WEEKEND

Central Chronicle



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CA supports Cummins to stay on as Australia's Test captain Page 14



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'Sathyavan Savitri' is a distracted yet clever courtroom drama Page 12

'We brought 50 cr people out of poverty'

Congress garnered their votes with slogans: PM Modi.

Press Trust Of India

The PM asserted that the state has made "a huge contribution in our campaign against poverty" with the 'double-engine' NDA government.

VAISHALI (BIHAR): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asserted that "50 crore people" have been brought out of poverty since he came to power 12 years ago, drawing a contrast with previous Congress governments which "garnered votes for decades with misleading slogans". Modi addressed a rally in the Jafarpatti area of Vaishali district, where he dedicated to the nation 227 infrastructure and development projects worth more than Rs 34,000 crore, including a Rs 4,280-crore bridge over the Ganga, named 'Nitish Setu'.

The PM alluded to the "garibi hatao" slogan coined by former prime minister Indira Gandhi, without mentioning her by name, and also lambasted the Congress-RJD alliance, which ruled the state before the NDA took over, for making the state notorious for "scams" and "crimes".



Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves to the gathering during the inauguration and laying of foundation stone of various development projects at a rally, at Jafarpatti, in Vaishali district, Saturday.

"When work is done with a clear intention, the results are there for all to see. The country has seen the Congress garnering votes for decades by misleading the people with the promise of removing poverty. In contrast, in the last 12 years, we have brought 50 crore people out of poverty," the PM said.

"This is proof of the government's resolve and commitment to the welfare of the poor. We have provided free foodgrains to 80 crore people and millions of people have got pucca houses, and we provided them with free medical treatment... Confidence has been instilled in the poor who are now defeating poverty," Modi added.

The PM, who was in Bihar for the first time in six months, asserted that the state has made "a huge contribution in our campaign against poverty" with the 'double-engine' NDA government in the state ensuring smooth implementation of schemes introduced by the Centre.

The PM urged people of Bihar to "just reflect on how the times were before the NDA took over".

Referring to the RJD-Congress combine, without mentioning it by name, Modi alleged, "Back then, the talk used to be of scams. Now the figures of investments are presented. Earlier, statistics used to be of crime while now the action against criminals is discussed."



Hacker held for trying to sell data on dark web

NEW DELHI: A 14-year-old boy from Haryana's Ballabhgarh was apprehended by the Delhi Police Special Cell for allegedly hacking into a website and attempting to sell sensitive data linked to around 4,000 Agniveer personnel on the dark web for USD 500, officials said. According to investigators, the juvenile gained unauthorised access to a test website designed for former Agniveers to register themselves and explore employment opportunities in other government departments.

17-year-old girl develops kidney ailment after 'using' fairness cream

Press Trust Of India



MALAPPURAM: A 17-year-old girl has developed a serious kidney ailment allegedly after using a fairness cream purchased online following its promotion by social media influencers, doctors treating her said on Saturday.

According to doctors at Aster MIMS Mother Hospital in Malappuram, the girl ordered the cream after watching promotional videos by Instagram influencers who claimed it could remove pimples, dark spots and pigmentation.

The girl told reporters that she contacted the sellers through a WhatsApp number provided on Instagram and ordered the product. She initially found the cream effective and ordered several more bottles over a period of one year. The girl said that she subsequently began experiencing health problems, including a sudden drop in blood pressure and fainting. She also developed swelling in her legs, making it difficult for her to walk and climb stairs, following which she approached the hospital.

Nephrologist Gowri S, who is treating the girl, told reporters that the detailed medical examinations detected dangerously high levels of mercury in her blood and body. "Mercury can severely damage the filtering units of the kidneys," she said, adding that the girl had developed membranous nephropathy, a serious kidney condition that could lead to further complications if left untreated.

| NEET PAPER LEAK CASE |

Delhi court formally frames charges against 14 accused

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Setting the stage for trial, a Delhi court on Saturday formally framed charges against 14 accused in the NEET paper leak case.

Special Judge Ajay Gupta framed charges against them after noting that they pleaded not-guilty.

The court had earlier said that there was a prima facie case against them for various offences, including cheating, criminal breach of trust, corruption and exam-related wrongdoings.

The three main accused - Manisha Gurunath Mandhare, P V Kulkarni and Manisha Sanjay Havaldar - were public servants as they were engaged by the National Testing Agency (NTA) and they procured the confidential questions illegally in conspiracy with the co-accused persons, the court had said. It had ordered that charges be framed against the trio for the offences of criminal conspiracy, criminal breach of trust, cheating and criminal misconduct by a public servant under the provisions of BNS and the Prevention of Corruption Act. About the other 11 accused - Tejas Harshadkumar Shah, Shivraj Motegaonkar, Manoj Shirure, Manisha Waghmare, Dhananjay Lokhande, Shubham Khairnar, Yash Yadav, Mangilal Biwal, Dinesh Biwal, Vikas Biwal and Sheshrao Suryawanshi, the court had said that these private individuals would face the Prevention of Corruption Act and breach of trust charges because they were part of the chain of the illegal distribution or exploitation of the confidential material connected to the three subject experts.

HIGHLIGHT

- **The CBI had earlier filed a charge sheet against 13 accused in a fast-track court dealing with criminal cases arising from paper leaks and the use of other unfair means in public examinations.**

NEWSLINE

AMARAVATI

Devotee to donate 121 kg gold ornaments

A devotee has come forward to donate 121 kg of gold ornaments valued at around Rs 160 crore to Tirupati Lord Venkateswara temple, and the donation is touted to be the largest ever individual donation to the globally famous hill shrine, government and TTD sources said.

"A devotee will offer 121 kg of gold ornaments to Lord Venkateswara at Tirumala on November 26. The offering comprises 45 ornaments arranged in nine sets, with an estimated value of Rs 150 to 160 crore," a government source told PTI on Saturday.

The devotee has completed consultations with Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) and will hand over the ornaments to the temple body at the temple, the source added.

HINGOLI

Two mild tremors felt

Two mild tremors were experienced in Pangra Shinde and nearby areas of Maharashtra's Hingoli district within a span of 12 hours on Friday and Saturday, triggering concern among residents.The first tremor was felt around 3 pm on Friday, while the second was experienced at around 2.30 am on Saturday, though there are no reports of damage to property or loss of life, officials said.

Villagers also reported rumbling sounds from underground before the tremors, they added.

The administration has acknowledged the reports, but the latest incidents have not been officially recorded, they said. Seismic activity has been reported in Pangra Shinde village and surrounding areas at regular intervals since 2019.

'Nagar Kirtan' ahead of Guru Nanak Jayanti



People perform traditional martial arts during 'Nagar Kirtan' ahead of the Guru Nanak Jayanti, in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, Saturday.

| CYCLONE 'AKVAN' |

20 flights cancelled due to bad weather triggered by cyclone 'Akvan'

Press Trust Of India

RANCHI: As many as 20 flights were cancelled at the Birsa Munda Airport here on Saturday due to inclement weather triggered by cyclone 'Akvan', an official said.

Jharkhand has been experiencing cloudy weather coupled with light rain since Friday under the influence of the cyclone.

For safe landing or take-off, a visibility between 1,200 and 1,500 metres is required.

"The visibility at Ranchi airport was around 1,000 metres until 1pm," Airport Director Vinod Kumar told PTI.

In all, 20 scheduled flights were cancelled due to bad weather, including six Air India Express flights, an airport official said.

In addition, four flights were diverted due to inclement weather.



The state's weather is likely to improve from Sunday with clearing of clouds, an IMD official said. "We are expecting the weather to improve from Sunday with dense fog in the morning hours. A clear sunshine is likely from November 23," Baburaj PP, director at Ranchi Meteorological Centre, told PTI.

Chaibasa Sadar in West Singbhum district recorded highest rainfall at 34.4 mm during the past 24 hours till 8.30am on Saturday.

| CLIMATE ACTIVIST |

India not a rogue state, says Sonam Wangchuk

Press Trust Of India

Wangchuk says police curbs withdrawn after court intervention



LEH/JAMMU: Climate activist Sonam Wangchuk on Saturday joined the Leh Apex Body (LAB)-led protest in Leh, alleging that he had been kept under effective house arrest since November 11 and that police withdrew the security deployment outside his residence only after the matter came up before the court.

Addressing a press conference with LAB chairman Chering Dorje Lakruk at the protest site, Wangchuk questioned the legality of the restrictions imposed on his movement and accused the administration of using police personnel to carry out unjustified actions.

He also appealed to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene, asserting that constitutional values and democratic freedoms must be upheld.

"India is not a rogue state. It is the world's largest democracy, and it has certain constitutional values and standards that must be upheld," he said.

HIGHLIGHT

- **Police on Friday night withdrew arrangements made to ensure compliance with a prohibitory order imposed against Wangchuk in Leh and said Wangchuk had not been placed under house arrest.**

FDA suspends licences of Amazon, BigBasket dark stores over food safety violations

PUNE: The Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on Saturday suspended the food licences of Amazon and BigBasket dark stores located on Sinhagad Road in Pune city after finding "serious violations" of food safety and hygiene norms, officials said.

The action was taken under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, after officials found expired food products, unhygienic conditions and violations of Schedule IV provisions at both establishments during their inspections, they said.

Dark stores are retail or warehouse-like facilities designed exclusively for fulfilling online orders. They are neighbourhood micro-fulfilment centres closed to walk-in shoppers that store high-demand items to power ultra-fast online deliveries.

During an inspection at the Amazon dark store operated by Gajanan Inventories, officials found expired laddoos, pedhas and other food products. They also observed fungus growing on expired products, and dust in food containers. A ghee container had a broken lid and oil was leaking from the cartons, officials said.

Improper pest control measures and a lack of records related to personnel hygiene and sanitation were also found. Food and non-food items, including soap and ghee containers, were found stored together, they said.

Raipur



It is taking inspiration from the lives of great personalities of past that the youth should play vital role in building good society and nation.

Kedar Kashyap

Minister for Forest & Climate Change

Asst Comm State GST nabbed taking bribe of Rs 1.50 lakh

ACB's Jagdalpur team nabbed an Assistant Comm with the State GST Department accepting bribe.

Central Chronicle News



JAGDALPUR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has taken significant action against corruption. The ACB's Jagdalpur team apprehended Anchala Giri, an Assistant Commissioner with the State GST Department posted in Kanker, while she was accepting a bribe of Rs 1.50 lakh. It is alleged that she demanded the bribe in exchange for releasing a vehicle that had been detained in connection with an e-way bill issue, and for providing relief in the related case.

Following the receipt of a complaint, the ACB verified the allegations and, on November 21, 2026, conducted a trap operation, catching the officer at her residence with the bribe money. An intermediary, Imran Memon, has also been implicated in the matter. The ACB has initiated proceedings against both individuals under the Prevention of Corruption Act. According to reports, the complainant, Shoaib Rangrez–a resident of Kanker–approached the Anti-Corruption Bureau, stating that the Assistant Commissioner had detained his vehicle over an e-way bill-related matter. It is alleged that she demanded a bribe to release the vehicle and provide relief in the case.

HIGHLIGHT

- **Anti-Corruption Bureau has initiated legal proceedings against both the official and the intermediary.**

The complainant stated that a sum of Rs 1.50 lakh was demanded to resolve the matter. Unwilling to pay the bribe, Shoaib Rangrez contacted the Anti-Corruption Bureau to ensure the officer was caught red-handed.

Following a verified complaint, the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) set a trap. Upon receiving the complaint, the ACB verified the allegations regarding the demand for a bribe. The verification confirmed the facts surrounding the bribe demand. Subsequently, the ACB Jagdalpur team planned a trap operation for November 21, 2026.

Following established procedures, the team initiated action to apprehend the accused official. During the operation, Assistant Commissioner Anchala Giri was nabbed at her residence with a bribe amount of Rs 1.5 lakh.

Govt has failed to get the survey done for crop damage: Baij

Central Chronicle News



RAIPUR: The Congress party has targeted the state government over the damage caused to crops in Chhattisgarh due to cyclonic storms and unseasonal rain.

In a press conference held on Saturday at Rajiv Bhawan in the capital, Raipur, Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) State Chief Deepak Baij alleged that the state has experienced three storms within the last 24 days.

These storms have caused extensive damage to farmers' crops. Baij claimed that approximately affected, yet the government has failed to conduct a survey of the damage so far. Deepak Baij stated that in many parts of the state, crops–both standing in the fields and those already harvested–have been ruined. At paddy procurement centers, the harvested grain is also getting soaked due to the rain. In the Bastar region, flood-like conditions emerged, and crops across hundreds of thousands of hectares are at risk of being destroyed. Despite this, the government has not taken any effective measures to provide relief to the farmers.

General Secretary (Organization) Malkit Singh and former minister Dhanendra Sahu were also present at the press conference. Baij demanded that the loans of farmers affected by this natural disaster be waived and that appropriate compensation be provided in proportion to the crop loss.

Thieves' gang operates brazenly in Naya Raipur; targets 500 KVA transformer



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: A series of thefts in the capital, Raipur, and its surrounding areas has once again raised questions regarding security arrangements. In Naya Raipur, thieves targeted a 500 KVA transformer, reportedly removing valuable components from inside before fleeing the scene. This incident has prompted concerns about the adequacy of police night patrols and overall security in Naya Raipur, including the area under the jurisdiction of the Mana police station.

According to reports, the thieves dismantled the 500 KVA transformer to steal the valuable materials contained within. The perpetrators managed to escape, leaving the local community unsettled. There is growing apprehension regarding the activity of local criminal gangs in the capital and its vicinity.

Govt takes prompt action on farmers' issues

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: For the 2026-27 paddy procurement season in the state of Chhattisgarh, the government has adopted a strict stance, initiating effective action down to the district level to address farmers' concerns and grievances. The departments of Land Records, Marketing, and Cooperation are working in close coordination to ensure that no registered farmer faces difficulties in selling their paddy. Farmers no longer need to make repeated visits to the Tehsil office for acreage-related corrections linked to 'AgriStack' and digital crop surveys. The society-level module now includes options for 'Khasra mapping' and syncing land details from the AgriStack database. Through this, society operators can add missing land parcels (Khasras), which are then updated following approval by the Tehsildar. Furthermore, data from digital crop surveys and 'PV' (Physical Verification) surveys are being published within Gram Panchayats, allowing for the physical verification and resolution of any objections. The process of resolving 8,202 claims and objections–received via Gram Sabhas–is currently underway across 12 Tehsils in the state.

In Balod district, records for 3,140 out of 5,743 farmers–who previously had a recorded acreage of zero–have been rectified; instructions have been issued to correct the remaining data within 2-3 days.

| SPECIAL FELICITATION CEREMONY |

Parents felicitated as 45 young women embrace Brahmakumaris' spiritual path

Central Chronicle News

A special felicitation ceremony was organised by PBIV to honour the parents of 45 young women.



NAVA RAIPUR: The Brahmakumaris' Shanti Shikhar campus hosted a special felicitation ceremony on Saturday to honour the parents of 45 young women who have decided to dedicate their lives to the Brahmakumaris institution.

The spiritually uplifting event witnessed the participation of parents and family members, along with senior functionaries of the Prajapita Brahmakumaris Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya (PBIV) from across the country and abroad.

Addressing the gathering, Additional Chief Administrative Head of the institution, Rajyogini Jayanthi Didi, said parents who dedicate their daughters to the cause of world welfare are truly fortunate. She said the young women would establish an eternal bond with the Almighty and inspire thousands of souls to follow the path of peace and happiness, contributing to the transformation of the world. Regional Director of the Indore Zone, Brahma Kumari Hemlata Didi, praised the young women for their firm resolve, expressing confidence that they would uphold purity and discipline while bringing pride to both the institution and their families. Brahma Kumari Manorama Didi, Chairperson of the Religious Wing from Prayagraj, described their dedication to the Almighty as a symbol of courage, determination and conviction, calling them the 'modern Meeras' of Kaliyuga.

| FROM STEAM TO ELECTRIC |

'Raipur Loco Shed enters a new era'

Central Chronicle News





BILASPUR: The Diesel Locomotive Shed (DLS), Raipur, under South East Central Railway (SECR), is preparing for a major transformation with the expansion of its electric locomotive maintenance facilities. In July 2026, the Railway Ministry approved a Rs 175-crore project to provide homing facilities for 250 additional three-phase electric locomotives.

Established in May 1995 with just 10 locomotives, the shed now maintains over 284 engines and supports freight operations serving Chhattisgarh's coal, steel and cement industries.

Raipur's railway maintenance legacy dates back to the narrow-gauge steam era. The Bengal Nagpur Railway began construction of the Raipur-Dhamtari line in October 1896 as a famine-relief project. Services commenced in 1900, with the Abhanpur-Rajim branch added in 1909. Steam operations gave way to diesel services in 1987, while the last narrow-gauge train ran on April 30, 2017, after 117 years.

The foundation of the present diesel shed was laid in February 1993, and operations began in May 1995. Following the railway zone reorganisation in 2003, it became part of SECR. Its capacity was increased to 100 locomotives in 2008, while the number of engines maintained crossed 200 in 2018 and 240 in 2021. The shed has handled several classes, including WDS-6, WDG-3A, WDG-4 and WAG-7 locomotives.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

VIBRANT PERFORMANCES

Spectacular showcase of talent at 'Euphoria' leaves audience spellbound



RAIPUR: The Junior Wing (Nursery to Class V) of Shri Gujrati English Medium Higher Secondary School celebrated its Annual Day, 'Euphoria', with great joy and enthusiasm at Gyanodaya Bhavan. The programme was graced by Chief Guest Ramji Bhai Patel, President, Patron Committee, and Special Guest Jayanti Bhai Patel, President, Executive Committee. Under the able guidance of Principal Shailesh Sharma and with the support of the Vice Principals, the event was organised successfully. The programme began with Saraswati Vandana and Ganesh Vandana dance, followed by a warm welcome song and a series of delightful cultural performances by the little students.

The highlights included Shiv Shakti Mahima, Mahishasur Mardini, Ramleela and Krishna Leela, which remained the centre of special attraction. Colourful presentations like Punjab, South Ke Rang, Rajasthan Ki Yatra and a patriotic performance beautifully showcased the richness of Indian culture, tradition and art. The main objective of the event was to encourage the all-round development of children and provide them a strong platform to showcase their talent, boosting their confidence, creativity and expression skills.

EMPOWERING WOMEN

Women's Chamber to host 'Explore Your Energy' workshop on Nov 22

RAIPUR: The Women's Chamber of Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCCI) will organise an inspirational and personality development workshop, 'E.Y.E. - Explore Your Energy', on Sunday, November 22, at 12 noon at the G.S.S. Girls' Hostel Seminar Hall, Samta Colony.

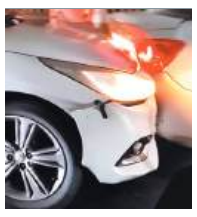
Organised under the theme 'Swavalamban Se Udit - Udaya (New Awareness, New Future)', the workshop aims to promote self-reliance, personal growth and entrepreneurial development among women.

Dr Varnika Sharma, Chairperson of the Chhattisgarh Commission for Protection of Child Rights, will be the chief guest. Dr Ashish Patni, Guinness World Records holder and founder of Bhavishyam Vedic College and the E.Y.E. programme, will be the keynote speaker. He will share practical insights into self-discovery, unlocking one's potential and bringing positive changes in life.

The workshop will cover self-awareness and energy management, stress management, work-life balance, and the practical application of traditional sciences such as astrology, Vastu, numerology, Panchatatva and mantra science.

ACCIDENT AT VIP ROAD

Vehicles collide on VIP Road, video sparks widespread discussion



RAIPUR: The capital of Chhattisgarh, witnessed chaos on the roads following a sudden storm. On VIP Road, within the jurisdiction of the Telibandha police station, strong winds led to a collision between two vehicles. The sudden change in weather and high-velocity winds caused significant difficulties for motorists. A video of the incident has surfaced, sparking widespread discussion.

According to reports, a sudden, intense storm hit the VIP Road area of Raipur. The increasing wind speeds created hazardous conditions for vehicles on the road, during which one vehicle collided with another. The incident triggered chaos, leaving drivers struggling to maintain control amidst the sudden storm. The flow of traffic was severely disrupted by the strong winds. While the extent of the damage to the vehicles is not yet known, the incident has drawn significant attention. A video of the collision on VIP Road has emerged, fueling further conversation about the incident. It is reported that the high winds caused one vehicle to strike another, creating a chaotic situation on the road. At present, there is no official information available regarding any injuries or other damages resulting from this incident. The event took place within the jurisdiction of the Telibandha police station in Raipur.

SWIMMING COMPETITION

Swapnil and Monika shine in Inter-Collegiate Swimming Tournament



RAIPUR: Under the aegis of Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University (PRSU), the Inter-Collegiate Swimming (Men and Women) Competition was organised by Government Dudhadhari Bajrang Girls' College at the Union Club in Raipur. Organising college's Sports Officer Dr. Karmishth Shambharkar informed that a total of 16 male and 5 female swimmers from 10 colleges participated in the event. Based on the tournament performances, the PRSU Raipur swimming team was constituted, which will go on to represent the university at the upcoming All India Inter-University Championship in Chennai. In the men's category, Swapnil Yadav of Pt. Harishankar College, Raipur dominated the pool by clinching gold in three events: 50m Freestyle (28.99 sec), 50m Backstroke (36.15 sec), and 50m Butterfly (32.15 sec). Indrajeet Sahu of UTD secured second place in both the 50m Freestyle (34.10 sec) and 50m Backstroke (56.31 sec), while UTD's Harsh Verma finished runner-up in the 50m Butterfly (35.91 sec). Rohan Pal of Government College, Dharsiwa won the 50m Breaststroke (51.58 sec), and in the 100m Freestyle, Chandan of Government College, Nagri (Dhamtari) took first place (1:30.83 min), followed by Bhushan Lal of Government PG College, Dhamtari (1:38.15 min).

Raipur News

University doors open to guide young scientists: VC

The state-level Children's Science Congress concluded under the 32nd National Children's Science Congress.

Central Chronicle News



RAIPUR: The State-Level Children's Science Congress, held as part of the 32nd National Children's Science Congress-2026, concluded with great enthusiasm today at Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur. The event, organized by the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology in collaboration with the university on November 20 and 21, saw young scientists from across the state showcase their talent through research projects and scientific models. A total of 156 research projects were presented, which were evaluated by 15 subject experts from various universities and colleges. In total, 16 groups of young scientists–comprising 10 from the senior category and 6 from the junior category–were selected for the national level based on their outstanding performance.

