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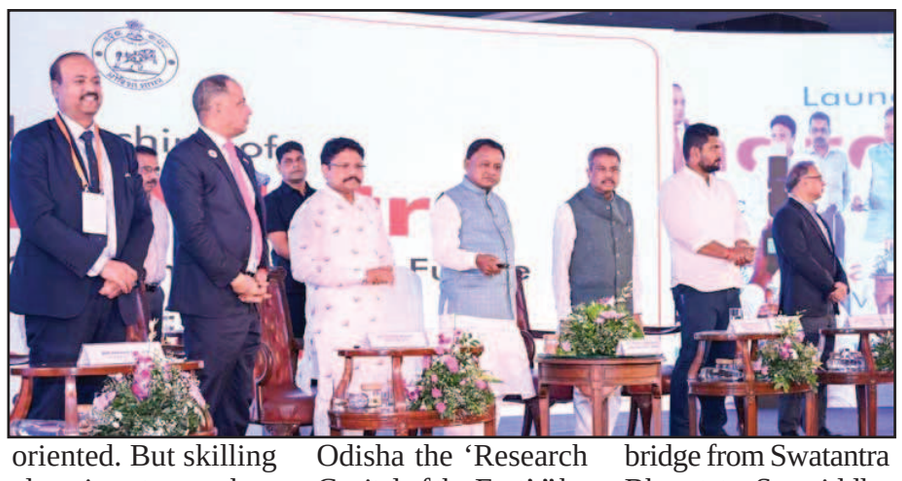
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PM Modi Inaugurates 3 New Metro Routes in Kolkata



NEWDELHI: Kolkata witnessed a major leap in urban mobility today as Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated three new metro routes, marking a significant milestone in the city's transport infrastructure.The newly launched corridors—Noapara–Jai Hind Bimanbandar, Sealdah–Esplanade, and Beleghata–Hemanta Mukhopadhyay—are designed to improve last-mile connectivity, reduce congestion, and offer eco-friendly travel options.Addressing the public, PM Modi emphasised the importance of connectivity in driving development. "It is always a delight to be amongst the people of Kolkata, a city whose development we are greatly committed to," he said, highlighting the strategic value of linking the airport and IT hubs.The Noapara–Jai Hind Bimanbandar route strengthens airport access, offering a direct link for flyers and easing traffic on key roads. The Sealdah–Esplanade stretch enhances east–west connectivity, while the Beleghata–Hemanta Mukhopadhyay line caters to residential and tech zones, supporting the city's growing commuter base.This expansion is part of a broader national vision to modernise urban transport, making travel faster, greener, and more inclusive.

CM Majhi Launches I-GFTCH, Bharatnetra To Boost Odisha's FinTech Vision



BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent):: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Friday launched the Integrated Global Financial Technology Capability Hub (I-GFTCH) and Bharatnetra in Bhubaneswar, calling it a significant step in the state's mission to position itself as a global hub for FinTech and digital innovation.Speaking at the launch, CM Majhi emphasized that Odisha's strategy for development combines skilling, research, and innovation. "Our approach to skilling is holistic and future-oriented. But skilling alone is not enough—we must invest equally in research and development. That is why Odisha has taken steps such as establishing the Deep Neural Network Laboratory and other Centres of Excellence. Our vision is to make Odisha the 'Research Capital of the East'," he said.The Chief Minister noted that these initiatives align with the national vision of empowering youth through innovation and skilling, as underscored by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "Strengthening the bridge from Swatantra Bharat to Samriddha Bharat, Odisha is ready to contribute to this grand vision," Majhi added.Highlighting the collaborative nature of the initiative, he pointed out that the I-GFTCH is the result of a landmark partnership between the Government of Odisha and the Global Finance and Technology Network (GFTN), Singapore. "It reflects our commitment to bring the best of the world to Odisha, and to take Odisha to the world," Majhi said.The CM also linked these efforts to Vision 2036, Odisha's long-term economic roadmap. "We aim to build a $500 billion economy by 2036 and rank among the top five Indian states in per capita income. As we contribute to the Viksit Bharat 2047 mission, Odisha will play a central role in making India a global economic leader," he said.

Former Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe Arrested Over Alleged Misuse of State Funds

NEWDELHI: Former Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe was arrested today by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in Colombo.The arrest follows allegations that Wickremesinghe misused public funds to finance a personal visit to the United Kingdom in September 2023, during his tenure as President.

The trip, which reportedly included attendance at the PhD graduation ceremony of his wife, Professor Maithree Wickremesinghe, at the University of Wolverhampton, was allegedly disguised as part of an official overseas tour. Police documents submitted to the Colombo Fort Magistrate's Court reveal that the UK leg of the journey lacked any formal engagements and cost the state approximately Rs. 16.9 million.A ten-member delegation accompanied Wickremesinghe, further inflating the expenses. CID officials have already questioned key aides, including former presidential secretary Saman Ekanayake and private secretary Sandra Perera, with more staff expected to be summoned.

EAM Jaishankar Concludes Moscow Visit Reaffirms Strength Of India-Russia Strategic Partnership



Moscow,: Concluding a significant three-day visit to Russia, External Affairs Minister (EAM), Dr S. Jaishankar, reaffirmed the strength and depth of the India-Russia strategic partnership, co-chairing the 26th Session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) and holding high-level meetings with the Russian leadership .From August 19 to 21, EAM Jaishankar met Russian President Vladimir Putin, First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov, and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, and also engaged with Russian scholars and think tanks.During his meeting with President Putin, Dr. Jaishankar "conveyed personal greetings of the Prime Minister and discussed key issues of the bilateral agenda and contemporary global issues of mutual interest, including the developments related to Ukraine," the Ministry of External Affairs said in a Press release issued on Friday.Earlier on August 20, the EAM co-chaired the 26th IRIGC-TEC session with Deputy PM Manturov, where both sides stressed the need to "address tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, remove bottlenecks in logistics, promote connectivity, effect payment mechanisms smoothly, and finalise the Programme of Economic Cooperation till 2030."The early conclusion of the India-Eurasian Economic Union Free Trade Agreement and regular engagements between Indian and Russian businesses were emphasised as critical to achieving the revised bilateral trade target of $100 billion by 2030.Energy cooperation and mobility of Indian skilled professionals, especially in IT, construction, and engineering, were also discussed.

Delhi CM Gupta Returns To Public Eye For First Time Since Attack; Heavy Security Deployed



New Delhi: For the first time since the shocking assault on her during a public grievance hearing, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta stepped out to attend a scheduled program at Ashok Bazaar in Gandhi Nagar on Friday.

Ahead of the Chief Minister's arrival, Gandhi Nagar Market was placed under tight security. Several shops were ordered shut, and a heavy presence of Delhi Police and CRPF personnel was seen across the vicinity.Checkpoints were set up around the area, and movement was being closely monitored. Locals described the atmosphere as "tense but orderly," with several commuters diverted to alternate routes.This marked Chief Minister Gupta's first public appearance following the attack at her Civil Lines residence on August 21 during a 'Jan Sunvai (public grievance hearing)', where she was allegedly slapped and assaulted by a man identified as Rajesh Bhai Khimji Bhai Sakariya.In the aftermath of the incident, security at CM Gupta's official Civil Lines residence was significantly ramped up, with Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel deployed for round-the-clock protection.The attack sent shockwaves through the political spectrum, prompting visits from senior leaders including Manoj Tiwari, Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, Yogendra Chandolia, Praveen Khandelwal, and Bansuri Swaraj, who met her to express solidarity and enquire about her well-being.

SC Relaxes 'Too Harsh' Directions On Stray Dogs, Prohibits Public Feeding



New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday relaxed its earlier sweeping directions on stray dog management in the Delhi-NCR region, observing that a complete prohibition on releasing treated and vaccinated dogs appeared "too harsh". While acknowledging the "salutary intent" of its earlier order, the three-judge bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N.V. Anjaria stressed that "a blanket direction to pick up all the strays and place them in dog shelters/pounds without evaluating the existing infrastructure may lead to a catch-22 situation because such directions may be impossible to comply with".Adopting a "holistic approach", the Justice Vikram Nath-led Bench, which reserved its decision last week in the suo motu case titled "In Re: City Hounded by Strays, Kids Pay Price", opined that sterilised, dewormed, and vaccinated dogs should be released back to their original localities, in line with the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023.However, it clarified that "dogs infected with rabies or suspected to be infected with rabies, and those that display aggressive behaviour… under no circumstances should… be released back onto the streets".The Justice Nath-led Bench stressed on regulation of the feeding practices of stray dogs and directed municipal bodies to designate feeding zones in each ward, with notice boards."Under no condition shall the feeding of stray dogs on the streets be permitted. The persons found feeding the dogs on the streets in contravention of the above directions shall be liable to be proceeded against under the relevant legal framework," the apex court said.It further directed municipal authorities to create a dedicated helpline for reporting violations of the above directions, and said that upon receiving such reports, appropriate action shall be taken against the individuals or NGOs concerned.The apex court made it clear that no individual or organisation can obstruct the implementation of its directions, warning that anyone preventing public servants from carrying out these orders will face prosecution.The top court allowed liberty to animal lovers to apply to the municipal body concerned to adopt street dogs, which will then be tagged and handed over to them. It added that adopters will be responsible for ensuring the adopted dogs do not return to the streets.The Justice Vikram Nath-led Bench directed individual dog lovers and NGOs that approached the top court to deposit Rs 25,000 and Rs 2 lakh, respectively, with its Registry within seven days, failing which they will not be allowed to appear in the case."The amounts so deposited shall be utilised in the creation of the infrastructure and facilities for the stray dogs under the aegis of the respective municipal bodies," it added.

Elephant Tramples Youth to Death in Keonjhar's Champua



CHAMPUA, (Correspondent):A 22-year-old youth named Sipun Mahanta was trampled to death by a wild elephant in the Bhuiyapur area under the Jyotipur beat in the Champua forest range of Keonjhar.Sipun, son of Bhagaban Mahanta of Khireitangiri, had gone to catch a glimpse of the elephant, which was foraging in a nearby paddy field.According to reports, Sipun ventured too close to the animal in an attempt to get a better view. The elephant, startled or provoked, suddenly turned and attacked, trampling him and crushing him in the mud. The young man succumbed to his injuries on the spot.Witnesses stated that the elephant remained near Sipun's body for some time, preventing immediate rescue efforts. After persistent efforts by fellow villagers and forest department officials, the elephant was driven away, allowing authorities to recover the body and transport it to Champua Sub-Divisional Hospital.The incident has ignited widespread anger and fear among locals, who have expressed frustration over recurring human-elephant conflicts in the region. The community is demanding immediate action from the forest department to address the growing threat posed by rogue elephants and ensure the safety of residents in this rural area.

