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14-YEAR-OLD VAIBHAV SURYAVANSHI BECOMES YOUNGEST CENTURION IN SMAT WITH 61-BALL 108 : PAGE-11

SIR stalemate to end: LS to discuss electoral reforms on Dec 9



New Delhi, Nov 2 (IANS) Amid the ongoing impasse and heated exchanges over demands for discussion on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise resulting in washout of Parliamentary proceedings for two consecutive days, the government and Opposition reached a truce on Tuesday. This will bring an end to the stalemate over SIR and pave the way for a heated debate on the issue in the Lower House.

The Lok Sabha will debate two issues of prominence - the 150th anniversary of 'Vande Mataram' and electoral reforms on December 8 and December 9, respectively, with the house dedicating one day each for the raging topic.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju took to X to inform about the timings of debate on respective topics, which were hammered out at the all-party meeting on Tuesday.

"During the All-Party Meeting Chaired by Hon'ble Speaker Lok Sabha today, it has been decided to hold discussion in Lok Sabha on 150th Anniversary of National Song 'Vande Mataram' from 12 Noon on Monday, 8th Dec and discussion on Election Reforms from 12 noon on Tuesday, 9th Dec," he wrote in a post on X.

Notably, the opposition and treasury benches have remained engaged in verbal exchanges, with the former demanding urgent discussion on SIR, citing alleged disenfranchisement of the marginalised communities, while the latter insists on first dedicating a day for the national song - 'Vande Mataram'.

According to the agreement reached at the All-party meet, the Lok Sabha will hold a special discussion on the completion of 150 years of Vande Mataram on December 8, with a dedicated 10-hour time, which will be subject to extension, with consent from members.Since the beginning of the Winter Session, the Parliament has been facing repeated disruptions followed by adjournments as the Opposition remained bent on discussing the contentious and swiftly rushed voter verification drive, currently underway in 12 states/UTs. Earlier in the day, the Lok Sabha witnessed intense uproar and sloganeering, while in the Rajya Sabha, the Opposition gave notice under Rule 267 for special discussion on voter revision. Responding to this, Kiren Rijiju urged the members to show some flexibility, asking them not to stick to any timeline while also assuring that a breakthrough could be possible during the huddle of all parties, later in the day.

Govt steers Bills amid Oppn bid to disrupt Parliament proceedings

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) The ongoing Winter Session of Parliament witnessed yet another series of disruptions on the second consecutive day as both Houses were finally adjourned amidst persistent uproar by the Opposition benches.

Both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha were repeatedly disrupted by Opposition protests over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, which began with placard-holding members outside the entrance (Makar Dwar) even before Parliament convened at 11 am.

In Lok Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced the Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025, but proceedings were stalled by opposition uproar over electoral reforms. The Bill, aimed at restructuring levies on "sin goods" like tobacco and pan masala, is a significant fiscal measure. However, the protests diverted attention from legislative issues.

Meanwhile, the Rajya Sabha returned the Manipur GST bill to the Lower House of Parliament, where the legislation, aimed at replacing an Ordinance promulgated to implement the service and tax reforms in the northeastern state, was passed on Monday. This amendment was necessitated due to the President's rule in the state.

However, Opposition MPs in the Upper House, too, continued to demand a timeline for discussion on electoral rolls revision, and staged protests in the Well of the House, eventually leading to a walkout.

The ruckus led to multiple adjournments in both Houses, even as leaders from the ruling alliance, like J. P. Nadda and Kiren Rijiju, were seen assuring the government's willingness to discuss electoral reforms at an appropriate time.

But Opposition MPs chose sloganeering and walkouts, leading to disruptions in legislative time.

CM orders probe into extortion, assault at Ichak health centre

Mail News Service

Ranchi, Dec 2: Chief Minister Hemant Soren has directed the Hazaribagh district administration to take immediate action following allegations that a pregnant woman was extorted of Rs 5,000 and assaulted at the Community Health Centre in Ichak. The incident came to light after the victim filed a written complaint and her family shared details, including a newspaper clipping and application, on social media appealing for justice.

Acting on the CM's directive, the district administration registered a First Information Report (FIR) at Ichak police station against the concerned health staff. A joint team led by Civil Surgeon Ashok Kumar and Block Development Officer Santosh Kumar visited the hospital to investigate and initiate further legal action. During the probe, officials questioned the staff on duty, the victim's family, and eyewitnesses, while examining hospital registers and related documents. The Civil Surgeon noted that initial findings did not substantiate the assault claims. He said the woman had been referred due to a suspected postpartum hemorrhage, though her condition stabilized en route, and no clear evidence of extortion was found. The dispute reportedly arose when the woman requested early discharge and mentioned paying Rs 300, which the staff denied requesting. The BDO stated that statements from both parties have been recorded, and the inquiry is ongoing. (W-rg)

Proposal to hike power tariff faces opposition, BJP warns of stir

Ranchi, Dec 2 (IANS) The Jharkhand government's proposal to increase electricity tariffs by an average of 60 per cent for the financial year 2026-27 has triggered massive opposition in the state.

The Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited (JBVNL), in its tariff petition submitted to the Jharkhand State Electricity Regulatory Commission (JSERC), has sought steep hikes across domestic, commercial, industrial, and agricultural categories.

The commission has admitted the petition, and public hearings are likely to begin soon.

According to the proposal, domestic tariff rates could rise sharply -- from the current level to Rs 10.30 per unit. Rural households may see rates climb from Rs 6.70 to Rs 10.20 per unit, while urban domestic tariffs could rise from Rs 6.85 to Rs 10.30 per unit.

Commercial and industrial consumers also face substantial hikes, with the industrial tariff proposed at Rs 9.10 per unit.

For agricultural irrigation, the rate may jump from Rs 5.30 per unit to between Rs 9 and Rs 10 per unit. If the proposal is accepted, it will significantly raise farming costs.

The proposal has drawn sharp criticism from several organisations, including the BJP and the Jharkhand Federation of Chambers and Industries.

BJP spokesperson Pratul Shahdeo called the proposed hike an economic atrocity on the people and accused the Hemant Soren-led government of burdening farmers, small traders, and ordinary consumers.

He said the government, which promised free or cheap power during elections, is now busy emptying the public's pockets.

Shahdeo said the proposed hike amounts to around 30 per cent for rural and urban domestic consumers, while farmers would be hit with a nearly 60 per cent rise.

"Agriculture is already expensive. Such a steep hike in irrigation tariffs will break the backbone of farmers," he added.

ED raids in Ranchi, Mumbai, Surat in FEMA case

Mail News Service

Ranchi, Dec 2: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday carried out searches under FEMA (Foreign Exchange Management Act) on Naresh Kumar Kejriwal, a Chartered Accountant (CA) based in Jharkhand's Ranchi and suspected hawala operator, along with his family members as well as associates. The searches were carried out across Ranchi, Maharashtra's Mumbai, and Gujarat's Surat.

The ED action stems from Income Tax Department findings which reveal that Kejriwal controls undisclosed foreign shell entities in the UAE, Nigeria, and the USA - managed effectively from India - which have accumulated over Rs 900 crore in unexplained reserves and routed approximately Rs 1,500 crore back to India through bogus telegraphic transfers. These foreign assets were not disclosed in statutory filings and appear to be vehicles for large-scale illicit fund layering.Investigators said the search aims to secure digital and documentary evidence related to the alleged unauthorised cross-border dealings.In an unrelated case, the ED on Monday conducted searches at a dozen locations in connection with an FCRA "violation" case against a Maharashtra-based Trust, officials said. The raids were undertaken at premises located in the Nandurbar district and in Mumbai in the case of Jamia Islamia Ishatul Uloom (JIIU) Trust, a Yemeni citizen Al-Khadami Khaled Ibrahim Saleh and others, they said, according to news agency. The ED investigation is being conducted under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). (W-rg)

Jamshedpur records state's lowest visibility

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Dec 2 : Steel city on Tuesday woke up under a thick blanket of early morning fog, recording the state's lowest surface visibility at just 800 metres.

The unusually dense fog, settling in before sunrise and lingering well into the morning hours, significantly reduced clarity on key roads across the city and its outskirts.

Meteorologists attributed the sudden drop in visibility to a combination of high moisture content, calm winds, and a sharp fall in night temperature - conditions that allowed fog to form rapidly and spread widely across low-lying pockets of the district.

The fog cover was particularly intense along open stretches, industrial belts, and river-adjacent areas, where visibility dipped further during peak commuting time.

The poor visibility had a considerable impact on vehicular movement, especially along NH-33 and major State highways that connect Jamshedpur to Ranchi, Kolkata, and neighbouring districts.

Commuters reported slow-moving traffic, long queues at intersections, and cautious driving as headlights and hazard lamps became essential.

Heavy vehicles, including trucks and trailers plying through the national highway corridor, were forced to reduce speed, leading to delays in transportation schedules.

Local buses and long-distance passenger vehicles also operated behind time, with several drivers opting to wait for the fog to lift before resuming their trips.

Within the city, key stretches such as Marine Drive, Dimna Road, Kadma-Sonari Link Road, and the airport approach road witnessed slower traffic flow as motorists navigated the hazy conditions.

Police personnel were deployed at vulnerable points to prevent mishaps, while authorities issued advisories urging drivers to maintain low beam lights, avoid overtaking, and keep safe distances between vehicles.

Though the fog gradually cleared by mid-morning, Tuesday's conditions served as an early indication of the winter fog cycle, which typically intensifies through December and January.

Commuters have been cautioned to remain alert in the coming days as similar visibility drops are expected during early hours across Jamshedpur and adjoining areas. (W- pm)

Youth's murder sparks unrest in Ranchi

Ranchi, Dec 2 (IANS) Tension gripped the Sithio Basti area under Dhurwa police station in Ranchi on Tuesday after local residents erupted in anger over the murder of a 22-year-old youth identified as Arshad Ansari.

Accusing the police of negligence, the victim's family and hundreds of residents staged a protest for several hours outside the Dhurwa police station. They were demanding immediate arrests of the culprits.

Protesters alleged that despite repeated complaints about rising criminal activity and the growing influence of land mafia in Sithio Basti, the police failed to take preventive action.

"There is no regular patrolling here. We kept informing the police, but nothing changed," a local resident said.

Arshad was shot dead late Monday evening when two motorcycle-borne assailants fired at him from close range, hitting him in the head. He was rushed to a nearby hospital by family members and neighbours, but doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Police reached the spot soon after the incident and initiated a probe. Dhurwa police station in-charge said that one of the accused, identified as Tausif, had been arrested within 12 hours of the murder, and raids are on to nab the others. Mohammad Jilani, the victim's brother, stated that Ibrar and Sanjay Kohra are involved in the land business. He said that the criminals might have been targeting someone else, and Arshad was shot by mistake.

New name for public mission: PMO to be called 'Seva Teerth'

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) In a heartwarming and inspiring move, the Prime Minister's Office complex will soon be officially known as "Seva Teerth" - a sacred place of service that perfectly embodies the citizen-first philosophy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Seva Teerth will stand as a powerful symbol of self-less service, a workplace where every decision is guided by the spirit of seva and the nation's priorities are shaped for the welfare of 1.4 billion Indians.

The magnificent new complex, nearing completion under the Central Vista redevelopment project and earlier referred to as the Executive Enclave, will house not only the Prime Minister's Office but also the Cabinet Secretariat, the National Security Council Secretariat, and the grand India House - the prestigious venue for summit-level engagements with world leaders. With Seva Teerth, India's seat of governance rises as a shining tribute to duty, devotion, and the unbreakable bond between the government and its people.

Similarly, across India, a beautiful wave of renewal is touching every corner of governance: Raj Bhavans are joyfully becoming Lok Bhavans, the true homes of the people. A quiet yet deeply inspiring transformation took place. The very idea of governance is blossoming-from satta to seva, from mere authority to heartfelt responsibility.

Imran Khan's health 'fine', says sister Uzma



Islamabad, Dec 2 (IANS) Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's sister Uzma Khanum said on Tuesday that her brother's health is "fine" though he continues to face mental torture.

Speaking to reporters after meeting Khan at Rawalpindi's Adiala jail, Uzma Khanum said, "Imran Khan's health is fine. However, he was very angry and said that they are subjecting him to mental torture. He is kept in his room throughout the day, with only a little time to go outside, and there is no communication with anyone."

Uzma Khanum stated that her meeting with Imran Khan lasted for 20 minutes. Her remarks came after Adiala jail authorities allowed Khanum to meet her brother after repeatedly denying his family members and party leaders from meeting Khan.

The decision of jail authorities came amid PTI protests outside the Islamabad High Court and the Adiala jail against restrictions on Imran Khan's visitation rights, Pakistan's leading daily Dawn reported. Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code was enforced in Islamabad and Rawalpindi ahead of PTI's protests.

Armed splinter-group leader Ramdev Oraon surrenders

Vijay Murty

Ranchi, Dec 2 : Jharkhand's notorious armed splinter group, Jhangud Group supremo, Ramdev Oraon has finally laid down arms before police.

The Avenue Mail, has access of his pictures in police custody and confirmation from reliable sources on his surrender.

Post his quiet surrender, Ramdev is reportedly being kept at an undisclosed location for interrogation, and police are pressuring him to persuade his remaining associates to surrender as well.

His AK-47 combat rifle has been seized. Police have also been attempting to trace his six wives.

Officials may take another three to four days to formally announce Ramdev Oraon's surrender, sources added.

In the early 2000s, when CPI (Maoist) influence gripped at least 18 of Jharkhand's 24 districts, a little-known armed splinter group emerged on the foothills of Netarhat under Bishunpur police station limits.

The group, comprising 30-40 armed men and led by Ramdev Oraon, came to be known locally as the Jhangud Group.

Though security forces denied any association, the outfit was widely believed to have operated with tacit support to counter Maoist movement in the region.

Tasked with preventing



Maoist cadres from descending the Netarhat hills and targeting security personnel, the Jhangud Group created a formidable barrier.

For years, Maoist rebels-facing pressure from both the security forces and Ramdev's men-failed to expand into the northeastern plains of Gumla district and remained confined to the hills, giving state forces crucial breathing space.

However, the group's rise in influence soon turned into a reign of terror.

Emboldened by years of unchecked power, Ramdev allegedly unleashed extreme exploitation on villagers while the law looked the other way.

By the time the police began tightening its grip, the group had already grown dangerously powerful even as Maoist influence waned.

According to police records, Ramdev and his associates have been accused of heinous crimes, including rape, kidnapping, torture, loot, and burying victims alive.

Fear of reprisals forced several families to flee their homes, and few dared to approach police.

The situation shifted when Sajal Chakravarty took over as chief secretary. A senior journalist brought nearly 30 victims and families of victims to his office, where their accounts prompted Chakravarty to direct police action.

FIRs began to surface, forcing Ramdev into hiding. He has since been listed as a fugitive left-wing extremist, wanted in more than 50 cases, with a reward of Rs 5 lakh on his head.

His once 30-member force has dwindled to just five or six armed followers.

DC hears public issues, directs officials for timely action



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Deputy Commissioner Karn Satyarthi, during the Public Grievance Redressal Day held at the Collectorate, met citizens from various blocks and urban areas and listened to their concerns and suggestions.

The interactive session provided a platform for people to raise issues affecting their daily lives and seek administrative intervention. Throughout the meeting, citizens submitted applications on a wide range of matters, including encroachment on government land, construction of roads, PMMY loans, land demarcation, eviction-related threats, land disputes, land repossession, inter-district transfers, Aadhaar seeding, delays in compensation and ration distribution, benefits under the Jharkhand Mukhyamantri Maniyaan Samman Yojana, medical assistance, transgender pensions, shelter home provisions, and employment opportunities, among other public welfare issues. The Deputy Commissioner acknowledged each application and forwarded them to the concerned departmental officials with clear instructions to ensure swift and appropriate action. He emphasized the purpose of the Public Grievance Redressal Day—to create direct communication between the administration and citizens, enabling on-the-spot resolution of problems whenever possible, or ensuring timely follow-up when immediate decisions cannot be made. He assured the attendees that the administration remains committed to transparency, accountability, and prompt service delivery.

Arms license holders directed to collect deposited weapons

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Following the conclusion of the Model Code of Conduct for the 45-Ghatshila (ST) Assembly by-election 2025, the district administration has issued a notification to all arms license holders regarding the retrieval of firearms deposited before polling.

In compliance with election regulations, arms license holders across the district had been instructed to deposit licensed weapons at their respective police stations as a preventive security measure during the election period. The Model Code of Conduct officially ended on the afternoon of November 16, 2025.

With the completion of election-related restrictions, the administration has now advised all concerned license holders to collect their weapons from the respective police station within a week. Additionally, they must ensure to inform the District General Branch after completing the process of retrieval.

Administrative officials emphasized that timely collection and proper documentation are mandatory to maintain accurate records and ensure lawful possession. The district authorities have urged all arms license holders to comply with the instructions promptly to avoid any inconvenience. (W-pb)

Ex-HCL employees threaten gate blockade after talks fail



Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A crucial meeting between Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) management and former employees regarding pending demands ended in failure on Tuesday, intensifying tensions. The discussions, held at the Rakha Copper Plant office, did not resolve issues including employment, compensation and dependent benefits. Led by former employees' association president Vishwanath Mahto, representatives such as Manoj Pratap Singh, Lita Ram Murmu, Omio Mahato and others expressed frustration over the company's repeated inaction. HCL management participants included Kamlesh Kumar (HR), Arjun Lohra and Abhay Pandey. Following the meeting, former employees announced they would block the company gate starting December 8 if their demands remain unaddressed, warning that the responsibility for any disruption would lie with the management. The association urged the company to take immediate and concrete steps to resolve longstanding grievances. (w/nkm)

KCC hosts dance competition under 'Qaumi Ekta Saptah'



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Karim City College's NSS Unit organised a lively dance competition as part of Qaumi Ekta Saptah 2025 celebrations. The event, held in the college auditorium, showcased the cultural richness and talent of students.

NSS Programme Officer Dr. Ale Ali inaugurated the programme, highlighting the importance of art and unity in personality development. Principal Dr. Mohammad Reyaz appreciated the organisers and participants for creating an inspiring atmosphere.

Special guests Dr. Jisu Ketan Pattnaik (Registrar, NLU Ranchi) and Dr. Narendra Narottam (Proctor, NLU Ranchi) praised the students' performances and emphasised the value of cultural education. Competitions were held in two categories: Solo (Bollywood Retro) and Group (Folk). Energetic performances by Muskan, Adriza, Ipsita, Sadhvi, Arijit, Aastha, Aditi, Harshika, Goldie, Sonal Munda, Shobhit, Manish, Jyoti, Jeff and Akash captivated the audience. Group performances by teams led by Sonal, Mamta, Shikha, Mausami, Sneha and Riya showcased diverse folk traditions. Judges Priyanka Singh and Shyamli Choudhary selected the winners based on expression, coordination and theme relevance. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by NSS coordinator Syed Sajid Parvez. (w/nkm)

Dr. Ranjit appointed registrar of KU



Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Dr. Ranjit Karna, Professor of Physics at Cooperative College, Jamshedpur, and NAAC Coordinator for Kolhan University (KU), has been appointed the new Registrar of Kolhan University, Chaibasa. Following the issuance of the notification regarding the appointment by the Chancellor's Office, Kolhan University also issued a corresponding notification.

Dr. Ranjit Karn has now assumed his position at the University. Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Angela Gupta has accepted his appointment and extended her best wishes and expressed hope for his full support in the rapid progress of the University's work. This information was provided by University spokesperson Dr. AK Jha. (W-pb)

State Handloom Expo-2025: Kashmiri Handicrafts draw visitors

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2 : The State Handloom Expo-2025, organized by Jharcraft from December 1 to 14 at Gopal Maidan, Bistupur, has begun with an impressive display of traditional handloom and handicraft products from across the country. Among the major attractions this year is Stall No. 110, showcasing the rich artistic heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

Artisans from the Narwara and Rajekdal areas of Srinagar have brought an exclusive collection of Kashmiri textiles, offering visitors the chance to explore and purchase authentic handmade products. The stall features premium-quality Pashmina shawls, Kashmiri sarees, elegant embroidered shawls, and a range of other handcrafted textiles, reflecting centuries-old craftsmanship.



The prices of the showcased items range from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,50,000, depending on the intricacy of work and embroidery. According to organizers, the wide price range ensures that products are available for all categories of buyers, from affordable daily-use pieces to exquisite luxury collectibles.

To facilitate a smooth shopping experience, digital payment facilities have been provided at the stalls, enabling visitors to make purchases conveniently.

Officials from Jharcraft said that the expo aims to preserve and promote indigenous weaving traditions while empowering artisans from local and national levels. The district administration has appealed to citizens to visit the expo in large numbers and support the country's traditional art and craft sector. The State Handloom Expo will remain open to the public daily until December 14. (W-pb)

147 students attend free acting workshop by Geeta Theatre

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Geeta Theatre and Tata Steel Foundation organised a free one-day acting workshop at the Dhatkidih Community Centre, attended by 147 students from various city schools.



The workshop featured noted Santhali cinema veteran Dashrath Hansda, actor Surendra Tudu and regional film star Raju Mitra. Students received training in stage acting, street plays, short films, dialogue delivery, expression and performance management.

Twelve groups were formed and each team prepared a street play on drug-de-addiction within 25 minutes. The top three groups were awarded winter gift hampers sponsored by Himalaya.

Organisers announced that outstanding performers would receive opportunities in upcoming national-level theatre festivals and Tata Steel's awareness short films. (w/nkm)

Loyola, Telco to stage "The Blue Umbrella" on Dec 5

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Loyola School, Telco is preparing to present its first stage production, "The Blue Umbrella," on December 5 as part of its Tin Jubilee celebrations. Adapted from Ruskin Bond's famous novella, the production brings to life the scenic charm of a Himalayan village and the moving story of young Binya and her cherished blue umbrella. The play portrays how admiration for the umbrella gradually turns into envy, leading to a conflict with the village shopkeeper, Ram Bharosa. Binya's final act of compassion transforms him, restoring harmony in the community. School authorities said the production aims to highlight values of empathy, forgiveness and human relationships. "We want students to understand that kindness has the power to change lives," a member of the organizing team said.

Srinath University welcomes new batch with vibrant Fresher's Day

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Srinath University's School of Commerce and Management welcomed its new batch of students with a lively Fresher's Day celebration on the campus. The presence of Hon'ble Chancellor Sukhdev Mahato and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. S. N. Singh made the event special and encouraging for newcomers.

