

MUSTREAD

Fifteen tribal language primers developed in Odisha after it faced extinction

**Bhubaneswar:** The Ministry of Education (MoE) through NCERT in collaboration with Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru and Central University of Odisha, Koraput have developed and launched a total number of 117 primers including 89 tribal language primers, Minister of State for Education, Jayant Chaudhary informed the Rajya Sabha in a written reply today. Of the 89 tribal language primers, 15 are from Odisha. There are primers in 15 languages of Odisha (Desia, Kuwi, Gadaba (Gutob), Juang, Kui, Kisan, Santhali (Odia), Savara (Sora), Gondi-Odia, Ho-Odia, Kania, Kandha (Khond), Malto, Munda, Parji (Duruua)). Besides, Joyful Mathematics of Class 1 and Class 2 have also been translated into Santhali and Bodo, the Minister said.

Two youths killed as speeding truck drags bike 200 mts in Chitrakoot; truck catches fire

**Chitrakoot:** In a tragic accident on the Jhansi-Mirzapur National Highway, a speeding truck rrammed into a motorcycle from behind near Chakmali village under the Karwi Kotwali area late Tuesday night around 10 PM. The truck dragged the bike for nearly 200 metres, leading to a fire that engulfed the vehicle. Both bike riders died on the spot, while the truck driver and cleaner fled the scene. The victims have been identified as 40-year-old Ram Sajeevan, a resident of Chanhath village under Mau police station (currently living near the RTO office in Karwi), and Lovekush, alias Monty, a resident of Kalupur. The two were reportedly headed towards Badi Pullia on their motorcycle when the high-speed truck hit them from behind near Karwi.

TN Fin Min meets Nirmala, seeks release of funds

**Chennai:** Tamil Nadu Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu and DMK Parliamentary Party Leader Kanimozhi met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi and requested her to immediately release funds due to the state. The meeting took place last evening. Official sources said during the meeting Mr Thangam Thennarasu handed over a letter written by Chief Minister M.K. Stalin to the Union Finance Minister, seeking approval for the release of Rs 4,500 crore under NABARD's Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for the financial year 2025-26.

Dharmasthala burial row: SIT grills informant

**Beltangady (Karnataka):** The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the Dharmasthala mass burial allegations today continued its interrogation of an anonymous complainant who had earlier claimed he buried hundreds of bodies in the village on others' instructions. The complainant had pointed out 17 alleged burial sites, but no major skeletal remains were recovered during excavations, raising doubts about his version. Bones found at one site, skeletal remains recovered in Banglegudde forest, and a skull produced by the complainant have been sent for forensic tests. Soil samples from the dug pits have also been forwarded to FSL to check for traces of decomposed human remains.

MBBS admission fraud detected at Tanda Medical College

**Dharamshala:** A case of alleged admission fraud has surfaced at Dr. Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College (RPGMC), Tanda, in Kangra district, where fake documents were reportedly used to secure an MBBS seat. According to principal Dr. Milap Sharma, the fraud came to light yesterday during the ongoing admission process, when the scrutiny committee found irregularities in the certificates submitted by a student named Rashi from Dhaniata, Hamirpur. The seat she claimed on merit number 108 had already been allotted by the university to another candidate, Ashlesh Sahni. On suspicion, the scrutiny committee comprising Dr. Rajesh Goyal, Dr. Praveen Kumar, Dr. Sonia Dhiman, Satya Bhushan, Dr. Kamal Singh, and Gurucharan Singh examined all her documents and found them to be forged.

'Alliance of lies will collapse': Akhilesh Yadav targets BJP, EC and DMs on poll irregularities

**Lucknow (UNI)**  
Samajwadi Party (SP) national president and MP Akhilesh Yadav once again targeted the BJP government and the Election Commission of India (ECI) over alleged irregularities in the electoral rolls during the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections.  
Akhilesh Yadav alleged that the collusion of the BJP government, the Election Commission and the local administration is the 'election trio', which has "spoiled the whole constitutional work and "looted the country's democracy". He warned that the public would now take this trio to court.  
Yadav questioned why district magistrates (DMs) were responding to the issue only now."This was an innocent question of the people to the DMs. Why has the answer come after so many years?" he asked.  
Akhilesh Yadav shared a post on his social media account today and



wrote "The DMs of Kasganj, Barabanki, Jaunpur have suddenly become very active regarding our 18000 affidavits. It has proved one thing that what the Election Commission was saying was that 'the matter of affidavit is wrong' means that if affidavits were not found, their statements turned out to be false."  
Akhilesh Yadav said that if no affidavit was found, then what are these district magistrates answering?  
Yadav demanded that the role of the district magistrates (DMs), who he alleged were "fulfilling formalities by giving superficial answers," should also be investigated.

