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Gidipabali Landslide: 3 More Bodies Recovered, Death Toll Mounts To 5



Bhubaneswar Correspondent The death toll in the Gidipabali landslide tragedy in Ganjam district has risen to five, with three more bodies recovered from under the debris on Thursday.According to information, the rescue operation had been suspended for a day and resumed today with an 80-member team launching a search at the landslide site. In a major breakthrough, the team recovered three bodies— a woman and two minors. The deceased have been identified as Bhumika Pradhan, Arun Pradhan and another minor boy. Udayagiri Tahasildar Samudra Mishra was present at the spot monitoring the search operation.It may be noted that the recent landslide completely devastated Gidipabali village in Ganjam district. Initially, two deaths were confirmed. As many as 13 persons were reported missing after the tragedy, of which five bodies have been recovered so far.In the wake of the deadly landslide that killed at least two persons and left many others untraceable, the Odisha government is planning a large-scale rehabilitation initiative to shift residents living on and at the foothills of vulnerable hill ranges.

Complete Damage Assessment Of Cyclone Arnab And Flood Will Take 7-8 Days: Central Team



Bhubaneswar Correspondent : The central team visiting Odisha to assess the extensive damage caused by Cyclone Arnab and subsequent floods met Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi at Lok Seva Bhawan today and held discussions in this regard.The team, led by Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs Ravi Shankar, has visited Ganjam and Gajapati districts and assessed the damage.During the discussion, the Chief Minister said that natural calamities like floods, cyclones and heatwaves frequently occur in the state. This hampers development work. Therefore, he suggested that the central team should focus not only on immediate relief and reconstruction assistance in its report, but also on permanent solutions.The Chief Minister said that cyclone and flood-resilient infrastructure is highly needed in the state. This will provide a permanent solution to the people of Odisha and accelerate development instead of hindering it.Team head Ravi Shankar said they visited various areas of Ganjam and Gajapati districts. In reality, the floods have had a widespread impact on the common people. In Ganjam, water from the Rushikulya river has inundated many areas, causing sand deposits. Sand has entered farmlands, roads, houses and offices. In many places, although houses have not collapsed, they have become weak.He said there is a need to desilt the Rushikulya river on a long-term basis. He said it will take 7-8 days to make a complete assessment of the damage caused by this widespread disaster.Appreciating the state government, Ravi Shankar said the Odisha government has carried out relief and restoration work at a fast pace after the cyclone and flood. He said roads have mostly been made motorable and power supply has been restored.In the meeting, Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari highlighted the damage and the government's response measures. Chief Secretary Anu Garg said that the state government has made a preliminary assessment of the damage and submitted a demand letter to the central government for relief and restoration.The meeting was attended by Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Saswata Mishra, Additional Chief Secretary of Revenue and Disaster Management Department Dr Arabinda Kumar Padhee, Special Relief Commissioner Rajesh Prabhakar Patil and members of the central team.

Kotia Residents Vote In Andhra Polls Amid Heavy Police Deployment



Jayapur: Amid heightened tensions and heavy police deployment along the disputed Odisha-Andhra Pradesh border, residents of the Kotia cluster of villages in Koraput district voted in Andhra Pradesh's three-tier panchayat elections on Thursday.The polling booths had been shifted away from the disputed territory following objections from the Odisha administration.The polling had triggered a fresh face-off between the two states. Koraput authorities had opposed Andhra Pradesh's move to set up a polling booth at Neredivalsa, arguing that the village fell within Odisha's territorial jurisdiction.Andhra Pradesh authorities subsequently relocated the polling booths to their side of the border. Police personnel from both states were deployed along the contentious stretch to prevent any untoward incidents.Koraput district officials said the administration had not stopped anyone from voting, as exercising the franchise was a constitutional right.However, they maintained that voters must participate voluntarily and without coercion. With around 4,500 voters in the Kotia region, officials said it was difficult to ascertain how many had voted in the Andhra Pradesh elections. Some residents had exercised their franchise, they added, while reporting that no untoward incidents had occurred.Polling Percentage: Sarika – 376 out of 746 voters – 50.40%, Kurukutti – 888 out of 1205 voters – 73.69%, Neralla Valasa – 398 out of 1260 voters – 31.58%, Pagulu Chennuru – 216 out of 509 voters – 42.43%, Pattuchenneru – 539 out of 1130 voters – 47.69%The territorial dispute involving 21 villages in the Kotia cluster dates back to 1955, following the formation of Andhra Pradesh in 1953.The matter is pending in the Supreme Court.

Justice Rajesh Bindal Appointed NCLAT Chairperson Amid Autonomy Scrutiny

NEWDELHI: Former Supreme Court judge Justice Rajesh Bindal was formally appointed as the Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Thursday, November 5, 2026.Justice Bindal succeeds former Supreme Court judge Justice Ashok Bhushan, who completed his tenure as NCLAT chief on July 4, 2026. Following Justice Bhushan's retirement, Justice Yogesh Khanna, a judicial member of the appellate tribunal, served as officiating chairperson from July 5.

Indian Ambassador Leads WWI Heroes Commemoration Ceremony In Brussels

Brussels: Ambassador of India to Belgium, Pranay Varma, on Wednesday led the Commonwealth-Belgian Joint Committee Commemoration Ceremony and Rekindling of the Eternal Flame at the iconic Colonne du Congres in Brussels.

"Ambassador Pranay Verma was honoured to lead the Commonwealth-Belgian Joint Committee Commemoration Ceremony and Rekindling of the Eternal Flame at the iconic Colonne du Congrès in Brussels on 4 Nov. 2026 in honour of the fallen heroes of the First World War. Together, we paid tributes to our brave soldiers and our shared history, reflected on the values that unite us, and reaffirmed our commitment to cooperation, peace and friendship across the Commonwealth family. Our sincere thanks to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the Belgian Ministry of Defence for bringing us together to mark this solemn occasion," the Indian Embassy in Belgium stated on X. Last month, India, Belgium and Luxembourg agreed to strengthen economic ties and explore opportunities to deepen cooperation in aerospace, research, innovation and higher education, according to a statement issued by the Commerce Ministry.The 19th session of the India-Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU) Joint Economic Commission (JEC) was held in Luxembourg.



AIIMS Bhubaneswar Strengthens Advanced Cancer Diagnostics and Evidence-Based Care



Bhubaneswar, Correspondent AIIMS Bhubaneswar is strengthening its focus on translating biomedical research into advanced diagnostics and evidence-based patient care, particularly in cancer, infectious diseases, public health, microbiome and mental health. With state-of-the-art facilities such as the Infectious Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (IRDL), Advanced Mycology Diagnostic and Research Laboratory, Advanced Molecular Oncology Diagnostic Services (DIAMOnDS) and Brain Bank, the institute aims to make advanced diagnosis and treatment accessible to patients from Odisha and neighbouring states, reducing the need to travel to distant cities for specialised care.This was highlighted by AIIMS Bhubaneswar Executive Director Dr. Ashutosh Biswas during the institute's 4th Annual Research Day, held on the theme "Innovate, Translate, Heal: Advancing Biomedical Frontiers." The event reaffirmed the institute's commitment to patient-centric research and healthcare innovation.AIIMS Bhubaneswar secured ?32.2 crore in extramural research grants through 187 projects during 2025–26. In 2026–27, it has already received over ?10 crore through 29 projects. The institute is currently supported by 24 international, national and regional funding agencies, reflecting its growing research capabilities and collaborations.The programme was attended by Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, as Chief Guest, while Dr. Arvind Sinha, Executive Director, AIIMS Kalyani, and Mr. Charudutta Panigrahi, Senior Technocrat, Chairman, Vikash Manthan and Advisor, AHPI, attended as Guests of Honour. Dean (Research) Dr. Baijayantimala Mishra, Dean Examination Dr. Manaswini Mangaraj, and Associate Dean (Research) Dr. Gaurav Chhabra were also present.Emphasising the need for stronger institutional partnerships, Prof. Karmalkar called for interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, highlighting the importance of closer collaboration between IITs and AIIMS. Dr. Sinha stressed the need for India-specific health research data, noting that India's unique population profile and healthcare challenges require evidence generated within the country. Mr. Panigrahi underscored the role of research, particularly medical research, in nation-building.A major highlight was the research poster presentation, featuring 140 participants, alongside a panel discussion on "Breaking Barriers in Medical Research: Hurdles, Innovations and Opportunities." Moderated by Dr. Biswas, the panel included Mr. Panigrahi; Prof. Debasis Dash, Director, Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar; Prof. Ramnath Misra, former Dean, SGPGIMS; and Prof. Arvind Sinha, Executive Director, AIIMS Kalyani. Discussions focused on strengthening India's research ecosystem, fostering interdisciplinary partnerships and addressing emerging healthcare challenges.

SUM DOCTORS TURN AROUND NEW BORN BABY WITH DEDICATED EFFORT



Bhubaneswar, Correspondent Doctors at the Institute of Medical Sciences and SUM Hospital campus -1 here have successfully battled to turn around a baby girl delivered at 34 completed weeks through emergency Lower Segment Caesarean Section weighing only 1476 grams.

The baby, born to a 28-year-old primi mother through IVF conception, was kept in mechanical ventilation after being admitted to the hospital. The antenatal SCAN at 20 weeks of gestation showed a mixed cystic Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformation (CPAM) and an echogenic lesion in the left lung along with a dextroposed heart.

The baby, who required intubation after delivery, was later upgraded to High Frequency Oscillation (HFO) ventilation. A Contrast-Enhanced Computed Tomography (CECT) scan of thorax revealed left-sided Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformation with right-sided pneumothorax.

Pediatric cardiology consultation aided by 2D echocardiogram revealed pulmonary hypertension. On day 15 of its life, the baby underwent Left Pneumonectomy for definitive management of the extensive CPAM by the pediatric surgery team. The left upper and lower lobe of the lung was excised. The baby was treated for post-operative pulmonary hypertension and infection coagulopathy requiring multiple blood component transfusion. Fluid and Parenteral nutrition (PN), a medical treatment that delivers essential nutrients directly into the bloodstream through an intravenous (IV) line completely bypassing the normal process of eating and digestion was initiated with appropriate ventilatory management.

Three accused in robbery case to be tried in court.

SUBARNAPUR(Correspondent):- --- Three accused have been caught and tried in a road robbery and dacoity incident. The incident revealed that on Sunday, 01.11.2026, at around 11.00 am, two persons from Pandakimal village under Tarbha police station in Subarnapur district - (1) Dharmendra Pradhan (24), son of late Bira Pradhan and (2) Akash Bishi (24), son of Indira Bishi were going from Pandakimal towards Bargarh on a 'Hero Honda CD Deluxe' motorcycle (registration no. OR-17-C-3138). When they reached the Ghatkaintara bridge, two persons in a 'Honda Shine' vehicle stopped them. They showed a knife and demanded money and threatened to kill them. At this time, three more persons arrived, one of whom was on a 'Jupiter' scooty and two others on another motorcycle. They, along with the previous two, threatened Dharmendra Pradhan and Akash Bishi. They looted Rs. 3,000 in cash and transferred the remaining Rs. 5,000 to the mobile number of a person named Sahil Patra through 'PhonePe'. In addition, they threatened to kill the victims, robbed their motorcycles and mobile phones, beat them up and fled the scene. Later, a complaint was filed in this regard at the Tarbha police station. After receiving the complaint, the police started an investigation. After the investigation, three persons from this group were arrested.