Addressing the closing ceremony, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sachchidanand Shukla praised the talent and scientific outlook of the young participants. He emphasized that textbook knowledge alone is not enough to become a scientist; one must also observe the events happening around them, understand their underlying causes, and consistently ask questions. Curiosity is the true cornerstone of innovation. He advised the children not to measure their talent solely by the rank achieved in a competition. Success is not limited to securing the first, second, or third position; rather, the true beginning of a scientific achievement lies in perceiving a problem from a fresh perspective, finding solutions, and developing one's own ideas. Citing an innovative example from daily life, he explained how even a small initiative–such as a 'pen bin' designed to collect discarded plastic pens–can make a significant contribution toward environmental conservation. He noted that innovation exists all around us; all that is required is an observant eye and creative thinking.

Great scientific discoveries begin with small questions: Kavishwar In his presidential address, Prashant Kavishwar, Director General of the Chhattisgarh Council of Science and Technology (CCOST), stated that the purpose of science and innovation is not merely to develop new technology, but also to find practical and scientific solutions to the problems faced by society.

Every major scientific discovery begins with a small question, a spark of curiosity, or a specific problem. He encouraged children to ask the right questions, understand the root causes of problems, and–with the guidance of their teachers–seek solutions using the scientific method.

FASTFACTS

- Children Should Develop the Habit of Asking the Right Questions and Seeking Solutions Scientifically – Director General Shri Prashant Kavishwar

Today's young scientists are the great scientists of the future: Dr. Manju Singh

Dr. Manju Singh, Director of the Department of Pharmacy at Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, encouraged the young scientists, stating that every student participating in the event is a winner.

The innovative ideas and presentations from these young scientists provided an opportunity for teachers and experts alike to learn something new. The talent displayed by these children inspires confidence that, in the future, some of them could become renowned scientists, major inventors, or even researchers who achieve prestigious honours, such as a Nobel Prize. 16 selected groups to represent Chhattisgarh at the national level Following their outstanding performance at the state-level Children's Science Congress, 10 groups from the senior category and 6 groups from the junior category have been selected to represent the state at the national level.

CM Sai's Jandarshan on Nov 26

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai's Jan Darshan programme will be held on Thursday, November 26. The programme will take place at the Chief Minister's Residence, Civil Lines, Raipur, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, where Chief Minister Shri Sai will interact directly with the public to hear their grievances and demands.

During the Jan Darshan, the Chief Minister will listen to citizens' problems and give necessary directives to the concerned officials for their prompt and appropriate resolution.

CG to host Nat'nl Badminton Ch'ship from Nov 24

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh Badminton Association is set to host the 5th Mini Junior (Under-11 Age Group) National Badminton Championship from November 24 to 27, 2026 at city-based Court. Carrying a total prize pool of Rs 4 lakh, the tournament marks a historic milestone as it is the first time Chhattisgarh is hosting an official national-level badminton competition. Approximately 250 young boys and girls representing 30 states and union territories from across the country will participate in the four-day championship.

IT dept raid unearth irregularities worth crores

Central Chronicle News

IT department raids on the premises of state-based Barbrik Construction and PLR Group have reportedly revealed financial irregularities amounting to Rs 225 crore.



HIGHLIGHT

- Evidence of financial irregularities worth Rs 225 crore found during the raids.
- Rs 14 crore in cash, gold and silver jewellery worth Rs 20 cr, and business-related data recovered.

RAIPUR: Trouble appears to be mounting for the Barbrik Construction and PLR Group–entities involved in the coal, iron, and road construction sectors in Chhattisgarh. A three-day-long raid by the Income Tax Department has uncovered preliminary evidence of financial irregularities totalling approximately Rs 225 crore. During the operation, authorities seized nearly Rs 14 crore in cash, gold and silver jewellery, and significant digital evidence pertaining to the businesses. Additionally, jewellery valued at around Rs 20 crore has been assessed from different lockers. The exact amount of tax evasion by both the firms has still not being disclosed by the IT department and would be known only after analysis of the documents seized and its thorough scrutiny.

Led by DDIT (Income Tax Department) Naval Jain, a team of over 120 officials carried out this operation. Simultaneous raids were conducted across five districts in Chhattisgarh, as well as in Mumbai and Nagpur (Maharashtra), and Ranchi and Jamshedpur (Jharkhand). A total of 50 locations were searched, 36 of which were in Chhattisgarh. During the operation, 25 bank lockers belonging to the two business groups were opened, and the assets stored within them were examined. A startling fact has emerged from the investigation: the businesses of both groups have reportedly grown nearly 100-fold over the last 10 years.

The Income Tax Department is now examining whether the income declared and the taxes paid are commensurate with this explosive growth in business. The Income Tax Department had been investigating the financial transactions of both groups for the past three months. The extensive raids were launched after discrepancies were discovered between the income declared over the last five years.

NEWSLINE

SPORTS

Masters Ranking T'T tourney from today

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh Veterans Table Tennis Committee, under the aegis of the Chhattisgarh Table Tennis Association (CTTA), will host the 2nd Late Shri Purushottam Bhai Chawda Memorial Chhattisgarh State Masters Ranking Table Tennis Tournament-2026 tomorrow, November 22, at the Sapre School Table Tennis Hall in Raipur. All preparations at the venue for the participants and officials have been completed, and matches are scheduled to commence at 9:30 AM. Sharing details via a press release, CTTA Secretary Sarthak Shukla informed that around 120 players and officials from various districts across Chhattisgarh are participating in the tournament, which will be played on a league basis. The competition will be conducted across seven categories in total, comprising Men's Singles in the 40+, 50+, 60+, 65+, and 70+ age groups, alongside Women's Singles in the 40+ and 60+ age groups.

SELECTED

5 tribal youths selected

RAIPUR: Five tribal youths from Chhattisgarh's Jashpur district have been selected for an international rock climbing guide training programme conducted by a US-based institution, officials said on Saturday.

The selected candidates will undergo training by the Professional Climbing Guides Institute (PCGI) in Bengaluru in December, in collaboration with ROMP, an organisation associated with major rock climbing events in India, they said.

The five selected youths are Tejal Bhagat, Rusnath Bhagat, Sachin Kujur, Prateek Nayak and Ravi Singh, an official statement said.

Upon successful completion of the training and assessment, four of them are expected to receive PCGI Level-1 certification, while one will receive the advanced Level-2 certification, it said.

AIIMS-R, ALAF sign MoU for cancer treatment to children

Central Chronicle News

AIIMS-R and ALAF signed MoU to provide essential support to children undergoing cancer treatment at the Institute.



HIGHLIGHT

- ALAF has been extending similar support to children with cancer and their families across 15 locations in India.

RAIPUR: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Raipur, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Access Life Assistance Foundation (ALAF), a Mumbai-based non-governmental organisation, to provide essential support to children undergoing cancer treatment at the Institute and their families throughout the treatment journey. Cancer treatment in children often involves prolonged hospital stays and frequent visits over several months or even years. For families from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, the expenses associated with travel, accommodation and daily living can pose significant financial challenges, sometimes affecting the continuity of treatment.

Under this collaboration, ALAF will provide free accommodation near the hospital for children undergoing cancer treatment and their caregivers, along with nutritious meals, transportation, non-formal education and counselling services.

These facilities will help ease the financial and logistical burden on families and enable children to continue their treatment without unnecessary interruptions. ALAF has been extending similar support to children with cancer and their families across 15 locations in India. This partnership with AIIMS Raipur is an important step towards strengthening accessible, compassionate and family-centred paediatric cancer care in Chhattisgarh and neighbouring regions.

The MoU was formally signed on 20 November 2026 by Lt Gen Ashok Jindal (Retd.), Executive Director, AIIMS Raipur, and Mr Girish Nair, Founding Chairman, Access Life Assistance Foundation, on behalf of their respective organisations.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dr Eli Mohapatra, Dean (Academics); Dr Debendra Tripathy, Medical Superintendent; Dr Nighat Hussain, Associate Dean (Academics); and Dr Virat Galhotra, Additional Medical Superintendent, AIIMS Raipur.

| XPLORICA 4.0 |

Xplorica 4.0 brings 2,300 students together at ITM University Raipur

Central Chronicle News

ITM University hosted Xplorica 4.0, promoting creativity, innovation and experiential learning opportunities.



RAIPUR: ITM University Raipur successfully organised the fourth edition of its flagship school outreach initiative, Xplorica 4.0, bringing together nearly 2,300 students from 33 schools, accompanied by 102 teachers and three school principals. The event provided students with opportunities to move beyond conventional classroom learning and explore creativity, innovation, interaction and practical experiences. It encouraged participants to discover new interests, develop confidence and exchange ideas. Xplorica 4.0 featured 18 interactive workshops, two Youth Parliament sessions, two Design Thinking Labs, three Zumba sessions and three dance parties, creating an engaging atmosphere for students.

The Youth Parliament sessions helped participants strengthen public-speaking and leadership skills, while Design Thinking Labs encouraged creativity, innovation and problem-solving abilities. Dr. Lakshmi Murthy, Pro Vice Chancellor, ITM University Raipur, emphasised that education extends beyond textbooks and examinations. She said such initiatives provide children with opportunities to explore, interact and develop confidence through meaningful experiences.

Mohan Gauda, AGM-Marketing, highlighted the importance of practical exposure, experimentation and connecting classroom knowledge with real-world applications. Aafreen Khan, AGM-Marketing, said students possess diverse interests and innovative ideas and require opportunities to explore new skills and express themselves freely. The programme's successful execution reflected the collective efforts of university faculty, marketing, administration and operations teams.

| FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION |

'Experts deliberate on formulating effective rules'

Central Chronicle News



RAIPUR: Under the guidance of the Minister for Forest and Climate Change, Kedar Kashyap, the Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board (CSBB) organized a state-level consultation workshop in Raipur yesterday regarding the draft State Biodiversity Rules, 2026. The workshop focused on deliberations concerning biodiversity conservation, the sustainable use of biological resources, and the strengthening of management systems. Participants included members and the technical committee of the Chhattisgarh State Biodiversity Board, senior departmental officials, scientists, researchers, academicians, representatives from civil society organizations, and various stakeholders involved in biodiversity conservation and management. Addressing the workshop, Amitabh Bajpai, Member Secretary of the State Biodiversity Board, stated that it is essential to formulate effective state-level rules in alignment with the amendments to the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, and the changes in the national regulatory framework. He emphasized that the participation of all stakeholders is crucial to ensure that the new rules are inclusive and tailored to the specific needs of the state.

During the workshop, detailed information was presented regarding the key provisions, amendments, and the institutional and procedural frameworks of the proposed State Biodiversity Rules, 2026. Experts and stakeholders offered their suggestions on various provisions. Discussions also covered practical challenges in implementing the rules, the need for clarifications, and potential improvements. Experts underscored the importance of strengthening the institutional framework for biodiversity management.



Bhilai



"Traders and citizens are urged to cooperate in maintaining smooth traffic flow and refrain from encroaching upon roads and public spaces."

Vijay Agrawal
(SSP, Durg)

312 cheque bounce cases worth over Rs 7.81 crore settled

A total of 312 pending cases under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act were resolved, resulting in a total settlement amount of Rs 7,81,21,753.

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Durg, successfully organized the second Special Lok Adalat of 2026 today, bringing swift and amicable resolution to 312 cheque bounce cases with settlements totalling over Rs 7.81 crore.

Held under the directives of NALSA and the guidance of the Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority, the event was inaugurated at 10:30 AM by First District and Additional Sessions Judge Sheikh Ashraf, alongside Chief Judicial Magistrate Bhupesh Kumar Basant, DLSA Secretary Umesh Kumar Bhagwatkar, and District Bar Association office bearers.



Members of the Bar and Bench at the Lok Adalat.

To maximize outreach, 17 benches were set up across Durg and its tehsil courts in Bhilai-3, Patan, and Dhamdha. Designed to bypass prolonged litigation under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, the Lok Adalat provided disputing parties a collaborative platform to negotiate mutually agreeable terms.

DLSA Secretary Umesh Kumar Bhagwatkar noted that such initiatives not only reduce judicial backlogs and save litigants' time and money, but also preserve vital business and social relationships. He extended gratitude to all judicial officers, advocates, court staff, and litigants for making the drive a success, reaffirming the authority's commitment to accessible, dialogue-driven justice.

FASTFACTS

- **Seventeen dedicated benches were constituted across Durg District Court (14) and tehsil civil courts in Bhilai-3, Patan, and Dhamdha (1 each) to ensure accessible justice.**

Adulterated and stale food destroyed; licenses suspended

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: To ensure pure and safe food for citizens, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is conducting a special awareness and inspection drive titled 'Santulit Aahar, Hamar Adhikar' across Durg district from November 16 to 30.

Acting on the directives of Food Safety Commissioner Deepak Agrawal and Designated Officer Jitendra Nele, a team led by Senior Food Safety Officer Richa Sharma and Food Safety Officer Naradram Komre is intensively inspecting eateries, restaurants, dhabas, and canteens. During raids, food items containing artificial colors, insects, or



stale ingredients are being destroyed on the spot. Establishments lacking proper hygiene or found with discrepancies in their food licenses and registrations are facing immediate suspension.

The department confirmed the drive will continue until November 30, warning operators to maintain strict cleanliness, use fresh ingredients, and update documents, or face stringent legal action under the Food Safety and Standards Act.

NEWSLINE

BISHNOI GANG

Businessman gets extortion threat

BHILAI: Shashank Chopra, a pharmaceutical supplier and director of Mokshit Corporation in Durg, Chhattisgarh, has allegedly received a Rs 15 crore extortion demand. On November 19, he reportedly received a threatening WhatsApp voice note and call from someone claiming ties to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang, warning a family member would be killed if the money went unpaid. Chopra filed an FIR at Kotwali police station that evening, and police have stationed guards outside his residence for three days while investigating.

CIVIC POLLS

Employee leaves cancelled

BHILAI: In view of ongoing voter list updates and preparations for the 2026 Municipal Corporation General Elections, the Bhilai Municipal Corporation Commissioner has issued an order prohibiting all officers and employees from taking leave or leaving the headquarters without prior approval. According to the directive issued on Nov 20, staff members must obtain mandatory permission from the Returning Officer before proceeding on leave. The order, effective immediately, warns that strict disciplinary action will be initiated against any employee found leaving the headquarters.

DURG

Job Fair on November 26

BHILAI: The District Employment and Self-Employment Guidance Centre, Durg, will organize a division-level job fair on November 26 at its Malviya Nagar office. According to the Deputy Director of Employment, four private-sector employers have notified 195 technical and non-technical vacancies for candidates holding Class 10, Class 12, graduation, ITI, diploma, and engineering qualifications. Interested candidates must register on the e-Rojgar portal (www.erojgar.cg.gov.in) or the CG Rojgar App, apply online, and attend the fair with all educational documents.

PM SVANIDHI

Pending applications reviewed

BHILAI: Following Collector Abhijit Singh's directives, the Lead Bank Office, Durg, held a review meeting to clear pending PM SVANidhi applications across Durg, Bhilai, Risali, and Bhilai-Charoda municipal areas. Attended by Durg Municipal Commissioner Leena Kosam, Bhilai Municipal Commissioner Suruchi Singh, and Lead Bank Manager Sanjay Garg alongside branch managers, the meeting involved a branch-wise review of delays. Garg noted that banks have been instructed to prioritize government-sponsored schemes every Tuesday and Friday.

|BHARTI VISHWAVIDYALAYA|

National conference on research and innovation held

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Bharti Vishwavidyalaya organized a one-day National Conference themed "Research, Innovation and Intellectual Capital: Strengthening Multidisciplinary Ecosystems in Higher Education". Graced by Chief Guest Prof. (Dr.) Lalit Prakash Pateria, Vice-Chancellor of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, the event featured eminent dignitaries including Dr.



R.R.B. Singh, Vice-Chancellor of DSVCKV, Durg, and Prof. (Dr.) Ashish Kumar Srivastava from Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur. Speakers emphasized that quality research and intellectual property rights are crucial for building a knowledge-based society. Scholars and faculty presented over 20 research papers during the sessions. University Chancellor Sushil Chandrakar, Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) B.N. Tiwari, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr. Alok Bhatt, Director Dr. R.P. Agrawal, and Registrar Dr. Virendra Kumar Swarnkar attended alongside organizing team members and students.

Union demands resolution

BHILAI: The Durg district unit of the Chhattisgarh Pradesh Tritiya Varg Shaskiya Karmachari Sangh has submitted a memorandum to the District Collector demanding the time-bound resolution and prompt payment of pending medical reimbursement claims for government employees, retirees, and pensioners. District President Bhanu Pratap Yadav stated that the issue was previously raised during the District Advisory Committee meeting on December 19, 2025.

|FEMINA MISS INDIA EAST|

Dr Anushka debuts in music video

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Celebrating the vibrant culture, heritage, and mother tongue of Chhattisgarh, the upcoming Chhattisgarhi music video 'Ka Jadu Dare Gori Re' is set to captivate audiences. The project marks the much-anticipated music video debut for both lead artists, Femina Miss India East Dr. Anushka Sone and Raj Chandrakar. Fulfilling a long-cherished dream expressed in several media interviews to begin her acting journey



from her home soil, Dr. Anushka Sone showcases her deep attachment and respect for Chhattisgarhi culture through this debut. The track features melodious vocals by popular singers Acharya Sahu and Anita Mandal, renowned for their hit song 'Maya Maya Hoge'. Directed by Sumeet Basaiwala and produced by Anant Kumar under the banner of Maa Tara Records Chhattisgarhi, the music video serves as a vibrant platform promoting regional language, art, and local talent.

|SARDARA 2|

Short film to highlight family values

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Following the success of his acclaimed short film 'Sardara', Chhattisgarh-based writer and director Nishu Pandey is ready with its sequel, 'Sardara 2'. The upcoming Hindi short film delves into modern family dynamics, highlighting growing ideological conflicts between two generations and the troubles caused by youth stubbornness. Pandey noted



that hectic lifestyles have eroded family communication, creating emotional distances that outsiders often exploit. Marking Pandey's seventh Hindi short film and producer-lead actor Sardar Karamjit Singh's third project, the film features Pallavi Vishwakarma in a pivotal role alongside a large ensemble cast. Technical credits include cinematography by Manmohan Tiwari, editing by Shrimant Barik, and audio post-production by Sanjeev Nanda at Bhilai's Apratim Studio. Pandey confirmed the 'Sardara' series will continue, adding that he is currently scripting a Hindi feature film slated to bring together Bollywood and Chhollywood talent.

|WORKSHOP|

Cops trained on NDPS Act and new laws

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: To enhance investigative quality and ensure effective implementation of the NDPS Act and new criminal laws, Durg Police organized a one-day training program on Saturday at the Dadhichi Training Hall, Rakshit Kendra. Over 80 police personnel, including inspectors, sub-inspectors, and assistant sub



-inspectors, participated. Sessions covered legal procedures for search, seizure, and evidence collection under the NDPS Act. Prosecution officials Bhim Singh Rajput, Shiksha Meshram, Suraj Sharma, and Prakash Sharma addressed common investigative errors through lectures and an open Q&A session. DIG and Senior Superintendent of Police Vijay Agrawal lectured on executing permanent warrants and clearing pending cases, while ASP (Rural) Manishankar Chandra directed personnel to ensure fair, transparent, and legally compliant investigations.

Aditya awarded Ph.D. in Computer Science

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Aditya Tiwari has been awarded the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree by Chhattisgarh Swami Vivekanand Technical University (CSVTU), Bhilai, after successfully completing his open defense in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. His doctoral research was jointly supervised



by Dr. Jyoti Pillai, Professor at Bhilai Institute of Technology (BIT), Durg, and Dr. Rekh Ram Janghel, Professor at National Institute of Technology (NIT), Raipur. Titled "Advanced Predictive Analytics for E-Commerce Applications," his thesis utilizes Artificial Intelligence, Deep Learning, and Machine Learning to analyze customer purchasing behavior, optimize product recommendations, forecast demand, and improve inventory management. Currently active in higher education and research, Tiwari credited his achievement to his supervisors, faculty, colleagues, and family for their constant guidance and support.

Sreemad Bhagavatha Sapthaha underway

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: The 38th Sreemad Bhagavatha Sapthaha Yajnam is currently underway at the Sree Dharma Sastha Temple, bringing devotees together for a seven-day celebration of prayer and Lord Krishna's teachings during the Malayalam month of Vrischikam. Continuing a 37-year tradition, organizers have transitioned this year from the traditional Kilippattu recitation style to the Moola Bhagavatha Sapthaha Satsangam format to help



attendees better grasp the sacred text's philosophical essence. The sessions are being led under the principal guidance of Yajna Chudamani Brahmasree P. N. Neelakanta Sharma and Bhagavatha Choodamani P. N. Narayana Namboothiri, alongside spiritual and musical contributors including Indira Antharjanam, Prasad Babu Raj, Satheesh Kumar, and keyboardist Budhanoor Manikuttan. Temple authorities have invited devotees and families to participate in the ongoing spiritual gathering.

|BRAHMA KUMARIS|

Embrace patience, peace & truth: Jayanti Didi

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: In today's turbulent times, individuals must empower themselves spiritually to become instruments for transforming others, stated Rajyogini Jayanti Didi, Joint Chief Administrator of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. Addressing a gathering at the Peace Auditorium in Sector-7, she emphasized

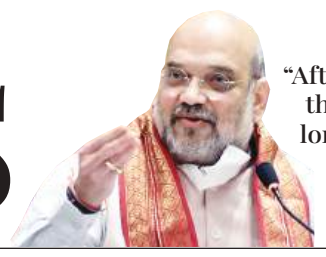


imbibing divine virtues such as patience, compassion, peace, and truth. Jayanti Didi noted that amidst global upheavals and crises, India is poised to emerge as the epicenter of spiritual strength, provided every soul strengthens itself through thoughts, words, and actions. She urged attendees to discard wasteful and negative thoughts, cultivate inner stability through Rajyoga, and practice the "power of silence" to achieve self-transformation before helping others. She also reminded everyone to maintain a benevolent attitude toward humanity and fulfill their responsibilities toward nature and the environment. The event began with a welcome dance by the Divine Group children. Bhilai Service Centres Director Rajyogini Asha Didi welcomed the guests, while Religious Wing National Coordinator Rajyogini Manorama Didi from Prayagraj also shared her insights. Brahma Kumari Hansa Didi, Devi Didi, and Rakhi Didi from Mount Abu graced the beautifully illuminated auditorium.

