

Central Chronicle

‘Mission-mode reforms for long-term growth’

PM Modi for building world- class capabilities and attaining global integration.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called for mission-mode reforms across diverse sectors to sustain long-term growth to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Interacting with a group of eminent economists and experts at NITI Aayog ahead of Union Budget for 2026-27, Modi also made a case for building world- class capabilities and attaining global integration.

The theme of the interaction was ‘Aatmanirbharta and Structural Transformation: Agenda for Viksit Bharat’.

He stressed that India’s policy making and budgeting must remain anchored with the vision for 2047.

The Prime Minister spoke about the need to ensure that the nation remains a vital hub for



HIGHLIGHT

- ‘Ensure the nation remains a global workforce and market hub’.

the global workforce and international markets.

Speaking about Viksit Bharat as a national aspiration, he noted that the vision of a developed India by 2047 has transcended government

policy to become a genuine mass aspiration.

During the interaction, the economists shared strategic insights on enhancing productivity and competitiveness across the manufacturing and services sectors.

The participants also noted that the unprecedented flurry of cross sectoral reforms in 2025, and their further consolidation in the coming

‘World sees India with hope and confidence’

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said India is being appreciated by the world for the manner in which the pace of progress has been accelerated with next-generation reforms, which are cross-sectoral and amplify the nation’s growth potential. In a post on business and employment-oriented social networking platform LinkedIn, Modi said India has emerged as the centre of global attention due to the innovative zeal of its people and the world now sees India with hope and confidence. The prime minister said he has been telling many people that India has boarded the ‘Reform Express’ and the primary engine of this ‘Reform Express’ is India’s demography, the young generation and the indomitable spirit of the country’s people.

“2025 will be remembered as a year for India when it focused on reforms as a continuous national mission, building on the ground covered over the past 11 years. We modernised institutions, simplified governance, and strengthened the foundations for long-term, inclusive growth,” he said.

year, will ensure that India continues to chart its path as one of the fastest growing global economies by strengthening its foundations and unlocking newer opportunities. The discussion

focused on accelerating structural transformation through increased household savings, robust infrastructure development, and the adoption of cutting-edge technology.

PUSHKAR SUNSET



A silhouetted camel rider leads his camel across the desert as the sun sets, in Pushkar, Rajasthan, Tuesday.

India become world’s 4th largest economy

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India has surpassed Japan to become the world’s fourth-largest economy with a size of USD 4.18 trillion, and is poised to overtake Germany to become the third-largest by 2030, the government has said.

With continuing good growth numbers, India is also the world’s fastest-growing major economy. India’s real GDP

grew 8.2 per cent in the second quarter of 2025-26, up from 7.8 per cent in the first quarter and 7.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of the last fiscal.

“With GDP valued at USD 4.18 trillion, India has surpassed Japan to become the world’s fourth-largest economy, and is poised to displace Germany from the third rank in the next 2.5 to 3 years with a projected GDP of USD 7.3 trillion by

2030,” according to a government release providing a snapshot of reforms in 2025. The US is the world’s largest economy, and China occupies the second spot.

The growth momentum further surprised on the upside, with GDP expanding to a six-quarter high in Q2 of 2025-26, reflecting India’s resilience amid persistent global trade uncertainties, it said.

‘Politicians, officials formed syndicate in Chh’garh liquor scam’

Press Trust Of India

ED alleges syndicate hijacked Chhattisgarh excise department (2019-23).



garh excise department between 2019 and 2023.

The provisionally attached assets include 78 properties like luxury bungalows, flats in premium complexes, commercial shop spaces and agricultural lands apart from 197 investments -- fixed deposits (FDs), balances in multiple bank accounts, life insurance policies and a diverse portfolio of equity shares and mutual funds, the ED said. These assets worth a

total Rs 38.21 crore belong to Das, an IAS officer, and 30 other excise officials, the federal probe agency said in a statement.

“This attachment highlights the deep-rooted complicity of the very officials tasked with protecting state revenue,” the statement added.

The other set of properties, worth Rs 68.16 crore, belongs to three major Chhattisgarh-based distilleries named Chhattisgarh Distilleries Ltd., Bhatia

HIGHLIGHT

- ED named 81 accused in chargesheets filed.

Wine Merchants Pvt. Ltd., and Welcome Distilleries Pvt Ltd., it said. Das and Arun Pati Tripathi (then MD of Chhattisgarh State Marketing Corporation Limited) “spearheaded” a “parallel” excise system that “bypassed” state controls to generate massive illegal earnings, it claimed.

The agency filed a fresh chargesheet in this case on December 26 detailing a “massive” corruption executed within the excise department between 2019-2023 resulting in the generation of proceeds of crime worth Rs 2,883 crore, the statement said.

NIA chargesheets five persons for supplying explosives to Naxals

Press Trust Of India

ED has so far chargesheeted seven persons in the case.



FASTFACTS

- Case registered after arrests on September 25, 2024.
- NIA took over in December 2024 and continues the probe

plementary chargesheet filed before the NIA special court in Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh on Tuesday, the agency has named all five for their active involvement in the procurement of explosives and other incriminating items for the banned outfit. “The five accused were found to be in unlawful

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday chargesheeted five accused, including four absconders, in a 2024 case pertaining to the procurement and supply of explosives to the banned CPI (Maoist) organisation in Chhattisgarh.

Arrestee Manish Sodhi, along with fugitives Sodhi Kesa, Manila, Madkam Kesa and Sodhi Lakhma, all residents of Chhattisgarh’s Sukma district, have been indicted by the NIA, an official statement said. Manish Sodhi alias Hurra was arrested in July this year by the NIA, which has so far chargesheeted seven persons in the case. In its sup-

NEWSLINE

NEW DELHI
‘Youngest Indian’ to ski to South Pole

Braving freezing temperatures and gale force winds, 18-year-old daughter of a naval officer has become the youngest Indian to ski to the South Pole, the Navy said on Tuesday. In a post on X, the Indian Navy congratulated Kaamya Karthikeyan. “Kaamya braved harsh weather of -30 degree Celsius, gale force winds to cover approximately 60 Nautical Miles (nearly 115 Km) on foot from 89 degree South, pulling a sled laden with her complete expedition load, to reach the South Pole on 27 December 2025,” it said.

INDORE
Three dead

At least three persons have died and more than 100 others hospitalised in Indore in the past few days after allegedly drinking contaminated water in an area, city mayor said on Tuesday. Local residents, however, claimed that five persons, including four women, have died so far after falling ill due to contaminated water. According to the local councillor, the residents complained that the water supplied on December 25 had an unusual smell and people may have fallen ill after consuming it. Chief Medical and Health Officer (CMHO) Dr Madhav Prasad Hasani said that after reports of a diarrhoea outbreak in the Bhagirathpura area.

| SAD DEMISE |

B’desh’s former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia dies

Press Trust Of India

DHAKA: Bangladesh first woman prime minister Khaleda Zia, who played a major role in restoring democracy after a period of tumultuous military rule and dominated the country’s politics for decades died on Tuesday after a prolonged illness. She was 80.



“My mother is no more,” Zia’s elder son and Bangladesh Nationalist Party’s (BNP) acting Chairman Trique Rahman said.

NUMBER

80

- She passed away at 6:00 am local time and was 80.

Zia was a three-time prime minister and held the position of chairperson of BNP.

Her personal physician, Dr AZM Zahid Hosain said she breathed her last early on Tuesday while receiving treatment at Evercare Hospital in Dhaka.

Her party said she passed away at 6:00 am local time, “just after Fajr prayer”.

BNP officials said Zia’s funeral prayer was expected to be held on

Wednesday at Dhaka Manik Mia Avenue in front of the parliament complex.

Zia’s family members, including her elder son Tarique Rahman, his wife, Zubaida Rahman and their daughter Zaima were present at the hospital. BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir was at the hospital.

Defence Ministry signs Rs 4,666 crore arms deals

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The defence ministry on Tuesday signed contracts worth Rs 4,666 crore to procure over 4.25 lakh close quarter battle carbines and 48 heavy torpedoes.

The contract for the battle carbines along with accessories worth Rs 2,770 crore for the Indian Army and the Indian Navy were signed

with Bharat Forge Ltd and PLR Systems Pvt Ltd, the ministry said.

“This achievement marks the culmination of an extraordinary, persistent effort to equip Indian soldiers with world-class lethality, replacing legacy systems with cutting-edge indigenous technology under the ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’ vision,” it said.

608 new roads planned in New Year in Ch'garh

Over Rs 8,092 crore worth of PWD projects approved in two years, with 608 new roads planned in the coming year.



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Deputy Chief Minister and Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Arun Sao on Tuesday highlighted the major achievements of the department over the past two years and outlined an ambitious roadmap for the coming three years. Addressing a press conference at the Samvad Auditorium in Nava Raipur, Sao said that since the formation of the BJP government, projects worth Rs 8,092 crore have been approved, reflecting a strong push towards infrastructure development in the state. Deputy CM Sao informed that a total of 1,126 projects worth Rs 8,092 crore were

FACTFILE

● **Construction underway on 3,641 roads and 143 bridges, strengthening the state's infrastructure network.**

approved between December 2023 and December 2025. In the financial year 2023-24, approval was granted for 81 projects worth Rs 550 crore, while in 2024-25, as many as 436 projects worth Rs 2,589 crore received approval. Looking ahead, he announced that 608 new roads will be constructed in the upcoming year, significantly strengthening road connectivity across Chhattisgarh. He further stated that bridge and build-

ing construction works worth Rs 4,950 crore have been approved, with administrative approvals currently in process. From 2025 till date, 1,012 tenders have been issued by the Chief Engineer, while tenders worth Rs 4,824 crore were approved specifically in the year 2025-26.

Providing details of ongoing works, Sao said that construction is currently underway on 3,641 roads across the state. So far, 164 bridge construction projects have been completed, while work is in progress on 143 bridges. In the buildings sector, 252 projects have been completed and 265 are currently under execution. On the administrative front, the Deputy CM

said that promotions have been granted to 371 officers to the post of Chief Engineer, strengthening departmental leadership. Additionally, seven new divisional offices and 12 new sub-divisional offices have been created to improve operational efficiency and service delivery. Sao also highlighted the inauguration of the new Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly building by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a landmark achievement for the state, symbolising modern infrastructure development and good governance. He reiterated the government's commitment to accelerating development works and ensuring quality infrastructure for public welfare.

Police arrest Drug Peddler, seize 2.15 Kg 'Doda'

RAIPUR: Under the ongoing special anti-drug campaign "Operation Nishchay," Raipur Police have achieved another success by arresting a drug peddler and seizing a substantial quantity of prohibited narcotic substance doda (opium poppy). The campaign is being conducted under the guidance of Inspector General of Police, Raipur Range, Amresh Mishra, and Deputy Inspector General and Senior Superintendent of Police, Dr. Lal Umed Singh, with a focus on curbing narcotics smuggling and taking strict action against those involved in the illegal drug trade.

As part of the campaign, all gazetted officers of Raipur Police, including officers of the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit (ACCU) and station house officers, have been directed to intensify intelligence gathering through informers and other sources. Acting on such inputs, the ACCU team received specific information on December 30, 2025, that a person was in possession of doda and was attempting to sell it at Parking Lot No. 04 in Rawabhantha Transport Nagar, under the jurisdiction of Khamtarai police station. Following instructions from senior officers, a joint team of the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and Khamtarai police station immediately reached the spot.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

ATM INAUGURATION

PNB inaugurates new ATM at Police Training School on VIP Road, Mana

RAIPUR: Punjab National Bank (PNB) on Tuesday inaugurated a new ATM at the Police Training School on VIP Road, Mana, marking another step in the bank's efforts to strengthen banking infrastructure and improve customer convenience in Chhattisgarh. With this addition, the newly opened facility becomes the 52nd ATM of PNB in Raipur city and the 454th ATM in the Raipur zone.

The ATM was formally inaugurated on December 30, 2025, by Director General of Police, Chhattisgarh, Arun Dev Gautam, in the presence of PNB Zonal Manager Ashish Chaturvedi. Several senior police and bank officials attended the event, including IG (Training) Anand Chhabra, DIG (Training) Sujit Kumar, Superintendent of Police, Police Training School Mana, Rajkumar Minj, Circle Head Raipur Virender Kumar Sharma, along with



other senior officers from the police department and the bank. Speaking on the occasion, the dignitaries said the installation of the ATM at the Police Training School would provide significant relief to police personnel, trainees, staff members and residents of nearby areas by ensuring round-the-clock access to essential banking services. They noted that the area earlier faced a shortage of ATM facilities and that repeated requests had been received for setting up an ATM in the locality.

CHHATTISGARH LIQUOR SCAM

ED files fresh supplementary chargesheet, exposes organised criminal syndicate

RAIPUR: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed another supplementary prosecution complaint on December 26 in the high-profile Chhattisgarh liquor scam, unearthing what it described as a deeply entrenched and well-organised criminal syndicate operating within the state's excise system between 2019 and 2023. The probe has revealed large-scale manipulation of the state's liquor policy to generate illegal income through a multi-layered mechanism involving bureaucrats, political figures and private players. According to the ED, the syndicate generated illicit proceeds through four major routes. The first involved illegal commissions, wherein liquor suppliers were forced to pay bribes on official sales. These bribes were financed by artificially inflating the "landing price" paid by the state, effectively burdening the exchequer. The second method was the sale of



unaccounted country liquor through government-run shops by using duplicate holograms and cash transactions, thereby evading excise duty and taxes. The investigation further revealed a cartelisation system in which distillers paid fixed annual commissions to protect their market share and secure licences. Another major source of illegal income was the misuse of FL-10A licences, a category introduced for foreign liquor, under which manufacturers paid commissions, with nearly 60 per cent of the profits allegedly siphoned off by the syndicate.

'GANJA' CONSIGNMENT SEIZED

Huge 'Ganja' consignment seized in Raipur; Husband-Wife duo arrested for smuggling Heroin

RAIPUR: Continuing its intensified crackdown on drug traffickers, Raipur police achieved a major breakthrough by arresting a husband-and-wife duo with a significant quantity of banned narcotic substance heroin, commonly known as 'chitta'. The operation was carried out by the Kabir Nagar police station, dealing a strong blow to the drug network operating in the capital.

Acting on a specific tip-off under the special anti-drug campaign launched on the directions of Senior Superintendent of Police Dr. Lal Umed Singh, police received information that a woman was selling heroin from her residence at LIG-2/20, Kabir Nagar. Following this, a police team from Kabir Nagar police station, under the guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police (West) Daulat Ram Porte and City Superintendent of Police (Azad Chowk) Ishu Agarwal,



conducted a raid. During a thorough search of the house, police recovered a plastic zipper bag containing 16.01 grams of heroin from a drawer kept under the bed. The contraband was found in the possession of Harpreet Kaur, who was present at the house at the time of the raid. During interrogation, it was revealed that the heroin had been smuggled into Raipur from Punjab. The accused woman's husband, Jodha Singh, who had allegedly brought the narcotic substance from Punjab for sale in Raipur, was also apprehended by the police.

SESSION

Resource person Karan Sahu conducts CBSE training sessionat GEMS

RAIPUR: A CBSE training session focusing on Pedagogy was organised at Shri Gujarati English Medium School, Raipur, with the objective of enhancing teaching methodologies, classroom practices, and overall academic effectiveness. Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma chaired over the programme while Coordinators Bhaskar Sharma and Sanghamitra Dubey were also present along with faculty members.

The session was conducted by eminent educationist Karan Sahu, who brings with him over three decades of experience in the education sector. Beginning his career in 1989 as an Assistant Teacher at St. Mary's Convent School, Jharsuguda, he later served as a Senior Teacher for 14 years before taking on key leadership roles as Principal at Gurukul, Bhatapara,



Disha School, and currently at Sanskar International School, Bargarh.

A strong advocate of learner-centric and experiential education, Sahu shared valuable insights on effective pedagogy and activity-based learning. The session proved to be highly informative and inspiring, equipping teachers with practical strategies to strengthen classroom engagement and academic outcomes.

Sports Meet inaugurated at Adarsh Vidyalaya



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Adarsh Vidyalaya, Tatibandh, under the aegis of Raipur Kerala Samajam, inaugurated its Annual Sports Meet 2025 with enthusiasm at the school playground. The programme began with the lighting of the lamp. The Chief Guest, Ms. Neeta Dumre, Chief Office Superintendent, South East Central Railways, and Guest of Honour Mrs. Gayatri Chandrakar, Ward-21 Corporator and Member, Raipur Nagar Nigam, were warmly welcomed and felicitated. Highlights included the

hoisting of the Sports Flag, March Past, Sports Oath, welcome dance and torch lighting. In the welcome address, the principal of the school Mrs. Jasveer Sarkar emphasized the importance of sports in holistic development, highlighting its role in fostering teamwork, leadership, discipline, and character building among students. The Management Members of Raipur Kerala Samajam reiterated the institution's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals through a balanced focus on academics, sports, and values.

| SCATHING ATTACK |

Arun Singh criticises Cong, calls party directionless

Central Chronicle News

BJP National General Secretary Arun Singh accuses Congress of spreading misinformation on G-Ramji Bill and MNREGA.



FACTFILE

● **Highlights government's welfare schemes, infrastructure growth, and efforts to make Naxal-affected areas development-focused.**

Targeting the Congress over its opposition to the 'G-Ramji Bill', Arun Singh said the party is deliberately spreading misinformation. He clarified that under the proposed bill, all decision-making powers rest with the Gram Sabha and Gram

Panchayat, not the central government. Despite this, Congress leaders are falsely claiming that the Centre will control decisions. He informed that Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has written a letter directing officials to ensure that correct information reaches people at the grassroots level. On MNREGA, Singh alleged that during Congress rule, assemblies were limited to discussions on potholes, while large-scale scams surfaced under their governance.

| CHILDREN'S ORTHOPAEDIC HEALTH |

ITSA Hospitals highlights Paediatric Orthopaedic Care

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Dr. Swayam Prakash Tripathy, M.S Orthopaedics (GMC, Bhopal), Fellowship Paediatric Orthopaedics (CMC, VELLORE), Fellowship Joint Replacement (MAX Hospital, Delhi) Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon with over 12 years of clinical experience at ITSA Hospitals, Raipur, says children's bones and joints are very different from those of adults and therefore need specialised medical attention.

According to him, children's bodies are constantly growing and changing, especially their bones, joints and muscles, which makes paediatric orthopaedic care essential for healthy development. At ITSA Hospitals, Raipur, a leading multi-specialty healthcare centre, doctors stress that orthopaedic problems in children should never be treated as routine adult conditions. Unlike adults, children's bones contain growth plates and con-



tinue to change shape as they grow. Conditions such as limb deformities, unequal limb length and spinal curvature (scoliosis) require careful planning so that treatment corrects the problem

without affecting normal growth. Experts highlight that early diagnosis can make a lifelong difference. Many orthopaedic conditions, including clubfoot, hip joint instability and congenital limb abnormalities, are present from birth.

If detected early, these conditions can often be managed successfully, preventing long-term disability. Doctors warn that even minor orthopaedic issues can worsen as a child grows if left untreated. Childhood

injuries are another common concern. Children are naturally active and frequently suffer falls, sports injuries and fractures.

While most fractures heal well, injuries involving growth plates need expert care. Improper treatment can interfere with bone growth and lead to future deformities. Paediatric orthopaedic specialists are trained to manage such injuries safely, ensuring proper healing and a smooth return to daily activities.

Meeting held to finalize error-free electoral rolls

Electoral Officers brief political representatives on 2026 Special Intensive Revision



Meeting at Durg City constituency.