Empowering Communities Through Safety & Environmental Awareness



Sambalpur:(Correspondent):- As part of the Sanarkshan initiative, Aditya Aluminium CSR, in collaboration with Aditya Birla Public School (ABPS) and the Fire & Safety Team, organized a community awareness programme at Banjiberna Village to promote disaster preparedness, environmental conservation, and sustainable living practices.

A major attraction of the programme was a vibrant Nukkad Natak (street play) performed by ABPS students, delivering impactful messages on protecting the environment through responsible management of water, soil, and plastic waste. Through creative storytelling and relatable scenarios, the students inspired community members to adopt eco-friendly practices and become active contributors to environmental sustainability.The Fire & Safety Team conducted an engaging session on disaster preparedness and emergency safety measures, educating participants on preventive actions, risk mitigation, and appropriate responses during emergencies. The session aimed to strengthen community resilience and enhance awareness of safety protocols.To reinforce learning, an interactive quiz competition was organized, encouraging participants to actively engage with the key messages shared during the programme. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 56 villagers, including women, men, and adolescent girls, fostering meaningful dialogue on environmental stewardship and community safety.

Key Highlights

Awareness programme on disaster preparedness and environmental conservation.Nukkad Natak by ABPS students promoting water conservation, soil protection, and plastic reduction.Safety awareness session by the Fire & Safety Team on emergency preparedness and response.Interactive quiz competition to strengthen participant engagement and learning.Participation of 58 community members, including women, men, and adolescent girls.

Through such initiatives, Aditya Aluminium continues to nurture informed, environmentally responsible, and disaster-resilient communities while encouraging collective action towards a safer and more sustainable future.

India Bolsters Ties With Diamond-Producing Countries

New Delhi: India, as Chair of the Kimberley Process (KP) for 2026, has flagged key priorities concerning the global diamond industry, including responsible rough diamond sourcing as part of its outreach ahead of the KP Plenary to be held in Delhi from November 30 to December 4, according to a statement issued by the Commerce Ministry on Thursday.The issue was discussed at a stakeholder consultation in Angola's Luanda on Tuesday, chaired by Additional Secretary Yashvir Singh on India's behalf, which brought together the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of KP Working Groups and Committees (KP Working Bodies), the KP Vice-Chair (of Ghana), and the former KP Chair (of the United Arab Emirates). Representatives of observers and partner organisations, including the World Diamond Council and the African Diamond Producers' Association (ADPA), also participated in the discussion, the statement said.

Rs 5,000 Deducted from Account Despite No Cash Dispensed from ATM

Gopalpur, (correspondent): An allegation has surfaced regarding the siphoning off of Rs 5,000 from a customer using a new modus operandi during an ATM transaction. CCTV footage reveals that two miscreants managed to take the money by placing an object inside the ATM's cash dispenser. Following a complaint filed at the Gopalpur Police Station, the police have registered a case (Case No. 643/26) and are conducting an investigation. It is worth noting that on the 3rd of this month, Sameer Maharana visited the SBI ATM located at Pathara Junction to withdraw Rs 5,000. Although the amount was deducted from his account, no cash was dispensed by the ATM. In this regard, a complaint was lodged with the bank manager. Subsequently, after reviewing the CCTV footage and confirming that two unidentified individuals had withdrawn the money, the bank staff reimbursed the amount to Sameer. Later, the bank manager, Lokesh Joshi, filed a written complaint at the Gopalpur Police Station. It is reported that the police have registered a case based on this complaint and are conducting an investigation. Meanwhile, the police are working to identify the accused using the collected CCTV footage.

'Deepotsav 2026' Commences In Ayodhya

Ayodhya(correspondent): The 2026 edition of Deepotsav commenced in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya on Thursday, with river banks being illuminated with lakhs of 'diyas'.The banks of the Gomti river at Maa Kamakhya Dham, near Ayodhya, was illuminated with 1.51 lakh diyas during the sixth annual Deepotsav.Speaking to IANS, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Ram Chandra Yadav said: "I extend a warm welcome and greetings to all the residents of this region and all devotees of the Goddess in the grand Deepotsav celebrations at Kamakhya Dham."He added that this year more than 151,000 earthen lamps were lit, breaking their own past record.The BJP MLA credited the authorities for turning the event successful."This grand event was made possible with the help of the Nagar Panchayat officers, the Nagar Panchayat Chairman, the Councillors, students, as well as the mothers and sisters of the region. I pray to the Goddess to continue showering her blessings upon the devotees," he said.Ayodhya District Magistrate Shashank Tripathi said that a "trial Aarti" was held in the sacred temple town on Thursday, ahead of the final celebrations on Diwali."The participants will be practicing today. From tomorrow, trials for other features like the drone show and laser show will also begin," he told reporters.Jagadguru Paramhans Acharya, Peethadhishwar of Tapasvi Chhawani, and other saints took part in the lighting of diyas in Ayodhya.Speaking to IANS, Jagadguru Paramhans Acharya said: "This is the Ramghat area of Ramnagari Ayodhya. Shri Tapasvi Ji's Chhawani is located here, which is one of the oldest camps and seats of saints. Its history is associated with the Ramayana period."It is believed that when Shri Ram appeared, a large number of saints and sages gathered here. This is why it came to be known as the 'Chhawani' of saints, and the tradition has continued ever since," he added.Similar celebrations were also held in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad.

8001/452/2627

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, BARAGADA FOREST DIVISION
At / Po / Dist: - Baragada – Odisha
Office Mob No. - 9437494810, email- dfo.bargarh@odisha.gov.in

No. 302 / Dated 04-11-2026

Due to technical issue, the Tender Call Notice No.FORDFO BGH No.03 OF 2026-27 published on dt.03.11.2026 in daily newspaper SAMAJ, SURYA PRAVA and AROUND ODISHA is hereby cancelled.

OIPR:8001/8057/1/26-27/0004

Divisional Forest Officer
Baragarh Forest Divsion

13001/2383/2627

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GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
RAURKELA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, RAURKELA.
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
No. 2500 Dt. 03/11/26

Bid Identification No. 11/Rkl. RDA/2026-27

Sl. No	Name of the work	Class of Contractor / Type of Bid	Estimated cost (including labour cess) (`. In lakhs)	Cost of Tender Paper including 18% GST& EMD	Period of Completion	Availability of Tender for Online Bidding	Last date & Time for bidding online	Date & time of opening of the Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
01.	Construction of CC road from plot No. 55/602 to 55/839, Main road to plot no. 55/838 and Main road to Bhumij house near Sidhi sai Training center at Bartoli, Raurkela.	"B" (Single bid system)	46.13 (Approx)	Rs.7,080/- & EMD - 1% of the estimated cost	60 days	From 11.00 Hrs of 05.11.26 to 17.00 hrs of 16.11.26	17.00 hrs of 16.11.26	11.00 hrs of 17.11.26
02	Construction of CC road from plot no. 52/876 to 52/870, in front of PS Kujur house, plot no.52/986 to 52/987 at Bartoli, Raurkela.	"B" & "C" (Single bid system)	21.71 (Approx)	Rs.7,080/- & EMD - 1% of the estimated cost	45 days	From 11.00 Hrs of 05.11.26 to 17.00 hrs of 16.11.26	17.00 hrs of 16.11.26	11.00 hrs of 17.11.26

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

OIPR:13001/13250/1/26-27/0040

Secretary
Raurkela Devlopment Authority

AAP DISTRIBUTED RELIEF MATERIALS IN GAJAPATI

Paralakhemundi, Correspondent : AAP Gajapati district convener Sisir Kumar Bhanja Samanta visited cyclone-affected villages under Gosani block to assess the post-Cyclone Arnab situation and distributed ration materials among poor and needy families.He visited Madhusudanpur, Jampiguda, Rautpur, Jarlunda and Barlanda villages under Madhusudanpur and Kharsanda Gram Panchayats.District committee members Logos Das Bardhan, Shibashish Patnaik, Sirla Iswar Rao, Gaba Manoj Kumar, Venkatesh Sabar, Arun Sabar, Anand Sabar and Paila Chalapati Rao accompanied him and assisted in the relief distribution.



43-Year Dispute Ends as Odisha Secures Rs 800-Crore Land Parcel in Kataka

KatakaCorrespondent : A long-standing battle over one of the most valuable land parcels in the Jagatpur region has finally reached its conclusion, with the Odisha government retaining control over nearly 63 acres of land estimated to be worth more than Rs 800 crore. The decision marks a significant victory for the State in its efforts to protect public property from disputed private ownership claims. The Board of Revenue has dismissed the claimants' plea for private ownership of the land at Chera Mouza, near Jagatpur, under Tangi-Choudwar Tehsil, bringing the curtains down on a legal dispute that dates back to 1983. Member of the Board of Revenue Satyabrata Sahu, while delivering the verdict, upheld the government's ownership and directed that the property continue to be recorded in the State's name. At the centre of the dispute was a claim founded on a lease granted in 1945 by the then zamindar. The petitioners had relied on the historical lease document, previous land records and rent receipts to establish their alleged ownership rights. However, the Revenue Board found that the zamindar did not possess the requisite legal authority to transfer absolute or permanent ownership of the property. The order also underlined an important legal distinction between possession of revenue documents and the establishment of ownership rights. Payment of land revenue and possession of rent receipts, the Board observed, cannot independently confer legal title to a property. A crucial aspect of the adjudication was the vesting of the land in the State under the Odisha Estates Abolition Act in 1954. This legal provision formed a significant basis for rejecting the subsequent private ownership claims. Acting on the outcome of the proceedings, the Kataka district administration has taken possession of the disputed land and put up signboards declaring its government ownership. The move is intended to prevent further encroachment and protect the extensive property from unauthorised occupation. An inspection of the site revealed that different portions of the land are already being used for public and community purposes, including playgrounds, educational institutions, temples and roads. The development has now raised expectations among local residents about the future utilisation of the reclaimed property. Welcoming the verdict, residents have urged the government to formulate a comprehensive development plan for the land, with emphasis on educational facilities, recreational infrastructure and other projects serving the wider public interest. The administration, meanwhile, has made it clear that any fresh attempt to occupy or encroach upon the government property will be dealt with in accordance with the law. The conclusion of the 43-year-old dispute is being seen as an important milestone in the protection of government land, particularly given the substantial market value and public significance of the property.