Report crop damage within 72 hours for claims

BHILAI: Following unseasonal rainfall triggered by Cyclone Akwan, the Agriculture Department has urged farmers to report crop losses within 72 hours to avail benefits under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Farmers must notify the insurance company via toll-free numbers 14447 (Krishi Rakshak Portal) or 7065514447, through the pmfby.gov.in portal, or via the Crop Insurance App. While reporting, farmers need to provide their name, mobile number, village, tehsil, district, khasra number, insured crop, policy number, and damage date. According to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, insurance firms will conduct surveys within 10 days. Harvested paddy stored in fields remains covered for 14 days post-harvest.

N-E-W-S



"After the end of Article 370, the youth of Kashmir no longer have the feeling of separatism."

Amit Shah
Union Home Minister

Innovators can help India break limits: PM Modi

At IIT Kharagpur's platinum jubilee, Modi links innovation with India's development ambitions.

Press Trust Of India



KHARAGPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said India had demonstrated over the past 12 years that changing the limits of thinking could help the country realise its potential, create opportunities and empower poorer sections. Addressing the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur in West Bengal, he said nations recognise their capabilities when they move beyond established boundaries of thought. The Prime Minister described the institute's 75-year journey as an important contribution to India's development and innovation profile. He said the next two decades would be crucial for building a developed India, and urged young people to approach challenges with confidence, creativity and national and social responsibility.

He said progress depended on young minds using knowledge, research and innovation to address practical challenges. He also underlined the role of institutions such as IIT Kharagpur in preparing skilled professionals and supporting technological advancement.

Established in 1951, IIT Kharagpur was India's first Indian Institute of Technology. Its platinum jubilee marks 75 years of contribution to higher education, scientific research and technology development. The institute has produced engineers, researchers, entrepreneurs and public leaders who have contributed to different sectors. The celebrations brought together students, faculty members, alumni and invitees to mark the institution's legacy and discuss its future role. The Prime Minister's address focused on innovation, ambition and national development, linking the institute's history with India's national aspirations.

HIGHLIGHT

- He says research-minded youth will be crucial to building a developed India.

India seeks critical mineral supplies through reforms



Central Chronicle News

NEW DELHI: India is looking beyond domestic resources to secure strategic critical mineral supplies, with the government encouraging overseas investments, exploration and policy reforms to strengthen supply chains. Mines Secretary Keshav Chandra outlined the approach at an industry interaction organised by the Ministry of Mines and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).The government's focus areas include geological exploration, responsible mining, advanced processing, research, recycling and technology-enabled governance. These measures are intended to improve the competitiveness of India's mining sector and reduce vulnerabilities in supplies required by modern industries.

FASTFACTS

- New policy paper seeks to convert overseas agreements into operational critical-mineral projects.

NEWSLINE

MOHALI

Punjab ASI murder suspect arrested

Punjab Police have arrested a key suspect in the murder of Assistant Sub-Inspector Iqbal Singh following an encounter at a hotel in Zirakpur near Chandigarh. A woman alleged to be his accomplice has also been detained. The arrested suspect has been identified as Amandeep Singh, alias Harpreet Singh and Happy Bahman, who is allegedly associated with the Donny Bal gang.

The operation was jointly conducted by the Anti-Gangster Task Force and Mohali Police. According to police officials, investigators tracked the suspect across Chandigarh, New Delhi and Jaipur before locating him at the hotel. During the raid.

IMPHAL

Liquor tragedy claims 13 lives

At least 13 people have died and more than 300 have been hospitalised after allegedly consuming spurious liquor in Manipur's Chandel district, police said on Saturday. The incident has triggered concern over the availability and distribution of illicit alcoholic beverages in the region. According to officials, the affected persons began falling ill after consuming the suspected liquor from November 18 onwards. Several patients were admitted to hospitals with serious symptoms.

| ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY |

MSME ministry highlights support for women-led major enterprises

Press Trust Of India

Officials discuss finance, technology and market access to strengthen women-led businesses nationwide.



NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises on Saturday highlighted the importance of strengthening women-led businesses, marking Women Entrepreneurship Day 2026 in association with the India SME Forum. The programme brought together policymakers, lenders and women entrepreneurs to discuss ways to expand opportunities. It was held in New Delhi on November 19. The event was organised around four themes: Enable, Accelerate, Digitise and Globalise. Discussions focused on improving access to finance, markets, technology, skills and global value chains, helping women become successful business leaders. The ministry said women-led enterprises could contribute to employment and inclusive growth. Union MSME Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi attended as chief guest, while Minister of State for MSME and Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje was the guest of honour.

Gang shooters held in firing case

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police have arrested three alleged shooters and operatives of the Rohit Godara gang in connection with an extortion-related firing incident outside a businessman's residence in Pitampura, northwest Delhi. The arrests were announced on Saturday by police officials. The incident occurred on October 28 when several rounds were fired outside the residence of businessman Sahil Jain, alias Google. Some bullets were directed towards his car. Investigators subsequently suspected that the attack was connected with an extortion demand linked to the gang.

| BULLET TRAIN CORRIDOR |

Bullet train corridor advances as Surat-Bilimora section gets overhead power

Press Trust Of India



SURAT: A 50-kilometre section of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train corridor between Surat and Bilimora has received overhead power supply infrastructure, marking a construction milestone for India's first high-speed rail project. The development was reported Saturday as work continued in Gujarat. The overhead equipment is essential for supplying electricity to high-speed trains and forms part of the railway's traction system. Its installation indicates progress in the trackside electrical infrastructure required before testing and eventual train operations can begin. The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project is being implemented by the National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited. The corridor is designed to connect Mumbai with Ahmedabad through major urban and industrial centres in Maharashtra and Gujarat. It is expected to reduce travel time between the two cities once operational.

| INFRASTRUCTURE |

Centre sanctions Rs 62.22 crore for two Assam infrastructure projects

Press Trust Of India



GUWAHATI: The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has sanctioned Rs 62.22 crore for infrastructure projects in Assam, aimed at strengthening tourism facilities and community facilities. The approvals were cleared by the Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee under DoNER Secretary Katikithala Srinivas. The project, estimated at Rs 59.28 crore, will support the development of an eco-resort in Chirang district. The project is expected to improve tourism infrastructure and create local employment. A second project, costing Rs 2.94 crore, will provide a community hall at Dehangi Bazar in Dima Hasao district.

The ministry's initiatives address infrastructure gaps and promote balanced growth across the northeastern states. The projects will support communities by improving public gathering facilities and visitor amenities. Officials said the proposals were considered under the region's development framework, which focuses on infrastructure creation and improved economic opportunities in areas that require targeted support.

Creative Minds of Tomorrow inaugurated at IFFI



The sixth edition of Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT) was inaugurated at the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa on Saturday.

| COMMUNITY TOURISM |

Meghalaya showcases community tourism model at global summit in Shillong



SHILLONG: Meghalaya's community-led approach to tourism was highlighted at the Global Responsible Tourism Summit and Awards, held at Ward's Lake in Shillong. The event brought together government representatives, tourism professionals and community organisations to discuss ways of expanding tourism while protecting natural and cultural heritage. Chief Secretary Shakil P. Ahammed inaugurated the summit and described local communities as central to Meghalaya's tourism model.

Assam and IIT Madras launch AI literacy training for 20,000 teachers



GUWAHATI: Assam has partnered with the Indian Institute of Technology Madras to train 20,000 teachers in artificial intelligence literacy under an initiative designed to bring emerging technology into school education. The programme, called Bodhan AI, is being implemented by Samagra Shiksha Asom in two phases. The training is intended to help teachers understand practical applications of artificial intelligence in classroom teaching, learning support and assessment. The first phase covers 10,000 teachers, while another 10,000 will be included in the second phase.

NEW DELHI

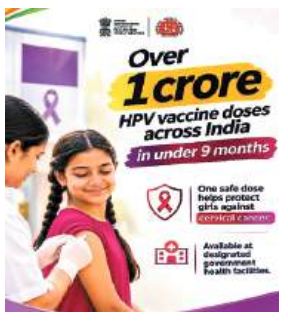
Delhi bans drones near airport

Delhi Police have prohibited the operation of drones and other unmanned aircraft systems in the Palam Police Sub-Division for 60 days, citing aviation safety concerns and possible security threats. The restriction covers an area falling within the jurisdiction of Indira Gandhi International Airport. The order has been issued as a preventive measure to ensure the safety of aircraft operations and protect sensitive installations. Police said unauthorised flying of drones, remotely piloted aircraft and similar devices could create risks for aviation activity and public security. The restriction is intended to prevent accidental or deliberate interference with aircraft movement in the airport's vicinity.

| HPV VACCINE |

India crosses milestone of one crore HPV vaccine doses

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI: India has crossed the milestone of administering one crore doses of human papillomavirus vaccine in less than nine months, Union Health Minister J. P. Nadda announced on Saturday. The achievement represents an important development in the country's efforts to strengthen preventive healthcare and protect women against cervical cancer. According to information shared by the minister, the vaccination programme has covered nearly 87 per cent of the annual eligible girls' cohort. The campaign is intended to improve awareness and access to preventive immunisation against HPV, a virus associated with cervical cancer. Nadda described the milestone as a significant achievement for the country's public health system and appreciated the efforts of healthcare workers, medical institutions and programme administrators involved in the campaign. The HPV vaccination initiative forms part of the government's broader strategy to strengthen preventive healthcare and reduce the burden of avoidable diseases.

Wider vaccination coverage can help reduce future cervical cancer cases and associated treatment costs. Health authorities have emphasised the importance of awareness, timely vaccination.and continued monitoring to ensure that eligible beneficiaries receive the recommended protection. The latest milestone reflects growing participation in the national immunisation effort and the government's focus on strengthening preventive healthcare services.



The use of modern technology can help accelerate government operations while also improving the quality of work.
Jitendra Yadav
Collector- Rajnandgaon



Raipur Region

24-hour rainfall threatens paddy crops, farmers distressed

The effects of Cyclone Akvan were felt in Basna where farmers were getting ready to harvest their paddy crop.

Central Chronicle News

BASNA: Unseasonal rainfall triggered by cyclonic storm 'Akwan' has severely affected farmers in the Basna region, putting ripened paddy crops at risk just as the harvesting season was about to begin.

What started as a light drizzle around 4.15 pm on November 19 intensified into heavy rainfall, continuing throughout the night and much of Friday, November 20. Nearly 24 hours of continuous rain disrupted normal life in the region.



People were also forced to celebrate DevuthaniEkadashi indoors due to the persistent downpour.

Farmers have suffered the maximum impact, particularly those whose paddy crops were ready for harvesting. Continuous rainfall has caused waterlogging and excessive moisture in agricultural fields, raising concerns over crop lodging, damage to grain heads, deterioration in grain quality and delays in harvesting and threshing.

Farmers who had already harvested their crops are also struggling to protect and dry the paddy amid the wet conditions. With standing crops exposed to continuous rainfall, the possibility of substantial agricultural losses has increased. This is the third major spell of adverse weather to affect the region during the current Kharif season. In the last week of October, unseasonal rain and strong winds caused crop damage.

HIGHLIGHT

- **What started as a light drizzle, turned quickly into heavy rains as farmers' crops became jeopardized.**

Rain disrupts Gudhiyari's traditional RasPurnima celebrations.

Gudhiyari: Unseasonal rainfall since November 19 has disrupted the centuries-old RasPurnima festival in Gudhiyari (Bhukel) village, dampening the enthusiasm of devotees and creating difficulties for organisers. The festival, celebrated with devotion to Radha and Krishna, attracts devotees from neighbouring villages across Chhattisgarh and Odisha. On November 20, the scheduled programmes included a KalashYatra, installation of idols and an evening Bhagwat discourse. While the procession and idol installation were completed despite the rain, the Bhagwatprogramme had to be cancelled due to persistent downpours.

Collector withholds payment over excess procurement

Central Chronicle News

MAHASAMUND: The district administration has ordered the withholding of payment to a farmer for allegedly selling paddy beyond the prescribed procurement limit during the Kharif marketing year 2026-27. Collector VinayLangeh has also issued a show-cause notice to the procurement in-charge of the Barnai Dadar centre.

According to officials, Kantilal Patel of Bhatkhuda village sold 80 quintals of paddy on November 19 at the BarnaiDadar procurement centre under Patharla Society. A joint Revenue Department investigation found that the farmer had 2.52 hectares of registered land, with 2.24 hectares recorded under paddy cultivation. However, the panchnama indicated harvesting from only around two acres. Under the government policy allowing 21 quintals per acre, approximately 42 quintals were eligible for procurement.

HIGHLIGHT

- **On Friday, Collector VinayLangeh stopped a farmer's payment after he sold excess paddy which was beyond the permitted limit.**
- **He also issued a show-cause notice to the procurement incharge of Barnai Dadar PPC.**

INSPECTION

Team formed

RAJNANDGAON: The Chhattisgarh government has tightened surveillance to prevent the illegal import of paddy from neighbouring states during the Kharif marketing year 2026-27. Paddy procurement at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) is restricted to registered farmers of the state. Following directives from the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, the District Collector has constituted a special inspection team comprising Food Department and Mandi officials to verify incoming paddy consignments and related documents.

CYCLONE AKVAN

Intermittent rainfall

GANDAI-PANDARIYA: The weather has changed suddenly in Gandai and surrounding rural areas under the influence of Cyclone 'Akwan', bringing intermittent rainfall, cloudy skies and cold winds. The unseasonal rain has raised concerns among farmers as paddy crops are ready for harvesting.

Farmers said harvesting and collection activities are already underway in several villages. Rain at this crucial stage could cause standing crops to lodge, while harvested paddy lying in fields may become soaked. Prolonged moisture could also lead to grain sprouting, blackening and deterioration in quality, resulting in financial losses.

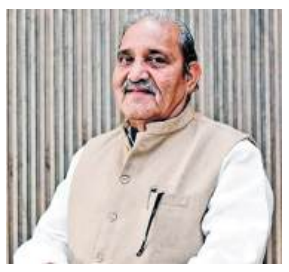
| INCLEMENT WEATHER |

Rain-hit farmers demand procurement extension

Central Chronicle News

ARANG: Persistent unseasonal rainfall across Chhattisgarh has created a serious crisis for farmers, disrupting paddy harvesting, threshing and transportation.

Waterlogged fields have made it difficult for tractors and harvesters to enter agricultural land, raising fears of heavy crop losses. Former Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee president and farmer leader Dhanendra Sahu said farmers holding procurement tokens for specific dates were particularly affected, as they could not transport their produce to procurement centres due to the rain. He criticised the government for shortening the paddy procurement period by nearly a month compared to last year and demanded an immediate extension. He also urged authorities not to cancel tokens of farmers who missed their scheduled dates due to rainfall and instead issue fresh dates.



Sahu highlighted that the prolonged strike by patwaris had further disrupted crop damage assessments and exposed errors in the girdawari process.

Preparations reviewed

BIJAPUR: A meeting of departmental officials was held on Friday to review preparations for the smooth and successful organisation of the District-Level Bastar Olympics 2026. During the meeting, Zila Panchayat CEO Namrata Chaubey reviewed the arrangements and discussed the responsibilities of various departments. Officials were directed to ensure timely preparations through effective coordination. The meeting focused on arrangements for sports grounds, accommodation, food, drinking water, transportation, medical facilities, security and other essential requirements.

| ILLEGAL PANEER |

15 quintals of analog paneer seized, destroyed

Central Chronicle News

KHAIRAGARH: A consignment of 15 quintals of suspected analog paneer being transported from Bhopal to Raipur was seized at the Salhewara police check post in Khairagarh district, raising concerns over food safety.

The consignment, comprising 30 boxes of 50 kg each, was found in a utility vehicle during a routine inspection on Thursday. Documents recovered from the vehicle named The Makhan Dairy, Bhopal, as the seller and Shri Balaji Enterprises, Raipur, as the buyer. A Food and Drug Administration inspection revealed that the packets lacked batch numbers, manufacturing dates and expiry dates. The entire consignment was seized, and the paneer was destroyed on Friday in the presence of officials.



| PATWARISRECEIVE SUPPORT |

Employees' Federation backs ongoing Patwari protest

Central Chronicle News

PITHORA: The Officers and Employees Federation has launched a protest against the state govt's alleged repressive measures in response to the ongoing strike by Patwaris across Chhattisgarh.

The federation and its affiliated organisationsorganised an outrage rally and submitted a memorandum addressed to the Chief Minister, highlighting two major demands. Patwaris have been on strike for over a fortnight, disrupting revenue operations and affecting the paddy procurement process. The government's warning of disciplinary action against protesting employees has further intensified resentment among govt staff. The federation also expressed dissatisfaction over delays in Dearness Allowance (DA) payments and non-payment of pending arrears, despite the govt's commitment to provide DA at par with central govt employees.



| CELEBRATIONS IN BHANUPRATAPPUR, CHARAMA |

Padhi, Thakur appointed AICC nat'nl Secy

Central Chronicle News

KANKER: Congress workers in Kanker district celebrated the appointment of PurnachandraPadhi (Koko) and Naresh Thakur as National Secretaries of the All India Congress Committee (AICC). Celebrations were held in Bhanupratappur and Charama, where party workers burst firecrackers and distributed sweets.

In the presence of MLA SavitriMandavi, the respective Block Congress Committees organised celebrations at the main squares of both towns. Party leaders and workers congratulated each other and expressed gratitude to the Congress leadership for the appointments. The elevation of two leaders from Kanker district to key national positions has been widely welcomed by party workers and is being viewed as a matter of pride for the region. Notably, Padhi and Thakur are the only two leaders from Chhattisgarh appointed as AICC National Secretaries, and both hail from Kanker district.



COMPETITIONS

District-level competitions

BIJAPUR: Following the directives of the Election Commission of India and the Chief Electoral Officer, Raipur, district-level essay and quiz competitions were organised for school and college students under the Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELCs). The competitions were held on Nov 19, 2026, at the Govt Model Girls' Residential College, Bijapur. Students securing first and second positions in institutional-level competitions participated in the district-level event. A total of 9 students participated in the essay competition, while 8 students competed in the quiz contest.

SBI Sanjeevani organizes awareness rally

BIJAPUR: The SBI Sanjeevani - Clinic on Wheels, operated jointly by Shikhar Yuva Manch and the SBI Foundation, organised a special awareness programme at primary and middle schools in Santoshpur village during Child Rights Week.

The programme aimed to promote child rights, education, equality and child safety. Students participated in an awareness rally, spreading messages about girls' education, equal opportunities and the importance of protecting children. The SBI Sanjeevani team educated students about the Right to Education, healthcare, nutrition, dignity and ten key child rights. Children were also informed about the toll-free Child Helpline number 1098 for reporting abuse, exploitation, childlabour and child marriage. Essay writing, drawing and indoor sports competitions were organised to encourage creativity and confidence. A total of 38 people, including 32 students and six teachers, participated.



Cyclone Akvan rain flattens paddy

RAJIM: Continuous rainfall triggered by cyclonic storm 'Akwan' has disrupted normal life and raised concerns over paddy crops in Gariaband district. Rain began around 11 pm on Thursday and continued throughout Friday, causing waterlogging on roads and agricultural fields.

Farmers are particularly worried as only 30 per cent of the paddy crop has been harvested across the district's 1.04 lakh hectares, while the remaining 70 per cent is still standing in fields. Heavy rain and strong winds have flattened crops, raising fears of reduced yield, poor grain quality and sprouting. Farmers who planned to use mechanical harvesters are also facing difficulties as waterlogged fields have made machinery movement nearly impossible.



| RESERVOIRS TO JOIN LIST SOON |

3 Khairagarh reservoirs eye Ramsar recognition

Central Chronicle News

KHAIRAGARH: Chhattisgarh is taking steps to secure international recognition for its important wetlands, with the state government setting a target of including 20 major water bodies on the Ramsar List by 2030. In Khairagarh district, Chhindari, Pailimeta and Ruse reservoirs have emerged as potential candidates because of their rich biodiversity and the presence of local and migratory birds. According to official information, 11,264 wetlands have been identified across the state. Their documentation, verification, demarcation and conservation are being undertaken systematically. However, encroachment and illegal occupation around water bodies remain major challenges. Complaints concerning encroachment on more than 100 ponds have also reached the National Green Tribunal (NGT), highlighting the need for effective protection.

Khairagarh Divisional Forest Officer Sanjay Yadav said Chhindari and Pailimeta reservoirs have considerable potential for Ramsar recognition.



Admn seizes illegal paddy, rice stocks

MAHASAMUND: The Mahasamund district administration has intensified action against illegal paddy storage and transportation to ensure transparency in the Kharif marketing year 2026-27 procurement process.

Acting on Collector VinayLangeh's instructions, joint teams of the Revenue, Food and Mandi departments conducted inspections across several tehsils on November 19 and 20. During the November 19 operation, officials seized 103 bags of paddy from Sarekel village, 550 bags from a warehouse in Maldamal and 280 bags from Kameshwari Traders in Bhurkoni.

NOTICE ISSUED

Sarpanch faces notice

ARANG: Devki Tandon, Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Baktara, is facing legal proceedings over allegations of irregularities in the execution of panchayat-related works. The court of the Sub-Divisional Officer (Revenue), Arang, has issued her a notice under Section 40(1) of the Chhattisgarh Panchayat Raj Act, seeking her explanation in the matter. According to available information, the case has been registered as 'Upendra Bharti vs. DevkiTandon'. The complainant, Upendra Bharti, is the Mandal in-charge of the Mandir Hasaud Cong Committee. Tandon has been directed to appear before the SDM court in Arang on Nov 26, 2026, and submit her response to the allegations.

Fun&Focus

IT'S QUIZ TIME

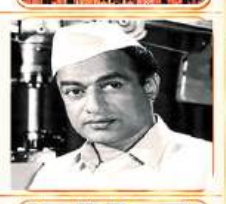
1. Which Indian space mission is planned to become the country's first human spaceflight programme?



2. The magnificent Buland Darwaza at Fatehpur Sikri was built by Mughal Emperor Akbar to celebrate his victory over which region?



3. Do Aankhen Barah Haath, the 1957 Hindi film inspired by a real-life experiment in reforming prisoners through trust, hard work and farming, won the Silver Bear at the 1958 Berlin International Film Festival. Who directed and also starred in this acclaimed film?



4. Which sage in Hindu tradition is said to have escaped death at the age of sixteen through his devotion to Lord Shiva, embracing a Shiva Lingam when Yama, the god of death, came to claim him?



5. Junko Tabei of Japan became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest in 1975 and later completed the Seven Summits. Remarkably, she continued mountaineering even after being diagnosed with which disease?



6. Which African country, often called the "Land of a Thousand Hills", is known for its clean and green capital, Kigali, and became one of the first countries in the world to ban non-biodegradable plastic bags in 2008?



7. 20th Asian Games begin on 19 September in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan. Which Indian athlete is set to become the first sportsperson from India to compete in seven consecutive Asian Games?

