JHARKHAND'S OWN ENGLISH DAILY

# THE AVENUE MAIL

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BCCI CENTRAL CONTRACTS: KOHLI, ROHIT DEMOTED TO GRADE B; GILL IN GRADE A-PAGE-11

# PM Modi announces special economic package of $175 million for Seychelles

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Calling development partnership a "strong foundation" of New Delhi-Victoria ties, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced a special economic package of $175 million for Seychelles to support concrete projects in various sectors like social housing, e-mobility, vocational training, health, defence and maritime security.

While addressing a joint press meet with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie following their talks at Hyderabad House in Delhi, PM Modi said, "Development partnership has been a strong foundation of India-Seychelles relations. All our efforts have been based on Seychelles' priorities and needs. Moving forward in this direction, today we are going to announce a Special Economic Package of $175 million. This package will support concrete projects in sectors such as social housing, e-mobility, vocational training, health, defence and maritime security."

These initiatives, according to the Prime Minister, will create employment and skill development opportunities for the people of Seychelles, especially the youth.



"India's ITEC program has played a significant role in capacity building in Seychelles. I am pleased that an MoU is being signed today for the training of Seychelles civil servants in India," he added.

PM Modi announced that India and Seychelles agreed to continue exploring new opportunities to strengthen economic cooperation between the two nations. He stated that two nations will move forward in fintech and digital solutions and promote trade in local currencies.

"The ties between India and Seychelles are not limited to diplomatic contact. The waves of the Indian Ocean have connected our people for centuries. On its shores, trade between the two countries has grown, cultures have blended, and the traditions of faith have become stronger. India and Seychelles are connected not just by geography, but by history, trust and shared vision for the future," he said.PM Modi called Seychelles an integral part of India's MAHASAGAR Vision, and said, "Our relationship spans the past, the present, and the future. As a maritime neighbour and trusted partner, Seychelles is an integral part of India's MAHASAGAR Vision. Our cooperation encompasses land, sea, and air."

## Retired teacher hacked to death

**Sahibganj, Feb 9:** A 62-year-old retired teacher, Nirbhay Kumar Rai alias Babul Rai, was brutally killed with a sharp-edged weapon by unidentified assailants in Jonka village under the Teenpahad police station area of Sahibganj district. The incident has triggered panic and shock across the village. Police rushed to the spot after receiving information and began an investigation, but so far neither the attackers have been identified nor any concrete leads have emerged. To crack the murder case, a sniffer dog was brought from Dumka. The dog was led from the victim's house and moved around a nearby house and a pile of sand kept along the roadside. After covering some distance, the dog returned to the victim's house and sat there. Despite repeated efforts, the sniffer dog failed to provide any breakthrough.Constable Umesh Kumar Pandey, who arrived with the sniffer dog Limsi from Dumka, said they left Dumka around 11 pm after receiving information about the incident and reached Jonka village at 1.10 am. The dog was deployed at the crime scene on the instructions of the local police, but no significant clues were found. Rajmahal police inspector Rajiv Ranjan, the Teenpahad police station in-charge and a fingerprint expert also reached the spot and conducted an inspection.Police are questioning people from the surrounding area and trying to ascertain who visited the victim's house on the day of the incident and with whom he was in contact. The victim's daughter-in-law said that when she reached the house after receiving information, she saw severe injury marks and deep wounds on her father-in-law's face, confirming that he was murdered.

## Opposition likely to move resolution to remove Speaker Birla

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)**The Opposition on Monday decided to move a resolution to remove Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla from office for disallowing Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi from speaking in the House on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address.

Sources said the resolution is being moved under Article 94-C of the Constitution.

The notice is being given for moving a resolution against the Speaker for his removal, for disallowing the LoP from speaking in the House on the motion of thanks, for not initiating action against Bharatiya Janata Party MP Nishikand Dubey, for making unsubstantiated charges against women MPs of the Congress and suspension of eight opposition MPs, the sources said.

They said a resolution in this regard would soon be moved in the Lok Sabha and signatures of MPs are being procured.



The resolution is likely to have signatures of 100 MPs in the Lok Sabha and getting the signatures of various Opposition MPs is under process.

The resolution is likely to be submitted today itself, top sources in the opposition said.

Sources said the decision to move the resolution was taken at a meeting of Opposition leaders held in the chamber of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge this morning.

The Trinamool Congress also attended the meeting besides other parties, including the Left, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, the Samajwadi Party, the Rashtriya Janata Dal, the Shiv Sena-Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray, the Nationalist Congress Party-Sharadchandra Pawar and the Revolutionary Socialist Party.

This will be the fourth such notice against the sitting Speaker of Lok Sabha.

The first such resolution was moved against M V Malavankar, which was defeated.Later, a resolution was moved against then Speaker Hukum Singh, which could not be taken up due to lack of numbers in the House.

Later another similar resolution, the third one, was moved against then Speaker Balram Jakhar, which was also defeated.

## HC maintains stay on police action against ED officials

**Ranchi, Feb 9:** The High Court on Monday heard a petition filed by two Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials. Justice S.K. Dwivedi's bench upheld the stay on police investigation and action against the ED officers. The next hearing in the matter is scheduled for February 17. The case relates to Airport Police Station FIR No. 05/2026, in which an FIR was registered against the ED officials. Advocate General Rajiv Ranjan represented the state government, while Solicitor General of India S.V. Raju, along with advocates A.K. Das and Saurabh Kumar, appeared for the ED. The upcoming hearing will focus on the maintainability of the petition. During the proceedings, it was noted that criminal writ petitions are ordinarily heard by Justice Gautam Kumar Chaudhary's court. The case had initially been mentioned in another bench due to Justice Chaudhary's absence, and the court had stayed police action pending further orders. Since Justice Chaudhary's court is now available, the matter will proceed there. The state government clarified that the case is not connected to the CBI, contrary to claims, and therefore should be heard in Justice Chaudhary's court.In a previous hearing, the court had ordered enhanced security for the ED office, directing the central government to deploy CISF, BSF, or other paramilitary forces, with the SSP of Ranchi responsible for local security. CCTV footage at the Hinoo ED office was also instructed to be preserved. The ED officials have sought the court's intervention to either quash the FIR and criminal proceedings against them or transfer the investigation to an independent agency such as the CBI. They also requested that an FIR be registered against complainant Santosh Kumar, who is accused of embezzling approximately Rs 23 crore of government funds in the alleged Page scam.

## NCLAT admits appeal in Incab PF dues case

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** In a significant development in the long-running dispute over employees' provident fund dues, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has today taken cognizance and admitted the appeal filed by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) against Vedanta Group's cable manufacturing arm, Incab Industries Limited.

According to legal sources, the appellate tribunal has formally admitted the matter and scheduled the next hearing in March, signalling judicial scrutiny of alleged large-scale statutory defaults involving workers' retirement benefits.

The controversy stems from Incab Industries Limited being treated as a cable company under the Vedanta Group, a classification that has been challenged by EPFO and employees. The dispute revolves around the non-deposit of employees' provident fund dues amounting to Rs 164.63 crore, which, as per EPFO, remains unpaid despite statutory obligations.

Earlier, separate petitions were filed by the EPFO and affected employees, questioning the manner in which the resolution process was approved without securing workers' PF dues.

The matter was initially taken up by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Kolkata where Vedanta's resolution proposal for Incab Industries was admitted. ( W-pm)

## Lay down arms, join mainstream of dev: Shah to Maoists

**Raipur/Jagdalpur, Feb 9 (IANS)** Declaring that the fight against Naxalism is not directed at individuals but focused on ensuring the safety and future of tribal villages, Union Home Minister Amit Shah reiterated his call for Maoists to lay down their arms and join the mainstream of development. He was addressing a gathering of tribals in Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, on Monday during the concluding ceremony of the Bastar Pandum festival. He urged those still carrying weapons to surrender, assuring them of dignified rehabilitation under the state's attractive package, which has already encouraged more than 2,500 people to renounce violence. However, he warned that those who plant improvised explosive devices, attack villages, or destroy schools will face decisive action, stressing that violence will be met with firm resistance and that Maoism has brought nothing but destruction. Highlighting the remarkable transformation in Bastar, HM Shah said the region is now emerging as a shining example before the nation.Schools closed for decades have reopened, and he pledged that within five years, Bastar will become the most developed division in Chhattisgarh. By December 27, every village will have electricity, mobile connectivity, and full access to hospitals, colleges, post offices, and other essential facilities, HM Shah told a mass gathering of tribal people of Bastar.The government, he added, will procure all tribal farmers' paddy, provide free rice, gas cylinders, and piped water, while promoting new opportunities such as adventure tourism, homestays, canopy walks, and glass bridges once Naxalism is eliminated.

## No roadblocks in SIR: SC's clear message to states in Bengal case

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)**Amid West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's apprehension of "mass exclusion" of voters in the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in the state, the Supreme Court on Monday said it would not allow anyone to create an impediment in the exercise.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and N V Anjaria said it would issue whatever orders or clarifications are required in the matter.

"We will not allow anyone to create any impediment in the SIR exercise. It must be clear to the states," the CJI said while hearing a batch of petitions, including the one filed by Banerjee, related to the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls in West Bengal.



The bench took note of the affidavit filed by the Election Commission which alleged burning of its notices by some miscreants.

It directed the West Bengal director general of police to file an affidavit in this regard.

The poll panel said that so far, no FIR has been registered against the miscreants."A message must go that the Constitution of India applies to all states," Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said.The top court took note of the West Bengal government providing a list of 8,505 Group B officers to the poll panel, and said they may be trained and employed in the SIR process.

The bench clarified that final decisions on revision of the electoral rolls will always be taken by the electoral roll officers.

The bench said the manner of employment and work profile of these 8,505 officers will be decided by the poll panel.During the hearing, senior advocate Shyam Divan, appearing for Banerjee, raised apprehensions about the appointment of micro-observers and mass exclusion of eligible voters in the SIR exercise."We don't want any mass exclusion," Divan told the bench.



# National investors back startups at 'Jharkhand to India' dialogue

**Mail News Service**



**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The 'Jharkhand to India' dialogue, aimed at positioning Jharkhand prominently on India's national startup map, concluded successfully recently at New Delhi, marking a significant milestone for the state's emerging innovation ecosystem. The high-level dialogue brought together startup founders, investors, policymakers, corporate leaders, academicians and ecosystem enablers from across the country.

The dialogue was organised by the Navachar Research Incubation and Innovation Council (N.R.I.I.C.) under the leadership of its founder directors Amar Nath Singh and Kartik Chaudhary. Addressing participants, they emphasised that Jharkhand possesses abundant talent and innovative ideas, but requires a robust support system, sustained mentorship and easier access to capital to unlock its full potential.

Discussions during the dialogue focused on the structural gaps and opportunities within Jharkhand's startup ecosystem. Aditya Arora highlighted that while innovation exists in the state, the ecosystem fails to adequately support scaling startups, especially after Series B funding, calling for stronger policy backing. Shweta Saxena pointed out that weak local support systems and delays in funding often force founders to migrate to other states. Manjeet Sahu stressed the need for building a complete value chain linking ideas, institutions, markets and capital, while Saurabh Jain spoke about the perception gap among investors towards Eastern India, which he said could be addressed through large-scale incubation programmes and a strong mentor network.

A key intervention came from Shivangi Jain, former Senior AVP at Startup India, DPIIT, who stated that Jharkhand lacks a dedicated startup dashboard and a single-point contact for founders.

Several major announcements were made during the dialogue. The launch of the 'Third World Angel' network was announced, aimed at funding startups across India with special participation from investors and entrepreneurs from Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. It was also announced that a major Demo Day will be organised in Jamshedpur on March 1, alongside the formal launch of 'Navishkar 2026'. The next edition of the 'Jharkhand to India' dialogue will be held in Bengaluru in June.

The event also saw individual commitments of support from industry leaders. Rajni Kant Sinha, Founder and CEO of Serviz, announced comprehensive support including funding, mentoring and market access to a startup from Jharkhand through N.R.I.I.C. Shikha Suman of CureBay committed to mentoring three Jharkhand-based startups and assisting with their go-to-market strategies. Aditya Arora of Faad Capital announced funding support for five startups, while Amit Kumar of Dropty and Saurabh Jain pledged continued mentoring and funding assistance to promising ventures.

Santosh Sharma (CEO, Book My Jet), Arunabh Sinha (Founder, UClean), Anshul Kumar (Head – Retail Sales, Google Devices & Services), Satish Mishra (Senior Manager, GreenCell Mobility), Rajiv Kumar (Founder, Hogahi.com), Kunal Divyanshu (Founder, White Gloves), Neha Bharti (CEO, Swadha Agri), Kshitij Anand (Co-founder & CEO, Karekeba Ventures/Happy Horizons), Amit Kumar (CEO, Dropti), Dr. Saurabh Trivedi (Associate Professor & CEO, Incubation Center – IILM University), Shweta Saxena (Soonicorn Ventures), Saurabh Jain (Founder, Fun2Do Labs), Ajay Singh Rajawat (Senior Manager, Bhashini – MeitY, Government of India), Shivangi Jain (Former Senior AVP, Startup India), Vijay Veer Singh (COO, Runway Incubator, UPES), Aarush Dhawan (Founder, Serviz), Priyam K. (Founder & Legal Advisor, Propel Legal), Himanshi Agarwal (Assistant Professor, SRCC, Delhi University), Azam Khan (CEO, TIDES – IIT Roorkee), Shubham Mishra (Senior Research Analyst, Uruka Global), Manjeet Sahu (Director, L1 Healthcare), Dheeraj Tripathi (CBO, Rosemarta), Sagar (Founder, Delhi Angels Den), and Satyaprakash (Founder, Jharkhand Association). (W-pb)

## Sreeleathers mega Feb offer sparks excitement in Ranchi and Ramgarh

**Mail News Service**



**Jamshedpur, Feb 9 :** Sreeleathers has rolled out an attractive mega offer for customers in Ranchi and Ramgarh, drawing widespread attention and enthusiastic participation.

The special promotion, running throughout the month of February, features weekly lucky draws with a chance to win refrigerators. Under the offer, lucky draws are being organised at Sreeleathers showrooms located on Ratu Road, Harmu Road and H.B. Road (Lalpur) in Ranchi, along with the Gola Road showroom near Big Shop in Ramgarh. Customers shopping at these outlets receive lucky draw coupons, making them eligible for the weekly prizes.In the latest round of draws, Om Prakash Mishra from the Harmu Road showroom, Tanishk Kumari from the Ratu Road showroom, Vishwajeet from the H.B. Road (Lalpur) showroom, and Laxman Kumar Thakur from the Gola Road showroom in Ramgarh were declared winners. With attractive rewards and weekly chances to win, Sreeleathers February Mega Offer has emerged as a major crowd-puller, adding excitement and value to the shopping experience for customers across both cities. (W-pm)

## Tata Steel UISL team attends sustainability workshop



**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** A Tata Steel UISL team led by Manoj Singh Shekhawat, MdWasim, and Deepankar Pradhan participated in a workshop at IIT Kharagpur on advancing circular resource systems through organic waste recovery technologies. The event brought together academicians, industry experts, and policymakers, highlighting Tata Steel UISL's commitment to sustainability and innovation through collaboration. (W-mb)

# Jamshedpur needs airport and regular flight services urgently: SCCI

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) President Manav Kedia has launched a fresh push for air connectivity, sending a detailed formal appeal to Union Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, and Tata Steel CEO T.V. Narendran. Kedia highlighted a glaring irony: despite being a century-old global steel hub and the financial capital of Jharkhand, Jamshedpur remains deprived of a commercial airport.

● **Connectivity Gap Hindering "Ease of Doing Business"** : In his letter, Kedia argued that the lack of an airport forces entrepreneurs, students, and officials to undertake gruelling road journeys to Ranchi or Kolkata to catch flights. He termed this void a direct contradiction to the national vision of "Viksit Bharat" and "Ease of Doing Business," noting that the industrial growth of the region is being stifled by poor logistics.

● **The Dhalbhumgarh Stalemate :** Kedia reminded authorities of the Dhalbhumgarh Airport project, which saw its foundation stone laid in 2019 by then-CM Raghubar Das and Union Minister Jayant Sinha. Despite an MOU between the Airport Authority of India (AAI) and the State, the project has remained in limbo for six years due to environmental and forest clearance hurdles.



● **A Pragmatic Solution: Sonari Airport**

As an immediate fix, the SCCI President suggested modifying Sonari Airport to accommodate regional flight services. He proposed:

● **Small Aircraft Operations:** Utilizing the current runway for small turboprop planes (like the HAL DO-228) for daily Jamshedpur-Kolkata routes.

● **Runway Expansion:** Collaborating with Tata Steel and Town Administration to explore runway extension possibilities to handle larger commercial carriers.

● **Economic and Social Impact:** Beyond convenience, Kedia emphasized that regular flights would trigger a surge in government revenue, foster job creation, and improve road safety by reducing high-speed highway travel. He concluded with an optimistic plea, urging both the State and Central governments to act decisively on this "legitimate demand" to provide much-needed relief to the citizens of this vital industrial city.

# Women achievers to be felicitated on International Women's Day

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** A key preparatory meeting of the International Human Rights Crime Prevention Organisation was held at the Aditya Ashiyana complex to discuss arrangements for International Women's Day, to be observed on March 8. The meeting was chaired by Jharkhand State President Archana Singh. During the meeting, members unanimously decided to organise a special programme aimed at promoting women's rights, awareness and empowerment. Responsibilities were assigned to office bearers to ensure the smooth conduct of the event. Addressing the gathering, Archana Singh said that International Women's Day would be celebrated with the objective of encouraging women and strengthening their role in society.

She announced that women who have made outstanding contributions in various fields would be honoured with mementos and commemorative tokens on the occasion. Organisation members were entrusted with the task of identifying deserving women and preparing a list for felicitation.

Panchayat Samiti member Sunil Gupta, along with members Geeta Singh, Fatima Shaheen, B. Lakshmi, Pushparaj, Ravi and others, shared their suggestions to make the programme meaningful and impactful. (w-nkm)



## Labour leader passes away

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Senior labour leader Sunil Kumar Shukla, former committee member of the Tata Workers' Union and Vice President of the union at Nuvoco Cement Company, passed away on Sunday during treatment at Tata Main Hospital. He was cremated on Monday at the Swarnarekha burning ghat. Sunil Kumar Shukla was the younger brother of Rajesh Kumar Shukla, Vice Chairman of the Jharkhand State Bar Council and was widely known for his active role in labour welfare and social initiatives.


**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Shekh Shahabuddin S/o Sheikh Badruddin R/o H.No.23 H Cross Road No. 10, Zakir Nagar East, P.O. & P.S. Azadnagar, Mango, Jamshedpur, Dist. East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1. That I am an Indian citizen since birth. And I am residing at above noted address.

2. That my actual and correct name is 'Shekh Shahabuddin' which is mentioned in my 'Aadhar Card no'.2088 8393 1004, Pan Card NO. COIPS0929E.

3. That my name is mentioned in my Passport bearing No.J7153217 as 'Sheikh Shabuddin'.

4. That Shekh Shahabuddin and Shekh Shabuddin ' both name is same and one person i.e. myself. Hence this affidavit.

5. That I swear this affidavit to confrm the above facts to be true and correct.

Sl. No. : 22
Date : 07-02-2026 Advocate


# Court rejects anticipatory bail for two accused in Rs 30 lakhs embezzlement case

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The District Additional and Sessions Judge (III), Niti Kumari, has rejected the anticipatory bail applications of two accused, Sushma Pandey and Ranjit Kumar, in a Rs 30 lakh embezzlement case linked to Muzaffarpur, Bihar. Both accused are residents of Chintamanpur Adwara under Bariarpur police station in Muzaffarpur district.

At the same time, the court granted anticipatory bail to the other two accused in the case, Nishant Kumar and Ayush Kumar, with strict conditions. The court directed them to surrender before the court within three weeks, obtain the bail order and extend full cooperation to the investigating officer during the course of the investigation.

The case relates to a complaint filed by Sanjay Kumar, owner of Care Traders and a resident of Sonari, Jamshedpur. Based on his complaint, an FIR was lodged at Sakchi police station against all four accused. According to the prosecution, Ayush Kumar and Shatrunjay Singh had initially visited the complainant's office and introduced him to Ranjit Kumar and Sushma Pandey.




The accused allegedly informed Sanjay Kumar about a fire safety work contract worth Rs 50 lakh and a scrap shifting contract worth Rs 2 crore from MRPL, Mangalore, and assured him of substantial profits if he undertook the work. The complainant stated that he received the work order in November 2023 and commenced the work. However, after about six months, the accused allegedly increased the royalty rate and withheld TDS and GST amounts. Despite completion of the work, a sum of Rs 30,87,586 reportedly remained unpaid.

The matter took a serious turn when, after a legal notice was issued, the accused allegedly visited the complainant's office and produced a receipt claiming that the outstanding amount had already been paid. Sanjay Kumar alleged before the court that the signature on the receipt was forged and did not belong to him.

The complainant was represented in court by Advocate Sudhir Kumar Pappu, former Public Prosecutor Sushil Kumar Jaiswal and Advocate Babita Jain, who opposed the anticipatory bail pleas of the accused.

The court, after hearing arguments from both sides and examining the case records, rejected the anticipatory bail applications of Sushma Pandey and Ranjit Kumar, while granting conditional relief to the remaining two accused. (W-pb)


**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **TABASSUM NAAZ**, W/o Shadab Ahmed Ghalib, by nationality Indian, Resident of Taj Nagar, Kapali, Near Umme Jamil Masjid, Dobo, P.O.-Kapali, Dist.-Seraikela-Kharsawan, Jharkhand, PIN-831012 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows :-

1. That my previous name is **TABASSUM NAAZ GALIB,** now I have changed my name as **TABASSUM NAAZ** which is mentioned in my all documents papers.