Rourkela Police Demolish House Used for Illegal Scrap Trade; Tough Message to Criminals



RourkelaCorrespondent : Sending out a strong message against illegal activities and criminal involvement, Rourkela Police on Wednesday demolished a house in Rahmat Nagar that was allegedly being used for illegal scrap trading.The demolition was carried out in the presence of Plant Site Police personnel. The house had earlier been sealed by the police as part of action against the illegal scrap business.The owner of the property, who was allegedly involved in illegal scrap trading, has been arrested and is currently lodged in jail.The demolition is being seen as a strong warning from Rourkela Police that those involved in illegal businesses and criminal activities will face strict action and will not be spared.Police Message: Crime and illegal activities will not be tolerated.

Truck Breaks Down at Mahipani Railway Level Crossing

Rourkela/Bandamunda: Train operations were severely disrupted on the Howrah-Mumbai main line—within the Chakradharpur Railway Division—after a truck broke down at the Mahipani railway level crossing, located between the Bhalulata and Jaraikela railway stations. The incident, which occurred around 20:20 on Wednesday, November 4, obstructed train movement across the 'Up', 'Down', and third railway lines, halting operations in that section for approximately 50 minutes. According to reports, a truck (registration number OR-02-BN-3723) suddenly broke down at the Mahipani railway level crossing. Despite several attempts, the vehicle could not be moved and remained stranded on the tracks. Upon being notified, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) took immediate action; RPF Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) A.K. Pandey arrived at the scene and seized the truck. Following a strenuous effort, the disabled vehicle was finally cleared from the level crossing. During this time, rail traffic on all three lines of the Howrah-Mumbai main line remained suspended. It took about 50 minutes to clear the crossing, after which train services gradually returned to normal. A case (Case No. 96/26, dated 05.11.2026) has been registered at the Bandamunda RPF post under Section 154 of the Railways Act. A vehicle breaking down on a railway level crossing poses a serious challenge not only to train operations but also to the safety of passengers.

Drawing Competition Organized by Rashtradeep Prasar Samiti

Laxmipur, Correspondent:A drawing competition was organized by Rashtradeep Prasar Samiti with great enthusiasm on Thursday at the premises of Narayanpatna Higher Secondary School in Koraput district. The main objective of the competition was to identify the hidden artistic talents of students, develop their creativity, and encourage them to express their thoughts and emotions through art.The programme was attended by Shri Ishwar Chandra Muduli, Junior Education Officer, as the Chief Guest. Dr. Jalendra Kumar Tripathy, Chief Coordinator, Shri Surendra Nath Mall, Advisor of Rashtradeep Prasar Samiti, Shri Pratap Chandra Rath, Narayanpatna Block Coordinator, and Shri Jalamuri Sudhir, a member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), were also present on the occasion.The competition was conducted under the chairmanship of Headmaster Shri Pradeep Kumar Nag. First Prize: Sameer Meleka, Class IX, Residential School, Balipeta.Second Prize: Banta Tadingi, Class IX, Higher Secondary School, Narayanpatna.Third Prize: Babul Mandingi, Class X, Nodal Higher Secondary School, Tentulipadar.

One Shot Dead During Union Clash Over Ash Transport

Sundaragada Correspondent: A youth was shot dead on Thursday in Darlipali of Sundargarh district during a violent clash between two unions over the transportation of ash.The deceased has been identified as Sunil Neti. He sustained a bullet injury in the chest and was rushed to Sundargarh Medical College and Hospital in a critical condition, where doctors declared him brought dead.

Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad' Campaign Held in Boudh to Empower Youth

Boudh, Correspondent With a focus on strengthening democratic values, promoting electoral awareness and building a drug-free society, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, organised a youth interaction programme under the 'Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad' campaign at the conference hall of Abhyudaya College in Boudh.The programme was organised by the Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), Boudh unit, under the coordination of Programme Coordinator Ashman Mahakud.Youth icon Rosni Babu attended the event and highlighted the significant role of young people in achieving the vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'. She also stressed the importance of voting, democratic participation and active involvement of youth in nation-building.The discussion also focused on strengthening democracy through electoral awareness, particularly regarding the voting process and Special Intensive Revision (SIR), while emphasising the importance of responsible citizenship.The programme was presided over by Dr. Bibhuti Bhushan Sahu, Principal of Abhyudaya College, Boudh.District Information and Public Relations Officer Bidyapati Panda, Lecturer Dr. Prabir Kumar Das and Police Officer Mahendra Behera attended the programme as distinguished guests. They shared their views on the active role of youth in building a developed nation and underscored the need to create a drug-free generation for a stronger and progressive India.The programme concluded with a call to the youth to uphold democratic values, exercise their voting rights responsibly and contribute actively towards the national vision of 'Viksit Bharat 2047'.

Congress veteran Laxman Mallick remembered in death anniversary

Jagatsinghpur Correspondent. The late Congress veteran and former Minister, MLA, MP and Zilla Parishad president Laxman Mallick was remembered on his 12th death anniversary in a function held at Sarada Mandap here on Thursday.Laxman Mallick Smruti Committee president Biplab Choudhury chaired the remembrance meeting; former Odia vernacular Samabd's Editor Soumya Ranjan Patnaik attended the event as chief guest, accompanied by Prashant Das, Pradeep Kumar Satapathy, educationist Umakanta Nayak and Congress leader Natabar Barik

Dhenkanal Civic Body Official's Scorpio Knocks Down Pedestrian, Man Dies; Driver Flees

KatakaCorrespondent: A 44-year-old man lost his life after being hit by a Scorpio allegedly associated with the Executive Officer of Dhenkanal Municipality in the Netaji Nagar area of Kataka on Wednesday night. The deceased has been identified as Pradeep Parida, a local resident. The driver of the vehicle reportedly fled the scene following the accident, triggering questions over the circumstances surrounding the fatal incident. According to local sources, Parida was walking along the road when the Scorpio, allegedly being driven at high speed, hit him from behind. The impact left him critically injured. Locals alleged that the Executive Officer subsequently took the injured man to SCB Medical College and Hospital in the same vehicle. However, doctors declared him dead on arrival. The incident has drawn considerable attention following the circulation of a video purportedly showing the Executive Officer seeking advice from someone while transporting the injured man to the hospital. The footage has since gone viral on social media, prompting widespread discussion over the circumstances surrounding the accident and the subsequent events. Meanwhile, Madhupatna police have registered a case in connection with the incident and initiated an investigation. Police Inspector Chitta Ranjan Mohanty said that investigators were trying to establish who was actually driving the Scorpio at the time of the accident. He confirmed that the driver had allegedly fled after the mishap, while the vehicle's owner had taken the injured man to the hospital. The police have seized the Scorpio and are examining all aspects of the case. The deceased's body has been sent for post-mortem examination. The Inspector further stated that the exact circumstances of the accident and the identity of the driver would become clear following the investigation. He also pointed out that compensation for the bereaved family would be considered in accordance with the provisions of law. The tragic incident has raised concerns over road safety and accountability, particularly as the vehicle involved is reportedly linked to a municipal authority. Further investigation is underway.

Three Get Life Imprisonment For Gang-Raping Minor

Kataka: A court in Kataka on Thursday sentenced three men to life imprisonment for the gang rape of a 14-year-old girl, also imposing a fine of ?1.40 lakh on each convict and directing that the amount be paid to the victim as compensation.The Additional Sessions Judge (FTSC-2), presided over by Judge Sabita Das, also ordered an additional compensation of ?2 lakh for the victim. A fourth accused in the case was acquitted for lack of sufficient evidence.

Elderly Devotee Dies Amid Heavy Rush At Puri Srimandir

Puri: An elderly devotee died after reportedly suffering breathing difficulties amid heavy crowding and jostling inside the Natamandap of Shree Jagannath Temple in Puri on Thursday.The deceased has been identified as Jadav Ray (72), a resident of Deuli Sahi in Dhenkanal district, who had visited the pilgrim town with his family to have darshan of Lord Jagannath.ccording to reports, a large number of devotees thronged the temple from early morning on the occasion of Ekadashi. Amid the rush inside the Natamandap, devotees were reportedly pushing and jostling to catch a glimpse of the deities.Ray, who was caught in the dense crowd, allegedly became breathless under the pressure and collapsed. His wife, fellow devotees and security personnel immediately rescued him and rushed him to a hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

13001/2380/2627

OFFICE OF THE NIMAPADA NOTIFIED AREA COUNCIL
At/Po/Ps:-Nimapada, Dist.-Puri, Odisha, Pin-752106, e-Mail:-nimapadanac@gmail.com
Web: www.nimapadanac.in, Phone No :-(06758-454167)
No. 6882/Date 31.10.2026

e-Procurement Notice

Bid Documents consisting of Work Estimated Cost, Cost of Tender Paper, EMD, time of completion, class of contractors and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in Govt. website i.e. www.tendersodisha.gov.in.

1. Tender Reference No	: NP-NAC-02/2026-27
2. Tender I.D No.	: 2026_ORULB_144849 1 to 13
3. Name of the work in	: Civil Construction works as mentioned website.
4. No. of work	: 13 Nos.
5. Estimated Cost	:: Rs.4,66,070.00 to Rs.16,93,654.00
6. Period of Completion	:30 days to 120 days
7. Date & time of Bidding	: Dt.05.11.2026 to Dt.20.11.2026 upto 05.30 P.M.
8. Last date & time for receipt Of bids in the portal	: Dt. 20.11.2026 upto 05.30 P.M.
9. Bids received online shall : be opened on Dt.	:Dt.21.11.2026 at 11.00 A.M.
10.Name and address of the Officer inviting Bid	: Executive Officer, Nimapada N.A.C.

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

Executive Officer
Nimapada N.A.C.

OIPR:13001/13168/1/26-27/0005

25001/1451/2627

Email: rd_bgh@yahoo.co.in
Gmail: rwd.bgh@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THESUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS DIVISION, BARAGADA

e-Procurement Notice No. ONLINE-BGH- 08 OF 2026-27

1		Name of the Work	:	Building works during 2026-27 in the district of Baragada.		
2		EMD	:	@ 1% of the estimated cost put to tender		
3		Other details	:	As per DTCN		
Procurement Officer		Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding		Last Date & Time of Seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender
			From	To		
1		2	3	4	5	6
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Division, Baragada		ONLINE-BGH-08 OF 2026-27	09.11.2026 at 11.00 A.M.	20.11.2026 upto 5.00 P.M.	20.11.2026 upto 5.00 PM	21.11.2026 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in.

