes

Self-care tips to prioritise yourself and your mental health

According to the National Health Program of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 1 in 5 Indians has some emotional and mental ailments while around 6–7 crore people in the country suffer from some kind of mental illness. To overcome such a situation and compete in this fast-paced world, it is important to prioritise self-care. some essential self-care tips to prioritise yourself and safeguard your mental health -Mindful Moments: Dedicate a few minutes daily to mindfulness exercises. Focus on your breath, observe your thoughts, and embrace the present moment. Mindfulness enhances self-awareness and reduces stress.

Quality Sleep: Adequate sleep is a cornerstone of mental health. Establish a consistent sleep routine, create a calming bedtime ritual, and ensure your sleep environment is comfortable and conducive to rest.

22nd Secretariat Cricket Cup Tournament Inaugurated

Bhubaneswar:(Correspondent) :- The 22nd edition of the prestigious Secretariat Cricket Tournament, organized by the Odisha Secretariat Cricket Association, was inaugurated by Dr. Chirupta Sahiprakash at the Hi-tech Stadium on Monday. A total of 17 teams participated in this tournament, which has maintained its uniqueness for many years. The tournament is scheduled to be played on a low-key basis. The matches are scheduled to be played on all Saturdays and Sundays, and all the participating teams are enthusiastic. The guests present thanked the Cricket Association for providing a way for the cricket tournament to stay healthy by taking a break from the daily routine. Secretariat Cricket Association Executive President Shashank Shekhar Mohapatra delivered the welcome address while General Secretary Sanjiv Kumar Mishra gave information about the tournament. Other guests included Hi-tech Medical College Chief Administrative Officer Mansik Behera, Ritish Padhi, S Rama Rao, Pramod O. Prasad Nayak, O. Jogendra Panda, SRI O. Ashish Shukla, Lalit Mohanty, Sports Administrator Sudesh Kumar Nayak and Odisha Secretariat Cricket Association Joint Secretary Nrusingh Charan Swain, Girish Kumar Bishoi, Abhinash Khanduwal, K Rama Rao, Trilochana Barik, Debashish B, Sumit Barik, Badalesh, Padmacharan Rout and Linkraj Sahu.

East Zone Inter-University Men's Volleyball Championship 2026: KIIT University Retains Champion Title, Utkal University Finishes Fourth

Bhubaneswar, :(Correspondent): KIIT University has once again scripted a remarkable achievement by successfully defending its title and retaining the East Zone Inter-University Men's Volleyball Championship 2026, reaffirming its dominance in university-level volleyball.In the final league encounter of the championship, KIIT University registered a convincing 3–0 sets victory over Utkal University, winning with scores of 25–16, 25–13 and 25–18. With this impressive performance, KIIT University emerged as the Champion of the East Zone Inter-University Men's Volleyball Championship 2026, successfully retaining the title for another year.The championship was held at Adamas University, West Bengal, from October 27 to 31, 2026, witnessing enthusiastic participation and competitive performances from leading universities across the East Zone.KIIT University maintained its excellent form throughout the tournament. Being the defending champions, the team received seeding and entered the knockout stage directly. In the qualification match, KIIT defeated Manipur University, the winner of Pool D, by 3–0 sets to secure its berth in the All India Inter-University Men's Volleyball Championship 2026. Continuing its winning momentum, KIIT also defeated host Adamas University by 3–0 sets in the league stage before overcoming Utkal University in the final league encounter.

Sunelita Toppo to receive prestigious 34th Ekalabya Puraskar

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent):: Recognising outstanding sporting talent in Odisha, Hockey player Ms Sunelita Toppo has been selected for the prestigious 34th Ekalabya Puraskar 2026. The decision was unanimously taken by the Ekalabya Puraskar Committee, comprising distinguished jury members from various fields, at a meeting held in Bhubaneswar.Ms Sunelita Toppo, an emerging talent in Hockey, has earned this recognition for exceptional performances and achievements in the sport. The award carries a cash prize of ?7 lakh, along with a trophy, which will be presented at the Ekalabya Puraskar award ceremony to be held at a later date.Additionally, Hockey player Mr Amandeep Lakra and Badminton player Ms Tanvi Patri have been selected for citation awards in recognition of their outstanding performances at the national and international levels. Each citation awardee will receive a cash prize of ?1.5 lakh, along with a citation, at the ceremony.Instituted in 1993 by the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPaCT) and managed by Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Ltd (IMFA), India's largest producer of ferro chrome, the Ekalabya Puraskar has established itself as one of Odisha's most prestigious sporting honours. Over the years, the award has played a significant role in recognising and encouraging promising sporting talent, with several past recipients going on to achieve success at national and international levels. Presented annually, it honours young sportspersons from Odisha for their outstanding achievements during the preceding two years.