Addressing the students, the Vice-Chancellor urged them to pursue academic excellence and cultivate discipline, creativity and skill development. "Your journey here should shape you into confident and responsible individuals," he said. The Chancellor appreciated the university's progress and reminded students to adopt humility and dedication as they work toward their goals.

Head of Department Dr. Mrityunjan Mahato also welcomed the new batch and encouraged active participation in academic and co-curricular activities. Renu and Harsh were crowned Miss Fresher and Mr. Fresher at the PG level, while Ishika and Krish received the titles at the UG level.

Cultural performances, dance, music and interactive sessions created a cheerful atmosphere. With efficient coordination by student volunteers, the programme concluded successfully with a Vote of Thanks. (w/nkm)



Awareness session on AIDS held

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: An awareness session on World AIDS Day was organized at Srinath College of Education, Adityapur, where students and staff were briefed on the causes and prevention of HIV/AIDS. The session began with an address by Principal Dr. Mausumi Mahto, who highlighted the devastating impact of diseases like AIDS. "Awareness is the first step toward prevention," she said, urging trainees to stay informed and alert.

Senior teacher and NSS cell member Binay Shandilya explained various modes of HIV transmission, including infected blood transfusion, mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy and the use of contaminated medical equipment. He also elaborated on preventive measures and the importance of timely medical intervention.

Expressing concern over social stigma, he noted, "In a country like India, people still hesitate to talk openly about AIDS and that makes the situation more serious." He emphasized that governments, agencies and NGOs worldwide are continuously working to spread awareness.

Loyola students explore the universe in Astronomy Session

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: The vast mysteries of the universe unfolded for young learners as students of Loyola School, Jamshedpur, and De Nobili School, Bhuli, joined an engaging online astronomy session conducted by renowned Jesuit astronomer Rev. Richard A. D'Souza, S.J., on Monday. The virtual event turned into an extraordinary voyage through stars, galaxies, and cosmic wonders.

The session was graced by the presence of Fr. Vinod Fernandez, Principal of Loyola School; Jayanti Sheshadri, Vice Principal; and senior alumni member Rony D'Costa, whose support added significance to the learning experience.



Rev. D'Souza, celebrated globally for his research on galaxies and cosmic structures, completed his Ph.D. in Astronomy from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich in 2016 and has worked with eminent observatories around the world. Known for his scientific excellence and commitment to education, he inspired students with real stories of discovery and exploration. Opening the session, Rev. D'Souza shed light on the remarkable contributions of Jesuits to astronomy over the centuries-highlighting how Jesuit scholars have built observatories, advanced astronomical research, and shaped scientific learning worldwide. His insights revealed a fascinating connection between faith, knowledge, and scientific pursuit.

A moment of collective excitement filled the virtual platform when students learned that an asteroid has been named after Rev. D'Souza in honour of his contributions to astronomy-an inspiring reminder that passion and dedication can leave a mark beyond Earth itself.

He further explained the fundamentals of astronomy, from the birth of stars in massive clouds of gas and dust to the gradual shifts in their position across the sky. Complex theories were transformed into simple and visual explanations, enabling students to grasp the grandeur of celestial mechanics with ease. The interactive Q&A session sparked curiosity as students posed thoughtful questions about galaxies, cosmic evolution, and space exploration. Rev. D'Souza patiently addressed each one, guiding learners to think deeper and explore further. (W-pb)

AFFIDAVIT/शपथ पत्र

मैं फरीन परवीन, पिता के. बी. फरीद, निवासी ग्राम मुसाबनी नं–01, जमा मस्जिद के सामने, पो०– मुसाबनी, थाना– मुसाबनी, जिला– पूर्वी सिंहभूम, झारखण्ड की रहने वाली स्थायी निवासी हूँ ।

1. यह कि मैं एक भारतीय नागरिक हूँ और उपरोक्त पते की रहनेवाली स्थायी निवासी हूँ ।

2. यह कि कि मेरा सही नाम फरीन परवीन है ।

3. यह कि मेरा झारखण्ड अधिविध परिषद, रांची मार्कसीट में मेरा नाम फरीन परवीन अंकित है जिसका रोल नं–0050, रोल कोड नं– 51148, एंव रेजिट्रेशन नं–51148–19639–14 है ।

4. यह कि मेरा आधार कार्ड जिसका नं–2620 5155 2509 में मेरा नाम गलत अंकित किया गया है शाहीन परवीन उस जगह पर फरीन परवीन होना चाहिए ।

5. यह कि फरीन परवीन एंव शाहीन परवीन दोनों नामें एक ही लडकी का नाम है जो में ही हूँ।

क्र.सं.–1341
दिनांक : 02–12–2025 अधिवक्ता

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

e-Tenders against open tenders are invited by Divisional Railway Manager/Engg, S.E.Railway, Chakradharpur for & on behalf of the President of India for the following works. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl. No. & Tender Notice No.; Name of work; Tender value; EMD: (1) CKP-SOUTH-25-26-16;** Through Turnout Renewal (TWS) for total 269 sets in different yards of Rajkharsawan-Padapahar, Padapahar-Nayagarh, Padapahar-Bolanikhadan & Barajamda-Gua; ₹ 2,14,78,912.46; ₹ 2,57,400/-. **(2) CKP-SOUTH-25-26-20;** Execution of Cess Repair work over 20,378 Meter in Rajkharsawan-Padapahar, Padapahar-Nayagarh, Padapahar-Bolanikhadan & Barajamda-Gua section under the Jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer (South)/Chakradharpur; ₹ 1,30,36,793.10; ₹ 2,15,200/-. **(3) CKP-SOUTH-25-26-21;** Execution of Track Maintenance work under Sr. Section Engineer (P.Way)/Barajamda for period ending upto 30.09.2027 (i.e. for two years) under the jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer/South/Chakradharpur. (2nd Call); ₹ 2,77,84,800/-; ₹ 2,88,900/-. **Cost of Tender Form :** 0.00 for each. **Date of Opening :** 22.12.2025 for sl. no 1 & 3 and 24.12.2025 for sl. no. 2. The tender can be viewed at Website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/ bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. **Note :** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority–Railway Board's letter No. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-902)**

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JMM urged to uphold Dishom Guru's legacy, align with NDA

Mail News Service

Ranchi, Dec 2 : Prashant Kumar, Convenor of Overseas Friends of BJP (UK) for Jharkhand and Bihar, has issued an emotional appeal to Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leaders Hemant Soren, Kalpana Soren, and the party's core leadership, urging them to "rise above politics" and join hands with the NDA in the interest of Jharkhand's future.

Speaking from London, Kumar said the legacy of Jharkhand's founding figure, Dishom Guru Shibu Soren, was "not merely the creation of a state but the establishment of an era of dignity, protection, and prosperity for Adivasi communities."

He emphasised that the ultimate tribute to Shibu Soren would be to "fulfil his unfinished dream through a stable, development-driven partnership with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Vikshit Bharat."

Kumar warned that political instability and division were hurting the very causes Shibu



Soren championed-protection of jal, jangal, zameen and sustained tribal welfare.

He pointed to the pressures of illegal infiltration, slow development, and delayed implementation of Central schemes like PM-JANMAN, asserting that Jharkhand needed the "double-engine governance model" for rapid progress.

Calling it a "historic moment," Kumar appealed to Hemant Soren to take a statesmanlike step that could "define the next century of Jharkhand."

He said leaders like Babulal Marandi were ready to work collectively for the state's upliftment if stability was ensured.

"The soul of Jharkhand is crying out for unity, development, and security," Kumar said, urging the JMM to make a "decisive, courageous choice for the people Dishom Guru spent his life fighting for."

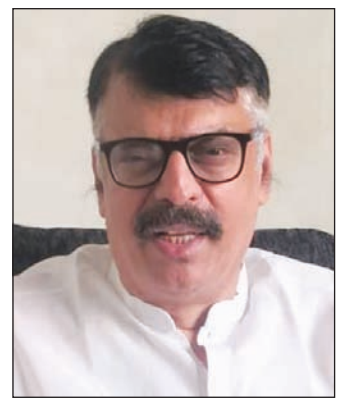
The appeal has generated significant political buzz, especially amid ongoing conversations around the state's political realignments. (W- pm)

Political speculation rises in Jharkhand after Bihar polls

Ranchi, Dec 2: Following the Mahagathbandhan's decisive defeat in Bihar, political speculation in neighboring Jharkhand has intensified. Reports suggest that JMM, led by Chief Minister Hemant Soren, may face challenges in the state as well. According to sources, CM Hemant Soren and his wife, Kalpana Soren, recently held a meeting with top BJP leaders in Delhi. The discussions have fueled speculation in political circles that the talks were not merely formal. Some sources even claim that preliminary consensus between BJP and JMM may have been reached, hinting at potential political realignments in Jharkhand.

Ex-Jharkhand Congress chief rejects BJP alliance claims

Ranchi, Dec 2: Former Jharkhand Congress president Rajesh Thakur has dismissed speculation about CM Hemant Soren forming an alliance with BJP. Speaking to reporters in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, Thakur alleged that Soren was imprisoned for six months before the assembly elections under the influence of the central government and BJP, an injustice that remains unforgettable.



He added that BJP lacks a capable leader and clear development policies in Jharkhand, relying instead on rumors to gain political advantage. Thakur praised JMM for providing new direction to the state in collaboration with Congress and other allies, asserting that voters had rejected NDA and BJP decisively. He further noted that BJP's central leadership has been unable to find a suitable state party head, leaving responsibilities with a single leader for over a year. (w/nkm)

Chamber opposes plan to vacate Parsudih market shops for election work

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: The Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry has expressed strong concern over the district administration's verbal directive to vacate shops at the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) premises in Parsudih for election-related preparations. In a letter sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Chamber Vice-President (Trade & Commerce) Anil Modi said the move would severely disrupt business activity in the area and cause financial losses to local traders.

Modi pointed out that the market complex already suffers from a shortage of space, with traders operating in cramped conditions. He said the timing of the decision was particularly problematic as the festive season is under way, with Jharkhand's significant tribal festival Tusu approaching in December. Traders, he noted, have already stocked goods for the festival and vacating shops or godowns at this stage would directly affect their livelihood. Modi also referred to earlier court observations in similar matters. He cited a 2017 judgment of the Jharkhand High Court in a case filed by the Federation of Jharkhand Chamber of Commerce, where the court had directed authorities to identify and allocate land for election work in advance, stating that keeping market complexes and commercial shops under prolonged administrative occupation was inappropriate. He also mentioned the M/s Bhadani Traders vs State of Jharkhand case, in which the court had criticised officials for repeatedly resorting to old practices despite earlier directives. Suggesting viable alternatives, Modi said several government buildings—including the warehouse near North Ghaghidih Panchayat Bhawan, the building behind Sadar Hospital, Shyama Prasad College and LBSM College—could serve as suitable venues for election preparations.

Potka MLA meets DC, raises compensation, public safety, rehabilitation issues



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Potka MLA Sanjib Sardar met with District Commissioner Karn Satyarthi on Tuesday to discuss key issues affecting residents across Potka, Dumaria and Jamshedpur blocks. A major concern raised by the MLA was the non-payment of compensation to farmers and villagers whose land was acquired for road construction projects. "People contributed their land for development, but the delay in compensation is an injustice," said MLA Sardar. He warned that if payments are not ensured soon, he will raise the matter with the Chief Minister and demand action against negligent officials. Reports indicate that 80–90% of work on three major road projects has been completed, yet landowners are still awaiting their rightful dues. The MLA also highlighted public safety issues, calling for the installation of new high-mast lights in densely populated areas. He expressed concern that insufficient lighting increases the risk of accidents and anti-social activities. Additionally, several existing high-mast lights in Potka and Jamshedpur blocks have been non-functional for a long period, prompting him to demand immediate repairs and new installations. Addressing traffic concerns at Karandih Chowk, MLA Sardar suggested the installation of modern traffic signals to ease congestion and ensure smooth movement for emergency vehicles.

Further, he raised the issue of rehabilitation for families displaced by UCIL projects in Narwa, Turamdeeh and Banduhudan. He urged authorities to prioritize employment, housing, electricity, drinking water and other essential facilities for these affected families. Finally, the MLA drew attention to inadequate street lighting at state-level 'C' category tourist sites, namely Baba Mukteshwar Dham (Harina) and Rankini Temple (Jadugoda), emphasizing that insufficient lighting poses challenges and safety risks for pilgrims and visitors. The DC assured MLA Sardar that all issues would receive prompt and concrete action, reflecting a positive approach toward public welfare and safety improvements. (w/nkm)

Sanjib Sardar ensures bill waiver for poor family

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: In a compassionate intervention, Potka MLA Sanjib Sardar helped a financially struggling family from Kalikapur by getting a pending hospital bill of Rs 1.22 lakh waived, enabling them to receive the body of their deceased relative.

The deceased, Bhim Sen Bhakt, was critically ill and admitted to Tata Main Hospital for treatment. During his stay, he passed away. The total hospital bill amounted to Rs 2,29,661, of which the family could pay only Rs 1,07,500. Due to their financial inability, the remaining Rs 1,22,161 had not been cleared and the hospital management was unable to hand over the body, leaving the family in distress. Upon receiving information about the family's predicament, MLA Sanjib Sardar immediately intervened. He contacted the hospital management and requested, on humanitarian grounds, that the outstanding amount be waived. Acting on his request, the hospital administration cleared the entire pending amount, allowing the family to take custody of the deceased's body. The family expressed heartfelt gratitude to MLA Sardar, saying his timely intervention reflected true guardianship and provided relief in their hour of grief. His actions were praised as a compassionate step that turned him into a savior for an otherwise helpless family. (w/nkm)

MLA Purnima Sahu inaugurates Rs 24 lakh schemes in Birsanagar

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Dec 2: In a major push to strengthen basic infrastructure in Jamshedpur East Assembly constituency, MLA Purnima Sahu on Tuesday inaugurated development projects worth approximately Rs 24 lakh across various localities of Birsanagar. The projects include road and drain construction at Hari Mandir (Zone 5), road repairs in Zone 4, resurfacing in front of the Indian Gas warehouse (Zone 1), drain construction from Jaideep De's residence to Ashok Khamrui's house and from Maniram's house to Ichagutu's house (Zone 1B) and road construction from Mukesh's house to Sharma's residence (Zone 2A).

During the inauguration, MLA Purnima Sahu interacted with local residents to understand their concerns and needs. Citizens praised her proactive approach toward the area's development and resolving public issues.

Speaking at the event, Sahu said, "Development work is being implemented at a fast pace across several parts of the constituency to strengthen public amenities. In the coming days, several other significant projects will also be dedicated to the people."

The event saw the presence of local leaders and party representatives including MLA representative Gunjan Yadav, BJP Birsanagar Mandal President Bablu Gop, Jitendra Mishra, Boltus Sarkar, Manish Pandey, Mrinal Banerjee, Tapas Karmakar, Bapan Banerjee, Chantu Das, Khokhan Mandal, Bhanu Prakash, Ratan Sahu, Roopu Sahu, Ravi Dutta, Omkar Singh, Nirmal Hembram, Vikas De, Badal Khamri, Mukesh Mishra, Sujit Dhara, Sushila Das, Suman Banerjee, Sushma Ekka, along with a large number of local women and BJP workers. (w/nkm)

UCIL contract workers' talks fail, strike announced from today

Mail News Service

Jaduguda, Dec 2: A crucial meeting between UCIL management and the contract workers' union regarding the appointment and compensation demands of Ramdev Soren, wife of deceased contract worker Shyam Soren, ended without any resolution on Wednesday. The union had sought her appointment in UCIL, payment of earned leave dues and other pending benefits.

With the talks failing to produce any outcome, JMM district chief convenor and labour leader Baghray Mardi announced that contract workers at UCIL's Jaduguda unit would begin an indefinite strike from Wednesday until all their demands are met.

The meeting saw participation from UCIL Deputy General Manager Rakesh Kumar and M.K. Sahu on behalf of the management, while the union side included JMM leader Baghray Mardi, Dharmu Tudu, Mangal Soren, P. Tho Majhi, Roop Mandal and Manasingh Majhi.

Union representatives expressed strong dissatisfaction over the company's refusal to provide a clear decision on the demands, warning that the strike may intensify if UCIL does not take immediate corrective steps. (w/nkm)

Woman arrested in Chaibasa for illegal brown sugar trade, 161 packets seized

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, Dec 2: The Chaibasa Police have made a significant arrest as part of their ongoing campaign against drug trafficking, apprehending a woman for the illegal sale and possession of brown sugar.

Acting on a tip received on December 1, 2025, by the Superintendent of Police, Chaibasa, Amit Renu regarding a woman engaging in the illicit sale and purchase of brown sugar in the Sadar police station area, a special raid team was immediately formed.

Under the leadership of the Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Sadar Chaibasa, the special team conducted a swift operation. The raid targeted a general store near the Siddheshwar Temple in the Sadar police station area, which is run by Sangeeta Tiwari (approximately 50 years old), wife of the late Chandrashekhar Tiwari, a resident of Bara Nimdih, Sadar Police Station, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa.

During the raid, the police successfully recovered 161 packets of illegal brown sugar from Sangeeta Tiwari, and she was immediately taken into custody. A case has been registered against Sangeeta Tiwari at Sadar Police Station, Chaibasa, under Case No. 98/25, dated 01.12.25, with sections 17b/21b/29 of the NDPS Act.

The arrested woman, Sangeeta Tiwari, has a prior criminal history. She had previously been jailed in 2021 for illegal brown sugar trade, registered under Sadar Police Station Case No. 82/2021, dated 04.08.21, under sections 21/22 of the NDPS Act. Sangeeta Tiwari is currently being sent to judicial custody.

Raid Team Member: The special raid team included: Bahaman Tuti, Sub-Divisional Police Officer, Sadar, Chaibasa, Tarun Kumar, Police Station In-charge, Sadar Police Station, Chaibasa, Sheila Minj, Police Station In-charge, Mahila Police Station, Sadar, Chaibasa and Police Officers and personnel from the special raid team and Sadar Police Station.

The Chaibasa Police appealed to the public to immediately report any information related to crime to the nearest police station, by dialing 112, or by contacting the Police Control Mobile Number at 9508243546. The name of the informant will be kept confidential. (W-pb)

Jamshedpur girl now directing Hollywood thriller 'Sweatpants'



By Debosmita Chatterjee

Jamshedpur, Dec 2 : For people in Jamshedpur, she was your next door girl, who is now wearing the director's cap for a Hollywood multi-starrer social thriller 'Sweatpants'.

Yes, she is Dr Ranu Sinha who in 90s, did her schooling from Sacred Heart Convent and Loyola School before moving into the campus of prestitgious Delhi -based Lady Sri Ram College for her higher studies.

Later she did her doctorate from JNU in Delhi.

Ranu started her career in the US as a social science professor in reputable colleges and universities such as Santa Clara University, University of California Berkeley, and Merritt College in Oakland to name a few, winning several awards as a faculty. Her passion for films and theatre became a profession when she trained in filmmaking from Raindance in Los Angeles. Ranu is acknowledged in the San Francisco Bay Area and Bollywood as a first Indo-American global trendsetter to use creativity from all walks of life. Ranu, with lot of experience in her kitty, directing movies has stepped into big arena of Hollywood, which is a dream for many actors and others associated with movie world.

Ranu is a filmmaker and the CEO of GlamR LLC, California. She is a multiple award-winning director, screenplay writer and composer for movies and record label productions. She moved to US in 2000.

Ranu said, "Sweatpants, which is my Hollywood venture will hit theatres across the globe early next year. It has a rich star cast both from Hollywood and Bollywood."

According to noted playback singer Shaan, "Sweatpants will be box office hit as soon as it is on the screen for public."

Ranu is known for promoting young and fresh talents from India. She said in future she plans to give opportunity to boys and girls from Jharkhand, especially Jamshedpur, the city which has moulded her. It will be a giving back to this Steel City.

Cong reorganises responsibilities to energise Srijan Abhiyan

Ranchi, Dec 2: To make the organisation more dynamic in Jharkhand, AICC permanent invitee and Jharkhand in-charge K. Raju has redistributed responsibilities between AICC joint secretaries Dr Sirivella Prasad and Bhupendra Maravi. The move aims to accelerate Srijan Abhiyan along with activities of various departments, cells and frontal wings. Jharkhand PCC president Keshav Mahato Kamlesh said that along with the two joint secretaries, working presidents Bandhu Tirkey and Shahzada Anwar have also been assigned responsibilities. He informed that Dr Sirivella Prasad and Shahzada Anwar will oversee 13 districts: all six districts of Santhal Pargana (Sahibganj, Dumka, Pakur, Godda, Deoghar, Jamtara), all six districts of South Chotanagpur (Ranchi urban and rural, Lohardaga, Gumla, Khunti, Simdega), and Latehar in Palamu division.

Public Notice

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Jharkhand under the provisions of EIA notification 2006 has accorded Environmental Clearance (EC) to **M/s Creative Homes (Partner- Shri Manoj Kumar Agarwal) for Proposed Multistoried Residential Project (B+G+12 multi storied Residential Apartment with Retail Area and Public Utility)** at Village-Dobo, P.O.- Mango, P.S.- Chandil, Distt.: Saraikela Kharsawan, Jharkhand.

The copies of above-mentioned Environmental Clearance (**EC Identification No. EC23B038JH124115) File No. EC/SEIAA/2022-23/2757/2023 dated 31st March 2023** are available for reference with MoEFCC, New Delhi and may be seen at Parivesh Portal. Copies of same are also available at Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board (JSPCB) Head Office Ranchi and Regional office Jamshedpur.

Jsr makes history with third straight inter-district football title



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Jamshedpur continued its reign in Jharkhand football, winning the Senior Inter-District Championship for the third consecutive year after a dramatic 4-2 penalty shootout victory over Godda District.

Jamshedpur FC's youth coaches hailed the triumph as a testament to the city's flourishing football culture. Kundan Chandra, Head of Youth Development, said, "Three titles in a row show the hunger and character of our players. Local football is thriving, and this is a proud moment for Jamshedpur."

The winning squad featured standout performers from the JSA League, who regularly compete against Jamshedpur FC's U16 and U18 sides, ensuring a seamless transition from youth to senior football. U18 coach Kaizad Ambapardiwalla praised the team's composure under pressure: "Holding their nerves in a penalty shootout shows the maturity these boys have gained through tough competition all season."