OIPR::25001/25062/1/26-27/0012

Superintending Engineer
R.W Division, Baragarh

EDITORIAL

The Future of Farming: A Confluence of Science, Nature and Farmers

Agriculture is not merely a means of food production; it is the foundation of human civilisation, economic development and survival. In an agricultural country like India, farming provides livelihoods to millions of people. However, changing climatic conditions, declining groundwater levels, deteriorating soil fertility, rising production costs and increasing pressure on natural resources have created serious challenges for agriculture. In this situation, the future of farming lies in establishing a balanced relationship between science, nature and farmers.Today, the need is not simply to produce more food but to develop an agricultural system that increases farmers' incomes, protects the environment and ensures food security for future generations. This approach is known as sustainable agriculture.

Science and Technology Transforming Agriculture

Modern science has created new possibilities in agriculture. Drones, sensors, artificial intelligence, satellite technology and digital farming tools are helping farmers make better decisions.Drones can be used to monitor fields, assess crop conditions and carry out targeted spraying. Soil and moisture sensors help farmers determine when and how much irrigation is required. These technologies can reduce the unnecessary use of water, fertilisers and energy.

Artificial intelligence (AI) can analyse information about weather, soil conditions, crop health and pests to help farmers identify potential problems at an early stage. Mobile applications and digital platforms provide access to weather forecasts, market prices and expert agricultural advice.However, technology can be truly useful only when it is affordable, accessible and suited to the local conditions and needs of farmers.Fertile soil is one of the greatest assets of agriculture. The excessive and unbalanced use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides can affect soil health, water resources and biodiversity.Maintaining soil fertility requires crop rotation, green manuring, organic composting and proper management of crop residues. Including leguminous crops in crop rotation can help improve the availability of nitrogen in the soil.Regular soil testing helps farmers understand which nutrients their fields actually need. This reduces unnecessary fertiliser use, lowers cultivation costs and supports long-term soil productivity.

Water scarcity is becoming a serious concern because of climate change and excessive groundwater extraction. Efficient water management is therefore essential for the future of agriculture.

Protest Beyond the Barricade



Bruhaspati Samal

Those who once wielded lathis, fired tear gas shells and confronted protesters with force at Jantar Mantar are now themselves taking to the streets to voice their grievances. The irony is striking. The very police personnel who were deployed to suppress public protests have apparently begun recognising the importance of peaceful collective protest in securing justice and dignity. Perhaps this is an important realisation: a grievance does not disappear merely because the person raising it wears a uniform.

The protesters are police personnel. Those against whom their grievances are directed are also police officers. And those attempting to mediate the confrontation are, once again, police officers. This extraordinary situation in Delhi presents a disturbing paradox: the institution entrusted with maintaining public peace is struggling to maintain peace within its own ranks. The recent protest following the transfer of two police officers after a confrontation with lawyers has exposed uncomfortable questions about working conditions, administrative culture and institutional accountability within the Indian police force. It cannot be dismissed merely as indiscipline or a disagreement over transfers. It demands a deeper examination of the human conditions under which our police function. Those who protect citizens' rights must also have the opportunity to seek justice, dignity and fairness within their own organisation.

The Status of Policing in India Report 2019, published by Common Cause and Lokniti–Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), provides disturbing insights into the working conditions of police personnel. Based on interviews with approximately 12,000 police personnel across 21 states and 10,595 family members, the report highlighted excessive working hours, inadequate weekly rest, insufficient resources and external pressures. Society expects the police to remain available round the clock, but the institutional arrangements required to sustain such availability remain inadequate. A police constable may regulate traffic in the morning, manage a crowd in the afternoon and attend an emergency at midnight. What should be exceptional has gradually become routine. Lower-ranking personnel bear the greatest burden, often sacrificing sleep, family time and personal commitments. An institution cannot indefinitely compensate for inadequate manpower by exhausting the personnel already in service.

The Ministry of Home Affairs' advisory dated July 6, 2021, on police working conditions further underlined the seriousness of occupational stress. Referring to a study of police personnel, it reported that approximately 42 per cent of investigating officers and 45 per cent of constables experienced work-related stress. Workload and difficulties in balancing professional and family responsibilities were major concerns among investigating officers, while long working hours were an important source of stress among constables. The advisory also highlighted the absence of weekly holidays and referred to a pilot initiative in Rajasthan involving weekly rest and duty rosters. These findings establish that reasonable working hours and weekly rest are not unrealistic demands. They require adequate recruitment, better workforce management and administrative sensitivity. Discipline is indispensable to policing, but it cannot become a licence to deny personnel their basic human needs. An exhausted police officer cannot always be expected to display the patience, restraint and sound judgment that effective policing requires.

The Delhi episode also brings the question of administrative authority into sharp focus. Transfers, suspensions, deployment orders and disciplinary proceedings are legitimate instruments of administration. A police force cannot function if lawful orders are routinely disobeyed. Equally, it cannot command genuine respect if authority is exercised arbitrarily. Superiors must exercise power responsibly, while subordinates must obey lawful instructions without surrendering their right to seek justice. Discipline must be reciprocal in spirit, even when administrative responsibilities are unequal. A transparent mechanism for hearing grievances, reviewing disputed decisions and providing reasoned responses could prevent dissatisfaction from escalating into public confrontation. No police officer should feel compelled to choose between unquestioning submission and an open protest merely to make a legitimate grievance heard.

Behind every uniform stands a family that silently shares the burden of public service. An officer may be physically present at home but mentally occupied with an investigation, an impending deployment or an unexpected telephone call. Children's school functions, family celebrations and personal commitments frequently become casualties of unpredictable duty schedules. The families of police personnel also contribute to public service, although their sacrifices rarely receive recognition. Women police personnel often face additional challenges in balancing professional responsibilities with family obligations. Gender-sensitive duty arrangements, maternity support, predictable leave and adequate childcare facilities must therefore become integral to police welfare policies. Public service may demand sacrifice, but it should not demand the continuous neglect of family life.

Equally disturbing are the psychological consequences of prolonged occupational stress. Police personnel are expected to demonstrate courage, confidence and emotional control, often under extremely difficult circumstances. Yet the expectation that they must remain strong at all times can discourage them from speaking about fatigue, anxiety and emotional distress. Confidential counselling, professional mental-health support and a workplace culture that encourages personnel to seek assistance are essential. Mental distress must never be treated as professional weakness. A healthy police force is not merely one that possesses physical strength and operational capability; it is one whose members enjoy psychological security and institutional support.

The Delhi confrontation must also be viewed in the wider context of police-public relations. It is indeed ironic that personnel who, in the past, used lathis, tear gas and other coercive methods against protesters at Jantar Mantar are now discovering the power of peaceful collective expression themselves. This should not be interpreted as an endorsement of every form of police protest or a justification for abandoning official responsibilities. Police personnel, like all public servants, must respect the law and maintain institutional discipline. But their present experience should also deepen their understanding of the struggles of ordinary citizens, workers and employees who take to the streets when their voices remain unheard. Perhaps experiencing protest from the other side of the barricade will strengthen their appreciation of democratic dissent, restraint and the right to peaceful expression.

Those who once stood behind barricades to prevent others from protesting must now understand why people raise their voices when justice appears inaccessible. And those who command the force must understand that suppressing discontent is not the same as resolving it. A peaceful protest by police personnel may be an uncomfortable sight, but the grievances that give rise to it deserve serious attention. The police are expected to guard society, but who guards the guardians against injustice, exhaustion and administrative insensitivity? The answer cannot be another baton, another transfer or another disciplinary order. It must be a fair and humane institution that listens before discontent turns into confrontation. After all, a police force that cannot secure dignity and justice for its own personnel will find it increasingly difficult to inspire confidence among the people it is entrusted to protect. Peace in society must begin with justice within the police force.

The question of the safety of gig workers



Dr Satywan Saurabh

In a changing economy, employment patterns are rapidly changing. Digital technology and internet-based services have challenged traditional ways of working. Today, individuals can earn a living by delivering food through mobile apps, driving online taxis, delivering goods, providing domestic services, or doing freelance digital work. This form of employment is called the gig economy, and those working in it are identified as gig workers. The most significant characteristic of these workers is that they can choose work according to their convenience and availability, but this flexibility is accompanied by insecurity in their livelihoods. Unlike regular employees, they generally lack access to benefits such as salary, provident fund, pension, medical care, and paid leave. Therefore, social security for gig workers is no longer merely a matter of labor welfare, but has become an essential prerequisite for inclusive development and economic justice.

The expansion of the digital economy in India has given new impetus to gig employment. According to a NITI Aayog report, the number of gig workers in the country is projected to reach approximately 23.5 million by 2029-30. This number indicates that this sector of employment is poised to become a significant part of the Indian economy in the future. Millions of people working in food supply, transportation, e-commerce, domestic services, and various digital platforms are driving economic activity in cities. Despite this, their social and economic status remains relatively vulnerable. A delivery worker involved in a road accident can immediately lose their income. Missing work for several days due to illness makes it difficult to support their families. Women face challenges such as maternity leave and income continuity. The lack of a regular pension in old age further increases their worries.

The fundamental purpose of social security is to provide financial support to workers in the uncertain circumstances of life. This becomes even more important for gig workers, as their income depends on the availability of work, customer demand, weather, platform policies, and incentive schemes. Changes in payment rates or reductions in incentives by platforms often impact their actual income. In such circumstances, benefits like accident insurance, life insurance, health coverage, maternity benefits, and old-age pensions can protect them from financial crisis. Social security benefits are not limited to the worker, but provide protection to their entire family. This also helps reduce poverty, inequality, and economic instability.

Keeping this need in mind, gig workers and platform workers have been recognized as a separate category in the Social Security Code, 2020. This Code provides for the formulation and implementation of social security schemes for them. Institutional arrangements like the National Social Security Board aim to coordinate between workers, aggregators, and the government and determine the direction of welfare schemes. The provision for the participation of various stakeholders in the 22-member National Social Security Board is an important step in this direction. It is essential to ensure that such boards do not merely become institutions that recommend schemes, but also understand the real problems of workers and become effective means of resolving them.

The role of these boards is important on several levels. First, they can contribute to the formulation and prioritization of social security schemes. Second, they can oversee the expansion of benefits such as life insurance, accident insurance, disability assistance, maternity benefits, and old-age security. Third, they can ensure accountability by reviewing the expenditure on schemes and their implementation. Fourth, they can help develop a system to ensure that a worker's social security benefits are not lost when they move from one digital platform to another or work from one state to another.

The e-Shram portal can be an important tool in this direction. Aadhaar-linked registration can facilitate the identification of workers and their access to welfare benefits. However, mere registration is not enough. Real success will be achieved when registered workers also receive timely payments of accident assistance, insurance, health services, and other prescribed benefits. To achieve this, the digital system must be simplified, transparent, and worker-friendly.

However, this system faces several serious challenges. The most significant problem is the ambiguity of employment relationships. Gig workers are often treated as independent partners or service providers, while their working conditions, payment, task allocation, and performance evaluation are controlled by digital platforms. This makes it difficult to determine who is responsible for social security. Another problem is the gap between plans and actual benefits. Many workers are unaware of the plans, and the registration and claim process is complex for some. The third challenge is worker representation. Without their actual participation in policy decisions, the plans will not be tailored to the needs on the ground.