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: On Tuesday, Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) across Durg district held a strategic meeting with representatives of recognized political parties. The session focused on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls with the qualifying date set as January 1, 2026. This initiative follows directives from the Chief Electoral Officer of Chhattisgarh to maintain transparency and accuracy in the democratic process.

During the meeting, officials shared lists of claims and objections received following the draft publication on December 23. The primary objective of the SIR is to refine the voter list by eliminating “ghost voters”—those who have passed away or shifted

EASTFACTS

- **SIR aims to ensure no valid citizen is left out.**
- **Ineligible entries like deceased or relocated voters removed.**

How to check your name

Citizens can verify their details on the draft roll via voters.eci.gov.in. By using this link, voters can find their assembly constituency, part number, and serial number. Forms 9, 10, 11, and 11B are currently available at polling stations for those wishing to file claims or objections.

residences—and enrolling new eligible voters via Form-6. Additionally, Form-8 is being utilized for error corrections to ensure a defect-free database. EROs emphasized the critical role of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) in verifying documents and ground-level data. Under

Sections 16 and 19 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, officials will rigorously scrutinize eligibility before updating the ECI portal. Political representatives were urged to cooperate in this “purification” of the rolls to ensure a fair electoral foundation.

Guidelines issued for celebrations

BHILAI: In view of the upcoming New Year celebrations, the Durg district administration has issued comprehensive safety and operational guidelines for all hotels, restaurants, dhabas, bars, and clubs. Following instructions from Collector Abhijit Singh, ADM Abhishek Agrawal and Additional SP Sukhmandan Rathore chaired a high-level meeting to ensure public order on December 31 and January 1. The authorities emphasized that owners will be held strictly accountable for traffic management and must ensure no vehicles are parked along highways or main roads. Dedicated parking zones must feature adequate lighting and security guards. On the security front, establishments are required to install functional CCTV cameras and report any suspicious activities immediately. Strict compliance with noise regulations is mandatory; sound levels must not exceed 75 decibels, and all loudspeakers must be silenced by 10:00 PM. Violations will result in the seizure of equipment and legal action under the Noise Pollution and Motor Vehicles Acts. Furthermore, managers must conduct fire and electrical safety audits to prevent short circuits or fire hazards.

Couple held for printing & circulating counterfeit currency



Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: In a significant crackdown on counterfeit currency, the Ranitarai police arrested a man and his wife on December 29, for circulating fake notes at a local weekly market. SSP Vijay Agrawal informed that the accused, identified as Arun Kumar Turang (50) and Rakhi Turang (40), residents of Sonpairi, Raipur, were caught red-handed after defrauding several small-scale vendors. The matter came to light when Tuleswar Sonkar, a vegetable vendor from Dhamtari, reported that the couple purchased peas and chilies worth Rs 60 and handed him a suspicious Rs 500 note. After a fellow merchant warned of “fake money” circulating in the market, Sonkar inspected the note (Serial No. 9EP143736) and found it to be a crude photocopy.

Investigations revealed that the duo had targeted multiple vendors, including Bhavesh Dewangan, Deepak Sahu, and several others, by making small purchases to receive genuine change in return. During interrogation, Arun Turang confessed to the crime, revealing that he had ordered a color photocopy printer and specialized paper online to produce the notes. He admitted to previously circulating fake currency in the Patan weekly market as well. Following a raid at their residence, police seized printing machinery and counterfeit notes totaling Rs 1,70,500 in various denominations. The Ranitarai Police have registered a case under Sections 178, 179, 180, 181, and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Both the accused are currently in custody as investigations continue to determine if a larger syndicate is involved.

NEWSLINE

PROFESSIONAL DEDICATION

SSP honours police officers



BHILAI: SSP Vijay Agrawal (IPS) honored eight members of the district police force for their outstanding professional dedication. During a ceremony held at the Police Control Room in Sector-06, Bhilai, the SSP awarded cash prizes and commendation certificates to two officers and six personnel who secured major convictions through high-quality investigations.

The recognition focused on two significant cases. In the first instance, Sub-Inspector Surendra Taram and his team from Nevai Police Station were praised for their work on an attempted murder case (Section 307 IPC), which led the court to sentence the accused to 10 years of imprisonment.

In the second instance, Sub-Inspector Mannu Lal Yadav and his team from Bhilai Nagar Station were rewarded for their successful prosecution of a Narcotics Act (NDPS) case.

The SSP noted that the collection of solid evidence and timely filing of charge sheets were instrumental in ensuring that the criminals were penalized with rigorous imprisonment and fines.

SAVITRIBAI PHULE

Jayanti celebration on Jan 03



BHILAI: The All India SC/ST/OBC United Front (Chhattisgarh) has announced that the birth anniversary of Savitribai Phule, India's pioneering female educator, will be celebrated with great fervor on January 3, 2026. The decision was finalized during a high-level meeting held at Manwa Kurmi Bhavan, Shankar Nagar, Durg, under the leadership of National Secretary Anil Meshram and State President Kaushal Verma.

During the meeting, Savita Verma, the District President of the Front's Women's Wing, proposed the event to honor Phule's monumental contributions to social reform and women's rights. The proposal was passed unanimously. National Secretary Anil Meshram emphasized the importance of remembering social icons on their birth anniversaries to keep their struggles alive. State President Kaushal Verma remarked that many in the backward classes remain unaware of the revolutionary history of their own leaders, which contributes to continued social stagnation. He urged the community to bring this history to the public platform and adopt Phule's principles.

Delegation of artists meet Culture Minister

Central Chronicle News

Seeks Bhilai Regional Centre of Lalit Kala Akademi.



BHILAI: A delegation of eminent artists from Chhattisgarh met Culture Minister Rajesh Agrawal to press for the establishment of a Regional Centre of the Lalit Kala Akademi in Bhilai. During the meeting, renowned modern art painter DS Vidyarthi presented the Minister with a painting of Goddess Saraswati in a distinct Chhattisgarhi style. The delegation included BL Soni (Durg), Rupa Sahu (Risali), Meena Devangan (Kondagaon), Gunjan Sharma (Khairagarh), Praveen Kalmegh (Bhilai), Sachin Nishad (Rajnandgaon), along with Dr Ankush Devangan, the first board member representing Chhattisgarh in the Lalit

Kala Akademi, New Delhi. The artists highlighted the challenges faced by the state's creative community and emphasized the need for a regional centre to promote art, provide institutional support, and nurture emerging talent. Minister Agrawal listened to their concerns in detail and assured them of positive steps toward opening the centre. He further committed to extend all possible assistance to strengthen the state's artistic ecosystem. The meeting is seen as a significant step in advancing the demand for a Lalit Kala Akademi Regional Centre in Bhilai, which would serve as a hub for cultural and artistic activities across Chhattisgarh.

DEO conducts surprise inspection

BHILAI: To enhance the quality of education and prepare students for the upcoming board exams, the District Education Officer (DEO) of Durg, Arvind Mishra, conducted surprise inspections of several government schools in the Dhamdha and Durg blocks on Tuesday.

During his visits to schools in villages like Kareli, Kanharपुरi, and Bori, Mishra interacted directly with students to evaluate their proficiency in dictation, and fluent reading in both Hindi and English.

Addressing the high and higher secondary school faculties, the DEO emphasized a result-oriented approach. He instructed principals to immediately distribute the departmental question banks and ensure students solve board papers from the last five years.

Office work disrupted as employees continue protest

Central Chronicle News

Thousands of employees, including pensioners and irregular staff, participated in the dharna.



Protesting employees at the dharna site.

EASTFACTS

- **Government offices remained closed for the second day.**
- **An 11 point memorandum will be submitted to the CM on Dec 31.**

antees” announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Addressing the gathering, BK Verma, National Vice President of the State Pensioners' Association, raised the

issue of pension rights, noting the disparity between legislators and ordinary pensioners. Chatterjee also emphasized the need to regularize irregular employees.

Former MLA Arun Vora endorsed the protest, calling the employees' demands legitimate and urging the government to honour its commitments. Employees from treasury, accounts, and training departments joined the demonstration, further strengthening the movement.

Federation General Secretary Anuroop Sahu announced that the final day of the protest will culminate in a rally on December 31, 2025 between 12:30 and 1:00 pm, during which an 11 point memorandum will be submitted to the Chief Minister. Bhanu Pratap Yadav, District President of the Chhattisgarh Grade Three Government Employees' Union (Durg), reiterated that the employees' demands are just and must be fulfilled.

Prominent participants included Shivdayal Dhritlahre, Motiram Khiladi, Kachra Bai, Pushplata Dhritlahre, Kanti Koshle, Nirmala Ratre, Lalit Bijoor and Ashok Kaneria. Organizers estimated that thousands of employees attended the protest.

PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARD |

Dr Raju Bhainsare gets prestigious IMA National Award

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Dr Raju Bhainsare, Senior Consultant in the Pathology Department at Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, SAIL Bhilai Steel Plant, and President of the IMA Durg Branch (2024), has been conferred with a prestigious national award by the Indian Medical Association (IMA), New Delhi.

The apex body of Indian doctors felicitated Dr Bhainsare with the “Best Branch President - IMA National President

Appreciation Award”, recognising his leadership and contributions at the branch level. The award was announced as part of the IMA National Awards and presented during the centenary celebrations of the All India Medical Conference in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

The honour was formally presented to Dr Bhainsare by Jay Shah, ICC Chairman, at a grand ceremony attended by nearly 2,000 doctors from across the country. Eminent dignitaries



present included Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel,

Speaker Choudhary, MP Mayank Naik, IMA National President Elect (2026) Dr Anil Kumar

Nayak, IMA National President Dr Dilip Bhanushali, IMA National Secretary Dr Sharbati Dutta, and Dr

Jayant Shah, along with senior medical professionals and office bearers from various states.

The IMA National President Appreciation Award is conferred for exceptional grassroots work that strengthens the professional, academic, and social role of doctors.

Dr Bhainsare's initiatives include keeping practitioners academically updated, delivering healthcare under the “Aao Gaon Chalen” programme, organising health camps and

blood donation drives, promoting senior citizen welfare, conducting school and college health check ups, observing national days, implementing community health projects, and ensuring active participation in government health programmes.

Earlier, in 2024, Dr Bhainsare was honoured with the State Level Best Branch President Award by IMA Chhattisgarh, making this national recognition a continuation of his impactful work.

Yearender

2025 'SHE' 'HER' AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Significant strides have been made in India Inc towards inclusivity and gender equity. A clutch of resilient women, are taking the fight to the highest rungs of corporate leadership, and, in doing so, inspiring future generations. Central Chronicle in its Yearender theme celebrates all these women of glory

Sonal desai (CEO, Franklin Templeton Fixed Income)



Sonal Desai has played a significant role in managing global macro strategies at Franklin Templeton, which exceeded \$200 billion in total assets under management during her tenure. She's the first woman chief investment officer at the company, known for her contrarian bets. She's responsible for overseeing teams such as multi-sector, global (including developed and emerging markets), corporate credit, securitised products, municipal bonds, stable value, local asset management and short-term liquid markets fixed income teams. She is also a portfolio manager for a diverse range of strategies, including core plus, multi-sector and global aggregate fixed income, showcasing her versatility and depth of expertise.

Mira Kulkarni (founder & MD, Forest Essentials)

In her mid-40s, Mira Kulkarni converted her passion into a business idea and started Forest Essentials out of her home with an investment of Rs 2 lakh and just two employees. The brand gradually expanded its range of products and forayed into supplying hotel amenities at luxury hotels and spas. In the first seven to 10 years, the company did not spend money on marketing or advertising and relied on word-of-mouth publicity to establish its credibility. Today, it is a debt-free \$1 billion luxury ayurvedic skin and haircare brand. Lately Global cosmetics giant Estee Lauder has invested an undisclosed amount into the company.



Kaku Nakhate (India CEO, Bank of America, N.A. (BANA))

With nearly three decades of experience in India's financial services sector, Kaku Nakhate has been instrumental in closing some of the biggest deals in Indian corporate history. Currently, she oversees strategy and direction at Bank of America NA (BANA) as its India CEO. Previously, she worked at JP Morgan as vice chairman of India operations and held senior positions in global markets and equities at DSP Merrill Lynch for over 18 years. In FY24, BANA India's profit before tax rose by 60 percent year-on-year (y-o-y), one of the highest among foreign banks in India, for two consecutive years; it also achieved 28 percent y-o-y growth, the highest among the top 10 foreign banks in India.



Leena Nair (Global Chief Executive Chanel)

As a British-Indian woman who spent decades leading human resources and company culture for consumer goods giant Unilever, Nair stands out among luxury's top executives who remain mostly male and white, in addition to bringing an outsider view on fashion. Nair, who joined the French couture-and-beauty icon during a time of transition following Karl Lagerfeld's death in 2019, is tasked with extending the luxury label's long-running success while modernising its structures and storytelling. As chief executive of Chanel, she became the only woman of colour leading a major global luxury brand.

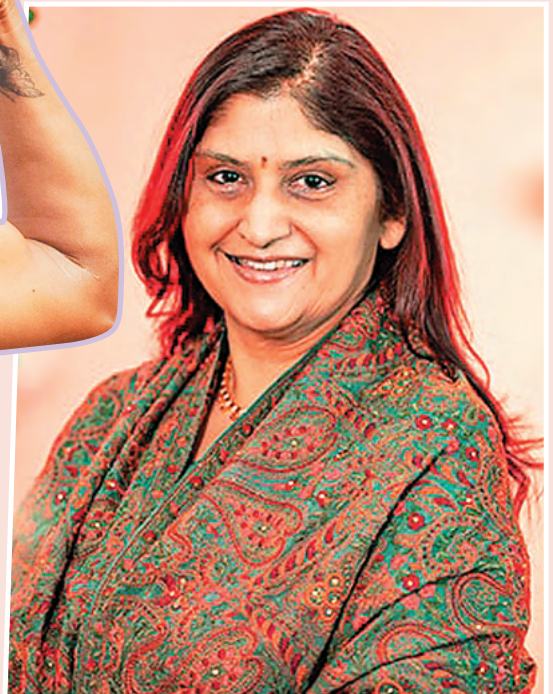


Pratima Murthy (Director NIMHANS)

Dr Pratima Murthy is the second woman, and the first female psychiatrist, to command the top post of India's largest mental health institution in 50 years. She became the director of the centrally funded institute in 2021, when the world was in the throes of Covid-19. She is presently steering the second edition of the National Mental Health Survey across all states and Union Territories, which will be published in 2026. She has fostered international collaborations and research opportunities for Nimhans; worked to improve patient care and access to services; and helped the institute receive the 2024 Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion from the WHO.



MONA KHANDHAR (Principal Secretary, Dept of Science & Tech, Gujarat)



Mona Khandhar, a 1996 batch officer of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), is known for getting work done on complex assignments. She's the first woman to serve as the principal secretary of the Department of Science and Technology in Gujarat. She is working on implementing the Global Capability Centre (GCC) Policy 2025-30 in the state, which aims to attract around 250 new facilities, and the Gujarat Semiconductor Policy 2022-2027. As part of implementing the Semiconductor Policy, she is overseeing upcoming projects worth Rs 1.24 lakh crore, including the establishment of factories by Micron Technologies, Tata Electronics, CG Power and Industrial Solutions and Keynes Technology.

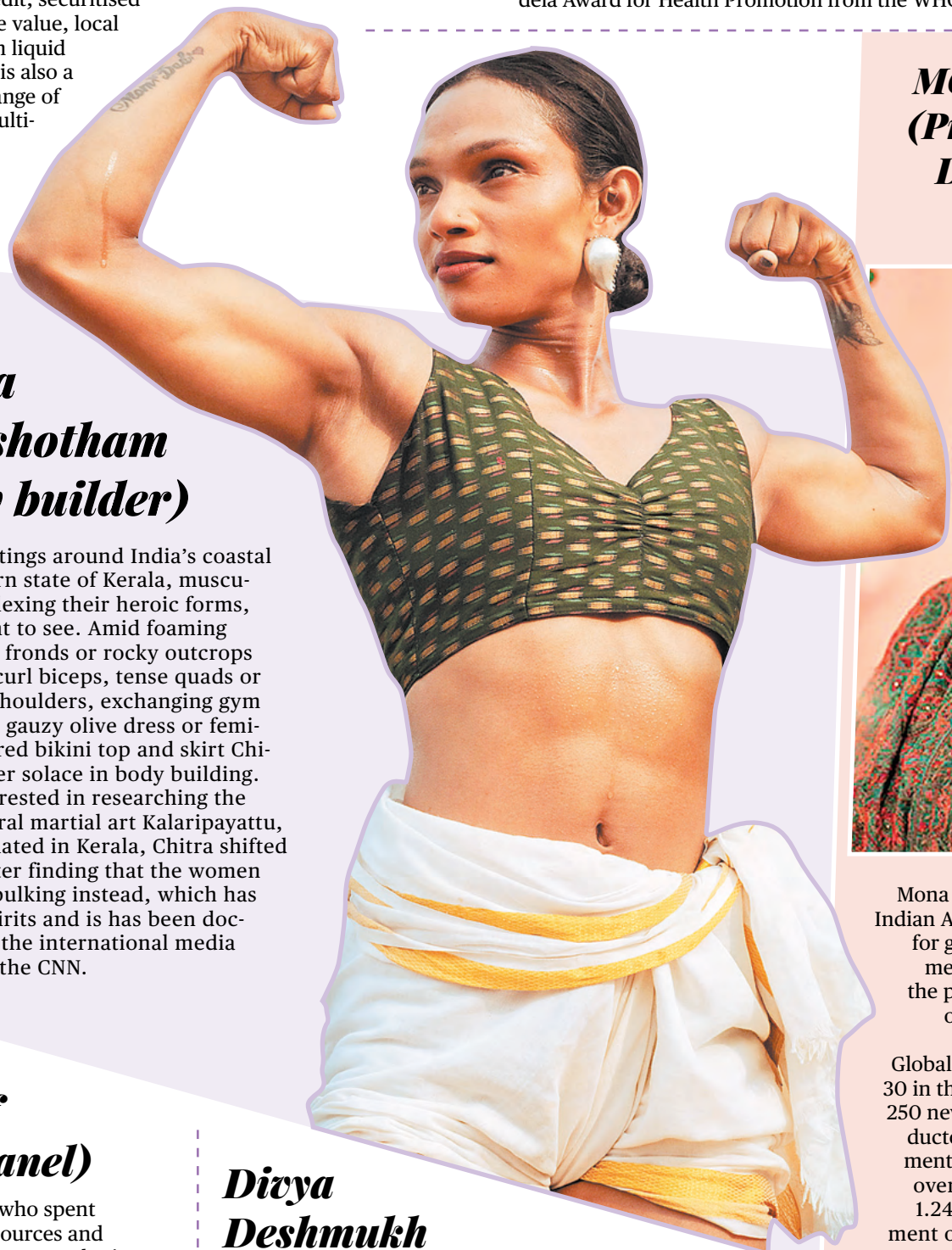
Manu Bhaker (Olympian)

Manu Bhaker went from the cusp of quitting to making history—she is the only Indian to have won multiple medals in a single edition of the Olympics. The 23-year-old shooter was the standout performer in India's somewhat disappointing medals tally in the 2024 Games, winning two bronze medals in shooting and coming agonisingly close to another (finishing fourth in her third event). Like the sprint legend Usain Bolt, who won eight gold medals across three Olympics, Bhaker, too, would like to extend her domination across multiple Games.



Chitra Purushotham (Body builder)

In idyllic settings around India's coastal south-western state of Kerala, muscular women flexing their heroic forms, is a rare sight to see. Amid foaming waves, palm fronds or rocky outcrops the women curl biceps, tense quads or exaggerate shoulders, exchanging gym clothes for a gauzy olive dress or feminine checkered bikini top and skirt Chitra found her solace in body building. Initially interested in researching the gender-neutral martial art Kalaripayattu, which originated in Kerala, Chitra shifted her focus after finding that the women focused on bulking instead, which has lifted her spirits and is has been documented by the international media particularly the CNN.



