

# THE AVENUE MAIL

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SUNNY SAYS 'PAPA IS ALWAYS WITH ME' AS HE REMEMBERS DHARMENDRA ON HIS BIRTHDAY - PAGE : 10

## Nehru echoed Jinnah, betrayed Vande Mataram: PM

Cong knelt down before Muslim League, fractured Vande Mataram, says Modi in LS

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Congress during a Lok Sabha debate marking 150 years of Vande Mataram, accusing former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru of echoing Muhammad Ali Jinnah's opposition to the national song and "pandering to communal concerns". Initiating the discussion, PM Modi said Nehru had once written to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that Vande Mataram might "provoke and irritate Muslims", and suggested examining its usage. "This, despite Vande Mataram being born in Bankim Chandra's Bengal," he said. The Prime Minister also linked the national song to the Emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi in 1975, asserting that when Vande Mataram completed 100 years, "the Constitution was throttled and those who lived for patriotism were put behind bars". "The Emergency was a dark chapter in our history. Now we have the opportunity to restore the greatness of Vande Mataram. That opportunity should not be allowed to pass," Modi told the House.

**'Rock of resistance'** : PM Modi described Vande Mataram as the mantra that "energised and inspired India's freedom movement", noting that even when the British banned its



printing and propagation, the song "stood like a rock" against oppression. "After the 1857 uprising, the British pushed 'God Save the Queen' into every household. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay responded with Vande Mataram, and despite the partition of Bengal in 1905, it unified the country," he said. **The Vande Mataram controversy** : The BJP has repeatedly slammed the Congress for its 1937 decision to adopt only the first two stanzas of the song in national gatherings - seen by some Muslim leaders of the time as less religiously symbolic than later verses invoking Hindu goddesses Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswati. PM Modi said the move

"sowed the seeds of division" that culminated in Partition. "When Vande Mataram celebrated 100 years, the country was entangled in the Emergency... Now, at 150 years, it is our duty to restore its glory," he added. The row resurfaced last month after BJP leaders cited letters Nehru wrote to Bose in 1937, arguing that his approach signalled a willingness to restrict the song to appease communal sensitivities - a claim the Congress has previously rejected, saying Nehru insisted the lyrics were "harmless" and should not be interpreted as referring to goddesses. **'Historic moment'** : Modi framed the anniversary alongside other major national commemorations: "We recently celebrated 75 years of our

### Vande Mataram was never anti-Islam: Rajnath

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS):** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said the time had come for an unbiased evaluation of Vande Mataram and asserted that the entire song and the Anand Math book were never anti-Islam, but reflected the popular sentiments against the Nawab of Bengal and British imperialism. Participating in the debate on the '150th anniversary of national song Vande Mataram', Singh also hit out at the Congress, claiming that the politics of appeasement led to the division of India. "Now is the time for an unbiased evaluation of Vande Mataram and its history," Singh said.

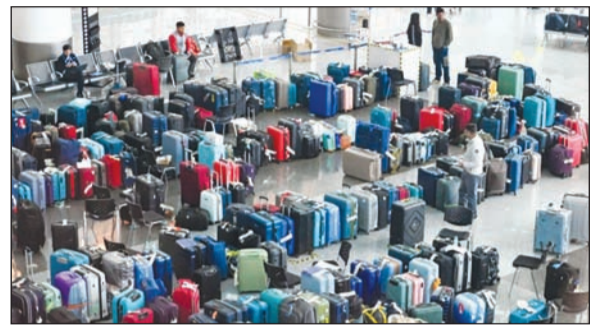


### Debate is to divert attention: Priyanka

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** Calling the debate on Vande Mataram an attention-diverting tactic of the government, Congress MP from Wayanad Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Monday that the national song is a part of the country's soul and "there can be no debate on it". During a special discussion on the song in Lok Sabha, the Congress MP said the "needless" discussion had been called by the ruling party with the dual intention of setting a narrative ahead of the Bengal Assembly elections and levelling new allegations against freedom fighters to divert public attention. She said the government does not want discussion of the current challenges facing the nation - youths are suffering due to paper leaks and joblessness, reservations are being denied to the needy, women are being wronged, and pollution - and wants to dig up developments from the past and divert public attention. "The truth is that their rule and politics are about arrogance, show off, event management and from poll to poll," she said, daring the government to hold a debate on current issues due to which people are unhappy.

Constitution, 150 years of Guru Teg Bahadur. Now we Sardar Patel and Birs Munda, celebrate 150 years of Vande and the 350th martyrdom of Mataram."

## IndiGo refunds Rs 827 crore to passengers, returns 4,500 bags



**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** Facing intense government scrutiny, low-cost airline IndiGo on Monday said it has so far refunded Rs 827 crore to affected passengers, and the rest is under process for cancellations up to December 15. IndiGo said it was set to operate over 1,800 flights on Monday, up from 1,650 on Sunday, adding that more than 4,500 bags have been delivered to respective customers, and "we are on track to deliver the rest in the next 36 hours". "Today, we are all set to operate over 1,800 flights, connecting all stations that we operate to. We have optimised our operations and managed to reduce the number of cancellations which are being notified to customers in advance, and our on-time performance (OTP) has also improved to 91 per cent across the network," said the airline.

**Will take strict action against IndiGo: Minister in RS** : The government will take strict action against low-cost airline IndiGo over the massive disruption of flights to "set an example" for all airlines, Union Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu said in the Parliament on Monday. He said that the government has initiated a thorough inquiry into the matter. "We care for pilots, crew, and passengers. We made it clear to all the airlines. IndiGo was supposed to manage the crew and roster. Passengers faced a lot of difficulties. We are not taking the situation lightly. We will take strict action. We will set an example for every airline. If there is any non-compliance, we will take action," he said on the floor of the Rajya Sabha. The minister said the chaos that led to the cancellation of hundreds of flights and stranded thousands of people was the result of IndiGo's "internal crisis" after the new passenger safety norms came into force. Naidu also said the government wants more players in the aviation sector and that the country has the potential to have five major airlines.

## Earthquake of 7.6 magnitude rocks Japan, triggers tsunami

**Tokyo, Dec 8 (IANS):** An earthquake of magnitude 7.6 struck Japan on Monday evening, triggering a tsunami of 40 centimetres on the northern coast, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA). The tsunami struck the Hokkaido prefecture town of Urakawa and the Aomori prefecture port of Mutsu Ogasawara, JMA said. Earlier, a warning was issued for a tsunami as high as three metres (10 feet) which could hit Japan's northeastern coast after the earthquake. The earthquake was recorded at a depth of 53.1 km at 14:15 (UTC), as per the United States Geological Survey. The epicentre was 73 kilometres east-northeast of Misawa, a city in northern Japan. It reportedly struck off the coast of Amori and Hokkaido, leading to a tsunami alert for the region. Japan Meteorological Agency said that the tsunami warning was issued for the prefectures of Hokkaido, Aomori and Iwate, after the quake jolted a large part of Japan's north and east.

## MEA asks China to assure Indian travellers won't be targeted

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** India on Monday said that it expects the authorities in China to provide assurances that Indian citizens transiting through Chinese airports will not be selectively targeted, arbitrarily detained or harassed. The strong statement came after an Indian national from Arunachal Pradesh was arbitrarily detained by Chinese authorities at the Shanghai International Airport last month, an incident which was termed by New Delhi as a clear violation of international norms and bilateral understanding. "We expect the Chinese authorities to provide assurances that Indian citizens transiting through Chinese airports will not be selectively targeted, arbitrarily detained or harassed and that regulations governing international air travel would be respected by the Chinese side," Randhir Jaiswal, the spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated during a weekly media briefing in New Delhi on Monday.



# Jharkhand cabinet clears 33 key proposals

## Paddy procurement rate fixed at Rs 2,450 per quintal

Mail News Service

**Ranchi, Dec 8:** The Jharkhand cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Hemant Soren, on Monday approved 33 significant proposals, covering agriculture, infrastructure, education, governance, and welfare reforms.

One of the most crucial decisions was the approval of paddy procurement at a combined rate of Rs 2,450 per quintal for the 2025-26 Kharif season.

This includes the Minimum Support Price (MSP) along with a state bonus.

Farmers will now receive full payment within 48 hours, for which Rs 48.60 crore has been sanctioned.

Paddy procurement will



commence from December 15 under the revamped Jharkhand State Paddy Procurement Scheme.

The cabinet also approved revised guidelines for state fairs, categorizing them into tourism

festivals with a maximum budget of Rs 80 lakh and cultural fairs capped at Rs 70 lakh.

Another major decision included enhancing support under the SC/ST Civil Services Incentive Scheme, raising the grant for UPSC and state civil service aspirants from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1.5 lakh for those who clear the preliminary examination and proceed to mains and interview stages.

The Cabinet's sweeping approvals reflect the state government's push toward agricultural support, administrative reforms, and large-scale infrastructure development, aimed at strengthening Jharkhand's economic and governance landscape. (W - pm)

## Major Cabinet Decisions at a Glance

- **Construction Sanctions:** Degree College, Balumath, Latehar: Rs 38.82 crore, Degree College, Simaria, Chatra: Rs 34.62 crore.
- **Infrastructure Boost:** Ghatbanka-Devdand Road (17.8 Km): Rs 127.54 crore, Digdhi Mor-Malin Risaud Road (8.17 km): Rs 61.57 crore, Bridge over North Koel River, Chainpur: Rs 64.06 crore, Bankutoli-Kurukura-Bano Road widening (33.56 Km): Rs 140.51 crore, Four-lane flyover from Sirantoli Chowk to Mecon Roundabout, Ranchi: Rs 470.12 crore.
- **Judicial Compliance & Service Matters:** Multiple court directives complied with, including regularisation, financial benefits (ACP/MACP), and corrected seniority orders for government employees.
- **Environmental & Tourism Measures:** Approval of the MoU between the state and the Bombay Natural History Society for operating the Vulture Conservation & Breeding Centre, Muta.
- **Health & Education:** Promotion of associate professors to professor rank in RIMS with effect from July 1, 2019. Enhanced stipend for interns at Government Homoeopathic Medical College, Godda.
- **Land & Mining Approvals:** Lease allotments to NTPC for the Badam Coal Mining Project, involving over 94 acres of land for 30 years. Amendments under the Jharkhand Mineral Bearing Land Cess Act, 2024.
- **Treasury & Audit:** Amendments to the Jharkhand Treasury Code, 2016. Approval to table CAG audit reports and performance reviews in the upcoming Assembly session.

## HC raps govt over non-payment of pension, gratuity to Madrasa teachers

**Ranchi, Dec 8 (IANS)** The Jharkhand High Court has pulled up the state government for failing to pay pension and gratuity benefits to retired madrasa teachers, despite clear judicial directions issued nearly a decade ago.

Taking a stern view of what it termed a "serious lapse", the court has summoned two senior officers to appear in person at the next hearing.

A bench of Justice Ananda Sen, while hearing a contempt petition, noted that the state had not complied with its earlier order dated June 13, 2024.

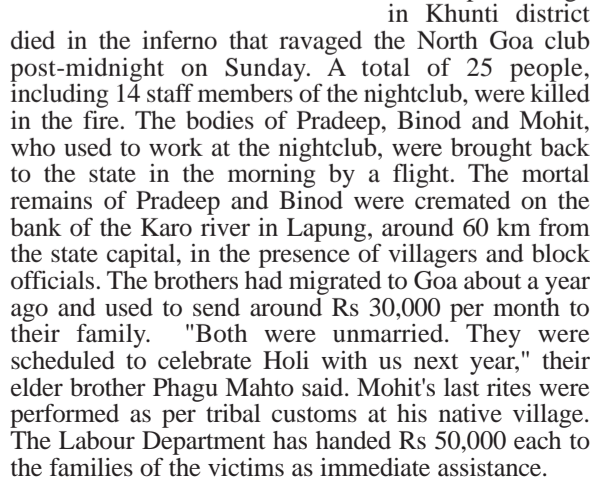
The bench directed the Principal Secretary, School Education and Literacy Department, Rahul Purwar, and the Director of Secondary Education and Literacy to be physically present in court at the

next hearing. The court further asked the officers to explain why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for "wilful and deliberate" violation of judicial orders.

Justice Sen observed that ignoring court directives amounts to undermining the judicial process itself. The matter will be heard again after eight weeks.

## Last rites of 3 Ranchi migrant workers killed in Goa nightclub fire held

**Ranchi, Dec 8:** The last rites of the three migrant workers from Jharkhand, killed in the fire at the Goa nightclub, were performed at their native places on Monday. Pradeep Mahto and Binod Mahto, two brothers from Fatehpur village in Lapung, around 60 km from the state capital, in the presence of villagers and block officials. The brothers had migrated to Goa about a year ago and used to send around Rs 30,000 per month to their family. "Both were unmarried. They were scheduled to celebrate Holi with us next year," their elder brother Phagu Mahto said. Mohit's last rites were performed as per tribal customs at his native village. The Labour Department has handed Rs 50,000 each to the families of the victims as immediate assistance.



## House ruckus over student scholarships; paddy procurement as govt, oppn trade charges

Mail News Service

**Ranchi, Dec 8:** On the second day of the winter session, debates over pending student scholarships and delayed paddy procurement dominated the political discourse outside the assembly. The opposition pressed the government on both issues, while ruling party ministers shifted the focus to the central government.

Opposition leader Babul Marandi accused the government of jeopardizing students' futures, highlighting that many students are forced to work in hotels and restaurants to

make ends meet. On the paddy procurement front, he said farmers are selling their crops at extremely low prices. LJP MLA Janardan Paswan criticized the government's performance across multiple fronts.

Responding, ruling party ministers defended the state government.

Urban Development Minister Sudivya Kumar Sonu said the central government has not released the state's share of funds, delaying scholarship payments, and suggested that opposition leaders should assist in resolving the issue in Delhi. Minister Deepika Pandey Singh added

that non-release of central funds is affecting several development projects. Podaiya Heart MLA Pradeep Yadav accused the center of deliberately withholding funds from non-BJP ruled states to tarnish their image. On the paddy procurement issue, Minister Irfan Ansari questioned BJP's claim as farmers' well-wishers, stating that with ongoing financial crunch, procurement has not been possible. While the opposition maintained an aggressive stance on student and farmer issues, ruling party ministers and MLAs countered sharply. Amidst this political

## Jharkhand govt tables Rs 7,721 crore supplementary budget

**Ranchi, Dec 8 (IANS):** The second day of the Jharkhand Assembly's winter session on Monday was marred by repeated disruptions as the government presented a second supplementary budget of Rs 7,721 crore for the financial year 2025-26.

The uproar forced multiple adjournments before the proceedings were put off for the day. Despite his repeated appeals, the protests continued. Eventually, the house was adjourned for some time. Later, Finance Minister Radha Krishna Kishore tabled the Rs 7,721 crore supplementary budget, seeking additional financial allocations for ongoing schemes. With the House unable to function amid continued commotion, the Speaker adjourned the session for the day, announcing that business would resume at 11 a.m. on Tuesday.

tussle, the supplementary budget also presented in the assembly. for the current financial year was (W-rg)

# Jharkhand National Film Festival 2025 begins with vibrant show

## Villagers in Gamharia shut down RMC plants over pollution

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur/Seraikela, Dec 8:** The sixth edition of the Jharkhand National Film Festival 2025 commenced on Monday with a grand and vibrant opening ceremony at the auditorium of Srinath University. The event brought together eminent personalities from the film and art fraternity, making the inauguration a distinguished and memorable occasion.

Parul Singh, Sub-Divisional Commissioner of Adityapur Municipal Corporation, attended as the chief guest, while Sukhdev Mahato, Vice-Chancellor of Srinath University, graced the ceremony as the co-chief guest. Among the notable guests were Dr. J.N. Das, Purbi Ghosh, Pawan



Kumar Saw, Chanchal Bhatia, Neha Tiwari, Jyoti Senapati and former ward councillor Neetu Sharma. The programme opened with a formal introduction and welcome, followed by the traditional lighting of the lamp by the esteemed guests. A captivating

welcome dance performance by the cultural team added colour and energy to the stage.

Festival founders Sanjay Satpathy and Raju Mitra, in their address, traced the journey of JNFF, its mission and its contribution to promoting film culture

in Jharkhand. The chief guest and other dignitaries were felicitated with bouquets, and their inspiring remarks set an enthusiastic tone for the festival.

A special screening of the acclaimed short film Silk Coffin was held during the stage pro-

gramme, receiving an overwhelming response from the audience. The creative role of the founders, along with Creative Director Shivangi Singh and Dr. Shalini Prasad, played a key part in shaping the festival's success.

The Jharkhand National Film Festival will be celebrated from December 8 to 13. Screenings across multiple film categories will take place from December 9 to 12, followed by the closing and Award Night on December 13 at XLRI, Jamshedpur.

Guests, participants, volunteers and members of the organising team widely appreciated the smooth and impactful commencement of the festival, marking a promising start to a week dedicated to cinema, creativity and cultural expression. (W-pb)



**Jamshedpur, Dec 8 :** Residents of Sapra, Ward 1 under the Adityapur Municipal Corporation, are facing severe pollution due to two mixer plants-Keshav Kailash RMC and Conmichem Concrete. Villagers alleged that despite repeated requests to sprinkle water to control dust, plant operators failed to take any action. On Monday, angry villagers shut down both plants and blocked vehicles leaving the premises. BJP leader Deepak Mandal, who was present, said that locals had long demanded preventive measures against dust, but their concerns were ignored. He further said that plant operators also do not contribute to any social activities in the area. When contacted on phone, the plant operators said they were out of station and promised to discuss the matter after returning. Among those present were Maheshwar Mahato, Jitendra Mandal, Durga Mandal, Sunil Mandal, Bakeshwar Mandal, Sudesh Mandal, Bimal Mandal, Rajaram Kaivart, and Jogendra Mandal.

## 2 youths injured in road mishap

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Two youths sustained serious injuries in a major road accident on Monday afternoon near Mathihana Chowk on National Highway-49 bypass road. Thanks to the prompt response of local residents, both injured individuals were immediately taken to the hospital. According to information received, Krishan Gopal Rana, a resident of Kokmara village, was passing through the area on his motorcycle when fellow villager Pradeep Nayak suddenly began crossing the road.

In an attempt to avoid hitting the pedestrian, the biker lost control, causing the motorcycle to crash directly into Pradeep. The impact of the collision threw both youths onto the road, leaving them severely injured. Local villagers at the spot acted swiftly and transported the duo to the Community Health Centre in Bahragora with the help of a private vehicle. Both are currently undergoing treatment, and doctors are closely monitoring their condition. (W-pm)

# Bacterial infection kills 10 blackbucks in Tata Steel Zoological Park

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Ten blackbucks have died at the Tata Steel Zoological Park. Initial investigations have revealed that some type of bacterial infection has caused the deaths of the antelopes between December 1-6. "Ten blackbucks have died in the park. The remains have been sent to Ranchi Veterinary College for examination and to ascertain the exact cause of the death. While we are waiting for the report, it seems to be a bacterial infection," TSZP

deputy director Dr. Naim Akhtar said.

Officials suspect that the cause of death is Haemorrhagic Septicaemia, a bacterial disease also known as Pasteurellosis. Sources informed that Pasteurellosis spreads in the body quickly, and it affects the lungs, causing sudden death. High fever, swelling in the neck, and diarrhoea are some common symptoms of the disease. Following the incident at Steel City's zoo, the Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park in Ranchi,



which houses 69 blackbucks, has also been put on alert.

The last death was reported on December 6. The TSZP houses 370 animals and birds. It had 18 blackbucks, of which 10 died due to the disease. The zoo authorities are keeping a close watch on the health of the remaining eight blackbucks. "We are taking all relevant measures to ensure that the remaining blackbucks in the park do not get infected. We have kept them under observation," Dr. Akhtar said. (W-mb)

# Cancer screening van handed over to MTMH for rural healthcare

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** The Rotary Club of Jamshedpur West (RCJW) has handed over a state-of-the-art cancer screening van to Meherbai Tata Memorial Hospital (MTMH), aiming to strengthen early detection of cancer, especially in rural areas.

The handover ceremony was held at MTMH with Immediate Past District Governor (District 3250) Rotarian Bipin Chachan as the chief guest. He formally handed over the vehicle to the MTMH Director on behalf of the club.