The Glory of Sri Sri University: Double Gold Medal at Inter-College Badminton Championship 2025



Cuttack,(Correspondent) - Sri Sri University, located in Cuttack, Odisha, captivated everyone with its outstanding performance in Inter-College Badminton. At the Inter-College Badminton Championship 2025, organized by the District Badminton Association on August 16-17, 2025, at Christ College Biju Patnaik Indoor Stadium, the university's men's and women's teams registered remarkable victories and claimed the championship titles.The university's talented player Mr. ArijitSahu teamed up with Mr. Omkar Patel of Ravenshaw University to win the gold medal. In the women's doubles category,Ms. Riddhima BanwaleandMs. Shreya Patelbrought pride to the university by securing the gold medal.
With these victories, all three players have now qualified to participate in the State-Level Badminton Championship. Sri Sri University's top leadership - President Prof.Rajita Kulkarni, Vice-Chancellor Prof.Tejpartap, Director Operation Swami Satyachaitanya, Executive Registrar Prof. Anil Sharma, Dean of Student Welfare Prof.JayprakashBhatt, Deputy Director (Admission) Malay Malla and Deputy Director (HR) Mr. JyotiRanjan Garnayak extended heartfelt congratulations to the victorious players. They praised the athletes' hard work and team spirit, expressing hope that the players of Sri Sri University will reach new heights of success in the upcoming state-level competitions. This achievement is not only a testament to the determination of the players but also reflects that Sri Sri University is rapidly building a strong identity in the world of sports.

Political leaders mourn demise of comedian Jaswinder Bhalla

NEWDELHI: Jaswinder Bhalla, a popular Punjabi comedian and actor, passed away on Friday, August 22, 2025, at the age of 65. Known for his satirical wit and humor, he died at Fortis Hospital in Mohali.His passing has prompted an outpouring of condolences from fans and political figures. The last rites are scheduled for Saturday at Balongi and are expected to be attended by many of his colleagues from the Punjabi film industry.Political leaders across India have mourned his death.

Intruder Breaches Parliament Wall, Caught by Security

NEWDELHI: An unidentified man reportedly scaled the outer wall of the Parliament complex early Friday morning, triggering an immediate response from security personnel.Sources indicate the incident occurred around 6:30 AM, when the intruder used a ladder to climb the wall from the Rail Bhavan side and reached the Garud Dwar of the newly inaugurated Parliament building.The individual was swiftly apprehended by guards stationed inside the complex and is currently being interrogated by authorities.While no injuries or damage have been reported, the breach has raised serious concerns about perimeter surveillance and the adequacy of early morning security protocols.Officials have yet to release the identity or motive of the intruder. Investigations are ongoing, and further details are expected as the situation develops. This incident comes amid heightened security measures in the capital, especially around key government installations.

PM Modi Inaugurates Asia's Widest Six-Lane Bridge Over Ganga in Bihar



NEWDELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Aunta–Simaria six-lane bridge on Friday in Bihar.Spanning 1.86 kilometres across the Ganga River and measuring 34 meters in width, the bridge is now the widest extradosed cable-stayed bridge in Asia.Built on National Highway 31, the bridge connects Aunta Ghat in Mokama with Simaria in Begusarai, offering a direct route between North and South Bihar. The project is expected to reduce travel time by eliminating detours of nearly 100 kilometres for freight and passenger vehicles, especially those previously rerouted due to restrictions on the ageing Rajendra Setu.The bridge's advanced engineering—featuring cantilever arms up to 70 meters—ensures durability and smooth traffic flow. It also strengthens access to Simaria Dham, a revered religious site and birthplace of poet Ramdhari Singh Dinkar.Union Minister Giriraj Singh called the bridge a "milestone in Bihar's development," citing its role in boosting trade, especially for makhana farmers and industrial hubs like Barauni. Road Construction Minister Nitin Navin described it as a "landmark project" that positions Bihar as a future growth engine of India.Beyond its technical marvel, the bridge symbolises a deeper integration of Bihar's cultural, economic, and social landscape—ushering in a new era of connectivity and opportunity.

Delhi Police Detain Two Over Disturbance at CM Rekha Gupta's Gandhi Nagar Event

NEWDELHI: The Delhi Police detained two individuals suspected of causing a disruption near an event attended by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta in Gandhi Nagar.According to police sources, the individuals were apprehended promptly when they were seen creating a ruckus in the vicinity of the event venue. Authorities confirmed that the situation was quickly brought under control, ensuring the safety of attendees and the smooth continuation of the event.
While investigations are ongoing, the police are examining the motives behind the disturbance and whether the suspects had any affiliations with larger groups. Security measures were reportedly heightened around the venue following the incident.
Delhi Police have assured that strict action will be taken against anyone attempting to disrupt public events or compromise the safety of dignitaries and citizens.

President Murmu Gives Assent To Online Gaming Bill

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu on Friday gave assent to the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, a day after it was cleared by the Parliament, bringing sweeping restrictions on money-based online gaming platforms in India.The new law imposes stringent penalties on those facilitating such services, with imprisonment of up to three years and fines reaching Rs 1 crore. Advertising or promoting such platforms will also attract punishment of up to two years and fines of Rs 50 lakh.After Parliament gave its nod to the Bill, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it would save society from the harmful effects of online money games. The Rajya Sabha passed the bill in just 26 minutes on Thursday, a day after the Lok Sabha cleared it within seven minutes.
Both Houses witnessed strong protests by the Opposition members who alleged procedural irregularities and insufficient debate.Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw, while piloting the legislation, argued that the move was essential to protect families from financial ruin caused by online gambling."From time to time, society grapples with social evils. In these circumstances, it is the duty of the government and the Parliament to probe and make laws to control them," Vaishnaw said in the Rajya Sabha, adding that people were losing their "life's savings" in such platforms.The minister also added that around 45 crore people have been affected, and around Rs 20,000 crore have been lost because of online money game.

China Backs India Against Trump's Tariff Hike, Calls US a 'Bully'



NEWDELHI: In a rare show of solidarity, China has come out in support of India against steep tariff hikes imposed by the Donald Trump administration, with Beijing's envoy describing Washington's actions as "bullying."Chinese Ambassador Xu Feihong said Beijing would stand firmly with New Delhi to defend the multilateral trading system, warning that the US was using tariffs as a bargaining tool to demand "exorbitant prices" from other nations."The United States has imposed tariffs of up to 50% on India, and even threatened more. China firmly opposes this. We will stand with India to uphold the WTO-led trading system," Xu said during a discussion ahead of next week's SCO Summit in Tianjin, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to attend.The remarks mark another sign of warming ties between the Asian neighbors, who recently resumed high-level talks and agreed to explore ways of resolving border disputes.Xu further cautioned that "silence or compromise only emboldens the bully," urging countries of the Global South to cooperate and resist protectionist pressures.His comments echo those of Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who earlier this week told External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar that both nations should expand cooperation amid "overwhelming bullying" and uncertainty in global trade.The development comes as Trump slapped up to 50% tariffs on Indian goods

Security Forces Seize Drugs

Aizawl: The security forces have seized highly addictive banned drugs, Methamphetamine tablets and heroin valued at Rs 77 crore in Mizoram and Tripura, and 12 people were arrested in these connections, officials said on Friday.A Border Security Force (BSF) spokesman said that acting on specific intelligence, a special joint operation was meticulously planned and launched by the BSF, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Aizawl, and the Excise and Narcotics Department, Mizoram on Thursday night.

NewPolice Commissioner Satish Golcha, Delhi CM Rekha Gupta Discuss Law And Order

New Delhi: New Commissioner of Delhi Police Satish Golcha assumed charge on Friday and met Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, an interaction which included a discussion on law and order, including security for women, an official source said.The Delhi Police took to social media to post a photo of the interaction between the CP and the Chief Minister.During the brief interaction with Golcha, CM Gupta reiterated her government's resolve to empower women and encourage their employment in night shifts and sought his support for making them feel more secure and safe, said the official source.Golcha's appointment to the top post comes close on the heels of the assault on Delhi CM Gupta on Wednesday by 41-year-old Rajesh Bhai Khimji Bhai Sakariya from Rajkot in Gujarat.He allegedly slapped and pulled CM Gupta's hair at her Civil Lines residence. He has since been arrested and remanded to five days of police custody.Golcha, an IPS officer of the 1992 batch, was on Thursday named the new Delhi Police Commissioner, an announcement that came a day after the security breach and assault on CM Gupta.Known as a no-nonsense and upright officer and recognised for his integrity and diligence, Golcha's appointment to the top post follows a tenure as the Director General (Prisons) for the Delhi government.With a reputation for possessing top administrative skills and professionalism, Golcha is known for leading the investigation in key cases, including the 1984 anti-Sikh riots.He is also famous for the investigations he led as Special CP (Intelligence) and Special CP (Law and Order), Delhi Police, Director General of Police, Arunachal Pradesh and during his stint in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).Born on April 30, 1967, Golcha joined the Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory cadre of the Indian Police Service on October 11, 1992.

Odisha DGP Orders Crackdown On Illegal Donations Ahead Of Festivals



Cuttack(Correspondent):: Ahead of the festive season, Odisha's Director General of Police (DGP) Yogesh Bahadur Khurania has issued strict directives to all district Superintendents of Police (SPs) to enforce a complete ban on illegal donation collections often conducted under the guise of festival celebrations. The DGP has ordered stringent action against individuals engaging in such activities and emphasized grassroots-level implementation to ensure compliance.The announcement was made during a review meeting held at the State Police Headquarters in Cuttack on August 22, 2025, chaired by DGP Khurania.The meeting focused on ensuring public safety and security during the upcoming festival season. Comprehensive security measures were outlined, including heightened police patrolling, strict checking protocols, and proactive steps to prevent any untoward incidents.The DGP stressed the need for constant vigilance and advance intelligence gathering to address potential challenges swiftly.To counter rumors and misinformation, DGP Khurania directed district cyber cells to conduct 24/7 monitoring of social media platforms. He also instructed SPs to strengthen security in sensitive areas through increased police patrolling, installation of CCTV cameras, and action against habitual offenders.Coordination with puja committees, community groups, and local representatives was emphasized to ensure smooth festival operations. Robust arrangements were mandated at puja venues and during immersion processions to safeguard the public. The DGP further ordered strict action against illegal cattle trafficking and unauthorized firecracker sales during the festive season. Additionally, he directed officials to inspect venues hosting festival-related fairs to review administrative arrangements and ensure public safety.The meeting saw participation from senior officials, including Additional DGP (Crime Branch) Vinaytosh Mishra, Additional DGP (Modernization) Soumendra Priyadarshi, Additional DGP (Law and Order) Sanjay Kumar, Additional DGP (HRPC) Yatindra Koyal, IGP Satish Gajabhiye, IGP (Crime Branch) Safeen Ahmad, IGP (Crime Branch) Dr. Sarthak Sarangi, DIGP (Provisioning) Charan Singh Meena, DIGP (Personnel) Jugal Kishore Kumar Banoth, SP Vineet Agrawal, and virtually by Intelligence Director R.P. Koche, along with all district SPs, Range IGs, and DIGs.