Divya Deshmukh (Grandmaster)

Divya Deshmukh was a rank outsider when she went to the star-studded Fide Women's World Cup in Batumi, Georgia. All she hoped for was to win at least one Grandmaster norm. But surprising one and all, the 20-year-old from Nagpur, on July 28, became the youngest to win the Women's World Cup, outwitting compatriot Koneru Humpy in the tie-breaker. In a span of around three weeks, Divya beat some of the best and biggest names in chess to achieve three major milestones – secure a spot in the Candidates tournament next year, win the prestigious title and in the process, automatically become a Grandmaster.



Ensure that there is regular lifting of paddy from procurement centres and its lifting by the rice millers.

Tulika Prajapati
Collector Mohala



Chhattisgarh

‘Farmers frustrated, warns of agitation over maize crop’

Meetings are being held in villages of the Mainpur area regarding the procurement of maize at support price; farmers’ anger could erupt on the streets at any time.

Central Chronicle News

MAINPUR: Due to the lack of a concrete action plan for the procurement of maize at support price this year, farmers in the Mainpur and Devbhog areas are extremely frustrated and distressed. Farmers are holding meetings in villages to strategize for an agitation, which could manifest on the streets at any time. Moreover, a fortnight ago, hundreds of farmers under the banner of the Mainpur Kisan Sangharsh Samiti (Mainpur Farmers’ Struggle Committee) held a rally in Mainpur, reaching the SDM office and staging a protest and demonstration demanding the commencement of maize procurement at support price. Farmers said that earlier, as soon as paddy procurement at support price began, maize procurement also started simultaneously at cooperative societies. However, last year, maize was procured through NAFED, which gave farmers hope that the government would start maize procurement through NAFED again this year. But December is almost over, and maize procurement at support



FACTFILE

● Economically weaker farmers who have taken loans to cultivate maize are forced to sell their maize at just Rs. 15-16 per kg to repay their debts.

price has not yet started. As a result, farmers in the region are forced to sell their maize at distress prices to middlemen and traders to meet their needs, leading to widespread resentment among them.

According to information received from farmers, maize is cultivated on a large scale in approximately 11,000 hectares in the Mainpur

Farmers’ families depend on the maize crop: Negi

Bhuvneshwar Negi, a farmer from the Rajapadao Gaurgaon area, said that most farming families depend on the maize crop to meet their children’s education expenses, marriage expenses, food for the year, and other needs. It is their main source of livelihood, but farmers are distressed because the procurement of maize at the minimum support price has not yet started. He has appealed to Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnudev Sai to ensure that farmers’ maize is procured at the minimum support price as soon as possible.

Farmers are not getting the price for their hard work: Dhruv

Block Congress President Ramkrishna Dhruv said that farmers are being forced to sell their hard-earned maize crop at very low prices. No concrete arrangements have been made for maize procurement yet. The government should start maize procurement soon, otherwise, we will be forced to agitate, and the entire responsibility for this will rest with the government and administration.

tribal development block the Devbhog area of and 8,000 hectares in Gariaband district.

Two receive wheelchairs in grievances redressal prog

KORBA: Listening to people’s problems and providing quick solutions has been the administration’s priority in the Collector’s Public Grievance Redressal Program. In this sequence, during today’s Collector’s Public Grievance Redressal Program, Karan Shriwas and Meena Shriwas, residents of village Potapani, Janpad Panchayat Pali, submitted a request for wheelchairs.

CMHO conducts surprise inspection

KOREA: The under-construction BPHU Sonhat under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) was inspected today by the District Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. Prashant Singh. During the inspection, Civil Surgeon cum Chief Hospital Superintendent Dr. Ayush Jaiswal and District Program Manager Mr. Ashraf Ansari were also present. During the inspection, the progress and quality of the construction work were reviewed. CMHO Dr. Prashant Singh instructed the concerned officers and the construction agency to ensure quality construction and complete the work within the stipulated time frame.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CLOSING CEREMONY

Seven day camp concludes at Government HS School



MUNGELI: The closing ceremony of a seven-day special camp organized by Government Higher Secondary School, Chhatan, was held in Dindori village.

The chief guest, AD Anchal, and special guests Narendra Sahu and Manish Sahu addressed the camp participants. They informed that on the first day, the National Service Scheme (NSS) volunteers conducted a school cleanliness drive. On the second day,

Chandrasagar led an intellectual discussion on de-addiction. On the third day, Dr. Shivpal Sidar provided detailed guidance on sickle cell disease. On the fourth day, Gannu Sahu Agni Veer provided career guidance. On the fifth day, Munish Sahu, Hulasi Sahu, and Narendra Sahu discussed the importance of yoga in life. The sixth day included the closing ceremony, a cultural program, and Good Governance Day celebrations.

NATIONAL INNOVATION CAMPAIGN

10 students excel in Science under NIC depart to Bhopal

KOREA: Under the National Innovation Campaign (NIC) sponsored by the State Project Office, Samagra Shiksha Raipur, and as per the instructions of the Korea District Administration, 10 students from Korea district who have excelled in science were sent today for an educational trip to the Science Center, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh). District Education Officer of Korea, Vinod Kumar Rai, and Assistant Director, Jitendra Gupta, provided the students with necessary instructions and guidance and wished them well for their journey. They appealed to the students to maintain their curiosity towards science and to share the knowledge gained during the trip with their school and fellow students. This educational trip is an important initiative to encourage scientific thinking, innovation, and practical knowledge among the students. List of students selected for the educational trip: Hariom Rajwade - SEGES Charcha, Dipanshu Rajwade - SEGES Charcha, Pankaj Sahu - Higher Secondary School Ranai, Anurag Krishna Pandey - Higher Secondary School Ranai, Satyendra Kumar Paikra - Ramanujanj Baikunthpur and others.

REDUCTION IN MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

Collector holds review meeting of Health Department

BAIKUNTHPUR: A review meeting was held at the Korea Collectorate under the chairmanship of Collector Chandan Tripathi with the objective of reducing the maternal mortality rate in the district and providing quality health services to high-risk pregnant women. Officers from the Health Department, Women and Child Development Department, and NITI Aayog were present at the meeting. During the meeting, the Collector directed that High-Risk Pregnant (HRP) women be identified based on the prescribed 25 indicators and that their regular and high-quality health check-ups be ensured. Instructions were given to ensure the active participation of Mitanins (community health workers), Mitatin Block Coordinators, Mitatin Trainers, District Coordinators, and Anganwadi workers in this task. The Collector stated that line listing of HRP pregnant mothers should be mandatorily done at Anganwadi centers and health centers, and this information should be made available to all Mitanins. He instructed that HRP cases be examined trimester-wise in the first, second, and third trimesters, and regularly every 15 days after the third trimester, so that safe institutional deliveries can be conducted on time.

AWARENESS PROG

Awareness prog, sports, games mark Guru Ghasidas Jayanti



MUNGELI: An awareness program was organized at the Police Colony, Ravanbhatha, on the occasion of Guru Ghasidas Jayanti, conveying social messages through sports and games. Fun activities were organized for children and women, including a jalebi race and a rangoli competition, in which participants enthusiastically took part.

Under the “Pahal” awareness campaign launched by Superintendent of Police Bhojram Patel, Guru Ghasidas Jayanti was celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm for the seventh consecutive year on December 27th at the Police Colony, Ravanbhatha. The program was conducted under the guidance of Superintendent of Police Bhojram Patel. Children and women from police families participated actively in the program. Var-

ious sports and cultural activities were organized on the occasion of the Jayanti to promote social awareness. Fun games were organized for children and women, including a jalebi race and a rangoli competition, in which participants enthusiastically took part. On this occasion, through games and competitions, those present were informed about preventing cybercrime, staying away from drugs, following traffic rules, and new laws. Police officers and personnel explained in simple language how to stay vigilant and avoid incidents like cyber fraud and online scams. The message of adopting a drug-free life and following road safety rules was also conveyed. The program also highlighted the teachings of Guru Ghasidas on humanity, truth, non-violence, and social harmony.

‘Farmers happy with good procurement system’

KORBA: Satisfaction and happiness were clearly visible on the face of Kisan Banjare, a farmer from Karumauha village in Korba block, today. He sold 145 quintals of paddy at the Nakhtikhar paddy procurement center. Kisan Banjare, who cultivates approximately 8 acres of land, said that last year he had sold 150 quintals of paddy. According to Kisan Banjare, this year, timely rains resulted in a better harvest, and he received almost the same amount of crop as he had sown.

He said that the government is continuously providing relief and support to the farmers. Due to adequate arrangements at the procurement centers, transparent process, and timely procurement, farmers are not facing any problems. Farmers only need to take a token and arrive on the scheduled day.

Cong celebrates its Foundation Day with enthusiasm

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: The 140th Foundation Day of the Indian National Congress was celebrated with great pomp and enthusiasm in the district. A program was organized by the District Congress Committee on this occasion. A large number of Congress office bearers, workers and senior leaders were present under the leadership of District President Ghanshyam Verma.

During the program, the history, struggles and achievements of the Congress were remembered and tributes were paid to the founders of the party. At the program organized on the occasion of Foundation Day, the party flag was hoisted first. After this, light was shed on the contribution of Congress in the freedom struggle. In his



address, District President Ghanshyam Verma said that it is a matter of pride for all of us that we are a part of the party that played a leading role in the country’s freedom struggle. Congress is not just a political party, but a strong ideology that has strengthened democracy, the constitution and social justice. Verma said that Congress has given

the country great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, under whose leadership India achieved a new direction of development and unity. He appealed to the workers to take the ideology of Congress to every person and play an active role in making the organization

FACTFILE

● On the occasion of Foundation Day, a large number of people from the Lormi Didori area took membership of the Congress.

even stronger.

On the occasion of Foundation Day, a large number of people from the Lormi Didori area took membership of the Congress. In the program, the speakers also discussed the role of Congress in the current circumstances and said that even today the party is fighting as the voice of the common people, farmers, labourers, youth and women. At the end of the program, all the workers present unitedly resolved to strengthen the Congress and protect democratic values.

INCREASING CROWDS AT PROCUREMENT CENTERS |

Farmers in trouble as only 24 days left!

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: The paddy procurement campaign at support price in the district is now moving towards its final stage. As time is running out, the anxiety and crowds of farmers at the procurement centers are increasing. Currently, according to the calendar, only 35 days remain for procurement, but the reality is quite different. CCTV



cameras were installed at the procurement centers at the beginning of the paddy procurement process. Now, with only a few days left for paddy

procurement, MARKFED is sending CCTV cameras in bulk from Raipur to the procurement centers, the justification for which is unclear to people.

The final phase of paddy procurement is underway, and farmers may face increased difficulties due to the holidays.

Farmers of Mungeli

Holidays increase concerns, only 24 effective days - Within the next 35 days, there will be a total of 11 holidays,

Minister reviews preparations for Rajim Kumbh Kalp 2026

Senior ministers and administrators reviewed preparations, directing officials to complete all arrangements for Rajim Kumbh Kalp 2026 on time.

Central Chronicle News

RAJIM: Preparations for the grand Rajim Kumbh Kalp 2026 gathered momentum with a high-level review meeting held at the Circuit House in Rajim on Monday. The meeting was chaired by Tourism, Religious Trusts and Culture Minister Rajesh Agrawal, who directed officials to complete all arrangements within the stipulated timeframe to ensure a smooth and memorable.

The meeting was attended by departmental secretary Avinash Champawat, MLA Rohit Sahu, State Warehouse Corporation Chairman Chandulal Sahu, former MLA Santosh Upadhyay, Raipur Divisional Commissioner Mahadev Kavre, Gariaband Collector B.S. Uike, Dhamtari Collector Avinash Mishra, and senior officials from Raipur, Dhamtari and Gariaband districts. Detailed discussions were held on organising the annual Rajim Kumbh Kalp in a grand and well-coordinated manner, in keeping with its religious and cultural significance.

Minister Rajesh Agrawal said that Rajim Kumbh Kalp would once again be celebrated on



FASTFACTS

● **Rajim Kumbh Kalp 2026 to begin grandly on February one.**

● **Authorities directed to ensure facilities, security, sanitation, coordination.**

a grand scale as per the government's vision, while giving top priority to traditional religious rituals and customs. He emphasised that the contribution of officials would be crucial in making the event memorable for saints, seers and devotees arriving from across the country. He urged

River bank to be connected with road

Commissioner Mahadev Kavre issued detailed instructions regarding construction of a riverbank connecting road from the Ganga Aarti site to the fairground, decoration, lighting, toilets, high-mast lights, control rooms, parking, drinking water pipelines, bus services at fixed fares, ambulances and health facilities. He also directed arrangements for Dal-Bhat centres, food zones, bamboo and firewood supply, huts for sadhus, security, CCTV surveillance, fire brigade services, sanitation, waste disposal, painting and cleaning of temples, and early completion of ongoing construction works connecting major religious sites to the new fairground.

officers to work with dedication and commitment to give concrete shape to the grandeur of the fair. The grand inauguration of Rajim Kumbh Kalp 2026 will take place on February 1.

MLA Rohit Sahu raised

the issue of shop allotment charges, requesting that rates should not be increased and be kept at previous levels. He also stressed that all basic amenities for devotees must be ensured at the fair site.

Applications Invited for Contractual Posts in Child Care Homes

RAJNANDGAON: The Chhattisgarh State Child Protection Society, Directorate of Women and Child Development, Nava Raipur, has invited applications for recruitment to approved contractual posts in child care homes across various districts of the state. Under this recruitment process, 14 posts have been sanctioned for the Government Girls' Child Care Home in Rajnandgaon district, along with one post for a Specialised Adoption Agency.

Action taken Against Illegal Paddy Storage, 1100 bags Seized

MAHASAMUND: Acting on the instructions of Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh, the district administration has intensified action against illegal transportation and storage of paddy. As part of this ongoing drive, a joint team led by Bagbaha SDM Namita Markole seized 1,100 bags of illegally stored paddy in two separate cases. During an inspection at village Temri, a vehicle transporting paddy illegally was intercepted. On verification, 300 bags of paddy were found in the vehicle, but no valid documents could be produced. The joint team of Revenue, Food and Mandi departments seized the paddy on the spot and handed it over to the Mandi Committee.

Two IEDs recovered and defused by security forces in Bijapur



Central Chronicle News

BIJAPUR: On Monday, security forces achieved a major success during an operation against Maoists in the district. Joint teams of the 214th Battalion of the CRPF, DRG Bijapur, Gangalur Police Station, and the District Police recovered two powerful IEDs and a Maoist dump in separate operations and safely destroyed them. According to the information received, on December 28, 2025,



a joint team of the 214th Battalion of the CRPF, Kandlaparti camp, and the District Police conducted a search operation in the Kandlaparti area. During the operation, while conducting demining operations, a 5 kg IED planted by Maoists was recovered on a footpath a short distance from the Kandlaparti road. Following safety protocols, the BDD team of the 214th CRPF safely destroyed the IED on the spot.

Petition submitted to Guv to shut down illegally running Rice Mill

KHARORA: The Chhattisgarh Gram Vikas Ekta Samiti (Chhattisgarh Village Development Unity Committee) today, December 26, 2025, submitted a petition to the Honorable Governor regarding the illegal operation of Mojo Mushroom, Maruti Fresh, and Uma Rice Mill in Pikridih village. The petition cited arbitrary practices, criminal activities including holding child laborers and women laborers captive and subjecting them to abuse, polluting the entire

village's water sources by dumping mushroom waste in the mine, contaminating natural streams with polluted water discharge from the establishments, and indiscriminate dumping of waste. The petition requested that the establishments be shut down and legal action be taken. The committee stated that if no appropriate action is taken even after submitting the memorandum to the Governor, they will resort to aggressive protests and approach the High Court.

70 Alumni gather at Alumni Meet, share experiences

Central Chronicle News

NAGARI SIHAWA: An alumni meet, "Alumni Meet 2.0," was organized by the Shringi Rishi 'Prayas' 1998 batch at PM Shri Government Shringi Rishi Higher Secondary School, Nagari. On this occasion, Ambika Markam, a prominent figure in the political field under women empowerment in Nagari-Sihawa and the current MLA, and former MLA Pinky Shah were present as special guests. The program, presided over by the school principal Santosh Kumar Prajapati, also saw the presence of 82-year-old retired headmaster Parsadi Ram Chandravan-shi, who studied at the school during the 1957-58 academic session, and Pratima Dewangan, a respected citizen of Nagari Nagar Panchayat, as special guests.

A total of 70 alumni

from various parts of the country, including Balaghat, Hyderabad, Srinagar, Raipur, Gariaband, Dhamtari, Durg, and Nagari, participated in the program. The alumni shared their experiences and actively participated in singing, music, and sports activities.

MLA Mrs. Ambika Markam said it is a matter of pride that students who have graduated from this institution are making the school and the country proud by becoming teachers, doctors, scientists, rangers, police officers, engineers, and successful businessmen in various fields. Responding to the students' request, she assured them that the closed agriculture and arts faculties in the school would be reopened. Former MLA Pinky Shah emphasized the importance of the alumni meet, calling it a celebration.

Review Meeting on Preparation for Census -2027 on Jan 7

SUKMA: The administration has taken a major step towards making the upcoming Census-2027 accurate, transparent, and technologically robust. As per the instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, the geographical boundaries and actual locations of the villages are being marked using modern Geo-Referencing technology. During the pre-enumeration exercise, it was revealed that there were serious discrepancies between the actual situation in many villages and the available maps, which caused significant obstacles in house listing, enumeration block formation, and data entry on the HLBC web portal. To address these problems, the administration is now rectifying the village boundaries using a scientific methodology.

Grand Hindu Conference held with collective participation

| HINDU CONCLAVE |

Central Chronicle News

A massive Hindu conference united society, culture, discipline, and collective enthusiasm.

DHAMDHA: The Vishal Hindu Conference 2025 was organised in a grand, disciplined and historic manner in the Dhamdha block on Sunday, December 28, 2025, under the banner of the Sarv Hindu Samaj. The event was held at the Shri Trimurti Mahamaya Temple premises and witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of devotees, social workers and office-bearers of various organisations.

The primary objective of the conference was to awaken Indian cultural consciousness, strengthen the organisation of Hindu society,



FASTFACTS

● **Conference emphasized cultural awakening, unity, social harmony, and national responsibility.**

and promote social harmony. The programme commenced with a grand motorcycle rally that passed through major

routes of the town, symbolising unity and collective resolve. This was followed by traditional worship rituals, cultural performances, and devotional bhajans and kirtans, creating a spiritually charged atmosphere. From 3:30 pm onwards, saints and prominent speakers delivered inspirational addresses. The programme was effi-

ciently conducted by Ghanshyam Sharma. The main speaker, Dushyant Sahu, District Organisation Minister of ABVP, said that such conferences serve as a powerful platform to unite all sections of Hindu society. He stressed the importance of preserving Indian culture, strengthening social awareness and organising society for national good.

Union Minister Shekhawat to inspect archaeological sites of Sirpur

Central Chronicle News

MAHASAMUND: In view of the proposed visit of Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Shri Vijay Sharma, to the historical and archaeological site of Sirpur in Mahasamund district on January 1st, the State Minister of Tourism, Culture and Religious Endowments, Shri Rajesh Agarwal, visited Sirpur today and

inspected various sites and reviewed the preparations in detail. Member of Parliament Smt. Roopkumari Choudhary, Mahasamund MLA Shri Yogeshwar Raju Sinha, and Collector Shri Vinay Kumar Langeh were also present on the occasion.