U16 coach Shakti Singh added, "This title reflects the growth of our grassroots ecosystem. Many of these players have risen through local competitions, and the victory is a reward for the entire football community." With this historic hat-trick, Jamshedpur District has firmly established itself as the powerhouse of state football, inspiring the next generation of players. (W-pm)

Construction of 2,500 MT warehouse begins in Kandra



Mail News Service

Gamharia, Dec 2: The Cooperative Department has initiated the process for constructing a large 2,500 MT warehouse in Kandra. As part of the project, a departmental team inspected the proposed site at Kandra Mor to assess the ground conditions and finalize plans. The inspection team included Sharvar Alam from Ranchi, NABARD head Chandana Mishra, District Cooperative Officer Neelmani Toppo, BCEO Sunil Kumar Chaudhary, along with other SFC officials. Officials noted that the project aims to strengthen storage infrastructure in the region and improve cooperative operations, ensuring better management of agricultural and essential commodities. (w/nkm)

Indian Railways runs seven special trains for Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0



New Delhi, Dec 2: Indian Railways has launched a series of seven special trains from key cities in Tamil Nadu—Kanyakumari, Chennai and Coimbatore—to Banaras, ensuring large-scale participation in the Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0. The initiative aims to strengthen cultural ties between Tamil-speaking regions and the ancient spiritual centre of Kashi.

The first special train departed from Kanyakumari on 29 November 2025, followed by a second service from Chennai on 2 December. The remaining departures are scheduled from Coimbatore on 3 December, Chennai on 6 December, Kanyakumari on 7 December, Coimbatore on 9 December and Chennai again on 12 December. Together, these seven services provide seamless long-distance connectivity for participants attending the multi-day cultural event.

To facilitate smooth return travel, Indian Railways has also arranged seven special services from Banaras. These include departures to Kanyakumari on 5 December, Chennai on 7 December and Coimbatore on 9 December, along with further return trips to Chennai on 11 and 17 December, to Kanyakumari on 13 December and to Coimbatore on 15 December 2025.

Kashi Tamil Sangamam 4.0, which begins today, celebrates the historic cultural bond between Tamil Nadu and Kashi. Centred on the theme "Let Us Learn Tamil – Tamil Karkalam," this edition promotes linguistic exchange through Tamil learning programmes in Varanasi schools, student study tours and the symbolic Sage Agastya Vehicle Expedition from Tenkasi to Kashi.

Anchored by the Ministry of Education, with IIT Madras and Banaras Hindu University as key knowledge partners, the programme brings together students, scholars, artisans, spiritual leaders and cultural practitioners from both regions. With coordinated train services and a rich cultural itinerary, Indian Railways is playing a pivotal role in strengthening national integration under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

Grand celebration of Geeta Jayanti at Jugsalai



Shri Rajasthan Shiv Mandir

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Shri Rajasthan Shiv Mandir in Jugsalai celebrated Geeta Jayanti with great devotion on Monday, December 1. The event, part of a century-old tradition, began at 9 a.m. with a ceremonial worship of the Bhagavad Geeta in the presence of learned Acharyas.

Following the ritual, priests delivered lectures on the teachings and relevance of the Geeta, inspiring the attendees with its spiritual guidance. Eleven scholars collectively recited the Geeta's original verses, offering a vibrant spiritual experience to devotees. The program concluded with a divine Geeta Aarti and distribution of prasad to all participants.

Many devotees, including notable figures such as Chhitarmal Dhoot, Arun Agarwal, Deepak Agarwal Ramuka, Pawan Singodia, Sanwar Lal Sharma and Anjani Singodia, actively participated, ensuring the event was conducted with tradition and reverence. The celebration highlighted the community's commitment to preserving and honoring its spiritual heritage. (w/nkm)

FLS sanctioned for Ranchi–Hatia–Balsiring 3rd, 4th line project

Mail News Service

Kolkata, Dec 2: The Railway Board has approved the Final Location Survey (FLS) for the proposed 3rd and 4th railway lines between Ranchi, Hatia and Balsiring under the Ranchi Division of South Eastern Railway. The survey, covering a 14-km stretch, has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs 33.60 lakh.

The Ranchi–Hatia–Balsiring corridor is one of Jharkhand's key rail routes, experiencing consistent growth in both passenger and freight traffic. With the existing two lines increasingly burdened, the addition of two more tracks is expected to substantially enhance line capacity, reduce congestion and improve the punctuality of train operations.

Officials said that the FLS is a critical prerequisite before advancing to detailed project planning, engineering design and subsequent construction phases. The survey will map the precise alignment, identify land requirements and assess technical feasibility.

Once implemented, the 3rd and 4th line projects will significantly strengthen rail connectivity around Ranchi, ensuring smoother intra-state and inter-state movement. The enhanced capacity is also expected to benefit freight operations, offering improved logistics support to industries across the region.

The sanction of the survey underscores Indian Railways' continued efforts to upgrade high-potential routes and build robust, future-ready infrastructure.

St Francis Day celebrated with enthusiasm at XITE College, Gamharia



Mail News Service

Gamharia, Dec 2: XITE College celebrated St Francis Day with great enthusiasm on December 2, marking its annual tradition of honouring St Francis Xavier. The event began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the Principal, Father Dr E.A. Francis, formally inaugurating the day's proceedings.

As part of the celebration, students presented a short play depicting the life and teachings of St Francis Xavier. Addressing the gathering, Father Francis encouraged students to contribute positively to society, just as the saint did and to leave a meaningful impact through their actions. A vibrant cultural programme followed, featuring Bollywood dance performances, solo songs and a melodious welcome song, adding colour and energy to the event. The occasion was graced by Father Joseph Surin, Father Admin, Brother Amal Raj, faculty members and non-teaching staff. Ritika Singh and Professor Naveen played a significant role in coordinating and ensuring the success of the programme. Assistant Professor Annie Hembrom also addressed the students, highlighting the importance of character building and moral values in student life, which further enriched the spirit and significance of the celebration. (w/nkm)

Bihar's LJP MLA receives grand welcome in Seraikela

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 2: Dr. Prakash Chandra, newly elected LJP MLA from Obra constituency in Aurangabad district, Bihar, arrived in Seraikela on Tuesday and was given a grand welcome. Visiting the residence of social worker Rajesh Sahu as part of his personal program, Dr. Chandra was received at the district headquarters' Thana Chowk with traditional Seraikela Chhau dance, along with a ceremonial crown and garland.

Impressed by the performance, Dr. Chandra honored the Chhau artists on the spot and expressed his happiness. Addressing the gathering, he thanked the people of Seraikela for their warmth and support. He also highlighted his political achievement,



saying, "After independence, this is the first time NDA has made inroads in Obra. With the overwhelming support of the people there, I was elected as LJP MLA. The love and support from Seraikela residents has also been deeply appreciated."

Dr. Chandra assured that the comprehensive development of the Obra region would be prioritized. The event was attended by Vice Chairman of the Nagar Panchayat Manoj Kumar Chaudhary, Lalit Chaudhary, Rupesh Sahu, Vicky Sahu, award-winning artist Brijendra Patnaik, coordinators of the Government Chhau Kala Kendra Sudip Kavi and Rakesh Kavi, among others. (w/nkm)

Jamboni police bust major fake lottery racket across three states

Mail News Service

Jhargram, Dec 2: In a significant crackdown early Tuesday, Jamboni police raided the Chinchra area and uncovered a large-scale fake lottery operation. The racket, operating under the guise of Nagaland's popular "Dear Ganga" lottery, had been duping people across Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal, siphoning off lakhs of rupees.

Acting on a tip-off, police arrested the prime accused, Sheikh Sadekul Haque Ansari, from his residence. Authorities seized a large number of counterfeit lottery tickets, a high-tech printing machine, a cutting machine, computers and cash. According to police, Ansari had secretly set up a printing unit inside his home, producing fake tickets and replicating official draw results to pass them off as genuine.

Preliminary investigations suggest the racket had been active for a long period and may have links across multiple states. Police are probing the network further to identify additional accomplices.

Ansari was produced before the Jhargram court on Tuesday, where he was remanded to four days of police custody. Authorities continue to investigate the extent of the illegal operation to dismantle the entire network. (w/nkm)

Fire breaks out at a house in Golmuri





Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A fire broke out late Monday night at House No. 38 on Sukhia Road in Golmuri, causing significant damage estimated at Rs 2-2.5 lakh. The incident took place at the residence of Haspreet Singh.

The exact cause of the fire is still under investigation.

At the time, Singh's mother and sister were away at a dentist's clinic, and he had just stepped out of the house when he noticed smoke emerging from one of the rooms. Within minutes, the fire escalated, creating panic in the neighborhood.

Neighbours rushed to the spot and alerted the fire brigade, which arrived promptly. With the support of local residents, the fire was brought under control after approximately half an hour.

By then, several household items, including a TV, refrigerator, furniture, and goods in the storeroom, were completely destroyed.

Fortunately, no casualties were reported, as the house was empty when the fire broke out.

Preliminary reports suggest a short circuit may have triggered the blaze, though officials are awaiting the investigation report for confirmation. The incident has raised concerns about fire safety in residential areas, with experts urging residents and authorities to install proper fire safety equipment and conduct regular safety checks to prevent such accidents. (W- pm)

Inauguration of Telkupi Barni Mission School marks educational milestone for Santali community

Rairangpur, Dec 2: A historic day for the Santali community unfolded on Tuesday as the Telkupi Barni Mission Residential Co-educational School was inaugurated via live broadcast from the ancestral home of Guru Gomke Pandit Raghunath Murmu. The ceremony combined tradition with modern educational vision.

The inauguration was formally conducted by Guru Gomke's daughter-in-law, Rukmini Murmu, with active participation from his grandsons, Chunyian Raghun Murmu and Bhimvar Murmu. Special guests included senior disciple Ramdas Murmu, a key promoter of the Ol Chiki script and Santali cultural revival and Gajendra Kisku, who contributed significantly to spreading Pandit Murmu's teachings. The event was organized by the Guru Gomke Pandit Raghunath Murmu Heritage Trust, led by President Chunyian Murmu, with active support from co-treasurer Sasmita Murmu and other members. Community leaders and committee members guided the ceremony, which was broadcast live to Purulia, connecting the wider Santali population. The school, a joint initiative of the trust and the Telkupi Barni committee, aims to provide quality education while preserving the Santali language, literature and cultural identity. Attendees described the inauguration as a symbol of educational and cultural renaissance, blending heritage with modern learning and inspiring unity and progress across the region. (w/nkm)

AI "Samarth Cascading" initiative launched in schools



Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 2: Government schools in Seraikela-Kharsawan district will implement the Artificial Intelligence "Samarth Cascading" initiative, aiming to enhance AI awareness among students and integrate technology into learning. The Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi, issued directives to all district education officers to ensure participation.

Schools will conduct special classes twice a week covering AI fundamentals, applications, practical examples and its educational importance. Teachers will also receive professional development training.

District Education Officer Kailash Mishra instructed block education officers to monitor implementation and ensure effective conduct of AI sessions across all schools to improve the quality of education through technological intervention. (w/nkm)

Ghatshila karate students shine at open championship

Mail News Service

Ghatshila, Dec 2: Students from Kao Ashi Kan Karate Do, Ghatshila, won 18 medals at the two-day open karate championship held on November 29–30 at Jain Bhavan, Sakchi, Jamshedpur. The event was organized by the Jharkhand Shorin Ryu Matsubashi Karate Do Association and included participants from Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal.

Under the guidance of Shihan Gopal Krishna Banerjee, a 5th dan karate expert, students secured six gold, six silver and six bronze medals. Gold medals in kata were won by Kripa Mahakud, Babli Das,



Mili Jamuda, Devansh Namata and Pradeep Mahato, who also claimed gold in kumite. Silver medals in kata went to Anushka Seet, Tanushree Mandal and Maino Hansda, while Kripa Mahakud, Someshwar Nayak and Abhi Arnav excelled in kumite. Bronze medals were won by Payal Samad, Ishika Das, Someshwar Nayak, Sushmita Kisku, Ankit Besra and Abhi Arnav.

The championship witnessed the presence of dignitaries including Krishna Kumar, Deputy Municipal Commissioner of JNAC, as chief guest. Shihan Banerjee congratulated the young champions, emphasizing the importance of discipline, dedication and sportsmanship in achieving success. (w/nkm)

Seed distribution drives held across Seraikela





Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 2: The Agriculture Department organised a series of seed distribution programmes in different blocks of the district to ensure timely availability of certified seeds and promote sustainable farming practices. At the Kharsawan Block Headquarters, 30 farmers were provided with 660 kg of gram (chana) seeds. The event saw the presence of the Block Pramukh, Zila Parishad members, ATM, BTM, BAO and other officials, along with local representatives, who actively contributed to the smooth conduct of the programme. Similarly, a distribution drive was held in Hesakocha Panchayat of Chandil Block, where 65 farmers received 130 kg of gram seeds and 130 kg of mustard seeds. Agriculture officials and local representatives guided farmers on government schemes and technical aspects of cultivation.

The Agriculture Department is conducting such programmes daily across various gram panchayats to ensure farmers get certified seeds, helping them improve both productivity and income. Officials stated that the key aim of the initiative is to provide farmers with high-quality gram and mustard seeds, promote alternative and high-yield farming methods and ensure timely benefits from farmer-friendly state schemes. Special emphasis is being placed on scientific techniques, advanced technologies and crop diversification to support long-term agricultural development in the district. (w/nkm)

Awareness vehicle flagged off to promote male sterilisation



Seraikela, Dec 2: As part of the ongoing NSV (Non-Scalpel Vasectomy) fortnight being observed by the Health Department, a male sterilisation awareness vehicle was flagged off from the Civil Surgeon's office premises on Tuesday.

Civil Surgeon Dr Saryu Prasad Singh inaugurated the awareness drive by waving the green flag. He said that extensive publicity is being carried out across all blocks to promote male sterilisation. The awareness vehicle will travel through every block of the district to inform people about the benefits and safety of the procedure.

Dr Singh emphasised the need for greater male participation in family planning. "Men must come forward so that the total fertility rate can be effectively controlled," he said.

Present on the occasion were District RCH Officer Dr O.P. Kesari, Sadar Hospital Deputy Superintendent, DPM Vinay Kumar, DPC Archana Tigga, DAM, DDM, DUHM, DQAC members, along with other staff of the Civil Surgeon's office, as well as Sahiyas, BTT and STT workers. (w/nkm)

Entrepreneurship awareness programme held at Government ITI, Kharsawan

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 2: The MSME Development Office, Ranchi—under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India—organised an Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme at Government ITI, Kharsawan. The initiative aimed at providing local entrepreneurs and aspiring business owners with comprehensive information on central and state government schemes, incentive provisions and available resources to support business establishment and expansion. More than 150 participants attended the programme and benefitted from the sessions.

The event began with a welcome address by Gaurav, Assistant Director, MSME Development Office, Ranchi. He outlined various entrepreneurship promotion schemes and elaborated on their objectives and structure. This was followed by detailed presentations from Kamleshwar Pramanik, CSPMT Seraikela and Gautam Kumar, Economist at the District Industries Centre (DIC), Seraikela. Both speakers explained state-run schemes for enterprise development, subsidies, technical assistance and procedural requirements. Arun Kumar Chaudhary from LSFC Seraikela provided guidance on enterprise registration, essential documents, application formalities and eligibility conditions for availing benefits. Additionally, Ramesh Kumar Singh, Instructor at Government ITI, Kharsawan, briefed participants on local opportunities, skill development and pathways to becoming self-reliant. Training officers Satyam Prasad Munda, Ashok Dehri and Ajay Paswan motivated participants and assisted in coordinating the event smoothly.

In the concluding session, Assistant Director Gaurav addressed queries from participants and shared detailed insights into enterprise registration, export promotion and major MSME schemes. He encouraged attendees to make full use of government initiatives and move towards innovation and new enterprise creation. (w/nkm)



Media Talent Hunt to discover young Congress spokespersons



Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 2: The Congress Party has initiated a nationwide "Media Talent Hunt" program to identify and nurture young, dynamic spokespersons. A press conference held on Tuesday at the Seraikela assembly, organized by the Jharkhand Congress Committee, officially announced the program.

Addressing the media, Akhtar Ali, in-charge of the Kolhan Media Talent Hunt and Congress (Minority Department) representative, outlined the party's selection process for new spokespersons. He emphasized the need for energetic youth who are dedicated to India and Jharkhand. "There are many talented young people in our society who understand national and social issues but lack the right platform. Congress aims to provide them a platform to refine and showcase their abilities," he said.

Ali further explained that the initiative seeks to develop speakers who can represent the party effectively before the media, articulate party positions on critical national and state issues and engage with the public with clarity and fairness.

Party district president Raj Bagchi highlighted that this initiative would serve as a milestone in strengthening Congress at the district level. He also referenced historical achievements, noting that while India conducted nuclear tests in 1974 during Congress rule, the government did not publicize them, unlike the current administration, which often seeks media attention for minor achievements. (w/nkm)

The press meet was attended by several senior party leaders, including Mohammad Ali, Vice President of the Jharkhand Congress Minority Front, Takil Akhtar, General Secretary of the State Minority Front, district General Secretary Tukoon Bhanj, Rajnagar Block President Prakash Mahto and numerous local party workers. (w/nkm)

Stolen bikes, illegal firearm seized during vehicle check



Seraikela, Dec 2: In a routine vehicle checking operation on Monday, police from Kuchai Police Station and Dalbhanga OP apprehended two suspects with stolen property, including two motorcycles, a tractor engine and a locally made firearm with a live round. The action was confirmed during a press conference held by Seraikela Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Sameer Kumar Savaiya at his office. According to SDPO Savaiya, the police stopped a "super" motorcycle carrying two suspicious youths and asked for documents. When they failed to provide proper identification and were questioned further, the duo admitted to stealing the bike. Acting on their guidance, police recovered another stolen bike, the tractor engine, the homemade firearm and live ammunition. The accused, identified as 23-year-old Mangal Munda alias Chode, son of Dhansingh Munda of Tola Birsing, Adki Police Station, Khunti district, has been arrested, while the other is a minor. A case has been registered under Sections 25(1-B)(a)/35 of the Arms Act.

SDPO Savaiya clarified that the arrested adult has no prior criminal record. The operation involved SDPO Savaiya, Inspector Nitin Kumar Singh, Kuchai PS In-charge Nar Singh Munda, Dalbhanga OP In-charge Ravindra Munda and other police personnel. The arrested adult has been sent to judicial custody while investigations continue. (w/nkm)

Workshop on Communicative English held at Institute for Education College

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Dec 2: A one-day workshop on Communicative English was organised at the Institute for Education College by the Department of English to enhance students' language proficiency, improve speaking skills and strengthen their overall communication abilities.

The workshop was inaugurated by the chief guest, College Director R.N. Mahanty, along with the resource person, Dr Rupa Sarkar, Associate Professor, Department of Engineering, Arka Jain University. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the lamp.

Addressing the students, Dr Rupa Sarkar emphasised the growing importance of English as an effective medium of communication. She said that whether it is personality development or pursuing higher education, English has become essential in today's competitive environment. She encouraged students to learn the language with interest and use it as a tool for developing their overall skills and confidence.



The organisers informed that the objective of the workshop was to promote communicative English and provide a more learner-friendly environment for language education. Teachers from the college actively participated and highlighted the need for not only learning English but also practising spoken English regularly.

The one-day session focused on improving pronunciation, interactive speaking exercises and building confidence among students, aiming to help them use English fluently in academics and everyday communication. (w/nkm)

Chandil student Nikita Jalan receives gold medal from Jharkhand Guv



Mail News Service

Chandil, Dec 2: Nikita Jalan of Chandil has been honored with a gold medal by the Governor of Jharkhand for topping the Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com) examinations. To celebrate her achievement, members of Shri Shyam Kala Bhavan, led by president Sanjay Chaudhary, visited her residence today. Nikita was felicitated with a ceremonial dupatta and a symbolic temple emblem as a mark of respect. President Sanjay Chaudhary expressed pride in her accomplishment, saying, "Nikita's success brings immense pride to the Marwari community. Talented students like her not only bring recognition to Chandil and the entire state of Jharkhand but also inspire the younger generation." He extended his best wishes for her bright future.

Rajiv Saw and Alok Bagdiya of Kala Bhavan added that "there is no shortcut to success. Honest efforts, discipline, strong character, and humility are the true paths to progress in life." Nikita's father, Neelkamal Jalan and her family expressed their immense pride in her achievement. The felicitation ceremony was attended by Kala Bhavan's vice president Rajiv Saw, Alok Bagdiya, Parmananand Pasari, Bholanath Jalan, Monty Chaudhary, Bikas Rungta, Harish Sultania, and other members who applauded Nikita's dedication and success. (w/nkm)

DC hears public grievances at weekly Janata Darbar



Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Dec 2: Deputy Commissioner Nitish Kumar Singh conducted the weekly Janata Darbar at his chamber in the District Collectorate on Monday, where he heard grievances from residents across various blocks of the district. A wide range of applications were submitted, including land dispute cases, demands for drain and road construction in Jagannathpur Panchayat of Gamharia block, requests for Jhar-Seva ID issuance, cancellation of the settlement of Murup sports ground in Seraikela, compassionate appointment cases and applications for inclusion of names in ration cards.

The Deputy Commissioner reviewed each application and instructed the concerned officials to ensure swift, transparent and impartial disposal of all cases on priority. He emphasized that citizens should not be compelled to make repeated visits to the district headquarters for basic issues.

DC Singh further directed officials to conduct Janata Darbars at the subdivision and block levels regularly so that public grievances could be resolved locally and in a timely manner. He added that effective coordination at lower administrative units would significantly reduce public inconvenience and improve service delivery. (w/nkm)

SDPO conducts annual inspection of Kandra Police Station



Mail News Service

Gamharia, Dec 2: On Tuesday, SDPO Sameer Kumar Savaya conducted the annual inspection of Kandra Police Station. He evaluated the station building, armory, record registers, case diaries and cleanliness of the premises. Officers were instructed to expedite pending cases, strengthen the beat system and improve public interaction. SDPO Savaya also warned staff against negligence in duty. Trainee DSP Pooja Kumari, Kandra PS In-Charge Vinod Kumar Murmu and other officers participated. The inspection emphasized accountability and adherence to proper policing standards. (w/nkm)

Tanishk, Aditi selected for National Junior Chess Championship 2025

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Dec 2: Two promising players from the West Singhbhum District Chess Association—Tanishk Kumar of Chaibasa and Aditi Kumari of Chakradharpur—have qualified for the National Junior Chess Championship 2025, scheduled from December 16 to 24 at Wave International, Jamshedpur. The event will draw nearly 300 players in the Open section and 250 players in the Girls' category from across India.