2. That I swear this affidavit to confirm the above facts to be true and genuine.

Sl. No. : 36
Date : 09-02-2026 Advocate



**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**

e-Tenders are invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/Chakradharpur for and on behalf of the President of India against Tender No. mentioned below due to open on **02.03.2026 at 15.00 hrs.** 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; Earnest Money :** (1) **ST-CKP-OT-25-26-116, dated 06.02.2026;** Provision of Block Panel and Block Proving by Axle Counter in place of Single Line Block instruments; ₹ 3,03,58,569.92; ₹ 3,01,800/-. (2) **ST-CKP-OT-25-26-117, dated 06.02.2026;** Provision of Dual MSDAC in Auto Section of Sini-Chandil and Adityapur-Rajkharsawan; ₹ 12,77,59,260.10; ₹ 7,88,800/-. (3) **ST-CKP-OT-25-26-119, dated 06.02.2026;** Provision of Dual Detection by Commissioning of Track circuit in Joint Line between Rajkharsawan-Rajkharsawan West/Outer; ₹ 17,61,209.50; ₹ 35,200/-. **Completion Period :** 12 (Twelve) Months for sl. no. 1 & 3 and 18 (Eighteen) Months for sl. no. 2. The Tender at Tender No.-117 will be on "Two Packet System" and Tender No. 116 & 119 will be on "Single Packet System". The tender details can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate in e-tendering. e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost. **(PR-1164)**



**AFFIDAVIT/शपथ पत्र**

मैं, मो० शोऐब, पिता–स्व० हाफिज नसिरुद्दीन, निवासी ग्राम–रहीमाबाद, जगन्नाथपुर, पो० एवं थाना–जगन्नाथपुर, जिला–पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, झारखण्ड 833203 का स्थायी निवासी हूं। शपथ पूर्वक घोषणा करता हूं कि: –

1. यह कि मैं एक भारतीय नागरिक हूँ।
2. यह कि मेरा सही एवं वास्तविक जन्म तिथि– 20.01.1947 है।
3. यह कि मेरा आधार कार्ड संख्या–3202 7147 1996 है जिसमें मेरा नाम–शोएब शाहीद अंकित भुलवश हो गया है एवं जन्म तिथि भी भुलवश 01.01.1943 अंकित हो गया है।
4. यह कि मेरा सही एवं वास्तविक नाम मो० शोऐब एवं सही जन्म तिथि– 20–01–1947 है, जो कि मेरा शैक्षणिक प्रमाण पत्र, बिहार विद्यालय परीक्षा समिति, मैं अंकित है।
5. यह कि इस शपथ पत्र का उद्देश्य मेरा उक्त आधार कार्ड मैं नाम एवं जन्म तिथि संशोधन कर सही एवं वास्तविक नाम मो० शाऐब एवं जन्म तिथि–20–01–1947 अंकित कर दर्ज करने हेतु कर रहा हूँ।

क्रम सं0 – 184
दिनांक – 03/02/2026
अधिवक्ता


# Rajiv Talwar nominated national secretary of Jesuit Alumni Association

**Mail News Service**




**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Rajiv Talwar, senior vice president, Loyola Alumni Association, Jamshedpur has been nominated as the National Secretary of the Jesuit Alumni Association of India (JAAI) for the 2026–2029 term. The announcement was made at the conclusion of the 11th National JAAI Conference held in Goa.

Rajiv Talwar's nomination is being widely viewed as a recognition of the strong value system, commitment to service, and leadership ethos nurtured by the Loyola family. Alumni members described the moment as a collective honour that reflects the enduring spirit and credibility of the Loyola Alumni Association at the national level.

The Jesuit Alumni Association of India is a vast national network representing more than 250 Jesuit schools, 58 university colleges, 28 technical institutions and 16 business colleges across the country. With Talwar's elevation to a key national position, Loyola Alumni Association, Jamshedpur has strengthened its connection with the broader Jesuit alumni mission across India. The association also acknowledged the continuous guidance and support of its Principal and President, Father Vinod Fernandes, in achieving this milestone.

Adding to the celebrations, Team Loyola Alumni Association, Jamshedpur was conferred the Supporting Spirit Award at the national conference. The honour recognises the association's unity, service-oriented approach and active contribution to Jesuit alumni initiatives. (W-pb)


**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Nigar Khan W/o Zeeshan Khan, R/o H.No.67, Green Valley Road No. 17, Zakir Nagar East, P.O. & P.S. Azadnagar, Mango Jamshedpur, Dist. East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1. That I am an Indian citizen since birth. And I am residing at above noted address.

2. That my actual and correct name is 'Nigar Khan' which is mentioned in my Aadhar Card No. 7871 7487 9215, Pan Card No. PVTPK0970A.

3. That my name is mentioned in my 'Education' Certificate bearing No. 1079734, Roll Code No.83004, Roll No.1400322, Regd. No.83004-01957-13 as 'Nigar Sultana'.

4. That 'Nigar Khan' and 'Nigar Sultana' both name is same and one person i. e myself. Hence this affidavit.

5. That I swear this affidavit to confirm the above facts be true and correct.

Sl. No. : 24
Date : 07-02-2026 Advocate


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# Holding tax reduced, crackdown on crime demanded

## Advocates call for development-focused local body elections in Mango–Jugsalai

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** With the urban local body elections approaching, advocates and civic stakeholders in the Mango and Jugsalai areas have intensified their engagement with voters, urging them to prioritize development-oriented and honest candidates. Legal professionals from the region said voters are increasingly aware and are seeking representatives who can work transparently and address long-pending civic issues.

Advocates interacting with residents emphasized that elections should not be limited to promises alone, but must translate into accountable governance. They stressed that voters should elect representatives who are accessible, proactive and willing to work in coordination with all sections of society. According to them, public participation and trust are essential for meaningful development.




**Demand for strict action against crime :** One of the major concerns raised was the rising incidence of crime. Advocates said that merely reducing holding tax is not enough unless law and order improves. They demanded strict action against criminals and urged the administration to ensure a sense of security for common citizens. "Development cannot take place in an atmosphere of fear," they noted, calling for effective policing and prompt legal action.

**Electricity, water woes persist :** Residents also highlighted chronic problems related to electricity and drinking water. Frequent power cuts, low voltage and irregular water supply continue to trouble daily life in several localities of Mango and Jugsalai. Citizens demanded permanent solutions rather than temporary arrangements, especially with summer approaching.

**Holding tax relief welcomed, but not enough :** While the reduction in holding tax has been welcomed by residents, advocates said fiscal relief alone does not address larger civic failures. They pointed out that roads, drainage, sanitation and public health infrastructure remain in poor condition and require immediate attention.

**Drainage, sewage a major issue :** Poor drainage and clogged sewage lines were identified as serious problems, particularly during the monsoon season. Advocates warned that without proper planning and execution, these issues could worsen, affecting public health. Overall, advocates appealed to voters to look beyond caste or personal influence and vote for capable, development-minded candidates. They stressed that the upcoming municipal elections present an opportunity to demand better governance, transparency and a safer, more livable city. (w-nkm)

## Demand for clean governance, strong urban leadership

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Advocates from the Mango and Jugsalai areas have jointly called for the election of educated, honest and visionary public representatives in the upcoming urban local body polls. Speaking in one voice, they said the city needs mayors and chairpersons who are not only politically acceptable but also capable of understanding law, administration and public issues in depth.



The advocates emphasized that when leadership is well-informed and upright, it becomes easier to address civic problems effectively. They said representatives in municipal bodies should be chosen not merely on the basis of popularity, but on qualifications, integrity and commitment to public service. A senior advocate noted that the head of a municipal corporation or council is not just a political face, but the chief administrator of the entire city, making clarity of vision and administrative understanding essential.

Raising serious concern over sanitation, advocates pointed out that door-to-door garbage collection remains irregular in both Mango and Jugsalai. Due to the lack of a systematic waste management mechanism, garbage is seen scattered across streets and lanes. They said correcting the sanitation system should be a top priority for the new leadership, with proper monitoring and accountability.

Advocates further stressed that public representatives must remain connected with the people, listen to their grievances and actively work toward solutions. They said only a socially engaged, sensitive and inclusive leader can earn public trust. The advocates urged voters to elect representatives who can ensure cleanliness, better civic management and transparent governance, making the city cleaner, safer and more livable. (w-nkm)

## Unopposed winners declared in Wards 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 at Jugsalai

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The Jugsalai Nagar Parishad elections have witnessed several candidates being elected unopposed, highlighting a lack of contest in multiple wards. According to official information, candidates in Wards 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11 have been declared elected unopposed after the completion of the nomination and scrutiny process, as no rival candidates remained in the fray.




In Ward No. 5, Mohammad Abbas Ansari was elected unopposed, while Firozesh Parveen secured victory without contest in Ward No. 6. Similarly, Saloni Amira was declared elected from Ward No. 9 and Aamreen Parveen from Ward No. 10. In Ward No. 11, Rashid Iqbal Ansari emerged as the unopposed winner.

Apart from these wards, nomination details from other wards reveal active participation by multiple candidates. Ward No. 1 saw nominations from Mohammad Azharuddin Ansari and Sheikh Abdul Aqib. Ward No. 2 had several contenders, including Irshad Ali, Firoz Ahmad, Amit Madan, Mohammad Irshad Haider and Shekhar Sharma. Ward No. 3 witnessed nominations by Mohammad Arif, Alok Bajpai, Mohammad Sarfaraz, Arun Gupta, Gurjinder Singh, Jagdeep Singh, Mohammad Shahnawaz and Kunal Saraf.

Other wards also reported competitive races, with candidates filing nominations across Wards 4 to 22, reflecting a mix of political diversity and local leadership aspirations. Election officials stated that the uncontested victories indicate either strong local consensus or limited opposition in certain areas.

The unopposed elections have ensured early representation for these wards, while voting will be held in the remaining constituencies as per schedule. Authorities said all necessary preparations are in place to ensure a smooth and fair electoral process across Jugsalai Nagar Parishad. (w-nkm)

## BJP steps up strategy for civic polls

### Arun Singh takes charge on ground

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has rolled out a strong and focused strategy to ensure the victory of its supported candidates in the upcoming municipal elections in Jharkhand, with the central leadership deputing National General Secretary Arun Singh to actively oversee the campaign on the ground. Singh, who has earlier served as BJP in-charge for Jharkhand on several occasions, has been directed to remain in the state until the elections conclude.



Reflecting the party's seriousness towards local body polls, BJP has also assigned senior national women leaders, including Mahila Morcha national office-bearer Rekha Verma, to strengthen campaigning across key regions. In recent days, Arun Singh has held a series of meetings with party MPs, MLAs and NDA allies, urging them to campaign intensively in support of BJP-backed candidates. His efforts have reportedly led to the withdrawal of several BJP aspirants from mayoral contests to avoid vote division. During a recent meeting in Jamshedpur, Singh coordinated NDA partners for joint campaigning in Adityapur and Mango municipal corporations. Meanwhile, Rekha Verma has been actively campaigning in Ranchi, Palamu and other areas, holding meetings with women's groups to build support for party candidates. With organisational meetings underway and candidate selection nearing completion, BJP is leaving no stone unturned. As per the Jharkhand State Election Commission, polling in 48 urban local bodies will be held on February 23, 2026, with counting scheduled for February 27. (w-nkm)

## Suspended Cong leader Zeba Khan alleges injustice, breaks down at press meet

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Suspended Congress leader Shaista Parveen, popularly known as Zeba Khan, on Monday made serious allegations against the party leadership, claiming she was expelled for raising her voice for her rights. Addressing a press conference at her office in Mango, she broke down while speaking, alleging discrimination and injustice.

"I was removed because I am a committed Congress worker and a Muslim," she said emotionally, questioning whether speaking for the rights of her community was a crime.

She alleged that influential leaders within the party, particularly Banna Gupta, pressured the leadership to suspend her. Calling the decision undemocratic, she said it went against the party's core ideology.

Zeba Khan said she had been an active Congress member for nearly a decade and had participated in major movements,



including protests against CAA-NRC, the farmers' agitation and the Bharat Jodo Yatra, during which she walked nearly 4,200 km from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. "I dedicated my life to the party, but today I have been shown the door," she said.

She also accused the party of factionalism and nepotism, claiming her suspension was politically motivated. Her emotional statement has sparked intense political discussion, with attention now focused on how the Congress party will respond. (w-nkm)

## City SP Kumar Shivashish weds

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** City Superintendent of Police Kumar Shivashish entered into marital bliss, marking a moment of joy and celebration across police, administrative, and social circles of the city.

The wedding ceremony was held at Rewa Resort, Baliguma, along NH-33, and was attended by several dignitaries from Jamshedpur, close family members, relatives, and select friends.



Senior police officials, administrative officers, and well-wishers graced the occasion and extended their heartfelt congratulations to the newlywed couple. Known for his disciplined, duty-bound, and effective policing, City SP Kumar Shivashish enjoys wide respect within the force and among citizens. As news of his marriage spread, congratulatory messages and good wishes poured in from all quarters. Residents of Jamshedpur have wished the newly married couple a happy, healthy, and prosperous married life, hoping their journey together is filled with harmony and happiness. ( W-pm)

## St. Mary's School holds prayer service for Class X board aspirants

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** A solemn prayer service was organised on February 9, for Class X students at St. Marys English High School, appearing in the upcoming Board Examinations. The programme was held in the school auditorium with the aim of seeking God's blessings and preparing students mentally and spiritually for the examinations.

The service began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, followed by readings from the Holy Scriptures and reflective thoughts. Special prayers were offered for the students, their parents, teachers, and the school staff, seeking strength, peace of mind, and success during the examination period.

SambhuLal later briefed the students about Board Examination



procedures and explained important guidelines to be followed during the exams. School Principal Rev. Fr. Vernon D'Souza addressed the gathering with an inspiring message, encouraging students to remain calm, disciplined, and focused, and to trust their preparation and abilities. The programme also included the distribution of admit cards to the students. It concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Tr. NibhaSinha. The prayer service proved to be a meaningful and reassuring experience for all participants. (W-mb)

## Police, administration on high alert ahead of Budget session

**Ranchi, Feb 9:** The administration and police have gone on high alert ahead of the upcoming sixth Jharkhand Assembly's fifth (budget) session in 2026. Scheduled to run from February 18 to March 19, the session has prompted the police headquarters to issue special directives to district SPs and unit heads to ensure smooth functioning. The primary focus is on providing timely and accurate responses to questions and attention proposals raised by assembly members. All relevant offices have been instructed to form a special Assembly cell, with two officers designated in charge of each cell. A complete list of mobile numbers, fax, and email IDs of all members must be submitted to the headquarters immediately. During the session, the officers in charge are required to be present in the office at all times. District authorities have been directed to maintain updated reports of crime statistics and major cases, along with summaries of all significant incidents from the past six months. Improved coordination with station in-charges and DSPs is expected to ensure rapid sharing of information.<The directives also emphasize that answers to questions must be precise, relevant, and free of ambiguity. For cases-related queries, officers must provide brief details of arrests and police actions taken. Questions regarding the establishment of police pickets or stations must be answered based on careful review.

## Traffic snarl on NH-18 brings Bengal-Odisha route to a standstill

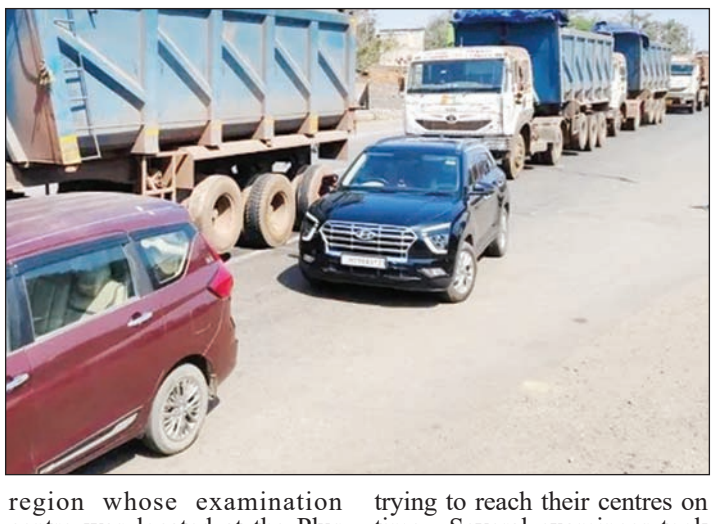
**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** National Highway-18, a crucial arterial road connecting Jharkhand with Odisha, West Bengal and Bihar, witnessed a massive traffic jam from Sunday evening that continued till Monday afternoon, paralysing movement for nearly 20 hours.

The 15-Km-long gridlock not only choked one of eastern India's key lifelines but also pushed hundreds of commuters into distressing situations.

The disruption came at a particularly sensitive time, as matriculation and intermediate board examinations are currently underway in Jharkhand.

On Monday, the traffic chaos turned into mental agony for examinees from the Chandil



region whose examination centre was located at the Plus Two High School in Raghunathpur under the Nimdih block.

Students stranded on the highway were seen desperately trying to reach their centres on time. Several examinees took significant risks, navigating through narrow, uneven farm paths on motorcycles to somehow make it to the examination hall, while many others arrived well past the scheduled time.

The most disturbing impact of the traffic snarl was felt in the healthcare sector. Dozens of ambulances carrying critically ill patients from Nimdih, Kukru and adjoining areas of West Bengal towards Jamshedpur remained trapped in the jam for hours. With no space to manoeuvre, emergency vehicles were unable to move forward. Social activist Avdhesh Murmu said that there was not even enough room to clear a passage for ambulances, resulting in the condition of several patients deteriorating dangerously.

The immediate trigger for the traffic chaos was the breakdown of a heavy vehicle on the Pitki overbridge on Sunday night.

However, local residents alleged that the root cause lies in prolonged negligence by the National Highways Authority and the construction agency, as the Pitki overbridge has remained incomplete for a long time.

Adding to the problem is the frequent closure of the Pitki railway crossing, which further aggravates congestion. Residents expressed surprise that despite this route being regularly used by ministers, MPs and senior officials, no concrete steps have been taken to permanently resolve this long-standing issue. Local villagers have warned that if the overbridge work is not completed soon and traffic movement is not streamlined, they will be forced to launch an aggressive agitation. ( W-pm)

# RPF rescues two minor girls at Hijli railway station

Mail News Service

**Kharagpur, Feb 9:** Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel rescued two minor girls during routine patrolling at Hijli Railway Station on February 8, 2026.

One girl was found near the Foot Over Bridge on Platform No. 1, while the other was located in the rear general coach of Train No. 12876 at Platform No. 2. During preliminary enquiry, both minors stated that they had left their homes due to misunderstandings with family members and were travelling alone.



Considering their vulnerability, the RPF brought them to the Hijli RPF Post and kept them under safe custody.

The matter was immediately reported to the Child Helpline and District Child Protection authorities. After completing legal formalities, both girls were safely handed over to the Child Help Desk, Kharagpur, for counselling, care and rehabilitation. The timely and sensitive action of the RPF ensured the safety and welfare of the minors. (w-nkm)

## Minor girl goes missing

**Ranchi, Feb 9:** A 12-year-old girl has gone missing from Jharkhand's Ranchi since February 4, a police officer said on Monday. Hatia DSP P K Mishra said that the girl, a native of Godda district, was living at her uncle's house in Girjatoli village near Dibdih. "The girl has been missing since February 4. Her photograph along with details such as name, age and contact numbers are being circulated at various places.

## Farewell ceremony 'Adios Amigo' held at Vidya Jyoti School




Mail News Service

**Gamharia, Feb 9:** Vidya Jyoti School, Gamharia, organized a grand farewell ceremony titled 'Adios Amigo' for Class 12 students in a joyful and emotional atmosphere. The programme featured cultural performances, fun activities and memorable moments that made the event special.

A major attraction was the distribution of various titles recognizing students' personality, confidence and talent. Ayush Kumar was crowned Mr VJS and Kumari Aastha Miss VJS, while other titles included Mr Charming (Gaurav), Miss Charming (Prachi), Mr Fashionista (Utkarsh), Miss Fashionista (Saloni), Mr Graceful (Yuvraj), Miss Cool (Kasturi), Mr Gym Freak (Mayank) and Miss Athletic (Radha). Teachers and juniors wished the outgoing students a bright future, making the ceremony a memorable farewell to school life. (w-nkm)

## Kshatriya Sabha president Santosh Singh laid to rest



Mail News Service

**Gamharia, Feb 9:** The last rites of Santosh Singh, President of the Jharkhand Kshatriya Sangh, Gamharia branch, were performed at Parvati Ghat on Monday following his untimely demise due to a heart attack on Sunday evening. A large number of members of the Kshatriya community and local dignitaries joined the funeral procession. On receiving the news, former Chief Minister and Union Minister Arjun Munda visited Singh's residence in Gamharia and expressed condolences to the bereaved family. Expressing grief, Munda said Santosh Singh was "a warm-hearted person and a dedicated social worker," adding that his sudden death has caused an irreparable loss to society. (w-nkm)

## Tisco Mazdoor Union distributes competitive exam books

Mail News Service



**Gamharia, Feb 9:** The Tisco Mazdoor Union distributed competitive examination books among students at a programme held at the Primary School in Chhota Gamharia. Around 20 students from the area received the books. Addressing the gathering, Union General Secretary Shivalakhan Singh said, "These books will prove extremely useful for students preparing for Navodaya Vidyalaya entrance examinations." He added that the union aims to support meritorious children from villages surrounding TGS Company and regularly organizes such initiatives. Union Treasurer Dilip Mahato played a key role in organizing the programme.