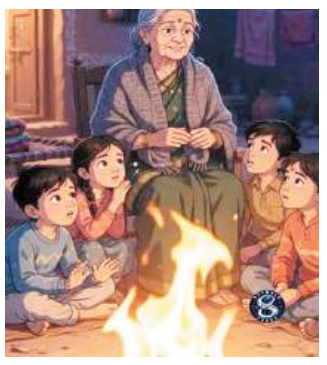


Answers- (1) Gaganyaan (2) Gujarat (3) V. Shantaram (4) Markandeya (5) Cancer (6) Rwanda (7) Joshna Chinappa

RamaQuiz

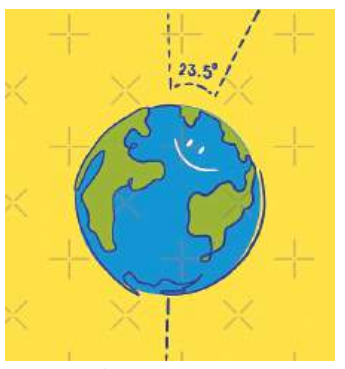
SCIENCE WATCH

Why does winter happen?



Winter happens because the Earth tilts away from the Sun as it orbits, bringing shorter days, longer nights, and colder weather. Far north near the Arctic Circle, winter can bring 24 hours of darkness around the solstice.

Earth Sunlight & Winters



Earth is tilted by 23.5 degrees. When half of the Earth tilts away from the Sun, sunlight hits at a lower angle and spreads out more, giving less heat and that is winters. Winter brings the shortest day and longest night of the year that is December 21-22 and June 21-22.

Resting time for trees & animals



Many trees drop their leaves in autumn to save energy when sunlight is low, and animals cope with winter by migrating to warmer places, growing thicker fur or extra fat (blubber), storing food, or entering deep rest like hibernation.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Find all 5 differences between the two pictures!



ANSWERS: 1. Coconut tree colour | 2. Lighthouse colour | 3. Sailboat sail tilt | 4. Starfish hair colour | 5. Seashell type

NOVEMBER 22-THE DAY IN HISTORY

(1) November 22 marks several notable events like the 1914, event when Indian troops took Basra in Mesopotamia during World War I and when Diana Hayden won the Miss World title in 1997.

(2) Also on this day in 1830, Jhalkari Bai, a key soldier and commander in Rani Lakshmibai's army and Rukmabai Raut, an early Indian physician in 1864 were born and Angela Merkel was sworn in as the first female Chancellor of Germany in 2005.

(3) On November 22, 1497, Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope on his voyage linking the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

(4) Same day in 1859, Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species was first published in London.



Daily Horoscope

Aries

Realize that self trust is the essence of heroism as you fight with your prolong illness. Today, you won't need to spend your own money, as an elder of your house can help you with your finances. Unexpected gifts and presents from relatives and friends. Doing the same thing or following the same monotonous routine everyday makes a person tired.

Taurus

Do not allow the feeling of frustration overtake you. The economic side is likely to strengthen. If you had lent money to a person, you are expected to get that money back today. Friends and near ones would extend their helping hand upon you. Your spouse might come under the adverse influence of others.

Gemini

You might feel slightly run-down mentally and physically- A little rest and nutritious food will go a long way in lifting your energy. Speculation will bring in profits. Older relatives are likely to make unreasonable demands. Look forward to new relationship for happiness Good day for some recreation and entertainment.

Cancer

You are likely to enjoy some sporting activity which will maintain your physical fitness. Today, you will be able to earn money without any help or assistance. Some of you are likely to purchase jewelry or a home appliance. May be disappointed in love but don't lose heart as lovers are ever sycophantic.

Leo

Your rash behaviour may spoil the relationship with wife. Think the repercussions of your behaviour before doing anything silly. If possible go away to change your mood. You will obtain benefits from commissions-dividends- or royalties. Today, you'll witness their frustration clearly.

Virgo

Your evening will be marked with mixed emotions which can keep you tense. But there is no need to worry much-as your happiness will give you more joy than disappointment. Today, you can face money-related issues, and ask your father or a father-like individual you cherish for suggestions. Visit a relative who has not been keeping well.

Libra

No need to worry about you health today. People around you will lift your morale and spirits. Unexpected bills will increase financial burden. Give priorities to the needs of family members. Involve yourself to share their joy and sorrow to realize them that you care for them. Leave dream worries and enjoy company of your partner.

Scorpio

Cataract patients should avoid visiting a polluted environment as smoking could cause further damage to your eyes. If possible avoid overexposure to sunlight. Certain important plans will be executed bringing you fresh financial gains. Overall a beneficial day but someone you think you can trust will let you down.

Sagittarius

Outdoor sports will attract you-Meditation and yoga will bring gains. You need to keep an eye on where your money is being spent, otherwise you may face problems in the coming times. Grandchildren would be a source of immense pleasure. If you want to marry your lover, then you need to talk to them today.

Capricorn

Health will be fine despite some mental pressures. Improvement in finances will make it convenient for you to purchase essential items. Take advantage of the free time you have to help family members. Your spouse will do something really special for you today.

Aquarius

Throw away the gloom-which is enveloping you and disrupting your progress. Finances improve later in the day. Your domestic life will suffer if you spend extra time at office. You will be in a loving mood- so be sure to make special plans for you and your beloved.

Pisces

You would get relief from the tensions and strains of life which you have been experiencing for long. It is right time to change your life style to permanently keep them a bay. Today, you may spend your money on getting a defective electronic item fixed. Your bad mood will be lifted up by your life-partner with some special surprises.

TELL ME WHY?

Why there is a suffix 'ship' in some words?

The suffix -ship is added to the end of a word to turn it into a noun that shows a state, job, or special skill.

It has three superpowers, like a state of being:



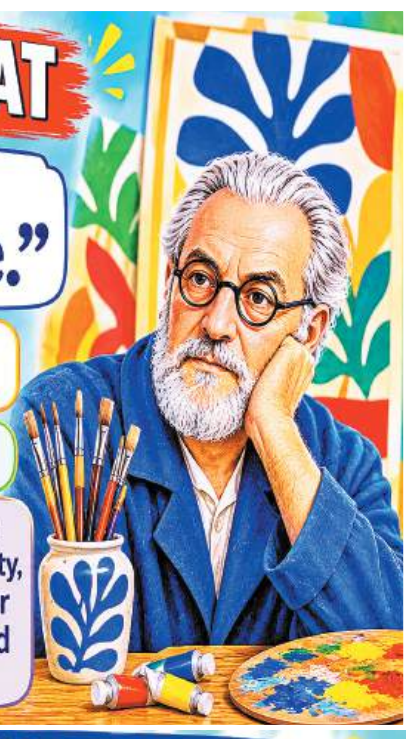
WHO SAID THAT

"Creativity takes courage."

Who: French visual artist Henri Matisse

When: 1940es

Context: As per Matisse, true art is meant to express creativity, which leaves the creator vulnerable to failure and self-doubt.



HUMOR AT ITS BEST



HINDI MADE EASY

1. प्रोत्साहन – Encouragement
2. प्रतिस्पर्धा – Competition
3. तेजस्वी – Radiant / Bright
4. आशावादी – Optimistic
5. विचारशील – Thoughtful

WORD OF THE DAY

Juxtapose

Meaning – To place side by side for distinction

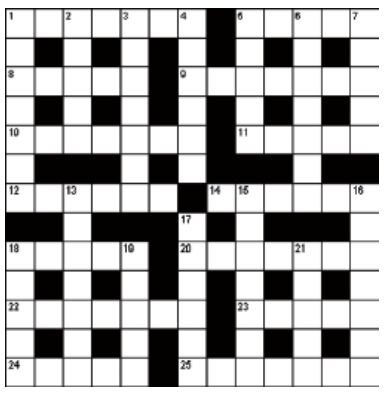
Example – The artist chose to juxtapose vibrant colours with dull ones to create a striking effect.

Synonyms – Compare, contrast, place side by side

Antonyms – Separate, detach, isolate



CROSSWORD -284



Across

1 Be a go-between (7)
5 Located (5)
8 Vocal compositions (5)
9 Furnace slag (7)
10 Non-attendance (7)
11 Tale (5)
12 Lethal (6)
14 Spiny desert plant (6)
18 Wash vigorously (5)
20 Separate (5,2)
22 Raiment (7)
23 Gumption (5)
24 Prose composition (5)
25 Unlucky accidents (7)

Down

1 Pungent condiment (7)
2 Ridges of sand (5)
3 London football team (7)
4 Go beyond (6)
5 Secret agents (5)
6 Extract (4,3)
7 Not clean (5)
13 Relevant (7)
15 Books of maps (7)
16 Royal Engineers (7)
17 Refuge (6)
18 Wager (5)
19 Strong and heavy in build (5)
21 Pacific Ocean monarchy (5)

SUDOKU- 284

			1					
5					4		8	
	7	6		3		1		
9			6	1		3		8
7		1		8	5			2
		2		6		8	9	
	3		2					4
					9			

CROSSWORD SOLUTION- 283



SUDOKU SOLUTION- 283

6	7	1	2	9	8	5	4	3
9	4	5	1	6	3	2	7	8
3	8	2	5	4	7	6	1	9
1	3	9	8	5	2	4	6	7
4	2	7	6	3	1	8	9	5
8	5	6	4	7	9	3	2	1
2	9	8	3	1	4	7	5	6
7	6	4	9	8	5	1	3	2
5	1	3	7	2	6	9	8	4

DAILY WORD SEARCH

- Ashpan
- Hardpan
- Sampan
- Bedpan
- Honeypot
- Sexpot
- Brainpan
- Hotpot
- Taipan
- Crackpot
- Inkspot
- Teapot
- Deadpan
- Jackpot
- Trepan
- Despot
- Marzipan
- Dustpan
- Saltpan

D N N H K N T I N K H S H
U H A D O O A P M P A A T
S A P P P T T P T T R M E
T R D X D O P O N A D P A
P H E O P A P O S I P A P
A S B S T K E H T N A N O
N S K I C O P D P N N R T
P N A A N A P I Z R A M B
I N R L N K N Y B R A I P
C C E N T O A D E S P O T
R O O N A P E R T N T R E
A D T A I P A N P S O T A
J A C K P O T N J T N H O

Business



The Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) aims to grow Indian bioeconomy to 300 billion US Dollar by 2030."

Dr Jitendra Singh
Union Minister

23rd Indo-US Economic Summit



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla during the 23rd Indo-US Economic Summit, in New Delhi, .

Import cargo from Vizhinjam to Kottayam to boost trade: VISL

Vizhinjam International Seaport Ltd (VISL) said, the movement of 60 containers carrying 1,500 metric tonnes of natural rubber, from Vizhinjam to the Kottayam would give a huge boost to cargo operations.

Press Trust Of India

KOCHI: Vizhinjam International Seaport Ltd (VISL) said on Saturday that the movement of 60 containers carrying around 1,500 metric tonnes of natural rubber, imported from Africa for MRF, from Vizhinjam to the Kottayam ICD was expected to give a major boost to cargo operations.

In a statement, Vizhinjam International Seaport Ltd said the consignment would be moved in 60 containers, with 20 containers covered under each of three Bills of Lading. It said this was the first major import cargo movement from Vizhinjam to the Kottayam Inland Container Depot, marking a significant step in the depot's development. The new arrangement was expected to reduce transportation time and operational costs for MRF (tyre manufacturing company) and improve efficiency, it said. The company had chosen Vizhinjam as the Port of Destination (POD) to avoid transhipment through Mumbai, which could take up to a month, VISL said. At the Kottayam ICD, the cargo in the 20 containers under each Bill of Lading would undergo customs examination and other mandatory clearance procedures, officials said. After obtaining Customs Out of Charge (OOC) clearance, the containers would be transported in the same trucks to MRF's centralised warehouse in Kochi.

NUMBER

60

•The cargo in 20 containers under each Bill of Lading, would undergo examination and other mandatory clearance.

This was expected to ensure faster availability of raw materials and improve the operational efficiency and output of the company's factories, the statement said. Another major benefit, according to VISL, was that the empty containers generated by the import movement could be used for exports. After the cargo was unloaded at the warehouse arranged for MRF, the empty containers could be stored at the Kottayam ICD container yard and made available to exporters, it said.

At present, exporters often transport empty containers from Kochi to Kottayam to load their cargo, and reusing import-generated empties would cut this additional transportation cost and time, VISL said.

Goyal outlines TRUST agenda for India-US tie-up

Press Trust Of India



HIGHLIGHT

•Union Minister of Commerce Piyush Goyal called India and the USA, natural partners in building trusted global supply chains.

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal called India and the United States natural partners in building trusted and resilient global supply chains, emphasising that India's manufacturing strength, skilled workforce and economic scale complement American capital, technology and innovation.

Addressing the 23rd Indo-US Economic Summit, organised by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) in New Delhi, Goyal outlined a five-point TRUST agenda to deepen economic cooperation between the two countries. The agenda focuses on trusted supply chains, raising talent, unlocking Bharat beyond metropolitan cities, speaking candidly about challenges and tracking outcomes. The Minister said the India-US partnership had the potential to become an engine of global growth and a force for global good. Referring to the summit's theme, 'One Shared Future', he observed that the relationship had moved beyond the previous year's theme of 'Shaping a Shared Future' towards jointly owning and working to realise that future.

| GROWTH |

India's core industries output increases by 11% in October

Press Trust Of India



HIGHLIGHT

• India's eight core infrastructure industries recorded year-on-year growth of 10.9 per cent in October 2026

NEW DELHI: India's eight core infrastructure industries recorded year-on-year growth of around 11 per cent in October 2026, accelerating from the revised growth of 8.2 per cent in September, according to provisional data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Friday.

The Index of Core Industries (ICI), with the base year 2022-23, stood at 123.1 in October 2026, compared with 111.0 in October 2025. The strong performance was driven primarily by iron ore, coal, electricity and cement, while steel and refinery products also registered positive growth. The cumulative growth of the Index during April-October 2026 stood at 6.0 per cent, compared with 2.3 per cent in the corresponding period of the previous year. Among the core industries, iron ore recorded the highest year-on-year growth in October at 26.4 per cent. Coal output increased by 23.1 per cent, while electricity generation grew by 21.6 per cent.

Cement production registered growth of 15.4 per cent, followed by steel at 7.3 per cent and refinery products at 3.4 per cent. However, three sectors recorded negative growth during the month. Natural gas production declined by 7.6 per cent, crude oil output fell by 4.1 per cent, and fertiliser production contracted by 12.2 per cent compared with October 2025. Iron ore, electricity, cement, coal and steel have been the major drivers of overall growth in the Index of Core Industries during recent months. The cumulative Index of Core Industries for April-October 2026 stood at 119.9, compared with 113.1 in the corresponding period of 2025.

| LISTED EXCHANGE |

NSE becomes world's fifth-largest listed exchange

Press Trust Of India



MUMBAI: The National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has emerged as the world's fifth-largest listed exchange by market capitalisation, overtaking Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX) and Nasdaq, as its shares continued to gain following their stock market debut in September.

NSE's market capitalisation stood at approximately USD 59.7 billion, or around Rs 5.56 lakh crore, based on latest market data. This placed it ahead of HKEX, valued at around USD 58.1 billion, and Nasdaq, at approximately USD 57.7 billion. The global ranking was led by CME Group at USD 111.05 billion, followed by Intercontinental Exchange at USD 95.5 billion, Deutsche Börse at around USD 65 billion and London Stock Exchange Group at around USD 60.3 billion.

NSE shares were trading at Rs 2,236.10 at the time of filing this report, up Rs 47.80, or 2.18 per cent. At this price, the exchange's market capitalisation stood at approximately Rs 5.56 lakh crore, making it the ninth-largest listed company in India. It moved ahead of Kotak Mahindra Bank, whose market capitalisation stood at Rs 5 lakh crore, as well as Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), according to exchange data. This places NSE among the country's largest listed businesses, alongside major companies from the banking, financial services and technology sectors.

The development comes less than two months after NSE made its long-awaited stock market debut on the BSE on September 24.

*Biz*Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CRUDE OIL

Crude oil futures tumble more than 3 percent to Rs 7,842 per barrel amid growing concerns



MUMBAI: Crude oil prices declined by more than 3 per cent to Rs 7,842 per barrel in futures trade , tracking losses in international markets amid growing concerns over a possible oversupply of crude oil. The sharp decline followed a larger-than-expected increase in US crude oil and fuel inventories, which raised concerns about weakening demand-supply conditions in the global energy market.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), crude oil futures for Novdelivery fell Rs 248, or 3.07 per cent, to Rs 7,842 per barrel. The December contract also witnessed significant selling pressure, declining Rs 206, or 2.58 per cent, to Rs 7,782 per barrel. The downward movement in domestic futures reflected weakness in international crude oil benchmarks. In global markets, West Texas Intermediate (WTI), the US benchmark for crude oil, declined by USD 1.96, or 2.28 per cent, to USD 84.05 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX). Similarly, Brent crude futures for January delivery fell USD 1.56, or nearly 2 per cent, to USD 91.58 per barrel on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE).

Market participants attributed the decline primarily to the latest US inventory figures, which indicated a substantial increase in crude and petroleum product stocks. According to market estimates, US crude inventories increased by 5.28 million barrels, while gasoline inventories rose by 5.12 million barrels. The increase was considerably higher than market expectations and strengthened concerns about adequate supplies in the near term.

MINING

Goa to resume mining in sustainable way, 17 blocks auctioned

PANAJI: Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Saturday said his government was committed to resuming mining through sustainable practices, asserting the auction of 17 mining blocks for 30 years would ensure economic development and environmental protection.

The auctioning of mining blocks was undertaken in accordance with the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2015, and Supreme Court guidelines, he asserted. "Seventeen blocks have been auctioned and given for the next 30 years.

The government has also auctioned private and government dumps that remained unattended for several years. Clearing these dumps would free up land, which can subsequently be used for additional plantation," he said. Mining is important for Goa's economic development, but it has to be sustainable, the CM said. Pointing out that he himself represents a constituency (Sanquelim) entirely dependent on mining, the chief minister said the resumption of the activity would benefit truck operators, workers and others whose livelihoods are linked to the sector.

BOEING

Retired Boeing 737-200 moved from Kolkata to Bengaluru for BIAL

MUMBAI: Aircraft dismantling and relocation platform PROMQT MRO on Saturday said it has relocated and restored a retired Boeing 737-200 from Kolkata to Bengaluru for Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), which will deploy the aircraft for on-site recovery and training. Following an engineering and logistics exercise spanning over three months, the reborn jet, dubbed "Phoenix," was unveiled on November 18. The company said the project marks a breakthrough in indigenous aviation engineering by converting a retired commercial airliner into a full-scale training platform for disabled aircraft recovery.

The Boeing plane was grounded at Kolkata airport for more than a decade after retiring from service, the turnkey aviation specialist company said. Unlike standard aircraft maintenance, moving a commercial jet across state lines required dismantling major structural components in Kolkata, orchestrating specialised heavy-haul road logistics to Bengaluru, and executing precision reassembly at a purpose-built site, it said.

ROCKWELL AUTOMATION

Rockwell Automation to acquire AGILOX to boost autonomous mobile robots business



MUMBAI: Rockwell Automation, a global leader in industrial automation and digital transformation, has signed an agreement to acquire Austria-based autonomous mobile robot manufacturer AGILOX, in a strategic move aimed at strengthening its presence in the rapidly growing autonomous material movement market.

The acquisition is expected to more than double Rockwell Automation's Autonomous Mobile Robots (AMR) business and expand its capabilities in warehouse transportation and production logistics, a senior company official said. AGILOX is recognised as a technology leader in autonomous mobile robots designed for warehouse transportation processes and production logistics. Its robots use advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence, to improve the efficiency, flexibility and safety of material movement operations. Material movement is an essential component of manufacturing and warehouse operations, involving the transportation of raw materials, components and finished products across production facilities. The acquisition is expected to help Rockwell develop a more comprehensive production logistics capability, enabling customers to move beyond conventional automation towards greater autonomy across their facilities. The announcement was made during the Automation Fair, Rockwell Automation's annual industrial automation and digital transformation event, held in Boston from November 16 to 19. The four-day event, organised under the theme 'Future in Focus', attracted approximately 14,000 professionals from the manufacturing, engineering and operations sectors.

Commenting on the agreement, Blake Moret, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Rockwell Automation, said the combination of AGILOX and Rockwell's OTTO Autonomous Mobile Robot technologies would create a strong technology platform. Bringing together the complementary capabilities of the two businesses would establish a new benchmark in autonomous material movement, he said.

Nation News

Nadda urges young doctors to adopt e-prescriptions, join digitisation drive

He said medical education was made possible by the support of society and the government.

Press Trust Of India



PUDUCHERRY: Union Minister J P Nadda on Saturday urged young doctors to adopt e-prescriptions and become part of the transformative Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, stressing that professional education was a privilege bestowed upon them by society and that serving people was therefore a social responsibility.

Addressing the 15th convocation ceremony of JIPMER here, where 816 students graduated, Nadda recalled his days as a student leader when he used to assert that education was a birthright.

"I have been a student leader. I used to say education is our birthright. Yes, education is a birthright; but primary or secondary education can be a birthright, but professional education is not a birthright. Professional education is a privilege given by society to you, and you have to understand that," the union minister of Health and Family Welfare said.

It was the ecosystem created through their support that enabled aspiring students to pursue medical education and provided them with opportunities to treat patients, he added.

Referring to the government's investment in medical education, Nadda said the union cabinet had sanctioned Rs 15,000 crore last year for creating 10,000 undergraduate and postgraduate medical seats.

Each seat involved an expenditure of Rs 1.5 crore over four years, he said, emphasising that medical graduates owed a responsibility to society for the opportunities and resources made available to them.

"That is why I would request all of you: we owe to society, and we have to return to society," he said, adding that serving people was a social responsibility of doctors.

On healthcare, he said out-of-pocket expenditure on healthcare had declined from 64 per cent to 42 per cent.

Ayushman Bharat, the world's largest health coverage programme, provides annual health coverage of Rs 5 lakh to all people aged 70 and above, irrespective of their economic status, he said.

More than 13 crore hospitalisations have taken place under the scheme, with treatments worth over Rs 2 lakh crore provided, marking a significant milestone in India's healthcare journey.

At Ayushman Arogya Mandir health and wellness centres, screening begins at the age of 30. Since 2018, 42 crore people have been screened for hypertension, diabetes, oral cancer, breast cancer and cervical cancer, promoting early detection and timely treatment, he said.

Urging the graduating doctors to embrace digital healthcare, Nadda asked them to become part of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, as the government was making efforts to digitise healthcare on a large scale.