The specialized mobile unit has been procured under the RCJW Global Grant Project with support from the Rotary Foundation and RSB Foundation. The van is equipped with advanced screening facilities, including



mammography unit, oral scan device, and colposcope. With these features, it will help detect oral, breast, and cervical cancers among people who do not have access to regular medical services. MTMH doctors,

nurses, and radiographers will carry out the screenings inside the van. Awareness drives and coordination during health camps will be undertaken by the Rotary Club, supported by Tata Steel Foundation, RSB Foundation and other

corporate CSR partners. The project was launched under the leadership of Immediate Past President Rotarian Dr. Amit Mukherjee and completed successfully under the current President Rotarian Ashok Kumar Jha. (W-mb)

# LFS students lead free anti-rabies vaccination camp

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** A free Anti-Rabies Vaccination Camp was organised today at Little Flower School (LFS), Jamshedpur, by Class XI students in collaboration with the District Animal Husbandry Office, Stylish Dogs and Cats Vet Care, and Pet Care Junction. The camp also provided free diabetes check-ups for dogs. Under the guidance of veterinary experts including Dr. Smarjit Mandal (DHO), Dr. Jyotinder Narayan (SHO), Dr. Kundan Kumar and Dr. Nisha Mary, the



vaccination process was carried out smoothly and safely. Their presence helped ensure professional care for every animal brought to the camp. The initiative received an excellent response from the community. Around 65

dogs and cats were vaccinated. Many residents also brought stray animals, showing compassion and helping improve safety against rabies in the neighbourhood. Class XI students actively supported the entire event - handling registrations, assisting doctors, and helping pet owners with the process.

Their involvement made the campaign a unique blend of learning and social responsibility.

Pet owners and residents appreciated the school's thoughtful effort to promote responsible pet care and animal welfare. Organisers said they hoped such drives would continue in future, encouraging more people to come forward in protecting pets and strays across the city. (W-mb)

# KSMS ranked No. 1 in Jsr's ICSE school category

Mail News Service



Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Kerala Samajam Model School (KSMS) has been ranked No. 1 in Jamshedpur in the ICSE City-Wise Schools category, according to a

survey by Education Today. Education Today, a leading education magazine, conducts the India School Merit Awards each year to recognise top-performing schools across the country. In 2025, more than 2,167 schools participated, and over 400 schools were shortlisted under multiple categories, including CBSE, ICSE, International and State Boards. Schools were assessed on 15 key parameters such as academic reputation, teacher development, co-curricular activities and sports.

The final rankings were based on jury evaluation, extensive analysis by the Education Today team and votes from 1,31,000 parents.

Sunil Kumar, General Secretary of Kerala Samajam Model School, received the India School Merit Award 2025 on December 5 at The Taj Yeshwantpur, Bengaluru. The achievement has brought pride to the institution and the city alike. (W-mb)

# KPS Kadma's Rishabh wins national honour at Parliament Debate 2.0

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Kerala Public School (KPS) Kadma has earned national recognition after student Rishabh Mukherjee delivered an outstanding performance at the Young Indians Parliament Debate 2.0, held on 15-16 November 2025 at the Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

The prestigious event saw participation from over 4,000 students across India in the Regional Rounds. From these, only 125 debaters qualified for the National Round. Rishabh was one of them - and he made his presence count.

Representing Jamshedpur and his school with confidence, Rishabh showcased sharp debating skills and



a strong understanding of both current affairs and India's political history.

His ability to argue complex parliamentary issues with clarity, his excellent conduct, and his command over legislative procedures impressed the judges throughout the competition.

Among the finest young debaters from across the country, Rishabh stood out and was honoured with the Best Parliamentarian - Special

Mention Award at the National Level. This achievement has brought pride not only to KPS Kadma but also to Jamshedpur.

The school management, Principal and teachers congratulated him warmly, appreciating his hard work, preparation and remarkable achievement on a national platform. KPS Kadma looks forward to more such laurels from its students in the future. (W-mb)

# KSMS chairman wins Educational Leadership Award

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** KPG Nair, Chairman of Kerala Samajam Model School (KSMS), has been honoured with the Educational Leadership Award, a part of the prestigious Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose National Awards.

He received this recognition for his outstanding leadership, vision, and significant contribution to improving education and inspiring young learners.

The award ceremony was held on Saturday, 6th December 2025, at Fairfield by Marriott, Kolkata. More than 400 school principals, chairpersons and directors from Kolkata and nearby regions attended the event to celebrate excellence in the field of education. (W-mb)



# 3D printing is future of manufacturing, says NIT prof.

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** A one-day seminar on the latest advancements in 3D printing technology was successfully organised today at RVS College of Engineering and Technology. The event aimed to introduce students and faculty to modern 3D printing methods, practical applications, and emerging opportunities in the industry.

Mechanical Engineering students and teachers attended the seminar, which began at 10 am in the college auditorium.

Professor Amit Sinha, Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department, delivered the welcome address. Calling 3D printing the "manufacturing



technology of the future," he said that this innovation not only makes manufacturing faster and more economical but also plays a major role in sectors such as

medicine, automotive, and aerospace. He emphasised that such programs help students stay connected with global technological advancements.

The chief speaker, Dr. Vijay Kumar Dalla, Assistant Professor at NIT Jamshedpur, explained the fundamentals as well as advanced concepts of additive manufacturing. He elaborated on various 3D printing techniques like Stereolithography (SLA), Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM), and Selective Laser Sintering (SLS). He shared real examples, including the creation of prosthetic limbs that

support the lives of people with disabilities.

Dr. Dalla also highlighted the growth of 3D printing in India under the Make in India initiative. He said that for an industrial city like Jamshedpur, where companies such as Tata Steel operate, this technology can help reduce production costs by 30-50%. A live demonstration of a small 3D-printed model excited the students. An interactive session allowed participants to ask questions about materials, startup ideas, and environment-friendly practices. Professor Sinha also announced plans to set up a 3D printing lab on campus to offer hands-on learning. Certificates were distributed, and students shared that the seminar motivated them to explore the field further. (W-mb)

# AFFIDAVIT

I, Akbar Khan son of Mohammad Khan resident of H.No. 35973/46B/Dawood Manzil, Road No. 1, Azadnagar, Mango, P.O. and P.S. Azadnagar, Jamshedpur-832110, Dist East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:-

1. That I am an Indian citizen by birth.
2. That I have been residing at the above mentioned address.
3. That my father's actual and correct name as Mohammad Khan, which is mentioned in his Aadhar card, Pan Card and account of Bank.
4. That in my School leaving certificate of K.M.P.M. School, Jamshedpur, my father name has been mentioned as M. Khan in place of Mohammad Khan.
5. That Mohammad Khan and M. Khan was the same and person i.e. my father.
6. That I swear this affidavit to confirm the above facts are true and correct and mention my father's actual name as Mohammad Khan in my all records and reference.

Sl. No. : 12  
Date : 08-09-2025  
Advocate

# CM Soren directs modernisation of Ranchi bus terminals

Mail News Service

**Ranchi, Dec 8:** Chief Minister Hemant Soren has instructed an accelerated modernization, renovation, and redevelopment of three major bus terminals in Ranchi, including ITI Bus Stand, Government Bus Depot, and Birsa Munda Bus Terminal at Khadgarha. Following his directive, Urban Development and Housing Minister Sudivya Kumar has approved a total budget of Rs 48.72 crore for the projects, with Rs 24.77 crore allocated for ITI Bus Stand, Rs 20.19 crore for Government Bus Depot, and Rs 3.76 crore for Birsa Munda Bus Terminal.

Departmental Secretary Sunil Kumar has directed JUIDCO to expedite tendering and start construction promptly, ensuring that once completed, these terminals



meet national standards and offer passengers enhanced safety, cleanliness, and modern amenities.

The ITI Bus Stand, currently offering minimal facilities, will be redeveloped on a three-acre site with a 2,330 square meter

ground floor and an 880 square meter first floor. Thirteen bus bays, standby parking for 35 buses, driver canteen, maintenance shed, guard room, sliding gates, air-conditioned waiting area, car and e-rickshaw parking, transport office, cafeteria,

ticket counters, dormitories, guest rooms, landscaped areas, and separate male and female restrooms will be provided. Daily operations are expected to accommodate 416 buses.

The Government Bus Depot, built between 1962 and 1970 and now in a dilapidated condition, will be reconstructed according to Indian Road Congress standards at a cost of Rs 20.19 crore. The new building will include a 1,771 square meter ground floor and 845 square meter first floor with facilities such as a guard room, maintenance area, canteen, dormitories, waiting halls, food kiosks, 12 additional kiosks, cafeteria, restaurant, ticket counters, transportation management office, help desk, sliding gates, and car and auto stands. Daily operations are projected at 512 buses through eight bus bays.

Birsa Munda Bus Terminal at Khadgarha will be refurbished within the existing structure at a cost of Rs 3.76 crore. Spread over 11.6 acres, it will feature 31 bus bays, parking for 89 buses and 70 cars, smart sheds, a 50-bed dormitory, restrooms, bathing facilities, guesthouse, high mast lighting, boundary wall, enhanced women's safety arrangements, waterproofed terrace areas, renovated terminal buildings, replacement of damaged tiles, new water taps, CCTV installation, updated furniture, high-volume, low-speed fans, and landscaped surroundings.

Once completed, these projects aim to make Ranchi's bus terminals modern, attractive, and on par with national model standards, providing commuters with a superior travel experience. (W-r)

## Half-yearly exams for classes 1-7 scheduled from Dec 16

**Ranchi, Dec 8:** The half-yearly examinations for Classes 1 to 7 will be conducted across Jharkhand from December 16 to 18, as announced by the Jharkhand Education Project Council. State Project Director Shashi Ranjan has issued directions to all District Education Superintendents to ensure proper implementation of the examination schedule. The exams will be held in two shifts-9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm-to accommodate all classes smoothly.

For Classes 1 and 2, the examinations will be entirely oral, while students of Classes 3 to 7 will appear for a mix of objective, short-answer and long-answer questions. The tests will be conducted using pre-printed question papers and answer sheets, ensuring standardisation across the state. In Classes 1 to 5, each subject will carry 60 marks, whereas in Classes 6 and 7, subjects such as Mathematics, Science and Social Science will have 50 marks allotted for written work and an additional 10 marks for project work, maintaining the blended evaluation pattern. The half-yearly exams will be held in all government schools, non-government aided institutions (including minority schools), Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, Jharkhand Balika Residential Schools and Model Schools. Education officials have been instructed to complete all necessary preparations on time, ensuring the smooth distribution of question papers, proper invigilation and strict adherence to the schedule.

## Encroachment chokes airport road

**Ranchi, Dec 8:** Illegal encroachment on the footpaths along Airport Road has turned daily movement into a risky ordeal for thousands of pedestrians. Locals report that sidewalks are increasingly being taken over by parked vehicles and makeshift shops, leaving no safe space for people to walk.

Residents say commercial vehicles heading toward the airport intentionally park on sidewalks to dodge parking fees. Many shopkeepers have also expanded their stalls onto the footpaths, shrinking the walking space further. As a result, pedestrians-including women, elderly people and schoolchildren-are compelled to walk on the road amid fast-moving traffic.

The problem is especially severe near Hinu Chowk, where school buses stop every morning and afternoon. With the footpaths occupied, students have no option but to walk along the busy roadside, heightening the likelihood of accidents. "Every day we fear that some mishap will take place. There is simply no safe place to walk," a local resident said.

Adding to the concern, residents allege that traffic police rarely conduct operations to remove illegal parking or clear the sidewalks. Vehicles regularly speed past on the VIP route, yet the encroachment continues undisturbed. A long queue of buses and autos often forms near the airport's main gate, causing traffic congestion and slowing movement on the already narrow road.

Despite this stretch being part of a VIP movement route, locals say there is little oversight and virtually no maintenance.

# Loyola School, Telco celebrates KG annual Parents' Night

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Loyola School, Telco, marked a memorable milestone as it celebrated its KG Annual Parents' Night, showcasing the talent and creativity of its youngest learners. After the recent success of the senior students' production of The Blue Umbrella, it was the turn of the Nursery, Lower KG and Upper KG students to take centre stage as part of the institution's 10-year journey of crafting dreams and empowering young minds.

The evening began with a welcome address by Colleen Xavier, Moderator for Nursery and Kindergarten, who highlighted the vital role of home-school partnership in a child's growth.

The event was graced by Chief Guest Vineeta Francis Ekka, Vice Principal of the Junior Section, Loyola School,



Bistapur, along with Principal Charanjeet Ohson, Administrator Fr Gerry Dsouza and Coordinators Reshma and Zeenat Maria.

The programme unfolded as a vibrant celebration of student talent and holistic development, bringing together parents, teach-

ers and students for an evening filled with music, dance and theatrical expression. A lively welcome dance by the Upper KG students set an energetic tone for the event. Performances through the evening included colourful dance sequences and musical presentations that reflected the

dedication of both students and teachers.

Themes such as God's creation, unity in diversity, love for animals and the wonders of nature were creatively depicted by Nursery and Lower KG students, earning admiration from the audience. A retro-themed

dance by the Lower KG children drew loud applause and emerged as one of the highlights of the evening. A short musical play, The Wedding of Jack and Jill, presented by the Upper KG students, stood out as a delightful segment, receiving warm appreciation from parents and guests. The choir's performance of Jingle Bells, accompanied by the cheerful entry of a little Santa, added festive charm and brought early Christmas spirit to the auditorium. Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Vineeta Ekka praised the children's confidence and the teachers' commitment to fostering well-rounded development beyond academics. Principal Charanjeet Ohson, in the concluding remarks, emphasized the importance of strengthening the bond between school and family while nurturing both education and character in young learners. (W-pb)




## किसानों की समृद्धि ही झारखण्ड की शक्ति

# 700 से अधिक धान अधिप्राप्ति केन्द्रों पर

## दिनांक 15.12.2025 से धान अधिप्राप्ति का कार्य हो रहा प्रारंभ







किसानों को प्रति क्विंटल धान **₹2450** का एकमुश्त एवं त्वरित भुगतान किया जाएगा

धान अधिप्राप्ति योजना के मुख्य बिन्दु

- ▶ e-POS के माध्यम से आधार आधारित बायोमेट्रिक सत्यापन पर धान की बिक्री
- ▶ मोबाईल ऐप के माध्यम से स्लॉट बुकिंग

ई-उपार्जन पोर्टल पर ऑनलाइन निबंधन करें

हेमन्त सोरेन  
मुख्यमंत्री, झारखण्ड

खाद्य, सार्वजनिक वितरण एवं उपभोक्ता मामले विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार

PR- 368053 (Food Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs) 25-26

# Nitish Kumar, Samrat Chaudhary inspect ethanol plant in Buxar

Patna, Dec 8 (IANS) Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Chaudhary on Monday inspected the premises of the ethanol plant in Nawanganar, Buxar district.

During the visit, the plant's CMD, Ajay Singh, welcomed both leaders and briefed them on the technical aspects of ethanol production, the plant's existing capacity, and its future potential.

Ajay Singh informed the Chief Minister that the ethanol supply order issued by the state government currently accounts for only 50 per cent of the plant's total



capacity. He said this reduced supply is disrupting the plant's production system, putting financial pressure on operations and threatening

the future of the industry. Singh submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister, urging the government to increase the supply order to match the plant's

full capacity. He said that if corrective steps are not taken, Bihar's ethanol sector could suffer long-term setbacks. Employees of the plant

also voiced their concerns regarding job security.

They submitted a collective application to the Chief Minister, stating that the reduced supply orders were directly affecting production and creating uncertainty about the plant's future.

They appealed to the government to ensure that the supply allocation reflects the plant's actual production capacity, which would help sustain operations and protect their livelihoods.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar heard the concerns raised by both the management and employees and assured them that the govern-

ment would examine the issue with seriousness.

He reiterated that promoting the ethanol industry is a key priority for the Bihar government, and necessary steps would be taken soon.

The visit of the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister is seen as significant for Bihar's ethanol sector, at a time when the state government is actively implementing policy reforms to boost ethanol production. The unit in Buxar is considered one of the leading ethanol plants in the state, and now looks forward to favourable government action following this high-level inspection.

# Blanket distribution drive in Kendraposi village



Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Dec 8:** Blankets provided by SR Rungta Group were distributed in Kendraposi village of Hatgamhariablock by Changing India Foundation Chaibasa in view of the increasing cold. The annual initiative aims to support needy villagers during winter.

Villagers gathered under the leadership of event head Shatrughan Hembram, who also informed them about the foundation's ongoing welfare activities. Those present during the distribution included Pratap Katiyar, Mahato Chumaru Chatomba, Brajmohan Chatomba, Devendra Kumar, Chandra Mohan, Manikant Poddar, Adhikta Kumar, and Shyam Chatomba.

# Gangster demands Rs 5 crore extortion from Patna builder, FIR lodged

Patna, Dec 8 (IANS) A major extortion case has surfaced in Patna, where a gangster has allegedly demanded Rs 5 crore from a prominent city builder.

The accused in the case is the infamous policeman-turned-gangster Lali Singh alias Ved Nidhi, known for his criminal activities after being dismissed from the Bihar Police.

An FIR in this regard has been registered at Rupaspur police station. The Rupaspur SHO confirmed that the FIR was lodged on December 6, and the matter is currently under investigation.

According to the FIR filed by the builder, he received a call at 8:10 pm on December 4, 2025.

When he asked for the caller's identity, the person introduced himself as Lali Singh alias VedNidhi.

The victim stated that the caller asked him whether he was pur-

chasing land on the Rupaspur Canal from a person named Vivek alias Chhotu. When the builder confirmed that the land registra-



tion was scheduled for the next day, the caller allegedly demanded Rs 5 crore as extortion.

On refusing to pay, the builder said he was threatened with dire consequences. He said that the way Deepak Mahato was gunned down in Digha, he would carry out a similar attack on the builder and his partner.

The caller also allegedly said, "Don't take this as a mere threat. If you wish, check my criminal his-

tory." When the builder warned that he would inform the police, the caller reportedly replied, "I was a police officer myself."

He then demanded either Rs 5 crore or that half of the land be registered in his name, threatening action within two days if the demand was not met.

Lali Singh, alias Ved Nidhi, a former Bihar Police officer, later became an office-bearer in the Bihar Police Men's Association, and was accused of conducting robberies while wearing a police uniform.

He was dismissed from service over criminal allegations. His name also appeared in the high-profile Deepak Mahato murder case in Danapur.

Patna Police have begun probing the call, the extortion demand, and the criminal activities linked to VedNidhi.

# Speculation grows over Nishant Kumar's possible political entry as posters appear in Patna

Patna, Dec 8 (IANS) Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's family has traditionally stayed away from active politics in Bihar. His son, Nishant Kumar, has shown no interest in political activities or in joining his father's party JD(U), while Nitish Kumar himself has repeatedly stated that he does not wish to push his son into politics. However, political circles in Bihar are now abuzz with new speculation following a surprising development in Patna. Posters featuring Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his son Nishant have surfaced on several streets and outside the JD(U) office.

The posters read, "Nitishkasevak... Nishantkimang... Ab party ki command sambhalen NishantBhai. (Nitish's followers demand Nishant... Now NishantBhai should take charge of the party)." These posters, congratulating Nitish Kumar on being sworn in as Chief Minister for a historic 10th time, claim that Nishant is the future leader of the JD(U). Their sudden appearance has triggered discussions among party workers and the public about whether Nishant Kumar is preparing to step into active politics. Within the JD(U), questions are being raised about whether Nitish Kumar is now considering introducing his son into politics and whether this could mark a major shift for the party's future. Political observers say that Nishant's entry could reshape not only the internal dynamics of the JD(U) but also the broader political landscape of Bihar.

# Pappu Yadav slams Bihar govt over bulldozer action



Patna, Dec 8 (IANS) Purnea MP Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav has strongly criticised the ongoing anti-encroachment drive and bulldozer action being carried out in Bihar. After demolition operations in Begusarai, the MP visited the affected families whose homes and shops were razed, and expressed sharp anger over their condition. Terming the NDA government's action inhumane, Pappu Yadav said, "A Genghis Khan-like government is running in Bihar. How can the homes of the poor be demolished without any notice?"

He said he has raised the issue in Parliament and demanded that the government allot land for the rehabilitation of the families who lost their homes in the middle of the winter. Pappu Yadav questioned the legality of the demolition drive, asking under whose orders bulldozers were deployed and whether any court directive or notice was issued before razing the settlements.

He said, "Do the poor not have the right to live in Bihar? People took loans to build their homes, and the government bulldozed them within seconds. Now families, including children and the elderly, are wandering in the cold under the open sky."

The MP alleged that around 1,500 houses have been bulldozed in Bihar under the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government.