Odisha Sets Sights on Urban Revolution with MSBY Initiative



BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent):Smt. Usha Padhee, Principal Secretary of the Housing & Urban Development Department, declared the next decade as the era of urban development during an orientation session for the Mukhyamantri Sahari Bikas Yojana (MSBY) held at the SUDA Conference Hall.Addressing engineers, MIS professionals, accountants, and team leads from Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and District Urban Development Agencies (DUDAs), she emphasized building inclusive, sustainable, and dignified cities."Urban transformation is not just about infrastructure but about creating cities that uplift lives," Smt. Padhee stated. She highlighted that the MSBY initiative is designed to strengthen ULBs and DUDAs, fostering citizen-centric governance and quality service delivery. Urging participants to embrace innovation and technology, she added, "Our efforts today will shape the future. Knowledge, not positions, brings true dignity."The session saw active engagement, with Director Municipal Administration Shri Arindam Dakua, Director SUDA Shri Rabindra Sahoo, and senior officers in attendance. Smt. Padhee encouraged participants to take ownership of their roles, stating, "We are all partners in creating stronger urban futures. Let's ensure the system moves in the right direction."The MSBY orientation marks a pivotal step in Odisha's urban development journey, aligning with the state's vision of building resilient and inclusive cities for future generations.

Elder Brother Prem Patnaik Visits Naveen Amid Health Concerns



BhubaneswarCorrespondent): Prem Patnaik, the elder brother of Biju Janata Dal (BJD) President and Leader of Opposition Naveen Patnaik, visited his brother at Naveen Niwas today. Prem Patnaik arrived in Bhubaneswar after getting news of Naveen's illness and met with him to discuss his health.Naveen Patnaik was admitted to a private hospital last Sunday due to dehydration and received treatment from a specialised medical team. He recovered fully on Wednesday night and was discharged from the hospital. After his discharge, senior BJD leaders visited him at his residence to meet the party supremo. During his visit, Prem Patnaik not only discussed Naveen's health with him but also spoke with the doctors treating him.Naveen Patnaik's health had raised concerns among party members and supporters. Several prominent leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, Odisha Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, and Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, PCC President Bhakta Charan Das had prayed for his speedy recovery.

Bhanjanagar Police Seize Brown Sugar Worth Rs 3 Lakh, Three Arrested



Bhanjanagar (Correspondent): In a major crackdown on narcotics, Bhanjanagar police in Ganjam district seized 31.4 grams of brown sugar worth over ?3 lakh and arrested three persons involved in illegal drug trafficking.he raid was carried out on Thursday, at Jampalli Chowk on the outskirts of Bhanjanagar, following a tip-off about drug activities in the area, Additional Superintendent of Police Ranjana Kumar Dey informed at a press conference on Friday.The accused were identified as Rakesh Kumar Behera of Odagaon (Nayagarh district), Amiya Ranjana Mahanti of Bhanjanagar, and Amit Kumar Behera of Baunshalundi.Police also recovered ?2,100 in cash and two mobile phones from their possession. The seized contraband was weighed in the presence of Magistrate and Tehsildar Abinash Maharana.The operation was led by Bhanjanagar IIC Jibananda Jena under the supervision of SDPO Deepak Kumar Mishra.A case has been registered under Section 21(b) of the NDPS Act, and the accused were produced before court on August 22.Addl. SP Dey said further investigation is underway to trace others linked to the trafficking network.Police noted that brown sugar smuggling has emerged as a growing threat in Bhanjanagar, with drugs reportedly entering from other districts and states. Police said the trade has already pushed many youths into addiction, deralling their education and futures.

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DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd., having our registered office at IV/470A (old) w/638A (new), Manappuram House, Valapad, Thrissur, Kerala-680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFIN") is a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (iv) of clause (m) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 (hereinafter referred so as the Act) read with Notification No. S.O. 3466 (E) dated 18th December, 2015 issued by the Govt. of India, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, inter alia carrying on business of advancing loans for construction and / or purchase of dwelling units and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from MAHOFIN and whereas MAHOFIN being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons. That in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name Of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Lan/Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Npa Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount
1	Mamata Sahoo, Tapas Kumar Sahoo, Surendra Kumar Sahoo /MLAP00333006711/ Cuttack	All That Piece And Parcel of Land Situated At Mouza-Balikuda, PS NO.136 Tahasil No.467 Comprised In Under Khata No. 38/21, Sthitban, Plot No. 84, Kisam- Gharabari, A0.020 Dcml (0.0081 Hector) Within The Limits of Ps/Tahasil-Balikuda In The District-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha, Pin Code: 754108. , East-Road, West-Balabhadra Behera, South-Basanta Sahoo, North-Villagers	01-08-2025	02-08-2025 & Rs.841240/-

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers, as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above, against the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower, MAHOFIN shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above, steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by MAHOFIN at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed in Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act.
Take note that in terms of S-13 (13) of the SARFAESI Act, you are hereby restrained from transferring and/or dealing with the Secured Properties in any manner by way of sale, lease or in any other manner.

Date: 23rd August 2025 | Place: ODISHA
Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

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Phone No.: 022-66211000, Website: www.manappuramhomefin.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd., having our registered office at IV/470A (old) w/638A (new), Manappuram House, Valapad, Thrissur, Kerala-680567 and branches at various places in India (hereinafter referred to as "MAHOFIN") is a Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and a Financial Institution within the meaning of sub-clause (iv) of clause (m) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 (hereinafter referred so as the Act) read with Notification No. S.O. 3466 (E) dated 18th December, 2015 issued by the Govt. of India, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi, inter alia carrying on business of advancing loans for construction and / or purchase of dwelling units and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from MAHOFIN and whereas MAHOFIN being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons. That in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name Of The Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Lan/Branch	Description Of Secured Asset In Respect Of Which Interest Has Been Created	Npa Date	Date Of Notice Sent & Outstanding Amount
1	Anita Parida, Ashis Kumar Parida, Rabindra Parida, /MHLD09900903219/ Balasore	Land Bearing Conversion Khata No. 152/72, Plot No. 457/854, Area-Ac.0.030Dec. Lying Being And Situate At Mouza-Urumal, Tahasil-Udala PS - Udala, P.S. No. 138, Dist- Mayurbhanj, Odisha - 757041. East-Sarat Parida, West-Sanatan Parida And Rama CH. Das, South-Kenal, North-Road	06-08-2025	07-08-2025 & Rs.397765/-

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers, as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above, against the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower, MAHOFIN shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above, steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by MAHOFIN at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed in Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act.
Take note that in terms of S-13 (13) of the SARFAESI Act, you are hereby restrained from transferring and/or dealing with the Secured Properties in any manner by way of sale, lease or in any other manner.

Date: 23rd August 2025 | Place: ODISHA
Sd/- Authorised Officer Manappuram Home Finance Ltd

MBSSY Camp Treats 1,398 Critical Patients in Malkangiri

BHUBANESWAR, (Corre spondent): In a landmark outreach under the Mukhyamantri Bayu Swasthya Seva Yojana (MBSSY), a total of 1,398 critical patients from remote villages of Malkangiri district received free specialist and superspecialist treatment during a four-day medical camp held at the District Headquarters Hospital from August 18 to 21.The camp addressed a wide spectrum of ailments:They were supported by senior consultants, including Dr. Dhirej Kumar Lenka, Dr. Sanghamitra Sahoo, Dr. Sitakanta Panda, and Dr. Avansh Taunk, who arrived early to document case histories and prepare patients for procedures.To facilitate the camp, a temporary ICU with modern diagnostic equipment was installed, ensuring high-quality care in a region often underserved by tertiary health services.The initiative drew widespread appreciation from locals and civil society. "Such high-level treatment in our forest-surrounded rural area was unimaginable. It became a reality under the leadership of our Chief Minister, Mohan Majhi," said several discharged patients.

DhadiDarshan to Begin from September 15

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent):After nearly a year of anticipation and repeated public appeals, the Odisha government has finally announced the commencement of Dhadi Darshan—a structured queue system for devotees visiting the revered Jagannath Temple in Puri.Law Minister Prithviraj Harichandan confirmed that the system will be operational from September 15, just ahead of the auspicious Kartik month, which draws lakhs of pilgrims to the holy city.

CM Majhi Announces Rs 1 Cr Aid For Cuttack Kamalakant High School



Bhubaneswar (Corre spondent): Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi attended the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Kamalakant Government High School in Cuttack, where he announced a Rs 1 crore assistance from the Chief Minister Special Assistance (CMSA) for the construction of the Diamond Jubilee Hall. Majhi called the school a beacon of knowledge, highlighting its 60-year contribution to education in the region. During the event, Majhi outlined plans to upgrade the school's infrastructure, including its inclusion in the PM Shri Yojana, construction of a mini stadium, and building a two-storey structure to meet the school's needs. He emphasised the importance of providing students with necessary facilities and opportunities, stating that this is a basic and moral duty of any government.The Chief Minister also discussed the government's initiatives to reform education, including the development of 762 schools as model schools under the PMShri scheme and the implementation of the 'Nipun Odisha' initiative to enhance basic education.Additionally, he mentioned the Heritage School Scheme, aimed at preserving and reconstructing old schools, and the 'Asa School Jiba' campaign to identify out-of-school children.

GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
MAHANADI SOUTH DIVISION NO.I, CANTONMENT ROAD, CUTTACK-1
PHONE NO-0671 -2414425
E Mail id:-eemsdcuttack@gmail.com
"e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No.- MSD_TCN_09/2025-26 (Online) A-538

Bid documents consisting of work, tender amount, cost of tender paper, EMD, time of completion, class of contractor, the set of terms & conditions of contract and other necessary documents can be seen in e-procurement portal www.tenderodisha.gov.in.