Digital registration should be introduced in outpatient departments and young doctors should adopt e-prescriptions, he said, adding that the government had facilitated the transition.

Nadda dedicated seven major healthcare and infrastructure initiatives worth about Rs 172.27 crore at JIPMER.

He said the institute had a remarkable legacy as a pioneer in medical education and an institution of national importance.

With more than 100 programmes across medical, dental, nursing and allied health sciences, JIPMER reflected a strong commitment to excellence, research and innovation, he added.

In a post on X, Nadda said the initiatives ranged from precision cancer treatment and advanced diagnostics to expanded cardiac care, affordable medicines, biomedical research and improved student facilities.

These projects would further strengthen JIPMER's role as a premier healthcare institution serving patients from Puducherry and across the country, he said.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government remained committed to strengthening premier public healthcare institutions and ensuring wider access to advanced, affordable and quality healthcare as part of the vision of Viksit Bharat, he added.

Nadda highlighted the expansion of medical education in the country, saying the number of medical colleges had increased from 387 to 863, while MBBS seats had risen from 51,000 to 1.43 lakh.

The government was working towards adding another 75,000 undergraduate and postgraduate medical seats by 2029, he said.

In another post, Nadda called upon them to serve every patient with compassion, integrity and dedication and contribute to the vision of a healthy and Viksit Bharat (developed India).

FASTFACTS

- Puducherry Lieutenant Governor K Kailashnathan, Chief Minister N Rangasamy and ministers attended the event.

Air quality remains 'poor' in Delhi

Press Trust Of India

The city's air quality has shown a gradual improvement over the last three days.

NEW DELHI: Delhi's air quality remained in the "poor" category on Saturday, with the AQI settling at 265, even as vehicular emissions emerged as the largest contributor to PM2.5 pollution. The Air Quality Index (AQI) fell from 280 on November 19 to 270 on November 20 and further to 265 on Saturday. Of the 56 air quality monitoring stations that recorded data, 32 were in the "poor" category, 16 in the "very poor" category and seven in the "moderate" category, while one was in the "satisfactory" category. Delhi Technological University (DTU) recorded the worst air quality with an AQI of 362, followed by North Campus at 360 and Siri Fort at 352. The lowest AQI was recorded in the Cantonment area at 80. According to the Air Quality Early Warning System's real-time source apportionment estimates, vehicular emissions were the largest contributor to Delhi's PM2.5 concentration on Saturday, accounting for 33.1 per cent of the estimated pollution load.

Secondary organic aerosols contributed 16.5 per cent, followed by biomass burning, including stubble burning and the use of domestic solid biofuels, such as wood and dung cakes, at 13.9 per cent. Secondary inorganic aerosols accounted for 9.6 per cent, waste burning for 9.5 per cent and firecrackers for 7.7 per cent. Industrial sources contributed 3.3 per cent, mixed combustion 2.7 per cent, road dust and soil 2.4 per cent and coal combustion 1.3 per cent, the estimates showed. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), an AQI between zero and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe". The Air Quality Early Warning System has forecast that Delhi's air quality is likely to remain in the "poor" category on Sunday and might deteriorate to the "very poor" category over the six subsequent days. The predicted maximum mixing depth over Delhi was around 1,400 metres on November 21 and November 22, 1,150 metres on November 23 and 1,000 metres on November 24. The ventilation index was forecast at 3,600 square metres per second on Saturday, 5,200 square metres per second on Sunday, 6,000 square metres per second on Monday and 3,000 square metres per second on Tuesday.

NEWSLINE

GORAKHPUR (UP)

Wedding elephant killed in hit-and-run on NH stretch

An elephant was killed, while its mahout and his teenage helper sustained serious injuries, after a speeding unidentified vehicle allegedly hit the animal on a stretch of National Highway-24 here early Saturday, police said. The incident took place in Belipar area, with the driver of the offending vehicle fleeing the spot without stopping, they added.

According to officials, the elephant belonged to Harish Singh, a resident of Chhapia village in Khajni area of the district.

Mahout Jafar Ansari (20), a resident of Sevai Bazar in Belipar, had taken the elephant for a wedding ceremony and was returning with it, accompanied by his 15-year-old associate Faiyaz Ansari.

Around 6.00 am on Saturday, when the elephant-mounted duo were near Hata, a speeding unidentified vehicle rammed into the elephant. The impact was so severe that the animal fell on the road and died on the spot, according to locals. Jafar and Faiyaz fell onto the road from the elephant's back and sustained serious injuries.

'Ravana glorified in Ramayana': VHP urges govt to ban film

Press Trust Of India

The RSS affiliate is also examining whether to challenge the film's censor certificate under the Cinematograph Act.

NEW DELHI: The VHP on Saturday said it will urge the government to ban the screening of the film Ramayana, alleging that it distorts events from the epic, introduces fabricated incidents and attacks the religious beliefs of Hindus. VHP International President Alok Kumar, speaking to PTI Videos, said the film is not merely an attempt to introduce dramatic elements but an attack on the values that form the basis of the Ramayana.

"We have recently watched and reviewed the film released under the title Ramayana, and we have objections to it. It has distorted events and added fabricated incidents," he said.

Kumar said Lord Ram spent 14 years in the forest to connect with different sections of society, lived in the attire of an ascetic and walked barefoot. He also visited Mata Ahalya's ashram and restored her dignity, Kumar said.

Lord Ram and Bharat addressed Nishadraj as a friend and gave him a place close to them, conveying the message that there was no untouchability or hierarchy among castes, Kumar asserted.

Kumar alleged that the film portrays Lord Ram's exile as an effort to rescue his wife rather than a mission to rid the earth of demonic culture by organising society for a struggle against it.

Omar Abdullah calls on young graduates to participate actively in governance



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday urged young people to actively participate in governance, public life and nation-building, saying the country's demographic dividend could translate into lasting prosperity only through responsible leadership and meaningful engagement.

Inviting young graduates to look beyond Jammu and Kashmir's tourism potential, Abdullah encouraged them to explore opportunities in the region as investors, educators and innovators, and contribute to its socio-economic development. "When young professionals from Delhi, Bengaluru and Mumbai collaborate with young minds from Srinagar and Jammu, we strengthen the fabric of the nation," he said, underlining the importance of youth collaboration in fostering national integration and inclusive growth.

Addressing the graduating students, faculty members and parents, the chief minister said young people must recognise their responsibility in shaping the country's institutions and future.

GENERAL INFORMATION

That I am authorized Advocate Jairam Bhagwani (District Court Durg) LIC Housing Finance Ltd Branch Chouhan Estate, Bhilai, Distt. Durg (C.G.) I publish this information as per instructions received from my party Smt. Lata Sahu W/o Shri Sohal Lal Sahu R/o Avenue E, Sector 06, Bhilai Tah. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) That by my party Seller- Dinesh Kumar Sahu S/o Late Tika Ram Sahu R/o Dhanora Durg Tah. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) & Purchaser - Dinesh Patel S/o Shri Ramji Bhai Patel R/o Near Durga Mandir, Ward No. 18, Kadambari Nagar. Durg Tah. & Distt. Durg (C.G.) Mouza - Dhanora, Khasra No. 134/1 Part Area-1265 Sqft. & the deed has been duly registered on 17/10/2022 in Volume no. 2260, Pages 245-268 & Document No. 4071, by the SRO-3 Durg. Whose original registry paper as shown above has been lost somewhere, so that no one misuses the said original registry paper, its information has been lodged in the concerned police station, and the general public who has any kind of ownership in relation to the said plot/land. If you are the owner, then submit your objection by being present in my office within Fifteen days of publication of this information, otherwise any claim, objection will be void and ineffective after the period.

Published for information and perusal

DATE:-21/11/2026

Jairam Bhagwani
Plot no. 20, Beside Petrol Pump, New Adarsh Nagar, Durg
Mo. No. 93028-38684

आम सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि श्रीमती लखमबाई बेवा ढोलनदास सचदेव, सुनील कमार पिता ढोलनदास सचदेव एवं हंसराज पिता ढोलनदास सचदेव सभी निवासी कचना, तह. व जिला रायपुर द्वारा अपने संयुक्त स्वामित्व एवं आधिपत्य की परिवर्तित भूमि भूखण्ड क्र. 5/2, ब्लॉक नं. 106, क्षेत्रफल 13090 वर्गफुट स्थित गभरापारा, मौजा फाफाडीह, तह. व जिला रायपुर को बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा गांधी चौक शाखा, रायपुर में बंधक रखकर ऋण लिया गया है.

इसीलिए हमारा मुवक्किल बैंक इस आम सूचना के माध्यम से आम एवं खास से उक्त संपत्ति की भारमुक्तता के विषय में आपत्तियां आमंत्रित करता है कि यदि श्रीमती लखमबाई बेवा ढोलनदास सचदेव, सुनील कमार पिता ढोलनदास सचदेव एवं हंसराज पिता ढोलनदास सचदेव द्वारा अपने उपरोक्त सम्पत्तियों को हमारे मुवक्किल बैंक के पक्ष में बंधक रखकर ऋण लिये जाने में किसी भी बैंक, साहूकार, व्यक्ति, वित्तीय संस्था एवं शासन आदि को किसी प्रकार की उजर या दावा हो तो ऐसे उजर व दावे को इस आम सूचना के प्रकाशन के 7 (सात) दिनों के अंदर दस्तावेजी साक्ष्य के साथ हमारे या हमारे मुवक्किल के समक्ष कार्यालयीन समय में लिखित में प्रस्तुत करें अन्यथा बाद म्याद उक्त संपत्ति के विषय में किसी भी प्रकार के किये गए उजर या दावे अमान्य व अवैध होंगे जो हमारे मुवक्किल बैंक एवं उक्त ऋणी श्रीमती लखमबाई बेवा ढोलनदास सचदेव, सुनील कमार पिता ढोलनदास सचदेव एवं हंसराज पिता ढोलनदास सचदेव पर बंधनकारी नहीं होंगे.

जो सूचना जानें.

रायपुर (छ.ग.) एन.के. श्रीवास्तव
दिनांक 21.11.2026 (अधिवक्ता)
श्रीवास्तव एण्ड एसोसिएट्स, एडवोकेट्स चेम्बर
आफिस नं. एफ-33, हीरा आर्केड, पुराना बस स्टैण्ड, पण्डरी, रायपुर (छ.ग.) मो.नं. 9826113956

SBI State Bank of India
SARB, Block B-1, Pujari Chamber, Pachpedi Naka, Raipur (C.G.) Ph: 8889375554, 8052611114

POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable properties) [See rule 8 (1)]

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the State Bank of India under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the Powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated as below mentioned date calling upon the Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice described herein below and Interest thereon within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice. The Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the date mentioned below. The Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, for an amount mentioned below and further interest, costs etc. thereon (minus subsequent credit, if any). ***The Borrower(s) attention is invited to provisions of Sub- Section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.***

Sl No.	Name of the Borrowers	Demand Notice Dt. / Possession Notice Dt.	Outstanding Amount	Description of the Immovable Properties
1.	**Borrower- Shri Anupam Kumar Tripathi** S/o Shri Anand Kumar Tripathi & **Smt. Ranu Tiwari** W/o Shri Anupam Kumar Tripathi.	15.07.2026 / 21.11.2026	**Rs. 21,18,651.00** as on 14.07.26+ Interest & other Charges from 15.07.26	Property owned by: Shri Anupam Kumar Tripathi S/o Shri Anand Kumar Tripathi & Smt. Ranu Tiwari W/o Shri Anupam Kumar Tripathi. All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Diverted Land & Building situated at House No.- F-52, "Singapore Life City Phase -4" Bhilai , Part of Khasra No.- 73, 74, 75/1, 75/2, 76, 77,78,79, 80,81,82, 83, 84, 85, 92, 93/1 & 93/3, Mouja- Kutelabhata P.H.No.8/11 (अ),R.N.M Durg-1, Dist- Durg C.G Area 600 sq ft or 55.55 sq mt (Ground Floor Constructed Area- 308.81 sq ft or 28.70 sq mt & First Floor Constructed Area- 352.82 sq ft or 32.79 sq mt) vide Sale Deed dated 27.06.2022 Pustak Kramank-1, Granth Kramank-2088, Page No-226-260, Vilekh Kramank No. 1893 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar at Durg (C.G.). **CERSAI Asset Id- 200062852827.** Boundaries (as per Sale deed dated 27.06.2022):North: Road, South: Plot / House No.-F-75, East: Plot / House No.-F-53, West: Plot / House No.-F-51
2.	**Borrower- Shri Harish Ramani** S/o Shri Manohar Lal Ramani	18.08.2026 / 17.11.2026	**Rs. 40,21,071.00** as on 17.08.26+ Interest & other Charges from 18.08.26	Property owned by: Shri Harish Ramani S/O Shri Manohar Lal Ramani. All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Flat No.E-1007, 10th Floor, Aastha Apartment (Multi-7) Phase-I, E-Block, Anandam World City Raipur, Khasra No.- 15014/1, Village- Labhandih, P.H No- 00065, Revenue Circle- 9, Telibandha, Raipur Tehsil & District- Raipur C.G Area 853 sq ft (as per RERA) vide Sale Deed dated 13.09.2022 Pustak Kramank-1, Granth Kramank-75375, Page No-75 - 113, Vilekh Kramank No. 3624 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar at Raipur (C.G.). **(CERSAI Asset ID- 200064774498).** Boundaries (as per Sale deed dated 13.09.2022): North: Staircase & Lift area & Flat No. M 7 E 1003, South: Open Space, East:Flat No. Aastha M7-E-1006, West: Open Space.
3.	**Borrower- Shri Jai Prakash** S/o Late Ramesh Kumar & **Smt Daneshwari Sahu** W/o Shri Jai Prakash	19.08.2026 / 21.11.2026	**Rs. 56,64,602.00** as on 18.08.26+ Interest & other Charges from 19.08.26	Property owned by: Shri Jai Prakash Sahu S/o Late Ramesh Kumar Sahu & Smt Daneshwari Sahu W/O Shri Jai Prakash Sahu. All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Part of Khasra No.- 847/83 (new Khasra No.-847/89), Mouja- Urla, Ward No.- 58, Urla Ward (East), Ambedkar Nagar Andar Bhag, P.H.No.-16, R.N.M Sikola Tehsil & District- Durg C.G Area 900 sq ft or 83.64 sq mt vide Sale Deed dated 27.06.2023 Pustak Kramank-1, Granth Kramank-36531, Page No-239- 263, Vilekh Kramank No. 2382 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar at Durg (C.G.). **CERSAI Asset ID- 200088231666.** Boundaries (as per Sale deed dated 27.06.2023): North: Land of Rekha Ben Gujrati, South: Remaining Land of Seller, East: 25 feet Road, West: Land of Malti Shende.
4.	**Borrower- M/s Kanak Plastic Industries (Proprietor –Shri Haresh Patel** S/o Shri Ishwar Bhai Patel)	20.07.2026 / 21.11.2026	**Rs. 1,14,47,235.00** as on 19.07.26+ Interest & other Charges from 20.07.26	Property owned by: Shri Haresh Patel S/o Shri Ishwar Bhai Patel. All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Diverted Industrial Land and Factory Building situated at Khasra No.- 596/3, 596/4, 597/1, 597/2, 598/1 & 598/2, Village- Diwanbhedi, P.H.No.-20/11, R.N.M- Dongargaon, Tehsil- Dongargaon, Dist- Rajnandgaon C.G Area 3.20 Acre or 1.296 Hectare vide Sale Deed dated 22.05.2015, Pustak Kramank-Ati-01, Granth Kramank-862 ke 11, Page No-82-92, Document No. 99 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar at Rajnandgaon (C.G.). **CERSAI Asset ID – 200055385066. Details of Khasra No.** 596/3, 596/4, 597/1, 597/2, 598/1, 598/2, **Area In Acre-** 0.32, 0.32, 0.84, 0.72, 0.50, 0.50, **Total- 3.20 Acre, Area in Hectare-** 0.130, 0.130, 0.340, 0.292, 0.202, 0.202, **Total-**1.296 **Hectare,** Boundaries (as per Sale Deed dated 22.05.2015): North: Land of Ishwar Sahu, South: Hilly Land, East: Land of Kaluram, West: WBM Road

This notice is also being published in Vernacular Language. The English Version shall be final in any case of interpretation arises.

Date: 17.11.26 & 21.11.2026, Place: Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon Authorized Officer, State Bank of India, SARB, Raipur

SCO engagement should pave way for bilateral talks between India, Pak: Mirwaiz

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Saturday welcomed Pakistan Federal Minister Musadik Malik's visit to New Delhi for a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) event, expressing hope that the multilateral engagement would pave the way for bilateral talks between the two neighbouring countries. Malik arrived in New Delhi on Friday to attend the three-day SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum, being held from November 20 to 22. "Well, look, this is a branch of the SCO, so it is a good thing. If there are contacts and talks, we always feel that there should be engagement, and that relations between both countries should improve. We have always wished for that," Farooq told reporters when asked about the Pakistani minister's visit. The Mirwaiz, a former separatist leader, said that although the current engagement was taking place under a multilateral forum, a process should also begin at the bilateral level. Asked about alleged irregularities in recruitment examinations conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), Farooq said it was unfortunate that the future of students was being jeopardised.

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.) **Central Bank of India** Regional Office, Raipur (C.G.)

INVITATION OF BIDS / OFFERS FOR PREMISES ON LEASE

Central Bank of India requires premises at **1. Burji (Bijapur), 2. Dharampura, Jagdalpur (Jagdalpur)** admeasuring **74.32 sq. mts. to 139.35 sq. mts. (800 to 1500 sq.ft.) (+ 20%)** carpet area in ready possession/ready for possession within 3 months preferably on the ground floor at main road or nearby with 20-25 KVA of 440 volt, 3 Phase Electric connection and adequate parking space for the above New Branches. No brokers or intermediaries please.

Priority will be accorded to Government / Semi Govt. bodies or Public Sector undertakings. Kindly download the formats / terms and conditions from the website **http://www.centralbankofindia.bank.in** or collect the same from **Central Bank of India, Regional Office, Ground Floor, Telephone Bhawan Compound, Fafadih Chowk, Raipur (C.G.) Pin-492001** during office hours from date **23.11.2026** to **14.12.2026**. The last date for submission of offers is **14.12.2026 (Monday) up to 5.00 p.m** at Regional Office, Raipur.

An application Fees of Rs. 3,000/- For Burji (Bijapur) and Rs. 5,000/- For Dharampura, Jagdalpur (Jagdalpur) by means of a Demand Draft or Pay Order in favour of Central Bank of India, Regional Office, Raipur payable at Raipur must be submitted along with the Bid. (Earnest Money for Bidding)

REGIONAL HEAD, RAIPUR

STATE BANK OF INDIA | H.I.C- Bhilai, SBI Premises, Sector-1, Bhilai (C.G.), Mo.8319554818 | **E-AUCTION ON 28.12.2026**

E-AUCTION NOTICE

Appendix – IVA [See Provision to rule 8 (6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" basis on 28.12.2026 (10:00 A.M. TO 5.00 P.M.)** for recovery of dues mentioned in Coloum "D" due to State Bank of India, Secured Creditors from below mentioned Borrowers.

Sr. No. (A)	Borrowers Details (B)	Brief Description of Assets Other known Debt Encumbrances, If Any & Title Holder Name (C)	Recovery of Arrears Property Being Sold for (D)	Reserve Price EMD (Earnest Money) Bid Increment
1	**Smt. Pushpa Lata** W/o Shri Santosh Kumar & **Shri Santosh Kumar** S/o Shri V. Govindan Nair	All part and parcel of Property at 2 BHK Flat No- 40, 5th Floor, "D-9" Block, Chouhan Green Valley, Ward-1, Junwani, Bhilai, Distt- Durg (CG). Boundaries:- North: Open to Sky/ Block- D-10, South: Flat-D9-39, East: Flat-D9-33, West: Open to Sky. * **Physical Possession.**	₹ **10,95,403.00** + Interest & Other Charges	₹ **11,21,000.00** / ₹ **1,12,100.00** / ₹ **2,000.00**
2	**Shri Lingraj Panigrahi** S/o Shri Rajguru Panigrahi & **Smt. Parbati Raj Panigrahi** W/o Shri Lingraj Panigrahi	All part and parcel of Property at 2 BHK Flat No- 3, 1st Floor, "A-4" Block, Chouhan Green Valley, Ward-1, Junwani, Bhilai, Distt- Durg (CG). Boundaries:- North: Flat-A4-04, South: Open Space & Block-A-5, East: Flat-A4-02, West: Remaining Land of Seller. * **Physical Possession.**	₹ **15,27,584.00** + Interest & Other Charges	₹ **10,49,000.00** / ₹ **1,04,900.00** / ₹ **2,000.00**

(1) Intending Bidders should get themselves registered on **https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/bidder-registration** by providing requisite KYC documents and registration fee as per the guidelines provided on BAANKNET well before the auction date (The registration process is detailed on the above website). **(2)** Bidders have to visit the website (**https://www.baanknet.com/eauction-psb/x-login**) to participate for online bid. For technical assistance, the bidders may refer to BAANKNET helpline numbers/email id mentioned on the home page of **https://www.baanknet.com (3)** Bidders shall hold a valid e-mail ID (e-mail ID is absolutely necessary for the intending bidder as all the relevant information and allotment of ID and password by BAANKNET may be conveyed through e-mail.) **(4)** The bidders are advised to in their own interest to satisfy themselves with the title and correctness of other details pertaining to the immoveable secured assets including the size/area of the immovable secured assets in question. They shall independently ascertain any other dues/liabilities/encumbrances in respect of the property from the concerned authorities to their satisfaction before submitting the bids. For details of terms and conditions of sale, kindly visit the website of State Bank of India Secured Creditor i.e. **https://www.sbi.co.in, https://www.baanknet.com** (website details) given.

This publication is also a 30 days notice to the borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors under the Securities Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Inspection of Property Date & Time : 24.12.2026 From 11.00 am to 4.00 pm (as per prior appointment) & Last Date for Submission of EMD- 28/12/2026 till 4.00 pm

This notice is also being published in Vernacular Language. The English Version shall be final in any case of interpretation arises.

Date: 22.11.2026, Place: Bhilai Authorized Officer, State Bank of India

Central Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 53 No. 46

Comment

QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

"The future depends on what we do in the present. Every small action today shapes a better tomorrow."