The availability of financial resources is also a major issue. The Social Security Code provides for contributions from aggregators, limiting their annual turnover to one to two percent, but not exceeding five percent of the total amount paid to workers. This system aims to create a sustainable financial foundation for social security. However, transparency in the calculation, collection, and use of contributions is essential. It must also be ensured that the financial burden is not indirectly transferred to workers' incomes.

The way forward is clear. The central and state governments must work together to ensure effective implementation of social security schemes. Simple registration of each gig worker, portable benefits across multiple platforms, regular social security audits, and effective grievance redressal mechanisms must be developed. Special attention should be paid to maternity assistance and safe working conditions, taking into account the specific needs of women workers. Furthermore, genuine and adequate participation of worker representatives on social security boards must be ensured.

The gig economy is India's new economic reality. It should be viewed as an opportunity for job creation and entrepreneurship, but simply increasing employment opportunities is not enough. Development will be meaningful only when the lives of the workers who drive that growth are also secure and dignified. The benefits of technological and market advancements must reach workers. Social security boards can be an important bridge in this direction. Their role must not be limited to paper recommendations, but rather ensure that the benefits of schemes reach the last worker. Flexible employment can increase workers' independence, but in the absence of social security, this independence turns into economic insecurity. Therefore, the need of the hour is to recognize gig workers not just as part of the digital economy, but as workers with rights and dignity.

42 Days After Burial, Woman's Head Missing as Grave Dug Up in Nabarangpur

UMARKOT,Correspondent In a shocking incident that has sparked fear and outrage in a village in Nabarangpur district, unidentified miscreants allegedly exhumed the body of a 27-year-old unmarried woman, severed her head and took it away, reportedly in connection with suspected occult practices.The incident came to light on Thursday morning when villagers discovered that the grave of the woman, identified as Neeladri Majhi, had been dug up at the village burial ground in Narasinghaguda under Tentulikhunti police limits.According to the family, Majhi died on September 26. Believing that she had contracted chickenpox, locally associated with the manifestation of a deity, her family buried her instead of cremating her, in accordance with local customs.The family had reportedly kept vigil at the burial ground for 21 days, fearing that practitioners of occult rituals might target the grave. However, they stopped guarding the site after the period ended.The shocking discovery was made on the 42nd night after her burial. Villagers who went to the burial ground in the morning found the grave dug up.On reaching the spot, the family members allegedly found evidence of ritualistic activities, including the remains of two sacrificed chickens and articles used for worship. They also discovered that the woman's head was missing from the body.The family suspects that the body was exhumed and the head severed for occult practices, possibly involving rituals associated with unmarried women. However, the exact motive behind the incident remains unclear.The family subsequently reburied the body and demanded justice.The incident has triggered fear and anxiety among residents of Narasinghaguda, under Nandahandi block, with villagers demanding a thorough investigation to identify those responsible.Who dug up the grave and why? Was the crime linked to occult practices or was there another motive behind the gruesome act? These questions remain unanswered.Police investigation is expected to establish the circumstances surrounding the incident and identify the perpetrators.

Launch of 'Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0' lunch in Subarnapur



SUBARNAPUR-Correspondent---The 'Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 4.0' for the year 2026-27 was formally launched today in Subarnapur district. The Collector Debasish Singh inaugurated the campaign.The Chief District Medical and Public Health Officer (CDM&PHO), the District Public Health Officer, various branch officers, district-level officials, and staff from the Health Department were present at the event.On this occasion, the Collector emphasized the need to raise awareness among the youth regarding the adverse effects of tobacco and intoxicating substances, and sought everyone's cooperation in making the district tobacco-free. Discussions were held regarding the implementation of extensive awareness programs, particularly through schools, colleges, and youth organizations. Finally, all the guests and staff took a pledge to stay away from tobacco and to raise awareness among others.

Women's Self-Defense Training Camp in Khaprakhol concluded



Patnagarh - (Correspondent) The Self-Defense Training Camp for Women of the Self-Help Group (SHG) concluded on Thursday at the Balangir district khaprakhol block Shubhadra Shakti Hall. Mission Shakti Block Program Manager Bibhuti Bhushan Mishra presided over the concluding ceremony, while BDO Bibekananda Sarangi, CDPO Amita Panda, Odisha Livelihood Mission Block Program Coordinator Pankajini Tarasiya, and Welfare Extension Officer Pratikshya Sahu attended as the chief guest, the chief guest, and the chief guest. Women were made aware of how to become self-reliant and how to protect themselves, and 105 women of the block were trained and safety kits were distributed. Sushma Bagh provided training as a trainer in this program organized by the Central Commission for Women.

District-Level Children's Festival "SURABHI–2026" Held in Jharsuguda

Jharsuguda(Correspondent): The district-level Children's Festival "Surabhi–2026", organised under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha, Jharsuguda, was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the MCL Auditorium in Beheramal.The inaugural ceremony was presided over by Jharsuguda District Education Officer Dr. Radhakanta Gadatia. Jharsuguda Collector Shri Kunal Motiram Chauhan attended the occasion as the Chief Guest and encouraged students to focus on personality development and showcase their hidden talents.Welcoming the gathering, District Education Officer Dr. Gadatia motivated all participants to give their best performances on this platform, which provides an opportunity to showcase their talents.Among the distinguished guests present were Additional District Education Officers Rabindra Majhi and Shakuntala Kishan; Principal of the District Institute of Education and Training, Jharsuguda, Mamata Pradhan; Lakhanpur BEO Rajendra Prasad Sahu; Coordinator Sushant Kumar Dash; Kirmira BEO Jayanarayan Panda; Kolabira BEO Prakash Sahu; and Laikera BEO Himanshu Bag.At the concluding ceremony, Jharsuguda MLA Tankadhar Tripathy attended as the Chief Guest. On the occasion of the completion of 100 years of the formation of Odisha as a linguistic state, he called upon everyone to work together towards making Odisha one of the leading states in the country.The programme was compered by Bipin Kumar Panda, while Additional District Education Officer Rabindra Majhi delivered the vote of thanks. District Coordinator Khulana Sundari Behera managed the overall arrangements, while teacher Kusha Sa coordinated the cultural programmes.With the objective of developing leadership qualities among students, a Model United Nations (MUN) Pavilion was set up by students of PM SHRI schools across the district. The initiative received appreciation from the audience.Various competitions, including debate, drawing, music, quiz, creative writing, elocution, Odia handwriting and dictation, PM POSHAN painting, and handicrafts, were organised as part of the festival. The event concluded with vibrant cultural performances.On the occasion, meritorious students were felicitated with prizes by the guests, while the judges were also honoured for their contributions.It is worth mentioning that the participants who secured first positions in their respective competitions will represent the district at the upcoming state-level Children's Festival, Surabhi.

Rayagada Block-Level Surabhi Festival Held at Tadama



Rayagada, correspondence : The Rayagada Block-level Surabhi Festival was organised at the premises of Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya at Tadama on Thursday, witnessing enthusiastic participation by schoolchildren from across the block.Rayagada District Education Officer Bhajanlal Majhi attended the inaugural ceremony as the chief guest, while Additional Block Development Officer of Rayagada Kalu Charan Nayak delivered the keynote address. Headmaster of Jurudi High School Sanjay Gamang, former headmaster of Parishad Upper Primary School Nilanchal Mishra and Assistant Teacher of Bilesu High School Dr Dwiti Chandra Sahu attended as distinguished guests.The concluding ceremony was attended by Special Development Council Vice-Chairperson Manjula Miniaaka, Tuni Huika, Tadama Sarpanch Alame Jakaka and social worker Jharana Pani, who witnessed and appreciated the cultural performances presented by the children.Students who had secured first positions in cluster-level competitions across the block's 17 clusters participated in the event. As many as 32 competitions were organised in different categories, including speech, creative writing, handwriting, painting, music, essay writing, debate and quiz.Addressing the gathering, the guests highlighted the immense potential and inherent talents of children, observing that the Surabhi Festival provides an excellent platform for nurturing their abilities and encouraging their overall development.At the end of the programme, prizes and certificates were distributed to the winners to recognise their achievements and motivate them. Block Education Officer-in-Charge Majhi informed that children securing outstanding positions would represent the block at the district-level Surabhi Festival.Assistant Teacher of Tadama High School Sridhar Patnaik and teacher of Antariguda Upper Primary School Abhilipsa Dalabehera coordinated the proceedings

Are Labour Department's Negligence and Lack of Safety Measures Costing Workers' Lives?

Kantabanji, correspondence : The safety of workers engaged in private construction projects has come under serious scrutiny following the tragic death of a labourer in Kantabanji on Thursday. The incident has raised questions about the implementation of workplace safety regulations and the role of the Labour Department in ensuring workers' protection.According to reports, an iron rod fell from the fourth floor of an under-construction building and struck a labourer on the head while he was working. He died on the spot.The incident has highlighted the alleged lack of basic safety arrangements at private construction sites. Workers are often seen carrying out risky construction activities without essential protective equipment such as safety helmets, safety belts and other safety gear.Questions are now being raised about whether the Labour Department is regularly inspecting construction sites and ensuring compliance with mandatory safety norms. Had proper inspections been conducted and safety regulations strictly enforced, workers might have been provided with essential protective equipment, potentially reducing the risk of such tragic incidents.The incident has triggered a serious debate over accountability. Is the contractor solely responsible for failing to ensure workers' safety, or does the Labour Department also bear responsibility for allegedly failing to enforce safety regulations?People are demanding a proper investigation into the incident, strict action against those found responsible and adequate compensation for the deceased worker's family. The Labour Department must also intensify inspections of private construction sites to prevent further loss of innocent workers' lives.