1. Name of the work :- Civil maintenance work
2. No of works :- 1 Nos.
3. Tender amount :- varies Approximately from Rs. 30.52 lakhs.
4. EMD :- Earnest money deposit (EMD) as mentioned in col. 04 of the work list table , as part of its bid vide works Department OM No. 3785/W Dated 09.05.2017 through online process as mentioned in DTCN.
5. Period of completion:- 45 (Forty five) days.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding To	Last date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Place of opening of Tender / lottery (if required) O/o the Superintending Engineer Mahanadi South Division No.I Cuttack: Work Sl No. in the above table	Technical bid & Financial bid (Single cover)	Date and Time of Lottery if required
1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Superintending Engineer Mahanadi South Division No.I Cuttack	MSD_TCN_09/ 2025-26 (Online)	26.08.2025 At 11.00 A.M	09.09.2025 Up to 5.00 P.M	08.09.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.	Sl No. 1	10.09.2025 at 11.00 A.M	16.09.2025 at 11.00 A.M

N.B : 1. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.tenderodisha.gov.in.
2. All the Corrigendum / Notices or any other information if any will only be uploaded in the above tender Website.

Superitending Engineer
Mahandi South Division No.I
Cuttack

OIPR-32024/11/0018/2526

EDITORIAL

Mind is the word, and the word is the thought...Also

According to noted philosopher and thinker, J, Krishnamurti, the word is not the real. He say that the word 'God' with all its tradition, its memory, its intellectual and its sentimental connotations – all this not god. He observes, "We live by words, and words become our prison. Words are necessary to communicate, but the word is never the thing. The actual is not the word, but the word becomes all-important when it has taken the place of that which is."This is true about every ability we have, every possession we own. It's also true about our relationships. Eventually, whether through divorce or through death, you're going to lose. It's sad, but until and unless we recognise that as an ultimate truth of life, we can't really live, because then we're grasping on. The lesson it gives on how to move through this life on our path to enlightenment, rather than just how to deal with the fact that we're going to lose it, is to ask ourselves: what is it that I don't lose? If I'm going to lose everything including my loved ones, well then being attached to these things, attached to never losing them, you could say is a waste of energy, because ultimately, it's an exercise in futility. I am going to lose it.So, the question then arises: What should I be attached to?…. What is it that's not going to degenerate, what is it that's not going to divorce me or die? Again, it's the spiritual connection. It's the Divine. And here's what's beautiful: it's not the Divine as separate from your loved ones, it's the Divine through your loved ones, and existing in the natural world, and everywhere, because everything in the world is pervaded by the Divine….The questions arise — can I shift, can I start to be connected to the spirit, the consciousness, the essence, the divine in that being? This is the only way that I have found to overcome that fear of loss….If the divine pervades everything, it means I have infinite opportunities to see the Divine and to connect with the Divine.He further says, "Mind is the word, and the word is the thought…Also, word is the means of communication, identification." He holds that when mind is free of its own activity or thoughts and words, it sees what is; it gets free of words-caused illusions; it sees the real. Thus, words and belief in them cause illusions and strife: Only still mind, free of thoughts and words is capable of perceiving reality.

Life is a bunch of dreams



Ajaya Kumar Behera

Few say life is a journey, a precious gift, a set of goals to achieve, a puzzle to solve. But with whatever I have learned so far in my life, I say life is a bunch of dreams from God to all of us. At the end of dreams, we do not have anything in our hands, few at times we do not even remember our dreams, unless it is a very impactful dream in both positive and negative ways. In the same way, life is like a dream, we create what we want to. And at the end of life, people, who made an impact in their lives, are remembered.Every day, we have a different dream, which means in our life also we should keep exploring things. But these days, we have got really busy and used to of repeated dreams (daily routine tasks). We forgot that we are creators of our dreams and our lives, hence got busy with things, which others have created for us.Each day is a fresh beginning, we should try to do one new thing every day, just to feel that we are not dreaming the same again and again. Same as dreams, we experience everything in our life while knowing the fact very well that nothing will last forever. Hence, we should live every moment to the fullest so that we do not regret saying "how I wish I can go back in time and make these or those changes". Rather, forget what was done in the past, focus on the present to make it beautiful. Live an impactful life so that when your soul rests in peace, people remember you for your good deeds or the way you lived your life.Life is like a water drop falling from the sky into the sea. Life span declines along with the distance of a drop and the sea. During this time only (when a drop is traveling to the sea), we need to make a change to leave an impact on others to inspire them to live their dreams in a better way. As soon as the drop meets the sea, the very existence of drop disappears, the dream is over! Only things that will be remembered are: It makes no difference whether you saw it when asleep or when awake. The characteristic of a dream is that it is here one moment and gone the next. At the time of death all is lost. Within this dream you see another dream that is called the ego. You consider yourself the doer, the author of the dreams. You are filled with conceit, which all the world can see; only you do not see it. Everyone else is in the same state, never seeing their own, but seeing everyone else's ego.We need to match our goals with our beliefs and purposes, and in order to reach our goals in life, it is important that our aspirations represent what is most important to us, our motivation and goal-focused ness can be maintained as a result. Setting concrete, attainable, pertinent, and time-bound goals will help us get closer to our dreams, we must turn our aspirations into measurable, realistic goals.We need to implement our plans and monitor our development, and we should get to work on our goals as soon as feasible and keep track of our progress. Alongside we should always appreciate our successes and take a lesson from our setbacks, and if required, change our goals to keep them relevant and feasible. Continue to have faith in our potential to succeed, develop a mindset that promotes our progress, refrain from negative self-talk, and concentrate on our strengths rather than our faults.

Grammar on the Brink: A Language Crisis We Can't Ignore



TRILOCHAN SAHU

The very essence of language is under siege. Grammar, once the bedrock of literature and clear communication, is fading rapidly in today's digital landscape. From bustling classrooms to the frenetic pace of social media and the vast expanse of publishing platforms, the decline is alarmingly evident, sparking a pressing question: Are we evolving or dismantling the true nature of language?Grammar has become a silent casualty in numerous educational institutions, overlooked in an exam-centric educational framework. Burdened by antiquated syllabi and relentless administrative pressures, teachers often prioritise test scores over teaching essential language skills."We are training students to pass exams, not to articulate their thoughts," concedes a senior English teacher from Bargarh, who prefers to remain anonymous. With scant emphasis on foundational aspects such as sentence structure, composition, and creative writing, the vital building blocks of language are being neglected.Beyond the confines of classrooms, social media radically transforms how an entire generation engages in communication. Platforms like Instagram, WhatsApp, and TikTok reward speed, conciseness, and viral trends over depth and clarity.Why take the time to craft a complete sentence when a mere GIF, emoji, or abbreviation suffices? For countless individuals, phrases like "LOL," "OMG," and an array of emojis have supplanted more traditional forms of expression. "People crave instant likes, not carefully curated language," reflects Priya, a 19-year-old influencer with over half a million followers. This cultural shift normalises fragmented communication, significantly diminishing the value of articulate expression.Moreover, once the staunch protectors of literary standards, publishing platforms now exacerbate the problem. The meteoric rise of self-published e-books, bite-sized narratives, and the allure of trending hashtags has led to a troubling decline in rigorous editorial oversight and proofreading."Clicks hold more weight than literary classics in today's market," laments Arindam Sen, a seasoned editor. "Quality editing demands time, yet the current landscape rewards speed and mass production over thoughtful craftsmanship."Linguists caution of a generational collapse in language mastery if these trends persist. "When grammar fades, literature morphs into mere noise," warns Dr. Anupama Mishra, Professor of Linguistics at Sambalpur University. "A generation that struggles to construct coherent sentences will inevitably find it challenging to form coherent ideas — and a society devoid of ideas is stifled in its progress."The statistics paint a dire picture: 78% of teenagers now favour shorthand, emojis, and slang over complete sentences. Disturbingly, 6 out of 10 students cannot identify fundamental grammar rules. Publishing platforms report a staggering 40% increase in unedited, texting-style publications."The slow death of grammar threatens to create a generation incapable of articulating complex thoughts. That's not just a linguistic loss; that's a cultural disaster." — Dr. Anupama Mishra, LinguistThe implications of this trend are far-reaching. It can lead to a loss of clarity in communication, a decline in literary richness, and a weakening of critical thinking skills. If left unchecked, the literary treasures of tomorrow could resemble fragmented WhatsApp exchanges — and our cherished language, once a symbol of expression and creativity, may soon become utterly unrecognisable.