During the inspection, Tourism Minister Shri Agarwal visited the Lakshman Temple, the Buddhist Vihara complex, excavation sites, and other major archaeological sites.

NEWSLINE

PLANTATION

Tree Plantation by Eco Club on Veer Bal Diwas



RAJIM: On the occasion of Veer Bal Diwas, a tree plantation program was organized in memory of the martyred brave children at the Government Ramvishal Pandey Excellent English Medium School, under the joint auspices of the Youth and Eco Club and the Science Club. On this occasion, the students remembered the bravery, sacrifice, and indomitable courage of the brave children Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh, paid tribute to them, and pledged to protect the environment. The program was guided by Eco Club in-charge Samiksha Gaikwad. Addressing the students, she said that the lives of the brave children inspire us with courage, fearlessness, and a sense of duty, while activities like tree plantation teach us to connect with nature and fulfill our responsibilities towards society.

MURDER

Youth's body found in Rajime, 11 accused arrested



RAJIM: This morning, passersby in Deori village of Rajim police station area saw the mutilated body of a young man lying by the roadside on the Jenjra Kondkera road. According to the situation, there were many injury marks on the body. According to the investigation team, he was murdered and dragged for some distance before being dumped by the roadside. The Rajim police station was informed.

THEFT

Thieves targeted an empty house In Singarpur

KHAIRAGARH: In Singarpur village under the police station area, unknown thieves systematically targeted an empty house and committed a major theft. Breaking the lock of the closed house of an employee working in the cooperative society, the thieves stole gold and silver ornaments, idols of gods, valuable household items, and cash from the cupboard, divan, and puja area. According to information received from the victim's family, the employee and his wife are currently residing in a rented house in Rajnandgaon for work purposes. A woman had been employed for several years to regularly look after their ancestral house in the village. On the morning of December 26, when the woman arrived at the house, she found the main gate lock broken and all the belongings inside scattered.

| NSS CAMP |

NSS Special Camp successfully concludes at Baradoli

Central Chronicle News

BASNA: Under the guidance of Principal Dr. S.K. Sao and the leadership of NSS Programme Officer N.K. Pradhan, the seven-day special camp of the National Service Scheme (NSS) General Unit of Late Shri Jaidev Satpathy Government College, Basna, was successfully concluded at Gram Panchayat Baradoli. The camp was organised from December 20 to December 26, 2025, with the



primary objective of promoting all-round personality development, social awareness and a spirit of selfless service among volunteers.

The camp was formally inaugurated on the first day in the presence of Baradoli Sarpanch Vasudev. Several dignitaries, including

“NSS builds character through service, discipline, and social responsibility.”
Dr. S.K. Sao,
Principal

Panch Motilal Dadsena, Deputy Sarpanch representative Kuldeep Patel, Khirsagar Sao, Madan Dadsena, Parmeshwar Parmar, Dharamsingh Giri, Shyamlal Parmar

and Roshan Dadsena, along with villagers, attended the opening ceremony. On the second day, volunteers conducted a morning rally across the village, followed by a cleanliness drive in the school premises. A motivational intellectual session based on moral education was also organised with musical presentations. Speakers included Somdev Tiwari, Pradeep Chhatre, J.J. Pradhan and Khirsagar Sao.

Business



India's policy making and budgeting must remain anchored with the vision for 2047.
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

India AI Impact Summit 2026



The Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), S. Krishnan addressing a press conference on upcoming India AI Impact Summit 2026, in New Delhi.

Inflation likely to remain low in 2026, new CPI series on anvil

India prepares new CPI base and inflation framework as retail inflation stays low, giving RBI limited space for further rate cuts.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India is preparing to rejig methodology for computing CPI and revamp monetary policy mandate for targeting retail inflation in 2026 after a year of benign price situation due to subdued food cost and GST reduction.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) based retail inflation remained in the Reserve Bank's comfort zone (2-6 per cent) and is likely to stay that way in the next year also, keeping open

NUMBER

400

● Low food prices, GST cuts and new CPI series to keep inflation subdued in 2026.

the possibility of at least one more reduction in rates by the central bank in the coming months.

Besides cooling food prices, the decision of the government to reduce GST rates on about 400

items in September helped in further improving the price situation in the country.

The wholesale price index (WPI), too, showed clear signs of easing of inflationary pressures through 2025. Early months recorded positive but declining WPI inflation, reflecting softening price pressures especially in food and fuel categories. By June, WPI entered deflation and the downward trend continued with negative prints in July and Octo-

ber. CPI, or headline inflation, started declining in November 2024, and since then it has remained in the Reserve Bank's comfort zone (2-4 per cent) till June 2025. Thereafter, it has slipped below 2 per cent.

Food inflation, which constitutes about 48 per cent of the CPI, started declining from about 6 per cent in January and entered the negative territory in June. It was at (-) 3.91 in November, according to the latest data.

With inflation breach-

ing the RBI's lower band target of 2 per cent, the debate around the government's mandate to the central bank to keep inflation within the target of 2-4 per cent assumes significance.

The Reserve Bank has already issued a consultation paper with regards to the inflation targeting regime. The government will come out with a new framework effective April 1, 2025, with the current five years regime set to end in March.

PNG Jewellers appoints Sara Tendulkar as Brand Ambassador

Press Trust Of India

Brand targets omni-channel expansion with plans to scale up to 50 stores by FY 2028.



JAIPUR: Lifestyle by PNG, the contemporary light-weight fine jewellery brand from PNG Jewellers, has announced Sara Tendulkar as its brand ambassador, marking a key step in strengthening the brand's connection with India's future jewellery consumers. The association reinforces Lifestyle's role as a strategic bridge between PNG Jewellers' legacy customers and its future customers. While PNG has been a trusted name across generations for nearly two centuries, Lifestyle has been consciously created to remain relevant to the next generation through a modern retail format, contempo-

rary design language, and an omni-channel experience. Speaking on the larger vision behind Lifestyle, Dr. Saurabh Gadgil, Chairman and Managing Director, PNG Jewellers, said, "Lifestyle by PNG is a conscious and long-term effort to bridge our existing customers with future customers. While PNG has earned trust across generations, it is equally important for us to stay relevant to the way younger consumers think, shop and express themselves today. Lifestyle has been created as a modern retail format with a strong omnichannel presence, designed around everyday moments rather than only traditional occasions.

Mukesh Ambani unveils Reliance AI Manifesto

Press Trust Of India

Reliance aims 10x productivity boost for over six lakh employees through AI-native deep-tech transformation.



NEW DELHI: Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani unveiled a draft Reliance AI Manifesto, outlining an ambitious plan to transform the conglomerate into an AI-native deep-tech enterprise while driving a tenfold improvement in productivity for over 6 lakh employees and a 10x impact on India's economy and society. Calling artificial intelligence "the most consequential technological development in human history," Ambani said the oil-to-yarn and retail-to-telecom conglomerate aims to lead India's AI revolution, just as it led the country's dig-

ital transformation. The group's stated resolve is to deliver "Affordable AI for every Indian", embedding AI across businesses while ensuring safety, trust and accountability.

"At Reliance, we have embarked on a path to transform ourselves into an AI-native deep-tech company with advanced manufacturing capabilities," he said. "To pursue this resolve, we have prepared a draft of the Reliance AI Manifesto. This draft is a guide to an action plan."

The manifesto's Part-I focuses on internal transformation, positioning AI not as a technology project but as a new way of working.

FACTFILE
● Ambani envisions affordable, trusted AI driving tenfold impact on India's economy, society and innovation ecosystem.

Reliance plans to reorganise operations around outcomes and end-to-end workflows, supported by common digital platforms and strong governance. AI and agentic automation will be used to eliminate repetitive work, improve decision-making and raise quality and speed, while retaining clear human accountability. Small, cross-functional "pods" with single ownership and measurable goals will drive execution, supported by continuous data, operations, governance, learning and automation flywheels. Part II extends the vision to India's broader AI transformation.

| BUY BACK PROGRAM |

JSW launches assured buy back program for EVs

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: JSW MG Motor India announces the launch of an industry-first initiative aimed at making EV ownership easier and seamless for its customers. JSW MG Motor has become the country's first car-brand to offer an Assured Buy Back for EVs from the existing 3 years, to up to 5 years now. The



program bolsters the confidence of EV users by guaranteeing a fixed resale value at the end of specified periods.

With this new, unique program, MG EV owners can receive a guaranteed resale value after 3, 4, or 5 years, depending on

the plan they select.* The program builds on MG Motor's existing offering, which guarantees 60% buy-back value after 3 years of ownership. It operates independently of any loan or finance scheme. First Time in country Commercial MG ZS EV owners are also eligible for resale value benefits for vehicles up to 3 years old or with a mileage

of up to Rs 60,000 per annum. Speaking about this innovative buyback program, Anurag Mehrotra, Managing Director, JSW MG Motor India, said, "As a customer-centric brand, MG has always introduced initiatives like B-a-a-S (Battery-as-a-service), lifetime warranty on EV batteries that make EV ownership a delightful mobility experience.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

HOW THE MARKET'S BEHAVE TODAY?

Sensex, Nifty close marginally lower amid thin year-end trading, foreign fund outflows weigh



MUMBAI: Stock markets ended marginally lower on Tuesday amid thin year-end trading as persistent foreign fund outflows and a muted trend in global equities weighed on investors' sentiment. Falling for the fifth consecutive day, the 30-share BSE Sensex dipped 20.46 points or 0.02 per cent to settle at 84,675.08. During the day, hit a high of 84,806.99 and a low of 84,470.94, gyrating 336.05 points. Ending the day on a flat note, the 50-share NSE Nifty slipped 3.25 points or 0.01 per cent to 25,938.85. From the 30-Sensex firms, Eternal, Infosys, Asian Paints, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finance, HCL Tech and Titan were among the biggest laggards.

However, Tata Steel, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bajaj Finserv and Axis Bank were among the biggest gainers. "Indian equity markets ended flat in a lacklustre session amid mixed global cues, overshadowing strong November IIP data showing 6.7 per cent growth—the highest in 25 months. Muted year-end activity and persis-

tent concerns over FII outflows kept investors on the sidelines," Siddhartha Khemka - Head of Research, Wealth Management, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, said.

The BSE smallcap gauge declined by 0.20 per cent and midcap index dipped 0.05 per cent. Among sectoral indices, consumer durables lost 0.81 per cent, followed by IT (0.81 per cent), BSE Focused IT(0.77 per cent), realty (0.74 per cent), capital goods (0.45 per cent) and services (0.39 per cent). Metal jumped the most by 1.95 per cent. PSU bank (1.81 per cent), auto (1.03 per cent), commodities (0.65 per cent) and bankex (0.59 per cent) also settled higher. The BSE Sensex has declined by 892.4 points or 1.04 per cent in the past five trading days.

"Markets traded on a subdued note on the final expiry of the calendar year and ended almost unchanged. After an initial dip, the Nifty moved within a narrow range for most of the session," Ajit Mishra - SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

Airtel announces exclusive launch of Airtel Cartoon Network Classics

NEW DELHI: Bharti Airtel, one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, announced the launch of the "Airtel Cartoon Network Classics" an exclusive value-added service available on Airtel Digital TV in collaboration with Warner Bros. Discovery. The new channel brings together some of the most iconic animated franchises from Cartoon Network, creating a dedicated destination for timeless storytelling and family-friendly entertainment. Airtel Cartoon Network Classics brings back a beloved lineup of timeless favorites such as Tom and Jerry, The Flintstones, Looney Tunes, Scooby Doo, Johnny Bravo and several other classics. Curated for audiences who grew up with these much loved and timeless shows, the channel will also allow families to introduce new generations to the animated stories that became part of the cultural zeitgeist of the '90s and 2000s while continuing to resonate today.

Commenting on the launch, Pushpinder Singh Gujral, DTH-Business Head, Airtel said, Airtel Cartoon Network Classics adds a unique entertainment layer to our portfolio and offers customers a chance to reconnect with iconic stories and characters that are loved even today.

NOVAPODS Ai+ introduces NovaPods, bringing heartbeat tracking to your ears



NEW DELHI: Ai+ announced NovaPods, its first audio lineup, adding a wearable audio layer to the brand's connected device ecosystem. Scheduled to launch in Q1 2026 and priced starting below Rs 1,000, NovaPods is designed to be worn through the day, combining dependable audio with a form factor focused on comfort, fit, understated design and health. The NovaPods lineup includes Ai+ NovaPods Go, Air, Pro, Beats, and Clips.

NovaPods Go, a lightweight earbud, is designed for on-the-go users, prioritising portability and convenience. It offers a blend of comfort and a powerful audio experience without compromising on style. NovaPods Pro, delivers enhanced sound clarity and active noise cancellation for an immersive audio experience. NovaPods Beats not only offers a powerful bass, it also integrates heart rate tracking and SpO2 monitoring for active and wellness-focused users.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP A strategic partnership accelerating India's clean energy transition

MUMBAI: Suntek Energy Systems Pvt. Ltd., operates with brand name Truzon Solar, announced a strategic investment and long-term partnership with Mr. Sachin Tendulkar—legendary cricketer, global sporting icon, and philanthropist. This landmark partnership marks a defining milestone in Truzon Solar's growth journey, reinforcing its ambition to emerge as one of India's top three solar EPC companies by 2030. The association with Mr. Tendulkar—synonymous with trust, excellence, and national pride—significantly strengthens Truzon Solar's brand credibility and accelerates its evolution into a truly national clean-energy company.

The strategic investment will support Truzon Solar's next phase of expansion by scaling execution capabilities, deepening operational infrastructure, and strengthening delivery across the solar value chain. The



company will continue to build on its strong footprint in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Karnataka, while expanding aggressively into high-potential markets including Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, and Kerala. Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Charugundla Bhavani Suresh, Founder and Managing Director, Truzon Solar, said: This partnership with Mr. Sachin Tendulkar is more than an investment—it is a powerful validation of our values, governance, and long-term vision. His belief in Truzon Solar reinforces our commitment to building a trusted, scalable, and future-ready solar enterprise.

Nation News

E - AUCTION NOTICE
(FIRE AFFECTED STOCK OF BUILDING SCRAP, ROOF SHEETS, DRUMS AND PLANT & MACHINERY) E-Auction forms are invited from interested buyers for disposal, strictly on "As is Where is Basis", for salvage on Per Kg Basis. i) Fire Affected Building scrap, ii) Roof Sheet and Drums & iii) Machinery (survey handled by MACK ISLA) belonging to M/s Shree Sai Industries at Vill Murumunda; Opp Rice Mill PO: Ahirwara; Dist: Durg; Chhattisgarh- 490002 can inspected between 01/01/26 to 10/01/26, after taking prior appointment from Mr. Raju - 9910355611. E-Auction to be held on 12/01/26. For E-Auction forms, Contact Ms. Khushi at Mobile - 9990857386

Salvor Settlers Pvt. Ltd. (Auctioneers)

Add: 203, 2nd Floor, Usha Kiran Building, Azadpur Commercial Complex, Delhi - 110033

or download from website: www.salvorsettlers.com
Last date for submission of E-Auction form is 12/01/26 before 12.30 PM.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY AMENDMENT

The following Amendment is carried out in the Tender Notice No. **EPC-08-SNT-PROJ-R-25**, Date: 18.02.2026. Tender Notice No. **EPC-08-SNT-PROJ-R-25**, Description: Validity of Offer (Days) - 210, Advertised Value - ₹ 240,62,70,118.05.

Now read as: Validity of Offer (Days) - 180, Advertised Value - ₹ 240,62,70,118.05.

For further details/purchase of tender document, eligibility criteria & the complete details for the above work, please contact office of the Dy. CSTE/Proj/Raipur or refer/download tender document which is available on our website: www.ireps.gov.in.

Dy. CSTE/Proj, South East Central Railway, PR/RD/CSTE/Proj/HF/274 Raipur

South East Central Railway Raipur

PUBLIC NOTICE

Know all men that a property bearing No. 309/1 Land area 0.171 Hectare, Khalsa No. 309/2 Land area 0.053 Hectare, total Land area 0.224 Hectare and Khalsa No. 309/5 Land area 0.143 Hectare, situated at Lal Bahadur Shastri Ward No. 13, under Municipal Corporation Bagan, Mouza/Village Rawabhatla, P.H. No. 58 and 28, RIC-Chandwa-2, Tehsil & Dist. Raipur (C.G.) is purchased by Manu and Co. through its Proprietor Shri Anand Agrawal S/o Bijay Kumar Agrawal from Neelkhanth Wire through its designated Partners 1) Manu Kumar Agrawal and 2) Shri Anand Agrawal by means of a sale deed duly registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Raipur on 24.12.2025, vide Book No. 1, Volume No. 76821, Document No. CG-2025-26-108-1-4995. There were four sale deeds of this predecessors out of which one deed executed by Basant Kumar in favour of Shri Anand Agrawal duly registered in the office of Sub-Registrar, Raipur on 27.07.2017, vide Book No. A-1, Volume No. 72950, Serial No. 1770 (SR-4) is missing in this regard a complaint had been lodged in concerned Police station on 29.12.2025.

Presently Manu and Co. through its Proprietor Shri Anand Agrawal had availed Financial Assistance to purchase the said property from Choudharam Investment and Finance Co. Ltd. Therefore, if any person(s), Society, Office, Bank, department or others legal entity/representative of Manu and Co. who causes any loss or losses any way to any person(s), institute, Office, Bank, department (government or semi government) or any other legal entity must contact or write to undersigned and address within 07 (seven) days from the publication of this notice with the details of claims right or interest in the aforesaid property with sufficient documents proof thereof. It may be noted that any objection thereafter in respect of the above referred property will have no bonafide and shall not be binding on the Choudharam Investment and Finance Co. Ltd. and disbursement of loan amount to Manu and Co. will remain unaffected.

Raipur (C.G.) Date: 30.12.2025

DEVASHISH DUTTA Advocate

1st Floor 56, Jalvihar Colony, Raipur (C.G.) (M) 98271-60498

FORM NO. IV [See Sub-rule 2(a) of Rule 5] DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL

2nd & 3rd Floor, Sanchar Vikas Bhavan, BSNL Building, Near Head Post Office, Sub Civil Lines, Jabalpur (M.P.)

(Summons under sub-section (4) section 19 of the Act, read with sub-Rules 2A) of rule 5 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993.

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 647/2025

Central Bank of India ...Applicant

VERSUS

Bisahu Ram Mukharji & Others ...Defendants

1. Lt. Shri Bisahu Ram Mukharji (Deceased) S/o Shri SDHE Ram Mukharji Through its Legal Heirs

A. Smt. Ratni Bai Chouhan W/o Shri Shantilal Chouhan Narayanpur Jaiabadi, District Narayanpur (C.G.)-494661

B. Smt. Nira Tandi W/o Shri Anand Tandi Grit Mandali Nirmam, Near Pani Tanti, Raman Tola Housing Board, District Mahasamund (C.G.)-493445

C. Smt. Heera Chouhan W/o Shri Jagat Chouhan Pithora, Post Bayagana Metkula, District Mahasamund (C.G.)-493445

D. Anita Sao D/o Shri Vijay Sao Rangmanch Chowk BTD Road, District Mahasamund (C.G.)-493445

E. Rajesh Mukharji S/o Lt. Shri Bisahu Ram Mukharji Adarsh Vihar, Rajendra Park, Road, Mahaveer Nagar, Amidhi, District Raipur (C.G.)-492001

2. Anita Sao D/o Shri Vijay Sao Rangmanch Chowk BTD Road, Dist. Mahasamund (C.G.)-493445

3. Vijay Sao S/o Shri Chandan Sao BTD Road, District Mahasamund (C.G.)-493445

Also At: Ward No. 17, Maurya Bhata, District Mahasamund (C.G.)-493445

Whereas, OA No. 647/2025 was listed before Hon'ble Presiding officer on 14.07.2025

Whereas, this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue Summons / Notice on the said Application under 19(4) of the Act, (OA) filed against you for recovery Debts of Rs. 30,57,559.92 (Application along with copies of documents etc. annexed). In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the Defendants are directed as under:

1. To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;

2. To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the Original Application, 3. You are restrained from dealing without disposing of secured assets or such other assets and properties disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application, pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties.