[Mahatma Gandhi]

| OUR VIEW |

China's two-front strategy threatens India's security

China's growing military partnership with Pakistan and its continued strategic pressure on India have emerged as serious challenges to regional stability. The latest assessment by the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission raises troubling questions about Beijing's long-term intentions and its determination to restrict India's emergence as a major global power. The commission's report suggests that Chinese assistance to Pakistan during Operation Sindoor in May 2025 was not an isolated development but part of a wider strategy to contain India. Reports of technical assistance, intelligence sharing and support for Chinese-origin fighter aircraft underline the increasingly sophisticated nature of Beijing's military cooperation with Islamabad. For India, these developments reinforce the dangers of a potential two-front security challenge. China's expanding military infrastructure along the Line of Actual Control, combined with Pakistan's dependence on Chinese defence technology, demands constant vigilance and stronger strategic preparedness. Equally concerning is Beijing's growing presence in the Indian Ocean. Expanded naval deployments and surveillance activities could threaten India's maritime interests and complicate the regional security environment. Protecting vital sea lanes and strengthening partnerships with friendly countries must therefore remain important national priorities. However, military preparedness alone cannot address the challenge. China's dominance over critical manufacturing networks and industrial supplies creates economic vulnerabilities that India must systematically reduce. Developing domestic manufacturing capabilities, securing essential technologies and diversifying supply chains are necessary steps towards genuine strategic independence. The American commission's recommendation for deeper intelligence, maritime and manufacturing cooperation with India deserves serious consideration. Nevertheless, New Delhi must ensure that closer cooperation with Washington strengthens rather than compromises its strategic autonomy. Diplomatic engagement with Beijing also remains essential. Despite continuing border concerns, dialogue can help prevent misunderstandings and reduce the possibility of accidental confrontation. India should pursue peaceful relations without overlooking the realities of regional competition. The larger lesson is that India's rise cannot depend solely on external partnerships or military strength. Economic resilience, technological innovation, diplomatic influence and national unity will ultimately determine its strategic position. China may seek to limit India's growing influence, but New Delhi's response must be measured, confident and forward-looking. A stronger, self-reliant India, supported by balanced international partnerships and credible defence capabilities, offers the most effective answer to any attempt to obstruct its progress.

| GUEST VIEW |

Water bells promote healthy drinking habits

Kerala became the first Indian state to introduce "water bells" in schools in 2019, encouraging children to drink water regularly. Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi subsequently adopted similar initiatives. Although some states introduced the system primarily to combat extreme heat, the initiative has proved beneficial for students. Government and private-aided schools generally schedule three water breaks daily, one in the forenoon and two in the afternoon. A bell signals students to pause briefly and drink water. Such breaks are important because many children hesitate to drink water during classes, fearing teachers' disapproval. Inadequate hydration can contribute to several health problems, particularly gastrointestinal disorders. Children suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting face greater risks of dehydration. Common warning signs, including thirst, dry mouth and headaches, are frequently ignored by children. Regular water breaks help develop healthy drinking habits and prevent dehydration. However, schools must ensure uninterrupted access to safe drinking water, especially for students who do not carry bottles from home. Equally important is maintaining clean, hygienic toilets. Poor sanitation often discourages children from drinking sufficient water to avoid using unpleasant facilities. Water bells, supported by proper sanitation and adequate drinking water, can significantly improve students' health and well-being.



Dr Ganapathi Bhat

India's growing power crisis threatens energy security and development

Electricity is not merely an advertisement for a government's achievements, but a true test of its development potential. When industries are forced to halt production, farmers wait for electricity for irrigation, cities face power cuts during summer, and consumers have to buy expensive electricity, it's natural to question claims of energy self-sufficiency. India's power sector grapples with this very paradox. While on the one hand, there is celebration of record power generation, renewable energy expansion, and grand plans for the future, on the other, there are challenges like fuel crisis, weak distribution companies, inadequate storage, and demand pressure.

The biggest weakness of the power sector is that our energy planning often seems to focus more on installed capacity figures than actual demand. Growth is measured by the number of megawatts of power plants installed, the number of solar projects launched, and the number of new schemes announced. But the real question for consumers is whether electricity is available when needed. The gap between installed capacity and actual supply poses a serious challenge to energy planning. Having a power plant and having it produce continuously during a crisis are two different things.

While calls to reduce coal dependence have been circulating for years, thermal power remains the backbone of India's power system. Instead of acknowledging this dependence, the energy transition debate is often limited to the expansion of clean energy. If serious attention is not paid to coal supply, rail transportation, adequate plant reserves, and the maintenance of production units, all plans will remain on paper in times of crisis. Energy policy requires pragmatism, not contradiction. Until alternative sources become sufficient, stable, and economically viable, weakening the traditional generation system would be risky.

Expanding solar energy is certainly a future necessity, but energy security isn't simply about having electricity available when the sun is shining. Solar production declines as the sun sets, while domestic and commercial demand increases in many sectors. Filling this gap requires battery storage, pumped storage, hydropower, nuclear power, and sufficient regulated generation capacity. The question is: are our plans developing these systems with the same seriousness as presenting solar capacity figures? If storage and grid preparedness lag behind, renewable energy expansion could also create new instability.

The financial plight of power distribution companies is an aspect of this crisis that can no longer be ignored. Distribution companies, which have been incurring losses for years, have been financially weakened by technical losses, power theft, weak billing systems, and political pressure. The politics of free electricity and subsidies are valid, but if payments are not made on time and transparently, the power system ultimately suffers. Leaving distribution companies in financial crisis in the name of consumer relief is not a visionary policy. Governments must understand that a world-class power system cannot be built with weak discoms.

Transmission systems are also a significant weakness in the power sector. Increasing power generation is insufficient if the network to deliver it to the areas in need is not robust. Sometimes, power availability and demand differ in different regions, but limited transmission capacity prevents its effective use. Investment in modern transmission lines, interstate networks, smart grids, and technical monitoring is no longer an option, but a necessity. A single weak link in the power system can impact the entire system.

Rising electricity demand can no longer be simply ignored. Industrialization, the digital economy, data centers, electric vehicles, urbanization, and increasing heat have transformed the nature of electricity needs. Merely outdated demand projections will not suffice in the coming years. The government, power companies, and regulators must realistically assess future needs. Otherwise, every heat wave, every industrial expansion, and every demand increase will create crisis management situations.

Reforming the energy sector means more than just announcing new projects, but also ensuring accountability. Transparency in power procurement, realistic assessment of distribution companies' losses, timely project implementation, smart metering, energy efficiency, and demand management should be prioritized. Industries should be encouraged to conserve energy, and domestic consumers should be made aware of efficient appliances and their efficient use. Saving electricity will be possible not just through moral appeals, but through technology, incentives, and effective policy.

India must avoid both extremes–impractical targets in the name of energy transition and clinging to old patterns in the name of power crisis. On the one hand, there's environmental responsibility, on the other, economic growth and the needs of millions of consumers. A true energy policy is to balance these two. Clean energy should expand, but it should also be accompanied by the development of storage, grids, reliable generation, and economic stability.

The measure of success in the power sector should not be megawatt announcements, but uninterrupted supply, reasonable bills, a robust distribution system, and energy availability during times of crisis. India needs a power system that is not only large in numbers, but also reliable in the lives of its citizens. After all, the light of development is meaningful only when it transcends manifestos and statistics and reaches homes, farms, hospitals, and industries without hindrance. This is the true test of India's energy policy.



Dr. Satyawan Saurabh
Writer is a PhD (Political Science), is a poet and social thinker.

India needs passionate teachers to transform education

India's expanding education system needs more than qualified teachers; passionate educators with dedication, creativity and commitment are essential to inspire students and shape futures.



Dr. R.K. Uppal
Prof. Emeritus



India's education system is expanding rapidly, with thousands of universities, colleges and schools producing millions of graduates every year. However, behind this expansion lies a serious concern that deserves urgent attention: the declining passion, commitment and dedication among teachers. While educational institutions continue to recruit qualified faculty members, the real question is whether they are recruiting passionate educators who can inspire young minds or merely appointing individuals to fill vacant positions. Teaching is not simply an employment opportunity; it is a responsibility that shapes individuals, institutions and the future of a nation.

A passionate teacher does much more than deliver lectures and complete the prescribed syllabus. Such an educator encourages curiosity, develops critical thinking, promotes creativity and motivates students to achieve their potential. Teachers influence not only academic performance but also students' confidence, values, professional attitudes and social responsibilities. Unfortunately, in many institutions, teaching is gradually becoming a routine activity rather than an intellectual and inspirational mission. Completing lectures, maintaining attendance records and fulfilling administrative requirements sometimes receive greater attention than meaningful classroom engagement.

One major reason behind this situation is the changing institutional environment. In several private educational institutions, faculty members are increasingly burdened with non-academic responsibilities such as admission campaigns, promotional activities, documentation, compliance work and event management. These assignments consume valuable time that should be devoted to teaching, research, lesson preparation and student mentoring. When teachers are treated as administrative employees or admission agents rather than academic professionals, their motivation and professional dignity inevitably suffer.

Financial insecurity also affects the enthusiasm of teaching professionals. Low salaries, delayed payments, temporary appointments, contractual employment and limited career opportunities create frustration among qualified faculty members. Institutions cannot expect exceptional commitment and innovation while ignoring the financial and professional well-being of their teachers. A respected and motivated faculty is essential for building a strong academic culture.

Another concern is the growing distance between teaching and research. Higher education institutions are expected to generate knowledge and encourage innovation, but research activities sometimes become merely formal requirements for promotions and academic qualifications. Teachers need institutional support, research opportunities, academic freedom and sufficient time to update their knowledge. Without continuous learning, teaching risks becoming outdated and disconnected from contemporary developments.

The recruitment process also needs improvement. Academic degrees, eligibility examinations and research publications are important, but they cannot independently measure teaching aptitude, communication skills, patience and the ability to inspire students. Educational institutions must give greater importance to professional ethics, classroom effectiveness and genuine commitment to student development.

Ultimately, the future of Indian education depends not only on qualified teachers but also on passionate educators. A teacher may be appointed through a recruitment process, but passion, commitment and the ability to inspire students must come from within. India needs teachers who do not simply teach lessons but transform lives.

YOURLETTERS

Sonia Gandhi highlights shared challenges of marriage

In her memoir Belonging: A Journey of Love, Sonia Gandhi reflects on the cultural adjustments she faced after marriage. Significantly, she acknowledges that Indian women also experience similar challenges when entering new families and adapting to unfamiliar traditions. Her observations highlight how women across Eastern and Western societies share common experiences after marriage. By recognising these difficulties with sensitivity and compassion, Sonia Gandhi demonstrates an understanding of the emotional and cultural adjustments that married women often undergo.

K. Chatterjee, Kolkata

Strict regulation essential to combat antibiotic resistance

The growing threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) demands urgent action against unregulated access to antibiotics. Regulatory loopholes at the grassroots level allow powerful antimicrobial medicines to be distributed without proper medical supervision. Alarmingly, self-styled healers sometimes administer these drugs in disguised forms, increasing the risk of misuse. Alongside spreading public awareness, drug control authorities must strictly enforce prescription-only regulations. Unless unrestricted antibiotic sales and irrational use are effectively curbed, modern medicine risks losing its most valuable defence against dangerous infections.

MK Nair, Raipur

Send your articles (600-650 words) and letters (70-80 words) for this page on: **editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com** The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity.

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Nation



"PM Modi wakes up after 12 years, blames business community."

Mallikarjun Kharge
Congress President

Gandhi Sangrahalaya urges PMCH building preservation

Patna's Gandhi Sangrahalaya has written to the central culture ministry over saving the nearly 120-year-old Bankipore General Hospital.

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI/PATNA: The Gandhi Sangrahalaya in Patna has appealed to the Union Culture Ministry for immediate intervention to save the historic frontal portion of the nearly 120-year-old Bankipore General Hospital building on the Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH) campus, which faces the threat of demolition.

In a letter dated November 19, Razi Ahmad, 87, noted Gandhian and long-serving secretary of the Gandhi Sangrahalaya, urged the Centre to protect the remaining structure associated with Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Patna in May 1947. The appeal comes during World Heritage Week, observed from November 19 to 25.

The Sangrahalaya's demand follows similar appeals by heritage conservation body INTACH, the PMCH alumni association, historians, scholars and heritage enthusiasts. They have expressed concern over the demolition of several historic structures on the hospital campus under its redevelopment project.

The hospital's historic Hathwa and Guzri wards, located in its northern and southern wings, have already been demolished over the past two months. The old staircase lobby, which housed a defunct British-era lift, and the connecting bridge between the wings and the frontal structure have also been razed. The surviving frontal building is notable for its architectural features, particularly its graceful two-storey Doric columns on the eastern and southern sides. It previously housed the office of the medical superintendent. The Gandhi Sangrahalaya has criticised the state government for allegedly overlooking heritage conservation while implementing the PMCH modernisation project. Its letter states that most old buildings on the campus have already been demolished and urges authorities to preserve the remaining portion, suggesting that it could be named after Gandhi or Manu Gandhi.

The building holds particular historical significance because Manu Gandhi underwent an appendicitis operation at PMCH on May 15, 1947, a day after Mahatma Gandhi arrived in Patna from Calcutta. Gandhi reportedly remained inside the operation theatre during the surgery and stayed with Manu during her recovery, which lasted over a week.

HIGHLIGHT

- Renowned Gandhian Razi Ahmad has stated that Mahatma Gandhi called Bihar as his Karmabhoomi.

The operation was performed by Col Dwarka Prasad Bhargava, then head of the surgery department at the Prince of Wales Medical College and Hospital. Gandhi also recorded the incident in his diary, while PMCH mentions it on its official website. Archival photographs showing Gandhi inside the operation theatre during the operation have also been preserved. The Sangrahalaya cited the example of Sassoon General Hospital in Pune, where Gandhi underwent an appendicitis operation in 1924 and where a memorial has been preserved in his name.

Lifer to man

NEW DELHI: A 24-year-old man, Aman, has been sentenced to life imprisonment for strangling his wife to death over suspicion of an extramarital affair, police said on Saturday.

Principal District and Sessions Judge Pawan Kumar Matto pronounced the sentence at Karkardooma Courts on November 19, imposing a fine of Rs 10,000. The court also directed the Shahdara District Legal Services Authority to provide adequate compensation to the couple's minor daughter, who is living with her maternal grandmother. The incident occurred on February 25, 2025, when Aman walked into Harsh Vihar police station and confessed to killing his wife at their Nand Nagri residence. Police found her body and took her to GTB Hospital, where she was declared dead.

The couple married in November 2023 and frequently quarrelled. The court rejected the prosecution's plea for the death penalty, observing that the case did not qualify as the 'rarest of rare'. The convict's young age and lack of previous criminal record were considered. In case of non-payment of the fine, he will undergo an additional three months of simple imprisonment.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

YOGI'S LAST RESPECTS TO HIS MOTHER

After mother's last rites, Yogi Adityanath to visit Lucknow for PM Modi's programme



LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will return to Lucknow on Saturday after attending the last rites of his mother, Savitri Devi, in Haridwar, to participate in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's programme in the state capital, officials said.

Adityanath is scheduled to remain in Uttarakhand until 2.15 pm before flying back to Lucknow. He will attend the Kaushal Dikshant Samaroh (Skill Development Convocation), scheduled to be held in the presence of the Prime Minister from 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm.

The Chief Minister received the news of his mother's demise on Friday while addressing a public programme at Champa Devi Park in Gorakhpur. More than 50,000 beneficiaries were scheduled to receive tablets at the event.

After completing his nearly 61-minute address, Adityanath was informed about his mother's death by Avnish Awasthi, advisor to the Uttar Pradesh government and former IAS officer. Despite the personal loss, he maintained his composure, interacted with beneficiaries and posed for photographs before leaving for the Gorakhnath temple.

PANCHAYAT POLLS

BJP's urban gains fail to translate into rural support

JAIPUR: The BJP's strong performance in Rajasthan's urban local body elections failed to translate into similar gains in rural areas, as the Congress emerged ahead in the recently concluded panchayat polls, exposing gaps in the ruling party's grassroots support.

The Congress won 794 of the 1,271 zila parishad seats and 3,758 of the 7,520 panchayat samiti seats. The BJP secured 357 and 2,213 seats, respectively, while the Rashtriya Loktantrik Party (RLP) won 51 zila parishad and 497 panchayat samiti seats. The results proved particularly challenging for the BJP, as several prominent leaders failed to retain influence in their constituencies. The party suffered setbacks in Deputy Chief Minister Premchand Bairwa's Dudu, Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khinvsar's Lohawat and Agriculture Minister Kirodi Lal Meena's Sawai Madhopur constituencies. Family members of Urban Development Minister Jhabar Singh Kharra also lost, although former BJP minister Rajendra Rathore's son and daughter-in-law registered victories.

RELIEF EFFORTS

Odisha steps up flood preparedness as Cyclone Akvan weakens



BHUBANESWAR: The Odisha government on Saturday placed the water resources department on high alert and ordered round-the-clock monitoring of rivers and reservoirs following heavy rainfall caused by Cyclone Akvan.

Water Resources Department Secretary Subha Sharma directed officials to maintain uninterrupted surveillance and ensure all precautionary measures remain in place, despite the weakening of the cyclone.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said the remnant of Severe Cyclonic Storm Akvan had weakened into a well-marked low-pressure area over south coastal Odisha on Friday. However, several districts, including Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Bhadrak, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur, Jajpur, Puri, Khurda and Cuttack, were likely to receive further rainfall.

ASI suspended

PATHANAMTHITTA: A police officer was suspended on Saturday for allegedly assaulting a driver carrying Sabarimala pilgrims at Nilakkal base camp in Kerala, officials said. The suspended officer, identified as Jijo, an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI), was deployed to manage vehicle parking at Nilakkal. The incident occurred early Saturday when a tempo van carrying pilgrims from Ernakulam reached the base camp. Its driver, Prasanth, a native of North Paravoor, was allotted parking slot number 9. However, he stopped to drop the pilgrims at a point where they could board buses to Pampa.

Jijo allegedly removed the vehicle key and slapped the driver following an argument. Prasanth recorded the incident on his mobile phone. ADGP P Vijayan ordered an inquiry and suspended the officer pending investigation. The state government assured a thorough probe, warning of strict action if pilgrims were mistreated.

| RESIDENTIAL RELIEF |

Karnataka plans 15 lakh free residential sites

Press Trust Of India

1lakh houses planned at Rs 2,241 crore



K'taka CM Shivakumar inaugurates and visits exhibition stalls showcasing various government departments' schemes.

BENGALURU: The Karnataka government has set a target of distributing 15 lakh free residential sites to landless families across the state and constructing one lakh houses during 2026-27, with an estimated expenditure of Rs 2,241 crore for the housing programme.

Under the proposed 'Bhooguarantee' initiative, the first phase will develop five lakh residential sites at an estimated cost of Rs 1,000 crore.

The chief minister's office said in a statement on Saturday that the decisions were taken at the 26th state Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on November 19. The government estimates that around 14.4 lakh people in Karnataka do not have residential sites. Accordingly, it has set a target of developing 15 lakh sites in rural and urban areas.

FACTFILE

- Cabinet Decisions Taken On November 19
- Of these, nine lakh sites are proposed in rural areas.

Of these, nine lakh sites are proposed in rural areas, requiring around 45,000 acres, while five lakh beneficiaries in urban areas are proposed to be accommodated through a G+3 housing model on approximately 5,000 acres. District administrations have been directed to identify and reserve suitable government land under section 71 of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964. Around 23,500 acres of government land have already been identified across the state's 31 districts, which could accommodate approximately 4.70 lakh sites.

The first phase will cover five lakh sites spread over around 25,000 acres, with the development cost estimated at Rs 20,000 per site. Around Rs 400 crore, accounting for 40 per cent of the first-phase expenditure, is proposed to be mobilised through convergence of funds from various sources, including VB-G-RAM-G, Scheduled Caste Sub -Plan, Tribal Sub-Plan, District Mineral Foundation, Kalyana Karnataka Regional Development Board and local area development funds of MPs and MLAs.

PAKISTAN MINISTER'S STATEMENT

Culture plays a key role in fostering dialogue, says Pak minister at SCO forum in India



NEW DELHI: Pakistan Climate Change Minister Musadik Malik, who attended the India-hosted SCO Civilisational Dialogue Forum in New Delhi on Friday, said culture could play a key role in promoting dialogue and mutual understanding between India and Pakistan.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the three-day event at the historic Purana Qila, Malik emphasised that his visit was focused on multilateral discussions rather than bilateral issues. Asked whether the forum could improve India-Pakistan relations, he said the discussions should be viewed in a broader regional context, involving all SCO member countries. Malik, who is visiting India for the first time, said cultural exchanges could help countries understand each other's perspectives, traditions and ways of life. He added that art, music and civilisational discussions could open new avenues for regional cooperation.

His visit comes amid strained bilateral relations following the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 people were killed. India has maintained that dialogue with Pakistan cannot resume until Islamabad ends its support for cross-border terrorism. On terrorism, Malik said both countries should ensure transparency and establish a mechanism for examining evidence. He suggested involving a mutually trusted third country to facilitate discussions and build confidence.

The Pakistani minister also said terrorism had caused significant suffering in his country and called for efforts to resolve regional challenges rather than engage in mutual accusations. The Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of External Affairs are jointly hosting the November 20-22 forum, which brings together representatives of SCO member countries.

Malik welcomed the opportunity to interact with delegates from Central Asia and Nepal, saying people-to-people contact and cultural exchanges could strengthen regional understanding. He also expressed hope that India and Pakistan would host similar cultural events in the future.

| SHAH'S ARUNACHAL VISIT |

Amit Shah to attend Arunachal police event

Press Trust Of India

ITANAGAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will present the President's Police Colour to the Arunachal Pradesh Police and distribute appointment letters to newly recruited personnel during his three-day visit to the state, officials said on Saturday. Shah, who arrived in Arunachal Pradesh on Friday, will attend the ceremony at the Police Training Centre in Banderdewa. He will pay tribute at the martyrs' memorial, inspect the parade and ceremonial march past, and present the prestigious honour in recognition of the force's service. He will also address the gathering and distribute appointment letters before leaving for Itanagar around 1.40 pm.

Later, Shah will chair review meetings with senior state government officials at Lok Bhavan from 2.30 pm to assess major development projects. Infrastructure, internal security, border-area development and coordination between the Centre and the state are expected to figure prominently in the discussions.

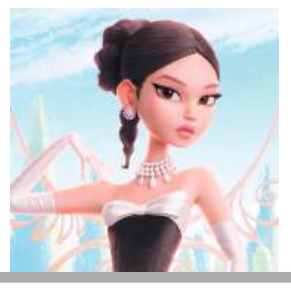
> **"Home Minister to honour Arunachal Pradesh police pervice."**
>
> **Official Statement**



On Sunday, the Home Minister will attend a programme at the Dorjee Khandu State Convention Centre, where he will unveil the Arunachal Pradesh Cooperation Vision Document 2047, present Cooperation Awards and inaugurate the Saras Mela.