## Corrigendum

In the news article titled "SER to Run Special Trains Amid Flight Cancellations", published in our December 7 edition, an incorrect graphical representation was inadvertently printed along with the report. The error is sincerely regretted.

- Editor

He further said he has spoken to a minister regarding the matter, stressing that rehabilitation must be ensured before any eviction or action is taken.

Calling the situation "Inspector Raj," he attacked the government for depriving the poor of basic living rights.

Yadav also criticized the growing inequality, remarking, "People wearing slippers are not allowed to live on land or travel by air."

# Bihar Dy CM Samrat Choudhary orders major traffic overhaul, crackdown on rule violators

Patna, Dec 8 (IANS) Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister Samrat Choudhary has issued strict directives to overhaul the state's traffic management system.

In a high-level review meeting held on Monday, he instructed officials to adopt strong, systematic measures to reduce congestion and ensure smooth movement across Bihar. Samrat Choudhary emphasised the need to enhance the efficiency of traffic personnel and directed officials to establish a dedicated Traffic Training Institute.

He said that scientific and modern training is essential to improve on-ground traffic management.

The Deputy Chief Minister instructed officials to increase the traffic police force and take strict action against habitual traffic rule violators. He underscored that zero tolerance would be shown towards those who continuously break traffic rules.

To tackle the growing problem of illegal parking, he ordered the de-



ployment of private cranes in addition to departmental cranes. These cranes will be used extensively to clear encroachments and ensure seamless vehicle movement in urban areas.

A major directive included establishing traffic command and control centres outside Patna Junction and other railway stations, as well as at busy intersections and congested

areas state-wide. He also instructed the Panchayati Raj and Urban Development Departments to install CCTV cameras at all entry and exit points of municipalities and panchayats.

Samrat Choudhary stressed the need for a large-scale traffic awareness campaign in schools, colleges, panchayats, and urban bodies to promote responsible behaviour among citizens.

The Deputy Chief Minister reiterated that ensuring a smooth, safe, and organized traffic system is among the government's top priorities. He said that stringent measures will be implemented at every level to address congestion and improve road safety state-wide.

After Samrat Choudhary took over the charge as the Home Minister of Bihar post-election, he has been in action mode and taking regular meetings with the department officers to improve law and order and traffic management in Bihar.

# Financial aid approved for two critical patients

Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Dec 8 :** A meeting of the Incurable Disease Committee was held on Monday under the chairmanship of Deputy Superintendent of Sadar Hospital, Shivcharan Hansda, to review treatment documents of patients seeking support under the Chief Minister's Serious Illness Treatment Scheme.

Following the review, financial assistance of ₹5 lakh was approved for Dara Singh Jamuda, a 50-year-old resident of Loharda village in Khuntapani block, who is suffering from mouth cancer and undergoing treatment at 111 Save Life Hospital, Adityapur. Similarly, ₹2.42 lakh was sanctioned for 11-year-old Anbiya Tabrez of



Millat Colony, Chakradharpur, who is being treated for a brain tumour at Meherbai Cancer Hospital, Jamshedpur.

Advocate Raja Ram Gupta, representing Jharkhand government minister and Chaibasa MLA Deepak

Birua, called for increased publicity of the scheme. He also recommended placing banners at the entrance of Sadar Hospital so that more patients can benefit. Present at the meeting were Dr. Barfiel Mardi, Dr. Paulina Mundu, Chief Clerk Subhash Soren and others.

# Bihar: Speeding car mows down six in Patna; 1 dead, 5 injured

Patna, Dec 8 (IANS) A road tragedy shocked Patna when an out-of-control car ran over six pedestrians in the upscale Gola Road locality under the jurisdiction of the Danapur police station area in Bihar's Patna.

Sixty-year-old Chansi Rai succumbed to his injuries, while five others were critically injured and admitted to the Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH).

The incident took place near Jhakra Mahadev Temple on Gola Road, and disturbing CCTV visuals have now emerged. The video shows three young men standing at the roadside with a dog nearby. Suddenly, a speeding black sedan appears, runs over the dog, and then hits four people in one sweep. The dog is seen writhing in pain under the wheels. The car halts briefly, revealing a man trapped under the front wheel. As two men approach the driver, the driver accelerates again, crushing the trapped man a second time.

Bystanders can be seen trying to stop the vehicle-some even strike the car with their hands-but the driver moves ahead recklessly, runs over another person, and then speeds toward JP Ganga Path, also known as Marine Drive.

# Daffodil Kids English Medium School marks 10th anniversary



Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8 :** The tenth anniversary of Daffodil Kids English Medium School, located on Kudarsai Jail Road, was celebrated with great enthusiasm and grandeur at the Town

Hall, marking a significant milestone in the school's journey. The event was chaired by Principal Nirmala Tripathi.

Dignitaries present included Pradeep Kumar Pati, educationists Ranjit Sen Gupta and Nilambar Singhdeo, former Municipal Council

Members, and social worker Jalesh Kavi, social worker Manoj Kumar Choudhary, and Balal Hussain. Parents in large numbers attended the celebration. Students presented an impressive cultural programme featuring dance, songs, and drama. Guests praised the school for its quality education, discipline, holistic development, and value-based learning environment. Teachers played a commendable role in ensuring the success of the event.

# "Mera TV Film Festival" showcases regional cinema, pays tribute to Dharmendra

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8 :** A grand three-day "Mera TV Film Festival" was held from December 5 to 7 at Audrey House with the aim of promoting regional cinema and art. The festival became an important platform for films in various Jharkhand languages and drew the participation of young artists from across the state.

An special tribute was paid to late Bollywood actor Dharmendra, popularly known as "He-Man". Young artists painted



posters of his iconic films on canvas, honouring his legacy through art. Chandil-based artist

Saurabh Pramanik presented impressive poster paintings of Dharmendra's celebrated films Shikhar and

Sholay, earning appreciation from visitors.

Saurabh described the festival as a major platform for emerging talent and expressed gratitude to organisers Kumar Vivek and Kumar Vishal. He said the event successfully brought together regional films and the art and culture of Jharkhand, offering young artists a meaningful opportunity to showcase their creativity. The festival proved to be a significant step toward giving Jharkhand's cinema a distinct identity and encouraging new talent.

# Villagers intensify protest against proposed solid waste management plant



## Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** Local villagers have once again intensified their opposition to the proposed solid waste management plant in the Seraikela Nagar Panchayat area. On Sunday, residents strongly objected to the Urban Development Department's plan to construct the plant on approximately seven acres of government land at Khata No. 152, Plot No. 555, located in Bundu Mouza under Itakudur Panchayat.

A special Gram Sabha, chaired by village head Kushnu Mundari, witnessed large participation. Villagers unanimously opposed the project, stating that the establishment of a waste management plant would lead to rising pollution, health hazards, and adverse impacts on natural resources in the surrounding areas.

They firmly declared that no waste management facility would be allowed near their village or agricultural fields. Meanwhile, the Zonal

Officer's office in Seraikela has issued a notice and scheduled another meeting with villagers on Monday to find a resolution. However, given the strong opposition, discussions are expected to be challenging. Present at the Gram Sabha were Itakudur Panchayat head Budhram Kurli, former Block Deputy Chief Michael Mahato, and ward members Sulochana Sardar, Vinod Mundri, Lakhan Nath, Rajesh Sardar, Vijay Purti, Ratan Nath, along with other villagers. (W-pb)

## Villagers oppose solid waste management plant in Bundu



**Seraikela, Dec 8:** Residents of Bundu village under Seraikela block have strongly opposed the proposed Solid Waste Management Plant planned by the Seraikela Nagar Panchayat.

On Sunday, villagers convened a special Gram Sabha where they unanimously objected to the project. A meeting between the administration and villagers was scheduled for Monday, prompting dozens of residents to gather at the proposed site since morning. However, when no administrative representative arrived even by late afternoon, the villagers marched to the Deputy Commissioner's office and submitted a memorandum. The memorandum, submitted by Bundu Gram Sabha head Kushanu Mundari, stated that the Urban Development Department has selected seven acres of government land (Khata No. 152, Plot No. 555) in Bundu under Itakudur Panchayat for the plant. Villagers fear that the project will expose Bundu and nearby villages-Itakudur, Dudhi, Manikbazar, Hensa, Pandra and Digarsai-to harmful gases and pollution. The Gram Sabha has unanimously decided to oppose the construction and demanded that the land selection for the plant be revoked in view of public dissent. Former Deputy Chief of Seraikela Block, Michael Mahato, who was present at the site, said the waste generated by Seraikela Nagar Panchayat should be managed within the town limits or disposed of in another suitable urban location. (W-pm)

## Seraikela: Foundation stone laid for water tower



## Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** The foundation stone for the construction of a water tower at the Police Line Center in Dugni was laid on Sunday. The project, costing Rs 6,23,800, is being developed under the 15th Finance Commission funds of the District Council Seraikela-Kharsawan.

District Council Chairman Sonaram Bodra and District Council Member Shambhu Mandal jointly inaugurated the project by unveiling the plaque and performing the traditional coconut-breaking ceremony. On the occasion, Chairman Sonaram Bodra assured officials of the Police Men's Association that efforts would be made to resolve any issues faced within the center, adding that resolutions would be passed in the board to address such concerns.

District Council Member Shambhu Mandal reiterated his commitment to resolving local problems and emphasized that every citizen has the right to basic facilities such as water and electricity. Present at the event were Divyansh Enterprises proprietor Nikhil Bhal, Police Men's Association president Ramesh Padeya, along with other officials and members. (W-pb)

## Jeevan highlights importance of early intervention in mental health

## Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** In today's fast-changing world, stress, loneliness, and emotional struggles are becoming increasingly common. From children and youth to adults, every section of society is battling mental pressure. In such a situation, awareness and timely support for mental health have become more important than ever. Understanding this growing need, the suicide prevention centre 'Jeevan' observed mental health awareness in November.

November marks several global initiatives related to mental well-being, including Early Childhood Mental Health Awareness Month, Men's Health Awareness Month (November), National Stress Awareness Day, World Kindness Day, and International Survivors of Suicide Day. Jeevan used these observances as an opportunity to encourage conversations and help the community understand the seriousness of mental health concerns.

Experts emphasized that providing a sensitive, safe, and supportive environment during early childhood strengthens the foundation of mental well-being. Identifying behavioural changes early and intervening at the right time can prevent serious long-term issues.

The organization believes that talking about mental health is not a sign of weakness but an act of courage. Seeking help in time is just as important as consulting a doctor for any physical ailment. Jeevan's initiative aims to build resilience, empathy, and a culture of support in society. Individuals seeking emotional support can contact Jeevan at 929777499 or 929777500. In-person counseling is available every day from 10 AM to 6 PM at the Jeevan Suicide Prevention Centre, 25 Q Road, Bistupur, Jamshedpur. Those who wish to volunteer and can offer four hours a week, along with patience and empathy, are welcome to join Jeevan's mission to help others. (W-pb)

## Woman files FIR in Gamharia against husband and in-laws for assault

## Mail News Service

**Gamharia, Dec 8:** Maya Mahato, a resident of Chhota Gamharia, has filed an FIR at the Gamharia police station accusing her husband, Devraj Mahato, along with her uncle-in-law Gaurhari Mahato and aunt-in-law Sheela Devi, of assaulting her.

According to the complaint, Maya married Devraj in 2011 and the couple has two children. She alleged that a year after marriage, her husband began assaulting her under the influence of alcohol and that she has continued to suffer harassment from other family members.

On November 15, Maya was allegedly assaulted again by her husband and in-laws, leaving her injured. She initially submitted a written complaint at the police station, but the then station in-charge refused to register the case.

She later approached the Superintendent of Police seeking justice. Following the SP's instructions, the police finally registered an FIR against the accused and have begun investigating the case.

## Kadma senior citizens pay tribute to Ritu Raj Sinha



## Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Kadma's senior citizens and morning walkers group on Monday paid tribute to Ritu Raj Sinha, Managing Director of Tata Steel Utilities and Infrastructure Services Limited (formerly JUSCO), who passed away on Sunday.

A condolence meeting was held near the Kadma-Sonari Link Road roundabout under the leadership of Srikanth Dev, former Assistant Secretary of Jusco Workers' Union and a senior citizen. Members recalled Ritu Raj Sinha as a wise, visionary and dedicated leader, known for his humane approach and accessibility to employees. They said his untimely demise is an irreparable loss for the city. S.L. Das noted that whether the matter was social or related to employees, Sinha always resolved issues with remarkable ease and sensitivity. During the tribute, senior citizens including Sanjay Sinha, S.N. Mitra, Bharat Bhumiij, S.S. Das, Billu Ram, Ganesh Chaudhary, Shambhu Sardar, S.S. Mahato, K. Kar, Subrato Sinha, H.D. Thakur, H.B. Singh, Shishir Ghosh, B. Mahato, Ashish Bid, and Sanjay Singh, along with several passersby, offered floral homage. (W-pm)

## Vidya Jyoti School students excel at National Karate Championship

## Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** Students of Vidya Jyoti School, Gamharia, brought laurels to their school and the state by showcasing excellent performances at the National Federation Karate Competition held in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The team secured a total of two gold, one silver, and five bronze medals across various age and weight categories.

In the 13-year age group, Raksha Kumari won a gold medal with an outstanding performance. In the senior category, Smita Das displayed remarkable skill to clinch another



gold. Both players received special recognition for their achievements. The Jharkhand State Federation awarded Smita Das a cash prize of Rs 3,000 and Raksha Kumari Rs 2,000, also honoring them as the best players of the tournament.

The event took place on December 6 and 7 at Sunvalley Public School, Varanasi, with nine students from Vidya Jyoti School participating. School Principal Sunil Kumar Jha and coach Amit Kumar Jha expressed pride in the team's achievements and congratulated the medal winners for bringing honor to Jharkhand. (W-pb)

## Induction meet organized at Institute for Education College

## Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** The Institute for Education College organized a welcome ceremony and induction meet for the newly enrolled students of the 2025-27 session.

The programme commenced with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony by the college's Director R.N. Mahanti and Principal Dr. Sweety Sinha. In his address, Mahanti highlighted the various courses offered by the college and emphasized the importance



of discipline, regularity, and hard work in a student's life. Dr. Sinha, in her speech, elaborated on the institution's history, achievements, academic programmes, rules, and future plans. Coordinator

Dr. Om Prakash introduced the departments and briefed students about the support services available, including the library, laboratories, sports facilities, and various clubs. Senior students also shared their

experiences and encouraged the newcomers.

The event was conducted by Ankita Pradhan from the Music Education department, along with Khushboo Mukhi and Marshal Bage. (W-pm)

## Seraikela-Kharsawan shines at Jharkhand State Cross Country Championship

## Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** The Seraikela-Kharsawan District Athletics Team delivered an impressive performance at the 17th Jharkhand State Cross Country Championship held in Mahuatand, Latehar. The district's women's team secured the runners-up position, bringing pride to the region.

District Athletics Association Secretary Sikandar Mahato informed that the team won a

bronze medal in the women's 10-kilometer race. Additionally, three athletes from the district have been selected for the National Cross Country Championship to be held in Ranchi on January 24. Pano Baske and Nalita Singh Munda were selected for the women's 10-kilometer race, while Mukesh Kumar secured a spot in the under-20 boys' 8-kilometer category.



Mahato credited Laxman Mahato of Dattam for his significant contribution to the team's exceptional performance. District Athletics Association President Manmohan Singh Rajput, Treasurer Vishnu Narayan Singh, Karamu Mandal, and other officials congratulated the athletes and extended best wishes for their upcoming participation at the national level. (W-pb)

## Jharkhand Chess Academy felicitates Adhiraj Mitra

## Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Jharkhand Chess Academy felicitated Master Adhiraj Mitra, Gold Medalist at the Commonwealth Chess Championship 2025 held in Malaysia, during the One Day Rapid Chess Championship organised at the academy premises in Ranchi.

To honour his outstanding achievement and for bringing pride to Jharkhand, the academy presented him with Rs 1,00,000 and a special memento. The event was attended by Dushyant and Abhishek Das, Founder of Jharkhand Chess Academy.

The One Day Rapid Chess Championship also showcased impressive performances from young players. Aarav Sharan secured the U-15 title, Aarav Bharthi emerged as the U-13 Champion, and Vani Kumari won the Junior category. During the programme, the academy announced a significant finan-



cial incentive scheme to encourage promising chess talents from Jharkhand. Under this initiative, players representing India in official world-level events will be awarded Rs 1,00,000 for a gold medal, Rs 75,000 for a silver, and Rs 50,000 for a bronze.

The academy stated that this step is aimed at motivating young chess players to excel at the global stage and continue bringing honour to Jharkhand. Jharkhand Chess Academy reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing and promoting chess talent across the state. (W-pb)

## KCC: Workshop highlights social protection schemes

## Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** A workshop on "Social Protection Schemes and Skill Development for Women" was organised by the Women's Cell of Karim City College to raise awareness among young women about various government welfare schemes, opportunities and support systems designed for their empowerment.

The session was led by Mukhtar Alam Khan, Secretary of Human Welfare Trust, who attended as the guest and resource person. He shared detailed insights into the trust's initiatives, including financial aid for individuals facing medical emergencies, assistance for marginalised families and several welfare measures aimed at improving the lives of underprivileged communities. He urged students to stay informed about government and NGO-led schemes that can significantly



impact their future.

College Principal Mohammad Riaz addressed the gathering and underlined the importance of women's education, stating that educating a woman strengthens entire families and communities. He also highlighted several social protection schemes that remain unknown to many young women, encouraging them to make full use of these opportunities.

The workshop was conducted

under the guidance of Kausar Tasneem, Member Coordinator of the Women's Cell, whose leadership contributed to the smooth execution of the programme.

The presence of Dr Farzana Anjum further motivated the participants. Volunteers of the Women's Cell played an active role throughout the event. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mobina Begum, a representative of the Women's Cell. (W-pb)

## Public perception of Police needs to improve

Addressing the 60th Annual Conference of DGPs at Raipur on its concluding day on November 30, Prime Minister Modi called upon the Police chiefs from across the country to enhance 'professionalism, sensitivity and responsiveness' of their men and stressed on the urgent need to transform public perception of the police, particularly among the youth.

This 3-day conference is traditionally convened and chaired by the Director Intelligence Bureau (DIB), who was acknowledged ex officio as the senior most Police officer of the country, and it provides a rare opportunity to the states to get a comprehensive briefing on the internal security situation of the nation.

The conference used to be held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi earlier, but in the Narendra Modi regime, the practice of organising it in various state Capitals was introduced. Considering that the police were a state subject, this was a good strategic move for promoting the uniformity of law and order management across the country. The DGPs Conference evokes enthusiastic participation from state police chiefs regardless of the differing political complexion of the state governments. This is an acknowledgement of the fact that while law and order was a state subject, national security was the joint responsibility of the Centre and the states.

Projecting a forward-looking role of the Police theme of the conference was 'Viksit Bharat: Security Dimensions'- the Prime Minister spoke of urban policing, protection of tourists, awareness of the new laws that had replaced the colonial era Penal Codes, coastal policing and monitoring of banned outfits. He emphasised the need to modernise systems for public safety and law and order management. Calling for greater use of technology, he urged the state police to link data bases integrated under NATGRID with use of Artificial Intelligence to produce actionable intelligence on crime and criminals.

He noted that a deeper forensic application would strengthen the criminal justice system and suggested encouraging universities to highlight case studies on the successful use of forensics in the relevant courses. He wanted the state police to contribute more significantly to counter-terrorism and counter-radicalisation effort. The Prime Minister honoured the three best performing cities under the newly instituted Urban Policing Awards, meant to encourage innovation and improvement in policing in urban centres. In recent years, the DGPs Conference has increasingly taken up matters relating to policing apart from reviewing the internal security situation for the benefit of the states.

In advising the Police chiefs to work for transforming public perception of the police, Prime Minister Modi touched on a challenge that Police leadership has still not been able to address adequately. The Prime Minister pithily remarked that police should be sensitive and responsive enough to provide 'citizen-centric service delivery'.

Police as a coercive arm of the democratic state, can make or mar the content of governance in such a state if it does not help the law-abiding citizens and did not act as a deterrent for the law-breakers. Often, the opposite happened, which explained the reluctance of a lawful citizen to take his complaint to a Police Station.

I recall that during my first posting as ASP- that was decades ago- the District SP who was an officer of great merit, coined the slogan 'Friendly but not familiar' for the observance of the annual Police Week. This call holds good even for today's policing- unfortunately, law breakers often strike 'familiarity' with the police while policemen tend to be rather unfriendly towards the ordinary law-abiding people. The onus for correcting all this lies on senior officers of the police. India is perhaps the only country where a police career is offered in one of the All India Civil Services meant to man the Police leadership positions.