A large number of villagers and union members were present on the occasion. (w-nkm)

## BDO reviews cluster facilities for urban body elections 2026



Mail News Service

**Gamharia, Feb 9:** Block Development Officer (BDO) of Gamharia, Praveen Kumar, on Monday conducted a field inspection of identified clusters for the Urban Local Body General Elections 2026. He visited several institutions in Adityapur and Gamharia, including SN High School, Gayatri Shiksha Niketan, Central Public School, Middle School Kulupatanga, Indo-Denish Tool Room and Abhyas Girls Middle School. During the visit, the BDO reviewed the available facilities and interacted with the heads of the institutions to gather necessary information. Officials accompanying him included Sachidanand Chaudhary and Ranjit Kumar Singh. The inspection was aimed at ensuring adequate arrangements for the smooth conduct of the upcoming elections. (w-nkm)

## Pending ration distribution resumes in Gwalkata Panchayat



Mail News Service

**Jaduguda, Feb 9:** The dispute between PDS dealer Miki Hansda and ration beneficiaries in Gwalkata Panchayat, adjacent to Jaduguda, was resolved after the distribution of pending rice.

On Monday, ration pending for the last three months was distributed among beneficiaries. Dealer Miki Hansda personally handed over rice for the months from November to January based on biometric punching.

The distribution brought relief and smiles to beneficiaries. Speaking to reporters, Hansda said he was deeply affected by an incident at his residence earlier, which delayed the distribution.

"After recovering from that phase, ration distribution has been resumed from Monday," he said, adding that all ration card holders would receive their due supplies within a week.

He cited poor health as the primary reason for the delay in distribution. (w-nkm)

## Two-day Shyam Mahotsav celebrated with devotion in Barbil

Mail News Service



**Barbil, Feb 9:** The eighth edition of the two-day Shyam Mahotsav was celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm in Barbil. The festival began with a grand Nishan Yatra, during which 221 sacred flags were carried by devotees. The procession started from the Harihar Temple and featured a beautifully decorated floral tableau of Shyam Baba. Devotees, accompanied by musical instruments and bhajans sung by Pankaj Sharma, walked in devotion-filled spirit. Women participated in large numbers, while traditional Singh Baja and drum performances by artists from Kolkata added to the festive atmosphere. The entire procession resonated with devotional fervour as devotees danced to the bhajans.

Rituals including Jyot Pujan and offering of Chhappan Bhog were performed, followed by Mahaprasad for devotees, which was served to nearly 1,000 people. Renowned Kolkata-based bhajan singer Nihal Thakaran enthralled the audience with soulful renditions, prompting devotees to dance in devotion. The festival concluded with the grand aarti of Shyam Baba. (w-nkm)

## Anandamarga organizes kirtan, satsang at Kandra



Mail News Service

**Gamharia, Feb 9:** The Anandamarga Pracharak Sangh organized a Baba Nam Kevalam kirtan and satsang at Anandamarga Jagriti, Kandra. Addressing the gathering, Bhukti Pradhan Gopal Barman said that at an initial stage every being is like an animal, but through proper education and satsang, spiritual awareness awakens. "When a person develops spiritual hunger, they rise above limitations and become courageous. The spiritual path is the path of the brave," he said. A large number of devotees participated in the kirtan and listened to the spiritual discourse with devotion. (w-nkm)

## Railways approves key capacity expansion in Bengal–Jharkhand corridor

Mail News Service

**Kolkata, Feb 9:** Indian Railways has approved major rail infrastructure projects under South Eastern Railway, including the Barbenda–Damrughutu doubling and the construction of 3rd and 4th railway lines between Damrughutu and Bokaro Steel City. The projects, estimated to cost around Rs 815.32 crore, are aimed at easing congestion, line capacity, improving safety and ensuring faster and more reliable movement of passenger and freight trains.

The Barbenda–Damrughutu–Bokaro section, located on the Kotshila–Tupkadih route, is a critical part of India's Energy, Mineral and Cement Corridor. At present, the Barbenda–Damrughutu stretch is a single-line section, while the Kotshila–Bokaro Steel City stretch is double-line. The route is currently operating at 108 per cent capacity, handling about 78 trains daily, including 38 passenger and 40 freight services, with freight traffic of 35.22 million tonnes per annum. Train detentions range from 90 to 150 minutes and capacity utilisation was projected to rise to 132 per cent by 2028–29 without expansion.

The approved works will significantly improve connectivity to coalfields, cement and steel plants, petroleum depots and the Bokaro Steel City industrial hub, strengthening industrial logistics and national supply chains. (w-nkm)

## Power supply to remain disrupted in parts of Gamharia today

Mail News Service

**Gamharia, Feb 9:** Electricity supply from various feeders of the Adityapur-3 power substation will remain disrupted on Tuesday, February 10. According to the Assistant Electrical Engineer, power supply from 11 KV Feeder No. 1 will be affected from 10 am to 12 noon, Feeder No. 2 and the 33 KV main line from 12 noon to 2 pm and Feeders No. 3 and 6 from 2 pm to 4 pm. Areas likely to be affected include Balmiki Nagar, Usha Mor, Dugdha, Jhurkulii, Gamharia Thana Mor, Kandra, Hudu, Dumra and IOC. The outage is due to breaker maintenance and AB switch repair work. (w-nkm)

## Student falls ill, continues exam from hospital bed

**Jhargram, Feb 9:** A student fell ill during the Mathematics examination on Monday at the Ragra R.N.M. Academy High School examination centre in Jhargram district. The student, identified as Shibu Soren of Gobindapur, is a student of Kharbandhi S.C. High School. According to sources, the student became unwell while the examination was in progress, prompting immediate action by teachers and centre staff. He was swiftly shifted to the Kultikri Suswasthya Kendra in a mobile medical unit, where doctors provided necessary treatment. His condition improved after medical care. In a rare arrangement and under medical supervision, the student was allowed to continue writing the Mathematics examination from his hospital bed. Police personnel, doctors and health workers remained present to ensure his safety and the smooth conduct of the exam. (w-nkm)

## Drunk driving incident: Car rams into hotel at Jadugora chowk

Mail News Service

**Jaduguda, Feb 9:** A car driven under the influence of alcohol rammed into a roadside hotel at Murghaghutu Chowk on the Jaduguda–Tata main road late Sunday night, causing significant property damage.

The incident occurred around midnight when the vehicle broke the hotel's shutter and wall before crashing inside the premises.

According to police, the driver, identified as Gopal Besra of Dhobni, escaped serious injury due to the deployment of the car's airbag. Two other occupants, including Durga Charan Besra, sustained minor injuries. One of the injured was admitted to Jamshedpur Sadar Hospital for treatment.



Hotel owner Satish Das said he rushed to the spot after hearing a loud noise and found the car inside his shop. "The shutter and wall were completely damaged. Items like a deep freezer and almirah were destroyed, causing losses of around ?1.5 lakh," he said.

Jaduguda police reached the spot promptly and assisted the injured. Further investigation into the incident is underway. (w-nkm)

## SHG women participate in annual sports, cultural meet in Jhargram

Mail News Service



**Jhargram, Feb 9:** An annual sports and cultural competition for women members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) was organised under the banner of Petbendi Agnikanya Sangha in Gopiballavpur-II Block of Jhargram district. The three-day event was organised by Petbendi Agnikanya M.B.P.S.S.S. Limited. The programme featured a range of sports and cultural activities including drawing, basketball throw, musical chairs, alpana (traditional floor art), singing, dancing and other competitions. The prize distribution ceremony was held on Sunday evening at Gangabandh.

Several dignitaries attended the event, including Biswajit Rout of the West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, Gopiballavpur MLA Dr. Khagendranath Mahata, DPSCC Chairman Ujjwal Dutta and other public representatives. Speakers praised the West Bengal government's SHG programme, stating that it has empowered rural women by promoting financial independence and social participation. Organisers expressed hope that such initiatives would further encourage sports and cultural activities among rural women. (w-nkm)

## Students visit Pt Raghunath Murmu Heritage Trust on educational tour

Mail News Service



**Jaduguda, Feb 9:** Students from Narwa Pahad UCIL Colony Jaheragarh Ol Itun Asra undertook an educational tour to the Pandit Raghunath Murmu Heritage Trust at Dandpus, Mayurbhanj (Odisha), with the objective of connecting them to the Ol Chiki language, script and Santhal cultural identity.

Members of the Heritage Trust accorded a warm welcome to the students and teachers.

During the visit, students learned in detail about the life, struggles and immense contributions of Pandit Raghunath Murmu to Santhal society.

Addressing the gathering, Narwa Pahad Majhi Baba Biren Tudu said Pandit Murmu invented the Ol Chiki script in 1925, giving the Santhali language its first indigenous writing system.

Prior to this, Santhali existed mainly as an oral language and was written using other scripts that failed to represent its sounds accurately.

He explained that Pandit Murmu also created literature, songs, plays, textbooks and educational material in Ol Chiki, strengthening Santhali linguistic and cultural identity. Students were encouraged to learn, respect and preserve their mother tongue, as it forms the foundation of their heritage.

The tour was led by Majhi Baba Biren Tudu along with teachers, community leaders, parents and students. (w-nkm)

# Micro observers trained for Municipal elections 2026

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 9:** To ensure the free, fair, peaceful and transparent conduct of the Municipal General Elections–2026, a training programme for Micro Observers was organised by the Training Cell at the Town Hall auditorium in Seraikela. The session aimed to familiarise Micro Observers with their roles and responsibilities during the polling process.



During the training, participants were given detailed information on election-related Acts, rules, procedures and guidelines issued by the Election Commission. It was clearly explained that Micro Observers are required to submit their reports only to the General Observer and not to any other election official. Trainers emphasized that the primary duty of Micro Observers is continuous monitoring of the polling process to ensure that elections are conducted strictly in accordance with law and in a fair and peaceful manner. Any irregularity, deviation, or violation of Commission guidelines must be immediately reported to the General Observer.

Micro Observers were instructed to remain present at their allotted polling stations throughout polling day, from the start of voting until its conclusion. Their responsibilities include monitoring the presence of polling personnel, availability of basic facilities at polling stations, security arrangements, proper sealing of ballot units as per instructions, voter identification through EPIC or other valid documents, application of indelible ink on voters' left index finger, maintenance of voting secrecy, correct positioning of voting compartments and strict adherence to polling timings.

They were also tasked with ensuring compliance with rules regarding the presence of polling agents, pass systems, conduct of polling officials, visits by sector officers and deployment of adequate security forces.

The training was conducted by Master Trainers Tarun Kumar Singh and Prabhashankar Tiwari.

Several election officials and staff were present during the programme. (w-nkm)

# Life imprisonment awarded in stone-pelting murder case

Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Feb 9:** A Chaibasa court has sentenced an accused to life imprisonment in connection with a murder case registered in 2020. According to official information, the case was lodged at Muffasil Police Station under Case No. 92/2020 and involved charges under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.

The accused, Motu Javed, was found guilty of killing Raju Munda following a personal dispute.

The incident took place on the evening of July 18, 2020, when the accused allegedly attacked the victim with a stone, striking him on the head.

Raju Munda sustained serious injuries and died while being rushed to a hospital.

Police arrested the accused during the investigation and sent him to judicial custody. All evidence was collected through scientific methods and a charge sheet was later submitted before the court.

After hearing the case, the Court of the Principal District and Sessions Judge, West Singhbhum, Chaibasa, on February 9, 2026, convicted Motu Javed under Section 302 IPC.

The court awarded him life imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 15,000. (w-nkm)

# Utkaliya Purohit Samaj mourns demise of Pt Horo Pati

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 9:** The Utkaliya Purohit Samaj organized a condolence meeting following the demise of Pandit Horo Pati, a resident of Shatrusal village under the Seraikela block.



The meeting was held at the Shiva Temple premises at Majna Ghat under the chairmanship of Samaj President Ghasiram Satpathy. Members observed a two-minute silence and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Paying tribute, President Satpathy said that the society has lost a devoted and respected priest. He described the late Pandit Horo Pati as well-versed in religious rituals, soft-spoken and friendly in nature.

He had also served as a supporting priest during the renowned Rath Yatra in Seraikela.

Among those present were Treasurer Pulak Satpathy, Herembo Mahapatra, Pintu Satpathy, Manoj Das, Neelkanth Sarangi, Asit Das, Kutu Rath and other members of the society. (w-nkm)

# Two convicted under POCSO, sentenced to 25 years rigorous imprisonment

Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Feb 9:** A local court in Chaibasa has sentenced two accused to 25 years of rigorous imprisonment each in a case involving sexual assault of a minor. According to the press release, the case was registered at Muffasil Police Station in 2022 (Case No. 79/2022) under Sections 376DA and 506 of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 4 and 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.





The accused were identified as Sunil Dewgam and Ravi alias Gomiya Purti, residents of areas under Muffasil and Jhinkpani police station limits in West Singhbhum district.

During the investigation, Chaibasa Police arrested both accused and sent them to judicial custody. All evidence was collected using scientific methods, following which a charge sheet was submitted before the court. After hearing the case, the Court of the Additional Sessions Judge-II, West Singhbhum, on February 9, 2026, convicted both accused under Section 6 of the POCSO Act. The court awarded each of them 25 years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 25,000. (w-nkm)

# BJP Backed Candidate launches door-to-door campaign

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 9:** BJP-backed candidate for the post of Chairperson of Seraikela Nagar Panchayat, Sumit Kumar Chaudhary, conducted an extensive door-to-door public outreach campaign in Patnayak Tola and Telisahi areas on Monday. Accompanied by senior BJP leaders and party workers, Chaudhary interacted with residents and sought their support by highlighting the party's ideology and its commitment to the overall development of the Nagar Panchayat area. Addressing local people, Chaudhary said he had come not merely as a leader but as a brother to the sisters and a son to the elders of the area. He assured that, if elected, he would work with public participation to realize the vision of inclusive and all-round development.



Prominent leaders and workers who participated in the campaign included Raja Singh Dev, Rajkumar Singh, Rajesh Nanda, Sohan Singh, Vijay Datta, former chairperson Meenakshi Patnayak and several other party members. (w-nkm)

# Red Cross organises 805th free eye camp

Mail News Service

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), East Singhbhum District Branch, organised its 805th weekly free eye camp at Ram Manohar Lohia Netralaya, Bagbera, from February 7 to 9.



The camp was held in collaboration with Ram Manohar Lohia Sewa Sansthan, Draupadi Devi Chimanlal Bhalotia Sewa Sansthan, Rajasthan Sewa Sadan and the District Rural Health Committee.

Informing about the camp, IRCS Honorary Secretary Bijay Kumar Singh said patient registration and screening were conducted on the first day, followed by cataract surgeries with lens implantation on February 8.

The operated patients were discharged on Monday after removal of bandages, with medicines, dark glasses and post-operative care instructions.

The surgeries were performed by noted eye specialists including Dr B.P. Singh, Dr J.S. Bedi, Dr Bharati Sharma and Dr Poonam Singh.

The camp was supported by the Sawa family in memory of their parents, late Shanti Devi Sawa and late Madan Lalji Sawa. Family members also distributed umbrellas, towels, fruits and biscuits to patients. Red Cross volunteers assisted throughout the camp.

The 806th free eye camp will be held from February 14 to 16 in memory of late Shyam Sundar Goyal. (w-nkm)

# Nitin Prakash intensifies door-to-door campaign in Chaibasa

Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Feb 9:** Nitin Prakash, a dynamic and committed candidate for the post of Chairperson of the Chaibasa Municipal Council, has stepped up his election campaign with an extensive door-to-door public outreach across various wards of the town.



Through direct interaction with residents, he sought to understand local concerns and present his vision for Chaibasa's all-round development. The campaign received an enthusiastic response, with residents extending warm welcomes and expressing strong public support.

Addressing citizens during the outreach, Prakash said the overwhelming response from the public was not merely electoral backing but a significant responsibility entrusted to him.

He stated that his objective is not limited to winning a position but to ensure planned and inclusive development of Chaibasa. According to him, public trust strengthens his resolve to work with greater dedication and accountability.

Sharing his views on governance, Prakash emphasized the need for a transparent and service-oriented administrative system. He said every official and employee of the municipal council should work with the sole aim of serving the people.

He made it clear that negligence at any level would not be tolerated and stressed that collective accountability is the foundation of good governance. Such an approach, he added, would ensure a transparent and corruption-free administration for the citizens.

Highlighting his vision, Prakash reaffirmed his commitment to making Chaibasa a developed, clean and well-organized city.

His extensive campaign has injected fresh energy into the municipal elections, with many residents believing that his experience and clear vision can take Chaibasa toward sustained progress. (w-nkm)

# Seminar on Mahatma Gandhi's life organised

Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 9:** The Department of Philosophy, Kashi Sahu College, Seraikela, organised a seminar on the life and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi.



The programme was chaired by Head of the Department Dr Binita Oraon, with Behlua Sardar, Assistant Professor from Tata College, Chaibasa, attending as the chief guest. Addressing the gathering, the chief guest said that Gandhiji's principles of simple living, high thinking, non-violence, truth and honesty remain highly relevant in today's fast-paced life.

She emphasised that by following these ideals, individuals can fulfil their social responsibilities and become good citizens. Dr Binita Oraon highlighted the need to adopt Gandhiji's simple thoughts in daily life.

Students actively participated in the seminar and pledged to follow Gandhian ideals. (w-nkm)

# Shri Bengali Memorial Touch Rugby Tournament held



Mail News Service

**Seraikela, Feb 9:** The Shri Bengali Memorial Touch Rugby Tournament was successfully organised at the BRC ground in Rajnagar under the aegis of the Touch Rugby Association, Seraikela-Kharsawan. A total of eight teams participated in the tournament, with players from East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum and Seraikela-Kharsawan districts. The matches were played with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship, offering thrilling moments to spectators.

Association president Jawahar Lal Mahali attended as chief guest, interacted with the players and highlighted the importance of sports. In the girls' category, Middle School Kadamdiha, Seraikela secured first place, while Proposed Swami Vivekananda High School, Kolabira finished second. In the boys' category, Proposed Swami Vivekananda High School, Kolabira claimed both first and second positions.

The event saw active support from association officials and members. Several dignitaries were present and winners and runners-up were honoured with prizes at the closing ceremony. (w-nkm)

# SR Rungta Group storm into quarterfinals with convincing win

Mail News Service

**Chaibasa, Feb 9:** SR Rungta Group, Chaibasa, advanced to the quarterfinals of the Ashok Jain District Knockout Cricket Tournament 2025–26 after registering a comprehensive six-wicket victory over Town Club, Chaibasa, at the Birsa Munda Cricket Stadium on Monday. The win was set up by an impressive batting display led by wicketkeeper-batsman Rahul Mahato, who remained unbeaten on 94 and captain Abhishek Kachhap, who scored a fluent 66.



Earlier, after winning the toss, SR Rungta Group skipper Abhishek Kachhap chose to field first. Town Club responded with a formidable total of 283 for 6 in the allotted 30 overs. Shubham Yadav anchored the innings with a brilliant century, scoring 102 runs with the help of ten boundaries and seven sixes. Captain Siddharth Agarwal provided strong support with 78 runs, while Pranay Kumar added 36 and Aditya Raj remained unbeaten on 28. Bowling for SR Rungta Group, Mohammad Wasim, Karan Mishra, Nitish Kumar and Kuldeep Mandal picked up one wicket each.

Chasing 284 for victory, SR Rungta Group showed positive intent from the start and reached the target in 28.3 overs, losing only four wickets. Apart from Mahato and Kachhap, Kuldeep Mandal remained not out on 45, while Vijay Rohit and Roshan Kumar Sahu chipped in with useful contributions.

SR Rungta Group will now take on Chaibasa Cricket Club in the quarterfinal on February 14.

The first quarterfinal of the tournament will be played on February 11 between Sarsa Chakradharpur and Student Club, Chaibasa. (w-nkm)

# An uneasy balance

The recent India–US trade agreement marks a cautious step toward balance rather than a sweeping victory for either side. After months of negotiations, US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order reducing tariffs on Indian goods from a steep 50% to 18%. The deal is expected to be finalized by March, bringing temporary relief to exporters, particularly in the agro and dairy sectors, where uncertainty had stalled progress.

From India's perspective, the deal has clear advantages. Any agreement is better than prolonged trade hostility, especially when competing nations such as Bangladesh, China and Vietnam enjoy relatively smoother access to global markets. High tariffs had placed Indian exporters at a disadvantage and the reduction to 18% helps restore competitiveness. It also opens the door for further negotiations to bring tariffs down even more—an opportunity the Indian government should actively pursue through sustained diplomatic pressure.

However, the deal is not without concerns. The most sensitive issue remains farmer security. Agriculture has long been India's red line in trade talks and rightly so. Indian farmers operate under vastly different conditions than their American counterparts, with limited land, resources, technology and income support. Expecting them to compete on equal footing would be unrealistic and unfair. Recognizing this imbalance, India has resisted opening its markets to key US agricultural products such as wheat, rice, maize and dairy—and that stance remains intact for now.

Another important principle embedded in the negotiations is reciprocity. India has consistently argued that any trade agreement must be based on equality. If US agricultural products gain access to Indian markets, then Indian goods must receive similar treatment abroad, including zero-duty entry where feasible. Sectors like pharmaceuticals, where India is a global leader in generic medicines, stand to benefit if this principle is upheld.

One unresolved issue is oil. While both sides appear positive overall, the question of crude oil purchases continues to hang in the balance. Trump's executive order includes provisions to closely monitor India's oil imports, touching on India's strategic autonomy—an area where compromise is difficult. Energy security is a core national interest and any external pressure in this domain is unlikely to be acceptable. Still, there is hope that continued dialogue will lead to a mutually workable solution.

In sum, this deal is neither a complete win nor a loss. It is a pragmatic adjustment that eases immediate pressure while leaving room for future bargaining. The real test will be whether India can convert this temporary relief into a more durable, equitable trade framework—without compromising the livelihoods of its farmers or its strategic independence. (w-nkm)

*From the Editorial Desk*

# Beyond profit: What Tata Steel's debt reduction signals for its future






**Tanya Ranjan**

The latest quarterly results from Tata Steel - highlighting higher profits and a meaningful debt reduction - are not just a routine financial update. They point to a deeper strategic shift: balance sheet repair as a foundation for long-term transition.While profit growth tends to grab headlines, the sharper story lies in debt reduction. Steel is a capital-intensive industry, heavily exposed to commodity cycles, global price swings, and infrastructure demand. By lowering its debt load, Tata Steel is effectively buying resilience - giving itself more room to invest, absorb shocks, and plan beyond the next quarter.