Boudh Police, District Administration Vow to Make District Cannabis-Free Within Two Months

Over 2,188 Acres of Illegal Cannabis Cultivation Destroyed; Joint Efforts Intensified Under 'Nisha Mukt Boudh' Campaign



Boudh, Correspondent-: With a firm commitment to eradicate illegal cannabis cultivation and drug trafficking, Boudh Police and the district administration have intensified their efforts under the special initiative titled "Ek Sankalpa – Nisha Mukt Boudh", launched as part of the nationwide 'Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan'.The campaign aims to completely eliminate illegal cannabis cultivation from the district while creating awareness among people living in remote and vulnerable areas about alternative and sustainable livelihood opportunities.As part of the initiative, Himanshu Lal, IPS, Inspector General of Police, ANTF, CID-CB, Bhubaneswar, visited Boudh district to review the progress of the campaign and assess the ongoing drive against illegal cannabis cultivation.A coordination meeting was held at the Sadbhavana Conference Hall under the chairmanship of Boudh Superintendent of Police Kuldeep Meena. Boudh Collector Bibhuti Bhushan Nayak, IAS; Kandhamal Superintendent of Police Ramendra Prasad, IPS; ANTF, CID-CB Superintendent of Police Sanjeeb Satpathy, OPS (S); Excise Superintendent Shanti Marandi; Boudh Divisional Forest Officer Rajendra Gochhayat; Additional District Magistrate Aniruddha Pradhan; Chief Development Officer Prabhas Chandra Dandasena; SDPO, Baliguda, along with senior officials from the Police, Excise, Revenue and Forest departments, attended the meeting.During the meeting, all participating officials and stakeholders took a collective pledge to completely eradicate illegal cannabis cultivation from Boudh district. Emphasis was laid on strengthening inter-departmental coordination and adopting a comprehensive strategy to effectively tackle the menace.The meeting also stressed that enforcement alone would not be sufficient to address the problem. Providing sustainable and lawful livelihood alternatives to people engaged in cannabis cultivation was identified as an equally important priority.The district administration proposed coordinated interventions through the Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry departments to promote alternative livelihood activities in remote cannabis-prone areas. Cultivation of banana, jackfruit, guava, papaya, drumstick, cashew and coffee, along with goat, sheep and cattle rearing, were discussed as viable alternatives to illegal cultivation.Following the meeting, the IGP, ANTF, along with the Superintendents of Police of Boudh and Kandhamal, ANTF officials and other officers, visited various cannabis cultivation sites across the district. They reviewed the ongoing destruction drive and assessed the progress of enforcement activities.According to official figures, Boudh Police have destroyed approximately 2,188.03 acres of illegal cannabis cultivation during the 2026-27 cultivation season so far. In this connection, 73 cases have been registered and 11 accused persons arrested.Furthermore, since June 2026, Boudh Police have seized 13,243.450 kg of cannabis, registered 93 cases and arrested 91 accused persons.In addition, under 'Operation Dahan', a total of 83,790 kg of seized cannabis has been destroyed at designated incineration facilities in accordance with prescribed rules and procedures.The district police and administration have expressed confidence in achieving the target of making Boudh completely free from illegal cannabis cultivation within the next two months.The 'Ek Sankalpa – Nisha Mukt Boudh' campaign reflects the strong determination of the police and district administration to combat illegal cannabis cultivation and drug trafficking through strict law enforcement, public awareness and the creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities.The district police and administration have appealed to the people of Boudh to extend their cooperation, report information regarding illegal cannabis cultivation and drug trafficking in their respective areas, and collectively work towards building a drug-free, healthy, safe and prosperous Boudh.

Kartik Aaryan, Kabir Khan set to come together for upcoming film 'Ladaku



Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan and filmmaker Kabir Khan have come together with Ananya Birla's Birla Studios for a heart-tugging, inspiring film titled 'Ladaku'.Birla Studios, on Wednesday, announced the worldwide theatrical release date of 'Ladaku' as June 18, 2027. The film is produced by Birla Studios and Kabir Khan Entertainment, further marking the debut of Kartik Aaryan as a producer with Dopamine Studios. Ladaku narrates an extraordinary real-life story of ambition, grit and hope, the makers said.The announcement adds another project to the actor's slate of films.Kartik Aaryan is currently with his upcoming film 'Captain India'.Directed by Shimit Amin, best known for his work in Shah Rukh Khan's 'Chak De! India', the film is produced by T-Series' Bhushan Kumar and Baweja Studios alongside Dopamine Studios.SB Films will be handling the production.In another feather in his cap, Kartik Aaryan received the National Award for Best Actor for 'Chandu Champion'.

Ranbir Kapoor's 1,600 Crore Epic Makes History



One of the most ambitious projects in Indian cinema, Nitesh Tiwari's mythological epic Ramayana Part 1, has hit theatres worldwide on November 5. Starring Ranbir Kapoor, Sai Pallavi and Yash in lead roles, the film has been mounted on a reported budget of ?1,600 crore, making it the most expensive Indian film ever made.??Follow our WhatsApp Channel for the latest news, breaking updates, and important headlines. Stay connected with us for more updates!Backed by Namit Malhotra's Prime Focus Studios, the film brings together a star-studded Indian cast and an international technical crew. Paid preview shows were held in the United States and Canada on November 4, ahead of its global theatrical release.The film is an adaptation of sage Valmiki's epic Ramayana and also draws inspiration from other versions of the story, including Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari, the screenplay has been written by Tiwari and Shridhar Raghavan.Ranbir Kapoor plays Lord Rama, Sai Pallavi portrays Sita, while Yash appears as Ravana. The ensemble cast also includes Ravi Dubey, Rakul Preet Singh, Arun Govil, Lara Dutta, Vivek Oberoi, Kunal Kapoor, Adinath Kothare, Kajal Aggarwal and Anupam Kher.Sunny Deol is also part of the two-film franchise as Lord Hanuman, although his character is reportedly expected to appear in the second instalment.The film's music has brought together two internationally acclaimed composers, Hans Zimmer and A.R. Rahman, marking their first collaboration. The project also features several Hollywood technicians, with visual effects handled by DNEG, the visual effects studio led by Namit Malhotra and an eight-time Oscar winner.

Want healthy, glossy hair? Know the 7 essential habits to protect and prevent long-term damage



While genetics play a key role, hair still requires thoughtful attention to stay healthy. Whether you have straight, curly, or oily hair, the everyday care routine that you follow makes a major difference in preventing hair fall damage and maintaining its natural shine. There are several factors taken into consideration while determining how thick and healthy your hair feels and looks. Among these are the products you use, the everyday diet, as well as the type of hair you inherited.

Tips for everyday care

1. Wash your hair once a week

People are advised to use hair care products once a week. Doing this will help prevent their build-up and now allow it to make your hair feel dry. This means that people should refrain from using hair care products on a day-to-day basis.

2. Use conditioner

Do make sure that you are using a conditioner every time you wash your hair. While using it, ensure that it coats the ends of the hair, since these remain the most fragile and oldest part of your hair.

As per Healthline, using a conditioner after shampoo is an "important step in keeping your hair soft, shiny, and manageable."

3. Hot oil treatment

Try to massage your hair with hot oil twice a month. This will add additional moisture and elasticity to the hair, as per the American Academy of Dermatology.



4. Heat protection

Before styling your hair, you should always consider using a heat-protecting product. This needs to be added to wet hair before styling. It will ensure minimal heat damage.

5. Relaxers

Stay cautious when it comes to relaxers. Consider visiting a hair stylist to get a relaxer applied safely, as it will minimize hair damage.

6. Ceramic combs or irons

For pressing hair, use only ceramic combs or irons. This should be done only once a week and not more than that. Further, AAD recommends using straightening devices that come with a dial to ensure it is not too hot. The device should be kept at the lowest possible temperature setting.

7. Don't keep braids or weaves too tight.

Pain equals damage. So, make sure that your braids, cornrows, or weaves are not too tight, otherwise they can damage the hair.

Note to readers: This article is for informational purposes only and not a substitute for professional medical advice. Always seek the advice of your doctor with any questions about a medical condition.

Vaseline vs. Glycerin: What is better for your skin and why?

What are the benefits of Vaseline and Glycerin for skin?

Vaseline: The Barrier Builder

If your skin is dry, cracked, chapped, or irritated, Vaseline works like a seal. It helps your skin heal by shielding it from cold weather, wind, and friction. That's why it's a favourite for treating cracked heels, chapped lips, minor cuts and scrapes, dry eyelids or elbows and for post-procedure healing.

The downside? That same protective layer can feel heavy or greasy. For acne-prone or oily skin, it may feel suffocating, even though it isn't technically pore-clogging.

Glycerin: The water magnet

If your skin is dehydrated, tight, flaky, or dull, glycerin helps pull moisture into the top layers. It is lightweight, water-loving, and works beautifully in lotions, serums, cleansers and hair products.

Glycerin leaves skin soft, plump, and hydrated. It is suitable for most skin types, including oily and sensitive skin. However, when used alone, glycerin can feel sticky, and in very dry climates it may pull water from within your skin instead of the air, causing more dryness unless paired with another moisturiser.

What is better?

The answer lies in what your skin truly needs.Dr Tripathi explains: "Glycerin is lightweight, non-greasy, and ideal for normal to moderately dry skin during winter. But in very dry climates it can backfire by drawing water from deeper layers if not sealed properly. That's where Vaseline shines, particularly for very dry, flaky, or cracked areas such as lips, heels, elbows, hands, or eczema-prone spots.

For dry skin:

This is where the match gets interesting. Glycerin hydrates, but the hydration can vanish quickly if not sealed in. Vaseline seals, but only works well if there's moisture underneath.

So, the best choice? Both—layered.

Apply glycerin (or a glycerin-based lotion) first, then top it with a thin layer of Vaseline to lock



everything in. This combo is often called "slugging" in modern skincare terms.

For oily or acne-prone skin:

Glycerin wins by a landslide. It hydrates without feeling heavy, and it won't trigger breakouts. Vaseline won't clog pores scientifically, but the occlusive layer can trap sweat, bacteria, and dead skin, creating the feeling of a breakout waiting to happen.

For sensitive or eczema-prone skin:

Vaseline takes the lead. It's extremely gentle, contains no fragrances or preservatives, and protects irritated skin beautifully.

Glycerin is still helpful, but when the skin is very compromised, it can sting slightly.

For very dry climate or harsh winter:

Vaseline is better as the final layer. Winter air steals moisture fast, and glycerine alone may pull hydration out of the skin. Vaseline helps prevent water loss and protects your skin barrier.

So, who wins overall?

There is no universal champion, but here's the simplest way to decide:

Choose Vaseline if you need protection, healing, or barrier support.

Choose glycerin if you require hydration, softness, and plumpness.

Use both if you want the best of both worlds—hydration and protection.Dr Tripathi's advice is simple: "Apply a glycerin-based moisturiser first. Then seal it with a thin layer of Vaseline wherever extra protection is needed, creating the perfect balance of deep hydration and barrier repair."

How much water should you drink in winter?

As temperatures fall, a silent health risk looms: winter dehydration. Contrary to the common assumption that dehydration is primarily a problem associated with hot weather, doctors warn that the colder months can lead to even greater fluid loss, significantly impacting the body's major systems

In an interview with HT Lifestyle, Dr Rahul Mathur, department of internal medicine at CK Birla Hospitals, Jaipur, highlighted the paradox. "People assume dehydration happens only in hot weather, but winters silently dehydrate us even more," he said, adding, "Low temperatures reduce our thirst response by up to 40 percent, even when our body needs water. Simultaneously, we lose fluids through dry indoor heating, faster breathing in cold air, and increased urination."

The body-wide impact of low fluid intake

He cautioned that even mild dehydration — just 1–2 percent — can have a cascading negative effect on health. The brain is highly sensitive, and dehydration can lead to fatigue, headaches, and impaired concentration. Moreover, Dr Mathur said that low fluid intake "thickens blood, increasing risks of hypertension, clotting, and cardiac strain, especially in older adults."