Hooked on Screens: India's Silent Digital Crisis



Bruhaspati Samal

India, the second-largest smartphone market in the world, is hurtling toward a digital dependency crisis. Smartphones, designed as tools of empowerment, have stealthily transformed into instruments of distraction and compulsion. The phenomenon is not just about overuse; it's about psychological captivity — a deep behavioral addiction marked by anxiety, compulsive checking, and emotional dependence. Experts liken its patterns to substance addiction: escalating tolerance, withdrawal symptoms, and an inability to limit usage despite knowing the harm. One of its most striking manifestations is nomophobia — the fear of being without a mobile phone — now rampant across India's youth. A recent community-based study in low-income urban areas of Delhi found that nearly 33 percent of adolescents were already showing clear signs of mobile phone addiction. Surprisingly, there was little gender variation — 33.6 percent of boys and 32.3 percent of girls were equally affected. Among young adults aged 18 to 30 in the capital, another survey revealed that one in four displayed compulsive smartphone usage. The consequences go beyond mental health: the study also uncovered unexpected links between smartphone addiction and poor nutritional health, with addicted individuals 2.5 times more likely to be underweight than their peers.Medical and nursing students, traditionally considered disciplined and focused, are increasingly falling prey to the problem. A study among Indian medical students showed that 12 percent were severely smartphone-dependent, while more than 50 percent experienced moderate and 15 percent severe nomophobia, resulting in diminished quality of life and disrupted academic performance. A nationwide meta-analysis paints an even clearer picture: 25 percent of medical students have mild nomophobia, 59 percent moderate, and 14 percent severe, making it one of the most significant lifestyle-related issues within India's academic community.The broader population fares no better. According to EY's 2024 Digital Usage Survey, Indians collectively spent 1.1 lakh crore hours on smartphones last year — an average of five hours per day per user. Of this, nearly 70 percent of the time is consumed by social media, short-form videos, and gaming. Another study by Vivo found that children spend an average of 4.5 hours daily glued to their devices, while parents clock 5.5 hours. The impact on families is profound: 64 percent of children admitted feeling addicted, and 73 percent of parents reported frequent conflicts at home caused by excessive mobile usage.This isn't just about screen time — it's about cognitive and emotional damage. Psychologists warn that smartphones are designed to exploit the brain's dopamine system, turning every notification, reel, or "like" into a digital reward that keeps users hooked. The endless scroll, autoplay videos, and algorithm-driven content pipelines are deliberately crafted to hold attention hostage. Over time, the constant stimulation leads to anxiety, restlessness, disrupted sleep, declining concentration, and in severe cases, clinical depression. Among teenagers, it erodes academic performance, impairs creativity, and reduces their ability to engage meaningfully in the real world.The problem has grown serious enough to warrant institutional responses. The JSS Hospital in Mysuru recently launched a Special Clinic for Behavioural Addiction and Digital Well-Being — one of India's first dedicated centers for mobile-related dependency. Hospital data indicates that 13–22 percent of children, adolescents, and college students exhibit high-risk mobile usage patterns associated with poor sleep, social withdrawal, and reduced attention spans. Similar initiatives are emerging in states like Maharashtra and Kerala, but experts agree the scale of the crisis far outpaces the available interventions. And yet, awareness remains dangerously low. Many parents mistake smartphone overuse for harmless entertainment, schools often lack structured digital literacy programs, and policymakers are only beginning to recognize the urgency. However, combating mobile intoxication cannot rely on legislation alone; it requires personal responsibility and collective cultural change. Companies like OnePlus, Vivo, and HMD have introduced digital detox features such as Zen Mode to encourage healthier usage habits. But tools are only effective if users and families adopt intentional practices. Psychologists recommend "digital fasting," turning off notifications, scheduling screen-free hours at home, and cultivating offline hobbies like reading, sports, or community activities. Families that model balanced digital habits tend to raise children with healthier relationships to technology.This challenge also poses ethical questions for technology companies. For years, app developers have engineered platforms to maximize "time spent" rather than "time well spent," creating algorithms designed to capture — and monetize — attention. If India is serious about safeguarding its future generations, there must be stronger advocacy for humane technology design that prioritizes mental well-being over engagement metrics. This would require transparency, built-in safeguards, and accessible screen-time reporting tools so users can monitor and manage their own habits.India's smartphone revolution has empowered millions, democratized knowledge, and opened economic opportunities. But it has also bred an unintended dependency — one where digital convenience often comes at the cost of emotional resilience and real human connection. Mobile intoxication is not just a personal failing; it is a societal phenomenon shaped by powerful technologies, cultural attitudes, and market forces. Its impact is quiet but far-reaching: weakening families, reducing productivity, and shaping a generation that risks being constantly connected yet deeply disconnected.The question we now face is not whether smartphones are harmful — they are here to stay — but whether we can reclaim control over their role in our lives. By acknowledging the depth of this silent crisis, strengthening awareness campaigns, empowering schools and families, and demanding accountability from technology companies, India can chart a path where digital tools remain just that: tools, not tyrants.In the end, the choice is ours. We can continue to drift into a culture of compulsive scrolling and fragmented attention, or we can pause, reflect, and decide that our time, focus, and relationships are worth protecting. For a country on the cusp of becoming the world's largest digital economy, the challenge is clear — we must learn not just to live with smartphones, but to live beyond their control.

When Public Get Ration Card in Kendrapara

Kendrapada(Correspondent): In name of ration card in Kendrapara district public faces deception. After online application and verification most of the people became harrassing to get the ration card. Due to delay of receiving card hundreds of people daily rushed to the block office and dealer points and disappointing. Most of the time dealing assistant of that post found absent and some times told that,"the process is going on and server became down".

After the verification of applications from Punchayat lavel and also eye scan from the blocks lavel the ration cards pending in official table. There is no messages comes from official sites also, whatever told to applicants in block lavel. They still waiting to get the card from six months ago. It's timeline should fixed and action against the neglecting officials for delaying, public demands at here.

Bhubaneswar–Junagarh Road Express Upgraded to LHB Coaches

Rayagada, ,(Correspondent):: The 20837/20838 Bhubaneswar–Junagarh Road–Bhubaneswar Super-Fast Express will now run with modern LHB coaches, enhancing passenger safety and comfort. The LHB rake service will begin from Bhubaneswar on August 25, 2025, and from Junagarh Road on August 26, 2025. The train will have 17 LHB coaches, including 2 Second AC, 4 Third AC, 5 Sleeper Class, 4 Second Class Sitting, 1 Guard-cum-Power Car, and 1 Divyangjan coach. Officials said the move is part of Indian Railways' modernization drive.

Crafting Livelihoods, Weaving Change: How Vedanta Jharsuguda Is Helping Rural Women Build Empowered Lives



Jharsuguda ,(Correspondent):In the villages of western Odisha, ancient traditions and masterful craftsmanship have long been woven into the fabric of everyday life. From the vibrant patterns of Sambalpuri handloom to the earthy elegance of terracotta art, these cultural expressions manifested identities and stories that have been passed down through generations. However, with changing economic landscapes, consumer tastes, and limited avenues for support, many artisans were forced to abandon their crafts, threatening the survival of these heritage artforms.Now, a quiet resurgence is underway. Vedanta Aluminium's Jharsuguda unit, through its extensive support of Project Subhalaxmi Udyogini-one of Odisha's largest Self-Help Groups (SHG) -is helping women artisans reconnect with their roots, enhance skills, and build empowered lives. Two key initiatives under this project, VedSuta and VedMurtika, are enabling women to transform traditional knowledge into sustainable livelihoods, while preserving Odisha's cultural heritage.

VedSuta is helping bring back the rhythmic sound of handlooms in Raghunathpali village in Jharsuguda. This handloom cluster development initiative aims to revive the Sambalpuri weaving tradition by training women from SHGs in specialised techniques such as yarn tying, natural dyeing, and traditional weaving. In the first phase of the project, 25 women have received access to handloom sets and are earning a steady income, while alsobeing trained in mastering the craft. One of the weavers,Sasmita Meher, shares, "Through VedSuta, I've not only learned new techniques but also found a way to support my family. I feel proud when I see the designs I've created." Beyond skill development, VedSuta is helping these artisans gain marketaccess, ensuring their products receive fair value and recognition.

Inter State Ganza Mafia Arrested by Kerala Police



Paralakhemundi-(Correspondent):: -Kerala police arrested one person under Adava police limits of Gajapati district.On ganza transportation he had link.Named Tukuna Paricha of Dhekapanka village involved om transportation.At Parinadu railway station of Kerala police seized ganza & arrested Bhakti Singh & Brahmabas Nayak belon to Adava police limits.From them they were informed about Tukuna.So with the help of Adava police they arrested him.After present him at Mohana Court that have taken on remand to Kerala.

Blackmailing Allegation Against Tution Teacher In K'pada



Kendrapada(Correspondent): Again blackmailed with objectionable photos allegation against a tution teacher came to light in Kendrapara district. The allegation cames from a plus two first year student. In this matter a FIR was lodged in Tantiapal marine police station of the district. As per reports,while the plus two student went to the college on August 15 (last Friday) the accused tution teacher threatened to viral the objectionable photos,if will not to marry him. After came to home she reported her parents about the threatening and lodged a FIR in Tantiapal police station. Police registered a case no 103/25 under BNS Act 126/2,296 and investigate the matter. When the victim went to the coaching in 9th class on the year 2023 at that time accused tution teacher forced to keep relationship with her and kept some objectionable photos. With those photos he tried to blackmail victim alleged and said, the teacher was also married with a student and having two children.

Hirakud Dam To Open Gates Today

Bhubaneswar(Correspondent): Hirakud Dam authorities have issued a warning due to the rising water level in the reservoir caused by heavy rainfall upstream.The dam will open its gates tomorrow to release excess water, and caution is in place to mitigate potential flood risks. Residents in downstream areas are advised to remain alert and avoid entering the Mahanadi River.District administrations in Sambalpur, Sonepur, Nayagarh, Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, and Kendrapara are taking necessary precautions to ensure public safety. The Sambalpur district administration is closely monitoring the situation and is prepared for any eventuality.Residents in the downstream have been warned to stay away from the river.

Subarnapur District Senior Citizens Association Celebrated the 35th International Senior Citizens Day



SUBARNAPUR -- Yesterday, the 35th International Senior Citizens Day was celebrated by the Subarnapur District Senior Citizens Association at Shree Gopalji Tamashwa Yoga Hall in Mahanadi Yoga Bihar. District Senior Citizens Association Secretary Jyoti Ranjan Patnaik welcomed all the senior citizens present and invited them to the meeting. The meeting began under the chairmanship of President Dr. Jyoti Ranjan Bahidar. The Association's advisors journalist Gorekhnath Sahu, Dr. Santosh Kumar Padhi, Vice President Dr. Arttatran Babu, Secretary Jyotiranjana Patnaik, Educationist Brajamohan Dani, Lawyer Byomakesh Dash, Professor Meena Maharana were participated in the main discussion and gave important details on the features, needs, achievements and experiences of celebrating International Senior Citizens Day. All senior citizens were challenged to fight for their rights together and be dedicated to the nation and move towards improving the society through education, reformation. Educationist Pradeep Kumar Purohit Sangha coordinated the meeting while Treasurer Dilip Kumar Rath proposed the vote of thanks. In the said meeting, Indumati Purohit, Debkishore Dani, Satya Narayan Mishra, Sribatsa Mallik, Harihar Satpathy, Sudhanshu Sekhar Padhi, Dayanidhi Sethi, Shailendra Kumar Sahu, Naveen Kishore Khatua, Baikuntha Satpathy, Sunadhar Hota, Loknath Panda, Jagadish Meher, Mukunda Kardia, Atul Chandra Dash made the celebration a success by making their major contributions. On this occasion, a delegation of the Association - President Dr. Jyotiranjana Bahidar, Vice President Dr. Arttatran Babu, Advisor Dr.Santosh Kumar Padhi, Secretary Jyoti Ranjan Patnaik, prominent workers paid a courtesy call on Yogacharya Nyunchandra Pujahari (92 years old), a former member of the Association, and expressed their greetings, greetings, congratulations, sought his blessings, and wished him a healthy and long life.