General Secretary of the district association, Basant Khandelwal, said the selection was based on their strong performance at the State Junior Chess Championship. Tanishk, a Class 11 student with an international rating of 1809, had earlier secured a place in the National Senior Championship this year, where he performed commendably.





Aditi, a Class 6 student of South Eastern Railway School, Chakradharpur, has also qualified this year for the School Games Federation of India's national-level event.

District Chess Association President Mukund Rungta congratulated both players and praised their parents for their support. He also appreciated chief coach Manish Kumar, noting that "his continuous efforts over the last two years through weekly training sessions at Sitaram Rungta Recreation Hall have produced excellent results." (w/nkm)

Strain behind voter revision

The ongoing controversy surrounding the Intensive Voter Revision (SIR) across twelve states and union territories raises serious questions about the health and functioning of India's democratic system. While revisions to voter lists have taken place many times before, the concerns emerging from the current process appear to be far more complex and troubling. What began as a routine administrative exercise has now escalated into a three-layered conflict-humanitarian, legal and political.

At the humanitarian level, the situation is alarming. Reports from states such as Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh highlight an unsettling trend: booth-level officers are collapsing under extreme workload and pressure to meet tight deadlines. Several cases of mental distress, resignations and even suicides have been reported. When government employees responsible for strengthening the electoral process are pushed to such limits, it reflects a deep misalignment between administrative expectations and human capacity. Even more troubling is the fact that, instead of receiving support, some officers have faced punitive action, including FIRs and suspensions. The boundary between discipline and coercion has blurred, creating an environment where duty feels like punishment.

Legally, the matter has reached the courts, but expecting quick relief is unrealistic. Judicial processes are inherently time-consuming and the urgency of the situation requires more immediate administrative interventions. The Election Commission has attempted to respond by extending the SIR deadline by one week. However, the reasoning behind this extension raises fresh concerns. The Commission stated that the additional time was granted to allow booth-level officers to share lists of deceased or migrated voters with political parties-suggesting that transparency, not the officers' relief, was the primary motivation. This does little to address the core issue of excessive burden on ground-level workers.

The political dimension has further complicated the process. The ruling NDA argues that the verification exercise is essential to eliminate illegal voters and strengthen electoral integrity. In contrast, the opposition contends that the extension itself is proof that the process was launched in haste and without adequate planning. Many opposition leaders argue that at least a month's additional time is necessary to ensure accuracy and fairness. Meanwhile, the human cost of this political tug-of-war continues to rise. If officers responsible for such a crucial task are pushed to breakdowns or worse, who bears accountability?

If the SIR exercise is to be completed smoothly and credibly, the Election Commission must recognize the gravity of the strain on booth-level officers. Electoral integrity cannot come at the cost of human lives. A democratic process is only as strong as the people who run it and their well-being must be at the center of every decision.

From the Editorial Desk

St. Francis Xavier: A flame that still lights India

On December 3rd, India observes the feast of St. Francis Xavier, a distinguished Jesuit saint whose name has become integral to the nation's educational and social landscape. For families of diverse faiths, "Xavier" instantly recalls trusted institutions: St. Xavier's Colleges in Mumbai, Kolkata, Ranchi, Ahmedabad, and Jaipur; centres such as XLRI-Xavier School of Management and XISS in Ranchi; and many Xavier schools across our cities and towns. The respect these institutions enjoy reflects the enduring strength of the Xavier legacy, rooted in the principles and values embodied by the man himself.

The story of Francis Xavier began in 1506 in Navarre, Spain, where he was born into a noble and educated family. Although he had every opportunity for comfort and academic success, his life took a transformative turn in Paris when he encountered Ignatius of Loyola. Ignatius challenged him with a question from the Scriptures, "What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his soul?" This question stirred something deep within him, inspiring him to choose a purpose higher than personal ambition. Xavier soon joined Ignatius as one of the first Jesuits, embracing a way of life marked by service, reflection, learning, and courage. The Jesuit ethos, which seeks God in all things and is characterised by being available for any mission and serving without distinction, has become central to his identity and continues to guide Xavier institutions across India. Despite his privileged upbringing, Xavier embraced a life of simplicity and service. His Jesuit training shaped him into a man attentive to the needs of others, open to learning new languages, and



ready to cross cultural boundaries with humility. When he arrived in Goa in 1542, he travelled through villages, taught children, visited homes, comforted the sick, and encouraged families. His journeys later took him to Malacca, the Moluccas, and Japan, where he interacted with scholars, leaders, and even royalty. His ability to converse with both kings and villagers emerged not from status but from genuine curiosity and a desire to build bridges. His life showed that authentic leadership grows from listening, learning, and serving wholeheartedly.

Although Xavier died in 1552 without fulfilling his dream of reaching China, his legacy continues to thrive in India. His name has become synonymous with education that nurtures both intellect and character. Xavier institutions across the country form young people who are competent, compassionate, and committed to the greater good. Many of India's respected leaders in public service, business, science, the arts, and social transformation have emerged from these institutions, carrying forward values of integrity and responsibility.

The legacy of Francis Xavier is also evident in the remarkable contributions of Jesuits in India today. Following his spirit, Jesuits continue to work quietly and effectively across multiple fields. Some, like Jesuit Father Savarimuthu Ignacimuthu, stand among the top one per cent of scientists in biology, a testament to the Jesuit commitment to academic excellence. Others serve in retreat houses, helping people discover spiritual depth and direction. Many work among tribal and Dalit communities, accompanying the excluded, defending their rights, and promoting their dignity. Jesuit social centres address migration, displacement, and advocacy, giving voice to those unheard. In the realms of music, dance, and creative expression, Jesuits have enriched India's cultural heritage with songs and performances rooted in hope, justice, and faith. As we celebrate Francis Xavier today, we remember not only a historical figure but a guiding presence whose values continue to inspire India. His Jesuit spirit endures in every classroom, every social initiative, every scientific pursuit, and every effort to uplift human dignity. This steady flame still lights the way for the future of our nation.

Fr (Dr) Mukti Clarence, S.J., is an Assistant Professor at XLRI, Jamshedpur.

Gumla-born hero who redefined courage

PVC Lance Naik Albert Ekka: The fearless soldier who crushed enemy bunkers in the 1971 War

PVC Lance Naik Albert Ekka's heroic saga remains one of the finest examples of raw courage, duty and sacrifice in the history of the Indian Armed Forces. Born on December 27, 1942, in Jari village under Dumri block of Gumla district, Jharkhand, Ekka grew up close to nature. Like many tribal youths, he enjoyed trekking long distances and hunting with bow and arrow. Known for his agility and love for adventure, he excelled in sports and was driven by a deep sense of patriotism. After completing his early education at C.C. School Patraroli and later at Nampur School, Ekka enlisted in the Bihar Regiment in December 1962. When the 14 Guards Regiment was formed, he and several comrades were transferred there. His discipline and skill earned him the rank of Lance Naik during training itself.

The 1971 battlefield: A test of pure valour

When Pakistan launched an attack on India in 1971, 14 Guards of the 4 Corps was assigned the crucial task of capturing Gangasagar. Advancing through several villages, the battalion took position about 4 km south of Akhaura railway station-an area heavily fortified by Pakistani forces. Instead of retreating, Indian soldiers pushed forward, engaging in fierce close combat.

Lance Naik Albert Ekka noticed that a Pakistani light machine gunner was inflicting heavy casualties on Indian troops. Displaying complete disregard for his own safety, he leapt into the enemy bunker, bayoneted two



soldiers and silenced the weapon. Severely injured in this effort, he continued advancing with his company, helping clear enemy positions one after another.

A major obstacle lay at the northern edge of the objective-an elevated two-storey structure housing a medium machine gun. Its deadly fire was preventing Indian forces from gaining ground. Despite profuse bleeding and intense pain, Ekka crawled toward the structure through heavy fire, lobbed a grenade into the bunker and eliminated one enemy soldier while injuring another. When the machine gun persisted, Ekka climbed the side wall, stormed into the upper bunker and killed the gunner, finally silencing the weapon. This breakthrough allowed Indian troops to advance successfully.

Mortally wounded, Lance Naik Ekka attained martyrdom on December 3, 1971. For his unmatched courage and supreme sacrifice, he was posthumously awarded India's highest military honour, the Param Vir Chakra.

Honoured across borders

The 1971 war resulted in the creation of Bangladesh, which later honoured Ekka with the 'Friends of Liberation War Honour' for his extraordinary contribution. In India, his legacy lives on, with a major road in Ranchi named after him. Lance Naik Albert Ekka's bravery continues to inspire generations, symbolizing the finest traditions of the Indian Army-courage, sacrifice and unwavering duty.

'Thrones of power to temples of service': India rewrites the grammar of governance

In a nation that once measured authority by the grandeur of its titles, something subtle yet seismic is unfolding.

Raj Bhavans, the colonial-era palaces that housed Governors in regal splendour, are steadily being rechristened "Lok Bhavan" - the People's House.

What sounds like a mere linguistic footnote is, in truth, the latest verse in a decade-long poem Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been composing about the very soul of public office. The majestic avenue once called Rajpath - literally the Path of Rule - awoke one morning in 2022 as Kartavya Path -- the Path of Duty. A six-kilometre stretch of asphalt now preaches every day to millions that power is not a privilege to parade but a responsibility to shoulder.

In 2016, the Prime Minister himself vacated 7, Race Course Road - a colonial address dripping with exclusivity - and



moved into Lok Kalyan Marg; the Road of People's Welfare. A quiet declaration that the highest home in the land belongs, first and foremost, to the citizen.

Walk today into the nerve centre of Indian administration and you will no longer find the Central Secretariat. In its place stands "Kartavya Bhavan" - the House of Duty - where files move not under the shadow of imperial domes but beneath nameplates that remind every officer, you are here to serve, not to rule.

Even South Block and North Block, the twin fortresses of bureaucracy, now share a new campus called "Seva Teerth" - the Pilgrimage of Service. A workplace reimagined as sacred ground where policy is not wielded as a weapon but offered as worship to 1.4 billion people. These are not random renamings by an image-obsessed government. They are deliberate strokes on a canvas that began taking shape the day Narendra Modi took oath in 2014.

One by one, the old symbols of satta - dominion, control, distance - are being replaced by the vocabulary of seva and kartavya: service and duty, closeness and answerability.

Symbols, of course, are only the surface. Yet in India, where culture runs deeper than the Constitution, a name change is often the first whisper of a change in nature.

When buildings that once intimidated now welcome, when roads that once celebrated rulers now celebrate responsibility, something inside the collective psyche shifts. India is teaching herself a new lesson; government is not a throne to be occupied but a trust to be honoured.

And under this quiet linguistic revolution, an old democracy is learning, name by name, street by street, to place the people where they always belonged - at the very centre of power.

Over 31 crore unorganised and 5.09 lakh gig workers now registered on e-Shram portal

Over 31.38 crore unorganised workers and over 5.09 lakh gig and platform workers have been registered on the e-Shram portal till November, the Parliament was informed on Monday.

So far, 14 schemes of different Central ministries and department have already been integrated and mapped with e-Shram portal to provide access to social security, health benefits and welfare schemes, said Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Shobha Karandlaje in written reply to a question in Lok Sabha.

The government launched the e-Shram (National Database of Unorganised Workers) portal on August 26, 2021 to register unorganised, Gig and Platform workers (seeded with Aadhaar) by providing them with a Universal Account Number (UAN) on a self-declaration basis. The government, in the Union Budget for financial year 2025-26, announced several key measures for the welfare of gig workers of online platforms via their registration on the e-Shram portal, issuance of identity cards and extension of health care benefits under Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). Notably, the government is implementing Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme named as the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana to support employment generation, enhance employability and social security across all sectors, with special focus on the manufacturing sector. The scheme with an outlay of Rs 99,446 crore aims to incentivise the creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs in the country, over a period of 2 years.Moreover, the measures for ensuring timely grievance redressal, compliance with minimum wages and safe working conditions across sectors in the States have been provided in the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Wages, 2019 and the Code on Social Security, 2020 respectively.

Medicines alone will not solve global obesity woes: WHO

While obesity is growing as a global health challenge contributing to millions of preventable deaths each year, the World Health Organisation (WHO), in a new report on Monday, said that medications like Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) alone will not solve the problem affecting more than one billion people worldwide.

WHO defines obesity as having a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or higher in adults.

It has approved GLP-1 therapies to treat obesity as a chronic, relapsing disease. GLP-1 receptor agonists are a class of medicines that help lower blood sugar, support weight loss, reduce the risk of heart and kidney complications and can even lower the risk of early death in people with type 2 diabetes.

But the global demand for GLP-1 therapies has fueled the spread of falsified and substandard products, threatening patient safety and trust.

In view of this, the WHO has released its first guideline on the use of GLP-1 therapies, providing recommendations specifically for three agents used in the long-term treatment of obesity in adults: liraglutide, semaglutide and tirzepatide.

With the new guideline, the WHO has issued conditional recommendations for using



these therapies to support people living with obesity in overcoming this serious health challenge, as part of a comprehensive approach that includes healthy diets, regular physical activity and support from health professionals.

"Obesity is a major global health challenge that WHO is committed to addressing by supporting countries and people worldwide to control it, effectively and equitably. Our new guidance recognises that obesity is a chronic disease that can be treated with comprehensive and lifelong care," WHO Director-General. Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"While medication alone won't solve this global health crisis, GLP-1 therapies can help millions overcome obesity and reduce its associated harms," he added.

Obesity is a complex, chronic disease and a major driver of noncommunicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases and type 2 diabetes and some types of cancer. It also contributes to poorer outcomes for patients who have infectious diseases. In addition, the global economic cost of obesity is predicted to reach $3 trillion annually by 2030.

The new guidelines can help efforts to reduce skyrocketing health costs associated with managing the condition and associated health complications.

The new WHO guidance maintains that the GLP-1 therapies may be used by adults, but excluding pregnant women, for the long-term treatment of obesity.

Individuals using the GLP-1 therapies must also be offered intensive behavioural interventions, including structured interventions involving a healthy diet and physical activity.

"While GLP-1 therapies represent the first efficacious treatment option for adults with obesity, the WHO guideline emphasises that medicines alone will not solve the problem. Obesity is not only an individual concern but also a societal challenge that requires multisectoral action," the report said.

It recommended creating healthier environments through robust population-level policies to promote health and prevent obesity; protect individuals at high risk of developing obesity and related comorbidities through targeted screening and structured early interventions; and ensure access to lifelong,

Sensex, Nifty recover from early fall as profit booking keeps markets volatile

Mumbai, Dec 2 (IANS) Indian stock markets opened with a sharp gap-down on Tuesday but soon recovered some losses as investors continued to book profits after the recent rally.

The Sensex was trading at around 85,508, down 134 points or 0.16 per cent, while the Nifty slipped 31 points or 0.12 per cent to 26,145.

"The Nifty's positional trend remains bullish, with strong support at the 26000-26050 zone. On the higher side, 26300 could offer resistance on a closing basis," market watchers added.

Heavyweights such as HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Ultratech Cement, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Tata Steel, Tata Motors PV, Titan Company and Power Grid dragged the indices lower.



Eternal also remained under pressure during the early trade.

However, selective buying in stocks like Asian Paints, Infosys, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finance, SBI, Maruti Suzuki, NTPC, HUL, and L&T helped the Sensex limit its losses and attempt a mild recovery.

In the broader market space, the Nifty MidCap index edged up 0.27 per cent, indicating some buying interest in mid-sized companies. On the other hand, the Nifty SmallCap index slipped 0.12 per cent.

Sector-wise, financial stocks were among the worst performers, with the Nifty Financial Services index falling 0.7 per cent and the Nifty Bank index dropping 0.4 per cent.

Meanwhile, the Nifty PSU Bank index gained 0.9 per cent, emerging as the top performer, followed by the Nifty Auto index, which rose 0.4 per cent.

Analysts said that markets remained volatile as traders continued to take profits amid mixed global cues.

"Investors can use the current period of consolidation to slowly accumulate fairly-valued largecaps and growth-oriented midcaps which will lead the next leg of rally in the market," analysts stated.

The Smallcap segment continues to be over-valued. The Bank Nifty, despite the recent run up, have the potential to impart resilience to the market since there is valuation comfort in this segment. The pick up in credit growth is another positive for the segment.

Putin's India visit to deepen strategic ties, boost trade and nuclear cooperation: Kremlin

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Russian President Vladimir Putin's upcoming visit to India will deliver "significant outcomes" across strategic, defence, energy and trade sectors, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said on Tuesday.

The visit, he said during an online media briefing organised by Sputnik News at the India Habitat Centre here, is set to further consolidate a relationship rooted in "mutual understanding, partnership and a shared vision of global affairs based on the rule of law".

Peskov underscored the historical depth of the partnership, noting that Moscow has stood "shoulder to shoulder" with India in crucial phases of its growth.

He emphasised that strategic and defence cooperation remain "sensitive areas," but reaffirmed Russia's readiness to share its expanded expertise in various domains, including emerging technologies.

Energy and nuclear cooperation are expected to feature prominently in the talks between President Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Peskov said Russia continues to supply energy to India at



competitive prices, calling it a "mutual benefit".

On the nuclear front, he confirmed ongoing collaboration and future projects, stating that Russian assistance has helped create "a separate sectoral ecosystem" within India's nuclear industry. Trade is likely to be a key focus during the visit. Russia-India bilateral trade has touched $63 billion, with a target of crossing $100 billion before 2030.

However, Peskov acknowledged attempts by "some actors" to obstruct the trade relationship, in an indirect attack against the United States.

To address the current imbalance, he said Russia intends to increase imports from India.

A business congress involving companies from both countries will convene a day before President Putin's arrival to identify opportunities for boosting Indian exports, Peskov said.

On geopolitical issues, Peskov expressed appreciation for India's nuanced position on the Ukraine conflict, referencing Prime Minister Modi's statement that "this is not an era of war".

He said Russia values India's willingness to listen to Moscow's perspective, contrasting it with the lack of dialogue with Europe.

He also confirmed ongoing negotiations involving US interlocutors, adding that Moscow remains open to peaceful settlement efforts.

Addressing Moscow's growing ties with Beijing, Peskov said Russia seeks to enhance cooperation "in every field as far as India allows", stressing that the partnerships with India and China are both strong but independent.

Defence issues, including the S-400 missile defence system and the Sukhoi-57 fighter jets, are expected to come up during Putin's visit.

Peskov noted that Russian-origin platforms currently constitute 36 per cent of India's defence imports.

Sanchar Saathi app not mandatory, can be deleted: Scindia amid privacy row



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Sanchar Saathi mobile app is not mandatory and can be deleted, said Union Minister for Communications Jyotiraditya Scindia on Tuesday, amid the privacy row. Speaking to the media, Scindia noted that keeping the app is up to individuals, and it can be deleted from smartphones.

"If you don't want Sanchar Saathi, you can delete it. It is optional... It is our duty to introduce this app to everyone. Keeping it in their devices or not is up to the user," the Union Minister said. He also added that the "platform does not enable snooping or call monitoring".

The clarification comes as the Centre's move to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi mobile application on all new mobile handsets manufactured or imported for use in India was seen as a breach of privacy.

Criticising the move, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra called it a "violation of privacy and a step toward authoritarian governance". The government maintained that it aims to safeguard the citizens from buying non-genuine items. As per the guidelines, issued on November 28, mobile manufacturers and importers have to ensure that the pre-installed Sanchar Saathi application is readily visible and accessible to the end users at the time of first use or device setup and that its functionalities are not disabled or restricted.

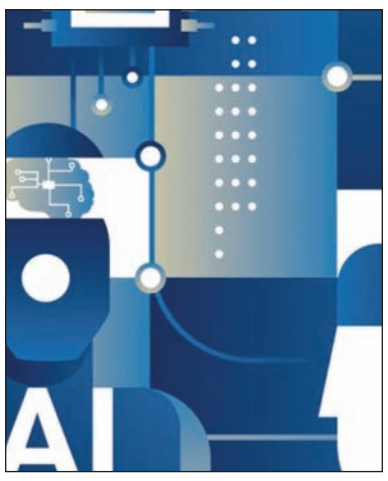
India can help tackle digital inequality, build an inclusive AI future for world: UNDP

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) India is well-positioned to tackle digital inequality and shape an inclusive transition in Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the world, said a new United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report released on Tuesday.

While AI is advancing at a historic pace, strong digital ecosystems in some countries and limited connectivity, skills, and infrastructure in others are widening gaps. The report, focussed on the Asia Pacific region, warned that without deliberate action, AI could widen gaps in income, opportunity, and governance, reversing years of progress in reducing global inequality.

However, it showed that India's digital public infrastructure, expanding AI research ecosystem, and large technology workforce provide a strong foundation to scale AI for public value.

"India's digital strengths give it a head start in building an AI future that works for everyone. AI is already strengthening public health, improving climate resilience, and supporting better services. The real test is ensuring these gains reach every community," said Dr Angela Lusigi, Resident Representative,



UNDP India. "The choices we make now will determine whether AI narrows gaps or widens them. India can lead by ensuring its benefits reach rural communities, women, and young people, not only those already connected," she added.

The report highlighted India as a country that can demonstrate how AI can be scaled safely and inclusively.

India is already applying AI to strengthen major public systems. Aadhaar, the world's largest biometric ID system with over 1.3 billion residents, is the biggest example. It has been increasingly paired with AI to reduce fraud, improve targeting, and ensure benefits reach the right households.

The country's health sector is also seeing increasing AI adaptation, especially in chest X-ray interpretation in tuberculosis screening, and to tackle climate change, to predict floods and other weather conditions.

AI is also being applied in India's agriculture sector to help authorities identify climate-vulnerable districts and guide climate-smart agriculture, as well as strengthen biodiversity with AI-enabled species identification and real-time alerts.

AI's long-term impact will depend on choices made now -- especially investments in digital governance, inclusion, and safeguards, the report said.

It called "for India to continue leading on people-first AI, focusing on transparency, equitable access, and participation of marginalised communities in designing AI systems".

"With the right policies, India can help steer the region away from a new era of inequality and toward an inclusive AI future that advances the Sustainable Development Goals," it added.

Prada Group buys Versace in $1.37 billion deal



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) The Prada Group on Tuesday announced that it has officially acquired luxury fashion label Versace in a deal worth $1.37 billion.