Odisha to Host CAVA Men's Volleyball League 2026 & FIVB Beach Volleyball Coaches Course

Cuttack, (Correspondent): The Special General Body Meeting of the Odisha Volleyball Association (OVA) was held today at the Odisha Olympic Association Conference Hall, Barabati Stadium, Cuttack, marking another significant milestone in the continued growth and promotion of volleyball in Odisha.In the absence of Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, President, Odisha Volleyball Association (OVA) and Founder of KIIT, KISS & KIMS, the meeting was presided over by Shri Kamala Kanta Pandey, Working President, OVA. Prof. (Dr.) Gaganendu Dash, Honorary General Secretary, OVA, conducted the proceedings and presented the annual report.The meeting commenced with discussions and approval of amendments to the OVA Constitution in accordance with the provisions and guidelines of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.During the meeting, Prof. (Dr.) Gaganendu Dash announced that the prestigious CAVA Men's Volleyball League 2026 is all set to be organised for the first time in India at KIIT – Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from 15th to 22nd November 2026. The international competition will be hosted at the Multipurpose Indoor Stadium, KIIT University, Campus 13, Bhubaneswar.The event is being jointly organised by KIIT University and the Odisha Volleyball Association (OVA) under the aegis of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and the Central Asian Volleyball Association (CAVA), with the support of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and the Government of Odisha.The league will witness participation from eight teams representing seven nations, with more than 220 participants, including players, team officials, international delegates and technical personnel. The participating teams will include two teams from India and one team each from Iran, Kazakhstan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Afghanistan.Adding further international flavour to the competition, players from nine different nationalities, including the Kyrgyz Republic and Russia, will participate, making it a truly diverse and competitive international sporting event.The Opening Ceremony will be held on 15th November 2026.

Khimji Jewellers Unveils 'Dhanteras Dhanvarsha' , a shower of festive offers across its collections

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent):: Khimji Jewellers, Odisha's most trusted jeweller since 1936, has launched 'Dhanteras Dhanvarsha', its festive campaign for Dhanteras. True to its name, a shower of prosperity, the campaign brings special offers across gold, diamond, silver, platinum, fashion jewellery, watches and artifacts, inviting families to mark the most auspicious buying time of the year with jewellery they will treasure for generations.The headline offers are built around the season's most cherished purchases. Customers can enjoy flat 40% off on golf jewellery making charges and flat 20% off on diamonds. Silver jewellery and platinum jewellery each come with flat 25% off on making charges.

District-Level Softball Competition Held at Bhurungashol

Baripada, (Correspondent)::A district-level softball competition for boys under the age of 17 was held at Government High School, Bhurungashol, under Kuliana Block in Mayurbhanj district.The competition was organised under the guidance of Mayurbhanj District Education Officer Purna Chandra Sethi. The event was formally inaugurated by District Physical Education Officer Bhagirathi Mallik, with Ashish Ranjan Basuri, Headmaster of the host school, presiding over the programme.Kailash Chandra Mohalik, Pradeep Kumar Chaudhury, Anjan Kumar Rout, Babulal Hembram and Santosh Kumar Beheria participated as referees. Deepak Ram attended as the central official.Players from Mayurbhanj district will participate in the Odisha State-Level Softball Competition, which is scheduled to be held in Balasore district during the third week of November.Senior teacher Shashanka Sekhar Mahapatra, teacher Deepak Kumar Sethi, and teachers Basumati Marandi, Sushama Suprabha Dalei and Mamata Pradhan, along with office assistant Sushanta Mohanta and educational staff members Sujit Ranjan Mohanta and Jadumani Dhal, assisted in organising and conducting the competition.