The Indian Police Service might face a poser as to what it had done so far to ensure that the functioning of the Police Station had risen to the level of accountability and public service it was supposed to display. Considering that in law, all senior police officers overseeing the police station exercised the powers of the Station House Officers in their jurisdiction, the Police Station emerges as the fundamental unit of policing and the basic point of police-public interface. Public perception about police is linked to how a police station was viewed by the law-abiding people.

The Prime Minister's expectations of a 'citizen-centric' policing would be tested there and hence, police leadership must understand the importance of its role in bringing about the required upgrade of the police station. It is not enough for senior officers to claim flawless working and integrity for themselves- they would be judged by their success in perfecting the functioning of police stations under them. The tradition of senior officers of the rank of even Range Dy IG formally inspecting a Police Station seemed to have been diluted. Surprise visits of senior officers for checking if anybody was there in the lock up without record or the SHO was absent without authorising a sub-inspector to act as in-charge in his absence, would help a great deal in maintaining professional efficiency of the police station.

There are some steps still to be taken for bringing about material police reforms. First of all, ratio of police personnel per lakh of population needs to be improved and the vacancies, said to be as large as 22 percent of the sanctioned strength must be filled up urgently. Law and order management is, in our federal structure, the sole responsibility of the state governments role of the Centre is largely limited to providing para military force on the request of the latter.

To reduce vulnerability of the senior officers to political influences of the parties ruling the states, it is necessary for the Centre to have a say in the appointment of the DGP (and the Chief Secretary) of the state on seniority-cum-merit basis. These are IPS and IAS officers of whose general performance the Centre (through Dept of Personnel & Training) kept a track in any case. In line with the 2018 judgement of the Supreme Court that discouraged appointment of 'Officiating DGPs' and prescribed the procedure for UPSC-drawn panel of 3 officers being considered for the state DGP's post, the Centre could play its natural role.

A fixed tenure for DGP had already been laid down by the apex court in Prakash Singh's case in 2006. Secondly, all Station House Officers should be appointed on the recommendation or with the consent of DGP who should feel strong enough to exercise this authority. And finally, any wrong deed of a police officer should be enquired into taking cognisance of whether or not the supervisory officer like the Circle Officer or even the SP had discharged his function effectively. Fixing the responsibility of the supervisory officer in any case of individual failure is a tradition strictly followed by Army and it is worth emulating that practice on the civil side as well.

From the Editorial Desk

# Why today's generation is forgetting Vande Mataram



Abhijit Roy



Finally, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the long-awaited debate in Parliament to commemorate the 150th anniversary of "Vande Mataram," penned by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and composed by Jadunath Bhattacharya, a song that remains one of the most disputed icons of India's freedom struggle.

Surprisingly, the song Vande Mataram, which has a rich historical foundation in our freedom cause, is nearly forgotten now. It may surprise you, but even after 75 years of independence, the Vande Mataram hymn is not warmly received by our country's current generation. The hymn Vande Mataram has had the greatest influence on the history of India's freedom struggle. The song was written in 1875 or 1876 and published in a monthly newspaper in 1881. The song has sparked widespread enthusiasm across the country, particularly among liberation fighters, prompting concern among British citizens.

Singing this song cost many young people their lives. Khudiram Bose's martyrdom is a prime illustration of this. The song's lyrics moved Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore so much that he felt forced to write a music for it. In 1905, Tagore performed the composition at a Calcutta convention. Rishi Aurobindo founded Vande Mataram, a monthly magazine, inspired by the song's content. He also had it translated into English. According to Mahatma Gandhi's daily Harijan, Vande Mataram will endure on as long as this country lives.

Vande Mataram was first printed on the country's national flag by Sister Nivedita. On January 24, 1950, the country's first president, Dr. Rajendra

Prasad, decided that, like Rabindranath Tagore's Jana gana mana, Bankim Chandra Chattarjee's Vande Mataram will be honored as a national song. The masthead of the most prominent Bengali newspaper, Ananda Bazar Patrika, which has been in circulation for 100 years, mentions Vande Mataram on the editorial page. All India Radio's morning session continues to begin with Vande Mataram. Of course, we must recognize how many people listened to Akashbani's primary program throughout the FM era. Despite this, Rishi Bankim Chandra Chatterjee was never respected.

(Author is a Jamshedpur based columnist. Views expressed are personal.)

## Congress' Nehru legacy honour claim falls flat as scrutiny reveals 'insult' to Ambedkar during UPA rule

The political battle over the legacy of B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of India's Constitution and a towering Dalit leader, has intensified in recent months. At the heart of this contest lies a clash between the Congress party's attempt to preserve the aura of Jawaharlal Nehru and the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) effort to expose Congress' historical neglect and even hostility towards Ambedkar.

What emerges is not merely a debate over history but a struggle for political ownership of Ambedkar's legacy. Sonia Gandhi's recent remarks at the launch of The Nehru Centre India encapsulate Congress' defensive posture. In a lengthy post, she lamented what she described as "systematic attempts" to denigrate Nehru, accusing the ruling establishment of trying to erase his contributions and destroy the foundations of the nation.

She argued that Nehru's life and work must be understood in historical context and warned against deliberate distortions of his legacy. Her words were clearly aimed at the BJP, which has often critiqued Nehru's policies on Kashmir, China, and economic planning. Yet, while Congress passionately defends Nehru, its record on Ambedkar tells a different story.

The BJP has seized upon this contradiction, pointing to instances where Ambedkar was sidelined, undermined, or even insulted during Congress-led governments.

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan last year revived a particularly damning example: the NCERT Class 11 textbook published during UPA-2 in 2012, which carried a cartoon depicting Nehru whipping Ambedkar. The cartoon sparked outrage, with BJP leaders condemning it as a deliberate insult to Ambedkar's dignity. Kapil Sibal, then Human



Resource Development Minister, was forced to apologise in Parliament, acknowledging the offensive nature of the depiction and ordering its withdrawal.

The controversy did not end there. Amit Malviya, the BJP's in-charge of BJP's National Information and Technology Department, had posed a question on his X handle on December 19, 2024, "Kapil Sibal, amidst protest from the BJP, announced its withdrawal in the Parliament, stating that NCERT books are developed by a committee. He specifically identified Yogendra Yadav as the 'Chief Advisor' to the committee. It is the same Yogendra Yadav, who was part of Sonia Gandhi's NAC, member of Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra, even actively campaigned for the Congress in Haryana and delivered the infamous '?????' speech in Rahul Gandhi's presence. Why is the Congress nurturing Ambedkar and Dalit hating people like Yogendra Yadav in their ranks? Or, are they brought in to serve Congress's agenda of marginalising Dalits?" Malviya had asked.

The chief advisor to the NCERT committee responsible for the textbook was Yogendra Yadav, a figure closely associated with Congress circles, Sonia Gandhi's National Advisory Council, and Rahul Gandhi's political campaigns, he had said.

The BJP has rightly questioned

why Congress continues to nurture individuals who have displayed insensitivity towards Ambedkar and Dalit concerns. Was this merely an oversight, or part of a deeper pattern of marginalisation? This episode is emblematic of Congress' selective memory. While it lionises Nehru to preserve its dynastic narrative, it has historically marginalised Ambedkar, whose vision of social justice and constitutional democracy resonates deeply with Dalits and the wider Indian polity.

Ambedkar's disagreements with Nehru and the Congress leadership are well documented -- from his resignation as Law Minister over the Hindu Code Bill to his criticism of Congress' failure to address caste oppression meaningfully. For decades, Ambedkar was celebrated more by grassroots Dalit movements than by the Congress establishment, which preferred to keep the spotlight firmly on Nehru and the Gandhi family.

The BJP has positioned itself as the custodian of Ambedkar's legacy, celebrating his contributions through memorials, scholarships, and public commemorations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly invoked Ambedkar's vision of equality and dignity, framing it as central to the BJP's social empowerment agenda.

By highlighting Congress' past insults and neglect, the BJP seeks to contrast its own embrace of Ambedkar with Congress' dynastic obsession.

The tug of war over Ambedkar is not merely symbolic -- it reflects deeper ideological battles. Congress' narrative is rooted in Nehruvian elitism, emphasising secularism and centralised planning, while often glossing over caste realities. The BJP, by contrast, has sought to integrate Ambedkar's vision into its broader narrative of social justice, national unity, and empowerment of

marginalised communities. This ideological divergence explains why Sonia Gandhi's defence of Nehru rings hollow to many Dalits, who recall Congress' history of sidelining Ambedkar.

Moreover, the BJP's critique gains traction because it resonates with lived experiences. Dalits have long felt excluded from Congress' upper caste dominated leadership structures, while Ambedkar himself was often treated as an outsider within the Congress fold. The cartoon controversy is not an isolated incident but part of a larger pattern of disregard.

By reminding the Congress party of its past actions, the BJP strengthens its claim to Ambedkar's legacy and positions itself as the party that truly honours his vision.

The stakes are high. Ambedkar's legacy is not just about history -- it is about contemporary politics, identity, and empowerment. For Dalits and marginalised communities, Ambedkar represents dignity, equality, and resistance against oppression. Whoever claims his legacy gains moral authority and political capital.

Congress' attempt to defend Nehru while glossing over its treatment of Ambedkar exposes its contradictions. The BJP, by foregrounding Ambedkar and exposing Congress' record, seeks to reshape the narrative and align itself with the aspirations of Dalits.

In the end, the tug of war over Ambedkar is a battle for India's soul. Congress clings to Nehru to preserve its dynastic legitimacy, but its neglect of Ambedkar undermines its moral authority. The BJP, by embracing Ambedkar and critiquing Congress' record, positions itself as the true custodian of his vision. For Dalits and marginalised communities, the choice is stark: between a party that once printed cartoons mocking their leader, and a party that seeks to honour him as the cornerstone of India's democratic journey.

# INDIA back to square one, post Bihar debacle

Dr. Duggaraju Srinivasa Rao

Congress was hit badly in Bihar election with less than 9% vote and only 6 seats sank to the bottom of the political pit and unfortunately it has pulled down the RJD too and this sounded danger bells in the I.N.D.I.A camp which was assiduously built before 2024 Lok Sabha elections. With the way some of the regional parties are reacting post Bihar results it is almost certain that the opposition coalition survival is doubtful. This is confirmed by the statements emanating from the members of I.N.D.I.A block themselves.

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah all of a sudden dropped the political truth bomb on Congress by saying the I.N.D.I.A block is on "life support" and confirmed the infighting with in the alliance. He indirectly questioned the strength or political resolve of the alliance in comparison with the rival BJP. Abdulla, representing the Muslim political party from a special



seat is sending a message to the voters of his religion to search for an alternative to vote ignoring the Congress claim of pro-minority posture. The RJD and its leader Yasaswi Yadav are sulking in Patna for aligning with Congress in just concluded Bihar assembly elections as it cost them heavily in terms of seats. RJD which was number one in terms of seats in 2020 election became number

three in 2025 elections. Yasaswi Yadav regrets following the Congress elders designed strategy of keeping AIMIM away from the alliance with the hope of getting more number seats to contest. RJD foolishly conceded the Congress demand for 65 seats, though that party has no organizational strength in the state. Reality is RJD in tatters with family feuds into the open and Nitish

Kumar tactically eliminating the RJD caste base.

RJD cadres in Bihar is maintaining distance from Congress and is pressurizing the leaders to abandon I.N.D.I.A ship. That mood of negativity with Congress now seems to have been extended to Samajwadi Party (SP) cadre in Uttar Pradesh. This is evident during the winter session of parliament where SP stayed

away the Congress lead agitation against Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voters on the second day of the session. The widening gap between Congress and SP is visible in corridors of parliament. The MPs from both sides are feeling suspicious of others moves and blaming others for the widening gap between these two parties. Some of the MPs from SP party are vocally and visibly against

alliance with the Congress in the upcoming local body elections. The gap is certain to extend resulting in the 'divorce' by the time of 2027 assembly elections. The second rung SP leaders are not happy as they have to forgo their seats to accommodate Congress candidates. Despite their sacrifice of the seats, the SP leaders feel that Congress vote is not getting transferred to SP candidates in the election. For a party which has no influence beyond Amethi and Raibareli the SP leaders feel that they are giving new life in the state and ultimately the revival of Congress in Uttar Pradesh will hit their party only.

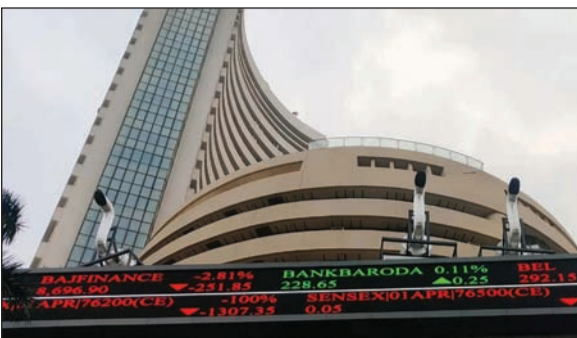
In Bengal Mamata Banerjee has already made up its mind not to associate with Congress in the coming elections as such an alliance is drag on TMC. When the Congress is dead organisationally which is evident in the protest against the SIR, the alliance with that party is not in the interest of TMC is the firm opinion. Stemming from the confidence of winning alone TMC may sound right in

moving out of I.N.D.I.A camp. The AAP which is already out of I.N.D.I.A is slowly creeping into the Congress strong holds in Gujarat. Voters of that are now seeing AAP as main opposition and new hope instead of Congress.

DMK is the only ally which is still carrying alliance with Congress and hope to sustain I.N.D.I.A. As the cine hero turned political party founder Vijay makes some progress in attracting Christian voters in the southern coastal districts which were traditionally DMK votes the second thoughts are sure to crop up to snap ties with I.N.D.I.A for the assembly but carrying the alliance for Lok Sabha elections. With regional parties shrinking in their influence and BJP making aggressive moves to get regional parties out of electoral sphere, the I.N.D.I.A alliance stability suspicious which means that opposition alliance is back to the drawing board days of 2024.

(Author is retired professional. Views expressed are personal.)

## Sensex, Nifty witness sharp decline ahead of US Fed policy decision



**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Indian equity indices fell sharply on Monday amid broad-based selling as investors turned cautious ahead of the US Fed policy decision this week. Persistent selling from FIIs also dragged the market sentiment.

Sensex ended the session at 85,102.69, down 609.68 points or 0.71 per cent. The 30-share index started lower at 85,624.84 against last session's closing of 85,624.84. The index extended the loss further amid overall selling to touch an intra-day low at 84,875.59.

Nifty closed 25,960.55, down 225.90 points or 0.86 per cent.

"The market experienced a broad-based decline, slipping below the 26,000 mark as investors turned cautious ahead of this week's US Fed policy decision. Despite robust domestic growth figures and the RBI's recent rate cut, short-term sentiment remains overshadowed by global monetary policy concerns, persistent FII outflows, and currency depreciation," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited.

Volatility was further amplified by a surge in Japanese bond yields to multi-year highs, sparking fears of a potential unwinding of the yen carry trade, he added.

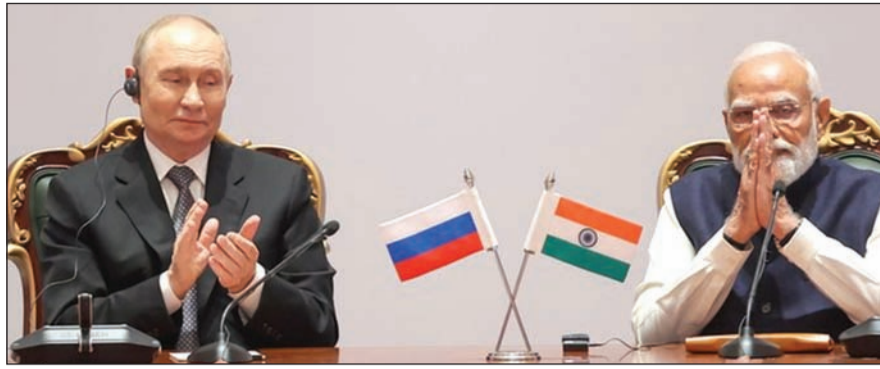
Eternal, Trent, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finance, Bajaj FinServ, PowerGrid, Asian Paint, Tata Motors PV, Titan, NTPC, Kotak Bank, L&T, Bharti Airtel, Mahindra and Mahindra, Axis Bank, Hindustan Unilever, Sun Pharma, Ultratech Cement, ITC, Maruti Suzuki, and Infosys were among the losers from the Sensex basket. Tech Mahindra settled in positive territory.

The majority of sectoral indices traded lower amid overall selling. Nifty Fin Services fell 194 points or 0.70 per cent, Nifty Bank slipped 538 points or 0.90 per cent, Nifty Auto dipped 342 points or 1.23 per cent, Nifty FMCG traded 662 points or 1.20 per cent lower, and Nifty IT closed 112 points or 0.29 per cent lower.

# India buys fuel where it is profitable, reaffirms Putin's top aide

**Moscow, Dec 8 (IANS)** Dmitry Peskov, the Press Secretary of Russian President Vladimir Putin, on Monday said that India is purchasing energy resources where it deems them advantageous. This policy, he told the media in Moscow, will continue following Putin's State Visit to India, last week.

"India, being and remaining a sovereign state, carries out foreign trade operations and purchases energy resources where it is beneficial for India," Peskov was quoted as saying by Russia's Tass news agency during a regular media briefing during which he also termed Putin's India visit as a "very successful" one.



"And, as far as we understand, our Indian partners will continue this policy to ensure their economic interests," he concluded while answering a question about whether New Delhi would continue to purchase fuel from Moscow, Tass reported.

On Friday, after con-

cluding his talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, Putin stated that Russia remains a reliable supplier of energy resources to India and will ensure "uninterrupted fuel supplies" for the rapidly growing Indian economy.

He also thanked PM

Modi for the warm and cordial welcome extended to the visiting delegation, asserting that he has established a "close working and personal contact" with the Indian PM and together they "constantly monitor" the development of Russian-Indian cooperation in all its strategic

areas. "I am pleased to note that countries are consistently transitioning to national currencies in mutual settlements. Their share in commercial transactions now stands at 96 per cent. Sustainable channels for interbank credit and financial cooperation have been established. Russian economic operators are expanding the use of Indian rupees earned through export contracts.

"Large joint projects are financed in Russian rubles. Our energy partnership is developing successfully. Russia is a reliable supplier of energy resources and everything necessary for India's energy sector development.

We are ready to continue to ensure uninterrupted fuel supplies for the rapidly growing Indian economy," the Russian President mentioned after holding extensive talks with PM Modi at the Hyderabad House during the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit.

In their meeting, both leaders discussed all aspects of India-Russia relations which remain deep-rooted and multifaceted. They also reaffirmed mutual commitment to further strengthen the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia besides also discussing regional and global issues of mutual interest.

## Govt's multi-pronged strategy boosting consumption, growth: FM Sitharaman

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed Parliament on Monday that the government has undertaken a multi-pronged strategy to stimulate the growth of consumption in the economy through a combination of demand-supporting measures, income-enhancing supply-side strategies and structural reforms which, in turn, is driving GDP growth. In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, she said that policy measures such as the new income tax exemption for annual incomes up to Rs 12 lakh, recent

GST rate cuts, continued emphasis on ease of doing business, skilling, employment generation, and infrastructure development, along with expanded access to credit through schemes like MUDRA and PMSVANidhi, are expected to boost consumption in the economy.

The Finance Minister further stated that through various policy initiatives, the government has also emphasised on achieving a balanced growth in rural and urban consumption. Urban livelihood and skilling programmes alongside tax reliefs and digital payments expansion in urban centres are

boosting consumption in urban areas. Alongside, targeted flagship programmes such as PM-KISAN, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), agri-productivity missions and Self Help Group-based livelihood initiatives are ensuring broad-based income gains across rural areas. The strengthening of consumption demand will have a positive impact on overall economic activity by supporting household incomes, encouraging private investment and reinforcing economic growth, Sitharaman said.

## Mahindra reveals XUV 7XO name for its next SUV ahead of global premiere



**Mumbai/Ranchi:** Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., one of India's leading SUV manufacturers, has unveiled the name of its next premium SUV, the XUV 7XO. Building on the legacy of the highly successful XUV700, which has sold over 300,000 units in just four years, the new model promises to raise the bar in design, technology, comfort, and performance.