With this move, Versace will now operate under the same umbrella as Prada and Miu Miu, bringing together some of Italy's most influential fashion brands.

The deal marks the end of Versace's ownership under Capri Holdings, the US-based luxury group that had controlled the brand through the post-pandemic years.

Capri Holdings said the money received from the sale will be used to repay most of its debt, a step that will strengthen its financial position and improve its flexibility for future investments.

John D. Idol, Chairman and CEO of Capri Holdings, said the sale will help reduce the company's debt burden and improve its leverage ratio.

He added that Capri will now focus on growing its remaining brands -- Michael Kors and Jimmy Choo -- and expects the company to stabilise this year and return to growth by fiscal 2027.

Versace has faced challenges in recent years, with slower retail growth after 2022 and a mixed performance in early 2025.

Passenger vehicle sales jump 21 pc in Nov as GST cuts boost demand

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) India's passenger vehicle market recorded strong growth in November, with domestic wholesales rising to around 4.25 lakh units, marking a year-on-year jump of 20.7 per cent.

The surge in demand was driven largely by reduced prices after the recent GST rationalisation, which has encouraged customers to buy new vehicles. Maruti Suzuki India (MSIL) reported that the market sentiment remains very strong.

Partho Banerjee, senior executive officer of marketing and sales at MSIL, said during a virtual press conference that eight of the company's models are completely sold out at



the factory level, with no units available for dispatch. He added that dealers currently have around 80,000 units in stock, which is equal to 19 days of inventory, while another 40,000 units are on the way. MSIL's domestic wholesales rose 21 per cent year-on-year to 170,971 units in November.

Banerjee also said that December is expected to be another strong month as the production team is working overtime to meet demand. Overall, he estimated that the industry's passenger vehicle wholesales in November this year were about 425,000 units compared to roughly 352,000 units in November last year. For the full financial year FY26, he expects the auto industry to grow by 5-6 per cent.Industry data from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) earlier showed that domestic PV wholesales had grown 17.2 per cent year-on-year in October, touching 460,739 units, supported by festive demand and GST reforms.

Apple appoints Amar Subramanya as vice president of AI

Cupertino (California), Dec 2 (IANS) Apple has announced to appoint renowned AI researcher Amar Subramanya as vice president of AI, reporting to Craig Federighi. The company said that John Giannandrea, Apple's senior vice president for Machine Learning and AI Strategy, is stepping down from his position and will serve as an advisor to the company before retiring in the spring of 2026.

"Subramanya will be leading critical areas, including Apple Foundation Models, ML research, and AI Safety and Evaluation. The balance of Giannandrea's organisation will shift to Sabih Khan and Eddy Cue to align closer with similar organisations," Apple announced.

Subramanya brings a wealth of experience to Apple, having most recently served as corporate vice president of AI at Microsoft, and previously spent 16 years at Google, where he was head of engineering for Google's Gemini Assistant prior to his departure. His deep expertise in both AI and ML research and in integrating that research into products and features will be important to Apple's ongoing innovation and future Apple Intelligence features, said the tech giant.

Centre has disbursed Rs 1,635 crore as subsidy under PM E-DRIVE Scheme: Minister



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) The government has disbursed Rs 1,634.62 crore as subsidy under the PM E-DRIVE Scheme till November 23 this year, the Parliament was informed on Tuesday. Minister of State for Heavy Industries Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, said that an allocation of Rs 500 crore has been made under the PM E-DRIVE Scheme towards e-ambulances, and stakeholder consultations have been done to notify guidelines for e-ambulances.

The scheme has been extended till March 31, 2028, for e-ambulances, including other segments, but for e2Ws and e-3Ws, the terminal date remains March 31, 2026, he added. Verma further stated that under the PM E-DRIVE scheme, there is an allocation of Rs 2,000 crore for the setting up of electric vehicles' public charging infrastructure. As on November 23 this year, no grants have been disbursed for the installation of such charging infrastructure. Two oil marketing companies have shown interest and submitted proposals for the installation of electric vehicles' public charging infrastructure under the PM E-DRIVE Scheme. He also said that under the PM E-DRIVE Scheme, 1,500 e-buses have been allocated to Mumbai and 2,800 e-buses have been allocated to Delhi. Other than Mumbai, 1,000 e-buses have been allocated to Pune in Maharashtra.

New Labour Codes to boost employee welfare, ease of doing business in IT sector

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) India's new Labour Codes will transform the Information Technology (IT) sector's working culture by strengthening both employer capabilities and employee welfare, the government said on Tuesday.

By simplifying compliance, formalising diverse work arrangements, expanding social security, and enhancing workplace safety, the codes create an enabling ecosystem that supports innovation, productivity, and inclusive growth, according to an official statement.

For IT sector, these reforms are particularly significant as they provide clarity on wages, fixed-term employment, work-from-home arrangements, and workplace safety standards.

By streamlining regulatory processes,



enhancing gender inclusivity, and encouraging digital record-keeping, the codes help IT companies to safeguard employee welfare, ultimately contributing to sustainable growth and global competitiveness.

The codes introduced single registration, single return filing, and a single licence valid across India, replacing multiple registrations under different Acts. For IT companies operating across multiple states or campuses, this reduces compliance duplication, administrative costs, and bureaucratic delays.

Employers can hire employees for a fixed term with the same wages, benefits, and social security as permanent workers. This allows companies to staff according to project timelines without long term contracts.

The codes provide for monetary penalties instead of criminal prosecution for minor procedural violations. Employers have 30 days to rectify non-compliance before penalties apply, encouraging a cooperative compliance environment.

The reforms also allowed wage fixation based on skill levels certified under the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) to reward certified skills and skill advancement with higher pay and career progression.

The government had released new Labour Codes -- The Code on Wages 2019 (WC), The Industrial Relations Code, 2020 (IR), The Code on Social Security, 2020 (SS), The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 (OSH &WC), to simplify compliance, promote flexibility, and provide social security to all types of workers, including contract and gig employees.

Samsung unveils Galaxy Z TriFold, its 1st triple-folding phone



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Samsung Electronics on Tuesday unveiled the Galaxy Z TriFold, a new foldable smartphone that opens twice to reveal a large 10-inch display. With this launch, Samsung has expanded its leadership in innovative phone designs for the AI-driven mobile era.

The company said the TriFold builds on a decade of experience in the foldable category and introduces its most advanced engineering yet.

TM Roh, CEO and Head of the Device eXperience Division at Samsung Electronics, said the company continues to push boundaries to shape the future of mobile technology.He added that the Galaxy Z TriFold solves one of the industry's biggest challenges by combining portability, premium performance, and productivity in a single device.

Samsung said the TriFold was designed using insights from how people use their devices.

The unique multi-folding design uses an inward-folding mechanism that protects the main screen and includes an auto-alert feature that notifies users if the phone is folded incorrectly.

India never provokes, but do not leave evil-doers: Rajnath Singh



Ahmedabad, Dec 2 (IANS) Sending a strong message to its western neighbour, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday that India is a peace-loving nation and does not provoke anyone, but is prepared to eliminate anyone who disturbs peace and harmony in the country.

"India is a peace-loving nation. We provoke no one. But if provoked, we do not spare anyone who casts an evil eye on our motherland," said the Defence Minister, in a stern warning to Pakistan, while speaking at a Sardar Sabha event in Vadodara during the 'Unity March' organised by MY Bharat to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Vallabhbhai Patel.

The Defence Minister said that Operation Sindoor stands as decisive proof that India gives a befitting reply to those who do not understand the language of peace and goodwill.

He further praised the armed Forces for the successful operation, noting that the world now acknowledges their courage and capability.

Rajnath Singh also compared India's firm action against terrorism to Patel's uncompromising leadership during the integration of Hyderabad.

The Union minister pointed out that Patel's vision of 'One India, Best India' has been strengthened under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, highlighting the abrogation of Article 370 as a decisive step in integrating Jammu & Kashmir with the national mainstream.

He added that a once-hesitant India now speaks with confidence on global platforms, reflecting its rise as a major economic and strategic power.

Tracing the country's economic climb from the 11th position in 2014 to the 4th today, Singh credited the Union government's model of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance'.

He said the Union is weaving India together through cultural, social, spiritual and economic unity, moving towards the goal of Viksit Bharat 2047.

On defence, Singh said the government is advancing Patel's emphasis on modernisation, while pointing out the sharp rise in defence exports, 34 times higher in the past 11 years, and reiterated the target of achieving Rs 3 lakh crore in defence production and Rs 50,000 crore in exports by 2029 under the Make-in-India push.

He also underlined the government's push for accountability through the proposed Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, which mandates that officials arrested on serious charges and denied bail within 30 days automatically lose their position.

Urging young Indians to uphold unity and integrity, Singh said the responsibility of protecting the nation's sovereignty lies with the next generation.

"We must not only embrace the values of Patel but also prepare future generations to live by them," he said.

Kashi Tamil Sangamam deepens spirit of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat: PM Modi



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Conveying his best wishes for the Kashi Tamil Sangamam that began on Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that this vibrant programme "deepens the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat."

Taking it to X, PM Modi said, "As the Kashi Tamil Sangamam begins today, I convey my best wishes for this vibrant programme which deepens the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.' I wish everyone coming for the Sangamam a pleasant and memorable stay in Kashi!"

The fourth edition of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam, a cultural and educational exchange program between Tamil Nadu and Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), begins on Tuesday and runs from December 2 to 15 this year.

Launched in 2022, the initiative seeks to rekindle the ancient civilisational, linguistic, and spiritual ties linking Tamil Nadu and Kashi (Varanasi).

Ahead of the inauguration, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed his enthusiasm for the event on X.

"I will witness the fourth edition of 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam', a vibrant expression of Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat, beginning today in the sacred city of Varanasi, the abode of Baba Vishwanath," he posted.

"This grand event, commencing with the theme 'Let us Learn Tamil', will once again serve as a medium to weave together the culture and traditions of North and South India into a single thread. Under the guidance of the esteemed Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji, today's 'New India' is at the pinnacle of Vedic and cultural consciousness," he added.

The first edition in 2022, held over nearly a month, saw enthusiastic participation from scholars, students, artists and pilgrims from both states.

The third edition, initially planned for December 2024, was later rescheduled and conducted from February 15 to 24, 2025. Officials have confirmed that the upcoming fourth edition will open in Varanasi on December 2, with the concluding ceremony to be held at Rameswaram, symbolically linking the sacred northern and southern ends of the Indian subcontinent.

This year's theme, "Learn Tamil", highlights the richness of the Tamil language and its classical literary heritage, with a particular focus on engaging students from northern states.

Violates parliamentary dignity: BJP criticizes LoP Gandhi, Renuka Chowdhury over dog row



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) The BJP on Tuesday hit out at Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi and Congress MP Renuka Chowdhury over the ongoing dog controversy, alleging that their remarks amounted to an affront to the dignity of Parliament.

Renuka Chowdhury, who sparked a debate with sharp remarks after bringing a rescued stray puppy to the Parliament complex in her car on Monday before sending it home, received implicit support from LoP Gandhi.

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament on Tuesday, LoP Gandhi said, "These are the things that India is discussing these days."

When asked about the row, he added, "Dog is the main topic today, I believe. What did the poor dog do? Are they not allowed here?"

After being informed that pets are prohibited within the premises, he replied, "Pets are allowed inside," indicating towards the Parliament building.

The controversy unfolded on Monday when Chowdhury arrived with the stray dog and responded sharply to questions about breaching parliamentary protocol.

Speaking on the controversy, she said, "Is there any law? I was on my way. A scooter collided with a car. This little puppy was wandering on the road. I thought it would get hit. So I picked it up, put it in the car, came to Parliament, and sent it back home. The car left, and so did the dog."

Chowdhury further said, "Does the government have nothing else to do? I sent the dog home and told them to keep it at home. Those who bite are sitting inside."

At a press briefing at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi, the party's national spokesperson, Sambit Patra, criticised Renuka Chowdhury's comments, stating, "When she was asked a question by a member of the media, not by another MP, she responded sarcastically and in a joking manner.

Opposition calls SIR a 'human tragedy' after BLOs' deaths



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Opposition parties on Tuesday intensified their criticism of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise, calling it a "human tragedy" following reports of several Booth-Level Officers (BLOs) allegedly dying by suicide due to work-related stress. They also demanded an urgent discussion on the issue in the Parliament.

Talking to reporters outside the Parliament, Trinamool Congress MP Sagarika Ghose said: "Because of the government's policies, there is an atmosphere of mistrust. We have not been given any assurance about when or even whether the discussion we are demanding on SIR will be taken up. SIR has become a human tragedy. With SIR, people are dying. Parliament cannot sit quietly in the face of such a tragedy."

Trinamool MP Kirti Azad also raised concerns, alleging electoral manipulation.

"There is no doubt that there has been 'vote chori.' The government has stolen votes and continues to do so. If everything is transparent, why is the government afraid of holding a discussion on SIR in Parliament?"

Congress MP Jebi Mather echoed the demand for debate.

"The Congress party and opposition are protesting because our demand is legitimate. We want a discussion on electoral reforms, especially on SIR. What is stopping the government? What are they afraid of? They can simply schedule a date and time."

Shiv Sena-UBT MP Priyanka Chaturvedi expressed concern over the treatment of BLOs.

"If you want to conduct SIR, first examine how it is being implemented. More than 30 BLOs have died, some by suicide. This reflects the pressure and unrealistic targets imposed on them. Yet, there is no room for a meaningful discussion. Those staging a drama of democracy cannot lecture us. The Election Commission, agencies, and even the Constitution are being undermined," Chaturvedi told IANS.

Nothing is permanent in politics : Siddaramaiah hours after solidarity remark on Cong 'crisis'



Bengaluru, Dec 2 (IANS) Hours after expressing solidarity with Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar on Tuesday amid the ongoing leadership "tussle" in the state, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah triggered a fresh row with his remark that nothing was permanent in politics. Speaking to Congress MLA Belur Gopalakrishna, Siddaramaiah, unaware of the presence of media microphones, said, "Nothing is permanent in politics. I don't worry about anything; politics is not our father's property. I have never thought much of such matters. Whatever has to happen will happen."

According to political experts, these comments raised questions about the "truth" in CM Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar's joint assertion of unity. Earlier in the day, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah relished idlis and a non-vegetarian dish during a breakfast meeting at the residence of Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress President. Shivakumar's brother and former MP D.K. Suresh, along with Congress MLA and Shivakumar's staunch supporter H.D. Ranganath, also joined the breakfast.

BSF recovered 278 'rogue' drones this year intruding India from Pakistan, says top official



Chandigarh, Dec 2 (IANS) The Western Command of the Border Security Force (BSF), which actively countered Pakistani drones used for surveillance and potential attacks, deploying anti-drone systems to detect, jam, and neutralise intruding platforms, on Tuesday said it recovered 278 'rogue' drones intruding into the Indian territory this year. Also, the guarding force carried out significant seizures and apprehensions along the border with Pakistan to counter smuggling and illegal infiltration.

This year, the BSF seized more than 380 kg of heroin and more than 200 weapons, besides 53 Pakistani intruders or smugglers have been apprehended. Its operations on the Western Border primarily focus on stopping drone-based smuggling of narcotics and weapons. The BSF celebrated its diamond jubilee at both of its campuses -- one in Lakhnaur in Mohali, near here in Punjab, and another in Chandigarh.

Additional Director General of BSF's Western Command, Satish S. Khandare, along with Seema Praharis (Border Guards), saluted the national flag and paid heartfelt tribute to the BSF martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the security of the nation.

Khandare told the media that the BSF was raised on December 1, 1965, as the 'First Line of Defence' with 25 battalions and now has 193 battalions and safeguards a total of 6,386 km of international border along Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Western Command is manning 2,289.66 km along the India-Pakistan border. This force has grown into the largest border guarding force in the world with a strength of more than 2.76 lakh brave men and women comprising of Air Wing, Water Wing and Artillery Regiments. The Chandigarh-based Western Command is responsible for border management on the Indo-Pakistan border along with five frontiers -- Kashmir, Jammu, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat, besides three subsidiary training centres. Despite the difficult terrain and harsh climatic conditions, BSF jawans are effectively preventing cross-border crimes such as infiltration, smuggling of narcotics, arms, ammunition, etc. During Operation Sindoor, the BSF played a pivotal role in retaliating against Pakistani aggression, defending border posts, destroying enemy infrastructure and thwarting infiltration attempts. During recent floods in Punjab and Jammu, the BSF conducted extensive rescue and relief operations, while simultaneously maintaining strict vigil along the international Border.

Mamata set for anti-SIR rallies in Bengal's Malda, Murshidabad; focus on Rajbanshi votes too



Kolkata, Dec 2 (IANS) West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will hold two consecutive anti-Special Intensive Revision (SIR) rallies on Wednesday and Thursday in the minority-dominated districts of Malda and Murshidabad, aiming to sustain the Trinamool Congress's opposition to the ongoing electoral roll revision process in the state.

A senior West Bengal cabinet member, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed the itinerary of the Chief Minister.

"She will be leaving for Malda on Tuesday evening, and on Wednesday, she will address a rally against the SIR at Gajole Maidan in Malda on Wednesday. On Thursday, she will address a similar anti-SIR rally at the Baharampur stadium in Murshidabad district," said the minister

Before leaving for Malda this evening, the Chief Minister is expected to release a progress report detailing the state government's achievements under her leadership over the past fifteen years.

She is likely to return to Kolkata on Thursday night after addressing the anti-SIR rally there. She will then travel to Cooch Behar on December 8 and speak at another rally against the electoral roll revision on December 9.

The meeting in Cooch Behar will be held at Rash Mela Maidan. Banerjee may also hold an administrative review in the district on the occasion.

Political observers say the selection of Malda, Murshidabad, and Cooch Behar for the next round of rallies against the ongoing electoral roll revision in the state reflects the demographic profile of these districts.

Malda and Murshidabad have significant minority populations, while Cooch Behar has a sizeable Rajbanshi or Koch Rajbanshi community, many of whom shifted towards the Bharatiya Janata Party after the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

India slams Pakistan for making 'ridiculous' airspace denial claims, spreading misinformation



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) India on Tuesday hit out at Pakistan for claiming that New Delhi denied overflight clearance to Pakistani aircraft carrying humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka, terming the Pakistan Foreign Office (PFO) statement as "ridiculous" and yet another attempt of "spreading anti-India misinformation."

In response to media queries regarding Pakistan's statement on overflight clearance, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) noted that India had expeditiously processed Pakistan's request and granted the overflight permission.

"We reject the ridiculous statement made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan which is yet another attempt of spreading anti-India misinformation," stated MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

"The request for overflight clearance for Pakistani aircraft carrying humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka was received by the High Commission of India in Islamabad at around 1300 hrs on December 01, 2025. Given the urgency of humanitarian assistance, the Government of India processed the request expeditiously the same day and granted the overflight permission as per the itinerary proposed at 1730 hrs on December 01, 2025," he added.

The MEA expressed India's commitment to assisting the people of Sri Lanka in these challenging times through all available means.

India's strong response came after Pakistan's Foreign Office claimed earlier on Tuesday that India had blocked humanitarian assistance being sent from Pakistan to Sri Lanka and the Pakistani aircraft carrying humanitarian assistance was facing delay for over 60 hours, Pakistan's leading daily Dawn reported. Sri Lanka has experienced extreme weather conditions, flash floods and landslides due to Cyclone Ditwah and the resulting weather system. The death toll from severe weather triggered by Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka has risen to 410, leading Sri Lankan media outlet Daily Mirror reported on Tuesday, citing the Disaster Management Centre (DMC). According to the latest update, 1.4 million people from 407,594 families have been affected in Sri Lanka as the island nation continues to experience floods, landslides and severe weather conditions.On November 28, India launched Operation Sagar Bandhu to provide urgent search and rescue and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) support to Sri Lanka after Cyclone Ditwah caused flooding, loss of life and widespread disruption across the island nation.

India has maintained that it stands firmly with the people of Sri Lanka, ensuring rapid, sustained, and coordinated assistance across affected districts under Operation Sagar Bandhu.

Air India staff linked to flying A320 plane with expired licence de-rostered



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Air India executives linked to the incident of allowing a 164-seater Airbus A320 plane with an expired airworthiness licence to undertake eight commercial flights in November, have been de-rostered from service till the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) completes its investigation into the lapse, the regulator said on Tuesday.

The DGCA said it has instituted an investigation and instructed the operator to ground the aircraft.

"The Airworthiness Review Certificate process is in progress. Concerned personnel have been de-rostered with immediate effect pending investigation. Air India, on the instructions of the DGCA, is carrying out an internal investigation to identify deficiencies in their system and put corrective measures in place to prevent such failures from occurring in future," the DGCA said in a statement. The Continuing Airworthiness Management Organisation (CAMO) within Air India is entrusted with issuing the Airworthiness Review Certificate (ARC) annually to ensure that the Certificate of Airworthiness remains valid. According to the DGCA statement, "ARC is issued annually in respect of an aircraft after a comprehensive review of its maintenance records, physical condition and verification of compliance with all airworthiness standards. It acts as a validation of the aircraft's main Certificate of Airworthiness."The statement said that when Vistara was merged into Air India in 2024, it was decided that the first post-merger ARC of all 70 Vistara aircraft would be reviewed and renewed by the regulator itself and not by the delegated authority within Air India.

Indian envoy holds 'fruitful' talks with bipartisan US Senators, discusses defence, trade ties

Washington, Dec 2 (IANS) India's Ambassador to the United States, Vinay Mohan Kwatra, hosted a bipartisan group of US Senators and engaged in productive discussions about the bilateral partnership, covering areas such as energy, defence and trade.



The group of US Senators included Republicans Lindsey Graham, Dan Sullivan and Markwayne Mullin, and Democrats Peter Welch, Richard Blumenthal, and Sheldon Whitehouse at India House in Washington.

"Honoured to host Senators Lindsey Graham, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Peter Welch, Dan Sullivan and Markwayne Mullin this evening at the India House. Had fruitful conversations on the India-US partnership, from energy and defence cooperation to trade and important global developments. Grateful for their support for a stronger India-US relationship," Kwatra posted on X on Tuesday (Indian time).

The Indian Ambassador also held a meeting with General Dan Caine, Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, discussing defence cooperation between India and the US and regional issues of shared interest.

"Had a pleasant meeting with General Dan Caine, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. We had an engaging conversation about our bilateral defence cooperation and regional issues of mutual interest," Kwatra posted on X.