Five KISS Sportspersons Invited to National Consultation on "Women in Sports"

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): Five women sportspersons from Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) have been invited by the National Commission for Women (NCW), Government of India, to participate in the National Consultation on "Women in Sports: Governance, Safety and Policy Reforms" on 3 November 2026 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.The consultation is being organised by the NCW in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, to discuss issues and challenges faced by women in sports and promote a safe and inclusive sporting environment.The five invited KISS sportspersons are Ms. Mama Naik and Ms. Nirmalaya Rout (International Rugby Players), Ms. Anjali Munda (National-level Swimmer), Ms. Monalisha Bhoi (International Chess Player) and Ms. Ashika Oram (International Football Player).Their participation will provide an opportunity to share their experiences and views on women's safety, equal opportunities and the development of women in sports.Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, Hon'ble Founder of KIIT, KISS & KIMS, congratulated all five sportspersons on this achievement. He expressed his happiness and pride and encouraged them to continue their efforts and inspire other young girls through sports

Badminton: PV Sindhu Clinches Second Title Of Season With Hylo Open Triumph

New Delhi: Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu clinched her second title of the season after defeating Denmark's Line Hojmark Kjærsfeldt in straight games to win the Hylo Open Super 500 badminton tournament in Saarbrücken, Germany, on Sunday.The former world champion, who had won the Japan Open in July and finished runner-up at the French Open last week, produced a commanding performance to register a 21-12, 21-14 victory over the eighth-seeded Dane in the 39-minute summit clash of the USD 500,000 tournament.The second-seeded Indian, currently ranked world No. 8, dominated proceedings with her sharp stroke-play, deceptive shots and effective net game to secure the title against her world No. 25 opponent.With the victory, Sindhu collected 9,200 ranking points, strengthening her bid to qualify for the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals.Sindhu entered the final with a dominant 6-1 head-to-head record against Kjærsfeldt, whose only victory over the Indian had come at the 2025 Sudirman Cup Finals.The Indian made a confident start, opening the contest with a cross-court winner, though a couple of unforced errors allowed the Dane to stay in contention at 3-3.Sindhu subsequently took control of the rallies with her deception and sharp net play to move ahead 8-5.She maintained her advantage through the opening game, using a combination of well-placed shots and attacking strokes to put pressure on her opponent. A superb backhand winner helped her move to 17-12 before she converted her first game point to take the opening game 21-12.Sindhu carried the momentum into the second game, establishing a 6-3 lead before Kjærsfeldt attempted to fight her way back into the contest.

IndianOil Paradip Refinery celebrates National Unity Day

PARADEEP, (Correspondent):To commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, IndianOil Paradip Refinery celebrated National Unity Day with patriotic fervour and pride on October 31, 2026. Mr Kausik Basu, Executive Director & Refinery Head, Paradip Refinery administrated the National Unity Day pledge to all PDRians. Mr Basu along with senior officials and members of CISF & DGR paid homage to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel by offering floral tribute. The 'Iron Man of India'- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, played a pivotal role in unifying the diverse princely states to form the modern Indian nation.

Truth in true form
AROUND ODISHA
ENGLISH DAILY

VAML Concludes Sustainability Month 2026, reaching over 14,600 people across operations

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent): Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest aluminium producer,concluded its Sustainability Month 2026 across its operations under the aegis of the Vedanta Group's flagship sustainability initiative,where it engaged more than 14,600 employees, business partners, students, families and community members through a month-long programme focused on environmental stewardship, resource conservation, safety and community wellbeing. Conducted across Jharsuguda, Lanjigada, BALCO and the company's coal mining operations, the initiative featured a range of ESG-focused activities, including biodiversity conservation, solar lighting installations, water stewardship, waste management, community health, education and livelihood support programmes, aimed at promoting responsible growth and strengthening sustainability awareness across employees and communities.As part of the initiative, employees and community members across Jharsuguda and Lanjigada participated in biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihood and environmental awareness activities, including the plantation of 50 mango saplings, career counselling support for more than 300 students, agricultural assistance for over 300 farmers, outreach across 10

villages, and a pond-cleaning drive covering 12 water bodies that benefited more than 2,500 people.Across BALCO, Sustainability Month engaged more than 2,600 employees, business partners, students, families and community members through plantation drives, sustainability awareness programmes and community health initiatives, while at VAML's coal mines, the programme benefited more than 8,390 people, including 5,500 beneficiaries through solar lighting installations and over 1,000 students and youth through education and talent development initiatives such as SURAVI, a government-led education and talent development programme supported by Vedanta Aluminium, alongside a range of sustainability, safety and community outreach initiatives.

Commenting on the occasion, Rajesh Kumar, CEO, Vedanta Aluminium, said, "As India's manufacturing sector continues to grow, the ability to create long-term value will increasingly depend on how effectively we balance growth with responsibility. Building future-ready businesses requires more than technology and infrastructure, it requires a culture where sustainability informs decisions at every level. Sustainability Month reflects our commitment to nurturing that culture across our operations and communities."The month also fostered a culture of learning and collective ownership, with BALCO securing 1st place un the Learning Powerhouse Award (Large Business Unit Category) by achieving 60% completion in VEDAS level 1: ESG Essentials. The Coal Mines Division secured 1st place in the Learning Powerhouse Award (Small Business Unit Category) withan impressive 98.5% completion rate. The coal mines division also secured 2nd place in the Collective Action Award (Small Business Unit Category), contributing a score of 76% Lanjigada also secured 3rd place in the Collective Action Award (Large Business Unit Category). Together, these efforts reinforced Vedanta Aluminium's commitment to responsible growth and long-term value creation.