4. To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted;

5. To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the Original Application, 6. You are also directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof to be furnished to the applicant and to appear before the Registrar 12.02.2026 at 11:00 A.M., failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, this 23rd September 2025.

REGISTRAR Debt Recovery Tribunal, Jabalpur

HAL made helicopter Dhruv takes flight

Press Trust Of India

BENGALURU: Marking a milestone in the country's indigenous aerospace manufacturing, the next generation, multi-role civil helicopter Dhruv NG, billed as an alternative to imported light twin-engine helicopters, made its maiden flight on Tuesday here. Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu flagged off the HAL-made helicopter and called it a symbol of the country's capability. The minister also performed aarti and participated in the puja before the flight inaugural ceremony. Designed and manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to meet the requirements of the civil aviation

market, the helicopter boasts of modern features in terms of ride quality as well as safety, according to officials. It includes a world-class civil-certified glass cockpit and a modern avionics suite for superior situational awareness, they said. Dhruv NG, a sophisticated 5.5-tonne, light twin-engine helicopter engineered to master the diverse and demanding requirements of the Indian terrain is specifically upgraded to meet the rigorous demands of the global civil aviation market, they said.

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, JABALPUR

2nd & 3rd Floor, Sanchar Vikas Bhavan (BSNL Building), Near Head Post Office Residency Road, Jabalpur -482001 (M.P.)

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/233/2025 **UCO BANK VERSUS SHRI MUKESH KUMAR SINHA** 16-12-2025

To (CD1) Shri Mukesh Kumar Sinha, Shri Chandrika Prasad Sinha, Ambedkar Nagar, Ram Nagar Supela, Bhillai, Durg (C.G.) -490023, Durg, Chhattisgarh-490023 (CD2) Pooja Sinha, Ambedkar Nagar, Ram Nagar Supela, Bhillai, Durg (C.G.) Durg, Chhattisgarh-490001

Also at: Pooja Building Material Suppliers, Ward No. 9, Ambedkar Nagar, Ram Nagar Supela, Bhillai, Distt. Durg (C.G.)

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR in OA/1016/2022 an amount of Rs. 2263704.20 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Sixty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Four And Paise Twenty Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 10.20 % Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 05/08/2022 till realization and costs of Rs. 25000 (Rupees Twenty Five Thousands Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 27/01/2026 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 16/12/2025.

Recovery Officer DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, JABALPUR

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, JABALPUR

2nd & 3rd Floor, Sanchar Vikas Bhavan (BSNL Building), Near Head Post Office Residency Road, Jabalpur -482001 (M.P.)

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/235/2025 **UCO BANK VERSUS SHEIKH ISLAM** 16-12-2025

To (CD1) Sheikh Islam, Abdul Sattar, H.No. 3/F, Road No. 33, Sector- 06, Bhillai, Durg (C.G.) Durg, Chhattisgarh-490001.

(CD2) Shabha Parveen, H.No. 3/F, Road No. 33, Sector- 06, Bhillai, Durg (C.G.) Durg, Chhattisgarh-490001.

(CD3) Rajat Builders Partner Shri Ajay Surana, Surana Jewellers, Jawahar Chowk, Durg (C.G.) Durg, Chhattisgarh-490001.

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR in OA/1029/2022 an amount of Rs. 2359940.92 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Forty And Paise Ninety Two Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 10.20 % Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 05/08/2022 till realization and costs of Rs. 26000 (Rupees Twenty Six Thousands Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.

4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 27/01/2026 at 10:30 a.m. for further proceedings.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due. Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 16/12/2025.

Recovery Officer DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, JABALPUR

APPENDIX IV-A E-AUCTION/PUBLIC SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

RAIPUR BACK OFFICE: Usha Pride, 2nd Floor, Vidhan Sabha Road, MOWA, Raipur (C.G.) - 492001. Phone No. 0771-4075082, Mob: 9301831267, 9834662295, Website: www.lichousing.com

B.O. RAIPUR: Third Floor, Office No 301, 28/620, Neelay Iconic, Unnamed, Shankar Nagar, Near Raipur, Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) & guarantor(s) indicated in Column no-A that the below described immovable property (ies) described in Column no-D mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/Physical Possession of which has been taken (as described in Column no-C) by the authorized Officer of M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" as per the details mentioned below. Notice is hereby given to the borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/Legal Heirs, Legal Representative, (whether Known or Unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successors(s), assignee(s) of the respective borrowers/mortgagor(s) (since deceased) as the case may be indicated in Column no-A under Rule-8(b) & 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 amended as on date. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/secured creditor's website i.e. www.pnbhousing.com.

Loan No. Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Legal Representative, Nature of possession, Description of the properties mortgaged, Reserve Price, EMD, Date of Submission of Bid, Bid Incremental, Inspection Date & Time, Date of Auction, Date of Completion of Sale.

HOU/RAI/0319/661382 Abhinav Shandilya / Anurag Shandilya / Anita Shandilya B.O. RAIPUR 38,76,574.75 Rs. Symbolic Possession Flat No B 302, 3rd Floor, Shree Karsan Heritage, Ph No 39/41, Kusha Bhu Thakre Ward No 26, Majia Dalsal Seoni, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001, Raipur, India. Rs.67,000 Rs. 10,000 15/01/2026 Rs. 10,000 13-01-2026 12:00pm to 04:00pm 16-01-2026 2PM to 3:00PM NOT KNOWN

Together with the further information as applicable, incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. incurred upto the date of payment and/or realization thereof. ** To the best knowledge and information of the authorized Officer of PNB Housing Finance Limited, there are no other encumbrances/claims in respect of above mentioned immovable/secured assets except what is disclosed in the Column no-K. Further such encumbrances to be catered/paid by the successful purchaser/bidder at his/her end. The prospective purchaser/bidder is requested to independently ascertain the veracity of the mentioned encumbrances. (1.) As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction PNBHFL the authorized Officer of PNBHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets and status is mentioned in column no-K (2.) The prospective purchaser/bidder and interested parties may independently take the inspection of the pleading in the proceedings/orders passed etc. if any, stated in column no-K. Including but not limited to the title of the documents of the title pertaining thereto available with the PNBHFL and safety themselves prior to submitting tender/bid application form of making offers. The bidder(s) has to sign the terms and conditions of this auction along with the Bid Form. (3.) Please note that in the Bid Form (3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the bidder(s) purchase is legally bound to deposit 25% of the amount of sale price, (inclusive of earnest money) on the same day or not later than next working day. The sale may be confirmed in favour of bidder(s) only after receipt of 25% of the sale price by the secured creditor in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The remaining 75% of the sale consideration amount has to be deposited by the purchaser within 15 days from the date of acknowledgement of sale confirmation letter and in default of such deposit, the authorized officer shall forfeit the part payment of sale consideration amount within 15 days from the date of expiry of mandatory period of 15 days mentioned in the sale confirmation letter and the property/secured asset shall be sold as per the provisions of Section 47 (4) of the M/s C India Private Limited would be assisting the Authorized Officer in conducting sale through an E-Auction having its Corporate Office at Plot No. 68, 3rd Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122003 Website - www.bankexchanges.com For Free any assistance related to inspection of the property or obtaining the Bid Documents and for any other query or for registration, you have to co-ordinate with VIVEK LODHA, Toll Free No. 1800 120 8800, E-Mail: auction@pnbhousing.com, is authorised Person of PNBHFL or refer to www.pnbhousing.com.

PLACE : RAIPUR DATE : - 31.12.2025

SD/-AUTHORIZED OFFICER, PNB HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

Registered Address: 11th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400013. Branch Address: TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED, 1st Floor Pujari Chambers NH No.43 Pachpedi Naka Raipur Chhattisgarh 492001

NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (Under Rule 8(6) read with Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002)

E-Auction Notice of 30 days for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 8(6) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the below mentioned Borrower and Co-Borrower, or their legal heirs/representatives (Borrowers) that the below described Immovable property mortgaged to Tata Capital Housing Finance Ltd. (TCHFL), the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of TCHFL, will be sold on 04-02-2026 on "As is where is" & "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" and without any recourse basis" for recovery of outstanding dues from below mentioned Borrower and Co-Borrowers. The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit is mentioned below. Notice is hereby given that, in the absence of any postponement/ discontinuance of the sale, the said secured asset/ property shall be sold by E-Auction at 2.00 P.M. on the said 04-02-2026. The sealed envelope containing Demand Draft of EMD for participating in E-Auction shall be submitted to the Authorised Officer of the TCHFL on or before 03-02-2026 till 5.00 PM at Branch address TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED, 1st Floor Pujari Chambers NH No.43 Pachpedi Naka Raipur Chhattisgarh 492001

The sale of the Secured Asset/ Immovable Property will be on "as is where condition is" as per brief particulars described herein below;

Sr. No	Loan A/c. No	Name of Borrower(s) / Co-borrower(s)/Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative/ Guarantor(s)	Amount as per Demand Notice	Reserve Price	Outstanding as on
1.	TCHHFD600001001218417	MR SANJAY JOSHI MRS KUMARI JOSHI	Rs. 26,12,944/-	Rs. 38,34,000/- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): - Rs. 3,83,400/-	Rs. 2938030/-
			11-11-2024		22-12-2025
				Type of possession: - Physical	

Description of the Immovable Property: All The peace and parcel of the Immovable property of Part Kh. No. 153/5, Area 1540 Sq.ft. Situated at New Changorabhata, Dr. Knochband Baghel Ward No. 67, Raipur P.C. No.105, RIC Raipur -1 Tahsil & District Raipur (CG) Boundaries: North: Land Of Ramesh Vyavhare, South: Open Land, East: Open Land, West: 15 Ft Road

Note :- The bidders are advised to conduct due diligence before submitting the bid. The auction shall be subject to the outcome of the litigation, Dispute if any. At the Auction, the public generally is invited to submit their bid(s) personally. No officer or other person, having any duty to perform in connection with this sale shall, however, directly or indirectly bid for, acquire or attempt to acquire any interest in the Immovable Property sold.

The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and to the following further conditions:

The E-auction of the properties will take place through portal <http://bankauctions.in/> on 04-02-2026 between 2.00 PM to 3.00 PM with limited extension of 5 minutes each.

Terms and Condition: 1. The particulars specified in the Schedule herein below have been stated to the best of the information of the undersigned, but the undersigned shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. In the event of any dispute arising as to the amount bid, or as to the bidder, the Immovable Property shall at once again be put up to auction subject to the discretion of the Authorised Officer. 2. The Immovable Property shall not be sold below the Reserve Price. 3. Bid Increment Amount will be: Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) 4. All the Bids submitted for the purchase of the property shall be accompanied by Earnest Money as mentioned above by way of a Demand Draft favoring the "TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LTD." Payable at Branch address. The Demand Drafts will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders after auction. For payment of EMD through NEFT/RTGS/IMPS, kindly contact Authorised Officer. 5. The highest bidder shall be declared as successful bidder provided always that he/she is legally qualified to bid and provided further that the bid amount is not less than the reserve price. It shall be in the discretion of the Authorised Officer to decline acceptance of the highest bid when the price offered appears so clearly inadequate as to make it inadvisable to do so. 6. For reasons recorded, it shall be in the discretion of the Authorised Officer to adjourn/discontinue the sale. 7. Inspection of the Immovable Property can be done on 21-01-2026 between 11 AM to 5.00 PM. with prior appointment. 8. The person declared as a successful bidder shall, immediately after such declaration, deposit twenty-five per cent of the amount of purchase money/bid which would include EMD amount to the Authorised Officer within 24hrs and in default of such declaration, the property shall forthwith be put to fresh auction/Sale by private treaty. 9. In case the initial deposit is made as above, the balance amount of the purchase money payable shall be paid by the purchaser to the Authorised Officer on or before the 15th day from the date of confirmation of the sale of the property, exclusive of such day, or if the 15th day is a Sunday or other holiday, then on the first office day after the 15th day. 10. In the event of default of any payment within the period mentioned above, the property shall be put to fresh auction/Sale by private treaty. The deposit including EMD shall stand forfeited by TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LTD and the defaulting purchaser shall lose all claims to the property. 11. Details of any encumbrances, Litigations known to the TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LTD, to which the property is liable: as per table above. The Intending Bidder is advised to make their own independent inquiries regarding encumbrances on the property including statutory liabilities areas of property tax, electricity etc. before submitting the bid.

12. For any other details or for procedure online training on e-auction the prospective bidders may contact the Service Provider, M/s. 4Closure, Block No.605 A, 6th Floor, Multivac Commercial Complex, Amarpeth, Hyderabad - 500038 Email : info@bankauctions.in or Manish Bansal, Email id Manish.Bansal@tatacapital.com Authorised Officer Mobile No 8588983696. Please send your query on WhatsApp Number - 9999078669 13. TDS of 1% will be applicable and payable by the highest bidder over the highest declared bid amount. The payment needs to be deposited by highest bidder in the PAN of the owner/ borrower(s) and the copy of the challan shall be submitted to our company. 14. Please refer to the below link provided in secured creditor's website <https://surflivewirex.com> for the above details. 15. Kindly also visit the link: <https://www.tatacapital.com/property-disposal.html>

Please Note - TCHFL has not engaged any broker/agent apart from the mentioned auctioning partner for sale/auction of this property. Interested parties should only contact the undersigned or the Authorised officer for all queries and enquiry in this matter.

Place:- Raipur Date:- 31-12-2025

SD/- Authorised Officer Tata Capital Housing Finance Ltd.

GENERAL NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that a registered original sale deed dated 20/06/2007, belonging to my client, Rajesh Kumar Mishra, son of Mr. Anand Kishore Mishra, resident of L.I.G. 2/2396, near Lal Panti Tanki, Housing Board, Bhillai, Tehsil and District-Durg (Chhattisgarh), has been lost. The sale deed Part of Khalsa No. 669/5, area 0.06 hectares, with the seller being Hitendra Kumar, son of Ghosuram, and the buyer being Amit Kumar Pandey, son of Kamalashankar Pandey. My client has already reported the loss to Jamal Police Station on 29/12/2025. If anyone finds the above-mentioned document, please submit it to my office.

My client is in the process of obtaining bank financing. If any person, bank, or financial institution has any objection to the above transaction, they may submit their claim/objection along with supporting documents to my office within 7 days of the publication of this notice.

Please take note of this information. Date: 30.12.2025

Sincerely,
Shailendra Jogewar (Advocate)
Marg No.-8, Zone-3, New Adarsh Nagar, Durg (Chhattisgarh) - 491001
Mobile: 9827948381

NAME CHANGE

This is to inform the general public that I, Sandeep Jain, S/o Rajendra Kumar Jain, residing of H. No. 55, Ward No. 32, Infront of Digambar Jain Mandir, Maithil Para, Durg (C.G.) have changed my name Sandeep Jain to Sandeep Kumar Jain so in future I should be recognized by my new name that is Sandeep Kumar Jain in all government and other documents.

Sandeep Kumar Jain

H. No. 55, Ward No. 32, Infront of Digambar Jain Mandir, Maithil Para, Durg (C.G.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Regarding Lost Prev. Regd. Sale Deeds)
By this Public Notice without prejudice we hereby inform the public at large to whomsoever it may concern that the proposed borrower M/s Aayam Engineering Pvt. Ltd. through Director Shri Umesh Chandra Gupta R/o Choubey Colony, Raipur (C.G.) wants to mortgage its own property i.e. the land bearing Kh. No. 104, 11th, 280 & 281, Area 0.080, 0.010, 0.620 & 1.770 total area 2.480 hect. situated at Village Morha, P.H.No. 4748, R.I. Circle-SherMahasamund, Tah. & Dist.-Mahasamund (C.G.) in favour of our client State Bank of India, SME Branch, Byron Bazar, Raipur (C.G.)

Previously the seller M/s Vashali Horticulture Pvt. Ltd. through Director Smt. Nirmala Devi Shrinimal had purchased the Kh. No. 104 & 118, Area 0.080 & 0.130 hect. from Smt. Kaveri Bai Sharma S/o Shri Chandraprakash Sharma vide Regd. Sale deed bearing D.O. No. 2050, Dt. 14.09.2005 & Kh. No. 280 & 281, Area 0.630 & 1.770 hect. from Shri Chandraprakash Sharma S/o Shri Madhuprasad Sharma vide Regd. Sale deed bearing D.O. No. 2052, Dt. 13.09.2005 and became the owner. The aforesaid two refer. Original Regd. Sale Deeds Doc. No. 2050, Dt. 14.09.2005 & Doc. No. 2052, Dt. 13.09.2005 has been lost from legal possession of Company. Thus, the company is unable to produce the same before my client Bank SBI for verification.

So, we hereby invite objections, if any upon the proposed above-mentioned property to be mortgaged. Any Person, Bank, Financial Institution, Corporation, Society, State / Central Government or Anyone has any objection or issue, regarding question property, submit his/her / their respective objection in writing alongwith documentary evidence before us within 7 days from the date of the publication of this Public Notice to our office between 11 PM. to 5 PM on Govt. working days otherwise our client State Bank of India may create equitable mortgage on question property on basis of Certified copy of both prev. Regd. Sale Deeds dt. 14.09.2005 & 13.09.2005. So, it may be noted that any objection thereafter to the above proposed equitable mortgage in respect of the above referred property will have no bonafide and shall not be binding on applicant M/s Aayam Engineering Pvt. Ltd. and our client SBI become null and void.

So take this notice accordingly.
N. K. Shrivastava
Shrivastava & Associates
F-33, Hira Arcade, Old Bus Stand, Pandari, Raipur (C.G.)
Mob. No. 9826113956



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

“Success is not how high you have climbed, but how you make a positive difference to the world”

[Roy T. Bennett]

| OUR VIEW |

Gold and Silver Prices Dip Sharply: Opportunity or Risk?