A lighter debt burden can reshape what comes next. It improves credit strength, reduces interest outgo, and frees capital for modernisation - including cleaner technologies, process efficiency, and digital upgrades. At a time when the global steel sector faces pressure to decarbonise, financial flexibility becomes as important as production capacity.

There is also a regional dimension. For industrial cities built around steel ecosystems, stronger financial health at the top often translates into steadier vendor payments, more predictable capex cycles, and greater confidence among ancillary industries. Stability in a core firm ripples outward.

In that sense, this quarter's numbers are not only about performance - they are about positioning. Profit is the headline; reduced debt is the strategy.

***(Author is a writing consultant. Views are personal.)***

# Nationhood revisited: Sri Aurobindo's dharmic alternative to politics



**MR Lalu**



India's hard-won freedom emerged not only through political mobilization but also through a profound spiritual awakening. Its journey to nationhood, shaped by the upheavals of British rule and the people's struggle for emancipation, was essentially a political movement strengthened by a deep spiritual undercurrent. Such momentum, so I would call it, arose from the very Upanishadic aphorisms that had sustained India's socio-spiritual well-being for eons. While the aspiration for freedom was political, its driving force remained spiritual.

What comes to mind in substantiating this instinctive sense of India's spiritual nationalism is the words uttered by Sri Aurobindo in his Uttarapara speech, one of his most impactful addresses, delivered soon after his release from jail in the Alipore Bomb Case. The revolutionary-turned-spiritual master spoke from the tranquility of his inner awakening. Incarcerated for almost a year, Aurobindo underwent a transformation that was both deep and unprecedented.

The speech gives us a glimpse of what India's spiritual essence had been. Aurobindo, to quote his own words, had been experiencing, in the harmony of his mind, its glorious impact, which he believed possessed the power to gain India its independence. Having experienced spiritual visions and communion with the Supreme, he expressed the view conveyed to him through divine intervention. He further states that he had a vision of the Divine assuring him of the country's freedom, with its mighty young generation capable of striving and struggling to lift India toward emancipation.

In the speech, Aurobindo expresses his experience of being an under-trial prisoner, which he describes not as a punishment but as a moment, indeed a momentum, of spiritual transformation that he had never imagined would occur. Its impact was so profound that it enabled him to envision the future of India in a post-colonial context. What he experienced was extraordinary, something only spiritual luminaries are said to attain. During this period, he realized the depth and transcendental immanence of Sanatana Dharma, its timeless nature and its capacity to awaken a sense of nationhood. He recognized it as a supreme authority, one that religions across the world could not claim to possess.

The genuineness of his realization leads us to an absolute plane of understanding. Sri Aurobindo states that Sanatana Dharma is the one religion that insists on the ultimate truth that he proclaimed the world would one day acknowledge. It is the one religion that enables us not only to understand and believe the truth but to realize it with every part of our being. His address at Uttarpara should not be dismissed as hallucinatory or dreamy; rather, his words emerged from the depths of the immense realization of a spiritual master who grasped the vastness of its ontological nature. His assertions provided essential guidance to the struggle for freedom. This struggle, he argues, is an evolutionary process that India is destined to fulfill and, most importantly, a spiritual mission.

His verbal utterances were not merely a philosophical articulation of India's essential spiritual depth; rather, he elevates us to a higher plane of reality that promises the redemption of a vast landscape from its oppressive colonial institutions. In essence, the yogi within him further envisions that the struggle for freedom was not a mere political upheaval; instead, it was unfolding on a higher plane as a civilizational goal. He invokes Dharma repeatedly, distinctly distancing the concept from religions that have historically mobilized political movements. Sanatana Dharma, which he insightfully defines as India's nationalism, may be better understood, in existential terms, as the force that sustains India as a living entity of cultural convergence.

He further states, "This Hindu nation was born with the Sanatana Dharma; with it, it moves and with it grows. When the Sanatana Dharma declines, the nation declines, and if the Sanatana Dharma were capable of perishing, with it the nation would perish."

Here, I would briefly bring in Swami Vivekananda, referencing his understanding of India and Sanatana Dharma. Almost aligned with Aurobindo, though far more extensive in its impact and coherence, Vivekananda asserted that if Sanatana Dharma were to perish, the moment it ceased to exist would mark the moral destruction of human civilization. Admittedly, Aurobindo, on another occasion, made it clear that his spiritual journey began with the philosophical tutelage he received from Vivekananda through his literature.

Throughout the Uttarpara speech, we find Aurobindo, a spiritual luminary emphasizing the significance of the freedom movement, which he interprets as divine. Gandhi, for that matter, never hesitated to showcase his spiritual inclinations either. However, his vision of freedom was rarely articulated as a spiritual movement facilitating India's liberation. Here, we see how Aurobindo links freedom with a civilizational perspective, realizing that, if attained, it must function as a process of revival. Without this, the yogi argues, freedom would fail to grant India its ultimate liberation.

Gandhi, too, was deeply spiritual, but he chose to mobilize the movement without explicitly foregrounding India's civilizational continuity. He aspired for India to grow into a great nation, with its people and villages flourishing, while non-violence and inclusiveness defined its social framework. Both Gandhi and Aurobindo regarded the Bhagavad Gita as an eternal philosophy offering profound solutions to the deepening crises faced by the world. While Aurobindo believed that the spiritual essence and all-encompassing virtues of Hinduism were sufficient to dethrone colonialism, Gandhi embraced another dimension of the same philosophy - compassion, non-violence, and voluntary surrender for the nation.

For Aurobindo, the struggle to decolonize India was his karma. A nation, he believed, was deeply anchored in the principles of karma, which were themselves rooted in dharma. To realize this vision, Aurobindo argued that Sanatana Dharma, beyond all existing religious philosophies, would serve as the foundational plank. Aurobindo's spiritual transformation marked a moment, one that India had witnessed earlier when Vivekananda brought such consciousness to the surface.

Not only during the era of these yogis but also in the modern, politically tumultuous global scenario, has India continued to advocate the unfathomable nature of its spiritual inclusiveness through aphorisms such as "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", the world is one family. Aurobindo was a proponent of India's glorious Dharmic essence, and his intense articulation of India as a Dharmic society and its revival was the anticipated outcome of decolonization. For him, mere political unshackling was insufficient; India, for all practical purposes, had to move beyond it. Political redemption, he believed, could be achieved only through spiritual revival, and spiritual revival, in turn, was possible only through the awakening of Dharma. Today, a re-reading of his seminal utterances could once again provoke India to move in this direction-before it is too late.

***(Author is freelance journalist and social worker based in Kerala. The views expressed are personal opinion of the author.)***

# De-worming of children is essential for a healthy nation

## India observes National Deworming Day on February 10

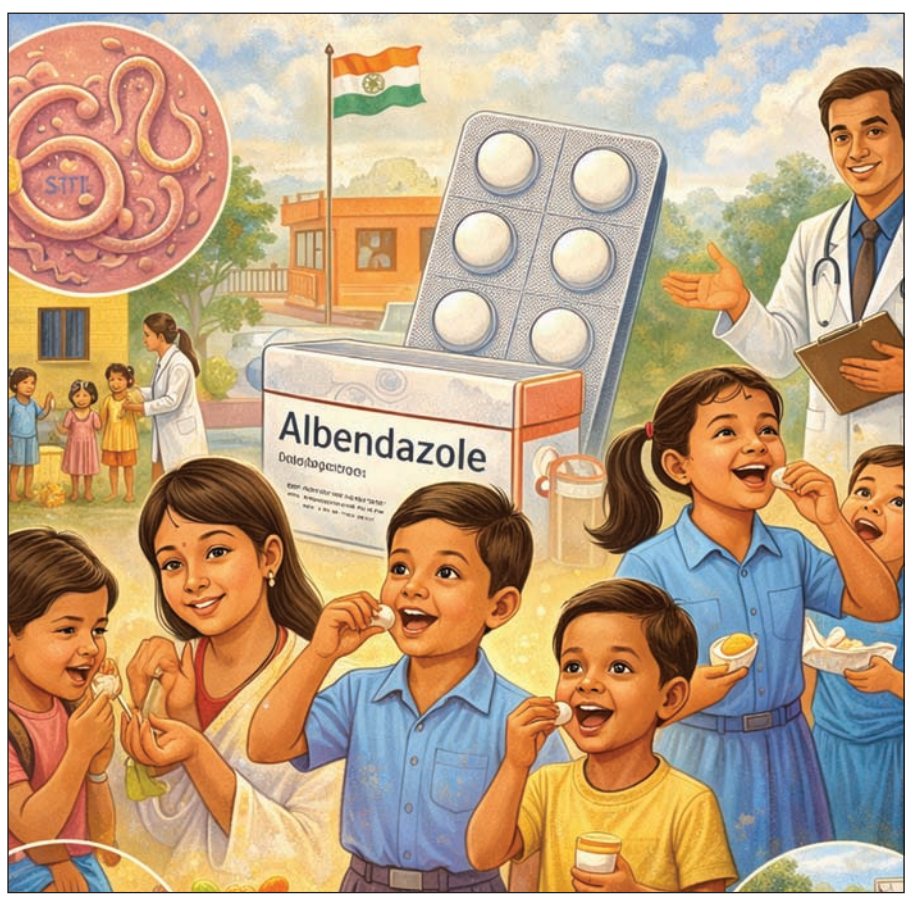


**Prabhat Kishore**

Children are the future of any nation. But a large chunk of children suffer from worm infections, which impacts their health, education and overall well-being. To tackle this burning issue in Bharat, National Deworming Day is organized as a nationwide campaign to address the prevalence of worm infection among children. This significant public health initiative ensures a healthy future for the younger generation.

Children in the age group 1 to 19 years are more susceptible to worm infections due to their lifestyle and environment. Nationwide planned interventions are necessary to break the cycle of Parasitic worm infections, particularly Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH). Soil-transmitted helminths (STH) worms interfere with nutrient absorption and cause physical discomfort, resulting in anemia, malnutrition and impaired mental and physical cognitive development, which severely impacts children's educational performance as well as quality of life.

Deworming significantly reduces the prevalence of worms in children, thereby improving their physical health and nutritional status and eliminating the detrimental impact of worms on the brain, leading to improved learning ability and academic performance. Improved




health leads to improved school attendance, and education level.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), 241 million children aged 1 to 14 years in Bharat are at risk of parasitic intestinal worms. Regular deworming protects at-risk populations. The public should be aware of the symptoms of worm infection, so that good health can be ensured by getting it treated on time. Initially in case of few worms, no noticeable signs may be experienced, but as the worm infection progresses, various digestive discomfort like Diarrhea, Abdominal pain, weakness and fatigue, loss of appetite, nutritional deficiencies, skin problems start occurring.

The prevalence of parasitic worm infections is a significant public health concern and can also be reduced by certain common community measures, such as avoiding open defecation, not moving barefoot, washing fruits/vegetables before use, cooking meat/vegetables properly, avoiding raw uncooked street food, cleaning the kitchen, drinking treated/boiled water, cleaning nails, washing hand after contact of soil while playing/gardening etc.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India launched National Deworming Day (NDD) on 10th February 2015. The Day is observed biannually on 10th February and 10th August to intensify nationwide effective approach for training of healthcare professionals, distribution of deworming Albendazole tablets to school going children and its proper monitoring & evaluation.

The objective of National Deworming Day is to deworm all preschool and school-age children (enrolled and unenrolled) in the age group 1-19 years through Anganwadi Kendras and schools to improve their overall health , nutritional status, access to education and quality of life. Albendazole tablets are not provided to children who are allergic to it, critically ill children, pregnant women, lactating women etc. National Deworming Day is an ample day to protect school going children from parasitic worm infections by serving the albendazole tablets and training and guidance to school functionaries for its regular use by children. This will ensure a bright and healthy future for the children of the country and the nation will step forward towards an "Anemia Mukt Bharat".

***(The Author is a technocrat and educationist. Views are personal.)***

# NPAs of India's banks decline to historic low of 2.15 per cent

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** The gross NPAs as a percentage of total loans and advances of scheduled commercial banks have been continuously declining during the last eight financial years, and were at a historic low of 2.15 per cent at the end of September 2025, which is lower than the 2010-11 level, the Parliament was informed on Monday.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has apprised that the data on gross NPAs of banks is not collected by it on a monthly basis. However, as per the latest data available with the apex bank, as on September 30, 2025, for domestic operations, the gross NPA ratio of scheduled commercial banks was 2.15 per cent. In the case of public sector banks, the gross NPA ratio was 2.50 per cent, while for private sector banks it was 1.73 per cent, and for foreign banks the figure




stood at 0.8 per cent.

Also, public sector banks recorded a higher decline in gross NPA ratio in comparison with private banks and foreign banks since March 2018, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha.

This continuous decline in gross NPAs of banks has led to reduced provisioning by them, which in turn has improved their profitability, thereby causing a positive impact on business growth. It also indicates that the asset quality, as well as underwriting, has improved in PSBs supported by a strong balance sheet and sustained profitability, the minister said.

The RBI initiated the asset quality review in 2015, after which the government initiated 4R's strategy of recognising NPAs transparently, resolving and recovering value from stressed accounts through clean and effective laws and processes, recapitalising public sector banks, and reforms in banks and the financial ecosystem to address the problem of rising NPAs and growing loan default. Enabled by these initiatives, a large drop in gross NPAs was achieved by the banks, the minister said.

Comprehensive measures have been taken by the government and the RBI to prevent, reduce and recover NPAs. Due to this, the slippage ratio, which reflects the fresh accretion of NPAs as a percentage of standard advances, has been continuously improving for the last six financial years in respect of public sector banks in comparison with private banks.

The government and the RBI have also been working in coordination to strengthen the various recovery mechanisms available. These include filing of suits in civil courts or in Debts Recovery Tribunals, action under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, filing of cases in the National Company Law Tribunal under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, through negotiated settlements/compromise, and through sale of non-performing assets. In addition to these, various amendments have been proposed in IBC to address the delays in completion of CIRPs, which are under legislative approval, the minister added.

## Gold, silver prices jump as US dollar weakens



**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Gold and silver prices surged sharply on Monday due to a weaker US dollar and persistent geopolitical uncertainties.

MCX gold February futures jumped 1.31 per cent to Rs 1,57,484 per 10 grams around 10.45 am on an intraday basis. Meanwhile MCX silver March futures climbed 4.81 per cent to Rs 2,61,900 per kg.On the MCX, silver prices, earlier in the day, had jumped as much as 6 per cent to its day's high of Rs 2,64,885 per kg before a round of profit booking.

The US dollar touched its lowest level since February 4, making greenback-priced metals cheaper for overseas buyers.Even as Iran's top diplomat called US-Iran nuclear talks a "good start" on Friday, Tehran has reiterated that the country would retain its right to enrich uranium. Experts anticipate that geopolitical tensions may persist for longer, continuing to drive investors to safe-haven assets.

Market hopes of further rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve got stronger after San Francisco Fed President Mary Daly called for one or two more interest rate cuts to alleviate weakness in the labour market.

## Royal Stag Boom Box Season 4 announces multi-city tour

**Durgapur, Feb 9 :** Seagram's Royal Stag Boom Box, the flagship experiential music property of Pernod Ricard's Royal Stag brand, has announced the return of its much-anticipated Season 4, set to be the largest edition of the festival to date. The multi-city tour will cover four key youth hubs-Kolkata, Vizag, Mumbai and Mohali-bringing together Bollywood melodies and hip-hop performances in a unique live entertainment format. The tour will commence in Kolkata on February 21, followed by Vizag on March 7, Mumbai on March 14 and Mohali on March 28.

The Season 4 line-up features prominent performers including Badshah, Armaan Malik, Divine, Neeti Mohan, Nikhita Gandhi, Rashmeet Kaur, Sreerama Chandra and legendary rock band Fossils. Hip-hop artists Raftaar and Dino James, along with DJ Sahil Gulati, will also perform, while gaming personality Payal Dhare will headline an interactive gaming face-off. Known for integrating music, fashion, food and gaming, the festival aims to deliver immersive multi-sensory experiences aligned with Royal Stag's youth-focused brand philosophy, "It's Our Life. We Live It Large." Tickets for all cities are available through Skillbox.

Durgapur region, with its expanding urban population and rising youth spending, is emerging as an important secondary entertainment market. Large-scale events hosted in nearby Kolkata are expected to attract significant audience participation from Durgapur, supporting regional travel, hospitality and event-related economic activity.

## Centre plans to set up additional 97,000 MW thermal power capacity by 2034-35

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** The Ministry of Power has envisaged to set up an additional minimum 97,000 MW coal and lignite-based thermal power generation capacity in the country to meet the projected electricity demand of the country, the Centre told the Parliament on Monday.

According to studies carried out by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), the projected thermal (coal and lignite) capacity requirement by the year 2034-35 is estimated at nearly 3,07,000 MW as against the 2,11,855 MW installed capacity as on March 31, 2023.

The setting up of the new capacity will help to meet this gap, Minister of State (MoS) for Power Shripad Naik said in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha.

As against this requirement, thermal capacities of around 17,360 MW have already been commissioned since April 2023 till January 20, 2026.

"In addition, 39,545 MW of thermal capacity (including 4,845 MW of stressed thermal power projects) is currently under construction. The contracts of 22,920 MW have been awarded and are due for construction. Further, 24,020 MW of coal and lignite-based candidate capacity has been identified, which is at various stages of planning in the country," MoS Naik added.



"The projected Plant Load Factor (PLF) of coal-based plants by the year 2031-32 is estimated to be around 61 per cent. However, PLF of coal-based power plants will depend on a number of factors like the increase in electricity demand, actual coal based and renewable energy capacity materialising," he said.

"Generation expansion planning study is carried out by CEA to determine the optimal mix of different generation resources, including coal, hydro, solar, wind, storage and nuclear, to meet the projected electricity demand. Various parameters like the capital cost of different generation technologies, fuel cost, operations and maintenance cost, useful life, etc., are considered in the generation expansion planning study," the MoS added.

The generation expansion planning model, while arriving at an optimal capacity mix, does the comparative analysis between new coal-based plants, solar, wind, storage, etc., considering the cost of different technologies, projected electricity demand, renewable energy generation profile, fuel cost, operational characteristics of different types of technologies, storage duration, etc.

The cost of the electricity generated from coal-based plants depends on various factors such as the life of the plant, the distance of the plant from the coal mines, the type of technology (sub-critical, super-critical), etc.

The all-India Weighted Average Rate of Sale of Power (WARSP) of the electricity generated from existing coal-based plants for the past three years ranges from Rs 4.36/KWh to 4.58/KWh, with the lowest tariff being about Rs 1.52/KWh.

The tariff discovered for new coal-based thermal power projects selected through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) route is in the range of Rs 5.38/KWh to 6.30/kWh.This is based on bidding carried out in the year 2025.

## Gujarat, Starlink sign cooperation pact to strengthen statewide digital infrastructure

**Gandhinagar, Feb 9 (IANS)** The Gujarat government, on Monday, signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) for mutual cooperation with Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited, a subsidiary of SpaceX, marking a significant step towards strengthening digital connectivity across remote and underserved regions of the state.



The LoI was exchanged at a ceremony in Gandhinagar in the presence of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi.

The initiative is said to be aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Digital India' vision and his emphasis on robust digital governance as a foundation for achieving the goal of 'Viksit Bharat @2047'.

The agreement follows a preliminary meeting held in December 2025 between the Chief Minister, the Deputy Chief Minister and Starlink Operations SpaceX Vice-President Lauren Dreyer.

Under the proposed pilot initiatives, satellite-based high-speed internet connectivity will be introduced in areas facing limited telecom infrastructure, including remote, border and tribal regions.

According to the state government, the pilot phase will focus on connecting Common Service Centres and e-governance facilities to ensure faster and more accessible delivery of government services.

Particular attention will be given to tribal belts and Aspirational Districts such as Narmada and Dahod, where reliable digital connectivity is expected to strengthen administrative outreach and service delivery.

## India leads in several indicators in global 'Network Readiness Index', improves its position

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** The government on Monday said India has improved its global 'Network Readiness Index 2025' (NRI 2025) position by four slots and is now placed at 45th rank, leading in several indicators.

The report has been published by the Portulans Institute, an independent, non-profit research and educational institute based in Washington, DC.

"India has not only improved its ranking but has also improved its score from 53.63 out of 100 in 2024 to 54.43 out of 100 in 2025. It is noteworthy that India leads in several indicators," said Ministry of Communications.

The report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 127 economies based on their performance on four pillars -- Technology, People, Governance and Impact -- covering a total of 53 indicators.

According to the report, India secured 1st rank in "Annual investment in telecommunication services", "AI scientific publications", "ICT services exports" and "E-commerce legislation", 2nd rank in "FTTH/Building Internet subscriptions", "Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country" and "International Internet bandwidth", and 3rd rank in "Domestic market scale" and "Income Inequality".

## Sensex, Nifty post strong gains amid positive cues on India-US trade deal

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** The Indian equity markets posted strong gains on Monday for the second consecutive session, buoyed by the announcement of an interim framework for the India-US trade deal.

At the closing bell, the Sensex gained 485 points, or 0.58 per cent, to settle at 84,065. The Nifty surged 173 points, or 0.68 per cent, to close at 25,867.

The broader markets posted stronger gains than benchmark indices, as Nifty Midcap 100 index added 1.58 per cent, while the NSE Smallcap 100 surged 2.64 per cent.