Last week, Kwatra held a wide-ranging conversation on the bilateral economic engagement agenda with Jacob Helberg, the 22nd US Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

Taking to X, the Indian Ambassador said, "Congratulated US Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Jacob Helberg on assuming his responsibilities. Had a wide-ranging conversation on our bilateral economic engagement agenda, including a mutually beneficial trade deal, strategic trade dialogue, and technology cooperation, including AI."

On November 24, Ambassador Kwatra met US Representative Jay Obernolte and highlighted opportunities for bilateral cooperation in science, tech, innovation and AI.

"Enjoyed my conversation with Rep. Jay Obernolte, Chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology Research and Technology Subcommittee. Highlighted opportunities for stronger US-India cooperation in science, tech, AI and innovation," Kwatra wrote in a post on X.

Russian forces capture cities of Krasnoarmeysk, Volchansk: Kremlin

Moscow, Dec 2 (IANS) Russian President Vladimir Putin was briefed that the Russian forces had taken control of Krasnoarmeysk in the Donetsk region and Volchansk in the Kharkov region, the Kremlin said in a statement.

The president received the reports from Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Valery Gerasimov, Commander of the Centre Force Valery Solodchuk and Commander of the East Force Andrei Ivanayev, said the statement on Monday, Xinhua news agency rported.

In his report, Gerasimov announced the capture of Krasnoarmeysk and Volchansk, also detailing the results of the offensive operations in other areas.

Solodchuk made a report on the progress in eliminating the Ukrainian armed forces surrounded in the vicinity of the Krasnoarmeysk-Dimitrov agglomeration, announcing in particular that the southern part of Dimitrov was now under Russian control.

Pakistan Human Rights Commission raises alarm over misuse of detention powers in Imran Khan case

Islamabad, Dec 2 (IANS) The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) expressed grave concerns over reports regarding restrictive detention conditions and alleged limitations on family visits for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief and former Prime Minister Imran Khan.

"Allegations indicating that he has been unable to meet close relatives, associates or legal counsel warrant urgent clarification, as regular and unhindered access to immediate family and counsel is a fundamental safeguard against isolation and misuse of detention powers," the HRCP posted on X. The rights body called on the Government of Pakistan and the Provincial Punjab Home Department to ensure that all practices comply with constitutional due-process protections and international standards for humane treatment. With the PTI chief remaining unreachable to party leaders and even his family members, the party has announced protests outside the Islamabad High Court and Rawalpindi's Adiala jail on Tuesday.

The demonstrations come amid the government's decision to impose a ban on public gatherings and restrict visitation rights, escalating concerns about Khan's condition.

Ex-B'desh PM Khaleda Zia receiving proper treatment: Doctors

Dhaka, Dec 2 (IANS) Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Chairperson and former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is receiving treatment prescribed for her and is likely to recover, her personal physician, AZM Zahid Hossain, said on Tuesday. Addressing a press briefing in front of Evercare Hospital in Dhaka, Zahid said Khaleda Zia has been responding positively to the treatment provided by a medical board of specialists from home and abroad, local media reported.

"We firmly believe she will recover this time and return to us. She is properly receiving the treatment being administered to her," Bangladeshi media outlet UNB quoted the physician as saying.

He further mentioned that a medical board consisting of doctors from the UK, USA and Bangladesh is overseeing her treatment.

Baloch leader warns foreign investors to be wary of Pak

Washington, Dec 2 (IANS) Tara Chand, President of Baloch American Congress, stated that the suicide bombing attacks in the Nokundi region of the Chagai district in Balochistan, targeting Pakistani soldiers, have reaffirmed the longstanding warnings from Baloch leaders.

He warned that any foreign investor putting money into the Reko Diq Copper-Gold Project or the Saindak copper and gold deposits in Chagai would be making a "serious mistake".

The remarks came after the Baloch Liberation Front (BLF) spokesperson Gwahram Baloch on Monday said that in the Nokundi area of Chagai, the BLF's Sado operational Battalion (SOB) unit's sarmachar (fighters) held strong positions inside the major compound meant for the foreign staff of "exploitative" projects of Saindak and Reko Diq.

"With a strong position, sarmachars has forced the enemy to retreat. In order to cover its failure and losses, the occupying army is using internet blackout and a baseless narrative," read the statement.

The statement added that a female suicide bomber, Zarina Rafiq -- also known as Mahu Baloch -- detonated herself at the main gate to breach the entrance and allow the remaining fighters to enter the camp.

According to the BLF, the attack was intended to send a clear message to Pakistan, its foreign partners and exploitative companies that Balochistan's natural resources belong to the Baloch people.

Australian govt releases national AI plan

Canberra, Dec 2 (IANS) The Australian government on Tuesday released a national plan to give guidance to industry, researchers, governments and the public on how to safely and beneficially use artificial intelligence (AI).

Under the National AI Plan, the government says it will prioritise supporting and reskilling workers whose roles are affected by AI, boost investment in data centers and share the productivity benefits of AI across the economy.

Tim Ayres, the minister for industry and innovation and minister for science, said that the plan would keep Australians safe as AI technology continues to evolve, Xinhua News Agency reported.

From 2026, a new government-funded AI Safety Institute announced by Ayres in November will be responsible for evaluating emerging AI capabilities and supporting timely responses to address potential risks.

"The National AI Plan is about making sure technology serves Australians, not the other way around," Ayres said in a statement.

The plan says that it is in Australia's interests to ensure that AI development happens locally and aligns with national priorities.

German Chancellor Merz voices against 'dictated peace' over Ukraine

Berlin, Dec 2 (IANS) German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Germany stands against any "dictated peace" over the heads of Ukraine.

Merz made the remarks on Monday during a joint press conference with visiting Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk in Berlin, Xinhua news agecny reported.

"No decision about Ukraine and Europe without Ukrainians and without Europeans," Merz said during the press conference, adding that Germany and its allies aim to continue supporting Ukraine and bring Moscow to the negotiating table.Merz noted that recent discussions in Geneva had led to initial progress toward a peace plan, adding that Germany is in constant contact with Ukraine and the United States at the level of advisors.Tusk also voiced support for Ukraine, noting efforts by Poland and Germany to jointly strengthen the security of Europe.Latvian President Edgars Rinkevics said on Monday that Europe must also be at the negotiating table, commenting on a possible peace agreement in Ukraine.

e-Procurement Cell
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Building Construction Department, Building Division, Chaibasa

e-Procurement Notice
(Short Tender) (2nd Call)
Tender Ref. No.-BCD/EE,Building Div.Chaibasa- 63/2025-26 Date:-02/12/2025

क्र०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1.	Construction of Boundary wall at S.P.G. Mission School Kathbhari in Kathbhari Panchayat under Tantnagar Block in the dist of West Singhbhum, Chaibasa	Rs. 65,00,400	04 (Four) Months
i	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	09/12/2025 को पूर्वाहन् 11:00 बजे से	
ii	बिड प्राप्ति के लिए अन्तिम तिथि/समय	16/12/2025 को पूर्वाहन् 11:00 बजे	
iii	निविदा खोलने की तिथि/समय	17/12/2025 को पूर्वाहन् 11:00 बजे	
iv	निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	Office of the Executive Engineer, Building Construction Department, Building Division, Chaibasa	
v	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या	9430345249	
vi	ई–प्रोक्योरमेंटसेल का हेल्पलाईन संख्या	9430345249	

- इस निविदा से संबंधित किसी भी प्रकार की सूचना/बदलाव/संशोधन का अवलोकन http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर किया जा सकता है।

Note : New Updated UCAN Registration is mandatory for all Bidders.
: The Amount of BOQ May increase or decrease.

Nodal Officer,
e-Procurement Cell,
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Building Construction Department, Building Division, Chaibasa

PR 367536 (West Singhbhum) 25-26 (D)

जिला परिषद् का कार्यालय, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ

अति अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई– निविदा सूचना संख्या – 18/25-26/ZP/DE/SARAIKELA/

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :

ग्रुप सं0	प्रखण्ड का नाम	योजना का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मुल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	नीमडीह	नीमडीह प्रखण्ड अंतर्गत ग्राम हाकासारा में बस स्टैंड (चाहरदीवारी, दुकान एवं प्रवेश द्वार) निर्माण कार्य।	3851200	77024	5000	06 माह
2	नीमडीह	नीमडीह प्रखण्ड अंतर्गत ग्राम हाकासारा में बस स्टैंड (भवन, पार्किंग एवं सेप्टिक टैंक) निर्माण कार्य।	7798400	155968	10000	12 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 09.12.2025
3. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय– दिनांक 09.12.2025 से दिनांक 16.12.2025 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक
4. ई–निविदा खोलने का स्थान – जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद्, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ।
5. ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – 18.12.2025 अपराह्न 3:00 बजे
6. ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पताः–जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद्, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ
7. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 9431183167
8. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है तद्नुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
10. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in एवं कार्यालय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिला अभियंता
जिला परिषद्, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ

PR 367520 Panchayati Raj(25-26)#D

जिला दण्डाधिकारी एवं उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर।
(सामान्य शाखा)

आम सूचना

45-घाटशिला (अ0ज0जा0) विधानसभा उप निर्वाचन 2025 के आलोक में कार्यालय आदेश ज्ञापांक 208/सा०, दिनांक 08/10/2025 एवं आदेश ज्ञापांक 217/सा०, दिनांक 18/10/2025 द्वारा जिला अन्तर्गत सभी शस्त्र अनुज्ञप्तिधारियों को उनके शस्त्र अनुज्ञप्ति में धारित शस्त्र को संबंधित थाना में जमा करने हेतु निदेशित किया गया था। उल्लेखनीय है कि दिनांक 16/11/2025 को अपराह्न में आदर्श आचार संहिता समाप्त हो गयी है।

अतः सभी शस्त्र अनुज्ञप्तिधारकों को एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि एक सप्ताह के अन्दर संबंधित थाना से अपना शस्त्र प्राप्त कर जिला सामान्य शाखा को भी अवगत कराना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

ह0/-
जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी,
-सह- उपायुक्त,
पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर।

PR 367504 (District) 25-26 (D)

जिला परिषद् का कार्यालय, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ

अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या–08/2025–26 (2nd Call)

1.	विज्ञापन दाता का नाम	:	जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद्,सरायकेला–खरसावाँ
2.	निविदा प्रकाशित करने की तिथि	:	02.12.2025
3.	परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री की तिथि	:	08.12.2025 से 10.12.2025 तक कार्य अवधि में
4.	निविदा प्राप्त करने की तिथि	:	12.12.2025 (अपराह्न एक बजे तक)
5.	निविदा खोलने की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान	:	12.12.2025 (अपराह्न तीन बजे), जिला परिषद् कार्यालय, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ
6.	परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री का स्थान	:	जिला परिषद् कार्यालय, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ
7.	मद का नाम	:	जिला योजना अनावद्ध निधि
8.	निविदा से संबंधित जानकारी हेतु मोबाईल नं0	:	9431183167

कार्य विवरणी :–

क्र0 सं0	योजना का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मुल्य	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	Construction of PCC Road From Mangilal Mahato House to School at Manikbazar Under Seraikella Block	2491300	49826	5000	3 माह

नोट :– अधिक जानकारी के लिए जिला परिषद् कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद्,
सरायकेला–खरसावाँ

PR 367501 Panchayati Raj(25-26)#D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या–
BCD/CHAIBASA/64/वर्ष 2025–26

1. विज्ञापनदाता का नाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।
2. परिमाण विपत्र निर्गत करने हेतु आवेदन की तिथि :– दिनांक 16/12/2025 को पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे से अपराह्न 1:00 बजे तक ।
3. परिमाण विपत्र निर्गत करने हेतु आवेदन का स्थान :– (क) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (ख) प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा । (ग) सहायक अभियंता, भवन अवर प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।(प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय)
4. परिमाण विपत्र निर्गत करने की तिथि :– दिनांक 16/12/2025 को पूर्वाहन 02:30 बजे से अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक ।
5. परिमाण विपत्र निर्गत करने का स्थान :– (क) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (ख) प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा । (ग) सहायक अभियंता, भवन अवर प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।(प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय)
6. निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 17/12/2025 को 11:00 बजे से 2:00 बजे तक ।
7. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 17/12/2025 को अपराह्न 3:00 बजे ।
8. परिणाम विपत्र बिक्री की स्थान :– (क) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (ख) प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा, (ग) सहायक अभियंता, भवन अवर प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।(प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय)
9. निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान– :– (क) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग,छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (ख) प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा, (ग) सहायक अभियंता, भवन अवर प्रमंडल, चाईबासा।(प्रमण्डलीय कार्यालय)
10. कार्यों का विवरणी :–

क0 सं0	प्रखण्ड	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन की राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	Sadar Chaibasa	Interior Work of Palash Centre, Chaibasa	1522200	30500	5000	3 Month
2	Goilkera	तरकटकोचा पंचायत अंतर्गत तराईसोल बिरहोरटोला में PVTG आंगनबाड़ी केन्द्र भवन का नव निर्माण ।	1108200	22500	2500	6 Month
3	Gudri (Sonua)	गुलीकेरा पंचायत अंतर्गत बिरहोरटोला में PVTG आंगनबाड़ी केन्द्र भवन का नव निर्माण ।	1108200	22500	2500	6 Month
4	Noamundi	किरीबुरूपूर्वी पंचायत अंतर्गत टाटिबा–1 में PVTG आंगनबाड़ी केन्द्र भवन का नव निर्माण ।	1108200	22500	2500	6 Month

- वैसे संवेदक जिनका निबंधन/UCAN नवीकरण लंबित है, वे निविदा में भाग नहीं लेंगे।
- विद्युत मदों के कार्य हेतु उर्जा विभाग द्वारा निर्गत अनुज्ञा प्रमाण पत्र । (निविदा की शर्तेनुसार)
- निविदा की शर्ते अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय के सूचना पटट् पर उपलब्ध है ।
- भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट/डिमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट ही मान्य होगा । बैंक ड्राफ्ट/ड्राफ्ट कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा के पक्ष में एवं भारतीय स्टेट बैंक मुख्य शाखा, चाईबासा में भुगतेय होगा, जिसे लौटाया नहीं जायेगा ।
- झारखण्ड सरकार, पथ निर्माण विभाग के संकल्प सह ज्ञापांक 2146 (S) रॉची दि0 09/09/2020 के आधार पर निविदा का निश्पादन किया जाएगा।
- अग्रधन के रूप में NSC/TD/ FD (Vaildity 3 Years & duly discharged) मान्य होगा। जो कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा के नाम से प्रतिज्ञित होगा
- परिमाण विपत्र निबंधित संवेदक या उनके द्वारा विधिवत प्राधिकृत व्यक्ति को (प्राधिकार पत्र में अंकित पहचान दस्तावेज की छाया प्रति के साथ मूल प्रति प्रस्तुत करने पर) निर्गत किया जायेगा।
- संवेदक को आवेदन के साथ इस आशय का शपथ पत्र देना होगा की उनका कोई भी कार्य एकरारित समय सीमा बीत जाने के बाद लंबित नहीं है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
भवन प्रमंडल, चाईबासा

PR 367537 West Singhbhum(25-26)#D

कार्यपालक दण्डाधिकारी–सह–नीलाम पत्र पदाधिकारी, धालभूम, जमशेदपुर का न्यायालय

सूचना

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि कार्यपालक दण्डाधिकारी, –सह– नीलाम पत्र पदाधिकारी, धालभूम, जमशेदपुर के न्यायालय में, बिहार/झारखण्ड एवं उड़ीसा लोक मांग अधिनियम, 1914 के तहत्, निम्नलिखित वाहन स्वामियों/बकायादारों के विरुद्ध नीलाम पत्र वाद संचालित है। इन्हें न्यायालय के द्वारा वारंट/नोटिस निर्गत कर बकाया राशि जमा करने का निदेश दिया गया है, परन्तु इनके द्वारा अबतक बकाया राशि जमा नहीं किया गया है।

Sl. No.	Certificate Case no.	Vehicle Number	Name of Vehicle Owner	Thana	Amount in Rupees
1	245/20-21	JH05S1163	ANUPAM PRAKASH, S/O ASHOK KUMAR, SHARMA, DIGRA, PS-PUSHA, DIST-SAMASTIPUR	PUSHA	59160.00
2	249/20-21	JH05S8511	KAMLESH KUMAR, S/O RAMANAND YADAV, H.NO -501, MADHAVPUR,PS-BHARTUA, JEHANABAD.	BHARTUA	73950.00
3	255/20-21	JH05T3290	HARBHAJAN SINGH, S/O PYARA SINGH, AZADBASTI, MANIFIT TELCO, JAMSHEDPUR	TELCO	73950.00
4	256/20-21	JH05T 3954	S P MINERALS, I/C HARISH VIG, H.NO-12, C/O LAXMI TIMBER, MILLS & GODOWN AREA, BURMAMINES, JAMSHEDPUR	BURMAMINES	98835.00
5	257/20-21	JH05T3955	S P MINERALS, I/C HARISH VIG, H.NO-12, C/O LAXMI TIMBER, MILLS & GODOWN AREA, BURMAMINES, JAMSHEDPUR	BURMAMINES	98835.00
6	258/20-21	JH05T4367	SUNIL KUMAR VERMA, S/O BHIRGU NATH VERMA, BAJRANGI BAGAN, TELCO, BIRSANAGAR, JAMSHEDPUR	TELCO	88740.00
7	259/20-21	JH05T5630	MD.SHABBIR HUSSAIN, S/O MD QURBAN ANSARI, 141, BOKA PAHARI, JHARGIA DHANBAD, C/O MD QAZIM KHAN, KULI ROAD, ZAKIRNAGAR, MANGO, JAMSHEDPUR	JHARIA	88740.00
8	260/20-21	JH05T7388	RAKESH KUMAR SINGH, S/O UDAY RAJ SINGH, H.NO-10, NEHRU ROAD, VIDYAPATI NAGAR, BARIDIH, JAMSHEDPUR	SIDHGORA	88740.00
9	261/20-21	JH05T8038	SANTOSH KUMAR, S/O RAGHUNATH SAHU, 158, ANCHAL-CHAKIA, CHAMPARAN, BIHAR.	CHAKIA	71760.00
10	264/20-21	JH05U1622	SOUTH EAST CONS.P.LTD. , I/C M.PADMAIAH M.D. MATKU, SHANKARDAH, POTKA, EAST SINGHBHUM.	POTKA	35940.00
11	267/20-21	JH05U4805	ASHOK SINGH, S/O KALIKA SINGH, C/O RITESH SINGH QR.NO-15, ROAD NO-1, TATALINE, GOLMURI, JAMSHEDPUR	GOLMURI	73950.00
12	268/20-21	JH05U4813	JAISWAL MINERAL PRODUCTS, I/C BISHNU CHANDRA CHOUDHARY, B3-1, ASHIANA GARDEN SONARI, JAMSHEDPUR	SONARI	35940.00
13	269/20-21	JH05U5514	VISHAL SHANGARI, S/O NARENDRA KUMAR SHANGARI, Q.NO-A/3, CLASIC APARTMENT NEW BARADWARI, NEAR JANTA COLLEGE, JAMSHEDPUR	SAKCHI	46476.00
14	270/20-21	JH05U6189	DHANNA LAL JAIN, S/O PREM CHANDRA JAIN, ROAD NO-6, JAWAHARNAGAR, NEAR JAIN BHAWAN, MANGO, JAMSHEDPUR	MANGO	88740.00
15	274/20-21	JH05U8824	RAJESH PRASAD, S/O CHANDRASHEKHAR PRASAD, 793, MANBODH BASTI, SONARI, JAMSHEDPUR	SONARI	53910.00
16	275/20-21	JH05U9223	HEMAYOUN KHAN, S/O NESAR AHMAD KHAN, H.NO-4, ROAD NO-10B, AZADNAGAR, MANGO JAMSHEDPUR	AZADNAGAR	88740.00
17	276/20-21	JH05U9961	RAJESH KUMAR SHARMA, S/O B.R.SHARMA H.NO-67, RAMTEKRI ROAD, JUGSALAI,	JUGSALAI	66504.00
18	277/20-21	JH05V0511	BIJENDRA KUMAR, S/O KAMTA SINGH, QR.NO-44, ROAD NO-1, KALIKANAGAR, JAMSHEDPUR	ULIDIH	73950.00
19	279/20-21	JH05V1951	GOPAL KUMAR SINGH , S/O RAMADHAR SINGH, H.NO-1759, HALUDBANI, NAMOTOLA, PARSUDIH, JAMSHEDPUR	PARSUDIH	59160.00
20	282/20-21	JH05V2003	NEERAJ KUMAR, S/O DEVANAND SINHA, SINHA BHAWAN, MAIN ROAD, CHHOTA GAMHARIA, SARAIKELA	SARAIKELA	73950.00
21	283/20-21	JH05V2151	RITIK ENTERPRISES, I/C RAM KRISHNA KUILA, H.NO-302, BADRINATH APARTMENT, 2, STATION ROAD, NEAR VEER KUNWARSINGH CHOWK, JUGSALAI, JAMSHEDPUR	JUGSALAI	59160.00
22	286/20-21	JH05V8921	PAPU SINGH , S/O RAMADHAR SINGH, H.NO-1759, HALUDBANI, PARSUDIH, JAMSHEDPUR	PARSUDIH	59160.00
23	289/20-21	JH05V4116	HRISHKESH BAHUGUNA, S/O LATE KAPILDEV PANDEY, H.NO-1 ROAD NO-2, LAXMINAGAR, BAJRANGI BAGAN, TELCO, JAMSHEDPUR	TELCO	35940.00
24	290/20-21	JH05V3631	M/S FAMICA PRESS IND.P.LTD , I/C VIJAY KUMAR SINGH, SINGH COLONY, RAHARGORA, JAMSHEDPUR	PARSUDIH	60690.00
25	292/20-21	JH05V3173	M/S BARAJAMDA TRANSPORT, I/C RAJNIKUMAR THAKUR, BADAJAMDA, WEST SINGHBHUM,	BARAJAMDA THANA	44925.00
26	294/20-21	JH05W8006	UB ENGINEERING LTD. , I/C G.M C/O USHA MARTIN, ADITYAPUR IND, AREA, SARAIKELA KHARSAWAN.	GAMHARIA	31770.00
27	295/20-21	JH05W6988	M/S A S ASSOCIATES, I/C ASHOK KUMAR SINGH, 15 PRATAP ROAD, VIDYAPATI NAGAR, BARIDIH, JAMSHEDPUR	SIDHGORA	59160.00
28	296/20-21	JH05X0218	AFJAL KHAN, S/O MD. RAFIQUE KHAN, QR.NO-A/172, SECTOR -2, T.V. CENTRE KOYLA NAGAR, DHANBAD.	KOYLA NAGAR	73950.00
29	297/20-21	JH05X1275	ALTHU PRADHAN, S/O TARANI PRADHAN, ASSANGI, ADITYAPUR, RIT, SARAIKELA KHARSAWAN.	RIT THANA	43470.00
30	298/20-21	JH05X1667	MD.MOBIN, S/O JAHUR MIYAN, 9, HOLEMANDA KALA, THANA NO-280, CHATRA, JHARKHAND .	CHATRA	98835.00
31	299/20-21	JH05X3275	UPENDRA YADAV , S/O RAMCHANDRA YADAV, PARDIH, MANGO, JAMSHEDPUR,	MANGO	88740.00
32	300/20-21	JH05X4255	VINAY KUMAR MANDAL, S/O JIVLAL YADAV,VILL - KAAMBIGHA, ANCHAL-AURANGABAD, BIHAR.	AURANGABAD	59160.00
33	301/20-21	JH05X-7107	SUNIL KUMAR AND BROTHERS, I/C BIPIN BIHARI PRASAD, 18 K ROAD, BISTUPUR, JAMSHEDPUR	BISTUPUR	21180.00
34	302/20-21	JH05X-7107	DHARMENDRA KUMAR SINGH, S/O AWDHESH SINGH, NH-33, NEAR OM MOTOL, BAHRAGORA, EAST SINGHBHUM.	BAHRAGORA	98835.00
35	306/20-21	JH05Y-2675	LALDEO YADAV , S/O RAMDHAN YADAV, PARDIH CHOWK, MANGO, KAPALI, JAMSHEDPUR.	MANGO	88740.00

उपर्युक्त वाहन स्वामियों/बकायादारों को सूचित किया जाता है कि वे बकाया राशि का भुगतान ऑनलाईन **https://parivahan.gov.in/en/content/vehicle-related-services** पर करते हुए प्राप्ति रसीद अविलंब श्री सुदीप्त राज, कार्यपालक दण्डाधिकारी –सह– नीलाम पत्र पदाधिकारी, धालभूम, जमशेदपुर के न्यायालय में उपलब्ध कराना सुनिश्चित करेंगें।

(सुदीप्त राज, झा0प्र0से0)
कार्यपालक दण्डाधिकारी,–सह–
नीलाम पत्र पदाधिकारी, धालभूम, जमशेदपुर

PR 367542 District(25-26)#D

Rashmika Mandanna releases action-packed trailer of Roshan Kanakala's 'Mowgli 2025'

Chennai, Dec 2 (IANS) Actress Rashmika Mandanna on Tuesday released the trailer of director Sandeep Raj's upcoming romantic action film 'Mowgli 2025', featuring actor Roshan Kanakala in the lead, much to the delight of fans and film buffs.