He will subsequently visit Hollongi to inaugurate the campus of the 12th Battalion of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) at around 3.45 pm. Shah is scheduled to return to New Delhi on November 22. His visit comes amid protests against the proposed Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP), with sections of the local population expressing concerns over its potential environmental and social impact.

The visit is also significant in view of the Centre's focus on strengthening security, infrastructure and connectivity in the strategically important border state.



Weekend

CC
SUNDAY
Raipur, November 22, 2026

THE SUNDAY REVIEW

‘Sathyavan Savitri’ is a distracted yet clever courtroom drama

A mythological inspiration meets courtroom drama in this ambitious but flawed film.







Keerthy Suresh and Mysskin’s still from ‘Sathyavan Savitri’

‘Sathyavan Savitri’ attempts to bring a courtroom twist to a mythological tale, combining legal drama, philosophy and questions of justice. Despite its promising premise, the film struggles to deliver a convincing experience. Directed by Praveen S Vijaay, the film stars Keerthy Suresh as Savitri, a junior advocate caught in a challenging legal battle. Mysskin plays Markandeyan, a senior lawyer who becomes her opponent. Inspired by the Mahabharata story of Savitri and Sathyavan, the narrative explores whether intelligence and determination can overcome impossible circumstances. The film opens with a stage performance of the mythological tale, establishing a connection between the story and its interpretation. While this is a beginning, the storytelling soon becomes complicated. Several scenes are designed to surprise viewers through revelations that make sense only later. However, this approach weakens the connection with the characters. Savitri is introduced as a woman, but her journey towards accepting her marriage and relationship feels rushed. The screenplay does not establish her transformation, making important developments appear unconvincing.



The courtroom proceedings also lack the depth expected from a legal drama. A drawback is the presentation of arguments. Savitri takes on her senior lawyer in a case involving a medical college dean accused of negligence and corruption. Yet, the evidence she presents raises questions about the investigation without establishing the dean’s innocence. The film repeatedly relies on emotional appeals rather than legal reasoning.

Keerthy Suresh and Mysskin bring a presence to the narrative, but the writing does not consistently support their characters. Ultimately, ‘Sathyavan Savitri’ has an intriguing concept but becomes trapped in its own cleverness. Its philosophical ambitions cannot compensate for weak storytelling and an unconvincing courtroom drama.

| HOLLYWOOD |

JOHNNY DEPP’S GOTHIC CHRISTMAS TALE LACKS EMOTION

Central Chronicle News

Johnny Depp returns as one of literature’s familiar characters in ‘Ebenezer’, a gothic retelling of Charles Dickens’ ‘A Christmas Carol’. Directed by Ti West, the film gives the tale of greed, regret and redemption a darker treatment. Its visuals impress, but the emotional storytelling does not always leave a lasting impact. Depp plays Ebenezer Scrooge, a wealthy businessman whose obsession with money has made him bitter and isolated. His life changes when the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley (Ian McKellen), appears to warn him about his fate. Soon, three spirits take Scrooge through his past, present and future, forcing him to reconsider his choices. Instead of following the sentimental approach associated with Christmas adaptations, West gives the story an eerie makeover. Victorian London looks gloomy, while supernatural encounters bring horror into the narrative. The production design, cinematography and creature effects create a visually engaging world. The ghostly appearances, particularly those of Tramell Tillman and Andrea Riseborough, add to the atmosphere. However, the film’s biggest challenge lies in its central performance. Depp portrays Scrooge through exaggerated expressions and theatrical mannerisms. Although his commitment is evident, the character’s loneliness and emotional struggles receive little attention. His transformation lacks the impact that makes Dickens’ original story so enduring.



Johnny Depp’s Scrooge gets a gothic makeover in Ebenezer.



HIGHLIGHT

- **Johnny Depp brings a darker twist to Dickens’ timeless Christmas classic.**

McKellen brings authority and mischief to Marley, while Rupert Grint adds warmth as Bob Cratchit. The supporting performances provide balance, although several characters remain underdeveloped. At 116 minutes, the film occasionally feels stretched. Its gothic visuals are impressive, but its social commentary and emotional depth take a back seat.

Overall, ‘Ebenezer’ is a reasonably engaging Christmas ghost story, but its darker imagination deserved a stronger emotional payoff and a more moving conclusion.

*Pixel*View

WHAT TO WATCH HOMEBOUND



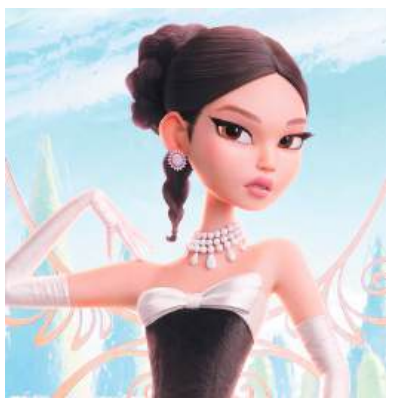
Dhindora 2

Cast: Bhuvan Bam, Sanjeeda Sheikh and others.
Where to watch: Where to watch: On Netflix, the second season shifts its focus to Titu Mama as he tries to settle his debts and repair his strained relationship with his in-laws. However, an unexpected treasure hunt turns his plans upside down. Joined by Babloo Ji, Janki, Sameer and Bancho, Titu embarks on a series of chaotic adventures while navigating the strict village traditions upheld by his wife, Kavita Mami.



The Vvaan: Force of the Forrest

Cast: Sidharth Malhotra and others
Where to watch: On Amazon Prime Video, the supernatural thriller follows Rishi, a rational engineer who returns to his ancestral village of Devanchal in Bihar. After violating the rules of a forbidden forest, he accidentally awakens an ancient goddess. As supernatural forces threaten his family and the village, Rishi must confront mysterious dangers that challenge his beliefs, logic and understanding of the world around him.



Steps

Cast: Amanda Seyfried, Ali Wong, Bette Midler and others
Where to watch: On Netflix, the animated fantasy comedy offers an unusual twist on the classic Cinderella story. When Cinderella’s stepsister Lilith steals the Fairy Godmother’s magical wand, the familiar fairytale takes an unexpected turn. The incident creates chaos, setting the stage for a series of surprising adventures that challenge the traditional story and bring a fresh perspective to the beloved fairytale.



Campus Diaries Season 2

Cast: Harsh Beniwal, Ritvik Sahore, Srishti Ganguli Rindani, Saloni Gaur and others
Where to watch: On Amazon MX Player, the second season brings six friends back to Excel University for another semester filled with unexpected twists. Sudheer, Abhilash, Sanya, Sushmita, Priyanka and Raghav navigate new challenges, changing relationships and memorable experiences as they balance campus life. As they face fresh situations, their friendships are tested, pushing them to discover more about themselves and each other.



Mr & Mrs Office

Cast: Pradeep Antony, Smeha Manimegalai and others
Where to watch: On JioHotstar, the Tamil workplace comedy follows a married couple employed at the same IT company. However, the organisation’s strict no-relatives policy forces them to keep their relationship a secret from colleagues. Their situation leads to awkward encounters, hilarious misunderstandings and unexpected workplace chaos as they struggle to balance their marriage and professional lives while avoiding suspicion from their co-workers.

"Be so busy improving your self that you have no time to criticize others."
Saina Nehwal



youthZone

SINGULAR OF THE WEEK

'Beyond wealth' – How a young family is attaining monk hood

Chhavi, 22, and Charvi, 14, will take diksha, initiation into Jain monkhood



In a remarkable decision rooted in spiritual beliefs, a family of four from Rajasthan's Udaipur district has chosen to leave behind a flourishing Rs 15-crore textile business to embrace Jain monastic life.

The family's decision highlights a journey of faith, sacrifice and a search for a different purpose beyond material success. Dilip Bhai Bhogar, 47, his wife Jyoti Ben, 45, and their daughters Chhavi, 22, and Charvi, 14, will take diksha, the initiation into Jain monkhood, on February 8, 2027, in Surat.

Their eldest daughter, Shaili, had already embraced monastic life in 2023 and is now known as Sadhvi Darshita. Dilip Bhai originally moved from Jaswantgarh village in Udaipur to Surat, where he began his textile business with a single shop selling fabric.

Over the years, his venture expanded to three shops and several machines, generating an annual turnover of approximately Rs 15 crore. He was preparing for further expansion when an encounter with a Jain acharya deepened his interest in spirituality and inspired him to consider monastic life. Following his eldest daughter's initiation, he gradually scaled down his business and decided to take diksha himself.

His wife and two younger daughters also chose to accompany him on this spiritual journey. Chhavi, who pursued a BBA in graphic design, had started a small venture selling handmade crochet products but discontinued it after four months. Charvi, meanwhile, left school midway through Class 9 and had represented Surat at the district-level football competitions.

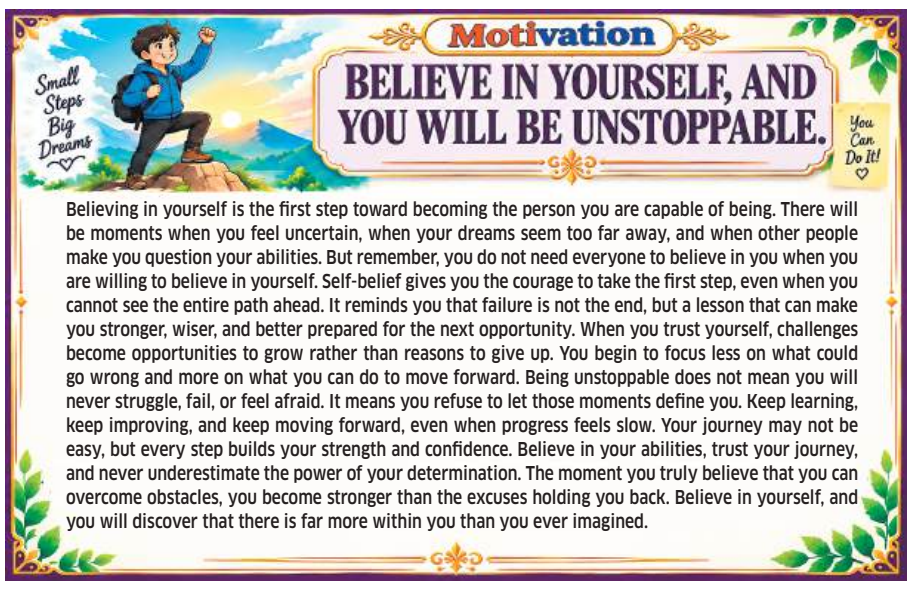
Before taking diksha, the four family members spent time with Jain ascetics, learning about their disciplined lifestyle, including travelling on foot, food restrictions and daily practices. Their decision offers a thought-provoking perspective on success, happiness and the meaning of fulfilment beyond wealth.



HIGHLIGHT

- Their spiritual journey challenges conventional ideas of ambition and success.





The impact of selfie obsession on teenagers

For teenagers, social media likes and comments are increasingly becoming measures of self-worth. The growing tendency, often described as selfitis, involves an excessive urge to click and post selfies for online attention. When appreciation does not come, youngsters may experience disappointment, anxiety and low confidence. Constantly checking reactions, comparing appearances and deleting unpopular posts can affect their studies, sleep and daily routines. Parents should watch for these signs without judging or scolding their children. Encouraging offline hobbies, healthy screen-time limits and open conversations can help teenagers build confidence beyond virtual approval.

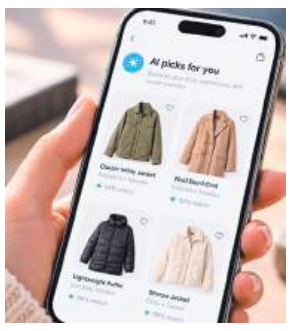




YOUTHCAREER

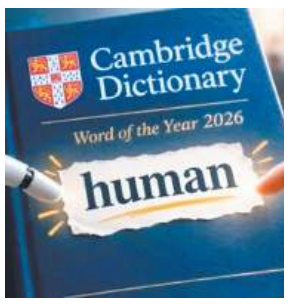
Dream career pathways

Google AI could pick your daily outfits



Google Photos could soon make outfit planning easier with its upcoming AI-powered 'Build a Fit' feature. Reportedly spotted in the app's Android version 8.2, the tool may suggest clothing combinations from users' digital wardrobes. It could offer options such as 'Surprise me' or allow manual selections. The feature builds on Google's existing Wardrobe tool, which identifies and organises clothes from saved photographs. While development appears underway, Google has not announced an official launch date.

A word that captures the spirit of 2026



Cambridge Dictionary has named 'human' its Word of the Year 2026, reflecting growing concerns about artificial intelligence and creativity. As AI increasingly writes stories, creates images and imitates human expression, people are valuing originality and emotional connection more than ever. Terms such as 'human-written' and 'human-made' are gaining popularity as readers distinguish authentic creative work from AI-generated content. The choice highlights society's renewed appreciation for human imagination, individuality and the emotions that make storytelling meaningful.

The nostalgic charm of digital cameras



In an age of smartphone photography and instant filters, Gen Z is rediscovering the charm of digital cameras. Compact cameras from the 2000s are making a comeback, offering grainy textures, flash-lit portraits and candid moments that feel refreshingly real. Young photography enthusiasts are embracing their imperfect aesthetic, sharing nostalgic pictures across social media. Beyond capturing images, digital cameras offer a break from constant phone notifications and encourage people to enjoy the moment rather than endlessly edit it.

A new dimension to home entertainment



Philips 55-inch 7985 Series combines 4K QLED picture quality with immersive Ambilight technology, projecting screen colours onto the wall. Its Dolby Vision and HDR10 support enhance viewing, while Roku provides access to popular streaming platforms and over 500 free live channels. The television also supports AirPlay and voice assistants. With Dolby Atmos audio, 16W stereo speakers and HDMI eARC connectivity, users can enjoy an enhanced entertainment experience. Its blend of smart features, vibrant visuals and ambient lighting makes it an attractive home entertainment option.

Bajubandh is the new statement accessory



Move over necklaces, the bajubandh is having its fashion moment. Once associated with traditional Indian attire, this armlet is finding a place in contemporary wardrobes. Fashion enthusiasts are styling it with sarees, lehengas, sleeveless blouses and modern fusion outfits. From delicate gold designs to chunky statement pieces, there is a style for every mood. Whether worn alone or paired with bangles, the bajubandh adds an unexpected touch of elegance, bringing traditional jewellery back into the fashion spotlight.

Sports



"We are seeing a transition and we are okay without Kane, although he is irreplaceable. We all miss him desperately."

Gavin Larsen
Chairman of Selectors, New Zealand Cricket

Satwik-Chirag and Lakshya suffer defeats in Hong Kong semifinals

India's campaign at the Hong Kong Open ended disappointingly as Satwik-Chirag and Lakshya Sen suffered semifinal defeats, bringing their impressive recent performances to an abrupt halt on Saturday.

Press Trust Of India

Malaysian pair Man-Tee defeated Satwik-Chirag 21-18, 21-19 in a closely fought semifinal encounter.



Man Wei Chong and Tee Kai Wun secured their second final appearance of the year after overcoming India's fifth seeds Satwik-Chirag in straight games.

KOWLOON: India's campaign at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 badminton tournament ended on Saturday after men's doubles stars Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, along with singles contender Lakshya Sen, suffered semifinal defeats.

World No. 6 Satwik and Chirag went down 18-21, 19-21 against Malaysia's eighth-seeded combination of Man Wei Chong and Tee Kai Wun in an intense contest featuring attacking rallies and impressive net exchanges.

The Indian pair, winners of the Singapore and China titles this year, entered the match with a commanding 4-1 head-to-head record against their Malaysian opponents.

Satwik and Chirag started strongly, racing to a 3-0 lead before the Malaysians recovered. Both combinations exchanged points through sharp smashes and clever placements.

After trailing 12-16, the Indians fought back to level at 17-17. However, crucial errors allowed Man and Tee to claim the opening game 21-18.

In the second game, Satwik and Chirag established a 7-3 advantage, but the Malaysians responded with six consecutive points. Despite another determined comeback that brought the scores level at 19-19, the Indians lost the final two points.

Later, Lakshya's impressive winning streak ended following a straight-game 13-21, 13-21 defeat against Denmark's Anders Antonsen.

The Indian had arrived in Hong Kong after securing consecutive titles at the Hylo Open and Kumamoto Masters Japan, but struggled to match Antonsen's consistency and court control.

Lakshya remained competitive until 8-8 in the opening game before the Danish player gradually established control through accurate placements and disciplined rallies.

Antonsen maintained his dominance in the second game, capitalising on Lakshya's errors and reduced movement to secure a comfortable victory.

Following the defeat, Lakshya admitted that physical fatigue from consecutive tournaments had affected his performance.

He explained that his legs were tired and he avoided unnecessary sliding movements to minimise injury risks.

Despite the disappointment, Lakshya expressed satisfaction with his recent performances, saying consecutive tournament victories had strengthened his confidence and self-belief.

The semifinal exits brought India's participation in Hong Kong to an end, although both Lakshya and the doubles combination demonstrated encouraging form during their recent international campaigns, offering positive signs ahead of upcoming major badminton competitions.

Bhavika Ahire to lead India U-19 women against England in T20 series

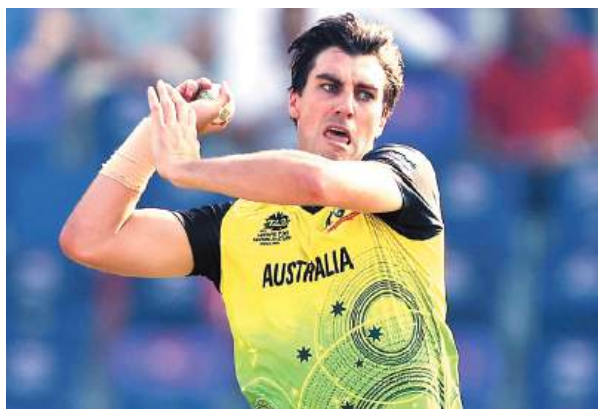
NEW DELHI: Wicketkeeper Bhavika Ahire will captain the India U-19 women's team in a five-match T20 series against England U-19, beginning November 26 in Vadodara. Seam-bowling all-rounder Anaadi Tagde has been named vice-captain for the series, which will serve as preparation for the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup in January 2027. The first two matches will be played in Vadodara, while Surat will host the remaining three. The second T20 will be held on November 28, followed by matches on December 1, 3 and 6. India U-19 squad: Bhavika Ahire (C, wk), Ira Jadhav, Nidhi Mahto, Purva Siwach, Mehek Narwase, Maitri Maniar, Ishwari Awsare, Deeya Yadav, Shreya S Chawan (wk), Samaira Ravghav, Kumari Palak, Uma Kashvi, Achsah Parmar, Anaadi Tagde (vc) and Palak Singh.

| CUMMINS RETAINS CAPTAINCY |

CA supports Cummins to stay on as Australia's Test captain

Press Trust Of India

Cricket Australia unanimously supports Cummins continuing as captain despite renewed Sandpaper controversy.



HIGHLIGHT

- CA Board unanimously reaffirmed confidence in Cummins following fresh ball-tampering controversy allegations.
- Cummins supports independent forum allowing players and staff to share experiences openly.

MELBOURNE: Australia (CA) has reaffirmed its unanimous support for Pat Cummins to continue as Australia's Test captain amid renewed controversy surrounding the 2018 Sandpaper scandal during the South Africa tour.

Speculation over Cummins' future intensified following revelations by former opener Usman Khawaja in his autobiography concerning the ball-tampering episode.

CA Chair David Boon and CEO Todd Greenberg met Cummins to discuss his welfare, team support and the upcoming Test series against New Zealand in December.

Following the meeting, CA announced that its Board had unanimously endorsed Cummins' continuation as captain.

Cummins welcomed the decision, acknowledging the responsibilities associated with leading Australia and confirming that captaining the team in Perth remained his priority.

Boon strongly defended Cummins' integrity, rejecting suggestions that recent developments had compromised his leadership.

He emphasised that Australian cricket had learned important lessons from the 2018 controversy and praised the team culture developed under Cummins. CA also announced an independent forum where players and support staff involved in the South Africa tour could share their experiences.

Cummins expressed complete support for the initiative and confirmed his participation, acknowledging that difficult conversations would be necessary.

Boon said the Board remained committed to listening, learning and guiding Australian cricket through the controversy with patience and diligence.

| RCB TARGETS HISTORY |

RCB eye historic third successive IPL title: Coach Flower

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Two-time defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) are targeting a historic third successive IPL title, with head coach Andy Flower expressing confidence in the franchise's retained squad despite limited auction funds.

RCB defeated Gujarat Titans by five wickets in this year's final in Ahmedabad to successfully defend their crown.

The franchise has retained key players, including Virat Kohli, Josh Hazlewood, Phil Salt and captain Rajat Patidar, while releasing five players, including injured England all-rounder Jacob Bethell.

RCB will enter the December 16 auction in Goa with Rs 14.15 crore to fill five vacancies, including one overseas slot.



"We have had two very strong years, and going into the third year of this cycle, we are very confident and comfortable with the squad we have," Flower said.