The recent correction in gold and silver prices has stirred both relief and anxiety among Indian households and investors. Gold, which touched highs of nearly 14,242 per gram earlier this month, has now slipped to around 13,620 per gram (24K), while silver has seen an even steeper fall, dropping nearly 9% in two sessions to 2,40,000 per kilogram. For millions of families, gold is more than an investment—it is a cultural anchor, tied to weddings, festivals, and savings traditions. A dip in prices may appear welcome, especially for households planning purchases in the coming months. Jewelers too anticipate a surge in demand as buyers seize the opportunity. Yet, for investors who entered at higher levels, the correction raises concerns about timing and returns. Silver’s volatility is even more striking. Unlike gold, which is largely a store of value, silver straddles both investment and industrial demand. Its sharp swings reflect global uncertainties and speculative trading, making it riskier for shortterm investors. Farmers, artisans, and small traders who rely on silver for tools and ornaments often bear the brunt of such instability. The broader public relevance lies in how these price movements ripple through the economy. Rural households, which traditionally save in gold, may find temporary relief, but sudden corrections can erode confidence. Urban investors, meanwhile, must weigh whether this dip signals a buying opportunity or a longer trend of volatility. Policymakers too must monitor these shifts, as they influence import bills, currency stability, and inflation. Ultimately, the lesson is clear: precious metals are not just commodities; they are deeply woven into India’s social and economic fabric. Price swings affect households, traders, and national accounts alike. While corrections offer shortterm opportunities, they also highlight the need for financial literacy, diversified savings, and stronger safeguards against volatility. Growth must be measured not only in market charts but in the stability it provides to those who depend on these metals for security and tradition. “True wealth is not in glittering bars, but in the steady hands of those who safeguard a nation’s trust.”

| GUEST VIEW |

Protect Kashmir Apple Farmers

The recent free trade agreement with New Zealand poses a grave threat to Kashmir’s small apple growers. Already burdened by climate change, rising input costs, and market volatility, these farmers now face an influx of cheaper imports such as Royal Gala apples. Reports suggest these imports are priced 20-30% lower than local varieties like Delicious and Kashmir Royal, creating the risk of a steep fall in farmgate prices. Kashmir’s apple industry, valued at nearly 8,000 crore, sustains more than 3.5 million people. For a region where horticulture is both livelihood and identity, such shocks could devastate rural households and erode cultural heritage. Trade liberalization cannot come at the cost of vulnerable farmers. The government must ensure phased implementation of agreements and introduce safeguards for sensitive crops. Beyond trade policy, structural support is essential. Income protection schemes, modern storage facilities, and guaranteed market access can help shield growers from economic turbulence. Strengthening cooperatives and improving coldchain logistics would further enhance resilience. True growth is not measured by spreadsheets or trade volumes alone. It lies in protecting those who feed the nation. Safeguarding Kashmir’s apple farmers is not just an economic necessity—it is a moral imperative.



Vijaykumar HK, Raichur

Comment

Reform Express 2025: Quiet foundations for India’s next growth phase

As 2025 draws to a close, the loud headlines are easy to spot, but what is easier to miss is the quieter work of governance—the steady, week after week clearing of bottlenecks. This cumulative push is what I call Reform Express 2025. India crossed USD 4.1 trillion in nominal GDP and overtook Japan as the world’s fourth largest economy. Standard & Poor’s upgraded India’s sovereign rating to BBB after 18 years, signaling durability, not just speed. In an uncertain world where political churn is the norm, India’s stable leadership makes reforms credible, and credible reforms convert private caution into private investment. Across negotiating tables from the GATT and WTO system to multilateral forums, I have seen that rules are only as good as the incentives they create. When procedures are opaque, discretion expands, and even wellintentioned policy discourages enterprise. When procedures are clean and time bound, competition thrives, investment plans get executed, and jobs follow. India’s total exports hit USD 825.25 billion in 202425, representing annual growth of over 6%. To support this trade, the government introduced digital tools such as the Trade Connect ePlatform, a single window for exporters, and the Trade Intelligence and Analytics (TIA) portal for realtime market data. The IndiaUK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement signed in July 2025 created a stronger platform for exporters, with wide dutyfree access and clearer pathways for services and skilled mobil-

ity. In December, India signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with Oman, strengthening a strategic corridor for goods, services, and investment. India also concluded negotiations for a free trade agreement with New Zealand, expanding reach into highvalue markets and setting a template for disciplined, commercially meaningful agreements. India’s startup sector expanded to over 2 lakh governmentrecognized firms, creating more than 21 lakh jobs. The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) processed over 326 million orders, averaging 5.9 lakh daily transactions. The Government eMarketplace (GeM) saw cumulative transaction value cross 16.41 lakh crore, with 11 lakh micro and small enterprises receiving orders worth 7.35 lakh crore. India rose to 38th place among 139 economies in the Global Innovation Index. Simplification efforts reduced over 47,000 compliances and decriminalised 4,458 legal provisions. By late November, the National Single Window System processed more than 8.29 lakh approvals. Infrastructure planning advanced as the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan opened to the private sector, while the Project Monitoring Group portal onboarded over 3,000 projects valued at 76 lakh crore. Embracing trustbased governance, Parliament passed the Repealing and Amending Bill 2025, clearing 71 obsolete Acts. Ease of doing business moved closer to entrepreneurs through districtlevel reform frameworks, including the Dis-



Hardeep S Puri, Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Gol

trict Business Reform Action Plan 2025, designed to make local administrations more responsive and accountable. A modern labour regime matters for scale, manufacturing, and services. With four labour codes coming into effect on 21 November 2025, 29 central labour laws were consolidated into a simpler framework covering wages, industrial relations, social security, and workplace safety. The Securities Markets Code Bill was introduced to modernise securities law and strengthen SEBI’s investigative capacity, with proposals for specialised market courts, stronger regulator coordination, and timebound grievance redressal. At a moment when retail participation has expanded and India is drawing larger global portfolio interest, regulatory clarity enhances competitiveness, helping savings flow into productive investment. Logistics reform became visible in costs. Nearly 95% of India’s trade by volume and 70% by value moves through maritime routes, so port efficiency is critical. The Indian Ports Act 2025 replaced a colonial framework and introduced modern governance tools, including statelevel dispute resolution, a statutory coordination council, and stronger norms on safety and environmental preparedness. The Merchant Shipping Act 2025 and Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 2025 further modernised shipping law. The Cabinet approved a 69,725 crore package to strengthen shipbuilding, including a Maritime Development Fund of 25,000 crore. This industrial policy builds depth, reduces dependence, and keeps freight

value within India, creating jobs across shipyards, components engineering, and services. Energy reforms were designed for longcycle investment. The Oilfields amendment and new Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules 2025 reduced investor risk by emphasising stability of terms and clearer timelines. The Open Acreage Licensing Policy widened the exploration map, with Round X offering 25 blocks across 0.2 million sq km, predominantly offshore. The National Deep Water Exploration Mission signalled strategic focus on domestic resources and technology. Budget 2025 set out a Nuclear Energy Mission with an outlay of 20,000 crore to accelerate small modular reactors and advanced designs, aligned with the goal of 100 GW nuclear capacity by 2047. The SHANTI bill modernised India’s civil nuclear framework, opening pathways for regulated private participation. Nuclear energy adds firm, lowcarbon power to the grid, strengthening advanced manufacturing, data infrastructure, and energysintensive industry. Put together, these reforms show a pattern: clean up the statute book, decriminalise the trivial, modernise labour compliance, strengthen market governance, digitise trade processes, fix logistics, and derisk longcycle energy investment. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has consistently argued that the state’s job is to reduce the burden on entrepreneurs so productivity can compound. That is the strategic meaning of Reform Express 2025. The seeds of the next phase of doubledigit growth are sown in this quiet, cumulative work, and India is doing it with steadiness that many economies envy.

The year gone, questions remain: India in 2025

“The past few years, and especially 2025, have reflected both India’s achievements and its uncomfortable truths”

History is not just a collection of dates and events; it is a mirror of society’s collective consciousness. The past few years, and especially 2025, have reflected both India’s achievements and its uncomfortable truths. Hope and despair, progress and backwardness, pride and guilt—all coexisted this year. India captured global attention on many fronts. Digital payment systems simplified daily life, with UPI proving that technology can reach the masses. Startup culture instilled entrepreneurial confidence in youth, space research showcased extraordinary capability with limited resources, and expanding infrastructure—roads, railways, airports—bolstered the image of a fastgrowing India. These achievements are undeniable, yet they demand introspection: development must be judged by its social impact. Parallel to growth figures, unemployment and inflation remained stark realities. Educated youth held degrees but lacked jobs. Recruitment exams were uncertain, results delayed, and private sector instability created psychological pressure. Inflation robbed



households of balance—pulses, vegetables, gas, education, and healthcare grew costlier while incomes stagnated. This imbalance bred social discontent. Farmers and laborers continued to struggle. Weather vagaries, unfair crop prices, mounting debt, and policy neglect kept farmers insecure. Movements were stalled or suppressed, leaving those who feed the nation with the most uncertain future. Laborers in the unorganized sector faced similar hardships, deprived of social security, stable employment, and dignity. The hands that build development remained the

most tired and least secure. Public education and healthcare were further exposed as national challenges. Government schools and hospitals suffered resource constraints, administrative pressure, and insecurity. Teachers and health workers carried heavy workloads with limited facilities. Privatization offered choice but not equality, turning education and healthcare into commodities rather than rights, worsening inequality for the disadvantaged. Democracy too faced strain. Dissent was equated with antinational sentiment, narrowing discourse. Writers, journalists, and activists faced



Dr. Satyavan Saurabh, freelance journalist and columnist

growing pressure, with arrests over social media posts and questions about institutional autonomy. Democracy thrives not only on elections but on a free press, fearless citizens, and accountable institutions. Religion and identity politics repeatedly divided society. Fanaticism, mob mentality, and moral policing challenged constitutional values of equality, fraternity, and secularism. Faith became a tool of power, deepening distrust and fissures in relationships. Yet amidst gloom, 2025 offered glimmers of hope. Youth asked questions, students raised voices, farmers and workers organized, and

civil society and independent journalism proved democracy had not been silenced. Resistance was directed not only at power but also at social apathy. The year underscored that development cannot be measured solely by GDP. Villages must be safe, farmers confident, labourers dignified, teachers and health workers protected, and students free from fear. Technology is meaningful only when connected to human emotions, and governance succeeds only when its impact reaches the last person in line. The greatest lesson of 2025 is that responsibility lies not only with governments but also with conscious citizens. Silence is not neutrality; it often becomes injustice’s ally. Questioning, expressing disagreement, and maintaining dialogue are acts of patriotism. 2025 is both warning and opportunity: a warning that inequality, intolerance, and repression can hollow democracy, and an opportunity to rethink development, politics, and citizenship. If its lessons are truly learned, the years ahead can be more humane, just, and democratic.

YOUR LETTERS

Revenue needs reality

The claim that the G-RAM model could yield ₹17,000 crore in additional state revenue demands scrutiny. While boosting finances without new taxes seems promising, such models often excel in projections but falter in transparency. Citizens must know which assets will be monetised and whether hidden costs may fall on ordinary people through higher fees. Financial reforms cannot thrive on spreadsheets alone; they require trust, clarity, and accountability. If G-RAM truly strengthens state finances, its mechanisms must be openly shared.

QA Qasmi, Jogeshwari, Mumbai

Collateral Damage as Nationalist Duty

An octogenarian in a wheelchair with a breathing tube and a stooping woman gasping after every step—both compelled to respond to EC summons despite grave physical vulnerability, merely to “prove” they are genuine voters who deserve not to be cast out of their own country. We are told it is our “Nationalist” duty to zealously cheer such “Divine” scenes for the “greater cause” of the Nation, where “collateral damage” is inevitable and even welcomed.

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata

Send your articles (600-650 words) and letters (70-8 0 words) for this page on: editorialcc007@gmail.com The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity.



Punjab's special assembly session on VB-G RAM G unconstitutional.

Tarun Chugh
BJP National GS

India-B'desh ties under Zia tenure were ‘complex’

Khaleda strengthened the BNP, which was in “great danger” of being totally fractured after her husband’s death, according to two former envoys of India.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Bangladesh’s former prime minister Khaleda Zia’s rise had symbolised the country’s “resilience” in reclaiming democracy after turbulent military rule, and she also strengthened the BNP, which was in “great danger” of being totally fractured after her husband’s death, according to two former envoys of India.

They also said that India-Bangladesh relations under Zia’s tenures were “complex” and “often strained” due to alleged support for insurgents in the Northeast and their sheltering in Bangladesh.

Zia, 80, who died in Dhaka on Tuesday after a prolonged illness, was Bangladesh’s first woman prime minister and dominated the country’s politics for decades.

Veteran diplomat Veena Sikri, who served as India’s high commissioner in Dhaka from 2003-2006, said during Zia’s second tenure (2001-2006), it was a “very difficult time as the influence of Pakistan was very big”. A “lot of things” were discussed between India and Bangladesh on the



HIGHLIGHT

● Zia’s second tenure (2001-06) was marked by strong Pakistani influence and major challenges.

● Zia also paid a state visit to India in March 2006 at the invitation of then PM Singh.

bilateral cooperation front, while she was at the helm of the government, she said.

Sikri recalled Zia’s visit to India in 1992, soon after her first tenure (1991-96) began, as also the then prime minister

Manmohan Singh’s visit to Dhaka in November 2005 for attending the SAARC Summit.

Zia had also paid a state visit to India in March 2006 at the invitation of then Prime Minister Singh.

During the visit, two leaders had held comprehensive discussions on the entire gamut of bilateral relations. The talks were underpinned by the common desire to “strengthen and consolidate the friendly ties” that already existed between the two countries based as they are on shared history and

culture and wide-ranging people-to-people relations, the MEA had then said in a statement.

Former diplomat Venu Rajamony said India-Bangladesh ties under Zia were “complex and often strained”.

Unlike Sheikh Hasina’s Awami League, Zia’s BNP governments “maintained a cautious, transactional stance towards New Delhi”, he said.

Hasina served as Bangladesh’s prime minister during 1996-2001 and again during 2009-2024, before she was ousted after a mass movement in August 2024.

NCC R-Day Camp 2026

NEW DELHI: A total of 2,406 NCC cadets including 898 girls from across the country are participating in the National Cadet Corps’ Republic Day Camp 2026 that began on Tuesday, officials said.

Cadets and officers from 25 friendly foreign countries are also scheduled to take part in the celebrations under the Youth Exchange Programme (YEP), they said.

The NCC Republic Day Camp 2026 began at the Cariappa Parade Ground at Delhi Cantonment with a ‘Sarv Dharm Pooja,’ a senior official said.

In this camp, “a total of 2,406 cadets including 898 girl cadets drawn from 28 states and 8 Union Territories are participating, which is the highest till date”, the defence ministry said in a statement.

The month-long camp features several inter-directorate competitions and events like best cadet competition, small arms firing, marching contingent during the Republic Day Parade at Kartavya Path, and flag area designing. Lt Gen Virendra Vats, Director General NCC, welcomed the cadets and congratulated them on their selection for the prestigious Republic Day Camp.

In his address to them, he urged the cadets to display the highest qualities of character, integrity, selfless service, comradeship and teamwork transcending barriers of religion, language, and caste in the true spirit of “nation first”.

HIGHLIGHT

● Education refines personality, enables development, and ensures inclusive growth and social justice

● President stressed linking youth with tribal traditions.

and do not return to their villages. “We should visit our villages and make people aware of various government schemes and their benefits. The government will do its work, but we should also contribute our part after getting education. Government schemes will be successful only when people are aware of them,” Murmu said.



President Droupadi Murmu with Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and his wife Kalpana Soren during a meeting, in Ranchi.

tribal communities to ensure that development reaches the last person in society. Murmu was addressing the Antarrajy Jansanskritik Samagam Samaroh-Kartik Jatra (interstate folk cultural gathering) in Jharkhand’s Gumla district, which saw participation of people, mostly

from tribal communities. “Education is the key to development. Education refines the personality, creates opportunities for development, and becomes a medium for inclusive growth and social justice,” Murmu said. She observed that after getting educated, many people prefer to settle in towns

Suvidha Camp

NEW DELHI: New Delhi Municipal Council will hold a Suvidha Camp on Saturday at its convention centre, aiming to improve service delivery, strengthen direct engagement with residents and ensure speedy grievance redressal, officials said on Tuesday.

The camp will run from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at the Convention Centre on Jai Singh Road and is part of its ongoing citizen outreach programme, according to an official statement.

Designed as a single-window facilitation platform, the Suvidha Camp will allow residents and other stakeholders to seek information, submit requests and resolve issues related to a wide range of municipal services, officials said.

Education key to development for tribal community: Murmu

Press Trust Of India

Prez said the Centre has been working for the inclusive growth of tribal communities to ensure that development reaches the last person in society.

GUMLA: President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday emphasised the importance of education for the development of the tribal community and urged educated individuals to help people avail the benefits of various government welfare schemes.

She said the Centre has been working for the inclusive growth of

‘Temples are remembered when polls approach’

Press Trust Of India

BHOPAL: Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan of the BJP on Tuesday took a swipe at West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee over a proposed Mahakal temple in her state, saying some people make such plans and recite religious texts only when elections approach.

However, these same people maintain stoic silence when religious institutions are attacked,



he said without elaborating.

Talking to reporters at his residence in Bhopal, Chouhan noted temples

Oppn parties use religion solely for electoral gains. Shivraj Singh Chouhan Union minister

and religious rituals are matters of faith, but some Opposition parties use religion solely for electoral gains. On Monday, Banerjee declared at a programme in Kolkata that the foundation stone

of a Mahakal temple would be laid in Siliguri in north Bengal in the second week of January and that land has been identified and funds arranged for the project.

Asked about the West Bengal CM’s announcement, Chouhan stated, “When elections are round the corner, only then temples are remembered by some people. I believe temples or other religious activities are matters of faith.”

PUBLIC RALLY

SIR a scam being conducted using AI, alleges Mamata

BANKURA: Claiming that the SIR was a huge “scam” being conducted with the help of artificial intelligence (AI), West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said her TMC will gherao the Election Commission’s office in Delhi if the name of a single legitimate voter is deleted from the rolls.

Addressing a rally in Bankura district, Banerjee said people of the state were being “tortured” in the name of SIR. “Around 60 people have died due to SIR. Elderly people are being summoned for document verification hearings,” he claimed. “If even a single legitimate voter’s name is deleted, the TMC will gherao the office of the Election Commission in Delhi,” she added. Banerjee said the people of the state will not tolerate such “harassment”.

“People will not allow the BJP to come to power in West Bengal,” she said. “Whenever elections come, they promise to build a ‘sonar Bangla’, but in reality, people who speak Bengali are beaten up in states where the BJP rules,” she claimed. **PTI**

93RD SIVAGIRI PILGRIMAGE

Spiritual and social life cannot be separated, says VP C P Radhakrishnan



VARKALA: Vice President C P Radhakrishnan on Tuesday said spiritual life and social life cannot be separated, and if faith does not uplift society, then it remains incomplete.

As India moves towards Viksit Bharat, machines and highways alone will not build the nation, but values, unity, and love will, he said. The Vice President was addressing a gathering after inaugurating the 93rd Sivagiri Pilgrimage at Sivagiri Math, founded by saint-social reformer Sree Narayana Guru, at Varkala near Thiruvananthapuram. “Spiritual life and social life cannot be separated. If faith does not uplift society, then faith remains incomplete,” he said. **PTI**

DIGITAL BOOKING

Rlys to offer 3% discount on digital purchase of unreserved tickets via RailOne app



NEW DELHI: The Railway Ministry will offer 3 per cent discount on purchase of unreserved tickets via RailOne app and payment through any digital mode from January 14 to July 14 in 2026. At present, it gives 3 per cent cashback for booking unreserved tickets through R-wallet payment on RailOne app.