SWEET SHOPKEEPER UNDER SCANNER FOR ALLEGEDLY SELLING UNHYGIENIC SWEETS

Kantabanji , correspondence : A controversy has erupted in the Kantabanji area over allegations that a sweet shopkeeper from a nearby block is selling unadulterated and unhygienic sweets at a very low price. The shopkeeper is reportedly manuf acturing these sweets in an unhygienic environment, raising serious concerns about the health and safety of consumers.When some local sweet traders were approached for their opinion on the matter, they expressed skepticism about the possibility of making sweets at such a low price without using additives or compromising on quality. "It's not possible to make sweets at that rate without cutting corners," said one trader. "There's a high likelihood that the sweets are being adulterated or made in unhygienic conditions."The allegations have sparked a demand for an investigation into the matter. Authorities are urged to look into the claims and take necessary action to ensure that consumers are protected from potentially hazardous food products. In the meantime, consumers are advised to be cautious when purchasing sweets from unknown or unverified sources. The health risks associated with consuming adulterated or unhygienic food products can be severe, and it's essential to prioritize food safety.

The International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief



DELANGA, (Correspondent): The "International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief", observed on August 22nd each year, is a day to remember those who have faced violence or discrimination because of their faith. It's a chance to reflect on the growing need for respect and tolerance, and to stand up for the right of every person to freely practice their religion or beliefs. It's all about spreading awareness and encouraging a world where kindness, understanding, and acceptance are the norm.Everyone should have the right to practise their religion or belief freely, in peace, and without fear of discrimination or persecution. That's what today is about. Raising awareness helps push for a world where diverse spirituality and religions are valued. Where they contribute to more harmonious coexistence. Today drives home the importance of a global community that values the rights of every person – no matter what their beliefs.This day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2019 to honor the victims and survivors of religious persecution and to promote awareness of the importance of religious freedom. The day also serves as a reminder of the universal human right to freedom of religion or belief, as enshrined in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.The observance of this day is intrinsically linked to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), out of 17 SDGs of UN.SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: This goal aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable institutions at all levels. Addressing and preventing violence based on religion or belief is crucial for achieving lasting peace and justice.SDG 10: Reduced Inequality: This goal focuses on reducing inequality within and among countries. Protecting the rights of individuals regardless of their religious beliefs helps in reducing social inequalities and promoting inclusiveness.SDG 5: Gender Equality: Often, religious persecution has a gendered dimension, disproportionately affecting women and girls. Ensuring freedom of religion or belief can help address these gender-specific vulnerabilities.India launched military strikes on nine targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in the early hours of May 7, 2025, under 'Operation Sindoor'. The cross-border operation by the Indian armed forces was in response to the terror attack on civilians in the name religion in Pahalgam, in Jammu and Kashmir, on April 22, 2025.The theme for the International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief in 2025, observed on August 22nd, is "Remembering the Victims, Recommitting to Action". This theme emphasizes both honoring those who have suffered due to religious or belief-based violence and reaffirming the commitment to combat such violence and promote tolerance. "Freedom to manifest one's religion or belief may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others." - Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

Kunickaa Sadanand To Be Seen As 'Bigg Boss 19' Contestant

Actress Kunickaa Sadanand will be seen as a contestant in the 19th edition of Bigg Boss, hosted by Bollywood superstar Salman Khan.A source close to IANS confirmed that Kunickaa will be seen as one of the contestants among 15 other names.Kunickaa is known for her various characters in many Indian films as a villain and in comic roles. Also a singer, she has released three pop albums titled Lakhon Mein Ek released in 1996, and Kunickaa which was released in 2002. She released her third album named Joombish in 2006.Manju Asrani, wife of well known comic actor Asrani gave Kunickaa her first break as an actress in a TV serial. Her second break was a role in the TV serial Adalat, directed by Dheeraj Kumar.Kunickaa began her film career at the age of 28 in a 1988 horror Hindi movie named Kabrastan. She has acted in many negative roles in movies like Beta, Gumraah and Khiladi.Kunickaa has acted in 110 films in 25 years. In her journey in cinema, she worked in movies such as King Uncle, Kohra, Aa Gale Lag Jaa, Baazi, Loafer, Fareb, Hum Saath Saath Hain and Fugly among many others.She played mother to an 18-year-old in Swabhimaan. Her latest works include Dilli Wali Thakur Gurls. She was also seen in Kittie Party,Dollar Bahu and Sanjog Se Bani Sangini among many others.Talking about Bigg Boss, the show is based on the Dutch format of Big Brother, developed by Endemol. The first season was hosted by Arshad Warsi, followed by Shilpa Shetty in the second season and Amitabh Bachchan in the third.Farah Khan led the Halla Bol season, while Sanjay Dutt co-hosted the fifth season with Salman Khan. Since season 4, Salman Khan has taken the helm as the show's primary host. As of season 18, a total of 335 contestants have participated in Bigg Boss. As of season 18, Bigg Boss has aired a total of 1,970 episodes.



7 nourishing Iftar options for hypertension and heart disease patients

For individuals managing hypertension or heart disease, it is crucial to choose iftar foods during Ramadan that promote heart health and overall well-being and fortunately in India, where culinary diversity flourishes, there are abundant options to create delicious and nutritious iftar meals tailored to specific health needs. Health experts insist that during Ramadan, it is essential to prioritise nutritious foods that support heart health while honouring spiritual traditions.



Vegetable Lentil Soup (Dal):
Lentils, a staple in Indian cuisine, are rich in protein and fiber while being low in fat. Prepare a comforting dal by simmering lentils with a variety of vegetables like spinach, tomatoes, carrots and bell peppers. Season with heart-healthy spices such as turmeric, cumin and coriander for added flavour.

2. Grilled Fish with Mint Chutney:

Fish is a lean source of protein and is packed with omega-3 fatty acids, which are beneficial for heart health. Marinate fish fillets such as salmon or tilapia with garlic, ginger, and lemon juice, then grill until tender. Serve with a refreshing mint chutney made from fresh mint leaves, yogurt and a touch of lime juice.

3. Chickpea Salad (Chana Chaat):

Chickpeas, also known as chana, are a versatile legume high in protein and fiber. Create a nutritious chaat by combining boiled chickpeas with diced onions, tomatoes, cucumbers, and tangy chaat masala. Garnish with fresh coriander leaves and a squeeze of lemon juice for a burst of flavour.

4. Vegetable Stir-Fry with Brown Rice:

Stir-fried vegetables paired with whole grains make for a wholesome iftar option. Sauté an assortment of colorful vegetables such as bell peppers, broccoli, and snap peas with minimal oil and seasoning. Serve alongside nutty brown rice for a satisfying and fiber-rich meal.

5. Tandoori Chicken Skewers:

Tandoori chicken, marinated in yogurt and spices, is a popular Indian dish that can be enjoyed in a healthier way. Skewer chicken pieces and grill until charred and juicy. Serve with a side of cucumber raita, made from low-fat yogurt, grated cucumber and aromatic cumin seeds.

6. Mixed Vegetable Curry with Whole Wheat Roti:

Prepare a vibrant vegetable curry using an array of seasonal vegetables and a fragrant spice blend. Opt for minimal oil and salt in the cooking process. Enjoy the curry with whole wheat roti, which provides complex carbohydrates and dietary fiber.

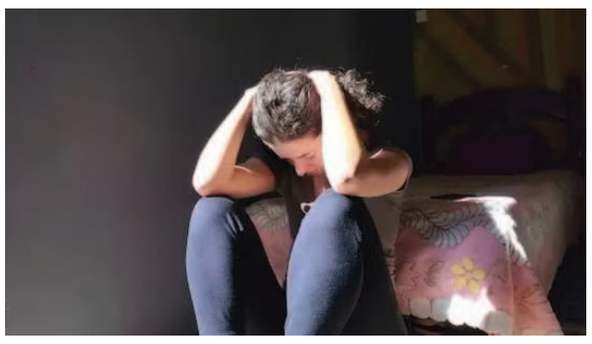
7. Fruit Salad with Yogurt:

Indulge in a refreshing fruit salad composed of seasonal fruits such as watermelon, pineapple and grapes. Serve with a dollop of low-fat yogurt for added creaminess and protein. This light and hydrating dessert option is perfect for satisfying sweet cravings.

Bigg Boss 19 House Revealed; The Stage For 'Gharwalo Ki Sarkaar' Set

As the latest season of the popular reality show "Bigg Boss" is set to entertain the fans soon, JioHotstar has revealed the house for this season.
The house for the show hosted by Salman Khan has been conceptualized by renowned designer Omung Kumar with production designer Vanita Garud.
For Season 19, the design of the house has been inspired by the spirit of camping in the wild, invoking the raw simplicity of a cabin in the woods. Wooden textures ground the house in tradition, while vibrant colours reflect the diversity and unpredictability of the opinions of the contestants to come.We can also see symbols like the antlered bird in the living room and the lion in the garden embody guardianship and authority, anchoring the theme. Talking about the outdoors, wigwam seating recreates the feeling of a community circle.Apart from the usual, the house enjoys a brand-new feature: the Assembly Room, which serves as the DNA of the 'Bigg Boss' house this year. In line with the season's theme, "Gharwalon ki Sarkaar", this space becomes the central hub for debates, discussions, and decision-making.

Are you being toxic to yourself? Here are 10 signs to know



Often, we end up being harmful towards ourselves without understanding the repercussions of our own behavioural patterns. Being a constant harsh critic and being mean to ourselves can only bring our own morale down and decrease our self-worth. "Recognising these toxic behaviours and patterns is the first step towards addressing and changing them. It's essential to cultivate self-compassion, set healthy boundaries, and prioritise your well-being," wrote therapist Israa Nasir as she shared how our behaviours can be toxic for ourselves.
Being mean to motivate ourselves:
When we constantly put ourselves down, negate our own achievements, with the intention of pushing ourselves to do better, it can have negative implications.
Perfectionism:
When we strive to achieve perfectionism, we set unrealistically high standards for ourselves, and criticise ourselves for even the smallest of mistakes. This can further bring our motivation down and make us overwork.
Instant gratification:
To avoid feeling discomfort in the moment, we often delay tasks and responsibilities. This can lead to procrastination.
Self-neglect:
While we work on ourselves getting better, it is equally important to focus on our needs and boundaries. We cannot make everyone happy – we don't even need to.
Always being available:
The constant urge to be available for everyone and everything can make us feel emotionally and physically drained. This, when continued for a prolonged period of time, can lead to burnout and frustration.
Having the hero complex:
When we believe that we should handle everything by ourselves and reject help from others, we end up being toxic to ourselves. It is okay to seek help.Emotional avoidance:
We should focus on expressing our emotions instead of suppressing them. When we suppress our emotions for a long time, they tend to show up in uncontrollable ways.
Staying stuck in the past:
We need to learn to accept the mistakes that we made in the past – we should forgive ourselves and move on.