Indian Railways Mobilises Specialised Manpower and Heavy Equipment to Assist Odisha Government

BHUBANESWAR :Demonstrating remarkable commitment, courage and professional dedication, the East Coast Railway rescue team undertook a nearly three hour trek through challenging hilly terrain to reach the landslide affected site and extend critical assistance in the emergency response.Their determination, teamwork and unwavering sense of duty stand as a testament to the spirit of public service and commitment to the community.

Trinath Sanskutika Parishad Felicitates Dr. Tirupati Panigrahi

Bhubaneswar,(Correspondent) :- Maa Gajalakshmi Puja Mandap organized at Talasahi, Sundarapada was witnessed by the founder chairman of Hi-tech Group, Dr. Tirupati Panigrahi. This Puja festival organized every year by Trinatha Sanskrutika Parishad is being held for 11 days this year. The Mas is worshipped and various cultural programs are being prepared for the local residents and devotees. Attending a program organized at the Puja Mandap as the chief guest, Dr. Panigrahi highly appreciated the efforts of the youth group. He said that if the youth are

guided on the spiritual path and do social service, the region can develop, which will help in the path of progress in the future. He also said that he will treat the poor patients of this region with high-tech medical equipment and will understand the treatment of helpless patients himself. He promised to take the responsibility of providing completely free engineering education to two poor and talented students of the region. Trinath Cultural Council President Priyabrat Swain. Vice President Pratap Jena, Editor Bhajendra Jena, Treasurer Jagan Sahu, felicitated D. Panigrahi with a souvenir and a photograph of his maa.

VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK-2026 OBSERVED AT OHPC

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent)Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Ltd. (OHPC), a Gold Rated State PSU, commenced the observance of Vigilance Awareness Week-2026 on 26th October 2026 by administering the Integrity Pledge at 11:00 AM at its Corporate Office and all Units across the State. The observance is being held from 26th October to 1st November 2026 in alignment with the nationwide initiative of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), with this year's theme "Probity for Prosperity." At the Corporate Office, the Integrity Pledge was administered by Shri Pranab Kumar Mohanty, Director

(Finance), in the presence of Shri Sandeep Patnaik, Director (HR), Shri Amiya Kumar Mohanty, Director (Operation), senior officers and employees. As part of the week-long observance, an Awareness Programme was organised at OHPC Training Centre, Bhubaneswar on 31st October 2026. Shri Soumendra Kumar Priyadarshi, IPS, Additional DG of Police, Govt. of Odisha and CMD, Odisha Police Housing & Welfare Corporation Ltd., attended the programme as the Chief Guest. The event was attended by Shri Sandeep Patnaik, Director (HR), Shri Pranab Kumar Mohanty, Director (Finance), Shri Amiya Kumar Mohanty, Director (Operation) and other senior officials of OHPC. Addressing the gathering, Shri Soumendra Kumar Priyadarshi emphasised the need to foster a corruption-free environment at both the individual and organisational levels. Drawing on his extensive experience in public service, he underscored the far-reaching impact of corruption on society and urged employees to uphold the highest standards of integrity, ethics and accountability in every sphere of their professional and personal lives. Shri Sandeep Patnaik, Director (HR), reiterated OHPC's commitment to transparency and accountability in its administrative processes. As part of the observance, Essay and Slogan Competitions were organised among the employees at Corporate Office and Training Centre. In the Slogan Competition, Shri Rabindra Nath Sahu, SO (STS), secured the first prize, while Dipika Choudhury, Manager (Fin.), and Kamlesh Swain, DGM (HR), jointly received the second prizes. Shri Sushree Chandan Panda, Manager (El.), and Soumya Ranjan Das, Jr. Clerk jointly received the third prizes. In the Essay Competition Shri Rabindra Nath Sahu, SO (STS) won the first prize, while Shri Jyotiprakash Sahoo, Jr. Clerk secured the second prize. The winners were felicitated with mementoes and gifts in recognition of their participation.