Concentrated urine due to dehydration can result in kidney stones and UTIs, which are common during colder months, he shared, adding that dehydration can stiffen joints and reduce workout performance. Dr Mathur said, "Kidneys are similarly affected since concentrated urine leads to kidney stones and UTIs, which are common during colder months. Skin and mucosa suffer as reduced hydration compromises the skin barrier, causing dryness, cracked lips, and weakening immunity in the nose and throat. Joints and muscles can also feel the strain because dehydration stiffens joints and reduces workout performance."

Hydration goals and strategies

Dr Sandeep Patil, chief intensivist at Fortis Hospital, Kalyan, shared with HT Lifestyle that the fundamental role of water, which makes up 60 percent of the body: "Water is essential for the daily functioning of the body. All body fluids contain water. Along with water, waste material is excreted through the kidneys. For the digestion and absorption of nutrients, water is essential in the gut."

KIIT and KISS Students Shine at East Zone Inter-University Judo Championship
13 Players Qualify for All India Inter-University Championship



Bhubaneswar: The Closing Ceremony of the East Zone Inter-University Judo Championship (Men & Women) 2026-27 was successfully conducted at the Multipurpose Indoor Stadium, KIIT University, Bhubaneswar. The championship was organised by KISS University under the aegis of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU), witnessing participation from 40 universities and more than 500 participants, including players, technical officials and delegates.KIIT University and KISS University athletes delivered impressive performances, bringing laurels to their respective institutions. KIIT University secured two silver medals, while KISS University won one silver and one bronze medal in the championship.A total of 13 judokas (5 boys and 8 girls) from KIIT and KISS Universities qualified for the prestigious All India Inter-University Judo Championship 2026-27, scheduled to be held at Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar, Punjab.

Asian Champions Trophy: India Summit Clash With Japan After Emphatic 8-1 Win Over South Korea

Mohali: Shilanand Lakra and Dilpreet Singh struck a brace each as the Indian men's hockey team booked their place in the final of the Asian Champions Trophy Punjab 2026 with a dominating 8-1 win over South Korea in the semifinal at the Olympian Balbir Singh Senior International Hockey Stadium in Mohali on Wednesday.Shilanand Lakra scored in the 4th and 13th minutes, while Dilpreet Singh succeeded in the 21st and 25th minutes, and Harmanpreet Singh (9'), Sukhjeet Singh (21'), Angad Bir Singh (36') and Vivek Sagar Prasad (54') were also on target. Sangjun Han (9') scored Korea's only goal.The semifinal was India's first international match in the Mohali stadium and was played in front of a vociferous crowd. The five-time champions, who had finished the league stage unbeaten with five wins from five matches, carried that form into the knockout match and will now face Japan in Thursday's final. Japan edged Malaysia in a shootout after the first semifinal remained goalless through 60 minutes of regulation time.India started on the front foot and took the lead in the fourth minute through a well-worked team goal. Dilpreet collected the ball around the nine-yard area in the striking circle and passed it to Sukhjeet before receiving it back. He then cut the ball across from the baseline for Shilanand to deflect it into the net from close range.Korea responded in the ninth minute when Sangjun Han deflected a pass from the right past goalkeeper Suraj Karkera. Nonetheless, India restored their lead almost immediately through a penalty corner, with skipper Harmanpreet sending a powerful drag-flick into the net.India earned another penalty corner in the 13th minute. Harmanpreet's first attempt was saved by goalkeeper Kim Jaehyeon, but Shilanand reacted quickly on the rebound to score his second goal.

The second quarter began with five quiet minutes before India stepped up their attacking play.

SAFF Championship 2026: Defending Champions India Beat Pakistan In Campaign Opener



Dhaka: Defending champions India began their SAFF Championship 2026 campaign with a 3-2 victory over Pakistan in their Group B opener at the National Stadium in Dhaka on Thursday.Suhail Ahmad Bhat scored twice in the first half before Manglenthang Kipgen added a third to give India a commanding 3-0 lead at the break. Pakistan scored twice in stoppage time through Najeeb Ullah and Alamgir Ghazi, but the Indian side held on to secure all three points.India began cautiously, building patiently from the back and looking to establish control through the midfield, with Abhishek Suryavanshi operating in a deep role. Bhat thought he had opened the scoring in the 12th minute after getting on the end of an aerial ball from Kipgen, but the goal was ruled out for offside.The forward was not to be denied for long. A minute later, Muhammad Suhail collected the ball from a throw-in on the left and drove forward before delivering an inch-perfect ball into the penalty area. Bhat arrived at the six-yard box to turn it home and give India the lead.India doubled their advantage in the 19th minute, with Suryavanshi providing the assist. As Pakistan dropped deeper, the midfielder found himself further up the pitch and played a precise, line-breaking pass through the defence. Bhat timed his run to perfection, got clear of the backline and calmly slotted a first-time finish into the far corner past goalkeeper Yousuf Butt.The Blue Tigers continued to find space behind the Pakistan defence and made it 3-0 in the 31st minute. Noufal PN carried the ball forward through the middle before releasing Kipgen with a pass in behind. The midfielder ran onto it and finished past the advancing Butt to extend India's lead.Pakistan had an opportunity to reduce the deficit when Suryavanshi brought down Hayyaan Khattak from behind inside the penalty area. However, Shayak Dost sent the resulting spot-kick over the crossbar, allowing India to preserve their three-goal advantage. Pakistan found a way back into the contest in stoppage time. Junaid Shah delivered a cross from the left in the 91st minute, and Najeeb Ullah rose highest to head the ball past Arsh Anwer Shaikh, who had little to do during most of the match.Pakistan scored again three minutes later, with McKeal Abdullah providing the cross from the right side of the penalty area. Alamgir Ghazi controlled the delivery before finishing with an acrobatic effort to make it 3-2.Indian team will next face Maldives in their final Group B fixture on November 11 at the same venue. The top two teams from each group will progress to the semi-finals

ISL 2026/27: Mohun Bagan Super Giant Edge Odisha FC In Five-Goal Thriller, Go Top Of The Table



Kolkata: Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) edged Odisha FC 3-2 in a pulsating Indian Super League (ISL) 2025/27 clash at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata on Thursday.Dejan Drazic scored twice (47', 74'), while Lee Erwin struck late (88') to seal all three points for the Mariners. Mahmoud Eid (51') and Everton (79') brought Odisha FC level on two occasions, but the Mariners had the final say in what was a pulsating game of football.The win meant Panagiotis Dilmperis' side will go into the international break as League leaders with 12 points from five games.The Mariners began on the front foot, creating their first big chance inside the opening minute when Erwin was found in the box, only for his effort to be pushed away by Hrithik Tiwari. Odisha responded by breaking on the counter against the hosts' relentless, fast-paced attacks. Tiwari remained steady in goal as Mohun Bagan kept testing him, and the sides went into the break goalless.Drazic found the breakthrough in the 47th minute. He danced through the Odisha defenders after Anirudh Thapa played a pinpoint through ball, before calmly finishing with his left foot into the bottom corner, sending the ball past Tiwari.Odisha equalised within four minutes. Nihal Sudhish delivered a cross in front of Vishal Kaith, and Eid tapped it in to make it 1-1 in the 51st minute.Mohun Bagan regained the lead in the 74th minute. Lallianzuala Chhangte lost his man with slick footwork before whipping in a low cross, and Drazic completed his brace with a tap-in to make it 2-1.Odisha drew level once again five minutes later. Mehtab cleared the ball, but it took a deflection off Tekcham Abhishek Singh and fell to Everton, who turned and finished with a right-footed curler to make it 2-2 in the 79th minute.The Mariners had the final say in the 88th minute. Erwin struck sharply with his right foot into the bottom-left corner to make it 3-2 and seal a dramatic victory for Mohun Bagan Super Giant.

Time To Give It To The Future': Ronaldo Announces Retirement From International Football



New Delhi: Cristiano Ronaldo has announced his retirement from international football, bringing the curtain down on an illustrious 23-year career with Portugal, during which he became the highest goalscorer and most-capped player in men's international football.The 41-year-old forward confirmed his decision through an emotional video posted on social media, reflecting on his journey since making his senior debut for Portugal in August 2003.Ronaldo finished his international career with 146 goals in 234 appearances, setting records that have made him one of the greatest players in the history of the game.In his farewell message, Ronaldo described representing Portugal as the greatest privilege of his career, saying the time had come to hand over the iconic number seven jersey to the next generation."To the Portuguese, the day has come to return the number 7 jersey of the national team to all of us. I never felt like it was exclusively mine, but for 23 years I had the privilege and responsibility to wear it, to defend it and to take it with me to the stadiums all over the world. Today the time has come to give it to the future," he said in a video posted on X.Reflecting on his journey, Ronaldo admitted that his career had been filled with unforgettable victories as well as difficult moments, but insisted that his commitment to the national team never wavered."There were perfect afternoons and nights; there were victories that I will never forget, and there were defeats that I still have a hard time remembering today. I also failed, I also suffered, there were also times when I was not able to give the Portuguese what they wanted so much. But I never gave up. And above all, I never stopped feeling proud to represent Portugal," he said.He also thanked his teammates, coaches, support staff and family for standing by him throughout his international journey."To all the coaches, directors, doctors, physiotherapists, dressers, employees, and so many people who have worked with me over the years, thank you. Many of you never appeared in the photos, but without you, none of these photos would have been possible. To my family, thank you for sharing this dream with me," he said."Thank you for understanding the absences, sacrifices and moments when the national team had to occupy a space that also belonged to you. If I got so far, it was because we were always at hand," he added. concluded.

India's Performance Has Been A Highlight Of Inaugural U-15 World Cup & Festival': Infantino

New Delhi: FIFA president Gianni Infantino has praised India's performance at the inaugural FIFA U-15 World Cup and Festival in Azerbaijan, describing the young side as a "very, very strong team" and highlighting their campaign as one of the tournament's major highlights.In a video interaction with a young Indian footballer, shared on his Instagram account, Infantino acknowledged India's performances during the competition and said the tournament was about more than just winning matches, particularly for players at the Under-15 level.'India won quite a few games. You have actually been a very, very strong team in this very first FIFA World Cup and Festival here in Azerbaijan. It has been one of the highlights," Infantino said."Many teams have performed well, many players have done fantastically, and it's important in football, in any case, especially at the under-15 level, of course, to come, to enjoy the experience, to learn and to go back home with something that you can cherish and take with you for your whole life," he added.