Engineered to inspire and excite, the XUV 7XO combines the proven strengths of the XUV700 with enhanced features to deliver a vehicle that is not just an evolution but a true standout in the segment. The model is positioned to reinforce Mahindra's leadership in the premium SUV market and set new benchmarks for SUVs in India.

The official name reveal was supported by a dedicated film, available on YouTube here. Mahindra is actively promoting the XUV 7XO across its social media channels, including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and the brand website, under hashtags #XUV7XO, #MahindraXUV7XO, #Trendsetter, and #TheNewBenchmark.

The XUV 7XO is scheduled for its world premiere on January 5, 2026, marking the start of a new chapter in Mahindra's premium SUV journey.

## Govt launches PUNARUTTHAN in Nagaland to revive waterbodies

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** The government launched the State Level Watershed Mahotsav 2025 and Mission Watershed PUNARUTTHAN at Naga Solidarity Park in Kohima, to revive traditional water bodies, restore degraded lands, and strengthen water harvesting systems, an official statement said on Monday. The mission aims to achieve these objectives, ensuring sustainable livelihoods through community participation and convergence with schemes such as MGNREGA, the statement from the Ministry of Rural



Development said. Launching the mission MoS for Rural and Communications, Dr. Pemmasani

Chandra Sekhar said "water security is national security", adding that the future belongs to those who preserve their natural founda-

tions. "Nagaland, with its rich ecological and cultural heritage, stands at the forefront of community-led watershed management. The restoration of springs, renovation of water harvesting structures, and rejuvenation of land resources here is not just an environmental effort -- it is a lifeline for future generations," the minister said.

Key achievements under PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) and watershed development in Nagaland include 14 watershed projects approved, Rs 140 crore sanctioned, of which Rs

80 crore has been released, 555 water harvesting structures renovated, over 6,500 farmers benefited, and 120 springs restored, the statement noted.

The program marks a major milestone in the government's commitment to transforming water-stressed regions into water-secure, climate-resilient landscapes, in line with the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has consistently placed the North Eastern States at the centre of India's development journey, the statement said.

## Shopsy's Festive Insights: Small Town India powers festive growth

**Bangalore, Dec 8:** Shopsy by Flipkart, one of India's fastest-growing hypervalued platforms recorded unprecedented success during this festive season, with orders and new customers surging from Tier 2, 3, and 4 cities across India. The platform saw high engagement from younger shoppers, robust category growth, and a sharp uptick in repeat buyers, reflecting evolving consumer trends and trust in hypervalued e-commerce. This festive season showcased strong contributions from emerging Bharat centres. Top Tier 3/4 hubs included Vellore, Medinipur, East Godavari, Chittoor, Bardhaman, Bhagalpur, Puri, Agartala, and Bankura. These markets not only drove volumes but also showcased increased demand for branded, quality-verified selections, especially during Diwali. Consumers aged 18-34 accounted for nearly 80% of total orders, with the 25-34 age group leading at 46%, followed by 18-24 at 34%, highlighting strong traction among digital-first, value-seeking shoppers. Brand trust was underscored during the festive period, as repeat customer contribution climbed from the usual 86% to a high of 90%.

## DSP Mutual Fund launches Nifty Midcap 150 Index Fund

**Mumbai, Dec 8:** DSP Mutual Fund today announced the launch of four new passive schemes - DSP Nifty Midcap 150 Index Fund, DSP Nifty Midcap 150 ETF, DSP Nifty Smallcap 250 Index Fund and DSP Nifty Smallcap 250 ETF. These offerings strengthen DSP's passive investing suite by providing rules-based, low-cost access to the mid- and small-cap segments, which together represent India's broadest and most dynamic corporate universe. The Nifty Midcap 150 Index comprises India's 101st to 250th largest companies from Nifty 500, while the Nifty Smallcap 250 Index covers companies ranked 251 to 500 from Nifty 500. Historical data demonstrates that both indices have delivered meaningfully higher long-term returns compared to the broader market. Over a 10-year period, the Nifty Midcap 150 TRI has generated average rolling returns of 16.2%, far above the 12.6% delivered by the Nifty 500 TRI, according to an analysis of index behaviour as of October 31, 2025. The small-cap index has also rewarded investors over longer horizons, with the Nifty Smallcap 250 TRI delivering 13.5% average 10-year rolling returns, compared to 12.6% for the Nifty 500 TRI. Both the indices can have higher draw-down compared to broader market indices; however as holding period is lengthened, both indices improve probability of non-negative returns. The two indices also offer exposure to sectors and industries where large-cap representation is limited. The Smallcap 250 has a pronounced presence in areas such as capital markets, industrial products, healthcare equipment, building materials, textiles and other niche segments. It also hosts several category leaders, underscoring the depth of emerging leadership beyond the top 250 companies. Meanwhile, the Midcap 150 provides more stable earnings profiles than the broad small-cap universe and contributes significant breadth during periods of broad-based market participation.

## Almost 14.6 lakh MSME accounts saved from slipping into NPA: Centre

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** At least 14.6 lakh Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) accounts, of which about 98.3 per cent of the accounts were in the Micro and Small Enterprises categories, were saved from slipping into non-performing asset (NPA) classification with the help of the emergency credit line guarantee scheme (ECLGS), the Parliament was informed on Monday.

A series of measures have been undertaken by the Union government to provide adequate financial support and technology and trade support to various MSMEs, including the leather and textile sector,



Minister of State for MSMEs, Shobha Karandlaje, told the Rajya Sabha in a writ-

ten reply to a question.

These include schemes such as the Prime Minister's employment generation programme for setting up new micro enterprises in the non-farm sector by providing margin money subsidy on the bank loan, and a special credit-linked capital subsidy scheme with a provision of 25 per cent subsidy to SC/ST MSEs on institutional finance for procurement of plant and machinery or equipment, she added. Credit guarantee scheme for collateral-free loans for micro and small enterprises with a guarantee coverage of up to Rs 10 crore, collateral-free loans up to Rs 20

lakh for informal micro enterprises, PM Vishwakarma Yojana, and Mudra Loan are the other among the schemes that have been introduced by the Union government, Karandlaje said. Additionally, the Centre has taken a number of steps to address the issues and challenges pertaining to the MSME sector in the country. Some of these steps are new revised criteria for defining MSMEs adopted in 2020, which have been further revised in April this year. Udyam Registration for MSMEs for ease of doing business, which is operational from July 2020, and the inclusion of retail and wholesale traders as MSMEs.

## India achieved 50 pc of electricity capacity from non-fossil fuels, boosted carbon sink: Govt

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** India has achieved 50 per cent of its electricity capacity from non-fossil fuels, as well as boosted its carbon sink, the government informed the Parliament on Monday.

In a written reply in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) Kirti Vardhan Singh stated the country's achievement in reducing carbon emissions.

"India has achieved its

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) goal of the share of non-fossil fuel-based power generation capacity of more than 50 per cent five years ahead of the deadline (2030)," Singh said.

"India has created an additional carbon sink of 2.29 billion tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent from forest and tree cover," he added.

Citing the Fourth Biennial Update Report (BUR-4) submitted to the United Nations Framework

on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2024, Singh noted that the net national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of India in 2020 were 2,437 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent -- 7.93 per cent lower than the emissions in the year 2019.

The decrease is mainly attributed to sectors of energy, where emissions decreased by 5.7 per cent, and Industrial Process and Product use, where emissions decreased by 9.5 per cent from 2019 to 2020.

## 4.76 crore smart meters installed to streamline power sector: Minister

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** As many 4.76 crore smart meters have been installed in the country for better monitoring of the power sector under various schemes, while under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), 20.33 crore smart meters have been sanctioned based on the proposal submitted by the states, Parliament was informed on Monday.

Minister of State for Power Yesso Naik said in a written reply to a ques-

tion in the Rajya Sabha that under RDSS, smart metering is being carried out through public private partnership (PPP) mode. The Advanced Metering Infrastructure Service Provider is responsible for supplying, maintaining and operating the metering infrastructure installation. Smart meters provide consumers with real-time data on their energy usage. Besides, the data generated from smart meters at the system level including Feeders and Distribution

Transformers and consumer level gives complete insights regarding energy accounting and is being used by the distribution utilities for conducting energy audits.

The shift to prepaid smart meters also allows for better budgeting for consumers and improved cash flow and billing efficiency for utilities. Monitoring at the substation and grid level involves automation and integration of IT systems to improve reliability and efficiency.

## IndiGo shares dip by over 6.5 per cent amid ongoing flight disruptions

**Mumbai (IANS)** Shares of InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of IndiGo Airlines, fell sharply in early trade on Monday, dropping 6.6 per cent to an intra-day low of Rs 5,015 on the BSE.

However, it recovered later as around 9:45 a.m., the shares were trading at Rs 5,159.50, down by Rs 211 or 3.93 per cent. The sell-off came after the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) extended the deadline for IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers to respond to a show-cause notice linked to the airline's recent operational disruptions.

The aviation regulator had issued a

show-cause notice to IndiGo's accountable manager on Sunday, just a day after sending a similar notice to CEO Pieter Elbers.

The DGCA said that the airline's massive wave of cancellations over the past week caused widespread inconvenience and distress to passengers across the country. According to the regulator, the disruptions were largely triggered by IndiGo's failure to plan properly for the rollout of the revised Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) rules.

These rules, which lay down the duty hours and mandatory rest periods for

flight crew, came into effect recently and have created significant operational challenges for the airline.

In its notice, the DGCA pointed out that IndiGo's "large-scale operation failures" suggest major lapses in planning, oversight, and resource management.

The accountable manager has been given 24 hours to explain why enforcement action should not be taken. If the airline fails to respond within the extended deadline, the DGCA has said it will proceed based on the information available. Even as the regulatory pressure increases, IndiGo said on Sunday that it

has restored 95 per cent of its network and plans to operate around 1,500 flights. The airline claimed that its operations are on track to stabilise by December 10, with improved on-time performance and fewer cancellations.

Delhi Airport on Monday issued a passenger advisory stating that IndiGo flights may continue to face delays. In a post on social media platform X, the airport said, "IndiGo flights may continue to experience delays. Passengers are advised to check the latest flight status with their airline before heading to the airport to avoid any inconvenience."

# Bankim 'Da' or Bankim 'Babu'? How PM Modi responded to Trinamool MP's objection

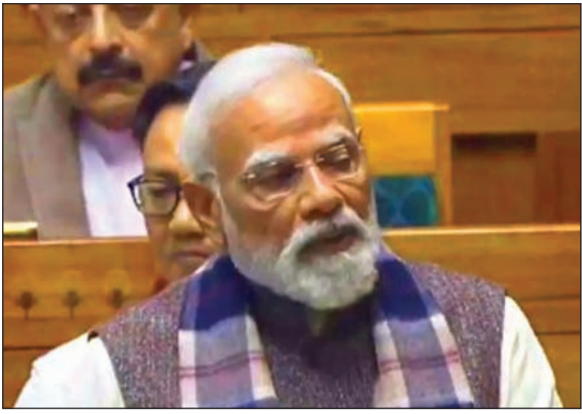
New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address in the Lok Sabha, opening a discussion on the 150th anniversary of the national song 'Vande Mataram', briefly detoured into a linguistic debate on Monday.

The exchange occurred after the Prime Minister referred to the song's composer and iconic Bengali writer Bankim Chandra Chatterjee as "Bankim Da".

Trinamool Congress MP Saugata Roy immediately objected, saying that "Da" -- a shortened form of Dada, commonly used by Bengalis to address peers or older brothers -- was too informal for a cultural figure of Bankim Chandra's stature.

"You are saying 'Bankim Da'? You should say 'Bankim Babu'," Roy said.

PM Modi promptly accepted the correction. "I will say Bankim Babu. Thank you, I respect your sentiments," he



replied, before adding playfully, "I can call you dada, right? Or do you have an objection to that too?"

The Prime Minister then proceeded with his remarks on 'Vande Mataram', emphasising its role during India's freedom struggle.

He described the song as more than just a call for political liberation -- a "sacred war cry to rid 'Bharat Mata' (motherland) of the remnants of colonial rule."

PM Modi noted that the British colonial administration had been so threatened by the song's

influence that they imposed legal restrictions on singing or printing it, enforcing harsh penalties to suppress its use.

He also launched a sharp attack on the Congress, alleging that the party once fractured the national song under pressure from the Muslim League and "kneled before them".

PM Modi said the British had long pursued a Divide-and-Rule policy, choosing Bengal as their first target.

"That was a time when Bengal's strength inspired the country. In 1905, when the British divided Bengal, 'Vande Mataram' stood like a rock. 'Street to street' was

## Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's family hails PM Modi's gesture to celebrate 150 years of Vande Mataram in Parliament

Kolkata, Dec 8 (IANS) The family of Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, the writer and composer of 'Vande Mataram', on Monday, hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's gesture to mark the 150 years of the country's National Song.

The song written by Chattopadhyay in November 1875, quickly became a rallying cry for freedom fighters in their struggle to liberate India from the British colonial rule.

Speaking to IANS, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's grandson, Sajal Chattopadhyay said the West Bengal government neglected the great writer who wrote 'Vande



Mataram'. "Whatever is happening right now is very shameful for the people of Bengal and Hindus. At the same time, I salute the Central government. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay was the country's first graduate, yet nothing honours his name except his property. I believe the nation desires a university named after him in every state, similar to Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. What PM Modi

said about him in Parliament is highly respectful," he added.

The reaction from the writer's family came after PM Modi initiating a debate on the 150-year-old song 'Vande Mataram' in the Parliament.

Speaking to IANS, Sajal Chattopadhyay demanded that Bankim Bhavans be set up across West Bengal just like Rabindra Bhavans.

"There are Rabindra Bhavans where cultural programmes are held. But there is no Bankim Bhavan to uphold his legacy. In Parliament, 'Jana Gana Mana' plays first vocally and then Vande Mataram at the end instrumentally. We want it to be played vocally too," he said.

the slogan for Bengal's unity, and that slogan continued to inspire," he

added. The ongoing parliamentary discussion

aims to highlight the historical importance and enduring legacy of 'Vande

## Congress appeasement damaged Vande Mataram, contributed to partition: Rajnath Singh

New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS) Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday addressed a special discussion in the Lok Sabha marking the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram, describing it as the immortal song of India and a mantra that inspired generations.



Speaking during the Parliament's Winter Session, Singh accused the Congress party of following a politics of appeasement that, he said, damaged the spirit of the song and contributed to the Partition of the country.

"Vande Mataram is complete in itself. But attempts were made to make it incomplete. Every time, however, it has remained the immortal song of our nation, and it will remain so," he declared. Singh emphasised that future generations must understand the mentality of those who undermined the song, calling it an injustice to India's cultural and national identity. He recalled that in 1906, India's first flag was designed with Vande Mataram inscribed at its centre, and in the same year, a newspaper titled Vande Mataram was launched in Bengal to raise public awareness.

Mataram in India's Independence movement. A total of 10 hours has

been allocated for the debate, which will also be held in the Rajya Sabha.

## IndiGo disruptions may cause revenue loss, penalties to company: Report



New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS) Widespread flight disruptions at IndiGo are credit negative, and refunds and compensation could cause it "significant financial damage", credit rating agency Moody's warned on Monday.

In a note, Moody's said that regulatory penalties from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) remain possible as the airline failed to plan for aviation rules communicated over a year earlier.

The crisis struck as the airlines entered their peak winter schedule, with "significant lapses in planning, oversight and resource management" as the Phase 2 of the Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) rules were introduced on November 1, 2025, after being communicated more than a year earlier, it noted.

The rules reclassified midnight-6 a.m. duties as night duty and cut permissible landings in 24 hours from six to two or three. The agency said that IndiGo's lean operating model lacked resilience to integrate the change, forcing a system wide schedule reset.

Over 1,600 flights were cancelled on December 5, and over 1,200 were grounded in November, with cancellations beginning on December 2. Moody's said IndiGo is yet to fully restore normal operations.

IndiGo said it was set to operate over 1,800 flights on Monday, up from 1,650 on Sunday, adding that more than 4,500 bags have been delivered to respective customers, and "we are on track to deliver the rest in the next 36 hours".

The airline said it expects a return to full schedules by mid-December, adding that it is working "round the clock" to normalise operations.

## India backs Afghanistan's territorial integrity, condemns killing of civilians in border clashes with Pakistan

New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS) Strongly backing the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan, India on Monday condemned the recent attacks on civilians during the ongoing clashes at the Pak-Afghan border.

When asked about the border clashes during a regular media briefing on Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal responded, "We have seen reports of border clashes in which several Afghan civilians

have been killed. We condemn such attacks on innocent Afghan people. India strongly supports the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan."

Over the weekend, the Pakistani and Afghan forces, while accusing each other of igniting violence, engaged in a heavy exchange of fire along the border amid mounting tensions.

The latest confrontation on December 5 came after renewed efforts by Saudi Arabia to broker a



ceasefire between Kabul and Islamabad, which reportedly failed to yield results.

On December 6, Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid took to his social

Afghan forces. "Unfortunately, this evening the Pakistani side once again launched attacks towards Afghanistan in the Spin Boldak district of Kandahar, prompting the Islamic Emirate forces to respond," Mujahid posted on X.

Local officials in Spin Boldak said that Afghanistan gave a forceful response to Pakistani forces after an overnight assault, Afghanistan-based Tolo News reported. The officials accused Pakistani

forces of targeting civilians, leading to five people being killed while five others being injured and causing significant financial damage to local residents.

Ali Mohammad Haqmal, head of information for Spin Boldak district, stated: "Pakistan targeted civilian infrastructure and the local population. In these attacks, five people were killed and five others injured. Pakistan initiated the aggression, prompting a response from Islamic Emirate forces."

## India welcomes steps taken by UK govt to sanction Khalistani terror entities

New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS) India on Monday welcomed the actions taken by the United Kingdom (UK) government against anti-India, Khalistani extremist elements, hoping that both countries will continue to work closely in further strengthening the counter-terrorism and security cooperation.

While addressing a regular media briefing on Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated that the steps taken by the UK government strengthen the global fight against terrorism and help to curb illicit financial flows and transnational crime networks.

When asked about UK government's action against Babbar Khalsa's Gurpreet Singh Rehal and Babbar Akali Lehar group, Jaiswal responded, "We welcome the steps that have been taken by the UK



government to sanction anti-India extremist entities, which strengthen the global fight against terrorism and extremism and help to curb illicit financial flows and transnational crime networks. Such individuals and entities pose a threat not just to India and the UK but to people across the world. We look forward to continuing to work very closely with the UK side in further strengthening our counter terrorism and security cooperation."

On December 4, the UK Treasury announced an asset freeze and Director disqualification against

Gurpreet Singh Rehal (Rehal) who is suspected of belonging to organisations involved in terrorism in India. It also announced an asset freeze against a group, Babbar Akali Lehar, for promoting and supporting the same terrorist group.

"HM Treasury assesses Rehal is involved in Babbar Khalsa and Babbar Akali Lehar's terrorist activities, including promoting and encouraging, carrying out recruitment activities for, providing financial services to as well as supporting and assisting those organisations, including through purchasing weapons and other military materiel. HM Treasury also assesses that Babbar Akali Lehar is associated with, and involved in, Babbar Khalsa's terrorist activities by promoting and encouraging and carrying out recruitment activities for the group and itself."

## SIR in Bengal: ECI appoints five more special roll observers to strengthen supervision in 2nd stage

Kolkata, Dec 8 (IANS) With just eight days left for the first stage of the three-stage Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in West Bengal to end with the publication of the draft voters' list on December 16, the Election Commission of India (ECI), on Monday appointed five additional special roll observers for the state.

With this fresh appointment, the total number of special roll observers appointed to review the ongoing revision exercise



stands at 17. All five new special roll observers are serving Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S.) officers.

These five newly-appointed special roll observers are Kumar Ravi Kant Singh, Neeraj Kumar Bansod, Krishna Kumar Nirala,

Aloke Tiwari, and Pankaj Yadav. Insiders in the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), West Bengal, in Kolkata, said that the new appointment is aimed at strengthening the supervision process in the second stage of the revision exercise, that will start after the publication of the draft voters' list.

The second stage of the SIR exercise will involve filing claims and objections, and the notice phase -- which is issuance,

hearing, verification, and decision on enumeration forms and disposal of claims and objections -- to be done concurrently by the Electoral Registration Officers (EROs)

After the second stage is over, the third and final stage, which is the publication of the final electoral roll, will be on February 14. Soon after the publication of the final electoral roll, the ECI is expected to announce the dates for the crucial Assembly elections in the state.