Tata Power-led Odisha Discoms Restore Power to Over 97% of Cyclone Arnab-Affected Consumers Within Two Days

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): Tata Power-led Odisha DISCOMs have restored electricity to 39.74 lakh of the 40.91 lakh consumers affected by Cyclone Arnab, over 97%, within two days of the storm's landfall on 28 October.The restoration has been led by the DISCOMs' linemen and field crews, who started work as soon as the winds eased. In heavy rain, across waterlogged fields and roads blocked by fallen trees, they cleared debris, replaced damaged poles and lines, and brought feeders and substations back online, often in areas cut off by flooding.The cyclone brought winds gusting up to 150 km/h and more than 500 mm of rain in parts of southern Odisha, affecting 17 districts.Restoration moved quickly because the groundwork was laid before landfall. Ahead

of the cyclone, the Discoms activated their Business Continuity and Disaster Management Plans, opened 24x7 control rooms and set up rapid-response teams. The network was monitored round the clock from the Power Distribution Technology Centres at Bhubaneswar and Sambalpur.More than 29,000 personnel were readied across the state. TPWODL mobilised 8,658 personnel in western Odisha, and TPSODL put 6,474 in its deployment plan, with additional crews on standby. The Discoms pre-positioned over 2,800 distribution transformers, 41,000 poles, 8,500 km of conductor, 35 mobile substations and 1,200 vehicles, and stocked materials at stores across their areas. Consumers received safety advisories before and during the storm.TPCODL, TPNODL and TPWODL have completed 100% restoration, and supply is fully back in 23 of Odisha's 30 districts.In southern Odisha, where the cyclone hit hardest, TPSODL has restored supply to more than 16.7 lakh consumers, over 93% of those affected, across eight districts. Over 6,400 personnel are on the ground, and crews are now concentrated in Ganjam and Gajapati, the worst-hit districts, to restore the remaining connections.The pace of recovery also reflects years of work to make Odisha's distribution network more resilient to extreme weather. Since taking over, the Discoms have added substations and transformers, built real-time network monitoring through the Power Distribution Technology Centres, and developed local vendors and stores that can supply poles and transformers at short notice. Each cyclone season, these let crews isolate faults faster and restore supply area by area.Speaking on the restoration, Mr. Gajanan Kale, Chief - Odisha Distribution Business, Tata Power, and CEO, TPCODL, said, "Our linemen and field teams have worked day and night, in some of the toughest conditions we have seen, to bring power back to homes, hospitals and essential services. We thank them, the State Government and district administrations for their support, and our consumers for their patience. Our teams will stay on the ground until every affected consumer is restored."The Discoms remain on alert. Consumers are advised to stay away from snapped wires and damaged electrical installations, and to report outages or hazards on the 24x7 helpline, 1912.

OOTCON 2026–First State Conference of Occupational Therapists of Odisha inaugurated at AIIMS Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, (Correspondent): The Odisha Branch of the All India Occupational Therapists Association (OBAIOTA), affiliated with the All India Occupational Therapists Association (AIOTA), organised its First State Conference, OOTCON 2026, on 1 November 2026 at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bhubaneswar.The conference was organised under the theme "Restore, Rehabilitate and Reconnect: Occupational Therapy Enabling Life Beyond Limitations". It brought together occupational therapy professionals, academicians, healthcare experts and students from across Odisha to deliberate on emerging developments in rehabilitation and the expanding role of Occupational Therapy in healthcare.The inaugural ceremony was graced by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

of Odisha as the Chief Guest. The distinguished Guests of Honour were Dr. Subhashis Mohanty, Additional Director, Public Health, Government of Odisha, and Mrs. Sangita Behera, Additional Director General-cum-State Project Director, Odisha School Education Programme Authority (OSEPA).The inaugural function was addressed by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, who highlighted the importance of healthcare, rehabilitation and inclusive development. Her address underscored the need to strengthen rehabilitation services and recognise the contribution of allied healthcare professionals in improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities and individuals requiring rehabilitation.She further emphasised the need for coordinated integration of Occupational Therapy across three key sectors: the Department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD), the Department of Women and Child Development, and the Health sector as a whole. She highlighted the importance of strengthening mental health services and integrating Occupational Therapy into mental health initiatives and service delivery across these sectors.

Published by Banabihari Sarangi On behalf of Around Odisha Publications Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 499/4262, Saktinagar, Shisupalgarh , Bhubaneswar-751002, Dist Khordha(Odisha), Printed At Mahesh Printing Press, 30,Industrial Colony, Kharavela Nagar, Bhubaneswar- 751001, Khordha Phone: 9439094123, Email:aroundodisha@gmail.com, E-paper: www.aroundodisha.com.

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