Supportive cues from broader Asian markets also helped sustain the positive momentum through the session. Buying interest was visible in PSU banks, consumer durables, realty, defence, pharma and auto stocks, while IT stocks showed mixed trends amid ongoing assessment of global technology developments.

All sectoral indices traded with gains. Nifty Media surged 4.37 per cent -- the biggest gainer -- while Nifty Consumer Durables climbed 3.60 per cent. Nifty PSU Bank rose 3.34 per cent, Nifty Realty gained 2.61 per cent and Nifty Metal added 1.56 per cent.

## Chidambaram slams Budget 2026-27 as 'forgettable' says youth joblessness stands at 15 per cent

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Pointing out that youth joblessness stands at 15 per cent in India, with less than 25 per cent of the workforce in regular employment, Congress leader and former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram launched a sharp attack on the Union Budget 2026-27 in the Rajya Sabha on Monday, describing it as cautious, parsimonious, forgettable, and already vanishing from public memory.



Speaking on the discussions in the upper house of the Parliament, he questioned whether the government and its key ministers even read the 700-plus-page Economic Survey, suggesting they prefer to ignore its sobering realities.

Chidambaram highlighted three major challenges outlined in the Economic Survey -- capital investment, unemployment, and slow growth -- accusing the government of failing to address them effectively.

He pointed out that gross fixed capital formation remains stuck at 30 per cent of GDP, net FDI has collapsed to less than 0.09 per cent in 2024-25, and private investment lingers at 22 per cent despite cash-rich companies.

He criticised the government for cutting capital expenditure by Rs .44 lakh crore in 2025-26 without explanation, while neither the public, private, nor foreign sectors show meaningful investment.

On unemployment, Chidambaram said youth joblessness stands at 15 per cent, with less than 25 per cent of the workforce in regular employment.

## Trade deal unlocks $30 trillion US market for India's exports



**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** The India-US Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) marks a major milestone in India's global trade engagement, securing sustained preferential access for exports in the US market valued at over $30 trillion, according to an official statement issued on Monday.

The agreement delivers comprehensive tariff rationalisation, zero-duty access across large product categories, enhanced digital and technology cooperation, and a carefully calibrated framework to safeguard India's farmers, MSMEs and domestic industry.

With India's total exports to the United States standing at $86.35 billion in 2024, the agreement significantly enhances competitive access across key sectors including textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, agriculture, machinery, home decor, pharmaceuticals and technology-driven industries.

Under the agreement, tariffs on $30.94 billion worth of these exports have been reduced from 50 per cent to 18 per cent, while tariffs on another $10.03 billion have been reduced from 50 per cent to zero. This means a substantial share of Indian goods entering the US market will now face either sharply lower tariffs or completely duty-free access, significantly improving price competitiveness.

India's labour-intensive textiles and apparel exports gain tariff cuts from 50 per cent to 18 per cent, with silk securing zero per cent duty access in a $113 billion US market for the these goods while machinery exports see tariffs reduced to 18 per cent, opening opportunities in a $477 billion US market, the statement explained.

The agreement delivers significant gains for India's leather and footwear sector, positioning the country as most-preferred supplier to the US market.

## New IT tax related renumbering aims to simplify compliance for taxpayers

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** The Income Tax Department's draft Income tax Rules proposed a comprehensive renumbering of tax forms that would improve reporting ease and enhance compliance for taxpayers, professionals and institutions as the Income tax Act, 2025 is set to come into force on April 1.

The draft rules, released with new form templates, replace legacy form numbers that evolved over decades and will reduce ambiguity and duplication in filings for taxpayers, experts said.

It will better integrate reporting with real time data matching and analytics, but the change will require rapid adaptation and system updates by employers, tax practitioners, registrars and corporate systems.




Several commonly used audit and international tax forms have been consolidated or renumbered. Tax audit reports now filed as Forms 3CA, 3CB and 3CD would be consolidated under Form 26, while transfer pricing audit reporting would move from Form 3CEB to Form 48. Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) certification would shift from Form 29B to Form 66.

## Dispatched record over 5.85 lakh vehicles via rail in 2025: Maruti Suzuki India

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Maruti Suzuki India Limited on Monday said it has set a new benchmark in green logistics by dispatching over 5.85 lakh vehicles through railways in 2025, a growth of 18 per cent over 2024. Maruti Suzuki's share of rail mode in outbound logistics has grown exponentially, rising from 5.1 per cent in 2016 to 26 per cent in 2025, significantly reducing carbon emissions, country's oil imports and easing road congestion, according to the automaker.

"The year 2025 marks our highest-ever rail dispatch, with over 5.85 lakh units. During the year, we strengthened our green logistic efforts through two landmark events - the inauguration of India's largest automobile in-plant railway siding at our Manesar facility, and second was we dispatched vehicles by rail to Kashmir valley through the world's highest railway arch bridge over Chenab River, a first by any automobile manufacturer," said Hisashi Takeuchi, MD and CEO, Maruti Suzuki India Limited.

"Our mid-term goal is to increase rail-based vehicle dispatches to 35 per cent by FY2030-31, contributing to India's net-zero ambition by 2070," he added.

Since FY 2014-15, Maruti Suzuki has transported over 28 lakh vehicles from 22 destinations servicing over 600 cities pan India through a hub and spoke model. Currently, Maruti Suzuki uses over 45 flexi deck rakes, each with a capacity of carrying around 260 vehicles per trip.

In 2025, rail dispatches from Maruti Suzuki's in-plant railway siding at Gujarat and Manesar facility accounted for 53 per cent of the company's total rail dispatches.

# India's energy sourcing decisions guided by national interest: Centre

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said on Monday that India's energy sourcing decisions are guided by national interest, with an emphasis on diversification and competitive pricing. These remarks responded to reports suggesting that India may reduce Russian oil imports after announcing an interim trade agreement with the United States.



In response to questions regarding Russian crude, the Foreign Secretary emphasised that, as a developing economy and significant net importer, India must prioritise stable and affordable energy supplies.

He stated that protecting Indian consumers is "the government's foremost priority," and noted that India relies on imports for 80 to 85 per cent of its energy needs, a dependence that can contribute to inflation.

He explained that the government seeks to ensure that "consumers receive adequate energy at the right price and through reliable and secure supplies."

He further stated that the energy import policy is driven entirely by these objectives.

Misri highlighted the global uncertainties present in energy markets and emphasised India's role in promoting price stability. He noted, "India is not just one of the largest consumers of energy, but it also plays an important role as a stabilising factor in global energy markets."

The Foreign Secretary stated, "The key drivers of our energy policy are adequate availability, fair pricing, and reliability of supply."

# Stalin inaugurates Rs 9,000-crore Tata-JLR plant in Tamil Nadu's Ranipet

**Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Reaffirming confidence in Tamil Nadu's 'Dravidian model of governance' as a magnet for global investments, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday inaugurated the Rs 9,000-crore Tata Motors-Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) passenger car manufacturing plant at Panapakkam village in Ranipet district, marking a major milestone in the State's expanding automotive sector.



Describing the project as a symbol of Tamil Nadu's industrial strength, Stalin said the State has consistently emerged as a preferred destination for world-class manufacturing due to its skilled workforce, progressive policies and robust infrastructure.

He noted that the Tata Group has played a significant role in India's nation-building efforts and shares a long-standing, historic partnership with Tamil Nadu.

"The commencement of operations at this advanced facility strengthens our position as India's automobile capital and reinforces investor confidence in the Dravidian model," he said after flagging off the first Range Rover Evoque rolled out from the new plant.

Spread across 470 acres, the state-of-the-art facility integrates advanced manufacturing technologies with a highly trained workforce to produce premium passenger vehicles for both domestic and international markets. Production will be scaled up in phases over the next five to seven years, eventually reaching the plant's full annual capacity of 2.5 lakh vehicles.

In his special address, Chairman of Tata Sons and Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd, N. Chandrasekaran, termed the inauguration a "significant milestone" in the company's journey towards sustainable and future-ready manufacturing. He said the project deepens Tata's partnership with Tamil Nadu, a State known for industrial excellence, innovation and inclusive growth.

# ISRO fast-tracks India's space station plans, 80 satellites in pipeline

**Samastipur (Bihar), Feb 9 (IANS)** India is making rapid progress towards establishing its own space station while simultaneously advancing the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission, ISRO Programme Director Imtiyaz Ahmed said on Monday.

Work is currently underway on nearly 80 satellites that will play a crucial role in scientific research innovation, disaster management, internal security, navigation, and relaying critical signals for the Gaganyaan mission back to Earth, the senior ISRO official said.

Speaking to IANS in Samastipur on the occasion of the golden jubilee of India's first indigenously developed satellite, Aryabhata, Ahmed noted that such missions are central to strengthening India's space-based capabilities and technological self-reliance.

He said ISRO is presently engaged in several major projects, including Earth Observation missions, Navigation with Indian Constellation (NVS), the Indian Data Relay Satellite System (IDRSS), Gaganyaan and the Venus Orbiter Mission. Together, these initiatives reflect India's expanding footprint in space science, exploration and applied technologies.

Recalling the historic launch of Aryabhata on April 19, 1975, Ahmed said the satellite, named after the ancient Indian mathematician and astronomer, represented a landmark moment in India's scientific journey. Despite limited technological resources and infrastructure during the Cold War era, the success of Aryabhata laid the foundation for future space missions and helped ISRO emerge as a globally respected space agency. Its legacy, he said, continues to inspire generations of scientists and engineers.

# I-PAC raid row: SC to hear ED plea alleging interference by CM Mamata Banerjee today

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Tuesday the plea filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) alleging interference by the West Bengal government and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee during the Central agency's recent search operations at the office of political consultancy firm Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC) and the residence of its co-founder Pratik Jain in Kolkata. As per the cause list published on the website of the apex court, the matter is listed before a bench of Justices Prashant Kumar Mishra and Sandeep Mehta. The hearing was earlier adjourned last week after Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the ED, sought time to file a response to the counter affidavit submitted by the West Bengal government. Acceding to the request, the Justice Mishra-led Bench had deferred the matter for further hearing on February 10. In its petition, the ED has sought directions for registration of FIRs against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the state Director General of Police (DGP) and the Kolkata Police Commissioner, alleging obstruction of lawful duties during the federal agency's simultaneous search operations.

# Women Cong MPs write to LS Speaker, reject 'baseless' allegations of obstructing PM Modi

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Women Members of Parliament from the Congress party on Monday wrote to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, expressing strong objection to what they described as "grave allegations" that they had "threatened or attempted to obstruct" Prime Minister Narendra Modi inside the House last week.

The controversy erupted after Speaker Birla stated that he had received information suggesting Opposition MPs could do "something unexpected," adding that he decided to adjourn the House to prevent unpleasant scenes in what he described as the temple of democracy.According to the sequence of events, as the clock approached 5 p.m. on February 4, members were waiting for the Prime Minister to enter the Lok Sabha and begin his address.However, protests continued inside the House, during which about eight to nine women MPs from the Opposition benches reportedly gathered around the Prime Minister's designated seat. Among those named were Geniben Thakor, Varsha Gaikwad, Jyotimati, R. Sudha, K. Kavya and Shobha Bachhav.

The Congress party, however, rejected the allegations, describing them as "baseless".

Following the adjournment, the Prime Minister's scheduled reply to the Motion of Thanks on the President's address was cancelled.In their letter to the Speaker, the women Congress MPs said, "We write this letter with deep anguish and a strong sense of constitutional responsibility. It is extremely unfortunate that you, as the Honourable Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the constitutional custodian of this august House, have been forced by the ruling party to make false, baseless, and defamatory allegations against women Members of Parliament belonging to the Opposition, particularly from the Indian National Congress."

# Dragging my minor children into political controversy crosses all limits: Gaurav Gogoi

**Guwahati, Feb 9 (IANS)** Assam Pradesh Congress Committee president and Lok Sabha MP Gaurav Gogoi on Monday strongly criticised Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma for allegedly dragging his minor children into a political controversy, calling the move unacceptable and crossing all limits of political decency.



Addressing a press conference here, Gogoi said political battles should be fought strictly between leaders and must never involve children.

He expressed anguish over references made to his five-year-old and nine-year-old children, stating that such remarks had no place in public discourse.

"I am prepared to face any personal attack directed at me, but I will not remain silent if my children, Congress workers or ordinary citizens are targeted," Gogoi said, warning that he would pursue the issue "to the very end" if such actions continued.

He cautioned the Chief Minister against pushing personal matters further.

# Tobacco baron's son involved in Lamborghini crash in Kanpur

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** A high-speed accident involving a Lamborghini created panic in Kanpur's upscale Gwaltoli area late on Saturday night, leaving several people injured and prompting a detailed police investigation. The incident occurred on a busy VIP road in the posh locality, where the speeding vehicle driven by a tobacco baron's son rammed into pedestrians and multiple two-wheelers.

According to police officials, the black Lamborghini Revuelto was being driven at an excessive speed when it lost control and struck people and vehicles on the road. Initial reports confirmed that around three people were injured, while later information indicated that at least six individuals sustained injuries in the crash.

All the injured were immediately rushed to nearby hospitals, where they are currently undergoing treatment. Officials said that although some victims suffered serious injuries, none are believed to be in a life-threatening condition.

# Parties which begin and end with themselves can never lead nation to prosperity: Nabin on first visit to home state Bihar

**Patna, Feb 9 (IANS)** Newly-elected BJP President Nitin Nabin, on his first visit to his home state on Monday, reiterated the party's mission and vision of 'Nation First and Self last' as the guiding principles for bringing notable change in people's lives and also took potshots at the family-driven political parties and those working with narrow-minded interests.



"Parties that begin with themselves and end with themselves alone cannot brighten the future of Bihar or the country," Nabin said, in an obvious criticism of family-ruled parties including the Congress and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD).

Stressing the BJP's vision of putting the nation above everything, he urged the party leaders to instill confidence in workers that if they work for Bihar, they will be eventually working for their motherland.

Reiterating BJP's core principles of putting nation above self, he said, "We work on the vision of Nation First, we work on the vision of Party Next, and we work on the vision of Self Last."The new BJP chief underscored the importance of engaging with people, donning social responsibility by handholding the unprivileged and weaker sections while uplifting marginalised communities.

"We all must remember that before engaging in politics, we need to become social. We must connect with our people, move forward by placing a hand on the shoulders of our workers," he stated.

Nitin Nabin also paid respects to the BJP ideologues, stating that crores of party workers derive inspiration from Shyama Prasad Mukherjee's spirit of nationalism, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's concept of Antyodaya, Atal Bihari Vajpayee's mantra of good governance and added that all BJP governments are working with the same vision.

# Bihar: Bomb threat disrupts court hearing, Pappu Yadav to remain in jail

**Patna, Feb 9 (IANS)** Independent MP from Purnea, Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav, who was arrested in a 31-year-old fraud case, will have to remain in jail for another day as his bail hearing could not be held on Monday due to a bomb threat received at the Patna Civil Court.

According to officials, court proceedings were immediately suspended after a bomb threat email was received, prompting evacuation and security checks across the premises.As a result, Pappu Yadav could not be produced before the court. He will now be presented on Tuesday.

Pappu Yadav was arrested late Friday night at his Mandiri residence in Patna.

Following his arrest, he was initially kept in the prisoners' ward of Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH) due to health issues and was undergoing treatment under police supervision.

However, late Sunday evening, he was shifted to Beur Central Jail, where he remains lodged.

The arrest is linked to a 1995 fraud case registered at the Gardanibagh police station.

# Sharad Pawar undergoes preliminary check-up at Ruby Hall Clinic

**Pune, Feb 9 (IANS)** Nationalist Congress Party (Sharad Pawar faction) president Sharad Pawar was admitted to Ruby Hall Clinic around 4 pm on Monday.

Accompanying him were his wife, Pratibha Pawar, daughter Supriya Sule, son-in-law Sadanand Sule, and grandson Rohit Pawar. Dr Abhijeet Lodha is treating Pawar, and a preliminary medical examination has been conducted.Sule in her post in X said, "Baba has developed chest congestion and will need a 5-day course of antibiotics. Fortunately, all other vital parameters are normal. Thank you all for your good wishes and constant support. A heartfelt thank you to all the doctors from the bottom of my heart."The initial assessment shows that Pawar's heart rate and oxygen levels are stable. However, his respiratory rate is slightly elevated. There is a possibility that he may be kept under hospital observation for a day. Meanwhile, party workers have been requested not to crowd the hospital. Supriya Sule also spoke to the doctors, requesting that treatment be carried out strictly in accordance with the hospital's protocol, the NCP SP release said.

# EAM Jaishankar calls on Seychelles President Herminie, highlights Vision MAHASAGAR

**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Monday met Seychelles President Dr Patrick Herminie, who is on a state visit to India aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and expanding cooperation across multiple sectors, including maritime security and economic development.



EAM Jaishankar highlighted the significance of the visit on X, writing, "Delighted to call on President Dr Patrick Herminie of the Republic of Seychelles today in Delhi. As maritime neighbours, value his support towards advancing #VisionMAHASAGAR for economic prosperity and security in the region. Confident that his engagements with PM @narendramodi later today will open new vistas for our cooperation."

President Herminie arrived in India on Thursday at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This is his first visit to India since assuming office in October 2025, and comes as the two countries celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations. During his stay, the President is scheduled to meet President Droupadi Murmu and hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a wide range of bilateral, regional, and international issues of mutual interest.

In addition to Delhi, President Herminie will visit other Indian cities to participate in business events aimed at boosting economic engagement between the two nations. The visit underscores India and Seychelles' shared interest in maritime security and sustainable economic development, particularly in the Indian Ocean region.

Welcoming the President, the Ministry of External Affairs posted on X, "Commemorating 50 years of longstanding and multifaceted India-Seychelles bilateral ties. Warm welcome to President Dr. Patrick Herminie of Seychelles as he arrives in Chennai for his first State visit to India."


कार्यालय - अधीक्षक, एम० जी० एम०
मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल, जमशेदपुर
Email ID : superintendentmgmmch@gmail.com

Bidding Document No :- 525 / 2026
Dated :- 07/02/2026

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) 3rd Call
FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM (FPS) AND
FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM (FDA) AT 500 BEDDED HOSPITAL,
JAMSHEDPUR AT DIMNA.

Tenders are invited in two part system (Technical & Price bid) through Jharkhand e-procurement portal only; from competent & eligible/Registered agencies for the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the Fire Protection System (FPS) and Fire Detection System (FDA) for 500 Bedded Hospital, Jamshedpur at Dimna. The scope of work includes comprehensive operation and maintenance services for all FPS and FDA systems, including Fire Pump room, Fire hydrants, Pipes, Fire alarm panel, detectors, fire modules and related components.

| A. | Important dates for Tenders | Timelines/other particulars |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Date of Publishing of bidding document on www.jharkhandtender.gov.in | On 11.02.2026 |
| 2. | Date of pre bid meeting | On 14.02.2026 at 12:00 P.M. |
| 3. | Date of start for submission of Bid | On 18.02.2026 at 09:00 A.M. |
| 4. | Closing date of online submission | On 26.02.2026 till 05.00 P.M. |
| 5. | Hard Copy of Tender Documents | 28.02.2026 till 05.00 pm (by registered post/speed post only) |
| 6. | Opening of technical bid | On 02.03.2026 at 11:00 A.M. All the bidders must have submit online tender fee of Rs.5,000/- (Non Refundable) & EMD 150000/- in through www.jharkhandtender.gov.in. The tenders of only those bidders will be opened, who have submitted the Hard copy, tender fee and EMD. |

Note :-
01.For details of tender terms, conditions & specification please visit website www.jharkhandtender.gov.in
02.No claims/changes will be considered after pre-bid queries and finalization of tender documents.
03. Any information/corrigendum regarding the tender will be given only on the website: www.jharkhandtender.gov.in

Superintendent
M.G.M. Medical College Hospital
Jamshedpur

PR 372631 Health Med Edu and Family Welfare(25-26).D



कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, चक्रधरपुर
E-mail- eedwsd.chakradharpur@gmail.com

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, चक्रधरपुर।

ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट सूचना अति अल्पकालीन ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट निविदा सूचना संख्या– CKP/07/CRPFCamp/2025-26
(1st Call) दिनांक –10.02.2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | विभाग का नाम | पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची। |
| 2 | Name of work | Construction of T/Well of 200 / 165 mm dia 125.00 Mtrs deep drilled tube well with installation of IM-II Hand Pump ( IS- 15500/ part - II/ 2004 ) with 32mm dia medium class GI Riser pipe by DTH (F.D.S./ K,P.O./COPCO) Rig machine with 125 mm dia blue UPVC casing pipe including construction of PCC platform and drain for CRPF soldiers residing in CRPF Camp of different Block in District of West Singhbhum under D.W.& S. Division, Chakradharpur for the year 2025-26 |
| 3 | Estimated Cost (in Rs.) | 18,12,672.00 |
| 4 | Cost of BOQ (in Rs.) | 5000.00 |
| 5 | Earnest Money (in Rs.) | 36500.00 |
| 6 | Time of Completion | 30 Days |
| 7 | वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि | 10.02.2026 समय 5.00 बजे अपराहन् तक |
| 8 | निविदा प्राप्ति (ऑनलाईन बिडींग) की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय | 17.02.2026 समय 5.00 बजे अपराहन् तक |
| 9 | सरकार के सचिव, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी एवं ई– गवर्नेंस, झारखण्ड मंत्रालय, के ज्ञापांक 120 दिनांक 03.10.2023 के आलोक में विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि Online जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय | 17.02.2026 समय 5.00 बजे अपराहन् तक |
| 10 | तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय | 18.02.2026 समय 5.00 बजे अपराहन् |
| 11 | तकनीकी बिड खोलने का स्थान | कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वचछता प्रमंडल, चक्रधरपुर। |
| 12 | निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम/पदनाम- ई० जितेन्द्र कुमार कुजूर, कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वचछता प्रमंडल, चक्रधरपुर। | |
| 13 | निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले कार्यालय का टेलिफोन नं0 | 9430725642 |
| 14 | ई– प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट सेल का हेल्प लाईन सं0 | 0651- 2480345 |

केवल ई निविदा ही स्वीकार किये जायेंगे।
अधिक जानकारी के लिए वेवसाईट https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल,
चक्रधरपुर।

PR.NO.372662 West Singhbhum(25-26):D

# Bangladesh just two days away from one of most consequential polls since independence



**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Bangladesh is poised barely two days away from one of the most consequential elections since its independence in 1971, with its 13th national election to be held on Thursday, February 12, to select its next government and a Prime Minister.