## SIR Phase 2: ECI nears completion as 99.95 pc enumeration forms distributed

New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS) The ECI has reported significant progress in Phase 2 of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, with most of the 12 states and Union Territories recording near-complete distribution and digitisation of elector-specific enumeration forms (EFs), official data showed on Monday. Across all 12 states and Union Territories, a total of 50.95 crore forms have been distributed, accounting for 99.95 per cent of electors. Digitisation of EFs stands at 50.33 crore forms, equivalent to 98.69 per cent, the Election Commission of India (ECI) said in its daily bulletin.

The enumeration phase, which began on November 4 and concludes on December 11, aims to update and verify the electoral roll across the country through Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) appointed by recognised political parties.

## Actress abduction case: Actor Dileep's acquittal triggers divergent reactions

Kochi, Dec 8 (IANS) Actor Dileep's acquittal in the 2017 high-profile actress assault case, in which the verdict was announced on Monday, has triggered sharp and emotionally charged reactions across Kerala's political and cultural landscape, even as the state government signalled its intent to challenge the verdict in a higher court. Earlier on Monday, the Ernakulam Principal Sessions Court acquitted Dileep and three others, holding that the prosecution had failed to establish the charge of criminal conspiracy beyond a reasonable doubt.

The first six accused were found



guilty in the case. All 10 accused were present in the court as directed during the pronouncement of the judgment.

Leading voices from the film fraternity and civil society expressed shock and disappointment at the

judgment. Actor Rima Kallingal said the survivor was in deep shock following what she described as a denial of justice, adding that she would continue to stand firmly with her. Writer-activist Bhagyalakshmi termed the verdict "pre-written", while feminist leader K. Ajitha remarked that she had not expected a different outcome, but noted that the period Dileep spent in jail itself was significant.

Actor Parvathy Thiruvothu, in a strongly worded Instagram post, asked: "What kind of justice is this?" She added that the verdict marked the beginning of the unravelling of a "carefully crafted and cruel script."

## Dreaded Maoist Ramdher Majji carrying Rs 1 crore bounty, 11 other ultras surrender in Chhattisgarh

Raipur/Khairagarh, Dec 8 (IANS) In a major breakthrough for security forces, 12 Naxalites, including the dreaded CCM Ramdher Majji, surrendered before police authorities in Chhattisgarh's Khairagarh Chhuikhadan Gandai district. The surrender took place at Bakarkatta police station, marking a significant setback for the Maoist movement in the MMC (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh) zone. Ramdher Majji, who carried a reward of Rs one crore on his head, was considered one of the most formidable challenges for police forces across Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Chhattisgarh.

Majji, a CC (Central Committee) member active in the MMC zone, arrived with his divisional committee members and laid down arms, including an AK-47 rifle. Alongside him, ACM Ramsingh Dada and ACM Suresh Pottam also surrendered, handing over their weapons.

The police confirmed the recovery of a cache of arms, including AK-47s, INSAS rifles, SLRs, .303 rifles, and 0.30 carbines. Among those who surrendered were six women cadres, highlighting the deep involvement of women in the Maoist ranks. The list includes Lakshmi, Sheela, Yogita, Kavita, and Sagar, along with DVCM (divisional committee member) Lalita and DVCM Janaki. Other prominent names include DVCM Chandu Usendi and DVCM Prem.

# China, Russia, India emerging economies - important members of Global South: Beijing

Beijing, Dec 8 (IANS) Terming China, Russia and India as "emerging economies" and "important members of the Global South", a spokesperson of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Monday said that good ties among these three nations will not only serve their own interests but also contribute to regional and global peace, security, stability and prosperity.



and promoting the stable development of bilateral ties. When asked about China's view regarding

Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to New Delhi last week and his comments on India-China ties, Guo Jiakun said, "China,

Russia, and India are all emerging economies and important members of the Global South. Maintaining good relations among the three countries not only serves their own interests but also contributes to regional and global peace, security, stability, and prosperity. China is willing to continue to work with Russia and India to promote the development of bilateral relations."

"Regarding China-India relations, China is willing to work with India to view and handle China-India relations from a strategic and long-term perspective, promote the sustained, healthy and stable development of bilateral relations, better benefit the two countries and their people, and make due contributions to maintaining peace and prosperity in Asia and the

world," he added. Russian President Putin was on a two-day State visit to India from December 4-5. The visit, spread over two packed days in the national capital, featured summit-level talks, ceremonial engagements and a series of bilateral discussions covering defence, economic cooperation, energy ties and regional security. During the visit, President Putin held formal talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with both leaders reviewing the state of the India-Russia partnership as it completes 25 years since being designated a Strategic Partnership. The discussions were followed by the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit, during which the two sides released a Joint Statement outlining priorities for the coming years.

# Trump flags antitrust risks in Netflix-Warner mega-merger

Washington, Dec 8 (IANS) US President Donald Trump raised the possibility of antitrust hurdles for Netflix's proposed acquisition of Warner Bros., warning that the streaming giant's already dominant scale "could be a problem."



The comments have sharpened global industry attention on a deal with significant implications for India's fast-expanding digital entertainment market, where both companies have invested heavily. Speaking to reporters as he walked the red carpet at the Kennedy Centre Honours, Trump said of Netflix: "They have a very big market share. When they have Warner Bros., that share goes up a lot. So, I don't know. That's going to be for some economists to tell and also - and I'll be involved in that decision too. But they have a very big market share."

When pressed again by reporters about the merger, the president repeated the caution. "That's for some economists to say... It is a big market share. It could be a problem," he told reporters positioned along the entry corridor. Netflix on Friday secured a deal to buy the Warner Bros. Discovery studio and HBO/HBO Max streaming franchise, pre-availing over rival bids from Paramount Skydance and Comcast.

The Washington Post and Wall Street Journal reports indicate the agreement is valued between \$72 billion and \$83 billion,

making it one of the largest media acquisitions in decades. The transaction would place the Warner Bros. film and television library, HBO's premium content, and associated digital assets under a single global streaming umbrella.

Trump confirmed Sunday that Netflix CEO Ted Sarandos met him in the Oval Office last week. While praising him personally - "I think he's fantastic. I think, in the history of Hollywood, there's almost nothing like what he's done" - the president again returned to competitive concerns: "But it is a big market share, there's no question about that. It could be a problem."

# NDA names India key partner in US nuclear, Indo-Pacific plans

Washington, Dec 8 (IANS) The latest US defence authorisation bill assigns India a key role in Washington's Indo-Pacific and nuclear strategies, directing sustained consultations on India's nuclear liability rules and placing New Delhi among a select group of partners shaping a new defence industrial architecture in the Indo-Pacific region to meet the China challenge.

Congressional leaders on Sunday released the compromise version of the fiscal 2026 National Defence Authorisation Act (NDA), a sweeping policy measure that among other things embeds India across multiple strands of US strategic planning—from civil nuclear cooperation to defence co-production and regional maritime security. The bill, which has passed every year for six decades, is expected to move through the House later this week.

A major India-specific section of the NDA mandates the United States to "establish and maintain... a joint consultative mechanism with the Government of the Republic of India"

under the US-India Strategic Security Dialogue, convening regularly "to assess the implementation" of the 2008 civil nuclear cooperation agreement. The mechanism is also tasked "to discuss opportunities for the Republic of India to align domestic nuclear liability rules with international norms" and "to develop a strategy" for bilateral and multilateral diplomatic engagements on these issues. The bill requires the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress for five years detailing the outcomes of this joint assessment—an unusually sustained oversight requirement that signals renewed political attention in Washington to the long-stalled civil nuclear track with India.

India also features prominently in the NDA's International Nuclear Energy Act of 2025, which classifies New Delhi as an "ally or partner nation" alongside OECD members for the purposes of global civil nuclear cooperation. In addition, the legislation directs the administration to establish a 10-year strategy

to expand US nuclear exports and explicitly analyse competition with "the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China up and down the supply chain."

At the heart of the Indo-Pacific provisions, India is placed among a small circle of priority partners—alongside Australia, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines and New Zealand—in a new Partnership for Indo-Pacific Industrial Resilience. The initiative is intended "to strengthen cooperation among the defence industrial bases" of participating countries and to expand joint capability development, supply-chain security and defence innovation.

Under the program's authorities, the Secretary of Defence may enter into agreements, establish working groups, provide technical assistance, and engage industry and academia to advance co-development and co-production goals. Annual reporting requirements run through 2031, underscoring the long-term weight Washington assigns to this industrial network.

# International Gita Mahotsav in Canada brings Bhagavad Gita to life through musical dance ballet

Ottawa, Dec 8 (IANS) Celebrating International Gita Mahotsav in Canada, the Indian High Commission in Ottawa organised "Uttar ~ Answer", a thematic musical dance ballet based on the Bhagavad Gita.



Gita into expressive movement, rhythm, and emotion," Indian High Commission in Ottawa posted on X.

Addressing the gathering, the Indian High Commissioner to Canada Dinesh K. Patnaik emphasised that the teachings of the

Bhagavad Gita are not merely spiritual wisdom, but a living cultural heritage of India—one that continues to inspire harmony, responsibility, and resilience in modern life.

Indian missions worldwide have been celebrating the International Gita Mahotsav 2025, highlighting the timeless spiritual and philosophical teachings of the Bhagavad Gita.

The Gita Mahotsav is celebrated to promote the Bhagavad Gita's teachings of duty, righteousness, and knowledge on the Ekadashi (11th lunar day) of the Shukla Paksha (bright fortnight) in the month of Margashirsha (Indian Calendar) when Lord Krishna delivered the eternal sermons of Gita to Arjun on the battlefield of Kurukshetra.

# Top US official begins India visit, set to hold foreign office consultations with FS Misri

Washington, Dec 8 (IANS) US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Allison Hooker has arrived in India for an official visit, during which she is scheduled to meet senior Indian officials to discuss regional security, economic cooperation, and shared priorities in the Indo-Pacific, including through the Foreign Office Consultations with Foreign Secretary (FS) Vikram Misri.

The US Embassy in India noted that Hooker's visit to India will help advance US President Donald Trump's priorities for a strong US-India partnership and a free and open Indo-Pacific.

"The US Mission is pleased to welcome US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Allison Hooker to India!

As we continue to press forward in the US-India relationship on a number of issues critical to our economic and national security, the Under Secretary's visit will help advance US President priorities for a strong US-India partnership and a free and open Indo-Pacific," the US Embassy in India posted on X.

Apart from New Delhi, Hooker will also travel to Bengaluru, where she will visit the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and meet leaders from India's dynamic space, energy, and technology sectors to promote innovation in US-India research partnerships and to explore opportunities for expanded cooperation, according to the statement released by the US Embassy and Consulates in India.

# Japan rejects China's claim about interference by JSDF fighter jets



Taiwan faces an attack. Takaichi remarked in November that Tokyo could get involved if Taiwan faces an attack from China, which considers the self-ruled island part of its territory.

Saturday, Japan-based Kyodo News reported. Kihara termed the communication between Chinese and Japanese authorities "extremely important" despite China's retaliatory measures over Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's earlier remarks on how Japan could react if

Minoru Kihara said the radar locks were "dangerous acts beyond what was necessary for the safe flight of aircraft" and that Japan will take all possible air and maritime surveillance measures while closely monitoring the Chinese military's activities.

**कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा।**

पत्रांक:-.....चाईबासा/दिनांक:-...../...../2025

**CORRIGENDUM**

ई० निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना-WRD/MID/CHAIBASA/F2-09/2025-26DMFT(2<sup>nd</sup> Call) जिसका PR-No- 366224 West Singhbhum(25-26)#D है। जिसका शुभ संख्या-02 का TENDER ID-2025 WRD 107277 1 के Tender Creation में त्रुटि होने के कारण रद्द करते हुए पुनः Same Reference स रिटेंडर किया जाता है।

विवरण	पूर्व की तिथि	संशोधित तिथि
वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	03.12.2025 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न।	08.12.2025 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न।
निविदा में माग लेने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	09.12.2025 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे तक।	13.12.2025 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक
निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	10.12.2025 को 04:00 बजे अपराह्न।	15.12.2025 को 10:30 बजे पूर्वाह्न।

ह०/— कार्यपालक अभियन्ता लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा।

PR 368028 (West Singhbhum) 25-26 (D)

**कार्यालय, असेनिक शल्य चिकित्सक**  
—सह-मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी—  
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा  
फोन न०-06582-259859  
ईमेल-cswestsinghbhum@gmail.com

**ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

Particulars	Date & Time
Time of Completion	Within 180 days after issue of work order
Date of Publication of Bid	02/12/2025
Pre-Bid Meeting	05/12/2025, 04:00 PM at CS Office West Singhbhum
Bid Submission Start Date	05/12/2025
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time	15/12/2025 05:00 PM
Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposal	16/12/2025 04:00 PM
Date of Opening of Financial Proposal	To be notified later
Contact/ Helpline No./email, of E-Procurement Cell	cs.westsinghbhum@gmail.com

**Tender No. /2025-26(IEC)**

जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम के अंतर्गत स्वास्थ्य विभाग के विभिन्न संस्थानों एवं जनमानस तक प्रदत्त स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं के प्रसार प्रसार के लिए फ्लेक्स, बैनर, विभिन्न पोस्टर, नुकड़ नाटक (IEC) इत्यादि की मुद्रण एवं आपूर्ति के लिए दर निर्धारण हेतु निविदा निर्माणकर्ता/प्रतिष्ठानों/प्राधिकृत एजेंसियों (जिनका भारत सरकार अन्तर्गत/झारखण्ड राज्य में जोएएसटीडी निर्गत हो) से दिनांक 15/12/2025 अपराह्न 05:00 PM बजे तक निविदा आमंत्रित किया जाता है। इच्छुक फर्म/संस्था/पार्टनरशिप/कंपनी से निविदा/प्रस्ताव आमंत्रित की जाती है। इच्छुक फर्म/संस्था/पार्टनरशिप/कंपनी निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत विवरणी वेबसाइट <https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in/> पर देखा जा सकता है।

**असेनिक शल्य चिकित्सक-सह-मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम**

PR 368037 (West Singhbhum)25-26'D

**कार्यालय, नगर पंचायत, सरायकेला**  
Email-ID-npsaraikeela1@gmail.com

**आम सूचना**

नगर पंचायत, सरायकेला द्वारा कौशल विकास केंद्र, पाण्डुरा रोड़ के दुकान का आवंटन किया जा रहा है। सभी 03 दुकान का आवंटन लॉटरी के माध्यम से किया जायेगा।

दुकान का आवंटन हेतु आवेदक को आवेदन पत्र के साथ ₹ 5000/- (पाँच हजार रुपये) बैंक ड्राफ्ट के माध्यम से जो कि कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी, नगर पंचायत, सरायकेला के नाम पर देय होगा, जमा करना होगा।

दिनांक :- 08.12.2025 से दिनांक :- 16.12.2025 तक आवेदक के द्वारा नगर पंचायत, सरायकेला के कार्यालय में आवेदन किया जा सकता है। दिनांक :- 17.12.2025 को दुकान का आवंटन हेतु लॉटरी किया जायेगा। अधिक जानकारी के लिए नगर पंचायत, सरायकेला कार्यालय में संपर्क करें।

प्रशासक, नगर पंचायत, सरायकेला।

PR 367994 (Urban Development) 25-26 (D)

**कार्यालय, आदित्यपुर नगर निगम (प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना शाखा)**  
कल्पनापुरी, आदित्यपुर इंडस्ट्रियल एरिया, आदित्यपुर  
e-mail : mcadityapur2@gmail.com

**आम सूचना**

निदेशक, नगरीय प्रशासन निदेशालय, नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची के पत्रांक 1509 दिनांक 11.11.2025 के माध्यम से प्राप्त आदेश के आलोक में PMAY(U) के चतुर्थ घटक अन्तर्गत स्वीकृती उपरान्त लंबित पड़े आवास को दिनांक 31.12.2025 के भीतर पूर्ण किया जाना है।

अतएव किरात प्राप्त कर आवास निर्माण कार्य नहीं करने वाले लाभुकों को सूचित किया जाता है कि विभाग द्वारा निर्धारित समय सीमा 31 दिसम्बर 2025 के अन्दर अपने आवास का निर्माण कार्य अवश्य पूर्ण कर कार्यालय को सूचित करें।

01 जनवरी 2026 के बाद आवास पूर्ण करने की पूरी जिम्मेदारी लाभुक की होगी। उसे स्वयं के संसाधन से आवास निर्माण कार्य पूर्ण करना होगा। निगम के द्वारा कोई सरकारी अनुदान नहीं दिया जाएगा।

प्रशासक, नगर निगम, आदित्यपुर

PR 367969 Urban Development(25-26)#D

**जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति का कार्यालय, जमशेदपुर-831001**

**अति अल्पकालीन ई०-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
(Through e-Procurement mode only [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in))  
NIT No-JNAC/epro- 21/2025-26

क्र.सं	कार्य की विवरणी	प्राकालित राशि (₹0 में)	अग्रघन की राशि (₹0 में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (₹0 में)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	जमशेदपुर अखंडसरो क्षेत्रांतर्गत प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना के कॉलोनी रोड, हुरुगुंज में 36 अर्द्ध 90/100W स्टीट लाईटों का अधिष्ठापन।	4,36,550.00	8,731.00	1,000.00	3 माह

1.ई० निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम : उप नगर आयुक्त, जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर।

2.वेबसाइट पर ई० निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक-08.12.2025 को 5.00 बजे अपराह्न।

3.ई० निविदा प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक-15.12.2025 को 5.00 अपराह्न तक।

4.ई०-निविदा खोलने की तिथि : दिनांक-16.12.2025 को 5.00 अपराह्न।

5.ई-मेल पता : jnacjsr@gmail.com

6.निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in) के वेबसाइट पर ऑनलाइन के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार की जाएगी।

7.निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि का ई-मुगतान सम्वेदक द्वारा जिस बैंक खाता से किया जाएगा। उसी खाते में असफल निविदादाता की अग्रघन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर बैंक खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही सम्वेदक की होगी।

8.नियम एवं शर्तें तथा विवरणी अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में किसी भी कार्य दिवस पर कार्यालय आवधि में या वेबसाइट [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in) पर देखा जा सकता है।

उप नगर आयुक्त, जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र समिति, जमशेदपुर

PR 368048 Urban Development(25-26).D

**झारखण्ड सरकार**  
**अम, नियोजन, प्रशिक्षण एवं कौशल विकास विभाग**  
अवत प्रादेशिक नियोजन, जमशेदपुर

**भर्ती कैम्प सूचना**

इस कार्यालय के तत्वावधान में M/s. Elite Foods Private Limited, Thrissur के द्वारा अलग-अलग पदों एवं M/s.Fino Payments Bank, Mumbai के द्वारा Customer Relationship Officer & Territory Sales Manager पदों के विरुद्ध दिनांक 10 दिसम्बर 2025 को पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से 2.30 बजे तक अवत प्रादेशिक नियोजन, जमशेदपुर परिसर में एक दिवसीय भर्ती कैम्प का आयोजन किया गया है।

**Elite Foods Private Limited, Thrissur** से प्राप्त रिक्रूटमेंट की अर्हताएँ एवं विवरण :-

S.N	Criteria	Description
1.	Name of the Company	Elite Foods Private Limited, Sidco Industrial Estate, P.O- Perigandoor, Thrissur-680581
2.	Name of the post	Production Helper, Packing Helper, Housekeeping Helpers, Material Handling Helpers
3.	No of Vacancy	100 (One Hundred) Only
4.	Essential Qualification	10 <sup>th</sup> /ITI
5.	Educational Qua.	-
6.	Age	18-40
7.	Gender	Male & Female Both
8.	Pay & Allowances	CTC Rs. 18000/-
9.	Other Benefits	Overtime Allowance, Food and Accommodation Free, Bonus, PF, ESIC Facility (Company Payroll Job)
10.	Job Location	Thrissur and Kochi Plant in Kerala/Hosur in Tamilnadu Near Bangalore Border (Company Payroll Job)

**Fino Payments Bank, Navi Mumbai - 400706** से प्राप्त रिक्रूटमेंट की अर्हताएँ एवं विवरण :-

S.N	Criteria	Description
1.	Name of the company	Fino Payments Bank, Mindspace Juinagar, Plot No Gen 2/1/F, Tower, TTC Industrial Area, MIDC Shirwar, Juginagar, Navi Mumbai -400706
2.	Name of the post	Customer Relationship Officer & Territory Sales Manager
3.	No of Vacancy	20 (Twenty) Only
4.	Essential Qualification	Graduation with Min 2 Years Experience in Sales Job
5.	Desirable Qualification	Bike
6.	Experience	Yes
7.	Age	For CRO 18 to 30 Yrs & for TSM 18 to 35 Yrs
8.	Gender	Male
9.	Pay & Allowances	CTC Rs. 2.37 LPA to 3 LPA
10.	Other Benefits	TA, PF, ESIC Facility (Company Payroll)
11.	Job Location	Bihar & Jharkhand

अतः योग्य एवं इच्छुक उम्मीदवार जो पूर्व से निविदा नहीं है वे झारखण्ड के किसी भी नियोजनलय में अपना निबंधन कराते हुए उपर्युक्त भर्ती कैम्प में नियोजक/नियोजकों के प्रतिनिधि के समक्ष अपने सभी मूल प्रमाण पत्रों एवं उसकी एक छाया प्रति, पासपोर्ट साईज फोटोग्राफ, नियोजनलय का मूल वेद निबंधन कार्ड, तथा अपना बायोमेट्रिक के साथ निश्चित तिथि (10 दिसम्बर 2025) को पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से 02:30 अपराह्न तक भर्ती कैम्प आयोजन स्थल पर उपस्थित होना सुनिश्चित करें।

साथ ही सूचित करना है कि पूर्व से नियोजनलय में निविदा उम्मीदवारों को पुनः निबंधन कराने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। नियोजक निजी क्षेत्र के हैं अतः साक्षात्कार, रिक्रूटमेंट एवं सेवा शर्तों के लिए वे सीधे उत्तरदायी हैं। नियोजनलय एवं विभाग, मात्र सुविधा प्रदाता के रूप में कार्य कर रहे हैं। बचन की प्रक्रिया में नियोजनलय की कोई भूमिका नहीं है। आवेदक नियोजक से साक्षात्कार के समय वार्ता कर सभी शर्तें सुनिश्चित कर लें।

नियोजन पदाधिकारी  
PR 368040 Labour Employment and Traning(25-26)#D अवत प्रादेशिक नियोजनलय, जमशेदपुर

**Health**

**Why is antimicrobial resistance not just future threat, but a present reality**

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is not just a threat for the future, but a present reality affecting millions of people across the globe, particularly India, said Florian von Groote, Head of Clinical Research, at Wellcome Trust Infectious Disease Clinical Research Team, UK, on Monday. Speaking to IANS, von Groote, an infectious disease expert, shared that AMR is one of the top global health issues causing millions of infections and deaths each year. India, with its large population, high infectious disease burden, and widespread antibiotic use, remains disproportionately affected.