> **"We are comfortable with that because we have retained the bulk of our squad and a very strong core, the players"**
>
> **Andy Flower**
> Head Coach, Royal Challengers Bengaluru

Meanwhile, Gujarat Titans assistant coach Parthiv Patel admitted releasing veteran pacer Ishant Sharma was difficult. However, he believes Harshal Patel's arrival from Sunrisers Hyderabad will strengthen their death bowling.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

GUKESH FACES SINDAROV

Kasparov backs Gukesh while Carlsen favours Sindarov for world title



GENEVA: Chess legends Garry Kasparov and Magnus Carlsen have offered contrasting predictions ahead of the FIDE World Chess Championship between India's D Gukesh and Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov. Kasparov backed defending champion Gukesh, citing his experience in high-pressure encounters as a decisive advantage. "Sindarov provides more entertainment, but experience is important. Gukesh has that. You can hardly beat him," Kasparov said. However, Carlsen favoured Sindarov, questioning Gukesh's optimistic evaluations and tendency to take unnecessary risks. Sindarov holds a 2.5-0.5 classical head-to-head advantage, although both victories came before Gukesh became world champion. Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and Alireza Firouzja considered the contest evenly balanced, while Anish Giri slightly favoured Sindarov. The championship, scheduled from November 24 to December 12, features 14 games, with 7.5 points required for victory. Tiebreaks will decide the winner if necessary. **PTI**

INDIA HOLD HOSTS

India and New Zealand share honours in thrilling hockey encounter



AUCKLAND: The Indian men's hockey team played out an exciting 2-2 draw against hosts New Zealand in the second match of the Century of Sporting Unity series at Lloyd Elsmore Hockey Stadium on Saturday. New Zealand took the lead through Dylan Thomas in the 25th minute before Angad Bir Singh equalised for India in the 35th minute. The hosts regained their advantage when Sam Hiha struck in the 56th minute. However, Indian captain Sanjay converted a crucial penalty corner just a minute later to secure the draw. India had won the opening encounter 3-2 on November 19 and will aim to finish the three-match series strongly on Sunday. The series commemorates 100 years of sporting relations between both nations, dating back to 1926. **PTI**

FIROUZJA CLAIMS CROWN

Firouzja clinches Total Chess title as Erigaisi finishes in 10th



BUDAPEST: French Grandmaster Alireza Firouzja clinched the Total Chess World Championship Tour Pilot title after defeating Anish Giri in an Armageddon tiebreak, while Arjun Erigaisi finished 10th as the best-placed Indian. Firouzja recovered from an 11-9 opening-day defeat to win 12-8 on the second day. The Armageddon game ended in a draw, giving Firouzja victory with Black's draw odds. Erigaisi lost his ninth-place playoff against Haik Martirosyan, who secured the position with an 11-9 daily victory. R Praggnanandhaa finished 21st after defeating Abhimanyu Mishra, while his sister R Vaishali ended 24th following defeats against Nodirbek Abdusattorov. **PTI**

ORAM DEFENDS DUFFY

Jacob Oram backs Duffy after costly spell against India in Test



WELLINGTON: New Zealand bowling coach Jacob Oram backed pacer Jacob Duffy despite his expensive performance against India in the first Test, insisting one difficult outing cannot overshadow two seasons of consistent success. Duffy conceded 180 runs in 29 overs while claiming just one wicket during India's dominant batting display. Oram said the pacer, who won the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal and players' cap last season, remained committed to improving his game. "We try not to get too high when things are good and we try not to get too low when things haven't gone your way," Oram said. He identified Duffy's run-up, delivery stride and wrist position as areas requiring attention. Oram also praised Nathan Smith's bowling despite his modest figures. **PTI**

Sports News

Rahul's century, Gill's 98 put India firmly in control

KL Rahul's magnificent century and Shubman Gill's aggressive 98 powered India into a commanding position against New Zealand, establishing a crucial 118-run lead with two days remaining.

Press Trust Of India

Gill narrowly missed century as Pant's attacking half-century strengthened India's dominant position.



India's K.L. Rahul celebrates after his century.

WELLINGTON: KL Rahul's superb century and Shubman Gill's aggressive 98 helped India take complete control of the opening Test against New Zealand, securing a 118-run first-innings lead with six wickets remaining at the end of Saturday's third day.

Rahul struck his 13th Test hundred, including his 12th as an opener, while Devdutt Padikkal contributed a composed 80 to establish India's dominance.

Resuming at 159/1 in reply to New Zealand's 368, India adopted a cautious approach, scoring just 20 runs in the opening 10 overs. Rahul and Padikkal negotiated the early spells patiently before accelerating against Jacob Duffy and Glenn Phillips.

Rahul displayed excellent judgment outside off stump and punished loose deliveries, while Padikkal remained solid in defence. Their partnership frustrated New Zealand's bowlers on a surface offering little assistance.

Rahul reached his century with characteristic composure, but Padikkal eventually departed for 80 when Kyle Jamieson produced a delivery that seamed away and struck his off stump.

Gill arrived with India firmly in control and immediately adopted an attacking approach. He reached his half-century from just 66 deliveries, using powerful pulls and innovative strokes to keep the scoreboard moving.

Rahul appeared destined for a bigger innings before Nathan Smith dismissed him for 136, ending another valuable contribution.

Rishabh Pant then joined Gill and entertained spectators with his trademark attacking style. Returning from injury, Pant initially struggled for rhythm before unleashing powerful strokes, including successive sixes against Duffy.

The Gill-Pant partnership crossed 100 runs as India continued building their advantage.

However, Gill suffered heartbreak in the final over when Duffy produced a sharp delivery that moved back and bowled him for 98, denying the Indian batter a deserved century.

Despite that setback, India achieved several notable milestones. All four leading batters scored at least 80, while Pant's unbeaten half-century ensured India's top five registered fifty-plus scores in an away Test for the first time.

With two days remaining, India are strongly positioned to extend their advantage and give their bowlers sufficient time to push for victory.

New Zealand, meanwhile, face a difficult challenge after struggling to contain India's disciplined and aggressive batting throughout the day.

Australia beats England by 3 wickets in a thrilling T20 chase



Press Trust Of India

Having taken 2-21 with his leg-spin, Chaudhary made 66 from 38 balls to tee his side up for a chase of 188 — a record at the MCG.

MELBOURNE: Australia beat England by three wickets in a thrilling Twenty20 cricket international Saturday at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, inspired by a match-winning display from Nikhil Chaudhary.

Having taken 2-21 with his leg-spin, Chaudhary made 66 from 38 balls to tee his side up for a chase of 188 – a record at the MCG.

India-born Chaudhary arrived in Australia on a tourist visa six years ago and ended up staying because of COVID travel restrictions.

"My parents came over from India last night, so nothing better than getting a player of the match in front of them which is their first game here watching me," Chaudhary said.

Both sides were below strength due to forthcoming Test duties but a home XI dominated by unfamiliar faces, including Chaudhary in his debut on Australian soil, squeezed over the line.

Chaudhary fell with 20 needed off the last two overs but an England attack missing the likes of Jofra Archer, Josh Tongue and Sonny Baker did not have enough.

Sam Curran, player of the T20 World Cup final at the MCG four years, attempted to defend 11 off the last over but was unable to hold off Jack Edwards, who won it off the penultimate delivery, to reach 191-7.

The teams play the second of five T20s on Tuesday at Carrara on the Gold Coast south of Brisbane.

England won the one-day international series 2-1, including a 97-run victory in the decider at Hobart on Wednesday.

| PATEL URGES INTROSPECTION |

I have the responsibility to speak up for Indian football: Praful Patel

Press Trust Of India

Former AIFF chief urges stakeholders to address challenges through consultation and introspection.



NEW DELHI: Former All India Football Federation (AIFF) president Praful Patel has called for serious introspection among stakeholders to address the challenges confronting Indian football, while cautioning against hasty decisions.

Patel, who headed the AIFF for over 12 years until 2022, said his long association with the sport gave him a responsibility to speak about its future.

"Having led the AIFF for many years in the past and having served as FIFA Council member, I think I am very much a responsible person in Indian football," Patel told PTI.

He emphasised that collective wisdom, proper guidance and constructive discussions were essential to overcome the present difficulties.

His remarks come ahead of the December 20 AIFF elections to constitute a new executive council.

Speculation continues over Patel's possible candidature for the president's post, although he has made no announcement. Having completed the mandatory four-year cooling-off period, he is eligible to contest.

Lehmann denies knowledge of sandpaper plot

SYDNEY: Former Australia head coach Darren Lehmann has once again denied knowing about his players' plan to use sandpaper on the ball during the infamous Cape Town Test in 2018, saying he has no recollection of being present when the plot was discussed. Lehmann, who was Australia's head coach at the time, said the ball-tampering scandal took him to a "dark place" mentally. Asked whether he knew about the use of sandpaper on the field, Lehmann replied: "No. I didn't know sandpaper was being used. I was coach at the time, I've got to take that responsibility." "I'm sorry for what happened.''

| RISING STARS ASIA CUP |

India A eye another dominant show against Pakistan A

Press Trust Of India

Unbeaten India A and Pakistan A prepare for thrilling Rising Stars showdown.



DOHA: A high-voltage encounter awaits as India A face arch-rivals Pakistan A in the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars tournament at West End Park International Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Led by Tilak Varma, India A enter the Group B clash brimming with confidence following a commanding 306-run victory over Nepal.

India posted 332/9, powered by centuries from Kumar Kushagra (117) and Tilak (107), before dismissing Nepal for just 26 runs. Prince Yadav claimed five wickets, while Harshit Rana grabbed four.

India's formidable batting line-up includes Abhishek Sharma, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Rinku Singh and Prabhsimran Singh.

Pakistan A, captained by Abdul Samad, opened their campaign with a 61-run victory over UAE. Shamyl Hussain scored 62 and Maaz Sadaqat contributed 53 as Pakistan posted 245.

Sufyan Moqim and Ali Raza claimed three wickets each.

Pakistan defeated India A by 128 runs in the 2023 final and will aim to repeat that success. India face UAE on November 24.

FASTFACTS

- Tilak Varma-led India A enter contest following massive 306-run victory over Nepal.
- Defending champions Pakistan A seek another victory after defeating UAE by 61 runs.

| WACT 2026 |

Mumtaz, Sunelita goals help reigning champion India beat Korea

Press Trust Of India

Mumtaz Khan and Sunelita Toppo scored as India overcame stubborn Korean resistance.



BHOPAL: India overcame a determined South Korean defence to register a hard-fought 2-1 victory in the Women's Asian Champions Trophy at the International Sports Complex here on Saturday, moving to the top of the standings.

Goals from Mumtaz Khan and Sunelita Toppo ensured another important victory for Sjoerd Marijne's side, although South Korea's late fightback made the closing stages tense.

India dominated possession from the opening quarter, displaying quick passing and impressive movement. However, South Korean goalkeeper Lee Seoyeon produced several outstanding saves to frustrate the hosts.

Puja Sahoo's successive penalty corner attempts were blocked, while Navneet Kaur also saw her effort denied after receiving a brilliant pass from Ishika, who had skilfully beaten three defenders.

South Korea adopted a defensive approach, crowding their circle and restricting India's attacking opportunities.

The breakthrough finally arrived shortly before halftime when Navneet combined with Deepika, who squared the ball for an unmarked Mumtaz to score into an empty goal.

India doubled their advantage early in the third quarter through a cleverly executed penalty corner. Navneet drew goalkeeper Seoyeon out of position before setting up Sunelita Toppo for a simple deflection.

Despite controlling proceedings, India struggled to extend their lead against Korea's disciplined defence.

The visitors eventually reduced the deficit when Youngeun Hong collected a defence-splitting pass, rounded goalkeeper Bichu Devi and finished confidently.

South Korea's late goal created nervous moments, but India maintained possession and defended resolutely to secure three valuable points and strengthen their position in the tournament standings.

Ganesh, Aditi bag double, recurve archers flop; India fifth at Asia Cup

HANGZHOU: Asian Games medallist Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru and former world champion Aditi Swami returned with two medals each, but India's overall campaign at the Asia Cup Archery Ranking meet was marked by a disappointing fifth-place finish, with the country failing to win a single gold in the third and final stage of the event here Saturday. India signed off with six medals -- three silver and three bronze. While the compound archers accounted for five of India's six medals, the recurve section managed just one podium finish, with the men's team of Ujjawal Dhama, Goldi Mishra and Abhyuday Pakhale clinching bronze.

| INDIAN SUPER LEAGUE |

Punjab FC and Chennaiyin FC play out 1-1 draw

Press Trust Of India

The result saw Punjab FC remain fifth in the table with eight points from five matches

CHENNAI: Punjab FC and Chennaiyin FC played out a 1-1 draw in a largely uneventful football match of the Indian Super League (ISL) here on Saturday.

The home side took the lead in the 13th minute through an own goal by Nikhil Prabhu, but Punjab FC restored parity in the 41st minute through Raphaël Messi Bouli.

The result saw Punjab FC remain fifth in the table with eight points from five matches, while Chennaiyin FC moved up to seventh with six points from six matches.

Head coach Pavlos Dermitzakis handed Patrick Bahanack his club debut in defence, with the defender replacing Bijoy Varghese.

Laishram Rishikanta Meitei returned to the middle of the pitch in place of Bishu Sharma after missing the previous two matches through injury, while Muhammad Suhail also returned to the starting XI, replacing Konsam Sanathoi Singh.

Both sides showed attacking intent in the opening stages, but Chennaiyin FC took the lead in the 13th minute.

Centre-back Nuno Reis played a precise pass that bypassed the Punjab FC defence and found Irfan Yadwad, who timed his run to perfection. The striker controlled the ball, rounded the onrushing goalkeeper and rolled the ball onto the target. The ball took an unfortunate deflection of Nikhil Prabhu and found the back of the net, which was credited as an own goal.

The Shers drew level after a sustained spell of pressure that continued beyond the water break.

World



I am absolutely done with Trump

Stewart Rhodes
Founder of the Oath Keepers

Russia revives Prewar demands during Ukraine talks

US President Trump's envoys propose broader European security discussions.



US envoys Jared Kushner and Steve Witkoff during discussions on Ukraine peace and European security.

Press Trust Of India

MOSCOW: After nearly five years of fighting in Ukraine, the Kremlin is eagerly embracing a US offer to discuss postwar European security, and Moscow is using that diplomatic opening to reaffirm the tough demands that President Vladimir Putin put forward before the start of his full-scale invasion.

The proposal to discuss broader security arrangements for Europe was floated by US President Donald Trump's envoys, and that has worried Ukraine and its Western allies, who fear it will play into Moscow's hands and weaken NATO. The Kremlin strongly backed the US idea, describing a review of the broader European security framework as vital for a settlement of Europe's most devastating conflict since World War II. Putin discussed the Ukrainian conflict with Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the APEC summit in Shenzhen, China, their first trilateral meeting. That encounter had fueled fears in Ukraine that they could discuss a possible settlement without Kyiv's participation. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy wants a ceasefire to include a security framework to ensure that Russia does not attack his country again, and European leaders argue that such an architecture already exists in the form of NATO. In draft agreements submitted to the US and NATO in December 2021, two months before the invasion, Russia demanded that Washington and its allies pledge to exclude NATO's expansion to Ukraine, Georgia or any other nation that was once part of the Soviet Union. Moscow also demanded that the US and its allies make a commitment to not deploy weapons or conduct any military activities in Ukraine and other ex-Soviet nations.

FASTFACTS

- Kremlin Backs Broader European Security Review
- Zelenskyy Seeks Security Guarantees Against Russia

Ballistic missile attack Ukraine kills 2

A Russian strike on the centre of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's hometown, Kryvyi Rih, killed two people and wounded 60 others, local officials said Saturday. A 7-year-old boy and a 20-year-old woman were killed in the attack Friday night on the city in central Ukraine, Oleksandr Vilkul, the head of the city administration, wrote on Telegram. Oleksandr Hanzha, head of the regional military administration, said 60 people were wounded, including six children. The strike caused four fires and damaged about 25 apartment buildings, a hospital, schools and an industrial facility, as well as businesses and vehicles, Vilkul said. The attack fits the pattern of Moscow's heavy responses to eye-catching Ukrainian attacks, such as the ones this week on the Kerch Bridge linking Russia to illegally annexed Crimea. The missile attack came hours after two Russian missiles and a suspected drone came down in Poland, in what its prime minister said was likely a provocation timed to coincide with European military exercises in his country for a possible postwar mission in Ukraine.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CLIMATE COUNTDOWN

Climate talks in overtime as nations wrestle with response to worsening global warming



ANTALYA: Work crews were boxing up the venue of this year's United Nations climate talks in Turkiye, as negotiators went into overtime on Saturday in an attempt to reach a final agreement to address global warming. But hopes are slim that additional discussions will result in concrete plans to drastically slash the use of fossil fuels.

The added day of talks came as the two-week annual summit, called COP31, which was supposed to end Friday, drew strong condemnation from activists and some countries for failing to mention fossil fuels in a draft of the final agreement. The final document is meant to address how the world will deal with climate change, which is contributing to devastating heat waves, floods and other disasters. To avert the most catastrophic effects of warming, experts said the world needs to urgently and drastically cut emissions from the use of coal, oil and gas. In the lead up to these talks, the UN announced that the world will likely blow past the 2015 Paris Agreement goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial temperatures.

"No one knows what is happening behind closed doors, or what the outcome of COP31 will be," said Teresa Anderson, global lead on climate justice at ActionAid International.

Inside an area of the COP31 venue known as the "pavilions," where countries showcased their climate policies and hosted panel discussions, workers were packing up electronics and other belongings Saturday morning.

HEALING JOURNEY

Kate Middleton opens up about cancer recovery in 'Heal'

LONDON: Catherine, Britain's Princess of Wales, has shared her "deeply personal" journey of fighting cancer in a new documentary to be released internationally next week, Kensington Palace said on Saturday. 'Heal' explores life beyond Kate Middleton's diagnosis of an unspecified form of cancer made public in March 2024 and the many ways people find comfort, strength and hope in the face of serious illness, the palace said.

It will premiere on the BBC in the UK next Sunday, before airing internationally via NBCUniversal in the US, Channel 9 in Australia and CTV and Noovo in Canada over the following weeks. "As she undertakes the National Three Peaks Challenge, climbing the highest mountains in Scotland, England and Wales within 24 hours in support of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, the film follows the Princess on a personal journey through some of Britain's most spectacular landscapes," the palace said in a statement. "Set against the backdrop of the challenge itself, the Princess reflects on her own experience alongside individuals navigating their own health journeys.

REFERENDUM PUSH

Pak's new provinces debate intensifies over referendum

ISLAMABAD: The debate over creating new provinces in Pakistan has intensified, with ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party leaders insisting on a referendum to gauge public opinion, even as coalition partner Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) remains opposed to the proposed exercise, according to media reports.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Tariq Fazal Chaudhry on Friday said a referendum on the issue "will happen", asserting that the government would make every effort to build consensus among coalition partners.

Pakistan currently has 4 provinces -- Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Balochistan.Under Article 239 of Pakistan's Constitution, any amendment altering the boundaries of a province requires a two-thirds majority of the total membership of both houses of Parliament, as well as approval by a two-thirds majority of the affected provincial assembly. "The referendum will happen," Chaudhry told Geo News, adding that the PML-N would make "every last effort" to convince the PPP.

Tribal clash

PESHAWAR: Seven people were killed in a clash between two tribes over the ownership of a forest in Battagram district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in northwest Pakistan, police said on Saturday. According to police, armed men belonging to the Gilal and the Kaloch tribes confronted each other at Bilija forest around 10 pm local time on Thursday, triggering an intense exchange of gunfire. The Gilal and Kaloch are local tribal communities in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The Gilal are associated with Allai valley in Battagram district, while the Kaloch are from neighbouring Kohistan district. The two communities have been involved in a longstanding dispute over forest ownership.

| ARTISTIC OUTCRY |

Kathak dancer Aditi Mangaldas takes Nirbhaya response to UK

Press Trust Of India

Mangaldas Returns to Sadler's Wells Theatre After Two Years.



Kathak danseuse Aditi Mangaldas performing WITHIN, her artistic response to the 2012 Nirbhaya case.

LONDON: Renowned Kathak choreographer and performer Aditi Mangaldas will return to London next week for two intense performances of 'WITHIN', her visceral response to the 2012 Nirbhaya rape case in her home city of Delhi.

Mangaldas will perform the signature work at Sadler's Wells Theatre, the city's popular performing arts venue with which the celebrated Kathak virtuoso last collaborated two years ago. 'WITHIN' was her response to the horrific rape case to create an intense and contemplative work exploring the duality within all of us - where humanity and brutality, masculine and feminine, good and bad, connect. It goes from darkness to light in two distinct yet connected works named 'KNOTTED' and 'UNWRAPPED'.

"Two major factors influenced my response to the horror of the Nirbhaya case and the choreography of 'WITHIN'," said Mangaldas in a statement ahead of the two shows next Friday and Saturday.

"One was a quote from Indian philosopher J Krishnamurti: 'To understand yourself you must create a mirror that reflects accurately what you are'.

FASTFACTS

- 'WITHIN' Transitions From Darkness Towards Light
- Mangaldas Blends Spins, Footwork And Dynamism

| LEGAL CLEARANCE |

Sri Lanka's organised crime bill gets Supreme Court nod

Press Trust Of India

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's proposed Prevention of Organised Crimes Bill has received the Supreme Court's nod, which ruled that its provisions are "not inconsistent" with the Constitution, Speaker Jagath Wickremaratna told Parliament on Saturday.

The bill, tabled in Parliament on October 20, has drawn criticism from local and international rights groups concerned that its provisions could undermine fundamental rights and grant sweeping powers to law enforcement agencies. In Sri Lanka, citizens can challenge a bill's constitutionality in the Supreme Court within one week of its introduction in Parliament.



The bill had earlier faced 20 petitions in the Supreme Court challenging its constitutionality. The Speaker on Saturday confirmed the Supreme Court's nod for the bill and listed the clauses it directed Parliament to amend.

"The clauses in the bill are not inconsistent with the Constitution and may be passed by a simple majority of Parliament, subject to making the amendment at the committee stage," Wickremaratna said. He said Clause 6, which allowed the prosecution of an individual who is not a member of a criminal gang, should be deleted, citing the court's directions. Criticism of the bill has centred on its broad definition of organised crime and provisions that could allow authorities to identify individuals as gang members based on their appearance or associations.

Bill faced 20 constitutional challenges in Supreme Court.

Jagath Wickremaratna
Parliament Speaker

Sri Lanka's Human Rights Commission called for the bill's withdrawal, while the Bar Association of Sri Lanka raised concerns about its impact on fundamental rights and safeguards for judicial oversight.

Rights body Amnesty International also called for its complete withdrawal, while the New York-based Human Rights Watch said the proposed legislation fell short of international human rights standards.

Legal Summons

US court dispatches summonses to Doval, Goel in Pannun case

WASHINGTON: A US court has dispatched summonses to National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and former Research and Analysis Wing Director Samant Goel in connection with a case involving Khalistani separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. Pannun is wanted by Indian probe agencies on various terror charges.

The clerk of the Southern District Court of New York said that the summonses were sent through FedEx to the Patiala House Court, Tis Hazari Court, and the Dwarka District Court in New Delhi on Friday. On November 13, the Southern District Court of New York ordered that summonses be issued to Doval and Goel, citing the Hague Convention.

"The court respectfully requests the assistance of receiving Indian courts in effecting service of process upon the defendants in this civil action pending before this court," read an order by Judge Katherine Polk Failla.

Judge Failla cited the Hague Conventions and relevant sections of the Indian Code of Civil Procedure to state that foreign courts can serve summonses on Doval and Goel through Indian courts. The Indian Code of Civil Procedure permits summonses issued by foreign civil courts designated by notification of the Central Government of India to be transmitted to Indian courts and served as though issued by those courts.



The order states that standard service through India's central authority under the Hague Convention was attempted but rejected. The court then authorised alternative service under Article 19 of the Hague Convention and India's Code of Civil Procedure. Pannun, legal counsel for the banned organisation Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), has filed the civil lawsuit seeking damages over an alleged attempt on his life.