A ban on the Awami League, ousted in August 2024 in a student-led protest, pits the contest primarily between two major groups, one led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the other by Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami. For years, Awami Leader Sheikh Hasina has been held responsible for sidelining Opposition parties, who often boycotted elections or were allegedly weakened by arrests.

Now, Hasina has been forced to seek refuge in India, while her party is banned and a death order has been handed to her.

Meanwhile, the minority community remain under constant fear, with several incidents of Hindu lynchings reported by the country's media. Close to 12.8 crore registered voters, according to the Bangladesh Election Commission website, will exercise their mandate at 42,779 polling booths to elect representatives from 60 political parties recognised by the poll body.

It is the Gen Z to largely shape poll narratives, where their choice can influence the outcome, redefine Bangladesh's politics and diplomacy, and Dhaka's future role in maintaining regional balance.

Analysts believe BNP would maintain better ties with India compared to Jamaat, which could lean more towards Pakistan. Jamaat's Gen-Z allies openly criticise "New Delhi's dominance" and have been holding meetings with China's diplomats.

Ground reports and opinion polls predict an edge for the BNP, though some say that the Jamaat may surprise with its best showing yet. The Jamaat has faced a series of strictures and legal challenges for its alleged 1971 role in Islamabad's favour, with the former government led by Hasina also imposing a ban after a court ruling.

The Yunus-led interim administration lifted the ban, and the party's registration was restored following a Supreme Court decision.

On Friday, alongside the election, a referendum on the "July Charter" (constitutional reforms) will be held where voters must give a collective "yes" or "no" to a series of reforms aimed at reshaping Bangladesh's governance and democratic structure.Awami League under Sheikh Hasina dominated the political sphere in Bangladesh between 2008 and 2024. During this period, Opposition parties, like the BNP and Jamaat, have often boycotted elections, alleging political dominance and arrest of their leaders. This time, with the Awami League banned from participating in any political activities after Hasina's ouster in 2024, the contest is mainly between the BNP and Jamaat coalitions.

In 1973, when the election was first held after Bangladesh's independence in 1971, the Awami League under Sheikh Mujibur Rahman dominated, winning 292 of the Parliament's 300 seats. After Mujib's assassination in 1975 and military rule under General Ziaur Rahman, the general election held in 1979 saw the BNP win a majority, consolidating the latter's political influence.

In the next polls, held under military ruler Hussain Muhammad Ershad, the Opposition boycotted the 1986 Parliamentary election. Though Jatiya Party (Ershad) won, the legitimacy was under cloud. BNP under Khaleda Zia won the 1991 election and again, in 1996, which was boycotted by the Awami League. The election was annulled amid protests, and new polls held the same year under a caretaker government saw the Awami League under Sheikh Hasina forming government.

The subsequent election in 2001 resulted in a BNP-led alliance winning a majority, returning Khaleda Zia to power.

The next election, after a military-backed caretaker rule (2007-2008), brought back Sheikh Hasina, who returned as Prime Minister. Awami League won again in 2014, which was boycotted by the Opposition boycott with reports of widespread violence.

In 2018, Hasina returned amidst Opposition allegations of political suppression and vote-rigging, winning 288 of the country's 300 seats. In between, Bangladesh politics witnessed interventions in the form of takeovers and coups.

# Khamenei urges national unity amid rising tensions with US

**Terhran, Feb 9 (IANS)** Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei on Monday urged Iranians to show unity and "disappoint the enemy" ahead of the 47th anniversary of the 1979 Islamic Revolution, amid rising tensions with the United States.

In a televised address, Khamenei said national power relies more on "determination and resistance" than on military hardware like missiles and aircraft. His remarks come as Iran prepares for nationwide rallies on Wednesday to mark the revolution's victory.

"Until the enemy is disappointed, a nation is exposed to persecution," Khamenei said. "The enemy must be disappointed," Xinhua news agency reported quoted the Iranian Supreme Leader as saying. He described the annual marches as a display of dignity that forces foreign powers to "retreat" from ambitions of interfering in Iranian affairs.

The speech follows a period of heightened friction with the United States, fueled by a US military buildup in the Middle East and ongoing threats against Tehran. Despite indirect nuclear negotiations between Iranian and US delegations in Muscat, Oman, on Friday, significant gaps remain, leaving the prospect of a deal uncertain.

Khamenei expressed hope that this year's anniversary would compel "other nations, governments, and powers to display modesty and reverence" toward the Iranian people.

The 1979 Islamic Revolution was a watershed moment that transformed Iran from a pro-Western monarchy into an Islamic republic. Led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, a diverse coalition of clerics, students, and secular activists overthrew Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who was supported by the United States.

Iran and the United States severed diplomatic ties in 1980 after the Iranian people seized the US Embassy in Tehran.

# Top Iranian security official to visit Oman after Iran-US nuclear talks

**Tehran, Feb 9 (IANS)** The secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), Ali Larijani, will lead a delegation to the Omani capital of Muscat on Tuesday, according to the SNSC-affiliated Nour News.

Larijani is scheduled to meet with high-ranking Omani officials to discuss regional and international developments, as well as bilateral relations, the news outlet reported Monday.

The visit comes after Oman hosted and mediated a round of indirect nuclear negotiations between Iran and the United States on Friday, Xinhua news agency reported. Amid heightened tensions between the two nations, Oman is considered a potential venue for future talks.At a news conference in Tehran on Sunday, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi said the date and location for the next round of nuclear negotiations would be determined through consultations with Oman.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Sunday characterized recent indirect nuclear negotiations with the United States as a "step forward," even as Washington moved to tighten the economic noose around Tehran with new sanctions and tariff threats.

The talks, mediated by Oman, represent the first high-level contact between the two adversaries since the Israel-Iran conflict last June, during which the United States attacked Iran's key nuclear facilities.

While Pezeshkian framed the dialogue as Tehran's "consistent strategy" for peaceful resolution, analysts say the diplomatic opening reflects cautious crisis management rather than any genuine rapprochement.

Writing on his X account, Pezeshkian said Iran's nuclear ambitions remain firmly within the "explicit rights" guaranteed by the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. "The Iranian nation has always responded to respect with respect," he wrote, "but it does not tolerate the language of force."


**निर्वाची पदाधिकारी-सह-अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी का कार्यालय, सदर चाईबासा (निर्वाचन शाखा)**

**प्रेस विज्ञप्ति**

नगरपालिका (आम) चुनाव–2026 के निमित चाईबासा नगर परिषद, वर्ग–ख से **अध्यक्ष पद** हेतु निर्वाचन लड़ने वाले अभ्याथियों को एतद् सूचित किया जाता है कि निर्वाचन व्यय से संबंधित **व्यय अनुश्रवण, व्यय प्रेक्षक की उपस्थिति में किया जायेगा। जिसकी तिथि, समय व स्थल** निम्नवत निर्धारित किया जाता है :–

| क्र०सं० | तिथि | समय | स्थल |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 10.02.2026 | 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 05:00 बजे अपराह्न तक। | सदर अनुमण्डल के सभागार में। |
| 2 | 14.02.2026 | | |
| 3 | 19.02.2026 | | |

ह०/–
निर्वाची पदाधिकारी,
(चाईबासा नगर परिषद्, वर्ग–ख, अध्यक्ष),
–सह–
अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी,सदर चाईबासा

PR 372588 West Singhbhum(25-26).D

**झारखण्ड शिक्षा परियोजना, पूर्वी सिंहभूम**
**Stocking Road, In front of Blood Bank, C.H.Area, Bistupur, Jamkshedpur PIN-831001**

**आम सूचना**

शैक्षणिक सत्र 2026–27 में नेताजी सुभाष चंद्र बोस आवासीय विद्यालय (NSCBAV) गोलमुरी, जमशेदपुर एवं लखाईडीह, डुमरिया में क्रमशः कक्षा 1 से 9 तक के छात्र का नामांकन किया जायेगा।

| Sl.No | Name of School | Class I - VIII | Class IX | Total Seat | Contact No of Warden |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | NSCBAV Golmuri, Jamshedpur | 25 | 3 | 28 | 7992418453 |
| 2 | NSCBAV Lakhaidih, Dumaria | 27 | 19 | 46 | 7004637165 |
| | | TOTAL | | 74 | |

नामांकन हेतु आवेदन लेने की प्रक्रिया जारी है। 19.02.2026 तक आवेदन संबंधित विद्यालय तथा झारखण्ड शिक्षा परियोजना, पूर्वी सिंहभूम के जिला कार्यालय में उपलब्ध कराया जा सकता है।
विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए जिला के वेबसाईट www.Jamshedpur.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है।

जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक–सह–
अपर जिला कार्यक्रम पदाधिकारी
झारखण्ड शिक्षा परियोजना
पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर।

PR 372593 (School Education and Literacy) 25-26 (D)

**उपायुक्त, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ का कार्यालय, सरायकेला (जिला पंचायत शाखा)**

**:: आदेश ::**

मैं, नितिश कुमार सिंह, भा0प्र0से0, जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी(नगरपालिका)–सह–उपायुक्त, सरायकेला– खरसावाँ लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम 1951 की धारा 160 उप धारा (1)(aA) में प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुये सरायकेला –खरसावाँ जिलान्तर्गत तीनों नगर निकाय क्षेत्र यथा 08–आदित्यपुर नगर निगम (वर्ग–ख), 19–कपाली नगर परिषद(वर्ग–ख) एवं 18–सरायकेला नगर पंचायत के अन्तर्गत नगरपालिका आम निर्वाचन 2026 सम्पन्न कराने हेतु मतदान कार्य के प्रयोजनार्थ सभी प्रकार के विद्यालय भवनों, सामुदायिक भवनों, पंचायत भवनों, आंगनबाडी केन्द्रों, निजी विद्यालय भवनों तथा अन्य सभी सरकारी एवं अर्द्धसरकारी भवनों जहाँ मतदान केन्द्र स्थापित किए गए हैं, को नीचे वर्णित तालिका में अंकित तिथि से निर्वाचन कार्य समाप्ति तक अधिग्रहित करता हूँ।

| कम | नगर निकाय का नाम | अधिग्रहण की तिथि |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 08–आदित्यपुर नगर निगम(वर्ग–ख) | दिनांक 22.02.2026 से निर्वाचन कार्य समाप्ति तक |
| 2 | 19–कपाली नगर परिषद (वर्ग–ख) | |
| 3 | 18–सरायकेला नगर पंचायत | |

उपरोक्त के आलोक में सभी संबंधित को आदेश दिया जाता है कि सभी मतदान भवनों के लिए अपने स्तर से किसी जिम्मेवार व्यक्ति को प्रतिनियुक्त करेंगे, जो मतदान कार्य हेतु मतदान भवन को खुला रखेंगे। पुर्नमतदान की स्थिति में पुर्नमतदान की समाप्ति तक यह आदेश प्रभावी रहेगा।

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी(नगरपालिका)
–सह–
उपायुक्त, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ

PR 372600 Election(25-26).D

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल, चाईबासा**

**विज्ञप्ति संख्या RCD/CHAIBASA/QUOTATION/2025-26/05 (2nd Call)**

राज्य सरकार के विभिन्न विभागों/कार्यालय के लिए बाह्य स्रोत से वाहन उपलब्ध कराने हेतु इच्छुक आपूर्तिकर्त्ता के लिए आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रण सूचना।

राज्य सरकार के संकल्प संख्या 2316 दिनांक 04.10.2024 के क्रम में राज्य के विभिन्न सरकारी विभागों/कार्यालय के लिए बाह्य स्रोत से वाहनों की आपूर्ति किये जाने हेतु इच्छुक आपूर्तिकर्त्ताओं का चयन कर वाहन का दर निर्धारण किया जाना है। अतः ऐसे इच्छुक आपूर्तिकर्त्ता, जो विभाग/कार्यालय द्वारा निर्धारित शर्त्तों के अन्तर्गत वाहन उपलब्ध कराने में सहमत है, से आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि दिनांक 24.02.2026 है। आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप एवं शर्ते तथा अन्य विवरण पथ प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा कार्यालय से प्राप्त किये जा सकते है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
प०नि०वि०, पथ प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

PR 372642 West Singhbhum(25-26)#D

**अनुमंडल पदाधिकारी सह–उप नियंत्रक का कार्यालय, नागरिक सुरक्षा जमशेदपुर (नागरिक सुरक्षा)**

**अति अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना**

आयुक्त, नागरिक सुरक्षा, झारखण्ड, राँची के पत्रांक–02 दिनांक–08.05.2025 के द्वारा आपूर्ति सामग्री मद में आवंटन प्राप्त है। वित्तीय वर्ष समाप्ति पर है इसलिए आपूर्ति सामग्री मद से Life Raft 5 Seater with Pedal, Chappu, Air pump, Throw Bag 1 set लाईफ राफ्ट आपदा प्रबंधन हेतु नागरिक सुरक्षा कार्याल, बी. रोड़, बिष्टुपुर नार्दन टाउन जमशेदपुर की ओर से क्रय करना है। जिसके लिए नागरिक सुरक्षा कार्यालय बी. रोड में दिनांक 16.02.2026 के पूर्वाहन/अपराहन 11 बजे तक मोहर बंद निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। उक्त निविदा दिनांक 16.02.2026 के पूर्वाहन/अपराहन 1 बजे अनुमंडल पदाधिकारी के कक्ष में खोली जाएगी।

| क्रमांक | निविदा सूची | संख्या |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Life Raft (5 seater with Pedal, Chappu, Air Pump , Throw Bag) | 01 Set |

निविदा की शर्तो का विवरण कार्यालय को सूचना पट पर देखा जा सकता है।

अनुमंडल पदाधिकारी
सह उप नियंत्रक नागरिक सुरक्षा,जमशेदपुर

PR 372591 Civil Aviation(25-26)#D

**कार्यालय जिला सहकारिता पदाधिकारी, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर**

**सूचना**

कृषि, पशुपालन एंव सहकारिता विभाग, झारखण्ड राँची का पत्रांक–104(5) दिनांक–20.01.2026 के आलोक में सभी बीमा धारको को सूचित करना है कि प्रधानमंत्री फसल बीमा योजना के अंतर्गत झारखण्ड राज्य के पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला में खरीफ एंव रबी वर्श 2018–19 एंव 2019–2020 को अधिसूचित अगहनी धान, भदई मकई फसलों के लंबित दावों का निश्पादन हेतु कार्यालय जिला सहकारिता पदाधिकारी, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर एंव कार्यालय सहायक निबंधक, सहयोग समितियाँ जमशेदपुर/घाटशिला अंचल में निम्न दस्तावेज एंव एस.ओ.पी (पत्र संख्या–62, दिनांक–01.08.2023) निबंधक, सहयोग समितियाँ, झारखण्ड राँची द्वारा जारी किये गये अन्य दस्तावेज के साथ सम्पर्क करेगे।

दस्तावेज :– 1. सरपंच/ग्राम प्रधान/मुखिया द्वारा सत्यापित घोषणा प्रपत्र
2. बैंक पासबुक की छायाप्रति
3. लाभुक का आधार कार्ड
4. लाभुक की मृत्यु की स्थिति में लाभुक का मृत्यु प्रमाण पत्र
5. सत्यापित वंशावली

जिला सहकारिता पदाधिकारी,
पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर

PR 372634 Co-opretive(25-26)#D

**सुदृढ प्रजातंत्र हेतु वृहत्तर सहभागिता उपायुक्त का कार्यालय,सरायकेला–खरसावाँ। (जिला पंचायत शाखा)**

**:: तम्बाकू मुक्त क्षेत्र घोषित हेतु आम सूचना ::**

नगरपालिका (आम) निर्वाचन 2026 के अवसर पर राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, झारखण्ड, राँची के पत्रांक 370, राँची दिनांक 06.02.2026 एवं अभियान निदेशक, राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन, झारखण्ड का पत्रांक 1499(MD) राँची, दिनांक 30.01.2026 के निदेश के आलोक में सिगरेट एवं अन्य तम्बाकू उत्पाद अधिनियम 2003 की धारा–4 एवं सिगरेट और अन्य तम्बाकू उत्पाद (विज्ञापन का प्रतिषेध और व्यापार तथा वाणिज्य, उत्पादन, प्रदाय और वितरण विनियमन) (झारखण्ड संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2021 के अंतर्गत मैं नितिश कुमार सिंह, भा0प्र0से0, जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी (नगरपालिका)–सह–उपायुक्त, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ आदेश देता हूँ कि नगरपालिका आम निर्वाचन 2026 के निमित्त सरायकेला–खरसावाँ जिलान्तर्गत आदित्यपुर नगर निगम (वर्ग–ख), कपाली नगर परिषद (वर्ग–ख) एवं सरायकेला नगर पंचायत निर्वाचन क्षेत्रान्तर्गत सभी कार्यालयों / संस्थानों/ शिक्षण संस्थानों/ सभी मतदान केन्द्र परिसर को ''तम्बाकू मुक्त क्षेत्र'' घोषित किया जाता है। किसी प्रकार का तम्बाकू पदार्थ यथा सिगरेट, बीडी, खैनी, गुटखा, पान मसाला, जर्दा इत्यादि का उपयोग पूर्ण रूप से प्रतिबंधित रहेगा। उक्त निर्देशो का अनुपालन नहीं करने पर लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम के सुसंगत धाराओं के आलोक में नियमानुसार कार्रवाई की जायेगी।

जिला निवार्चन पदाधिकारी (नगरपालिका)
–सह– उपायुक्त, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ

PR 372597 (Election)25-26*D

**कार्यालय :– असैनिक शल्य चिकित्सक सह मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी/ पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।**
फोन न0 06582 259859 ईमेल– cswestsinghbhum@gmail.com, cs.chaibasa@redffmail.com

**अति अल्पकालीन इच्छा की अभीव्यक्ति हेतु आमंत्रण सूचना**

एतद् द्वारा शहरी प० सिंहभूम, चाईबासा अंतर्गत संचलित शहरी प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य केंद्रो हेतु Public Private Partnership(PPP)Mode पर X-ray सेवाएँ उपलब्द कराया जाना है। दर निम्नवत हैं:–

| Sr. No. | CGHS TREATMENTPROCEDURE/ INVESTIGATION LIST | Rates for Non-NABH/Non-NABL (INR) | Rates for NABH/NABL (INR) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 01. | Abdomen AP Supine or Erect(one flim) | 215 | 250 |
| 02. | Abdomen Lateral view(one flim) | 128 | 147 |
| 03. | X-ray Chest(one flim) | 195 | 230 |
| 04. | Chest Lateral(one flim) | 195 | 230 |
| 05. | Mastoids: Towne view, oblique views(3 flims) | 250 | 288 |
| 06. | Extremities,bones& Joints AP & Lateral view (Two flims) | 255 | 293 |
| 07. | Pelvis AP(one flim) | 110 | 127 |
| 08. | T.N.Joints(one flim) | 110 | 127 |
| 09. | Abdomen &Pelvis for KUB | 128 | 147 |
| 10. | Skull AP & Lateral (2 flims) | 255 | 293 |
| 11. | Spine AP & Lateral (2 flims) | 250 | 288 |
| 12. | X-ray PNS view (1 flim) | 110 | 127 |
| 13. | X-ray Mammography | 315 | 362 |

इच्छुक एवं योग्य Diagnostic Centers जो उक्त दर में X-ray सुविधा उपलब्द कराना चाहते है, वे दिनांक 23/02/2026 तक अपना प्रस्ताव 01 बंद लिफाफे में NUHM Office, सिविल सर्जन, प० सिंहभूम कार्यालय में दे सकते है।

A. Minimum Eligibility:
* The X-ray Centre must be registered under appropriate Authority i.e.,AERB etc. and is in existence for at least six months before the date of issue of this RFE document.
* The Diagnostic Centre should have qualified Radiologist,Paramedical/Nursing and Technical staff as per norms.
* The Diagnostic Centre should have a Digital X-ray Machine.
* The Diagnostic Centre should have a separate room for the X-ray Machine and automatic film processor.

B. Number of Proposals
*. A Centre is eligible to submit only one proposal.Multiple proposals, If any will be summarily rejected.

Civil Surgeon-Cum-CMO
West Singhbhum,Chaibasa.