“In order to proliferate digital booking, it has been decided to provide the discount of 3 per cent while booking unreserved tickets through all digital payment modes on RailOne app,” read a letter from the ministry on December 30, 2026, addressed to the Centre For Railway Information System (CRIS) for making necessary changes in the software system. “The proposal of 3 per cent discount shall be in force during the period 14.01.2026 to 14.07.2026. CRIS shall furnish the feedback of this proposal in May for further

examination,” it added. The letter clarified that the existing 3 per cent cashback for bookings through R-wallet on RailOne app will continue. “In the existing system, 3 per cent cashback is offered to prospective passengers who purchase unreserved tickets on RailOne App and make payments through R-wallet. **PTI**

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice
Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	182245 Second Call 23.12.2025	Construction of High Level Bridge i/c Approaches Across Malger River in Km. 3/6 on Burgum to Sameli Road.	367.10
2	182246 Second Call 23.12.2025	Construction of High level Bridge across Malger river on Gadiras-Rawatpara Road in k.m. 1/4.(Balance work).	264.93
3	182249 Second Call 23.12.2025	CONSTRUCTION OF 100 SEATER BOYS HOSTEL BUILDING FOR PVTG STUDENTS i/c ELECTRIFICATION, WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY FITTING AT GURIYA DISTT. NARAYANPUR (Deposit Work).	270.41
4	182154 First Call 23.12.2025	Balance Work of Hardibazar Tarda Sarvamangla Ilmichapar Road Length 27.19 km (Cement Concrete Road).	10005.97
5	182261 First Call 23.12.2025	Construction of Chingraud to Hathakhaj Road, Length 2.00 Km. i/c Culverts at Distt. Mahasamund. (Mahasamund Division).	287.16
6	182276 First Call 24.12.2025	Under PM- USHA Component Grants to Strengthen Colleges (GSC), Construction of Govt. Late Shri Daulatram Sharma PG College Building i/c. Water Supply & Sanitary Fittings at Kasdol, i/c Electrification Work at Dist. Balodabazar-Bhatapara. (Division Balodabazar-Bhatapara) (Deposit Work).	273.25
7	182277 First Call 24.12.2025	WIDENING & STRENGTHENING OF GADBEDA LINK ROAD LENGTH 2.50 KM i/c. CULVERTS AT DISTT. MAHASAMUND(MAHASAMUND DN.).	343.76
8	182289 First Call 24.12.2025	CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR WAY DIRECTION ROAD AT VILLAGE BENDRI, LENGTH 5.78 K.M. i/c. CULVERTS AT DISTT. RAIPUR.(DN. NO.3 NAVA RAIPUR).	649.37
9	182291 First Call 24.12.2025	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE BUILDING AT LOHANDIGUDA, BLOCK -LOHANDIGUDA, DISTT.-BASTAR (C.G.).	463.33
10	182295 Third Call 24.12.2025	CONSTRUCTION OF INTERNATIONAL /NATIONAL LEVEL ARCHERY ACADEMY BUILDING i/c. ELECTRIFICATION WORK AT RAIPUR, DISTT. RAIPUR. (DN. NO.3, NAVA RAIPUR).	508.82
11	182296 Second Call 24.12.2025	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE i/c APPROACH ROAD ACROSS INDRAWATI RIVER IN KM. 1/2-10 ON USPARI (ITAMPARA TO CHHOTEPALLI) ROAD.	3334.80

Last Date of Tender Downloading S.No. 10 date 05.01.2026, S.No. 01 To S.No. 03, S.No. 11 date 09.01.2026. Other Tenders Date are Schedule as date 14.01.2026 For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer
(Central Tender Cell)
Office Of Engineer In Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar
G-252605731/3

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, HASDEO GANGA BASIN,
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, AMBIKAPUR (C.G.)

System Tender No.: 182410 NIT No.: 09/SAC/2025-26, Dated: 29.12.2025
E-Procurement Tender Notice
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(1st CALL)

Online tenders for the work mentioned below are invited on behalf of the Governor of Chhattisgarh, in Form 'B' from the contractors who are registered in "B" & Above Class registered under Unified Registration System in PWD registered in Public Works Department also enrolled in Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement System Portal <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> as per the 'Date-Time Detail(s)' mentioned below. All other conditions for submission of tenders and criteria for pre-qualification etc; have been mentioned in the tender documents and pre-qualification documents.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Probable Amount of Contract.	Earnest Money (EMD)	Bid Submission Fees	Eligible class of Contractor	Time allowed for completion
1.	REPAIR & RENOVATION OF DIVISION OFFICE BUILDING WATER RESOURCES DIVISION JASHPUR, SUB DIVISION OFFICE BUILDING REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL & NOS INSPECTION COTTAGE.	Rs. 274.96 Lakhs	Rs. 1,50,000/-	Rs. 311/- to be paid online through payment gateway at time of bid preparation & Hash submission	"B" & above Class registered in Registration System. "Unified e-Registration" in PWD	11 MONTHS (Including rainy season) from the date of issue of work order

The tender documents can be downloaded free of cost from the portal (website) <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> and shall directly be submitted online only after making the appropriate payment of Bid Submission fees online.

All bid related activities (Processes) like Tender Document Download, Bid Preparation and Submission and Submission of EMD and other documents will be governed by the time schedule given above under Date-Time Detail(s) :-

Date-Time Detail(s) (Tender Time Schedule)

1. Bid Start Date and time: 05.01.2026, 17:31 Hours
(The date and time from which bidders start preparation)
Submission of their bid response, before this bidder's action will not be allowed)
2. Bid Due Date and time: 19.01.2026, 17:30 Hours
(The last date & time for submission of bid response, after which no bids can be submitted.)
3. Bid Open Start Date and time: 20.01.2026, 11:30 Hours
(The Date of opening of Envelope - A & B online)
The bids of the contractors have to be digitally signed by the Digital Certificate of the contractor before submitting the bids online.

Any clarification / doubts regarding the process of eProcurement System (EPS) may be obtained from EPS Help Desk Toll free 1800 250 2502 or on helpdesk egproc@gov.in.

All the contractors are required to submit Envelope 'A' online only.

Physical submission of Envelope 'A' shall only be done by the tenderer whose financial bid is found the lowest in the manner described in para 2.1.5 (A)

Executive Engineer
Water Resources Division, Jashpur (C.G.)
For, Chief Engineer, Hasdeo Ganga Basin Ambikapur (C.G.)

G-252605750/1

“When I look back at the first 25 years of this century, the biggest change I see is in storytelling. Stories have become far more real, layered and fearless. We’re no longer afraid to explore uncomfortable emotions or grey characters.”

Mona Singh
Actress



&Glitters

OTT Watch



Kumki 2 trailer hits Amazon Prime

The ‘Kumki 2’ trailer showcases an emotional journey, capturing the deep bond between humans and elephants, stunning forest landscapes, and themes of trust, survival, and compassion, ahead of its Amazon Prime premiere on January 3, 2026.



Sharmila Tagore shares views on nepotism

Sharmila Tagore shared her perspective on nepotism, saying it’s natural for children to emulate their parents’ professions. She explained that while influence may open initial opportunities, audience acceptance ultimately determines an artist’s success.



Sister Midnight: Dark comedy hits OTT

Radhika Apte’s Cannes-premiered dark comedy Sister Midnight is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video and JioHotstar. The psychological tale blends surreal humour with unsettling commentary on marriage, identity, and quiet rebellion, reaching wider audiences.



The Good Doctor returns on Netflix

The Good Doctor returns January 1 on Netflix, following Dr. Shaun Murphy, a gifted surgeon with autism, as he navigates high-pressure hospital challenges, ethical dilemmas, and personal struggles, blending medical brilliance with human empathy.



Office rivalry turns into romance

Love From 9 to 5 premieres on Netflix January 1, blending romance and workplace rivalry. Two ambitious employees, after a one-night encounter, compete for the CEO position at a lingerie empire, navigating desire, power, and professional tension.

CLOSE UP

Even limited work leaves impact, says Chitrangda Singh on her film journey

Chitrangda Singh reflects on her career, grateful that her impactful roles stay remembered.

Central Chronicle News

Choosing depth over screen time, the actress believes quality work leaves a lasting mark on audiences.

Bollywood actress Chitrangda Singh, known for choosing roles rich in depth over mere screen presence, has reflected on her career with gratitude, acknowledging that even a limited body of work can leave a lasting impact. She feels fortunate that audiences remember her performances, despite not being constantly in the spotlight. In 2025, Chitrangda made waves with films like Housefull 5, Parikrama, and Raat Akeli Hai: The Bansal Murders, each allowing her to showcase nuanced performances. She believes memorability stems from quality rather than quantity. “Sometimes just one scene kind of eats into a bigger part and makes a mark,” she said, emphasizing that while visibility is important, substance endures. From her 2003 debut in Hazaaron Khwaish-ein Aisi to films like Yeh Saali Zindagi and Inkaar, Chitrangda has consistently gravitated toward emotionally layered characters.



Chitrangda Singh radiates grace and gratitude on set.



She concluded with a heartfelt reflection on her journey: “I feel very thankful that jitna bhi kaam kiya, even though it’s less, people have remembered. Good work probably gets you more work for a longer time. Work gets

you work, but good work stays.” Chitrangda’s career trajectory underscores an essential truth: in an industry obsessed with numbers and frequency, thoughtful, impactful performances create a lasting legacy.

| HOLLYWOOD |

From rent struggles to Thanos: Josh Brolin’s journey to blockbuster stardom

Central Chronicle News

Before becoming one of Hollywood’s most iconic villains, Josh Brolin’s life was far from glamorous. Today, he is globally recognised as Thanos from the Marvel Cinematic Universe, but there was a time when the actor struggled to make ends meet despite working in films. In a candid revelation, Brolin shared that acting wasn’t paying enough to cover basic expenses like rent, taxes, and professional fees, forcing him to rethink his career. At his lowest point, Brolin admitted he wasn’t even earning \$100,000 a



year. After deductions for taxes, managers, and lawyers, very little remained to support his family. With children in school and responsibilities mounting, he made the

difficult decision to step away from acting entirely to focus on survival rather than passion. A chance meeting with an entrepreneur during a flight introduced him to day trading,

Acting setbacks led Josh Brolin to ultimate success.

HIGHLIGHT

● Josh Brolin’s road to Hollywood stardom was shaped by hardship, not headlines.

a field he had never considered before. Driven by curiosity and necessity, Brolin immersed himself in learning the financial markets. He built a trading setup at home, studied relentlessly, and slowly found his footing. Over time, trading proved more financially rewarding than acting had been during that phase of his life.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Bollywood

Golmaal 5 goes fantasy with female villain twist

The popular Golmaal franchise is set to return with its fifth instalment, bringing a fresh fantasy-comedy twist and a female villain at its core. Directed by Rohit Shetty, Golmaal 5 will reunite Ajay Devgn with Arshad Warsi, Tusshar Kapoor, Shreyas Talpade, Kunal Khemmu and Sharman Joshi, marking the first time the entire original male cast comes together again. Familiar faces like Johnny Lever, Sanjay Mishra, Mukesh Tiwari and Ashwini Kalsekar will also feature. While the male cast is locked, the makers are still scouting for the female lead and two pivotal characters, including a woman antagonist specially written into the storyline.

Web Series

Elnaaz Norouzi reveals she almost left Sacred Games 2

Actress Elnaaz Norouzi has revealed that she nearly walked away from Sacred Games Season 2 because of an intimate scene with Nawazuddin Siddiqui. Speaking candidly, Elnaaz shared that she never agrees to bold scenes blindly and believes intimacy must serve the story. She admitted the scene made her uncomfortable and she was close to saying no to the show altogether. What changed her mind was director Anurag Kashyap’s sensitive approach. Elnaaz recalled how Kashyap invited her for a detailed discussion, explained the narrative need, and assured her comfort during filming. That transparency and collaboration, she said, helped her trust the process and stay on the project.

The bollywood hot pair

Rashmika–Vijay set for royal Udaipur Palace wedding



Actors Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda are reportedly set to tie the knot in February 2026, with fresh details revealing a royal venue in Udaipur. According to sources close to the couple, the wedding is scheduled for February 26 at one of the city’s heritage palace properties. Keeping in line with their low-profile approach, the

ceremony is expected to be an intimate affair, attended only by close family and friends. The couple had reportedly gotten engaged in a private ceremony in October 2025 in Hyderabad. While neither actor has officially confirmed the news, subtle public appearances and ring sightings have continued to fuel excitement among fans.

Fashion

Ananya Panday embraces soft power dressing in Elie Saab

For the promotions of Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri, Ananya Panday embraced understated glamour in a soft blue Elie Saab jumpsuit that felt calm yet commanding. Styled by Ami Patel, the strapless silhouette featured gentle draping across the bodice and fluid wide-leg trousers that added movement and ease.



Trending on Insta



@kareenakapoorkhan

Kareena Kapoor Khan shares her unfiltered love for food

Kareena Kapoor Khan’s love for food is refreshingly honest. Her latest Instagram post showcases her enjoying every day snacks and indulgent treats, proving she embraces her cravings unapologetically, connecting with fans through her unfiltered, relatable charm.

@varundvn

Varun Dhawan posts touching goodbye to beloved Angel

Actor Varun Dhawan shared an emotional tribute to his beloved pet Angel on Instagram, posting a heartfelt video montage of cherished memories. Fans and celebrities alike expressed their condolences, touched by his heartfelt loss and love.



“Fashion is something that has helped me stay rooted, it has been my quiet rebellion, my armor, my joy. Through love, hate, and every narrative formed around me, it’s helped me stay rooted in who I am.”
Bhumi Pednekar



Bella



The next tech revolution has a woman's perspective

THE FUTURE IS FEMININE

The future is feminine: Women are finally taking control of tech and AI

Technology’s next chapter is being written by women who are changing how innovation thinks.

As 2026 approaches, one truth is becoming increasingly clear: the future of technology is no longer being built from a single perspective. Women across the globe are stepping into tech and AI not just as participants, but as architects of change reshaping how innovation looks, works, and impacts lives. For decades, technology evolved with speed but limited sensitivity. Today, women engineers, founders, researchers, and ethicists are bringing balance to innovation by asking critical questions: Who does this serve? Who might it exclude? And how can it do better? From design-



ing bias-free algorithms to building AI tools focused on healthcare, education, and safety, women are pushing tech to be more human-centric. In startups and boardrooms alike, women are leading conversations around ethical AI, data privacy, and responsible innovation. They are challenging the “move fast, break things”

HIGHLIGHT

● Across AI, data, and digital design, women are bringing balance, responsibility, and purpose to progress.

culture and replacing it with a more thoughtful approach one that values sustainability, inclusivity, and long-term impact.



This shift is especially visible in fields like femtech, climate tech, and mental health platforms, where technology meets lived experience. Equally powerful is the rise of women mentoring women in tech. Online communities, coding collectives, and leadership networks are creating spaces where knowledge is shared, confidence is built, and barriers are broken together. The result? A new generation of girls growing up seeing themselves as creators, not just consumers, of technology.

The future of tech and AI isn’t just smarter it’s more empathetic, more diverse, and more aware.

Glycerin: The unsung hero of everyday skin cleansing



Glycerin is the unsung hero of everyday cleansing, transforming a simple routine into an act of skin care. Known for its natural humectant properties, it binds water to the skin, maintaining hydration while preventing dryness. Unlike harsh soaps that strip moisture, glycerin ensures skin stays soft, supple, and comfortable after every wash. It supports elasticity, reduces rough patches, and promotes a healthy, even texture. Suitable for all skin types and climates, glycerin turns cleansing into a moment of care. This quiet, essential ingredient proves that true skincare doesn’t have to be complicated—it just has to be thoughtful.

Myth or Truth: Daily skincare myths debunked for healthier and balanced Skin

Many believe oily skin doesn’t need moisturiser, but that’s a myth. Skipping hydration can worsen oil production, leading to breakouts. Truth: Lightweight, non-comedogenic moisturisers balance skin without clogging pores. Similarly, some think sunscreen is only for sunny days, but UV rays penetrate clouds and indoors too. Using SPF daily pro-

TECTS against premature aging and pigmentation. Another common myth is that expensive products always work better truth is, effectiveness depends on ingredients, not price. Understanding the science behind your routine helps separate myths from facts, allowing you to make informed choices for healthy, glowing skin every day.

| FASHION |

Chandbalis and Jhumkas rule again, making western outfits instantly glamorous

Central Chronicle News

Fashion thrives on contrasts, and few combinations are as striking as traditional Indian earrings paired with modern western wear. Once reserved for weddings and festivals, chandbalis and jhumkas are now elevating evening gowns, blazers, denim, corsets, and minimalist dresses. These heritage pieces serve as statement accessories, proving that tradition and contemporary style can coexist beautifully. Their versatility allows them to move seamlessly from daywear to evening glamour. Wearing them adds instant personal-



ity and elevates even the simplest look. This revival reflects a growing desire for meaningful fashion. Jaipur-based designer Aanchal Jain

notes that millennials and Gen Z seek jewellery that tells a story pieces honoring heritage while feeling fresh and modern. Oversized chandbalis

and intricate jhumkas transform even the simplest outfits, creating an instant chic factor without extra styling. Fashion creator Jhanvi Bhatia



HIGHLIGHT

From blazers to evening gowns, chandbalis and jhumkas are making every outfit unforgettable.

highlights how ornate kundan, meenakari, and pearls pop against clean silhouettes, letting a single earring become the focal point. For many, this trend is about identity. Chandni Solanki says pairing traditional jewellery with western wear feels both rooted and rebellious. Contemporary designs are lighter, sharper, and adaptable, suitable for casual outings, office looks, or red carpet moments.

DivaDazzle

BEST OF THE REST

Celebs

Nita Ambani’s lavender saree is effortless evening glam

Nita Ambani redefined evening elegance with a serene lavender saree that celebrated understated glamour. Stepping away from loud hues and heavy embellishments, she chose a fluid chiffon drape that felt both ethereal and powerful. The saree’s broad border, detailed with white sequins and zari work, added subtle depth without overwhelming the look. Styled in a classic drape with a richly embroidered matching blouse, the ensemble balanced softness with structure. Pearl jewellery enhanced the refined mood, while minimal makeup, soft hair, and a small bindi completed the look proving once again that true luxury lies in thoughtful, graceful dressing.

Achiever

Anushka Sen shines in NYC as ‘Chameleon’ hits billboard

Anushka Sen’s debut single, Chameleon, has reached an extraordinary milestone by being featured on a billboard at New York City’s Times Square. Calling it a dream come true, Anushka shared her excitement on Instagram, describing the moment as “truly unbelievable” and thanking fans for their support. The single marks her first major collaboration with Grammy-winning producer Ken Lewis, known for working with global icons like Taylor Swift and Kendrick Lamar. Inspired by personal growth and change, Chameleon reflects Anushka’s journey of breaking free from expectations. With roots in her childhood love for music, the single is a bold new chapter in her artistic journey.

The Inspirors

Ira Khan’s honest take on body image and self-worth



Ira Khan, daughter of Aamir Khan, has courageously opened up about her ongoing struggle with body image and obesity since 2020. In a heartfelt Instagram post, she admitted feeling “a little scary” confronting these emotions, sharing her journey of oscillating between feeling unfit, overweight, and obese. While she doesn’t have a diagnosed eating disorder, Ira emphasizes

the importance of discussing body positivity and mental health openly. Acknowledging her discomfort compared to speaking about depression, she hopes sharing her experience can inspire understanding and self-reflection. Her honesty highlights that vulnerability, self-acceptance, and dialogue are crucial steps toward healing and empowerment.

Wellness

Air Pollution: From breathing trouble to mental fatigue

Poor air quality is no longer just an environmental concern it’s a pressing public health challenge affecting both physical and mental well-being. Prolonged exposure to polluted air can trigger respiratory stress, chest tightness, breathlessness, and even cardiac strain, while subtly impacting cognitive function, mood, and sleep patterns. High-risk groups such as children, pregnant women, the elderly, and individuals with chronic conditions need to take extra precautions, including limiting outdoor exposure and using certified N95 masks. Preventive testing like spirometry, FeNO, and pulse oximetry can detect early lung or heart stress, allowing timely intervention.



Divas on Insta

Viral Cleaning hack

Malaika Arora’s simple drink for immunity and glow

Malaika Arora swears by turmeric milk, a simple immunity-boosting drink. Rich in curcumin, it strengthens immunity, reduces inflammation, supports digestion, promotes joint health, enhances sleep, detoxifies the liver, nourishes skin, and provides essential antioxidants naturally.



Viral Beauty hack

Yami’s gentle Haldi ritual for naturally glowing skin

Yami’s haldi ritual emphasizes gentleness, perfect for at-home use. She suggests mixing turmeric with soothing ingredients like multani mitti and rose water or milk, applying lightly for 10-15 minutes, then rinsing for naturally brightened skin.