Odisha U19 Men's Squad Announced for Cooch Behar Trophy 2026-27

BHUBANESWAR, The Odisha Cricket Association has named its 18-member Under-19 men's squad for the opening matches of the Cooch Behar Trophy in the BCCI Domestic Season 2026-27.The team, led by captain Subhasis Mallick, was officially announced by Sourajit Mohapatra, Chairperson of the Odisha Junior Men's Selection Committee, at a press meet held on 5 November 2026.The squad features two wicket-keepers — Panakala Mokshit and Vedant Vinod Devhade — along with a balanced mix of batters and bowlers.Full list of selected players:Subhasis Mallick (Captain), Panakala Mokshit (WK), Vedant Vinod Devhade (WK), Aditya Anand, Ayush Ranjan Mantri, Jogeswar Bag, Kamalesh Patra, Modiras Behera, Prayan Prantik Samal, Raaz Yadav, Rudra Prasad Mallick, S.R. Gunjan Sahoo, Seikh Hayat, Swagat Sourav Mishra, Sahil Satyabrat Naik, Sairaj Sahoo, Saurav Yadav and Shubham Ranjan Palai.Odisha has been placed in Elite Group E of the Cooch Behar Trophy. The team's first two fixtures, for which this squad has been named, are home matches:

26–29 November 2026: Odisha vs Goa at Gandhi Stadium, Balangir

3–6 December 2026: Odisha vs Bengal at Vikash Ground, Bargarh

Later matches include an away fixture against Haryana in Rohtak, a home game against Jammu & Kashmir in Bargarh, and a final group-stage encounter against Karnataka in Hubli.

The selection committee has wished the young side the best for the campaign, with the opening games offering an early opportunity to settle combinations ahead of the remaining fixtures.

Hindalco sends two truckloads of relief materials for Cyclone Arnab victims in Ganjam

Bhubaneswar, Correspondent :Demonstrating its commitment to community welfare and humanitarian support, Hindalco Industries Limited a unit of Aditya Birla Group, has stepped forward to extend assistance to families affected by Cyclone Arnab in Ganjam district by dispatching two truckloads of essential relief materials for distribution among the affected households.Recognising the hardships and distress caused by the cyclone, Hindalco has taken this humanitarian initiative to support



vulnerable families as they navigate the difficult process of recovery and rehabilitation.The relief consignment, being sent for distribution through the Ganjam district administration, includes essential household and personal care items such as sarees, lungi, gamchas (towels), hair oil, bathing soaps, sanitary pads and bags.The initiative reflects Hindalco's commitment to standing in solidarity with communities during times of natural calamities and extending meaningful support to those in need. The company believes that timely assistance and collective efforts are crucial in helping affected families regain a sense of normalcy and dignity in the aftermath of a disaster.Speaking on the initiative, Ardhendu Mohapatra, President – Corporate Affairs, Hindalco Industries Limited, said: "At Hindalco, we firmly believe that our responsibility towards society extends far beyond our business operations. In times of natural calamities and humanitarian crises, it is our collective duty to stand beside affected communities and extend a helping hand. Through this initiative, we hope to bring some comfort and relief to the families affected by Cyclone Arnab in Ganjam. While this is a modest contribution, it reflects our unwavering commitment to compassion, solidarity and community welfare. We stand with the people of Ganjam as they work towards rebuilding their lives."Hindalco Industries Limited has reiterated its commitment to supporting communities during challenging times through responsible corporate initiatives and humanitarian interventions.

ONE-WAY SPECIAL TRAINS TO RUN BETWEEN KHURDA ROAD AND ANAND VIHAR TERMINAL

Bhubaneswar, Correspondent:To cater to the increased travel demand between Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi-NCR, a Special Express train will be operated between Khurda Road and Anand Vihar Terminal in both directions.
rain No. 08407 Khurda Road–Anand Vihar Terminal Special will depart from Khurda Road at 12:15 hrs on November 7, 2026 (Saturday), and reach Anand Vihar Terminal at 22:30 hrs on November 8, 2026 (Sunday).
In the return direction, Train No. 08408 Anand Vihar Terminal–Khurda Road Special will depart from Anand Vihar Terminal at 00:30 hrs on November 9, 2026 (Monday), and arrive at Khurda Road at 10:45 hrs on November 10, 2026 (Tuesday).
Stoppages:
The Special train will have stoppages at Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Bhadrak, Baleshwar, Hijli, Midnapore, Bishnupur, Bankura, Adra, Gomoh, Boderma, Gaya Junction, Dehri On Sone, Sasaram, Bhabua Road, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction, Subedarganj, Govindpuri and Ghaziabad stations.
Coach Composition:
The Special train will comprise 18 coaches, including 4 AC Three-Tier, 1 AC Two-Tier, 7 Sleeper Class, 4 General Second Class and 2 Luggage-cum-Generator-cum-Brake Vans with Divyang-friendly facilities.
Passengers are advised to check the latest train timings and other details through the National Train Enquiry System (NTES) or other official railway enquiry channels before commencing their journey.

High-Level Israeli Delegation Visits KIIT and KISS

Bhubaneswar, Correspondent:: A 20-member high-level Israeli delegation, visiting India under the India Trek for Global Leaders programme, visited KIIT and KISS today. The delegation toured various campuses of KIIT and visited several units of KISS. The delegation included several distinguished Israelis from diverse fields, including education, healthcare, research, banking, and information technology.The members were already familiar with the contributions of KIIT, KISS and their Founder, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, particularly his lifelong commitment to social development through education. During their visit today, they were deeply impressed by the scale, infrastructure and achievements of both institutions.Addressing nearly 40,000 KISS students at a felicitation programme organised in



their honour, the delegates observed that a visionary individual, driven by strong determination and willpower, could create a world-class institution like KISS. They remarked that while many people across the world have good ideas and ambitious dreams, only a few possess the ability and determination to translate those dreams into reality. Dr. Achyuta Samanta was a remarkable example of such a visionary, they added.
In recognition of his outstanding contributions to education, humanitarian service and the empowerment of disadvantaged communities, Dr. Samanta was felicitated by the Harvard Club of Israel and the high-level Israeli delegation. The guests highly appreciated his vision, dedication and lifelong commitment to serving humanity.The delegation is visiting India with the approval of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, which is also bearing the entire cost of their visit. During the 12-day programme, the delegates are scheduled to explore Odisha's rich art, culture, heritage and tourist attractions.

The People Behind the Metal: How VAML is Building a Future-Ready Workforce

BhubaneswarCorrespondent: The story of a modern aluminium business is often told through numbers. Production records, capacity expansions, operational milestones and sustainability targets tend to dominate the narrative. But as industries evolve and technology reshapes the workplace, another factor is becoming increasingly important - the ability of people to learn, adapt and grow.For Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, building a future-ready workforce goes beyond hiring talent. It is about equipping employees with the skills, tools, opportunities and support they need to thrive in a rapidly changing industrial environment. Across its operations, the company is investing in continuous learning, digital capability, inclusion,



early talent development and wellbeing, recognising that long-term growth depends as much on people as it does on technology and infrastructure.This philosophy is reflected in the culture of innovation taking shape across the business. At the alumina refinery in Lanjigada, employees are helping drive operational improvements that strengthen efficiency, reliability and resource optimisation. In 2026, seven refinery teams were recognised at the Productivity Excellence Awards for projects ranging from improving mixing tank reliability to reducing water consumption in calciner operations. While the solutions addressed specific operational challenges, they also highlighted a broader mindset, one where employees are encouraged to identify opportunities, solve problems and take ownership of outcomes.As manufacturing becomes more technology-driven, the ability to learn, adapt and innovate is becoming just as important as technical expertise. To help employees keep pace with this transformation, Vedanta Aluminium is investing in new approaches to learning and capability building. At BALCO, employees have begun accessing operational guidance through ALAISA, a humanoid AI-enabled support platform that brings knowledge closer to the point of work. More than 100 employees participated in the initiative during its initial phase, using the tool to strengthen their understanding of operating procedures, safety requirements and workplace practices.While at Lanjigada, the humanoid robot Vedika is supporting inductions, training and assessments. Vedika recently conducted its first induction programme for the new GET and PGET batch of 2026, demonstrating how emerging technologies can make learning more interactive and accessible.The commitment to learning extends beyond digital tools. Across locations, employees are benefiting from structured learning programmes, digital modules and peer-led knowledge-sharing initiatives that encourage the exchange of technical expertise and practical experience. The objective is clear: to create an environment where learning is continuous and improvement becomes part of everyday work.At the same time, VAML is expanding opportunities for greater participation across its workforce. At Jharsuguda, an all-women locomotive crew manages a critical logistics function, underscoring how inclusion is increasingly reflected not only in representation but also in operational responsibility.

TPNODL Organises Cluster-Level Urja Mela to Promote Energy Conservation and Sustainability

Baleshwar, Correspondent:: TP Northern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPNODL), under its flagship CSR initiative Club Enerji, organised the Cluster-Level Urja Mela 2026 at the CIPET campus in Baleshwar. The event brought together over 400 students from Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendujhar and Mayurbhanj districts, encouraging scientific innovation, energy conservation and environmental responsibility among young learners.Through



Club Enerji, TPNODL has reached 125 schools across its five operational districts, covering 25 schools in each district. The programme aims to nurture environmentally conscious students by promoting awareness and behavioural change in energy conservation, climate change, resource efficiency and sustainable living. The Urja Mela featured Science Exhibition, Quiz, Poster Making and Best out of Waste competitions, providing students with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge, creativity and innovative approaches to addressing environmental challenges.The event was attended by Mr. Basant Kumar Nayak, District Education Officer, Baleshwar; Ms. Prem Pragyan Mohanty, DSP, Baleshwar; Mr. Pankaj Kumar Singh, Chief - CSR, T&D, Tata Power; Mr. Subhadip Raychaudhuri, Chief - Commercial and Business Excellence, TPNODL; Mr. Pradeep Kumar Mohanty, Chief - Projects, TPNODL; Mr. Rajib Kumar Nayak, Chief Engineer - Solarization, TPNODL; Mr. P. C. Padhi, Director, CIPET, Baleshwar; Mr. Ramendra Banik, Head - HR, IR, ES & Administration, TPNODL; and Mr. Ranjan Sharma, Head - CSR, TPNODL, along with other dignitaries, educators and stakeholders. The dignitaries appreciated the students' enthusiasm and encouraged them to become "Energy Champions", promoting responsible energy consumption and sustainable practices in their schools, homes and communities.

Diwali Cheers: Sensex Jumps Over 2,000 Points, Nifty Tops 24,500

Mumbai,5/11: Indian equity benchmarks surged on Thursday, extending their winning streak to a fifth consecutive session, as a sharp decline in crude oil prices boosted investor sentiment amid expectations of a quicker resolution to the West Asia conflict following the Democrats' victory in the US midterm elections.The Sensex soared 2,008.61 points, or 2.6 per cent, to close at 79,310.01, while the Nifty advanced 576 points, or 2.4 per cent, to settle at 24,536.60, marking one of the strongest single-day gains in recent months.Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that the index has strengthened its technical outlook by reclaiming all key moving averages on the daily chart, indicating a bullish trend reversal."Any dip towards 24,200 could act as immediate support, while 24,000 remains crucial positional support.

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