PR 372623 (West Singhbhum) 25-26 (D)

**जिला दण्डाधिकारी–सह–उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा (कल्याण शाखा)**

**प्रेस विज्ञप्ति**
**नामांकन संबंधी सूचना वर्ष :– 2026–27**

पश्चिमी सिंहभूम जिला अन्तर्गत अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण विभाग द्वारा संचालित अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय विद्यालयों में वर्ष 2026–27 में रिक्ति के अनुसार वर्ग प्रथम में नामांकन हेतु इच्छुक छात्र/छात्राओं से विहित प्रपत्र में आवेदन दिनांक 01.02.2026 से 28.02.2026 तक आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र संबंधित विद्यालय में जमा किये जाएंगे।

**पश्चिमी सिंहभूम जिला अन्तर्गत संचालित विद्यालय :–**
**अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालिका उच्च विद्यालय, चाईबासा।**
**अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालक उच्च विद्यालय, कुन्दुगुटू, बन्दगाँव।**
**अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालिका मध्य विद्यालय, टेबो, बन्दगाँव।**
**अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालक मध्य विद्यालय, थोलकोबाद, कैम्प–मनोहरपुर।**
**अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालक मध्य विद्यालय, छोटानागरा, मनोहरपुर।**
**अनुसूचित जनजाति आवासीय बालक प्राथमिक विद्यालय, औरंगा, गोईलकेरा (एन.जी.ओ. द्वारा संचालित)।**

**नियम व शर्त्ते :–**
1. वर्ग प्रथम में आवेदन पत्र प्रत्येक कार्य दिवस के दिन 10 बजे पूर्वाहन् से 3:00 बजे अपराहन् तकसंबंधित विद्यालयों से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।
2. अनुसूचित जनजाति के विद्यालय में नामांकन के लिए आदिम जनजाति के छात्र/छात्राओं जैसे – बिरहोर, बिरजिया, कोरवा, पहाड़िया, सौरिया पहाड़िया, असूर, हिल खड़िया, सबर जाति के लिए 25 प्रतिशत स्थान सुरक्षित रहेगा।
3. यदि उक्त कोटि की आरक्षित सीटों के लिए छात्र–छात्राएँ उपलब्ध नहीं होते हैं, तो नियमानुसार मेधा सूची से ही अनुसूचित जनजाति के उपजातियों के बच्चों का नामांकन आरक्षित सीटों के विरूद्ध करेंगे।
4. नामांकन हेतु आवेदन पत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 28.02.2026 निर्धारित है।
5. आवेदन पत्र के साथ छात्र/छात्राओं को जन्म प्रमाण पत्र, आधार कार्ड, जाति प्रमाण पत्र, आवासीय प्रमाण पत्र, बी.पी.एल./आय प्रमाण पत्र की छाया प्रति संलग्न करना होगा।
6. वर्ग प्रथम में नामांकन हेतु मौखिक जाँच परीक्षा ली जाएगी। दिनांक 15.03.2026 को वर्ग प्रथम में नामांकन हेतु मौखिक परीक्षा संबंधित विद्यालय में प्रातः 11:00 बजे से होगा।
7. नामांकन हेतु चयनित छात्र/छात्राओं की सूची संबंधित विद्यालय के पट्ट पर प्रकाशित किया जाएगा।
08. नामांकन के समय चयनित छात्र/छात्राओं को जन्म प्रमाण पत्र, आधार कार्ड, जाति प्रमाण पत्र, आवासीय प्रमाण पत्र, बी.पी.एल./आय प्रमाण पत्र मूल रूप में प्रस्तुत करना अनिवार्य होगा।
09. गरीबी रेखा के नीचे आय वाले परिवार के बच्चों का ही नामांकन किया जाएगा। अतएव नामांकन की पात्रता बी.पी.एल. सूची में अंकित नाम के आधार पर ही नामांकन की पात्रता निर्धारित की जाएगी।
10. चयनित छात्र/छात्राओं को दिनांक 20.03.2026 से 31.03.2026 तक नामांकन कराना अनिवार्य होगा। प्रतीक्षा सूची का नामांकन दिनांक 02.04.2026 से 06.04.2026 तक किया जाएगा।
11. जिन छात्र/छात्राओं के माता–पिता सरकारी सेवा में कार्यरत् हैं, उनके बच्चों का नामांकन स्वीकार नहीं किया जाएगा। इस आशय का घोषणा–पत्र आवेदक के माता–पिता/अभिभावक द्वारा आवेदन पत्र के साथ जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा। असत्य एवं फर्जी घोषणा पत्र देने वाले माता–पिता/अभिभावक के विरूद्ध नियमानुसार आवश्यक कानूनी कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

जिला कल्याण पदाधिकारी,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

PR 372598 (West Singhbhum)25-26*D

# Rupali Ganguly on 100 years celebration of RSS: Honoured to have been part of momentous occasion

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Renowned television actress Rupali Ganguly attended the centenary celebrations of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), marking 100 years of the organisation's journey.

The actress took to Instagram, where she shared a string of pictures with RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat and Shilpa Shetty. She added that she felt honoured to be present at the milestone event and to engage in a dialogue with Mohan Bhagwat.

"Proud to have to have been in the presence of and have had a dialogue with the Honourable Sarsanghchalak Shri Mohan Bhagwat ji and be a part of the 100 years celebration of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh."

"Such a pleasure meeting the members of the Sangh Parivaar Honoured to have been a part of the momentous occasion #mohanbhagwat #100years #rss #rss100years," she wrote.



Talking about Rupali, she is one of the highest-paid television actresses in India. The actress is best known for portraying Monisha Singh Sarabhai in the sitcom Sarabhai vs Sarabhai and Anupamaa Joshi in the drama Anupamaa.

She made her acting debut at age seven, in her father's directorial venture Saaheb in 1985. Rupali featured opposite Tapas Paul in her father's Bengali film Balidan. Despite the success of the film, she no longer had any further feats in Bengali cinema.

The actress later had her breakthrough with her portrayal of Dr. Simran Chopra in the medical drama series Sanjivani: A Medical Boon. She also participated in Bigg Boss 1. The actress was also seen in Ek Packet Umeed and Parvarrish – Kuchh Khattee Kuchh Meethi.

Rupali is currently seen in Anupamaa. The show is a remake of Star Jalsha's Bengali series Sreemoyee. It is one of the longest-running Indian television soap operas. Rupali Ganguly plays the titular role and formerly starred Sudhanshu Pandey, Madalsa Sharma, and Gaurav Khanna. Since October 2024, the series stars Rupali with Adrija Roy and Shivam Khajuria as second-generation leads.

The show revolves around Anupamaa Shah, a selfless homemaker who reclaims her identity after being taken for granted by her family. After discovering her husband's infidelity, she chooses self-respect, independence, and personal growth, navigating relationships and societal expectations while redefining her role in life.

## Sara Ali Khan calls mom Amrita Singh her 'biggest blessing' in a sweet birthday note

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Actress Sara Ali Khan called mom Amrita Singh her 'biggest blessing' in a sweet birthday note on social media.

Sharing some adorable snaps from their family getaways over the years, Sara confessed her love for her mother in the caption, saying, "Happiest Birthday Mommy Jaan...I love you the most in the whole wide world. (sic)"



The photographs uploaded by Sara feature her, Amrita, and Ibrahim Ali Khan exploring the world in each other's company.

Calling mom Amrita her best travel buddy, Sara added, "Thank God for you...you're our biggest blessing Ma...From the mountains to the desserts and seas (quite literally hehe thank you for being the best travel buddy) I'll do whatever it takes to make you happy."

Amrita made her acting debut opposite Sunny Deol in 1983 with "Betaab".

After this, she went on to prove herself as one of the leading ladies in Bollywood with movies such as "Mard "(1985), "Chameli Ki Shaadi" (1986), "Naam" (1986), "Khudgarz" (1987), "Thikana" (1987), "Waaris" (1988), "Toofan" (1989), "Dil Aashna Hai" (1992), "Aaina" (1993), and "Rang" (1993), to name just a few.

After taking some time off from acting, Amrita returned to the screen with "23rd March 1931: Shaheed" (2002), and continued her cinematic journey with "Kalyug" (2005), "Shootout at Lokhandwala" (2007), "2 States" (2014), "Hindi Medium" (2017), and "Badla" (2019).

## Anil Kapoor on 42 years of 'Mashaal': The fire still burns just as strong

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Veteran actor Anil Kapoor marked his 1984 actioner "Marshaal" completing 42 years of release with a special social media post. Commemorating the milestone, Anil shared a photo collage of some scenes from the movie on the Stories section of his Instagram account, claiming that the fire continues to burn strongly even after more than 4 decades.

"42 years of Mashaal and the fire still burns just as strong (fire emoji) A film that will always live in my heart @yrf," he added the text to the post. If the reports are to be believed, the role essayed by Anil in the movie was initially offered to Amitabh Bachchan and then to Kamal Haasan. However, after both of them turned down the offer, the part finally went to Anil.



Directed and produced by Yash Chopra, "Marshaal" saw Dilip Kumar, Waheeda Rehman, and Rati Agnihotri in key roles, along with others. The project marked Anil's primary on-screen collaboration with Dilip Kumar.

"Marshaal" talks about Vinod Kumar (Played by Dilip Kumar), a respected, law-abiding citizen who turns to crime to seek revenge.

The project was adapted from the Marathi play "Ashroonchi Zhali Phule" written by Marathi writer Vasant Kanetkar.

**Health**

## AI use of massive national health care data to boost S. Korea's bio sector




**Seoul, Feb 9 (IANS)** South Korea could significantly strengthen the competitiveness of its bio-health industry by leveraging its abundant, high-quality bio data through artificial intelligence (AI), a central bank report showed on Monday.

According to the report by the Bank of Korea (BOK) on measures to foster the advanced bio-health sector, South Korea lags behind leading countries in such areas as innovative new drugs and advanced medical devices, while the global market is expected to grow at an average annual rate of 5 percent over the next five years amid population aging and other factors.

From 2016 to 2023, the country ranked ninth worldwide in the number of bio-health patent applications filed in the United States, while it ranked fourth overall across all sectors, reports Yonhap news agency.

"AI can reduce new drug development timelines by up to 50 percent, significantly lower research and development costs, and create new markets," the report said. "Under these circumstances, South Korea has an opportunity to overcome the limitations of its current industrial ecosystem and overtake leading nations."

In particular, the country possesses health insurance and clinical data collected from 50 million people under a single national health insurance system, which is "exceptionally rare worldwide and a national strategic resource in the AI era," the BOK noted.

To capitalise on such advantages, the central bank proposed a national bio data approval system, under which an authority would conduct prior reviews and approve data use only for research that meets public interest criteria, and the government would ease regulations for approved projects.

## Shekhar Kapoor on being taught about 'article films' by a black marketeer!

**Chennai, Feb 9 (IANS)** One of India's finest directors Shekhar Kapoor has now recalled a funny incident in which a person selling black tickets tried to teach him about how he shouldn't make 'article films' if he wanted to have a career as a director.

Taking to his X timeline to pen a lengthy post about the incident that took place when his first film, 'Masoom', which went on to emerge a superhit and also a cult classic, released, Shekhar Kapoor wrote, "Throw back pic from my first film, Masoom. On the first day of release, I went to the main theatre and there were only two people in the whole cinema hall and one of them was me!"



The ace director then explained, "Those days 'black marketing' of cinema tickets was really prelavent ... Young men, or even gangs, would bulk by cinema tickets and then sell them at higher prices on the day of the show. Of course, if the hall was full."

"Except the first show on the first day for 'Masoom', the hall was completely empty!," the director recalled and said, "Outside I got surrounded by some pretty angry looking young boys when they discovered I was the director. They had lost their money that day. I must have looked pretty crestfallen. So, one of them actually took pity on me, and said, 'Sir .. the problem is you've made an 'article' film' .. if you want a career , don't do that.'," he recounted.

"Article film ?? I kept wondering... article film... I realized he meant an 'artistic film'. Don't ever make an artistic film this young black marketeer was trying to warn me. Well, the Friday of release, all the cinema halls were empty as they were on Saturday, Sunday , Monday , Tuesday," he said.

"The distributors of the film gave up trying to support the film. It was too expensive to keep the film showing to empty halls," the director said and added, "I remember the feeling that day when they told me they had decided to give up trying to hold the theatres.

## Anita Hassanandani pens b'day note for son Aarav: To the boy I once wished for

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Actress Anita Hassanandani marked her son Aarav's birthday with a heartfelt note that beautifully captured a mother's love.

Anita took to Instagram, where she shared an adorable image of her son Aarav and husband Rohit Reddy. Sharing a glimpse of her emotions, Anita described her little one as the boy she once wished for and now holds in her arms.

"To the boy I once wished for and now hold in my arms You are the best thing that ever happened to us," she wrote Overflowing with warmth, the actor expressed how deeply grateful they are for Aarav choosing them as his parents.



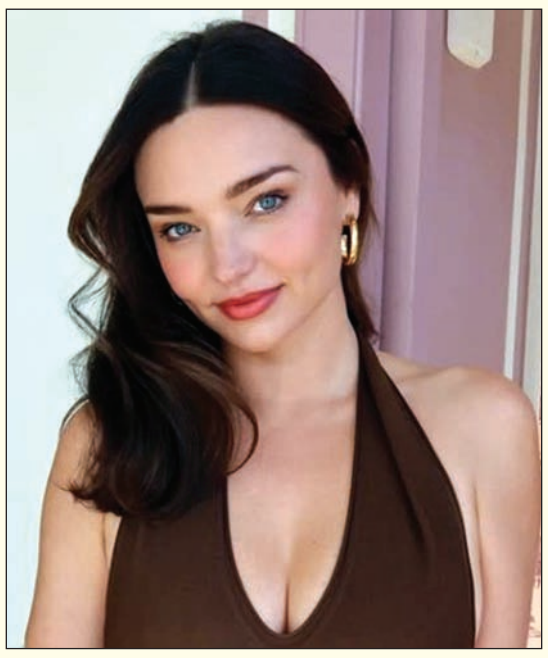
"Mumma & Papa love you so, so, so much. We are forever grateful that you chose us.

Happy Birthday, our JAAN our LIFELINE our," Anita concluded.

The actress married corporate professional Rohit in Goa in 2013. In 2020, she announced her pregnancy in an Instagram video featuring Reddy and herself.The couple had their first child, a boy, on 9 February 2021.

Anita made her acting debut in the television series Idhar Udhar in 1998) and had her film debut with the Telugu film Nuvvu Nenu in.

## Miranda Kerr says all of her kids have been 'taught Vedic meditation'



**Los Angeles, Feb 9 (IANS)** Model Miranda Kerr has shared how she practices Vedic rounding, a technique that combines yoga poses and breathing techniques, with her children.

Kerr has son Flynn, 15, with her ex-husband Orlando Bloom and sons Hart, seven, Myles, six, and Pierre, two, with her current spouse Evan Spiegel, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

She told LYMA's Power Women series: "Each of my kids, except the baby, have been taught Vedic meditation and they each have their own mantra. It's something I've been practicing since I was 17 and it's key to my connection and devotion.

"As an adult you do it for 20 minutes but for my children, my six year old does it for six minutes, seven year old seven minutes and so on."

She added: "This New Year, he (Flynn) said: 'Mum, I want to meditate with you every morning at 6am and do it for 20 minutes. On the days he does it... he's like, 'I really noticed a difference. I felt much calmer the days I did it.'"

Kerr also said that she wakes up at 5.30am every morning as she has become an "early bird" since she started dating Snapchat co-founder Spiegel.

## Shivaleeka Oberoi marks 3 years of togetherness with Abhishek Pathak: Soul-mated so hard

**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Actress Shivaleeka Oberoi, known for her work in the "Khuda Haafiz" franchise, marked three years of togetherness with husband Abhishek Pathak by sharing a heartfelt message that beautifully captured their journey.

Shivaleeka took to Instagram, where she shared a string of romantic images from their intimate anniversary celebrations.

Celebrating the milestone, Shivaleeka wrote: "Soul-mated so hard that we hung out once & just knew we would get married and have babies one day. Happy 3 to us…soon becoming 3!"

Shivaleeka and Abhishek first met while working on the 2020 Vidyut Jammwal-starrer "Khuda Hafiz," which follows the story of Sameer, a young man, leads a content life with Nargis, his wife. Hoever, when she is kidnapped by human traffickers, he must rescue her.

The duo exchanged rings in July 2022 and finally tied the knot in February 2023.

Shivaleeka made her acting debut with the 2019 release "Yeh Saali Aashiqui" and later rose to fame with "Khuda Haafiz" in 2020. She was last seen in "Khuda Haafiz: Chapter 2 – Agni Pariksha" in 2022, where both she and Vidyut reprised their characters Nargis and Sameer from the original drama.



On the other hand, Abhishek directed "Drishyam 2", featuring Ajay Devgn, Shriya Saran, Tabu, and Akshaye Khanna.He has also directed Udta Chaman.

Abhishek has also produced movies such as Pyaar Ka Punchnama,Pyaar Ka Punchnama 2, Section 375 and Khuda Haafiz.

It was on December 19, when the actress announced that the couple is set to welcome their first bundle of joy.

The parents-to-be announced the news in a joint social media post that read, "Our love story has found it's sweetest verse — a tiny blessing is joining our universe (Baby angel, evil eye and Dizzy emojis) (sic)."

On February 1, the actress shared a heartwarming glimpse from her traditional 'godh bharai' ceremony, offering a peek into the intimate celebration filled with love, blessings and joy as she embraces a new chapter in her life.

Shivaleeka took to Instagram, where she shared a video from the ceremony. The clip begins with a board, which read: 'Welcome to the Godh Bharai ceremony of parents to be Shivaleeka and Abhishek." The video featured their family blessing them for the new chapter.

# T20 WC: PCB seeks Pakistan PM Sharif's nod for India match

## ICC rejects three PCB demands as Pakistan's India standoff continues



**New Delhi, Feb 9 (IANS)** Pakistan Cricket Board chief MohsinNaqvi is set to request Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to withdraw the boycott of their T20 World Cup match against India after being persuaded to do so by his Bangladesh counterpart, a PCB source has revealed.

It is understood that Naqvi had kept a few demands, including resumption of Indo-Pak bilateral cricket and a tri-series involving Bangladesh, to offset the losses that the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) might have incurred after not travelling to India for the T20 World Cup.Bangladesh asks Pakistan to end boycott

While Indo-Pak bilateral cricket isn't ICC's purview, the demand for a tri-series was summarily rejected. India haven't played any tri-nation tournament for more than a decade now. However, the ICC might consider awarding the next men's Under-19 World Cup to Bangladesh.

Naqvi is set to brief Sharif on the latest developments on the issue later on Monday. The game against India is scheduled to be held in Colombo on February 15.

"Naqvi will brief the PM on the communications he has had with the Bangladesh, Sri Lankan and Emirates cricket boards and with the ICC on the crisis," the source said.

He said that Naqvi is likely to ask the PM to permit the team to play against India in the World Cup in view of the discussion and appeals from Sri Lanka, Emirates and Bangladesh boards.

Pakistan unhappy with ICC However, the final decision rests with Sharif and the PCB would abide by it. The source said that during talks with ICC deputy chair Imran Khwaja, Naqvi had raised a number of issues. "He questioned Khwaja if the ICC had kept quiet if the Pakistan team had refused to accept the Asia Cup trophy at the presentation from any Indian board official," the source said.

The trophy lies locked at the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) headquarters in Dubai after Naqvi, who currently heads the body, made it clear that only he would carry out the presentation formalities in full media glare.

Bangladesh were ousted from the T20 World Cup after refusing to play their matches in India citing security concerns.

# T20 WC: Zimbabwe register dominant eight-wicket win against Oman in campaign opener



**Colombo, Feb 9 (IANS)** Zimbabwe began their T20 World Cup 2026 campaign in emphatic fashion, registering a dominant eight-wicket victory over Oman as they chased down a modest target of 103 in just 13.3 overs in the eighth match of the tournament at the Sinhalese Sports Club Ground (SSC) in Colombo on Monday.

Coming in to chase an easy target, Zimbabwe were off to a strong start as both openers struck the ball fluently, with the team scoring at a run rate of over 10 runs per over in the first three overs.

Oman finally got their breakthrough in the fourth over when SufyanMehmood dismissed TadiwanasheMarumani, who was looking in excellent touch and scored 21 runs off just 11 balls, including five boundaries.

Sufyan provided another wicket to Oman in the same over when he sent Dion Myers back to the pavilion for a duck. Earlier, the fast bowling trio of Blessing Muzarabani, Richard Ngarava and Brad Evans picked up three wickets each as Zimbabwe bowled out Oman for 103 runs in 19.5 overs after choosing to bowl first.

Brief Scores: Zimbabwe 106/2 in 13.3 overs (Brian Bennett 48, Brendan Taylor 31, TadiwanasheMarumani 21; SufyanMehmood 2-12) beat Oman all out for 103 in 19.5 (Vinayak Shukla 28, SufyanMehmood 25; Blessing Muzarbani 3-16, Richard Ngarava 3-17, Brad Evans 3-18) by eight wickets.

# Ranji Trophy: KL Rahul's ton guides Karnataka to semis against Mumbai



**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** India's star batter KL Rahul struck a superb 24th first-class century to guide Karnataka to a memorable four-wicket victory over 42-time champions Mumbai in the Ranji Trophy 2025-26 quarterfinal at the SharadPawar Cricket Academy, BKC, on Monday.

Chasing a mammoth target of 325 runs in the fourth innings against Mumbai's experienced bowling attack, Karnataka were off to a poor start as opener Mayank Agarwal was dismissed in the second over by captainShardul Thakur.

DevduttPadikkal, coming in at number three, continued his good form and forged an 84-run partnership with KL Rahul, who looked in great touch from the start.

Padikkal was eventually sent back to the pavilion in the 20th over by TanushKotiyan, but his partner Rahul continued to rotate the strike.

He was supported by Karun Nair, who scored 23 runs before getting out in the 31st over.

# BCCI Central Contracts: Kohli, Rohit demoted to Grade B

## Gill, Jadeja, Bumrah in Grade A as BCCI announce annual contract lists



**Mumbai, Feb 9 (IANS)** Senior players ViratKohli and Rohit Sharma were retained in Grade B as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the Annual Player Contracts for Team India Senior Men and Senior Women for the 2025-26 season. These contracts will start on October 1, 2025, and end on September 30, 2026.

The contracts show a clear generational shift in Indian cricket. Shubman Gill is now in Grade A for the senior men, joining JaspritBumrah and RavindraJadeja. Meanwhile, long-time players Kohli and Rohit dropped down to Grade B, along with KL Rahul, Mohammed Siraj, Hardik Pandya, Rishabh Pant, Shreyas Iyer, Kuldeep Yadav, and Yashasvi Jaiswal.