Taking to her X timeline, Rashmika Mandanna wrote, "This looks so so good. I wish you guys the bestest luck- always!! And biggest hugs!! #Mowgli2025 Starring @RoshanKanakala @SakkshiM09 & @publicstar_bsk #Mowgli2025. A @SandeepRaaaj Cinema. A @Kaalabhairava7 musical."



The trailer that was released begins with Bandi Saroj Kumar, who plays a cop in the film, narrating a fable about a king with seven sons. "The seven sons went on a hunt and returned with seven fishes. One of the fishes caught did not dry and so the seventh son asked the seventh fish, 'Why did you not dry?'," he says and asks the person sitting opposite him to take a guess on what the fish would have replied. The poor man makes a guess only to get shouted at. Bandi Saroj Kumar tells him,"Do fishes speak?"

The trailer then shows the lead character Roshan Kanakala. His friend Bunty, while talking about him, says, "To me, he is Kittu. To all the others, he is Mowgli." It is clear that Mowgli (Roshan Kanakala) and his friend know the jungles well. It is under these circumstances that a film unit arrives to shoot a film there. Jasmine (Sakshi Sagar Mhadolkar) arrives as a background dancer in this film unit. Mowgli falls for Jasmine, who is speech and hearing impaired.

The trailer then shows a pervert saying he wants Jasmine. It also shows the hero saying, "This is not like your city, where after everything happens, people take out candle marches on roads. We directly light torches."

Things begin to intensify after the Sub Inspector of Police for the area gets transferred and a new ruthless officer arrives in his place. The new officer is someone who believes that no one should lay a hand on anything he perceives as his.

The trailer then shows us glimpses of the hardships Mowgli undergoes to prove his innocence.

Meenakshi Seshadri on RD Burman: He created some beautiful romantic numbers

Mumbai, Dec 2 (IANS) Actress Meenakshi Seshadri has shared one of her favourite songs by legendary music composer R. D. Burman from the 1980s and said that he made some beautiful romantic numbers.

Meenakshi took to Instagram, where she shared a video of herself sauntering in a garden dressed in a black fitted ensemble with a drizzle of colour. For the background score, she added the song “Aisa Sama Na Hota” sung by late legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar for the film “Zameen Aasman” starring Sanjay Dutt and Anita Raj.

“One of my favorite RD Burman songs from the 1980s. He created some beautiful romantic numbers and this one was pictured on my favorite costars Sanjay Dutt and Anita Raaj,” she wrote as the caption.

“Zameen Aasman” is directed by Bharat Rangachary. The film follows a widower who has a run of good luck such as a sudden increase in his fortunes, and a new woman in his life whose resemblance to his late wife seals the deal. However, the new bride may not have the best intentions towards him.



Talking about Meenakshi, she became one of Hindi cinema's leading actresses in the 1980s and 1990s.

Health

Cough syrup deaths: Over 700 manufacturers under intense scrutiny, says Anupriya Patel



New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) More than 700 cough syrup manufacturers have been under intense scrutiny, following a spate of deaths in children in Madhya Pradesh after consuming the contaminated syrups, Union Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel told the Parliament on Tuesday.

As many as 26 children from Chhindwara, Pandhurna, and Betul districts of Madhya Pradesh, mostly under the age of five, reportedly died due to kidney failure after they were administered the Coldrif cough syrup.

“More than 700 cough syrup manufacturers have been subjected to an intense audit in coordination with state authorities. Increased market surveillance sampling of syrup formulations by Central and State drugs regulators has also been done,” Patel said in a written reply in Rajya Sabha. In addition to the existing requirements of testing the raw materials, the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ghaziabad, has issued an amendment to the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) 2022, to also mandate the testing for Diethylene Glycol (DEG) and Ethylene Glycol (EG) in oral liquids at the finished product stage before market release, she added.

The Minister informed that the government undertook a detailed investigation of the reported cases and deaths, wherein 19 drug samples were collected from the treating private practitioners and nearby retail stores.

The reports traced it to the content of DEG in Syrup Coldrif manufactured by Sresan Pharmaceutical located in Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu. Patel noted that the DEG content in Syrup Coldrif consumed by the deceased children was found to be 46.28 per cent weight by volume (w/v) -- significantly exceeding the permissible limit of 0.1 per cent. Four of the samples were also declared Not of Standard Quality (NSQ). Following this, the government inspected the premises of Sresan Pharmaceuticals and found “several critical and major Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) violations, including unhygienic storage conditions”. The CDSCO, along with the Tamil Nadu government, initiated criminal action against the manufacturer and cancelled the manufacturing licence.

Krushna Abhishek calls wife Kashmera his 'super power' as he pens b'day note for her

Mumbai, Dec 2 (IANS) Stand-up star Krushna Abhishek marked his actress-wife Kashmera Shah’s birthday on Tuesday with a note that felt less like a message and more like a warm hug.

Tagging her his “strength,” “super power,” and the family’s quiet lucky charm, Abhishek took to Instagram, where he shared a string of images of himself with Kashmera and their twins Krishaang and Rayaan.

For the caption, he wrote: “Happy birthday my cud @kashmera1 you actually don’t know how much we love u… you are our strength and our super power … our lucky charm I wish u best of health with lot of happiness… be the way you are… straight forward with no filter… loving life and making each moment precious… thanks for being in our life’s god bless you love u.(sic)"



Krushna married his long time girlfriend Kashmera in 2013. They met at the sets of the movie Aur Pappu Paas Ho Gaya, directed by Shyam Soni.

The couple are currently seen in the third season of funny culinary show “Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment”, they star alongside Aly Goni, Jannat Zubair, Elvish Yadav, Isha Malviya, Karan Kundrra, Tejasswi Prakash, Abhishek Kumar, Samarth Jurel, Gurmeet Choudhary, Debina Bonnerjee, Vivian Dsena and Eisha Singh. It is hosted by Bharti Singh, and judged by chef Harpal Singh Sokhi.

Krushna is known for his humorous work in comedy shows on Indian television such as Comedy Circus, Comedy Nights Bachao, The Kapil Sharma Show, and The Great Indian Kapil Show.

He gained fame as a comedian after participating in several seasons of the Comedy Circus. He also participated in dance reality shows, including Nach Baliye 3 and Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa 4.

Priyanka Chopra gushes over husband Nick Jonas on 7th wedding anniversary, says he's “what dreams are made of”



Mumbai, Dec 2 (IANS) Global icon and India’s Desi girl Priyanka Chopra, on the 2nd of December, marked 7 years of her wedding to star singer Nick Jonas.

Peecee, on the occasion of her 7th wedding anniversary, took to her social media account and, in resharing a post shared by Nick, shared where he called her his dream girl. The actress resharing the post captioned it as, “You are what dreams are made of.”

Earlier in the day. Nick had celebrated the special milestone and dropped a stunning photo of PeeCee lying on the beach against a beautiful backdrop on his social media account. He wrote, "7 years married to my dream girl (sic).”

For the uninitiated, Nick and Priyanka tied the knot in a traditional Indian wedding ceremony in India on December 1, 2018. The two, on the same day, had got married as per the Christian traditions too in the presence of family and close friends.

Dia Mirza says 'December has arrived with hope', kickstarts month with positivity & love

Mumbai, Dec 1 (IANS) Actress Dia Mirza seems to be on a nature expedition yet again, with her team.

The actress shared a few pictures of herself on her social media account today wherein she was seen exploring nature.

Mirza captioned the post as, “Kya kabhi khud se roobaroo hue? Kya kabhi apni hi kahaani mein sacchi si muskurahat dhoondi? November ne bahut kuchh sikhaya… Aur December umeed ke saath aaya hai. Yaadein, khwaab, aur dil ka sukoon, sab saath le kar. Do what you love. Love what you do. (Have you ever



come face-to-face with yourself? Have you ever searched for a genuine smile in your own story? November taught a lot… And December has arrived with hope. Memories, dreams, and peace of heart — all together. Do what you love. Love what you do.”)

The actress shared an umpteen number of pictures from her nature trail. In one picture, she has captured the mountains, while in another, the actress has managed to showcase the beauty of a simple flower through her lens. The actress, a few days ago, was on a similar nature expedition with her team and had shared some beautiful captures from her trail.

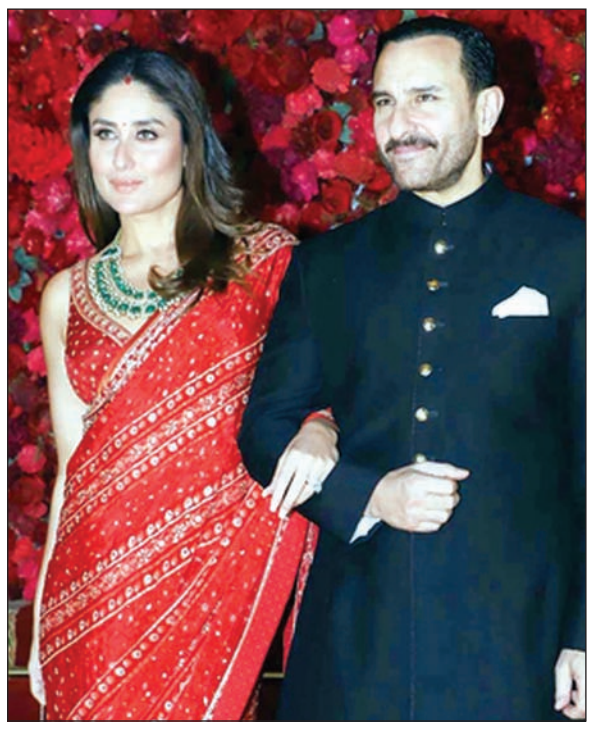
Kareena Kapoor has a funny message for husband Saif Ali Khan that every mom can relate to

Mumbai, Dec 2 (IANS) Actress Kareena Kapoor has a special message for husband Saif Ali Khan.

In another example of her well-known sense of humour, Bebo used social media to share her ordeal as a mom of two, who keep on interrupting her constantly, making her forget everything.

Kareena took to the Stories section of her Instagram handle and reshared a post that read, "I'm just a mom standing in front of my husband, trying to say something that I no longer remember because our kids have interrupted us 175 times."

Dedicating the post to Saif, she wrote, "Oh Hi Saif," along with a red heart and two laughing with tears emojis.



For the unaware, Kareena and Saif tied the knot in an intimate ceremony on October 16, 2012. The couple welcomed their first child together, Taimur, on December 20, 2016.

In 2021, Kareena and Saif once again became parents to a baby boy Jeh.

Work-wise, Saif recently joined Kareena and the rest of the Kapoor clan for ‘Dining with the Kapoors" - a Netflix special that brings together the Hindi cinema’s first film dynasty.

The 1-hour special, which has been created by Armaan Jain and directed by Smriti Mundhra, also features Randhir Kapoor, Neetu Kapoor, Rima Jain, Ranbir Kapoor, Karisma Kapoor, Riddhima Kapoor Sahni, and Aadar Jain, along with others.

Up next, Kareena will be seen leading Meghna Gulzar's much-anticipated "Daayra". Bebo will be sharing screen space with Prithviraj Sukumaran for the first time in her forthcoming drama.

Recently, Bebo revealed through her social media post that she has commenced the shoot of her next.

Aditi Malikk pays a surprise visit to husband Mohit Malik in Jaisalmer for their anniversary

Mumbai, Dec 2 (IANS) Actress Aditi Malikk paid a surprise visit to hubby Mohit Malik in Jaisalmer for their anniversary as he was busy with his work commitments.

Providing a glimpse into her impromptu visit to Jaisalmer to surprise Mohit on their special day, Aditi revealed that, given her hectic schedule around Christmas, she had no intention of traveling, but she eventually listened to her heart and went.

"Sometimes the best plans aren’t planned (Evil eye emoji) A hectic month for me with #Christmas just around the corner and for him with back to back shoots, having zero intention to travel… and yet my heart said “go” (Smiling Face with Sunglasses Emoji) (sic)."

Aditi further shared that, as Mohit had a 5: 30 am call time, she saw her husband crash early on their anniversary. The 'Shararat' actress revealed that they ended up cutting their anniversary cake at 5 AM, before Mohit had to head out for the shoot.



The video posted by Aditi on her IG showed her traveling more than 1000 kilometers to celebrate her anniversarry.

We could also see Mohit lovingly feeding cake to her and also putting sindoor (Vermilion) on her forehead.

Sharing her experience with her InstaFam, Aditi added, "So I took a last minute flight to #Jaisalmer , spent our #anniversaryeve with @mohitmalik1113 , watched him crash early for his 5:30 AM call time, and cut our cake at 5 AM before he left. Because in the end, it’s the moments that matter, the unplanned ones that feel like magic. No fancy setup, just a spontaneous decision that made it more than perfect (teary eyed and love-struck emojis)."

Bracewell, Smith rescue New Zealand after West Indies seamers dominate rain-hit Day 1

Christchurch, Dec 2 (IANS) Michael Bracewell and Nathan Smith's gritty 52-run stand for the seventh wicket ensured New Zealand ended a rain-hit opening day on level terms after a dramatic collapse in seam-friendly conditions at Hagley Oval. By stumps, the hosts had reached 231 for 9, recovering from a perilous 148 for 6 after Kane Williamson's half-century laid the early foundation.

West Indies captain Roston Chase had no hesitation in bowling first after winning the toss, citing the heavy overhead conditions, a green-tinged pitch, and the venue's history — only once in 15 Tests here has a captain chosen to bat first.



The decision paid off instantly. Kemar Roach, returning to Test cricket for the first time since January 2025, struck in his third ball. Operating around the wicket, he drew Devon Conway into a loose poke, and Justin Greaves accepted the edge at second slip. But the innings had barely begun when rain forced a 90-minute delay with only 3.3 overs bowled. Another shower truncated the first session to just 10.3 overs, during which New Zealand mustered only 17 runs.

After lunch, Williamson found a way to move the scoreboard, picking up two boundaries in three balls off Johann Layne. While not always in command, he relied on soft hands and late play — hallmarks of his technique — to survive and score on a tricky surface.

Debutant Ojay Shields endured a nervous start. His first ball in Test cricket was a short, wide no-ball that Tom Latham, then 2 off 34, cracked for four.<

Shields later bowled Williamson through the gate, only to be denied by another overstep — an early sign of the assistance available for disciplined seamers.

That discipline came from Justin Greaves. In successive overs, he removed both set batters. Williamson, squared up, edged to second slip for a valuable hand; Latham followed soon after, edging an overpitched ball to the keeper.

West Indies kept striking at regular intervals. Jayden Seales bowled Rachin Ravindra with a full ball from around the wicket, and Layne claimed his maiden Test wicket when Will Young edged to second slip for 14. Shields added another when Tom Blundell dragged an inside-edge onto his stumps, leaving the hosts wobbling at 120 for 5 and then 148 for 6.

Bracewell and Smith then staged the fightback. Bracewell counterattacked, Smith dug in, and together they added 52 runs that hauled New Zealand back into the contest. Chase eventually broke the stand when Smith flicked loosely to short mid-wicket.

Sensing the tail was exposed, Bracewell went for his shots. The approach didn't last. On 47, he miscued a pull to give Shields his second wicket. Matt Henry soon fell to a Roach bouncer for 8, and two balls later, Jacob Duffy was struck on the helmet by another sharp short ball. As the physio began a concussion check, the umpires deemed the light unplayable and called stumps.

Only 70 overs were possible on a day interrupted repeatedly by rain and fading light. West Indies, however, were guilty of releasing pressure with 23 extras, a tally that could loom large on a spicy surface.

Brief scores:

New Zealand 231/9 in 70 overs (Kane Williamson 52, Michael Bracewell 47, Tom Blundell 29; Ojay Shields 2-34, Justin Greaves 2-35, Kemar Roach 2-47) vs West Indies

14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi becomes youngest centurion in SMAT with 61-ball 108

Kolkata, Dec 2 (IANS) Vaibhav Suryavanshi, 14, has become the youngest centurion in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy during a match against Maharashtra here at the Edens Garden on Tuesday.



Playing for Bihar, Suryavanshi scored 108 runs off just 61 balls, including seven fours and as many sixes, becoming the youngest-ever player to score a century in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.

The teenage batter, who scored low totals of 14, 13, and 5, scored his first fifty of the tournament off 34 balls before reaching the record-breaking three-figure score.

This was Suryavanshi's third century in just his 16th professional T20 match. Furthermore, it is the slowest century he has scored, reaching three figures in 58 balls.

Riding on vice-captain Suryavanshi's impressive century, Bihar posted a total of 176/3. In response, Maharashtra are 174-7 at the time of writing the report.

Earlier this year, Surayvanshi made history as the youngest-ever IPL player at just 14 years and 23 days, debuting against the Lucknow Super Giants before stunning everyone nine days later by becoming the youngest centurion in the league's history. His explosive 35-ball 100 against the Gujarat Titans was the fastest IPL century by an Indian and the second-fastest overall, only behind Chris Gayle.

His blistering 143 in the fourth match of the series was the fastest century ever in U19 men's ODIs and made him the youngest player to achieve the feat in the format's history.

The explosive southpaw also slammed a ton against the Australia U19 team in Brisbane in a Youth Test match last month. His most recent jaw-dropping innings came in the Rising Stars Asia Cup, where he scored 144 off 42 balls for India A against UAE, smashing 11 fours and 15 sixes.

His 32-ball hundred made him the youngest man to score a century for any national representative side at senior level, breaking a two-decade-old record.

Referee Training Programme kicks off in New Delhi as part of Ice Hockey Season 3

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) The Referee Training Programme for Ice Hockey Season 3 is currently underway in Delhi NCR, marking the second on-ground capacity-building intervention of the 2025–26 season. Held from December 1 to 5, the programme brings together over 20 officials from Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, reinforcing the continued focus on strengthening the technical backbone of Ice Hockey across the Himalayan region.



Ahead of the on-ice session in New Delhi, participating officials completed four virtual modules as part of this structured, season-long Referee Development Programme. These online sessions introduced foundational officiating concepts, ensuring that all referees began on-ice training with a shared baseline of rules, mechanics, and situational decision-making.

The training is being led by Peter Gebei, a seasoned Ice Hockey professional from Hungary with over four decades of experience as a player, referee, and officiating coach. A former member of the Hungarian national team with 57 international caps, Peter transitioned into refereeing after his playing career and went on to officiate in top international leagues, including the Austrian Hockey League (Erste Bank Eishockey Liga) and Kontinental Hockey League (KHL).

His selection for the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Top Division World Championships reflects his technical excellence and consistency at the highest level. As a senior referee, he continues to officiate global IIHF competitions.

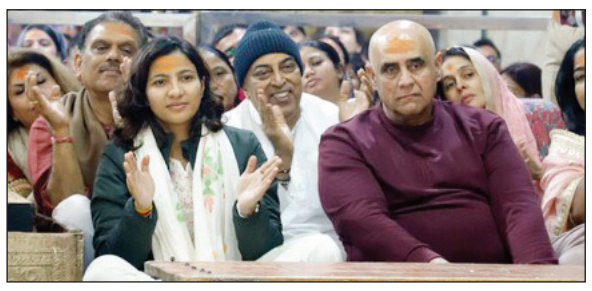
Beyond officiating, Peter has played a pivotal role in mentoring emerging referees globally as an IIHF Officiating Instructor, shaping structured education pathways and contributing to the development of strong officiating ecosystems internationally. His leadership brings global standards and expertise directly into the Indian context. Aligned with the Blueprint for Himalayan Ice Hockey Development, the Referee Training Programme strengthens the governance and officiating standards required for the sport's growth in emerging regions. The week-long training combines classroom sessions, on-ice demonstrations, and scenario-based evaluations to build a technically sound pool of officials capable of supporting developmental competitions and community-led tournaments.