"AMR is no longer a hospital-only issue but rather affects every day healthcare in India. These trends reflect widespread antibiotic misuse, gaps in infection control, and poor surveillance in many parts of the country. AMR is not a future threat but rather a present reality in India," he said. India continues to face some of the world's highest burdens of bacterial infections.

According to a recent World Health Organization (WHO) report, about one in three bacterial infections in India were resistant to commonly used antibiotics in 2023. Globally, it was one in six confirmed infections.

National AMR surveillance data also show troubling resistance patterns in pathogens such as E. coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Staphylococcus aureus, and Acinetobacter baumannii.

A recent study, published in the Lancet eClinical Medicine journal, warned that India is at the epicentre of a superbug explosion as several patients in the country were found to carry multiple highly resistant organisms simultaneously.

**Sunny Deol says 'Papa is always with me' as he remembers Dharmendra on his birthday**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Sunny Deol expressed his love for his recently deceased father, Dharmendra, who would have turned 90 on December 8.

Saying that his dad will continue to be with him, Sunny wrote on social media, "Today is my father's birthday. Papa is always with me, inside me love you papa. Miss you. (sic)."

Sunny uploaded a throwback video of Dharmendra enjoying the serene beauty of the mesmerizing mountains, and telling him, "I am really enjoying my son, it's lovely."

Dharmendra was admitted to the Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai after reportedly complaining of breathlessness. However, after receiving the necessary treatment, he was discharged from the hospital on November 12 and was continuing his recovery at home.

After he passed away, Dharmendra's last rites took place at Pawan Hans crematorium in Mumbai, attended by several



Bollywood stars and family members. Dharmendra's demise left a wave of shock in Bollywood. During the grand finale of the reality show "Big

Boss 19" on Sunday, host Salman Khan, who was also believed to be extremely close to Dharmendra, got emotional as he remembered the 'He-Man' of Bollywood.

**Esha Deol promises to continue father Dharmendra's legacy with 'pride & respect' in a heartfelt post**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Legendary actor Dharmendra would have turned 90 years old on Monday. Remembering him on his special day, his daughter, actress Esha Deol, penned a heartfelt note, reflecting on their strong bond.

Uploading a few photos posing with the 'He-Man' of Bollywood, Esha penned, "To my darling Papa...Our pact, the strongest bond... us through all our lifetimes, all the realms and beyond... We are always together papa. Be it heaven or earth. We are one."

Esha cherishes the beautiful memories, the crucial life lessons, the unconditional love and strength given by Dharmendra, saying that no one would ever be able to take these things away from her.

"For now I have very tenderly, carefully & precious tucked you in my heart... deep deep inside to carry on with me for the rest of this lifetime."

The magical precious memories... life lessons, the teachings, the guidance, the warmth, the unconditional love, the



dignity and the strength you have given me as your daughter cannot be replaced or matched by any other," she added. Expressing her deep longing for her late 'papa', she went on to share what all she misses about him. "I so painfully miss you papa... your warm protective hugs that felt like the cosiest blanket, holding your soft yet strong hands

which had unspoken messages & your voice calling out my name that followed with endless conversations, laughter & shayaris. Your motto "always be humble, be happy, healthy & strong," she added. Towards the end of the post, Esha promised to take Dharmendra's legacy with pride and respect.

**Janhvi Kapoor on Rashmika Mandanna's 'The Girlfriend': Mandatory watch**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor has heaped praise on actress Rashmika Mandanna's latest release "The Girlfriend" calling it a "mandatory watch".



Janhvi took to Instagram, where she shared a story featuring a pivotal scene from the film featuring Rashmika. She captioned it with "#TheGirlfriend. Mandatory Watch."

The Girlfriend is a 2025 Indian Telugu-language romantic drama directed by Rahul Ravindran. The film stars Rashmika Mandanna, Dheekshith Shetty, and Anu Emmanuel.

It tells the story of a young woman named Bhooma, who explores love, compatibility and self-discovery during college, experiencing relationship complexities and personal growth.

Talking about Janhvi, she was last seen in Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari, a romantic comedy film written and directed by Shashank Khaitan. It also stars Varun Dhawan, Janhvi Kapoor, Sanya Malhotra, Rohit Saraf, Maniesh Paul and Akshay Oberoi.

The story follows Ananya and Vikram, heartbroken after their partners abandon them to marry each other, Sunny and Tulsi team up to crash the wedding of their former lovers.

She will next be seen in playing Achiyamma in Ram Charan's 'Peddi'

**SHORTS - 2025: Celluloid master craftsmanship extended**

By Goutam Shankar Das

SHORTS - 2025 was the 18th venture of an adrenalin enhancing annual event that warned minds, hearts and expectations at the packed and beyond Centre for Excellence (CFE) auditorium on the comfortably chilly evenings of November 29 and 30. A bouquet of 22 exhilarating celluloid presentations ranging between 3 and 29 minutes spread across the two days, carried forward the promise of quality enhancement with every venture. The perennially expanding family of movie buffs of this genre naturally owes its acknowledgement to the determination of Tata Steel, Society for Promotion of Professional Excellence (SPPE), Jamshedpur and Take5 Communications, Kolkata, for pursuing with grit and determination the desire to unearth, polish and design dreams to add to the tinsel yearnings of a creative filmdom.

It would indeed be a difficult task to sort out the better from the best of the 22 presentations in SHORTS - 2025. Each film had the imprint of quality enhancement with give or take a measure or two. The style and narrative of each production spoke of a pleasantly different technical treatment leaving no space for even a semblance of



ennui to creep in.

The screening of two special documentary films added to the bag of rewarding experiences. Director Tathagata Bhattacharjee's 20 minute 'MTMH 50' delved into the horizons of hope for cancer patients and their relatives. It was an apt tribute to Meherbai Tata Memorial Hospital on its golden jubilee year of confidence-arousing presence.

Another special screening was astute and assured young director Vivek Upadhyay's documentary on Jharkhand elections, 'The Inside Story', that summed up the emerging socio-economic pattern built on the centuries-old traditional firmament as it covered the 25-year trek through an independent statehood.

Mind reading is not necessarily a mind-blowing experience; especially that of a child. The physical and entailing mental

turmoil leaves a child in no man's land in spite of a caring guardian's best efforts to add colour to tinge-less living. Director Abhishek Ganguli (Kolkata) has emphatically projected in his crisp, 19-minute English essay, 'Monster,' the delicate handling of a disturbed child to gradually guide him back to a world of growing up normally.

Partha Bhattacharjee's three-minute 'Feel' pierces the audience mentally through a blind man's alley while Rajat Ghosh raises the music of natural romance through his very well 'silently narrated' venture, 'Call of the Mountains.'

With every venture of his, writer-director-actor Vivek Upadhyay seems to come of age. In fact, he grows ceaselessly. His new venture, 'E CODE' is a sci-fi tearaway that takes the audience through a jolting trip to a

crippling juncture that is the result of thoughtlessly marauding across the limits of nature's bounties.

Young veteran Sourabh Suman Jha presented a documentary celluloid canvas, on the traditionally rich paintings of the land, PAITKAR. A taut script, sensitive camera work, compact editing and matter-of-fact narration made for six minutes of a visually rich and informative experience.

The Vikash-Prakash 17-minute Hindi movie, 'Silk Coffin,' had all the elements of a leisurely paced whodunit. The performances by the two lead actors were the souls of this polished storyline. The technical aspects were equally well handled making for an engrossing entertainer.

D Tarkeshwar Rao's 'Press Photographer' was a plain and easy narrative depicting the times and pangs of an out-of-work photojournalist. The entire 17-minute Hindi offering was technically sound and simply stated.

The French representation in this edition of SHORTS was Dona Roy's Bengali creation, 'SARVABHUTESHU,' the 11-minute highlighter of a woman's pains, pangs and tribulations. Dona's assured handling of an intricate foray to bring out the

mental texture of a troubled and confounded mind punctuated with passing streaks of determination, calls for kudos.

The irrepressible Mini Pandey came up with 'Run Turtle Run.' The title takes one back to the age-old childhood day story of the race between the turtle and the hare. But with Mini at the helm, there has got to be an underlayer. Each frame is well designed and our mute friends are masterly handled. The camera work has been very sensitive. It must be said of Mini that she is a stern taskmaster when it comes to the technical aspects. She has also proved her mettle in extracting the best out of her actors by way of natural emoting. Mini Pandey is a promise that commands more exposure.

The mention of a few films does not mean that the rest were not the picks of the wonderful basket that SHORTS - 25 offered. They proved that apart from acting, the technical aspects had been well tended and touched new benchmarks in production standards. The immediate horizon looks bright. The 19th foray of SHORTS holds great expectations. With fingers crossed, the hunger pangs for good and better cinema will continue to be fanned by these 'shorter' promises.

**Kapil Sharma shares how Hira Warina supported him while filming a romantic track in 'Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon 2'**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Actor-comedian Kapil Sharma has opened up about his experience shooting a romantic song with co-star Hira Warina in "Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon 2." He revealed how she played a key role in making him feel completely at ease on set while shooting for the romantic track 'Ranjhe Nu Heer.' Kapil shared, "It was a romantic song for Warina and me, and the very first day of the shoot in Bhopal was extremely hot. In the song, it may look like I'm lost in her eyes, but the moment the director called 'cut,' I'd take off my kurta and sit in my undershirt just to cool down."



"I'd really like to thank Warina for making me feel so comfortable on set. Your performance truly depends on your co-star, and when you get a good response from the person opposite you, it naturally lifts your own performance too," he added.

"Ranjhe Nu Heer" is a soulful

romantic track rendered by Jubin Nautiyal. The melody, composed by DigV, carries a gentle, soothing charm, while Lavraj's lyrics bring in the feel of classic, old-school romance. The song beautifully captures the emotion of a lover pouring

his heart out — a Ranjha speaking to his Heer. Notably, for the first time, Kapil Sharma takes on a full-fledged romantic avatar, sporting a turbaned look as he romances Warina on screen. On a related note, the upcoming film directed by Anukul Goswami, is produced by Ratan Jain, Ganesh Jain and Abbas Mustan under the banner of Venus Worldwide Entertainment in association with Abbas Mustan Film Production. The comedy drama also stars Manjot Singh, Tridha Choudhury, Parul Gulati, and Ayesha Khan in lead roles. Gashmeer Mahajani, Saurabh Goyal, Pallavi Ajay, Kuldeep Sareen, and Hardika Sharma will be seen in supporting roles.

**Gaurav Khanna's team celebrates 'Big Boss 19' victory: The trophy is home**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** After a grueling three-month-long journey on "Big Boss 19", popular television actor Gaurav Khanna lifted the winner's trophy, a moment his team described as an emotional culmination of "every high, every setback, every moment of strength and dignity". Sharing a heartfelt note, Team Gaurav Khanna said on Instagram that the journey had been "overwhelming in the most beautiful way", adding that supporters had often wondered, "What will GK do?" The post read: "The three-month journey has finally come to an end... and what an end it has been. The trophy is home. They kept asking, 'What will GK do?' And like we always said GK will bring the trophy home for all of us. He did. This journey has been overwhelming in the most beautiful way." It further read: "We have lived every single day with Gaurav every high, every setback, every moment of strength and dignity. And



today, this win feels personal. This is a win for every person who believed, who voted, who stood by him, who made his dream theirs.

Calling it a celebration of "faith, love and togetherness", the note concluded with: "Today, we are not just celebrating a trophy. We are celebrating faith, love, and togetherness."

**Kritika Kamra: Women on screen are often boxed into stereotypes**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Actress Kritika Kamra, who will be seen in Anusha Rizvi's "The Great Shamshuddin Family", says being at the centre of a story written by a woman, is a privilege she deeply values.



Kritika shared her excitement about the film and the journey of portraying a character crafted by a female filmmaker with a distinct voice.

Kritika told IANS: "Being at the centre of a story written by a woman, especially someone as sharp, thoughtful and fearless as Anusha is a privilege I deeply value." "When I read the script of The Great Shamshuddin Family, I was instantly drawn to how authentic, layered and unapologetic her characters are. Women on screen are often boxed into stereotypes.

**'Nervous flyer' Neil Nitin Mukesh bumps into friend Shilpa Shetty on flight**

**Mumbai, Dec 8 (IANS)** Actor Neil Nitin Mukesh had a pleasant surprise mid-air when he bumped into his longtime friend, actress Shilpa Shetty, while travelling.

Neil, who often describes himself as a "nervous flyer", took to Instagram, where he shared a picture with Shilpa on the same flight and said that seeing her instantly lifted his mood.

"Nothing better than bumping into friends on a flight... especially when you're a nervous flyer and she's the epitome confi-



dence. My dearest, the ever so beautiful @theshilpashetty. Loads of love and blessings always. All the very best for all new beginnings," Neil wrote as the caption.

Neil made debut as a child artist in Vijay in 1988 and Jaisi Karni Waisi Bharnii in 1989. He made his full-fledged debut playing the title role in Johnny Gaddaar in 2007. Since then, the actor has starred in New York, Prem Ratan Dhan Payo, Golmaal Again, and Saaho. He made his

Tamil film debut with Kaththi and Telugu film debut with Kavacham.

On the work front, Neil's latest release is the black comedy thriller titled Ek Chatur Naar written by Himanshu Tripathi and directed by Umesh Shukla. It also stars Divya Khosla.

The film is set against the backdrop of a quirky small-town Indian landscape, the story follows a seemingly charming woman with a naivety that masks her razor-sharp wit.

# India looks to sharpen up; South Africa hopes to turn fortunes in T20 format

**Cuttack, Dec 8 (IANS)** The third and final, and possibly the most important, part of South Africa's tour of India gets underway on Tuesday, with the two teams facing off in the first of five T20Is at the Barabati Stadium here.

The Men in Blue have been almost unstoppable in this format, winning all six bilaterals (26 wins, four defeats) since clinching the T20 World Cup in 2024. With the title defence coming up on home soil next year, the focus will remain on fine-tuning an already well-oiled machine.

Shubman Gill and Hardik Pandya return to the squad, the former recovering from a neck spasm and the latter overcoming a quadriceps injury. Much of the side's fortunes depend on how the opening pair of Gill and Abhishek Sharma go about their business. The latter has been the best in the business lately, his 27 sixes the most by any player in T20Is this year.

Jasprit Bumrah returns to the squad after being rested for the ODI series and he will be raring to go, with a red soil pitch, offering bounce and pace and sourced from



Maharashtra, awaiting both teams.

The Proteas, unlike their opponents, have been in dismal form in T20Is this year, winning just five of 14 matches. In fact, they have won just one series (of eight) since last year's showpiece event.

Their fortunes will bank on opener Quinton de Kock to continue his fine form in India, averaging 50.88 in T20Is. With Dewald Brevis striking at 223 in the middle overs, the best by any player this year, there's enough firepower in the tank

for the visitors.

On the bowling front, Corbin Bosch has been South Africa's best T20 bowler this year, with 17 wickets to his name. While Tony de Zorzi and Kwena Maphaka have been ruled out of the series because of injury, the squad will be boosted by the return of pacer Anrich Nortje, who will be making his first international appearance since the 2024 T20 World Cup final.

The presence of George Linde will also give the side a boost in both

departments, the veteran striking at 137.02 with the bat and picking up 27 wickets with a 7.33 economy in 25 matches.

The two teams have squared off in T20Is at this venue twice before (2015 and 2022), with South Africa coming out on top both times.

With temperature on matchday expected to drop to around 12°C, India and South Africa are well poised to bring on the heat.

That said, there are a few issues to iron out too, starting with Suryakumar Yadav's form, who has averaged only 15.33 this year. Tilak Verma has also found runs hard to come by, scoring just 34 runs in three matches Down Under.

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## Hardik's experience is invaluable, gives good balance to the side: Suryakumar

**Cuttack, Dec 8 (IANS)** Ahead of the T20I series opener against South Africa, India skipper Suryakumar Yadav welcomed Hardik Pandya's return to the set-up, saying the seam-bowling all-rounder's experience lends crucial and significant balance to the side in their preparation for next year's T20 World Cup. "Both of them look healthy and fit. They have come along with the team. What you saw in Asia Cup also was when he opened the bowling with the new ball, he opened up a lot of options and combinations for us with respect to the playing eleven. "So that's what he brings to the

table and his experience is invaluable. He has done well in a lot of good games, big games and ICC and ACC events also. So that experience counts for a lot and his presence will definitely give a good balance to the side," said Suryakumar in the pre-match press conference on Monday.

Gill's return to open the batting alongside the in-form Abhishek Sharma will give some sheen to India's preparation for the mega event. Suryakumar also explained about how India shifted from having Sanju Samson as the opener to now zeroing in on Gill for that slot.

## From recovery to training, it's a paradise for any athlete: Gill hails BCCI CoE for his neck injury rehab

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** India's Test and ODI captain Shubman Gill lavished praise on the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) Centre of Excellence and detailed how it helped him recover well and on time for the upcoming T20I series against South Africa.

The BCCI shared a video of Gill on social media in which he spoke in detail about his recovery time. He said, "I'm feeling

much better. I think the day that I came here, from that day till today, I've had quite a few skill sessions and some training sessions.

So, I feel much, much better now. From recovery to training, I think for an athlete, it can't get any better. It's a paradise for any athlete. You come here, you want to get physically better, you want to get mentally better."

## Venkatesh Prasad acknowledges wishes from Tejasvi Surya, DK Shivakumar after winning KSCA presidency



**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** Newly elected Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) president Venkatesh Prasad expressed gratitude to BJP MP Tejasvi Surya and Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K Shivakumar for congratulating him on his election to the state cricket body's top post.

Surya, the Lok Sabha member from Bengaluru South, and deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka Shivakumar had extended their wishes to the former India fast bowler after he secured a decisive victory in the KSCA elections held on Sunday. Responding to their congratulatory mes-

sages, Prasad wrote on X, "Thank you, @Tejasvi\_Surya. Karnataka cricket has always stood for excellence and integrity. With everyone's support and the passion of our people, we are committed to guiding the next generation and bringing global cricketing glory back to Bengaluru."