Bumrah is the only fast bowler in the top grade, which confirms his importance under different conditions. Jadeja's place in Grade A shows his ongoing value as an all-rounder. For the women, Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, and Deepti Sharma lead the Grade A list. The women's contracts also include several younger players, highlighting the growth of the senior women's pool.

The men's Grade C list is the largest, featuring a mix of emerging talent and format specialists. This group includes Axar Patel, TilakVarma, Rinku Singh, Arshdeep Singh, Sanju Samson, YashasviJaiswal, SuryakumarYadav, ShreyasIyer, and RuturajGaikwad, among others. Young players like DhruvJurel, HarshitRana, Nitish Kumar Reddy, and SaiSudharsan have been recognized for their consistent performances.

In the women's team, players such as ShafaliVerma, RichaGhosh, SnehRana, Yastika Bhatia, and HarleenDeol appear in Grades B and C. Newer names like Uma Chetry, Kranti Gaud, and Kashvee Gautam have also received central contracts.

# J&K qualify for their maiden Ranji Trophy semifinal



**Indore, Feb 9 (IANS)** Jammu & Kashmir scripted history by reaching their maiden Ranji Trophy semifinal after beating 2021-22 winners Madhya Pradesh by 56 runs in the quarterfinal here at the Holkar Stadium on Monday.

J&K entered their first semifinal 67 years after they first featured in the Ranji Trophy and six years after they last made the knockouts.

AuqibNabi's outstanding match figures of 12 for 110 secured a historic win for J&K. Madhya Pradesh started Day 4 on 87/5, needing 204 runs to win, but lost VenkateshIyer early. Saransh Jain kept their hopes alive with a fighting 64, but Nabi had the final say, bowling one that came back in to beat the former's defence. At 211 for 9, the last-wicket pair of Aryan Pandey and KuldeepSen kept J&K at bay by adding 23 before Yudhvir Singh clean bowled Pandey to seal victory.

Earlier, J&K stormed back into the game after being bowled out for 194 thanks largely to Nabi's 7-40, pocketing a slender 42-run lead. Then MP fought back to leave J&K reeling at 73 for 5 in the second innings, before their lower order led a jailbreak courtesy of AbidMushtaq (41) and Vanshraj Sharma (54).

**Brief scores:** Jammu and Kashmir 194 (Khajuria 60, Sen 5-66, Kartikeya 3-26) and 248 (Vanshraj 54*, Mushtaq 41, Sen 4-65) beat Madhya Pradesh 152 (Dubey 58, Nabi 7-40, Sunil 3-47) and 234 (Saransh 64, Nabi 5-70, Mushtaq 3-49) by 56 runs

# T20 WC: Scotland beat debutants Italy by 73 runs in Group C game



**Kolkata, Feb 9 (IANS)** Scotland beat debutants Italy by 73 runs here at the Eden Gardens on Monday to open their account in Group C of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

Batting first, Scotland posted an imposing target of 208 runs, courtesy of George Munsey (84), Brandon McMullen (41) and Michael Leask's (22 not out) fiery knocks. In reply, Italy's chase never really got going, and they were bowled out for 134 in 16.4 overs.

Chasing 208, Italy got off to a disastrous start with Justin Mosca dismissed for a golden duck. His brother Anthony Mosca (13) and JJ Smuts (22 off 11) showed brief intent, with the latter striking at 200, but neither could convert their starts as wickets kept tumbling at regular intervals.

The resistance came through the Manenti brothers. Harry Manenti played a spirited knock of 37 off 25 balls, while Ben Manenti top-scored with 52 off 31, hitting five fours and a six to momentarily lift Italy's hopes. However, the lack of support from the other end ensured the required rate continued to spiral.

Earlier, Scotland produced a commanding batting display, posting 207/4. It was the first 200-plus total of the tournament and also marked the first time an associate nation has scored over 200 in a T20 World Cup.

**Brief Scores:** Scotland 207/4 (George Munsey 84, Brandon McMullen 41; Ali Hasan 1-21, JJ Smuts 1-38) beat Italy 134 in 16.4 overs (Ben Manenti 52, Harry Manenti 37; Michael Leask 4-17, Mark Watt 2-24) by 73 runs.

# Italy captain Wayne Madsen out of remainder of Scotland clash after shoulder dislocation



**Kolkata, Feb 9 (IANS)** Italy faced a major blow in their opening ICC Men's T20 World Cup game against Scotland when captain Wayne Madsen dislocated his left shoulder while trying to field in the seventh game of the tournament here at Eden Gardens. With Madsen forced off the field, Harry Manenti took over the captaincy duties for the remainder of Scotland's innings. The Richie Berrington-led side became the first associate nation to post a 200+ total in the T20 World Cup, finishing at 207/4 in 20 overs. Fielding at midwicket, Madsen injured himself while attempting to intercept a fierce pull shot from George Munsey. He launched into a dive to his left but landed awkwardly, immediately signalling for medical assistance. The veteran was soon escorted off the field, his left arm supported in a makeshift sling fashioned from a towel.

# T20 WC: Markram sets it up, Miller seals it as South Africa post 213/4

**Ahmedabad, Feb 9 (IANS)** A flourish at the end, a roar in the middle, and a statement throughout - South Africa stamped their authority with the bat to post a commanding 213/4 after being asked to bat against Canada in Group D in the ninth match of the T20 World Cup 2026, here at the NarendraModi Stadium.

Aiden Markram led with a stylish 59 off 32 balls, and David Miller finished strong with an unbeaten 39 off 23.

# Gambhir hosts dinner for Indian team at his residence ahead of the Namibia match



**New Delhi, Feb 8 (IANS)** Gautam Gambhir, head coach of the Indian men's team, hosted a dinner for the entire squad at his residence ahead of their second Group A match in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup in New Delhi on Sunday.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) vice-president Rajiv Shukla, too, was present at the dinner, according to reports.

Gambhir has organised a dinner for the entire team for the second time in his tenure as head coach. The earlier occasion was during the home Test series against the West Indies last October.

This seems like another team-building exercise by GautamGambhir. In Mumbai, Gambhir and many members of the Indian team visited the famous Siddhivinayak temple to offer prayers to Lord Ganesha.

# Jamshedpur FC tickets go fully digital

## Tickets start from Rs 50, sales begin February 10

Mail News Service




**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Jamshedpur FC on Monday officially launched digital-only ticket sales for the upcoming Indian Super League (ISL) 2025-26 season, with ticket prices starting at Rs 50 and bookings opening from 4 PM on February 10 through the District by Zomato app. The move marks a historic first in Indian football, as Jamshedpur FC becomes the first ISL club to adopt a completely digital ticketing system for all home matches. The ticket launch was formally announced by Jamshedpur FC Head Coach Owen Coyle, underlining the club's push towards innovation and fan convenience.

Fans wishing to attend matches can book tickets by downloading the District app by Zomato, navigating to the Events section, and searching for the desired Jamshedpur FC fixture. The event page provides complete information, including match details, FAQs, and terms and conditions. Supporters can view the full stadium layout of the JRD Tata Sports Complex, filter seating options based on price or hospitality preferences, select the number of seats, and proceed to checkout.

Once payment is completed, tickets are stored securely within the app under the user's profile. A QR code, which activates on matchday, allows direct entry into the stadium without the need for physical tickets. Tickets can also be transferred digitally to another contact through the app. Fans will receive booking confirmations and updates via email, WhatsApp, and SMS, ensuring clear communication and a hassle-free experience.

Speaking about the initiative, Jamshedpur FC CEO MukulChoudhari said the club has always prioritised its supporters. "This digital-only ticketing system through the District by Zomato app ensures a smoother, faster and more secure entry experience. It removes the hassles of physical tickets and allows fans to walk straight into the stadium.

With packed stands expected this season, the system will help create a seamless matchday experience and a stronger atmosphere at the Furnace," he said. Jamshedpur FC will play nine home matches during the ISL 2025-26 season. The home campaign begins on February 15 at 5 PM. Ticket prices have been kept affordable to ensure football remains accessible to fans from all sections of society. Prices are set at Rs 50 for the North and South Stands, Rs 150 for East Upper and West Upper, Rs 250 for East and West Lower, Rs 499 for VIP seating, and Rs 3,000 for hospitality tickets.

# HC relief to respondent in JNAC violation case

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9 :** In the much-discussed case relating to illegal constructions and deviation from sanctioned building plans within the jurisdiction of the Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC), the Jharkhand High Court has granted interim relief to one of the respondents.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice M.S. Sonak and Justice Rajesh Shankar ordered maintenance of status quo and stayed demolition proceedings against the building of respondent No. 13, Kahkasha Nahid.

The court fixed March 9 as the next date of hearing in the matter. During the proceedings, counsel for respondent No. 13 submitted that she had not been given an adequate opportunity to present her case before the High Court earlier. Referring to orders passed by the Supreme Court in similar matters, it was argued that the




apex court had directed maintenance of status quo for several respondents in cases involving alleged illegal constructions. On this basis, a stay on demolition was sought.

After hearing arguments from both sides, the High Court directed that no coercive action be taken against the construction of respondent No. 13 for the time being and ordered status quo until further hearing.

Appearing on behalf of the petitioner, Rakesh Kumar Jha, advocate Niranjan Kumar referred to the High Court's earlier orders dated January 14 and January 28, 2026, emphasizing that strict directions had already been issued for demolition of illegal structures and that these orders needed to be implemented effectively. The case stems from the High Court's January 14, 2026 order, passed on the basis of a report submitted by a three-member committee of advocates, directing JNAC to demolish illegal buildings. Subsequently, on January 28, the court dismissed applications filed by the respondents seeking relief. Both these orders were challenged before the Supreme Court by Rakesh Kumar Jha. Earlier, while hearing a public interest litigation filed by Jha, the High Court had directed JNAC to demolish illegal constructions of all 24 respondents. Applications seeking modification of the order and a stay on demolition were rejected, with the court observing that illegal constructions are unacceptable in any form-a view later endorsed by the Supreme Court. It is noteworthy that several respondents have already approached the Supreme Court and some have obtained interim relief. The final outcome of the matter is now subject to further hearings before the apex court. (W-pm)

# JNAC under fire as illegal construction resumes

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9 :** Jamshedpur's civic body, the Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC), has landed in the eye of a storm over unchecked illegal constructions mushrooming across the steel city, allegedly right under the nose of its officials.

A glaring example has surfaced from Mithila Colony in Baridih, where a building has been under illegal construction for several years in blatant violation of approved building norms.

According to local sources, the building has been sealed multiple times by JNAC, yet construction work mysteriously resumes after short intervals.

Most recently, work has once again restarted at the site, raising serious questions about enforcement and accountability.

Congress district vice-president Bablu Jha has taken the issue public by conducting a Facebook Live, drawing the attention of JNAC officials, the district administration, and even the Chief Minister. He questioned whose patronage has enabled the resumption of construction despite repeated sealing orders. The building is


File Pic

alleged to have been constructed in clear violation of the sanctioned plan. It reportedly lacks any parking provision, while a government electricity pole has been illegally brought within the building premises, further compounding the violations. Official records show that JNAC sealed the building on June 16, 2022, April 28, 2023, May 6, 2023, and again on January 24, 2024. However, each time, the seal was allegedly broken and construction activity resumed after a brief lull. With fresh work now underway yet again, questions are being raised over the effectiveness of JNAC's enforcement mechanism and the possible involvement of influential interests shielding the illegal construction. (W-pm)

## TMWU: March 3 event preparations reviewed

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** A meeting of union office-bearers was held at the Tata Motors Workers' Union office to review preparations for the upcoming March 3 Founder's Day programme.

The discussions focused on the unveiling of the statue of JN Tata and the proposed mega blood donation camp to be organised on the occasion.

After detailed deliberations, the preparations made so far were termed satisfactory. Efforts are underway to motivate city residents and company employees to participate in the blood donation drive by spreading awareness through various channels. The process of sending invitation letters to eminent personalities of the city will also commence shortly.

Union President Shashi Bhushan Prasad and General Secretary R.K. Singh issued necessary guidelines and directions to ensure smooth and successful arrangements for the event. Notably, this will be the first time that the statue of JN Tata is being unveiled within the union premises on March 3, prompting preparations to be carried out on a grand scale. ( W-pm)

# Administration on high alert as Prez Murmu to visit Jsr on Feb 26

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The steel city is gearing up for a high-profile visit as President Droupadi Murmu is scheduled to arrive on February 26. During her visit, she will lay the foundation stone and participate in the Bhumi Pujan (groundbreaking ceremony) of the proposed Mahaprabhu Jagannath Temple at Marine Drive in Kadma.

**Top Officials Inspect Site :** On Monday, Deputy Commissioner Ananya Mittal, SSP Kishore Kaushal, and local administrative heads, accompanied by senior officials, inspected the venue to review security and logistical



arrangements. The DC consulted with the temple organizing committee to finalize the event flow and issued strict directives to ensure a seamless ceremony.

**Land Allocation and Project Scope :** DC Mittal confirmed that the State Government has allocated the land for the temple project after acquiring it from the Tata Steel lease area. This prime location on Marine Drive will soon house the grand Mahaprabhu Jagannath Temple, marking a major cultural milestone for the city.

**A Frequent Guest :** This marks President Murmu's second visit to Jamshedpur in recent months, following her previous trip on December 29, 2025. Officials noted that the frequency of her visits underscores the city's growing importance on the national map.

**Security Blanket in Place :** Security remains the top priority for the administration. SSP Kaushal stated that a massive deployment of police personnel is underway. From the arrival route to the Marine Drive venue, every point will be under strict surveillance to provide a foolproof security cover for the President.

# Power disconnection drive launched in Jsr circle over dues

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** The electricity department has launched an aggressive power disconnection drive across the Jamshedpur Circle to recover mounting electricity bill arrears, signalling a tough stance against defaulters. Concerned over rising revenue losses, General Manager Ajit Kumar has issued strict directives to immediately disconnect power supply to all consumers with outstanding dues exceeding Rs 10,000.

According to the order, long-pending defaulters will no longer be served additional notices.

Special enforcement teams have been constituted and deployed across urban as well as rural areas to carry out door-to-door disconnections with immediate effect. Officials warned that once a connection is cut, restoration could prove costly and time-consuming, urging consumers to clear their dues without delay.

The drive is not limited to domestic users alone. Large commercial establishments and mobile tower operators have also come under scrutiny.

Within the Jamshedpur Circle, 81 telecom towers belonging to various companies collectively owe approximately Rs 4.33 crore in unpaid electricity bills. Department officials cautioned that failure to make prompt payments would result in power supply to these towers being disconnected, which could disrupt mobile and internet services across the region.

Among the divisions, Mango and Ghatshila have emerged as the most critical, accounting for the bulk of the outstanding amounts. In Mango division, 36 towers owe over Rs 2.22 crore, while Ghatshila division has dues of about Rs 2.03 crore from 27 towers. Adityapur and Jamshedpur divisions account for smaller but pending amounts as well.

The electricity department has appealed to all consumers to settle their dues immediately through the online portal or departmental counters to avoid inconvenience and service disruption. (w-nkm)

## Mobile thief nabbed at Tatanagar stn

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** In a significant success under Operation Passenger Safety, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of the Chakradharpur Division arrested a habitual mobile phone thief red-handed at Tatanagar Railway Station on February 9. Acting on the directions of the Senior Divisional Security Commissioner, RPF/Chakradharpur Division, a special flying squad carried out the operation and apprehended the accused, identified as Akibur Rahman Mandal alias Akir Ali Mandal, a resident of Bankura district in West Bengal. During the search, RPF personnel recovered a Poco mobile phone from his possession. On interrogation, the accused confessed that he had stolen the phone a few days earlier from an unsuspecting passenger while targeting a moving train near Tatanagar station.

# Speeding SUV crashes into auto at Burmamines

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** A major road tragedy was narrowly averted on Monday morning near the Linde Company in the Burmamines police station area after a high-speed Innova car slammed into an auto-rickshaw, causing it to overturn into a roadside drain.

The violent impact left the auto badly mangled and triggered panic in the vicinity. Eyewitnesses said the auto-rickshaw was carrying four passengers on a reserved trip from the railway station to Sakchi when the white Innova, allegedly driven at an excessive speed, rammed into it from the side. The sudden collision disrupted traffic and drew a crowd within minutes.



Local residents acted swiftly, pulling the auto driver out of the drain and ensuring the safety of the passengers. A crane was later pressed into service to retrieve the damaged vehicle from the drain. The auto driver suffered minor injuries, while all passengers escaped without serious harm. Police reached the spot soon after receiving information and brought the situation under control. The Innova driver was taken into custody for questioning. Preliminary findings indicate that overspeeding and rash driving led to the accident. Both vehicles have been seized as police continue further investigation. Alarmed by the frequency of accidents on this stretch of road, local representatives and residents have renewed demands for stricter enforcement of traffic rules and improved safety measures to prevent similar incidents in the future. ( W-pm)

# OBC forum protests arrest of Pappu Yadav

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Members of the Bharatiya OBC Vichar Manch staged a protest near the Deputy Commissioner's office in Jamshedpur on Monday, opposing the arrest of Congress leader and Purnea MP Pappu Yadav. Protesters raised slogans against the Bihar government, alleging that the arrest was a politically motivated conspiracy.

Addressing the gathering, leaders claimed that the ruling dispensation in Bihar was resorting to repressive actions to silence the opposition. "The arrest of Pappu Yadav is an attack on democratic values," they said, adding that the organisation would continue to oppose such actions. Protesters alleged that arresting an elected Member of Parliament late at night and sending him to jail was unjust and highly condemnable.




They further claimed that Pappu Yadav was raising his voice against the alleged rape and murder of a girl preparing for NEET in Patna and demanding strict punishment for the guilty. "There is apprehension that influential leaders and officials may be involved and the arrest is an attempt to suppress the truth and weaken his resolve," they said.

Among those present were Rakesh Sahu, Rajkumar Yadav, Jitendra Yadav, Vinod Yadav, Rajkumar Das, Ramesh Sharma, Ganesh Ram, Subhash Kumar, Kunal Yadav, Ranjit Kumar and Munna Yadav. (w-nkm)

## 111 JWU students land jobs with Yokohama Tyres



**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** Jamshedpur Women's University hosted a placement drive organized by ATC Tyres (Yokohama Tyres), offering significant career opportunities to students. A total of 246 students from BA, BSc, BCom, and postgraduate courses registered for the recruitment process. The drive began with a pre-placement talk by company representatives, who briefed students about the organization, job roles, and growth prospects. This was followed by a structured selection process, after which 121 candidates were shortlisted. In the final round, 111 students were selected for employment at the company's manufacturing plant in Bharuch, Gujarat. Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Anjila Gupta congratulated the selected students and appreciated the efforts of the Placement Cell. The entire programme was coordinated by Placement Cell Coordinator Dr.RatnaMitra along with her team. The event proved to be a valuable platform for students aspiring to build careers in the industrial sector. (W-mb)

# Jamshedpur police close in on Ludhiana mastermind in Kairav kidnapping case

**Mail News Service**

**Jamshedpur, Feb 9:** A specialized team of the Jamshedpur Police has landed in Ludhiana, Punjab, to track down gangster Tejinder Pal Singh, the alleged mastermind behind the high-profile abduction of Kairav Gandhi.

Police investigation revealed that the conspiracy to kidnap the son of prominent Circuit House industrialist Devang Gandhi was meticulously planned more than 1,300 kms away in the heart of Punjab.

"The matter is being thoroughly investigated, and the search for the remaining criminals is ongoing," stated Jamshedpur SSP Piyush Pandey, confirming the inter-state operation. "The other accused will be arrested soon."

Operating with the support of local Punjab authorities, Jamshedpur police officers have deployed a network of informants across Ludhiana to pinpoint Singh's location. Investigators are also verifying whether the gangster is in Indonesia-where he reportedly fled after the crime-or if he has secretly returned to his home turf. Officials indicated that if Singh is found in Ludhiana, an immediate raid will be conducted; if he is still abroad, police plan to intercept him the moment he touches down on Indian soil.

**An International Ransom Plot :** The abduction, which sent shockwaves through the steel city, occurred on January 13 on the Kadma Link Road. In a scene reminiscent of a crime thriller, a Scorpio intercepted Kairav's vehicle. Occupants posing as police officers forced



the young man into their SUV and fled. According to police, Tejinder Pal Singh fled to Indonesia with his close aide, Saad Alam, after the abduction. From there, he allegedly used international phone numbers to demand ransom from the Gandhi family. The pressure from law enforcement eventually became too much for the gang; on the night of January 26, the kidnappers abandoned Kairav on the Chauparan-Barhi stretch of Hazaribagh district, ending his 13-day ordeal.

**Seven Months of Planning :** The investigation uncovered that Singh had been orchestrating the crime for seven months. He reportedly recruited a local team through Saad Alam, who met with suspects Imran and Sabban Khan in Ludhiana to finalize the operation. In December, the gang conducted a detailed recce of the Gandhi family's movements.

To ensure the plan's success, Singh allegedly provided lead accomplice Guddu Singh with Rs 1.5 lakh in cash and a pre-activated mobile phone. On January 5, Guddu Singh used Rs 1 lakh of that seed money to procure the getaway Scorpio from Mohan Kumar in Patna.

**The "Gang of 13" and Current Arrests :** Police have identified 13 individuals involved in the transnational conspiracy, ranging from local henchmen in Bihar to the mastermind in Punjab. While seven suspects remain at large-including kingpin Tejinder Pal Singh, Saad Alam, and Sabban Khan-police have already successfully apprehended six key members: Guddu Singh, Upendra Singh (currently hospitalized with a leg injury), Rameez Raja, Imran, Mohan Kumar, Arjun Singh.

The search continues for the remaining fugitives, including Rupesh Kumar Paswan, Ankit Kumar, Uday Kumar, and Vicky Kumar. As the Jamshedpur team continues its hunt in Ludhiana, SSP Pandey remains confident that the entire network will be dismantled soon.