Whole Wheat Nutty Cake

Ingredients

190 gm yogurt
1 gm baking soda
120 gm whole wheat flour
2 gm baking powder
100 gm jaggery
80 gm vegetable oil
1/2 tsp vanilla essence
40 gm milk
30 gm chopped almonds

Method

Grease a 6-inch circular pan with oil and line it with parchment paper.Sieve whole wheat flour and baking powder together in another bowl and set it aside.For the wet ingredients, combine yoghurt, jaggery and vegetable oil and whisk till everything is well combined.Add in vanilla and milk and mix.Combine the dry ingredients with the wet ingredients and bring the batter together.Transfer batter in the prepared baking pan and sprinkle chopped almonds all over the top.Bake at 180 degree celsius in a pre-heated oven for 30 - 35 minutes or until the skewer comes out clean.



60th All India Railway Ball Badminton Championship Concludes at Waltair

Rayagada(Correspondent):The 60th All India Railway Ball Badminton Championship concluded today at the Waltair Railway Sports Arena, bringing an end to a thrilling sporting event hosted by the East Coast Railway Sports Association (ECoRSA), Waltair Division.The Chief Guest, Shri B.S.K. Raj Kumar, Additional General Manager of East Coast Railway, graced the occasion, while Shri Lalit Bohra, Divisional Railway Manager, Waltair, was the Guest of Honour.A total of seven teams from various railway zones – East Coast Railway, Southern Railway, Integral Coach Factory, South Central Railway, South Western Railway, Western Railway, and South



Eastern Railway – participated with great enthusiasm.Championship Results, Winners: Integral Coach Factory, Runners-up: Southern Railway, Bronze Medalists: Western RailwayThe Chief Guest presented trophies to the winning and runner-up teams as well as to the bronze medalists.Speaking at the ceremony, Shri A.K. Samal, General Secretary/ECoRSA, highlighted Waltair Division's potential to nurture sporting talent and announced that more sporting events will be organized at the Waltair Railway Stadium in the near future.Shri Lalit Bohra, DRM, appreciated the efficient conduct of the championship within a short time despite adverse weather conditions and lauded the dedication of officials and sportspersons.In his address, Shri B.S.K. Raj Kumar, AGM, congratulated all the teams, praised the winners for their outstanding performance, and described Waltair Division as a hub for sporting excellence in Visakhapatnam. He encouraged athletes to uphold sportsmanship and mentor young players for future success.The closing ceremony was attended by several senior officials, including Shri Ajaya Samal, General Secretary & CE (Construction)-II, ECoRSA; Shri Manoj Kumar Sahoo, ADRM (Operations); Shri E. Santharam, ADRM (Infrastructure); Shri M. Haranath, Sports Officer & Sr. DFM; Shri Jusuf Kabir Ansari, Treasurer & Sr. DPO; Shri Vikas Choudhary, Sports Coordinator, RSPB; Shri R. Venkata Rao, Chairman, AP State Ball Badminton Association; along with Assistant Sports Officers Shri Sh. Patil and Shri Sahu, General Secretary Smt. N. Usha, and representatives of recognized unions.The championship showcased the competitive spirit and teamwork of railway sportspersons, further cementing Waltair's reputation as a leading sporting centre.

Consul General of Japan Visits KIIT & KISS, Praises World-Class Sporting Infrastructure and Inclusive Education Model

BHUBANESWAR(Correspondent):Mr. Ishikawa Yoshihisa, Hon'ble Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, along with his delegation, visited KIIT and KISS today and lauded the institutions' integration of education and sports.The delegation was warmly welcomed and accompanied by Dr. Gaganendu Dash, Director General – Sports and Yoga, KIIT & KISS, Mr. Rudrakesh Jena, Joint Director – Sports, KISS-DU, Mr. W. Ishwar, Chief Finance Officer, KISS-DU, and other dignitaries from KIIT and KISS.During his visit, Mr. Yoshihisa toured the Minati Mahapatra Velodrome, Dutee Chand Athletics Stadium, Olympic-standard Swimming



Pool, Archery Stadium, and other state-of-the-art sports facilities on KIIT and KISS campuses. The delegation also interacted with several national and international athletes nurtured by KISS under its unique sports support system. Impressed by the scale and quality of infrastructure, Mr. Yoshihisa praised the visionary leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT, KISS & KIMS, for creating an inclusive environment that enables students to excel in academics, sports, and extracurricular activities alike. He congratulated KIIT and KISS for their remarkable achievements at the recently concluded World University Games (WUG) 2025, where KIIT University secured six medals. He also acknowledged with great admiration that KIIT and KISS have produced 23 Olympians and 2 Paralympians over the years and praised the strong support system that has nurtured such world-class talent.

Sinquefield Cup 2025 Round 4: Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa Draw; Caruana Leads

NEWDELHI: Indian chess prodigies D. Gukesh and R. Praggnanandhaa were held to draws in the fourth round of the prestigious Sinquefield Cup, as Fabiano Caruana of the United States seized the sole lead with a commanding win over Nodirbek Abdusattorov.Gukesh, playing white, faced a resilient Maxime Vachier-Lagrave in a Queen pawn game that saw early queen exchanges and a balanced rook endgame. Meanwhile, Praggnanandhaa, also with white, opted for the Queen's Gambit Declined against Samuel Sevian, but the game quickly transitioned into a simplified endgame with no decisive chances.Caruana's aggressive play dismantled Abdusattorov's kingside ambitions, ending the game in just 30 moves. With this win, Caruana now leads the tournament with 3 points from 4 rounds, followed closely by Praggnanandhaa and Levon Aronian at 2.5 points each.The tournament, featuring 10 elite players across nine rounds, boasts a prize pool of $350,000. With five rounds remaining, the leaderboard remains tightly packed, promising high-stakes drama in the days ahead.

India A Roars Back on Day 2 of Brisbane Test

NEWDELHI: India Women's A staged a spirited comeback on Day 2 of the Unofficial Test against Australia A, thanks to a defiant 93-run knock by middle-order batter Raghvi Bist and a crucial half-century from tail-ender VJ Joshitha.After a rain-hit opening day left India reeling at 72/5, Bist anchored the innings with partnerships of 64 runs with Radha Yadav and 75 runs with Minnu Mani, lifting the visitors to a competitive



299.Bist's 153-ball innings, laced with 16 boundaries, ended just shy of a century when she was bowled by Maitlan Brown. Joshitha then joined forces with Titas Sadhu to add another 75 runs for the ninth wicket, frustrating the Australian bowlers and pushing India close to the 300-run mark.Australia A's reply faltered early, with the hosts reduced to 158/5 at stumps. Saima Thakor and Radha Yadav claimed two wickets each, while Sadhu chipped in with one. Skipper Tahila Wilson's 49 and Nicole Faltum's unbeaten 30 kept Australia afloat, but they still trail by 141 runs with two days remaining.India's resilience, especially from its lower order, has shifted momentum in their favour, setting up an exciting finish to the one-off Test.

Pro Panja League: Kiraak Hyderabad Clinch Season 2 Title After Epic Win Over Rohtak Rowdies In The Final

Gwalior: After 17 days of relentless panja action, Kiraak Hyderabad claimed the title in Season 2 of the Pro Panja League, emerging champions by beating Rohtak Rowdies 30-18 in the summit clash here on Thursday.The winning team has also won a reward of INR 20 lakh on behalf of Pro Panja League. Nirmal Devi of Rohtak Roadies was awarded the 'Player of the Day' award. Satnam Singh of Kiraak Hyderabad was announced as the 'Player of the Tournament' while Stewe Thomas won the 'Badshaho ka Badshah' title.Kiraak Hyderabad led the whole tournament in terms of points and on the final day lived up to their reputation and sealed a well-deserved and dominant victory. The runners-up from last season, who missed out on the championship by



just one point, lifted the trophy this time and etched their name in history.Stewe Thomas of Kiraak broke the Pro Panja League record by pinning Deepankhor Mech in just 0.09 seconds, breaking the previous record of 0.10 seconds set by Sachin Goyal.Present during the event were the co-founders of Pro Panja League, Parvinn Dabass and Preeti Jhangiani. Also in attendance were Organising Committee Chairman, Prabal Pratap Singh Tomar, Associate Vice President of Hockey India, Devendra Pratap Singh Tomar, Dr. Narinder Dhruv Batra, Member of the International Olympic Committee, professional wrestler Saurav Gurjar, and former kabaddi player Rahul Chaudhari. Olympic medallist and Former boxer Vijender Singh was present, cheering for Rohtak Rowdies as team ambassador.In the final, both teams played a total of 10 matches, four in the Undercard and six in the Main Card, sending one player in every category seen in the league so far to fight for the coveted crown.The Undercard was all Kiraak Hyderabad as they enjoyed a clean sweep against Rohtak Rowdies to begin the contest. Aviliye Zuyie set the tone with a commanding 2-0 victory over Arshdeep Singh in the 90kg bout. Naveen MV doubled the lead, overpowering Nikhil Singh 2-0 in the 60kg category, before Rachna Jatav extended the advantage and her winning streak with another clean 2-0 win against Karabi Sonowal in the 55kg contest. Rowdies' Billa Tajamul fought hard to keep his side alive, but the experienced Captain Asker Ali claimed the 80kg clash 2-0 to place his team in a comfortable position ahead of the Main Card matches.In the Main Card, world champion Srinivas BV in the Specially-Abled Section claimed the opening points for Rohtak Rowdies as he defeated Chandan Kumar Behera of Kiraak Hyderabad 5-0. Nirmal Devi built on the momentum for Rohtak Rowdies as she activated the challenger round and claimed a flawless 10-0 triumph against Jincy Jose in the 65+kg category.