Sports News

UP tops Medal tally in Indian Round; J'khand and Assam shine

45th NTPC Junior National Archery Championship.

Central Chronicle News

Women's Category: Strong showings from Jharkhand and Rajasthan.

RAIPUR: Uttar Pradesh emerged as the dominant force in the Indian Round events of the 45th NTPC Junior National Archery Championship held in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, securing the most gold medals and overall positions in the tally. Jharkhand, Assam, and Rajasthan also delivered impressive performances, highlighting the depth of young talent across India.

The championship, hosted at a venue in the capital city and concluding on Tuesday, featured intense competition among junior archers from various states. Member of Parliament Brijmohan Agrawal served as the chief guest at the closing ceremony, personally awarding medals to the winners and commending their dedication. Uttar Pradesh archers showcased consistency in the men's Indian Round.

In the 40m event: Shubham (Uttar Pradesh) won gold, Shyam Kanu Rabha (Assam) silver, and Manish (Uttar Pradesh) bronze.

In the 30m event: Shubham (Uttar Pradesh) claimed gold again, fol-



Overall Medal Tally Highlights (Indian Round)

Uttar Pradesh: Top position with the highest number of golds and total medals.
Jharkhand: Excellent in women's and team events.
Assam and Rajasthan: Impressive in individual categories.

lowed by Ranvijay Yadav (Uttar Pradesh) for silver and Chandramohan Soren (Jharkhand) for bronze.

In the Men's Individual Elimination Round, Shyam Kanu Rabha (Assam) secured gold, while local favorite Vikram Raj from host state Chhattisgarh earned silver - a proud moment for the organizers. Kuldeep Mahato (Jharkhand) took bronze.

The women's events saw fierce competition, with Jharkhand and Rajasthan standing out.

In the 40m event category, Vedakshi Tomar (Uttar Pradesh) won gold, Baby Kumari (Jharkhand)

silver and Lakshmi Kumari (Jharkhand) bronze. In the 30m event, Pratibha Kandara (Rajasthan) took gold, Himani Basumatary (Assam) silver and Baby Kumari (Jharkhand) bronze.

In the Women's Individual Elimination Round, Pratibha Kandara (Rajasthan) clinched gold, Payal (Haryana) silver, and Baby Kumari (Jharkhand) bronze. Team and mixed team events were closely contested, with strong displays from Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Telangana and Rajasthan adding to the excitement.

The performances underscored the bright future of Indian archery, with young talents demonstrating skill and potential on a national stage. Guests at the ceremony, including MP Brijmohan Agrawal, wished the archers success and emphasized how such events inspire youth and elevate the sport in India.

SAI General Director Mayank Srivastava said that hosting such national-level events in Chhattisgarh provides a platform for new talents to emerge. "Our effort is to produce good athletes from every state," he added. He also

HIGHLIGHT

Uttar Pradesh archers showcased consistency in the men's Indian Round.

informed that the Khelo India Tribal Games will be organized in Chhattisgarh in February, which will further strengthen the state's sporting landscape. National Vice President of the Archery Association of India, Kailash Murarka, expressed gratitude to everyone for the successful organization and stated that the 45th Junior National Archery Championship in Chhattisgarh will serve as a strong medium for athletes to move forward. He also praised the arrangements, the spirit of sportsmanship shown by the players, coaches, and sports administrators.

IOA to convene National Athletes' Forum in Ahmedabad on January 10

Press Trust Of India

The IOA will hold its Annual General Meeting in Ahmedabad on January 9.

NEW DELHI: Indian Olympic Association (IOA) will organise the first National Athletes' Forum on January 10 in Ahmedabad with an aim to strengthen athlete-led governance and accountability in the country's sport.

The Forum will bring together current and former athletes, athlete representatives, and key stakeholders from across the country for direct, solution-oriented engagement, the IOA said in a release.

The Forum will focus on critical issues, including athlete rights and responsibilities, ethical and transparent governance, safe sport and integrity, mental health and well-being, anti-doping education, grievance redressal, and structured career transition pathways.

Discussions will be geared towards converting athlete feedback into actionable reforms.

"The Athletes' Forum is expected to strengthen the role of the Athletes' Commission and contribute meaningfully to the evolution of athlete-centred governance within Indian sport," the release added.



The IOA said the Athletes' Forum represents its firm commitment to move beyond consultation and ensure that athletes play an active, influential role in shaping policies that affect their careers, welfare, and future. "This is the first time in India's sporting history that athletes are being brought together through a dedicated national forum to directly influence governance. Athlete voices can no longer be peripheral -- this Forum signals a decisive shift towards athlete-led reform, accountability, and shared decision-making," IOA President P T Usha said.

"Sustained excellence in sport is impossible without safeguarding athlete dignity, safety, and well-being. This Forum makes it clear

that athlete welfare is central to policy, not an afterthought."

IOA Athletes' Commission Chair MC Marykom stated: "Athletes know the system from the inside. This Forum gives us a credible platform to speak openly about challenges and solutions, and to ensure that athlete experiences are reflected in governance and reform."

Adding the perspective of active athletes, Sharath Kamal, Vice Chairman of the IOA Athletes' Commission, said: "As athletes, we often feel the impact of policies long after decisions are made. This Forum changes that equation. It allows athletes to be heard at the right time -- before decisions are taken -- and helps build a more transparent and accountable sporting ecosystem."

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS

Former England woman cricketer Isa Guha honoured with MBE

Press Trust Of India

A two-time World Cup winner, Guha played eight women's Tests, 83 ODIs and 22 T20Is, taking a combined 148 wickets with her bustling medium pace.

LONDON: Former cricketer Isa Guha, the first woman of South Asian descent to appear for England in any sport, was awarded an MBE in the King's New Year's Honours for services to inclusivity and cricket.

Guha bid adieu to international cricket on March 9, 2012, the same day when former Indian skipper Rahul Dravid also



retired from top-flight cricket.

Guha was just 26 when she decided to end her playing career to focus on a life outside cricket.

But not before she played a key role in England's wins in both the 50-over World Cup and the T20 World Cup in 2009.

She was also part of England's two women's Ashes triumphs in 2005

and 2007-08, taking her career-best match figures of 9 for 100 at Bowral.

Since her retirement from cricket, Guha turned to commentary following the footsteps of some of her contemporaries like Anjum Chopra and Lisa Sthalekar.

In 2017, Guha became the first woman to be appointed to the board of the Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) as a non-executive director. The 40-year-old's broadcasting career got a lift in 2014 when she became the first female summariser for BBC Test Match Special and later when commented on the 2015 World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

First-half blitz sends Roma into top four of Serie A

ROME: Roma scored three times in a one-sided first half to beat Genoa 3-1 and move into fourth place in Serie A.

Matías Soulé's neatly taken goal after 13 minutes was followed quickly by an opportunistic strike by Manu Koné as the home side overran its lowly opponent on Monday. On-loan Irish striker Evan Ferguson pounced on a parried shot to poke the ball home and make it 3-0 just past the half-hour mark. Jeff Ekhator got a late consolation goal for Genoa with a deflected shot. Roma had been at risk of falling out of touch with the leading pack after only one win in its last four games.

Fazila, Soumya score hat-trick as EB crush Sesa FA 9-0

Press Trust Of India

KALYANI (WB): East Bengal FC's Fazila Ikwaput and Soumya Guguloth netted a hat-trick each as the footballing powerhouse pumped in nine goals past Sesa Football Academy to earn their biggest-ever win in the Indian Women's League here on Tuesday.

Fazila (9', 22', 25', 72') netted four, Soumya (6', 54', 86') three, while Sulanjana Raul (17') and Resty Nanziri (40') contributed a goal each as the newly-promoted Sesa Academy suffered a 0-9 defeat, their heaviest-ever loss in the national leagues -- both



IWL and IWL 2.

Following the huge win, defending champions East Bengal rose to the second spot with a perfect record of nine points from three games

so far. They have a game in hand against leaders Nita FA, who have 10 points.

Sesa FA are yet to open their account after four games.

The goalfest started in the sixth minute, with left-back Sushmita Lepcha creating the first two productive moves.

She put in a low ball that looked harmless at first, but Sesa failed to make a simple clearance. It was picked up just outside the box by Soumya, who beat a couple of pink shirts, swiftly turned to the right and lodged a right-footed shot past Sesa FC's Beatrice Nketia.

Three minutes later, Sushmita launched a long ball from the deep, with Fazila latching on to it and dinking it over goalkeeper Beatrice for her first and East Bengal's second.

T20 WORLD CUP

Pakistan's Afridi doubtful for T20 World Cup?

Agencies

LAHORE: Pakistan pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi has been ruled out of remainder of Australia's Big Bash League due to a knee injury, his franchise Brisbane Heat said on Tuesday. Afridi suffered a knee cartilage injury while fielding in Brisbane Heat's match against Adelaide Strikers at The Gabba on Saturday.

His injury will be a big concern for Pakistan ahead of the T20 World Cup, which kicks off on February 7.

After consulting with the Pakistan Cricket Board's medical staff, it was agreed that Afridi would cut short his BBL stint to return to Pakistan



for further treatment ahead with an eye on the T20 World Cup. Afridi said he was saddened his BBL stint ended prematurely.

"I have enjoyed myself a lot playing for Brisbane and I am sad that I will not be able to finish the season with the team," said the fast bowler.

"I am massively thankful to the Heat fans for showering me with immense love and support. I am also grateful for the support of the team and their amazing hospitality." "The BBL was everything I had heard it would be - lots of good, skilful cricket. I have enjoyed the challenge. I will be cheering for the team while recov-

ering from my unexpected injury and I hope our paths cross again," he added. Brisbane Heat CEO Terry Svenson thanked Afridi for his commitment to the Heat.

"Despite his season not finishing the way he would have liked, he has been a thorough professional and we have been pleased to welcome him to Brisbane and the Heat," he said. "I know our young bowlers in the squad have benefitted greatly from his advice and suggestions, and he has had strong input into the team's performances overall. We wish him a speedy recovery and all the best in his preparations now for the T20 World Cup."

Host Morocco and South Africa join Egypt in Africa Cup knockout stage

Press Trust Of India

RABAT: Host nation Morocco and South Africa advanced to the Africa Cup of Nations' knockout stage, when Egypt star Mohamed Salah got a rest with his team already through.

Morocco made sure of its place in the last 16 with a 3-0 rout of Zambia on Monday. The hosts topped Group A to stay on course for having all their knockout games in Rabat's near 70,000-capacity Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium, which will also stage the final on Jan. 18.

Results in Group A,

where Comoros finished third with two points, and Group B, where Angola did likewise, set off celebrations elsewhere. That's because teams with more than two points and already assured of at least third place in their groups have reached the last 16. The four best third-place teams from the six groups progress, along with the top two in each. Head-to-head results are the first determining factor if two teams finish with the same amount of points in a group. It means 2021 winner Senegal, Congo and Benin (because of its win over Botswana, its first ever in the tourna-

ment) are through before their final games in Group D, and defending champion Ivory Coast, five-time winner Cameroon, and Mozambique (because of its win against Gabon) are through from Group F.

Burkina Faso and Sudan are through with already-qualified Algeria from Group E because they both defeated Equatorial Guinea. Angola, which has a better goal difference than Comoros, can still go through with two points if already-qualified Nigeria beats Uganda and Tunisia beats Tanzania in Group C on Tuesday.

World



“Answer of Islamic Republic of Iran to any cruel aggression will be harsh and discouraging.”

Masoud Pezeshkian
President of Iran

Indian peacekeepers honoured at Medal Day Parade in Congo



Personnel of the India Level II Plus Hospital deployed with MONUSCO receive the SRSG and Head of Mission Unit Appreciation from Brig Salil MP, Commander Central Sector and Acting Deputy Force Commander, during the Medal Day Parade, in Goma, Congo. | Photo: PTI

Leaders discuss peace efforts amid rising Russia-Ukraine tensions

Leaders from Europe, Canada, and NATO held emergency talks following Donald Trump's meeting with Volodymyr Zelenskyy, with Polish officials stating “peace is on the horizon.”

Press Trust Of India

KYIV: Leaders from Europe and Canada held talks Tuesday on U.S.-led peace efforts to end the nearly four-year war between Russia and Ukraine, as Moscow and Kyiv sparred over Russian claims, denied by Ukraine, of a mass drone attack on a lakeside residence used by President Vladimir Putin.

The virtual meeting included European leaders as well as Canadian Prime Minister Mark Car-



ney, heads of European institutions and NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte, according to Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk. “Peace is on the horizon,” Tusk told a Polish Cabinet meeting, according to Polish news

agency PAP.

It was the first meeting of European leaders since U.S. President Donald Trump hosted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at his Florida resort on Sunday. Trump insisted that Ukraine and

HIGHLIGHT

● **Moscow claims Ukraine launched a 91-drone strike on Putin's residence to disrupt talks; Ukraine denies this, calling it a “false claim” to derail diplomacy.**

Russia are “closer than ever before” to a peace settlement, although he acknowledged that outstanding obstacles could still prevent a deal.

“We are moving the peace process forward,”

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, who attended the talks, said in a post on X. “Transparency and honesty are now required from everyone – including Russia.” His pointed reference to Russia came after Russian and Ukrainian officials exchanged bitter accusations over Moscow's allegations that Ukraine attempted to attack the Russian leader's residence in northwestern Russia with 91 long-range drones almost immediately after Trump's Sunday talks with Zelenskyy.

Sri Lankan judges visit India for training

COLOMBO: Twenty Sri Lankan High Court judges visited India to attend a knowledge exchange and capacity-building programme, the Indian mission here said on Tuesday.

The programme took place at the Indian National Judicial Academy, Bhopal from December 15 to 19, according to a statement by the Indian High Commission. It comprised nine thematic sessions covering key areas of judicial functioning.

These included judicial decision-making and appellate review; use of technology and digital transformation in courts; cybercrime and the handling of electronic evidence; judicial leadership and strategic thinking; integrity, ethics and accountability; and judicial stress and wellness.

MYANMAR ELECTION

Myanmar's military-backed party claims strong lead in election's 1st phase

Press Trust Of India

The military-backed party claims a massive lead, reportedly winning 88 of 102 seats in the first phase.

BANGKOK: The political party backed by Myanmar's ruling military claimed Tuesday it won a commanding lead in the initial round of the first general election in five years, even though the state election body has not named the winners.

Voting is taking place in three phases due to ongoing armed conflicts, with the first round held Sunday in 102 of Myanmar's 330 townships. The remaining phases will take place on January 11 and January 25, but 65 townships won't partici-



Official of the Union Election Commission prepare to close a polling station after the votes are counted, during the first phase of general election, in Naypyitaw, Myanmar. | Photo: AP

pate because of the fighting.

A senior official of the Union Solidarity and Development Party told The Associated Press that the party has won 88 seats of the total 102 lower house seats contested in the first phase.

The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not

authorized to release information.

Myanmar has a two-house national legislature, totalling 664 seats. The party with a combined parliamentary majority can select the new president, who can name a Cabinet and form a new government. The military automatically receives 25 per cent of

FACTFILE

● **Ongoing civil war has forced a three-phase schedule and the complete exclusion of 65 townships (nearly 20% of the country).**

seats in each house under the constitution.

Final results are expected to be announced by late January. It wasn't clear if the election commission would release aggregate figures of the first round, although counts were publicly announced at local polling stations.

The USDP's official said it also won 85 per cent of contested seats in regional legislatures, though complete results will only be known after the second or third phases.

Trump made the comment during wide-ranging talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.

“Now I hear that Iran is trying to build up again,” Trump said during a news conference with Netanyahu after their meeting. “And if they are, we're going to have to knock them down. We'll knock them down. We'll knock

the hell out of them. But hopefully that's not happening.”

The two leaders discussed the possibility of renewed military action against Tehran months after a 12-day air war in June that killed nearly 1,100 Iranians including senior military commanders and scientists. Iran's retaliatory missile barrage killed 28 people in Israel.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

RUSSIA MISSILE

Russia's nuclear-capable Oreshnik missiles have entered active service, Moscow says



MOSCOW : Russia's nuclear-capable Oreshnik missile system has entered active service in Belarus, Russia's Defence Ministry said Tuesday, as the US efforts to broker a deal to end the nearly four-year war in Ukraine have entered a pivotal stage.

The ministry released a video showing combat vehicles that are part of the mobile intermediate range ballistic missile system driving across a forest as part of combat training.

The ministry's announcement followed a statement from Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, who said earlier this month that the Oreshnik had arrived in the country. Lukashenko said that up to 10 such missile systems will be stationed in

Belarus.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said earlier this month that the Oreshnik would enter combat duty before the year's end. He made the statement at a meeting with top Russian military officers, where he warned that Moscow will seek to extend its gains in Ukraine if Kyiv and its Western allies reject the Kremlin's demands in peace talks.

The announcement comes at a critical time for Russia-Ukraine peace talks. US President Donald Trump hosted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at his Florida resort Sunday and insisted that Kyiv and Moscow were “closer than ever before” to a peace settlement. **PTI**

TURKEY SOMALIA

Somalia's president in Turkey for talks after Israel recognises Somaliland

ISTANBUL : Somalia's President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud arrived in Turkey on Tuesday for talks with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, following Israel's announcement recognising Somaliland, the break-away region of Somalia. Turkish officials said the discussions will focus on new steps to deepen cooperation between their two countries, Somalia's ongoing fight against terrorism, efforts to strengthen national unity and regional developments.

Turkey has become one of Somalia's closest allies over the past decade, providing military training and supporting infrastructure projects. It operates a military base in Mogadishu, where Somali forces are trained, and has dispatched a seismic research vessel – escorted by naval ships – to survey Somalia's coast for potential oil and gas reserves.

Last week, Israel became the first country to recognise Somaliland, drawing strong condemnation from Turkey – already at odds with Israel over the war in Gaza – as well as from Somalia and other nations. **PTI**

SAUDI YEMEN

Saudi Arabia bombs Yemen port over weapons shipment from UAE, issues warning to Abu Dhabi



DUBAI: Saudi Arabia bombed Yemen's port city of Mukalla on Tuesday after a weapons shipment from the United Arab Emirates arrived for separatist forces in the war-torn country, and warned that it viewed Emirati actions as “extremely dangerous.”

The bombing followed days of tensions over the advance of the separatist forces known as the Southern Transitional Council, which are backed by the Emirates. Despite the warning, the Council and its allies issued a statement supporting the UAE's presence, even as others allied with Saudi Arabia demanded Emirati forces withdraw from Yemen in 24 hours' time. The UAE separately called for “restraint

and wisdom” while disputing Riyadh's allegations against it. It did not say it would withdraw from Yemen as demanded.

The confrontation threatened to open a new front in Yemen's decade-long war, with forces allied against the Iranian-backed Houthis possibly turning their sights on each other in the Arab world's poorest nation long stalked by famine and disease.

It also further strained ties between Saudi Arabia and the UAE, neighbouring nations on the Arabian Peninsula that increasingly have competed over economic issues and the region's politics, particularly in the wider Red Sea region. **PTI**

IRAN THREATENS RESPONSE

Iran threatens “harsh” response to Trump warnings

Press Trust Of India

TEHRAN: Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Tuesday said his country's answer to an attack would be harsh, which appeared to be in response to a warning by US President Donald Trump over reconstruction of Iran's nuclear programme. “Answer of Islamic Republic of Iran to any cruel aggression



will be harsh and discouraging,” Pezeshkian said on the social media platform X. Pezeshkian did not elaborate, but his statement came a day after Trump suggested

“US could carry out military strikes if Iran attempts to reconstitute its nuclear programme.”

Donald Trump
US President

the US could carry out military strikes if Iran attempts to reconstitute its nuclear programme.