Following the completion of the programme in New Delhi, trained officials will travel to Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh to support Learn to Play activities and officiate in early-season regional camps. They will then form the core officiating group for the upcoming developmental leagues in early 2026, including the Royal Enfield Ice Hockey League (REIHL) in Ladakh and the Spiti Cup, powered by Royal Enfield, in Himachal Pradesh.

Through such structured interventions, Royal Enfield continues to advance its Social Mission of empowering Himalayan communities through sport, strengthening technical standards, expanding opportunities for youth and women, and building a resilient and credible winter sports ecosystem across the region.

Sneh Rana visits Mahakaleshwar temple in Ujjain after World Cup win

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) India all-rounder Sneh Rana visited Ujjain's Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga temple on Tuesday and thanked the almighty for blessing the team and fulfilling their wish of lifting the Women's World Cup 2025. Rana, along with her teammates, visited the temple in October during the team's rough patch in the group stage of the tournament, and went on to lift the trophy in November.



It's been a month since India lifted their first-ever ICC title, defeating South Africa in the World Cup final by 52 runs. Rana said that she manifested India's win when she visited the temple with her teammates and 'completed the circle' by paying a visit exactly a month later.

"It's already been one month. Feels like it passed with a blink of an eye. I manifested this win in his presence. Completed the circle by visiting Shree Mahakaleshwar Mandir exactly after 1 month to thank him for blessing us and fulfilling our wishes," Rana wrote on X while sharing a picture of her attending the morning aarti.

Rana participated in six matches at the World Cup and finished with seven wickets, playing a key part in India's victorious campaign. The bowling all-rounder has played 44 ODIs for India, taking 57 wickets and scoring 380 runs, which includes a half-century.

In T20Is, she has claimed 24 wickets across 29 games. Rana has also appeared in four Test matches, where she has taken 23 wickets, with her best figures being 8/77. Her top score in Tests is 80 not out.

Rana will likely be back in action for India when they host Sri Lanka for five T20Is later this month. It'll be the Women in Blue's last international assignment before the players turn their focus to the Women's Premier League, beginning January 9, where the all-rounder will feature for Delhi Capitals.

The fourth edition of the tournament will be played at two venues. The DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai will host the first 11 games before the action moves to Vadodara's Kotambi Stadium for the remainder of the tournament, including the Eliminator and Final.

Hardik scores unbeaten 77 to guide Baroda to victory



Hyderabad, Dec 2 (IANS) India allrounder Hardik Pandya smashed a 42-ball 77 not out for Baroda as the team chased down a 223-run target against Punjab to clinch their second consecutive victory at the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy here on Tuesday.

Notably, this was Hardik's first outing in almost three months, as he returned to competitive cricket after a long injury layoff. He sustained an injury during India's Asia Cup Super Fours clash against Sri Lanka and has been out of action since. The allrounder subsequently missed the ODI and T20I series against Australia and was unavailable for selection for the ongoing 50-over series against South Africa.

Maxwell pulls out of IPL 2026 ahead of mini-auction

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Australia all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has opted out of the 19th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) just a couple of weeks before the auction, stating that he made the decision with a 'lot of gratitude' towards the league.



Maxwell was released by the Punjab Kings and the cricketer was supposed to go under the hammer at the auction on December 16. However, he has now decided not to play the cash-rich event in India.

"After many unforgettable seasons in the IPL, I've decided not to put my name into the auction this year. It's a big call, and one I make with a lot of gratitude for everything this league has given me," Maxwell wrote in a statement he put out on his Instagram.

"The IPL has helped shape me as a cricketer and as a person. I've been lucky to play with world-class teammates, represent incredible franchises, and perform in front of fans whose passion is unmatched. The memories, the challenges, and the energy of India will stay with me forever. Thank you for all your support over the years, hopefully see you soon. Cheers Maxi," he added.

Maxwell last represented PBKS in the 2025 edition and played under Shreyas Iyer's leadership, with his fellow Australian Ricky Ponting as head coach. He sustained a finger injury midway through the tournament, which eventually ruled him out of the season.

The Aussie's future in the IPL looks bleak, given that he's hinted at not returning to the setup. He is the most recent high-profile player, following Andre Russell's IPL retirement and Faf du Plessis' withdrawal from the upcoming mini-auction in Abu Dhabi.

While Russell retired from IPL and joined Kolkata Knight Riders' coaching staff for the upcoming edition, Faf has opted to participate in the Pakistan Super League and take a break from IPL this season.

Trump to attend FIFA 2026 WC finals draw

Washington, Dec 2 (IANS) US President Donald Trump will attend the draw for the FIFA World Cup 2026 here at the Kennedy Centre on Friday, the White House said.

The United States will co-host the 2026 tournament alongside Canada and Mexico. Following the draw ceremony, FIFA will unveil the updated match schedule for the 2026 World Cup. "On Friday, President Trump will attend the FIFA World Cup final draw at the Kennedy Center," White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a briefing.

'I don't want gifts or fame. . .' Blind Cricket T20 WC winner Phula Saren pleads for a roof for her family

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) The 20-year-old Phula Saren from Odisha's Balasore district, who was adjudged Player of the Match in the final of the Blind Women's T20 Cricket World Cup in Colombo, said that reality struck her hard upon returning home after India's historic title triumph.

The Blind Women's Cricket T20 World Cup-winning team was accorded a hero's welcome on its return to India. Moreover, the Government of Odisha awarded Rs 11 lakh each to the Odisha players after their historic win.

Phula, however, revealed that she was met with an eviction notice, compelling her to plead with the government for a small home for herself and her family. The world champion is deeply concerned about her parents' struggles, living in a temporary hut on government land in Salabanei village, amid the threat of eviction.

"When I came back with the World Cup, our



District Collector told us he felt proud. But now we have received an eviction notice. Where will we go?" Phula told IANS. "If they remove us, I cannot study, I cannot practice, I cannot play. I will lose everything. I played for India… I made my country proud. But now I don't know where my family will live," said Phula, holding back tears.

Phula's parents are daily wage labourers. The family have no land of their own. "We live on government land — a small shed my father built. My mother works as a helper in a local lab. My brothers also work as labourers. There is no stable income."

She added, "My father could not support my education or my game. Many times I wanted to quit. I was the only girl from my district to even complete higher studies… people in my village said, 'She is blind, what will she do?'

"I just want a small house for my family. I don't want big gifts. I don't want fame. I only want a small piece of land so my family can build a house. If we are removed, where will we stay? How will I continue my studies or cricket?"

She said that some officials promised help, but nothing materialised. "They said they would support me… open training facilities… give us land. But nothing happened. Everyone wants credit when I win. But when I need help, no one is there."

Phula continued, "I fought poverty and disability. <

Former England batter Robin Smith dies aged 62

New Delhi, Dec 2 (IANS) Former England batter Robin Arnold Smith, remembered as one of the greatest players of fast bowling England ever had, has passed away at the age of 62 in Perth, Australia. Smith, widely known as 'The Judge', died unexpectedly at his South Perth apartment on Monday, the cricketer's family said. However, the cause of Smith's death is at present unknown.

"Everyone at the England & Wales Cricket Board is deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Robin Smith. An England and Hampshire legend. Rest in peace, Judge," England Cricket said in an X post.

During his England career, Smith played 62 Tests and 71 ODIs, amassing more than 6,500 runs, including 4,236 Test runs with nine centuries. At the end of his career, he had a Test average of 43.67. He was also part of the England squad that reached the 1992 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup final against Pakistan.

Smith's family said in a statement, "It is with the deepest and most profound sense of sadness and loss that we must announce the passing of Robin Arnold Smith, beloved father of Harrison and Margaux and cherished brother of Christopher..."

"A brave and dashing batsman, he excelled both for Hampshire and his adopted country, collecting legions of admirers and friends along the way. This is an immensely difficult period for us all whilst we try to come to terms with our



bereavement, and we would therefore much appreciate consideration for our privacy by the media and cricket followers alike.

"Since his retirement from the game in 2004, his battles with alcohol and mental health have been well documented, but these should not form the basis of speculation about the cause of death, which will be determined at the post-mortem investigation."

Born in Durban, South Africa, Smith moved to England to play for Hampshire. He played for Hampshire across 21 years between 1982 and 2003, captaining the county between 1998 and 2002.

In his time with the Rose and Crown, Smith played over 300 first-class matches, scoring 18,984 runs with a high score of 209 not out at an impressive average of 42.09. Smith also made 347 List A appearances for Hampshire, securing over 12,000 runs at an average of 42.97.

"Known as 'The Judge', Smith played over 600 times for Hampshire and scored over 30,000 runs for the club in a career that spanned more than 20 years. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this difficult time," Hampshire Cricket posted on X.

He retired from cricket at the age of 40, with 18,984 county runs to his name and a reputation as a Hampshire great.

ECB Chair Richard Thompson said, "Robin Smith was a player who stood toe to toe with some of the quickest bowlers in the world, meeting spells of hostile fast bowling with a defiant smile and an incredible resilience. He did so in a way that gave England fans enormous pride and no shortage of entertainment.

"He was a batter ahead of his time, which was typified in that unforgettable unbeaten 167 from 163 balls in an ODI against Australia at Edgbaston in 1993.

His record at Hampshire is exemplary, and he'll be remembered rightly as a great of Hampshire CCC. We're desperately sad to learn of his passing, and the thoughts of all of us in cricket are with his friends, family, and loved ones."

Winter fog to disrupt train services from Dec to Feb

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2 : Train services across the Chakradharpur and Ranchi divisions of South Eastern Railway will face major disruptions from December 2025 to February/March 2026 due to dense fog and extensive infrastructure and safety-related projects.

To prioritise passenger safety, the Railways has cancelled several long-distance express trains for up to three months, while some services have been diverted.

This is expected to particularly impact travellers on the Tatanagar-Amritsar and Santragachi-Anand Vihar routes. Additionally, 11 pairs of trains, including Hatia-Tatanagar Express, Hatia-Sanki Passenger, Ranchi-Bokaro Passenger, Kharagpur-Ranchi Express, Dhanbad-Ranchi Express, and Tatanagar-Hatia MEMU, will remain cancelled on select dates. Ranchi-Chopan, Chopan-Ranchi, Ranchi-Bhagalpur, and Dumka-Ranchi Express services are also suspended on specific days.



The Railways has advised passengers to closely follow updated schedules and plan alternative travel well in advance to avoid last-minute trouble.

Meanwhile, dense fog has started impacting train operations in and around Tatanagar.

With visibility dropping sharply during late-night and early-morning hours, trains are being forced to run at restricted speeds as a safety measure.

Long-distance express trains arriving from North India are witnessing the maximum delays, often reaching Tatanagar several hours behind schedule.

Railway officials have already advised passengers to check updated timings before heading to the station, as unpredictable fog conditions continue to disrupt normal movement.

The situation has also caused congestion on key routes, leading to cascading delays across multiple trains passing through the Tatanagar division. Many passengers have been left stranded for longer durations on platforms, and rescheduling has become a daily challenge for the operating staff.

Officials say fog-related disruption is expected to continue through February, and efforts are being made to improve communication, provide real-time updates, and ensure passenger safety despite the seasonal hurdles. (W- pm)

Four train pairs cancelled for development work (Dec 20- Jan 20)

Further disruptions are expected due to ongoing development work in the Chakradharpur division. The following trains will remain cancelled on various dates between December 20 and January 20.

- 18109/18110 Tatanagar-Itwari Express
- 18175/18176 Hatia-Jharsuguda Express
- 68043/68044 Tatanagar-Rourkela MEMU
- 58659/58660 Hatia-Rourkela Passenger

Major cancellations due to fog (Dec 2025 - Feb/Mar 2026)

Several key trains have been suspended owing to poor winter visibility, including:

- 12873 Hatia-Anand Vihar Terminal (1 Dec-26 Feb)
- 12874 Anand Vihar-Hatia (2 Dec-27 Feb)
- 2857 Santragachi-Anand Vihar (1 Dec-2 Mar)
- 22858 Anand Vihar-Santragachi (2 Dec-3 Mar)
- 18103 Tatanagar-Amritsar (1 Dec-25 Feb)
- 18104 Amritsar-Tatanagar (3 Dec-27 Feb)

Mosque construction row on encroached land fuels tension in Sonari

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A controversy has intensified in Pardesi Para in Sonari over the construction of a mosque on land that residents claim falls within the Tata lease area and has been encroached upon.

Local residents held a meeting on Tuesday to discuss the issue and demanded decisive administrative action. According to Mukul Mishra, public services representative of Jamshedpur West MLA Saryu Roy, he attended the meeting on residents' request. Mishra said the mosque construction had previously faced opposition, after which the work was halted multiple times. However, residents allege that construction has resumed at full pace despite earlier objections. Mishra stated that residents had already informed the East Singhbhum Deputy Commissioner, SDO, Sonari



Police Station, and Tata Land Department on November 28, but no firm action has been taken yet. Locals also expressed concerns about the large number of people visiting the mosque for prayers and urged the administration to verify details related to the ongoing construction and land status. Residents further questioned why the Tata Land Department has not intervened despite repeated complaints. Some attendees also voiced concerns about unverified claims regarding settlement patterns in nearby areas, urging the administration to conduct proper checks. According to Mishra, the residents have decided that if no concrete action is taken by December 10, they will stage a one-day sit-in at the Veer Manch Akhada premises in Pardesi Para to draw administrative attention. (W- pm)

Bike stolen in Dhatkidih, victim demands police action

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: Incidents of theft continue to rise in the city, leaving residents anxious about their safety. In the latest case, a motorcycle was stolen from A Block of Dhatkidih under Bistupur police station.

The stolen bike, bearing registration number JH05CU 9239, was being used by 33-year-old Mohammad Mehfuz Alam.

According to the written complaint filed by Mehfuz Alam at Bistupur police station, the motorcycle belongs to his friend, who



is currently in Saudi Arabia and had handed it over to him for daily use. Mehfuz stated that he had parked the Splendor bike outside his house along the roadside on November 30 at around 6:30 pm before going inside.

The next morning, at around 5 am, when he stepped out to go for Fajr prayers, the bike was missing. Despite searching the surrounding areas, there was no trace of the vehicle. He then checked CCTV footage from the locality, which clearly showed an unidentified thief breaking the bike's lock and riding away with it around 11:41 pm. The footage captured the entire act of theft.

Following the incident, Mehfuz Alam has urged the police to take immediate action to recover the stolen bike and identify and arrest the culprit.

The recurring incidents of theft have once again raised concerns over the security arrangements in the area. (W- pm)

Retired postal worker ends life by jumping into well in Birsanagar

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A 64-year-old retired postal department employee, Vijay Lakra, died as he jumped into a government well near his house in Birsanagar.

The incident came to light on Monday morning when residents spotted a body floating in the well and alerted the police. Officers reached the site, recovered the body, conducted an inquest and sent it for post-mortem before handing it over to the family. Family members said Lakra had been suffering from mental health issues for several months following his retirement. They reported that he had been under severe stress and often displayed unusual behaviour. He left home on Saturday evening and did not return, despite the family searching for him throughout the night. His body was identified after locals discovered it in the well on Monday morning. Police said the initial investigation showed no signs of foul play or injury, and it appeared to be a clear case of suicide.

An Unnatural Death (UD) case has been registered based on the statement of Lakra's son. Officers also noted that his deteriorating mental state may have driven him to take the extreme step. The post-mortem report will confirm the exact cause of death. The incident has cast a pall of gloom over the locality, where residents remembered Lakra as a quiet and friendly man who had been struggling significantly in recent months. (W- pm)

CAIT to host Swadeshi Mela 2026 at Pragati Maidan

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: In a major push to promote domestic trade, start-ups, MSMEs, artisans and Made-in-India products, the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), in collaboration with Swadeshi Jagran Manch and several national organisations, has announced the country's largest-ever indigenous trade event - "Swadeshi Mela-2026" to be held in May 2026 at New Delhi's Pragati Maidan.

The decision follows a suggestion made by Union Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal during CAIT's National Governing Council meeting held on November 25.

CAIT National President B.C. Bhartia said the fair will serve as a grand platform to showcase India's trade, industry and craftsmanship, while giving Made-in-India products global visibility.

Start-ups, women entrepreneurs, artisans and small manufacturers across the country will get an opportunity to present their innovations before national and international buyers.

National Steering Board Formed : A special National Steering Board chaired by noted industrialist Dr. Ram Gopal Goyal has been constituted to oversee the event. The board includes 65 prominent members from all states, with significant representation of women and young entrepreneurs.

Its first meeting will be held on 4 December in New Delhi to finalize the fair's theme, layout, promotion strategy and exhibition format.

Broad National Participation : CAIT National Chairman Brajmohan Agrawal said leaders from trade bodies, farmer groups, transport and logistics, tourism, MSME and start-up associations have been invited. Bodies such as Laghu Udyog Bharati, MSME Development Forum and the Federation of Small Industries Associations, along with exhibition experts, will also participate to shape the fair into a true reflection of India's indigenous enterprise.

State-Level Committees and Stall Drive : State-level steering committees will be formed across the country to mobilize participants.

Sector-wise committees-covering industry, trade, start-ups, women entrepreneurship, food processing, Ayurveda, handloom, handicraft, technology and e-commerce-will coordinate stall allocations and nationwide outreach.

CAIT National Joint Secretary Suresh Sonthalia, who will represent Jharkhand in the December 4 meeting, said Swadeshi Mela-2026 will open new global opportunities for Indian entrepreneurs and strengthen the country's indigenous economic ecosystem. (W- pm)

JUSCO retirees meet GM-HRIR, demand quick action on higher pension scheme



Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A delegation of retired JUSCO employees met the General Manager (HRIR) to raise concerns over delays in receiving EPFO demand notes related to the Higher Pension Scheme. The delegation highlighted that the delay in monthly PF calculations was causing financial losses due to accumulating interest obligations on retirees. The members requested that data related to monthly salary and DA deductions of all retirees who applied for higher pension be promptly forwarded to Tata Steel and EPFO. The GM assured that coordination with both bodies would be expedited and the required data would be submitted soon to avoid further delays. Those in the delegation included V.D. Gopalkrishna, Y.P. Singh, M.K. Singh, A.K. Singh, R.K. Poddar, B. Prasad, P.K. Biswas, R.C.P. Yadav, N.M. Choudhary, U.K. Bose, S.K. Sharma, S.S. Dubey, U.K. Pandey and Firoz Alam. (w/nkm)

Suresh Sharma files nomination for Marwari Sammelan dist president

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A new chapter began in the East Singhbhum District Marwari Sammelan elections as young social worker Suresh Sharma 'Lippu' filed his nomination for the post of district president. He submitted two sets of nomination papers at the election office in Bistupur on Monday.

The filing saw the presence of several prominent members of the Marwari community. After submitting his nomination, Sharma addressed the gathering and emphasised that the community values work over titles. "Our society needs commitment, not mere recognition. With blessings from elders, support from youth and cooperation from women, I am stepping forward to serve," he said. He expressed confidence that the community's united support would help usher in a new phase of progress and social involvement. Many dignitaries conveyed solidarity with his candidature, praising his social initiatives and youth-oriented approach.



The enthusiastic support extended to Sharma indicates strong anticipation within the community for energetic leadership and broader participation. His candidature is expected to bring renewed focus on social welfare, cultural activities and community development. (w/nkm)

Nursery workers' protest concludes after assurances from management

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: A one-day protest by nursery workers of Telco Workers Cooperative Society concluded peacefully under the leadership of former Congress district president Anand Bihari Dubey. The workers raised long-pending issues related to job security, wages, attendance systems and service benefits.

During talks with society officials, workers reiterated that in 2010 the High Court had recognised them as permanent workers. At that time, when the management attempted to hand them over to Flora Society, a 18-day strike had forced the decision to be withdrawn.



Workers claimed that a similar attempt is now being made again, which they will not allow. They demanded regular payment structures, grade-based salary determination, improved attendance mechanisms and service benefit clearance.

The management has sought time until Monday to resolve issues. If demands remain unaddressed, an indefinite protest will begin Tuesday, for which workers have held the administration responsible. (w/nkm)

Jamshedpur Literature Festival to host major sessions on Dec 20



Jamshedpur, Dec 2: The two-day Jamshedpur Literature Festival will be held on December 20–21 at Hotel Ramada, Bistupur. The event will feature workshops on journalism and fine arts, along with cultural evenings and discussions on literature, satire, poetry, media and linguistic diversity. On December 20 at 2:40 PM, a major session titled "The Global Expansion and Growing Acceptance of Hindi" will be held. Eminent writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee Dr. Damodar Khadse and writer-administrator Anju Ranjan will speak, moderated by Patna-based film critic Dr. Kumar Vimalendu Singh. (w/nkm)

JMM slams Dulal Bhuiyan for remarks against CM Hemant Soren

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Dec 2: The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) strongly condemned former minister Dulal Bhuiyan for allegedly using derogatory language against Chief Minister Hemant Soren. Addressing a press conference at the JMM district contact office, Central Executive Committee member Mohan Karmakar said Bhuiyan must introspect before commenting.

Karmakar reminded that JMM had made Bhuiyan a three-time MLA and a two-time cabinet minister. "Despite this, he continues to make irresponsible statements. His accusations against the Chief Minister over anti-encroachment drives are baseless," he said.He clarified that the road-widening work in the region was carried out on the High Court's orders and implemented by the district administration. "Blaming the Chief Minister for this is unjustified and shows Bhuiyan's declining political stability," Karmakar added.



JMM leaders further accused Bhuiyan of politicising the issue and making misleading claims. Party leader Baghray Mardi said Bhuiyan had lost public trust, calling him "a setting sun, not a rising one," rejected by the voters of Jugsalai for his arrogance.

Another leader, Pramod Lal, went a step further, calling Bhuiyan a "Bhasmasur." He alleged that when Bhuiyan served as Land Revenue Minister he facilitated the lease release of land for PM Mall after a "financial deal", while keeping a neighbouring Tata Steel mall entangled in legal hurdles. Lal also claimed that Bhuiyan exploited residents of a nearby settlement by providing inferior utilities despite using Tata Steel's water and electricity in his own house.

Karmakar reiterated that JMM works for development and rehabilitation, not destruction and stressed that Hemant Soren's initiatives - such as announcing the Abua Aawas scheme after PM Awas Yojana was discontinued - reflect his commitment to the poor. (w/nkm)