The elections were held in the AGM at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday. The panel, led by Prasad, had the backing of former India cricketers Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath, who also served as KSCA President and Secretary from 2010 to 2013.

"Thank you very much, sir. Your support means a lot. Together, we hope to create a vibrant, transparent and future-ready cricketing environment for Karnataka, build a stronger ecosystem for Karnataka cricket and bring world-class cricket back to Chinnaswamy," he said in another post.

## Jharkhand secure seventh straight win in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy



**Ranchi, Dec 8:** Jharkhand continued their dominant run in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, claiming their seventh consecutive victory by defeating Rajasthan by 36 runs in a Group match held at Narendra Modi Stadium (Ground A), Ahmedabad. With this win, Jharkhand remains firmly on top of the points table and has qualified for the next round.

**Impressive Batting Display**  
Batting first, Jharkhand posted an impressive total of 215 for 5 in 20 overs. Virat Singh played a stellar knock of 69 runs off just 36 balls, hitting powerful boundaries throughout his innings. Captain Kumar Kushagra added stability with a well-made

55 off 37 deliveries. Robin Minj accelerated the scoring towards the end with a quick-fire 58 off 27 balls, helping the team cross the 200-run mark.

**Rajasthan Fall Short**  
In reply, Rajasthan were bowled out for 179 runs in 19.2 overs. Karan Lamba top-scored with 52, while Deepak Hooda contributed 28 runs, but wickets fell at regular intervals, preventing them from staying in the chase. Sushant Mishra and Anukul Roy delivered excellent spells, taking three wickets each to seal the match for Jharkhand.

Virat Singh was awarded Player of the Match for his explosive and match-winning knock.

## ISSF World Cup Finals: Zoravar finishes seventh in men's trap as India end campaign with two gold

**New Delhi, Dec 8 (IANS)** World championship bronze medalist Zoravar Singh Sandhu finished seventh in the men's trap final with seven hits in the first 10 targets, as India concluded their second-best ever campaign at an International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Finals (WCF) with a total of six medals, including two gold medals. Zoravar was the only Indian representative on the concluding Shotgun Day at the Lusail Shooting complex in Doha, which saw all four individual Shotgun finals played out on Monday. India's best-ever campaign was in Putain in 2019 in the ISSF World Cup Finals with three gold medals. Zoravar had qualified for the final, now up to eight from the earlier six with the new ISSF rules, with a score of 119 in qualifying, which gave him sixth place over 125 targets. In the now 30-shot final, he could not get his act together and was among the first two, alongside Italian Giovanni Pellielo, to bow out.

China topped the standings ahead of India, with four gold medals and nine medals. The USA, with their double gold in men's trap and skeet on the day, came third, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) informed in a release on Monday.



## Singhbhum Chamber wins Inter Corporate Cricket Tournament 2025

HDFC Bank finishes runner-up; Tinplate Division claims third place

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** The Inter Corporate Sports Tournament 2025, organised by the Department of Sports, Tata Steel, concluded its cricket competition on Saturday at the TSG Cricket Ground, Gambaria. A total of eight corporate teams participated in this first-of-its-kind event, aimed at strengthening bonds among organisations through sports.

Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industries lifted the champion's trophy after an impressive performance throughout the tournament. HDFC Bank, Jamshedpur, secured the runners-up position, while Tata Steel Tinplate Division took the third place. The tournament successfully brought together corporate professionals in a spirit of sportsmanship, friendship, and healthy competi-



tion. Tata Steel, for the first time, organised an event on such a large scale to promote unity and collaboration among companies in the region.

Adding a special highlight to the tournament was the mandatory inclusion of two female players in each playing XI, encouraging

greater participation of women in sports. Tata Steel said this effort reflects its commitment to diversity and inclusivity across all fields, including athletics.

Individual awards were also presented during the closing ceremony. Bhupendra Yadav from Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and

Industries was declared Man of the Tournament. The Best Batsman award also went to Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industries, while Best Bowler was bagged by Shadab from Tata Steel Tinplate Division. The Best Fielder award was given to Karan Singh from TIMKEN.

The prize distribution ceremony was graced by DDC Saraikela, Reena Hansda, as the Chief Guest. Other dignitaries present included Manav Kedia, President of Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce & Industries, and Akhilesh Tiwary, Vice President of HDFC Bank, Jamshedpur branch.

Building on the positive response, the Sports Department of Tata Steel announced the upcoming badminton event on December 13-14 and relay competitions on December 14. Entries will remain open until December 12, 2025.

## Courage personified: Smriti Mandhana preps for Sri Lanka T20Is

**Mumbai, Dec 8:** A day after confirming that her wedding to composer Palash Muchhal had been called off, India vice-captain Smriti Mandhana was back on the cricket field, finding rhythm in the middle.

Smriti returned to training on Monday, padded up in a no-fuss practice jersey, taking throw-downs at what looked like a private facility away from the glare.

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## Tata Steel trekkers triumph at 5,416m Thorong La Pass



Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** The Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF) has successfully completed the organised Annapurna Circuit Trek in Nepal, conducted from 15 to 30 November 2025. The achievement marks a proud milestone in TSAF's high-altitude trekking initiative, reflecting the courage, endurance and teamwork of participating Tata Steel employees.

The 16-day expedition reached its toughest point at Thorong La Pass, one of the world's highest trekking passes, located at an altitude of 5,416 metres (17,769 feet). Battling extreme alpine conditions with tem-

peratures dropping to minus 10 degrees Celsius, the team displayed remarkable determination throughout the journey. In total, they covered approximately 185 kilometres, exploring the breathtaking landscapes of the Manang and Mustang regions, known for their rugged mountains, scenic valleys, and rich cultural diversity.

The TSAF team was led by P. Bhowmik, accompanied by Nepalese guides Tara Thapa Magar and Nisha Gaiher. The trekking group included Tata Steel employees: Anil Kumar A. (TSL JSR E&P), Lingraj Nahak (TSL JSR CRM), Ramesh Kumar (TSL JSR FMM), Parmeshwar Sharma (TSL JSR CRM), Edward Kujur (TSL JSR SP#3), Arjun Prasad (TSL JSR Tube) and Sulekha Kumari (TSL KPO SP).

The Annapurna Circuit is globally recognised as a bucket-list adventure, renowned for its challenging routes and stunning Himalayan views. Successfully reaching Thorong La Pass stands as a major accomplishment for any trekker.

## Ruby House shines bright at JH Tarapore's Sports Day

Mantasha, Shambhavi and Meghna bag Best Athlete honours

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** J.H. Tarapore School celebrated its 23rd Annual Sports Day with great energy and enthusiasm on Monday, turning the school grounds into a vibrant arena of sportsmanship, teamwork and celebration.

The event began with a formal welcome to the Chief Guest, School Director Rubina Bodhanwala, who was received by Principal Lata Sharat and Vice Principal Rukshana Gardin. The school also warmly welcomed former Director Nargis A. Madon as the special guest for the occasion. The Chief Guest hoisted the school flag and officially declared the sports meet open.

A proud and well-coordinated March Past by students of Classes IX to XII set the tone for the day. The parade was led by School Pupil Leader Vanya Pandey and Assistant School Pupil Leader Sreyangsi Chakraborty. The torch-lighting cer-



emony was carried out by student achievers Ayesha Baig, Pragya Bhardwaj, Shubangee Saha, Anshika Sharma, Nandini Singh and Hiba Firdous. Following this, Sports Minister Meghna Giri and Assistant Sports Minister Yashika administered the Sportsman's Oath.

Primary and middle school students added joy to the field with fun-filled events like The Happy Scoops

Run, Toe-tastic Challenge, Collector's Crunch and The Obstacle Dash. A beautifully synchronised yoga display showcased grace, balance and coordination. Senior students then competed in the 100m and 200m races, displaying speed and determination, earning loud cheers from the crowd. Lively Tug of War matches and special events for faculty and didis kept

the excitement high till the end. The meet concluded with the prize distribution ceremony, recognising the talents and hard work of students. Best March Past - Ruby House, Best House - Ruby House, Best Athlete (High School) - Mantasha Khan (VIII A), Best Athletes (Higher Secondary) - Shambhavi Pathak (XI B) & Meghna Giri (XII A)

# Tata Steel's civic role questioned by Potka MLA

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Potka MLA Sanjib Sardar on Monday raised a key public issue in the Zero Hour of the Jharkhand Assembly, urging the state government to ensure that Tata Steel delivers essential civic amenities to nearly 20 panchayats falling within its operational periphery.



that a large number of permanent, temporary, and contractual workers of the Tata Group reside in these panchayats, yet they remain neglected in terms of civic development. "It is unjust that those who contribute their sweat and labour to the company are still deprived of fundamental services while living within its periphery," Sardar said, adding that the steel major "must provide permanent services - including clean drinking water, sanitation, power supply and other civic amenities - through its CSR initiatives." Through the Assembly, Sardar urged the state government to direct Tata Steel to take responsibility for providing these essential services in all affected panchayats so that the living standards of nearly one lakh families in the Potka region can be strengthened. (W-pm)

Sardar said that despite being located just 3 to 5 Km from Tata Steel's command area, panchayats such as Bagbera, Kitadih, Ghaghidi, Karandih, Purihasa, Kerwadungri, and Byangbil continue to remain deprived of basic necessities like drinking water, electricity, and sanitation. These areas represent over one lakh residents who are directly affected by the lack of civic amenities. The MLA underlined

# MLA Purnima Sahu says Jharkhand govt not serious about reservation for OBCs

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** MLA Purnima Sahu today questioned the state government's commitment towards reservation for OBCs. She blamed the government for dilly-dallying on the issues that concern the underprivileged sections of the state.



Sahu questioned the state government on when the survey, which began in 2019 for OBC reservation, will be completed. Findings of the survey will form the basis for the OBC reservation. In reply to her query, the state has stated that, owing to the pandemic, the survey has not been completed.

Sahu blamed the Jharkhand government for making excuses and alleged that the government is not serious about the implementation of

OBC reservation in the state. She added that it has been four years since the pandemic, yet the state government is unable to give any reason for the delay. "This puts a question mark on the commitment and working style of the state government, especially on the issues concerning the underprivileged sections of the society," she said.

The Jamshedpur East MLA criticised the state government for soft-peddalling the issue and pointed out that the Tamil Nadu government has completed the socio-economic survey and has already introduced a 69 per cent reservation. She advised the Hemant Soren government to follow the example of the Tamil Nadu government. (W-sm)

# Two convicted under Arms Act, sentenced to 3 years RI

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** The court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Seraikela, has convicted two accused-Gwala Singh Bankira of Mahadevpur and Govind Haibur of Hindusai-in a 2016 illegal arms possession case.

Both were found guilty under Sections 25(1-B)(a), 26, and 35 of the Arms Act and sentenced to three years of rigorous imprisonment each, along with a fine of Rs 3,000.

The case dates back to May 11, 2016, when then Officer-in-Charge of Seraikela Police Station, Vinod Kumar, lodged an FIR following a raid conducted on the basis of a secret tip-off. The police team raided the tempo stand near Sini Chowk, where they intercepted a Bolero (registration number BR 16 N 2111). During the search, a country-made pistol was recovered from the waist of Gwala Bankira, along with three live cartridges found in his shirt pocket.

Additionally, three live cartridges were recovered from the pant pocket of Govind Haibur. Following the trial, the court held both accused guilty and awarded the sentence accordingly. (W-pm)

# District Tailik Sahu Mahasabha to hold elections after family reunion



**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** A meeting chaired by Rakesh Sahu, District President of Akhil Bharatiya Tailik Sahu Mahasabha, discussed key plans for the community, including the annual family gathering and the upcoming district committee elections.

It was decided that a family forest-get-together and reunion will be organised in January 2026, followed by the district elections once the current committee's term ends on February 2. Members from various areas participated and shared their valuable suggestions, unanimously supporting the collective decisions. District President Rakesh Sahu announced that the family reunion will be held on January 11, 2026, while the venue will be announced later. After the event, the district committee elections will be conducted. To oversee the election process, an 11-member committee has been formed under the leadership of election convener Pramod Gupta. This team will take charge of conducting the elections after the family reunion programme. (W-pm)

# Police foil murder plot, arrest notorious criminal with firearm

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** The MGM police achieved a major breakthrough on Monday after arresting a notorious youth with an illegal country-made pistol during a raid at Turiabera village.

Patmada DSP Bachandev Kujur shared details of the operation during a press conference.

According to the DSP, on Sunday late night, the Senior Superintendent of Police received a tip-off that a youth near DPS School in Turiabera was hiding a firearm at his resi-

dence and planning a serious criminal act. Acting on the intelligence input, a special raiding team was formed under the leadership of the DSP and the MGM Police Station in-charge. During the raid, police apprehended the accused, Rahul Mahato, from his house and recovered a country-made pistol from his possession. During interrogation, Rahul revealed that he had worked as a bartender at the Lead Hotel in Dadar-Khandala, Mumbai, until July 2025. He had also helped Karma alias Karmadev Sharma, a resident of Sankosai (Olidih



police station area), secure a job there. However, Karma later allegedly filed a false complaint

between the two, and Rahul reportedly threatened to kill him. Driven by revenge after losing his job, Rahul purchased the illegal firearm from Bihar and was making arrangements to procure bullets. Police intervention, however, foiled his plans in time. The DSP further stated that Rahul has a prior criminal record and was earlier arrested in a theft case along with his associates in Turiabera.

Police are now investigating his network and other possible criminal activities. After questioning, the accused is being sent to judicial custody. (W-pm)

# IMD predicts mild temperature variations in Jharkhand



Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted stable weather conditions across Jharkhand with no significant temperature fluctuations expected over the next 24 hours.

The IMD reported that a Western Disturbance, seen as an upper air cyclonic circulation over north Pakistan and nearby areas at 3.1 Km above sea level, continues to influence weather patterns. A trough aloft extends up to 5.8 Km above sea level over central India. Another cyclonic circulation persists over the northeast Arabian Sea and adjoining regions. A trough in westerlies also runs

between the Southwest Bay of Bengal and Southeast Bay of Bengal, extending up to 5.1 Km above sea level. The highest maximum temperature recorded in the last 24 hours was 29°C at Ranchi (PTO).

The lowest minimum temperature was 5.2°C at Garhwa (AWS). IMD has forecast "no large change" with temperatures expected to remain within -2.0°C to +2.0°C from normal across most districts. Minimum temperatures will remain below normal in some areas, and appreciably below normal in isolated pockets (-3°C to -5°C). There will be a slight increase in maximum temperatures at isolated places; and appreciable rise in a

# Bonfire arrangements in Seraikela

**Seraikela, Dec 8:** In view of the intensifying cold and to ensure the safety and convenience of the general public, the district administration has initiated prompt measures across the district.

As per the directives of Deputy Commissioner Nitish Kumar Singh, night-time bonfire facilities are being arranged at major intersections in urban local body areas, key locations at all block headquarters, and other crowded public places to provide effective relief to people affected by the cold wave. The Deputy Commissioner has instructed officials to conduct regular inspections of bonfire sites within their respective areas, arrange additional bonfire points wherever necessary, and ensure that citizens do not face any inconvenience. Considering the drop in temperature, both the number of bonfire spots and their operational hours are being increased as required. Deputy Commissioner Nitish Kumar Singh has also appealed to residents to take necessary precautions during severe cold and make use of the available bonfire facilities to keep themselves safe. (W-pm)



few areas (2°C to 4°C above normal). minimum temperatures ranging from 10°C to 12°C, with humidity levels varying between 25% and 83%. (W-sm)

# AJSU protest for closure of station VIP lane

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** The activists of AJSU's, East Singhbhum unit, on Monday submitted a memorandum to the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) through the Station Superintendent, strongly opposing the complete closure of the VIP lane outside Tatanagar Railway Station and demanding immediate steps to curb train delays on routes approaching the station.

Led by district president Kanhaiya Singh, the delegation said the steel barricading of the VIP lane has caused major inconvenience to the public. The party noted that during any VIP arrival, their vehicles are forced to wait in the dropping lane, resulting in long queues of passenger vehicles behind them.

# Mosque construction halted in Sonari's Pardesi Para Tata lease area



**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Residents of Pardesi Para in Sonari held a meeting on Monday to discuss the ongoing issue related to the construction of a mosque in the Tata Lease Area. A similar discussion had taken place earlier on December 2. Participants expressed satisfaction that both the Tata land department and the district administration have taken cognizance of the matter and initiated an inquiry.

For now, the construction work has been put on hold. According to Mukul Mishra, public facility representative of Jamshedpur West MLA Saryu Roy, residents also raised concerns regarding alleged irregularities in population growth of a particular community in the area.

Locals felt that the sudden rise in numbers needed to be examined. It was decided that the issue will be reviewed seriously, facts will be collected, and appropriate authorities will be approached for further action after the inquiry. Among those present at the meeting were Arun Tiwari, Vinod Prasad, Vijay Prasad, Balram Thakur, Naresh Prasad Singh, Mohan Rao, Ashok Jaiswal, and several others. (W-pm)

# Dec 31 deadline for housing scheme installments

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Under the Kashidih Affordable Housing Scheme, a total of 780 housing units are being constructed in Kashidih, Gamharia, following the G3 structural model. The project aims to provide homes to beneficiaries from the urban low-income category who currently do not own a residence. Each housing unit will include a bedroom, kitchen, hall, toilet, and bathroom. The project will also feature essential civic amenities such as electricity, water supply, roads, drainage system, park, streetlights, parking area, and a temple. Earlier, 120 houses were handed over to beneficiaries through a formal griha pravesh ceremony. As per the latest update, another 120 units in Blocks 1, 3, 5, and 6 are scheduled for handover in February 2026. Beneficiaries allotted houses in these blocks must deposit their pending installment amounting to Rs 3.92 lakh by December 31, 2025. In case the pending amount is not deposited by the deadline, previously allotted beneficiaries will be considered for unit exchange. Those who clear their dues in a single payment will be provided houses through a revised allotment arrangement and will be included in the February 2026 griha pravesh ceremony. (W-pm)

# Loyola School Telco marks 10th anniversary with grand Annual Day celebration



Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Dec 8:** Loyola School Telco celebrated its 10th anniversary on Friday with a grand Annual Day function that



showcased art, culture, and the school's core educational values. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and parents, creating an atmosphere of joy and community spirit.

The celebration was graced by Chief Guest Sanjay Kumar, Head of Tata Motors Hospital, and Guest of Honour Priya Amitabh, Senior Paediatrician. Their presence added significance to the occasion. Among the dignitaries attending were Rector Michael Dhanaraj, Principal Vinod Fernandes of Loyola School Bistupur, Administrator Gerry, Loyola School Telco Principal Charanjeet Ohson, coordinators Reshma and Zeenat Maria Sundi, and moderator Colleen Xavier.

The highlight of the evening was a captivating stage adaptation of Ruskin Bond's much-loved story The Blue Umbrella. The production received widespread appreciation for its emotional depth and its message of truth, compassion, empathy, and selflessness. Designed to remind children that life's true beauty lies in kindness rather than material desires, the performance brought Ruskin Bond's narrative to life in remarkable detail. The first in-house production of the novella transported the audience into the world of the Himalayas, complete with realistic elements such as a burning chulha in the home setting and the warm, glowing lights of Ram Bharose's shop.

The students delivered a mesmerising performance, marked by confidence, grace, and expressive acting. The children with the red umbrellas, the elegant peacocks, and particularly the young performer portraying the Blue Umbrella girl drew admiration from all present. Her heartfelt portrayal, from her opening step to the final curtain call, left a deep impression on the audience. The cast included Kritika as Binya, who charmed the audience with her innocence; Mohammad Yusuf as Bijju, with a lively performance; Abhijeet as Ram Bharose, delivering a strong character; and Adarsh as Rajaram, showcasing assured stage presence. Avni portrayed the mother with grace, while

Shaurya, Hitesh, and Deepshikha brought authenticity to the roles of the priest, schoolmaster, and schoolmaster's wife. Raghav, as the tea-shop helper, stood out with natural and effortless acting. The collective performance, strengthened by expressive dialogue and seamless coordination, reflected Loyola School's continued emphasis on holistic education. Energetic dance and musical performances added colour to the programme and kept the audience thoroughly engaged.

Thunderous applause from parents and guests encouraged the young performers throughout the evening. Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Sanjay Kumar congratulated the school on completing ten successful years. He recalled his own school memories and praised the institution for nurturing leadership and empowering young minds. He urged students to dream big, work hard, and strive for excellence. Principal Charanjeet Ohson, in the concluding address, thanked the guests, parents, teachers, and students for contributing to the success of the celebration. (W-pb)

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