BCCI Unhappy Over KL Rahul, Mohammed Siraj's Omission from Duleep Trophy Squad

NEWDELHI; The BCCI has expressed its displeasure after South Zone selectors left out senior India players KL Rahul and Mohammed Siraj from the Duleep Trophy 2025 squad. The tournament, beginning August 28 in Bengaluru, is seen as a key domestic competition to test national and fringe talent.In an email to zonal convenors and state units, BCCI GM (cricket operations) Abey Kuruvilla reminded associations to give priority to centrally contracted India players. He stressed that their participation was essential to "maintain the



prestige and competitive standard" of the Duleep Trophy.The South Zone squad announced on July 27, led by Tilak Varma, excluded not only Rahul and Siraj but also Washington Sundar, Prasidh Krishna, and Sai Sudharsan — despite their availability. The move drew sharp reaction from the board, which has repeatedly warned that players cannot prioritise IPL or rest over domestic commitments without prior approval.While selectors have not yet confirmed if the squad will be revised, many other internationals, including Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Kuldeep Yadav, and Mohammed Shami, are expected to play for their respective zones.

Indian Woman Spinner Gouher Sultana Announces Retirement From All Forms Of Cricket

New Delhi: India left-arm spinner Gouher Sultana has announced her retirement from all forms of cricket, bringing the curtains down on a career that saw her represent the national team in both white-ball formats."Adieu with a smile – after years of wearing the Indian jersey with pride, passion, and purpose, the time has come to pen down the most emotional note of my cricketing journey. With a heart full of memories and eyes welled with gratitude, I announce my retirement from all forms of the game.

Tata Power led Odisha Discoms redefine Customer Service; tech enabled power support anytime, anywhere

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent):: Tata Power-led Odisha discoms: TP Central Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPCODL), TP Southern Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPSODL), TP Northern Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPNODL), and TP Western Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPWODL), are rapidly redefining the way electricity consumers engage with their service providers. By building a vast network of digital platforms, customer service centres, rural



engagement initiatives, and community-driven models, the discoms are making electricity services more accessible, transparent, and consumer-centric for nearly 10 million customers across the state.Over the last five years, the discoms have introduced a host of technology-led customer solutions to ensure electricity services are available anytime, anywhere. Consumers can now inquire about new connections with a simple missed call and apply online, eliminating paperwork and office visits. Strengthening digital engagement further, the My Tata Power App has become a single-window platform for payments, service requests, billing history, and real-time updates.At the same time, Tata Power has significantly invested in physical touchpoints to support consumers across urban and rural Odisha. Nearly 60 customer care centres have been set up, backed by a 24x7 call centre for real-time support. Camps and Redressal Forums have been organised at multiple locations to ensure customer grievances are addressed effectively. Consumers also have access to WhatsApp helplines, email, the My Tata Power App, and the state's Mo Bidyut portal. The newly introduced missed call service for outage reporting enables instant complaint registration. A dedicated number has also been set up for reporting and addressing power theft. Adoption of digital services is being promoted through e-bills on WhatsApp and digital payment rebates, making payments convenient and cost-effective.

TPWODL Launches Vocational Training Centre in Sambalpur with 100% Employment Assistance to Empower Local Youth

Sambalpur, (Correspondent):::With a mission to empower the youth of Sambalpur district and nearby areas through skill development and employment opportunities, TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL), under its flagship CSR initiative 'Roshni', has inaugurated a Vocational Training Centre for Customer Care Executives in partnership with Orion. The centre is located at Saraswati Bihar, Ainthapali, Sambalpur. The centre aims to train



and provide employment to more than 200 youth in the coming year. The program has been designed to enhance professional communication, technical expertise, and soft skills that are essential for success in the rapidly growing service industry. Importantly, the initiative goes beyond training by ensuring job placements with leading companies, enabling participants to secure sustainable livelihoods.The inauguration ceremony was graced by TPWODL CEO along with senior officials, students, and their parents.

Indian Bank organized Customer Meet

Bhubaneswar(Correspondent): Indian Bank organized a customer meet at Nayapally Branch. The programme was attended by FGM M Aruna, D G M Rananjay Singh, Nayapally branch BM



Malaya Ranjan Mohanty, Retired Staffs, senior citizens, women and students. More than 50 customers attended the programme. In this programme, a discussion made about social security schemes and Bank's various deposit products. Customers expressed their views being satisfied with banking services. Bank felicitated to senior citizens and women customers on this occasion.

Aditya Birla Skill Centre Ushers in a New Era of Hope for Odisha's Youth

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent): Aditya Birla Skill Centre set up by the Aditya Birla Group's Hindalco at Baraipali in Sambalpur, has become a launchpad for hundreds of local young men and women seeking to rewrite their life stories not through charity, but by building skill, confidence, and careers.Being set up in May 2024, this centre imparts skill building and skill enhancing trainings to the local youth in the domains of Electrical Technician,



Consumer Durable Technician, Fashion Technician, Retail Sales Associate, and Financial Services. The centre is not only equipping students with hard skills but shaping personalities with communication training, digital literacy, life skills, and financial acumen, ensuring holistic readiness for the real world.Till now 333 aspirants enrolling for the skill programmes. Among them, 196 have successfully completed their training. As per the record, 146 skilled aspirants have already been employed in various retail, garment industries, banks, and service centres, while nine have started their entrepreneurship journey. However, another 94 are in the process for securing jobs, and 178 awaiting for the opportunities. On average, individuals trained at ABSC are earning around 12,810 per month. Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Kailash Pandey, the Mining Business Head and Head of Sambalpur Cluster, shared, "At Hindalco, we believe empowerment begins with education.

Stock Market Ends 6-Session Winning Streak Amid Weak Global Cues

Mumbai: The domestic equity indices settled in the negative territory on Friday, ending the six-session momentum amid overall selling as investor sentiment turned cautious ahead of the US Fed Chair's speech. Sensex ended the session at 81,306.85, down 693.86 points or 0.85 per cent. Ending upward momentum, the 30-share index opened the session in negative territory at 81,951.48 against last session's closing of 82,000.71. The index further extended the losing momentum to hint intra-day low at 81,291.77 amid overall selling.Nifty closed at 24,870.10, down 213.65 points or 0.85 per cent."The Indian equity market closed in the red, ending a six-session winning streak and erasing gains accumulated over the past three days. Investor sentiment turned cautious ahead of the U.S. Fed Chair's speech at the Jackson Hole symposium, which is expected to provide critical insights into the global liquidity outlook and future interest rate trajectory," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited

Govt Giving Priority To National Interest In FTA Talks: Piyush Goyal

New Delhi: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Friday that the Government's approach in trade negotiations for free trade agreements with other countries will be guided by national interest and the priorities of Indian industry."I've always held a very clear vision. When we do trade deals, I have to protect national interests. We usually now work with different countries with the pre-understanding, before



even getting into negotiations: you respect my sensitivities, I respect your sensitivities. There are areas of concern in every country in the world," the Commerce Minister said at a media event organised by the Economic Times.The minister said that India is engaging regularly with the European Union and fast-tracking discussions on three to four more trade agreements."So the EU also has certain areas which are very sensitive to them. We respect that. As they respect ours. And, therefore, I think it will not be difficult to come to terms on the trade front," Goyal said.India is looking at the entire situation realistically, but proactively working with trading partners with whom we can have transparent relations, the minister added. Goyal also said that the government had taken on board the concerns of the domestic industry on the ASEAN free trade agreement."We are very concerned because the domestic industry has given us negative feedback. The agreement was badly negotiated by the previous government," he said.Goyal assured stakeholders that trade would stand independently but underlined the need for balance. "Maybe we won't be able to deliver 100 per cent, but be demanding," he told industry participants, noting that labour-intensive industries would receive support.

Cuttack–Paradeep Rail Section Gets High-Tech Signalling Upgrade for Safer, Faster Travel

Bhubaneswar (Correspondent):The East Coast Railway (ECoR) has ushered in a new era of railway operations with the commissioning of a state-of-the-art Automatic Signalling System on the 83-km Cuttack–Paradeep section of the Talcher–Paradeep Freight Corridor under the Khurda Road Division.This upgrade, a significant milestone in Indian Railways' modernisation efforts, enhances safety, efficiency, and connectivity to the strategic Paradeep Port, a key hub for freight and industrial activity in Odisha.The newly implemented system brings a host of benefits, revolutionising both passenger and freight operations. By reducing headway between trains, the system increases line capacity, allowing more trains to operate in less time. This ensures faster movement and improved punctuality, benefiting commuters and freight operators alike. The automation minimises human dependency, significantly reducing the risk of errors and enhancing safety for all operations. Real-time monitoring and automatic controls further optimise asset utilisation, ensuring reliable and timely services.The technical advancements are equally impressive. The system features dual multi-section digital axle counters for precise train detection, an integrated power supply for uninterrupted operations, LED signal lamps for clear visibility, dataloggers for comprehensive event monitoring, and video display units at all stations for real-time supervision. Safety has been further bolstered with the interlocking of 19 level crossing gates, eliminating all non-interlocked gates to remove potential hazards. The section has been divided into multiple up and down subsections, enabling smoother traffic handling and increased capacity.This upgrade is poised to drive economic growth by facilitating faster freight movement to Paradeep Port, a critical node for industrial and trade activities. The enhanced infrastructure strengthens Odisha's rail connectivity, supporting regional development and industrial progress.

The East Coast Railway's commitment to safety, modernisation, and world-class infrastructure is evident in this transformative project. The Cuttack–Paradeep section is now equipped to meet the rising demands of passenger and freight traffic, setting a benchmark for railway operations in India.

RBI Appoints Indranil Bhattacharyya As Ex-Officio Member Of MPC

New Delhi: The Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday approved the nomination of Indranil Bhattacharyya, Executive Director, as an ex-officio member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC).The decision was taken at the 618th meeting of the Central Board of Directors of the RBI under the Chairmanship of Governor Sanjay Malhotra in Lucknow. Bhattacharyya has taken over from Rajiv Ranjan, who leads the Department of Economic and Policy Research at the central bank. Ranjan has been one of the three RBI representatives on the MPC since May 2022."The Board assessed the emerging global and domestic economic landscape, including the geopolitical and financial market developments and associated challenges. The Board reviewed the functioning of select Central Office Departments of the Bank and also of Committees of Central Board and the Ombudsman Scheme," according a statement by the Central Bank.Deputy Governors M. Rajeshwar Rao; T. Rabi Sankar; Swaminathan J.; Dr. Poonam Gupta and other Directors of the Central Board attended the meeting.According to the rules of the constitution of the committee, the MPC will consist of three external members, the RBI governor, one deputy governor and one member recommended by the central board of the RBI.Typically, that last position goes to the ED of the monetary policy department. Earlier this month, the RBI MPC decided to keep the repo rate unchanged at 5.5 per cent, while sticking to the "neutral" monetary policy stance.

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