Brutal murder in Sambhal: Man beaten to death, grandmother dies of shock

**Sambhal (UNI)**  
A shocking incident unfolded in the Junawai police station area of Sambhal on Tuesday, where a 22-year-old man was brutally beaten to death by a mob. The victim, Durgesh alias Yogesh, was attacked by a group of 20-22 men who chased him for nearly 15 kilometers before killing him with an iron rod.  
The assault took place just 400 meters from his village, after police allegedly abandoned the victim despite pleas for help.  
Yogesh, a resident of Nagla Ajmeri village, had gone to Babrala town in Gunnaur tehsil along with his brother Bhuvnesh and 10-12 laborers to lay a lintel at a construction site. A dispute broke out with the shuttering workers over a financial transaction, during which the tractor keys were taken. Though the homeowner intervened and resolved the matter,

Sundarbans set to become India's 2nd largest Tiger Reserve

**Kolkata:** The Sundarbans Tiger Reserve (STR) in South 24 Parganas, a UNESCO heritage site, is set to become India's second-largest tiger reserve after the Union government cleared a proposal by West Bengal to include three ranges in the state's southernmost district, official sources said.  
The South 24 Parganas, the state's biggest district with an area of 9960 km and home of the Sundarbans with the world's largest mangrove forest, is located in the delta where the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna rivers meet the Bay of Bengal. It spans across India and Bangladesh, also home of the Royal Bengal Tigers (RBTs). The latest tiger census said the Sundarbans has about 101 tigers, of them 80 inside the Sundarbans Tiger Reserve and 21 in the adjoining forests.

TMC leader slams Centre over PoJK, calls govt 'anti-people'

**Kolkata (UNI)**  
The Union government lacks the courage to reclaim Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir despite having the support of the Opposition parties and the entire nation, said Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee today.  
"The Union Government, despite having the support of the Opposition parties and the entire nation, still lacks the courage to reclaim PoJK. It beats its chest with hollow rhetoric, but when it comes to defending India's sovereignty, protecting our borders and acting firmly against our enemies, it shows no real resolve," Banerjee said on X.  
"Instead of fulfilling its constitutional responsibility, this government (Centre) is solely interested in amassing power, wealth and control with-

BJP finalises inquiry report into Surya Hansda encounter; Arjun Munda alleges conspiracy over minerals

**Ranchi (UNI)**  
The BJP's seven-member committee formed to examine the death of Surya Hansda in a police encounter in Godda on August 11 met at the party's state office today, and finalised its report. The report will be submitted to state party president Babul Marandi.  
Those present at the meeting included former Chief Minister Arjun Munda, former Leader of Opposition Amar Kumar Bauri, former MP Sunil Soren and party spokespersons Amit Mandal and Anita Soren.  
Arjun Munda, who led the team to Lalmatia earlier, said family members and local residents believed the encounter was staged.  
He alleged that Hansda's opposi-



tion to illegal mining had brought him into conflict with vested interests. He also pointed out that Hansda's name did not figure in the case in which the encounter was shown.  
He added that Hansda had been engaged in social work, particularly the education of poor children, and said the BJP would continue to pursue the matter and stand with the family. The party is expected to an-

The Samajwadi Party leader urged the court to take cognizance, saying "Either the Election Commission or the DM is wrong, isn't it? No one has the slightest faith in the explanation given by those who have been caught on CCTV."  
Akhilesh Yadav said that no matter how strong "the alliance of lies looks, ultimately it would collapse" because "the joint business of negative people is to fulfill their own selfish interests. Such corrupt people are neither loyal to their faith, nor to their family, nor to society. Then how will they be loyal to their partners?"  
He has said, "These dishonest people cheat the country and the countrymen throughout their lives and finally, when caught, they live a life full of humiliation".  
Meanwhile, the district magistrates of Jaunpur, Kasganj, and Barabanki rejected Yadav's allegations, responding to his August 17 post on X with clarifications.

Fire breaks out as tanker overturns on highway near Mathura, 2 injured

**Mathura:** A major fire broke out after a chemical-laden tanker overturned on the Jaipur-Bareilly Highway near Mathura, leaving 2 injured.  
The incident occurred around 4 am yesterday when the tanker suddenly overturned and one of its four tanks exploded, triggering a massive blaze. Flames rose up to 20 feet high, and thick plumes of smoke were visible from over a kilometer away.  
Eyewitnesses reported hearing a loud explosion before the fire engulfed the vehicle. Fortunately, the tanker driver managed to escape by jumping out in time and fleeing the scene. Local residents rushed to the spot after noticing the fire. Five fire tenders, along with emergency response teams from the nearby refinery, were deployed to the site. It took nearly four hours of intense firefighting to bring the situation under control.

Three MLAs to take oath as ministers



**BJP in the state.**  
Sources indicated that following the oath-taking ceremony, the three leaders will travel to New Delhi for consultations. While their portfolios will be announced later, speculation suggests that the expansion could also trigger a reshuffle of existing de-

BJD seeks Central Water Commission to issue stop work order to Centre, AP on Polavaram project

**Bhubaneswar (UNI)**  
Expressing deep concern over the submergence of large areas in Odisha's Malkangiri district due to the Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh and its adverse effect on livelihoods of thousands of tribal people, especially those from Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups, the Biju Janata Dal today submitted a memorandum to the Chairman Central Water Commission (CWC) at New Delhi seeking safeguarding of the larger interest of the would-be-affected people in the State.  
Seeking reassessing of the submergence levels and revision of the Polavaram project accordingly to prevent any adverse impact on Odisha, BJD called upon the CWC to issue a stop work order to the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Union Government until the de-

Struggle of Janmabhoomi movement to be inscribed in Ram temple

**Ayodhya (UNI)**  
Chairman of the Shri Ram Mandir Nirman Samiti Nripendra Mishra today said that the struggle saga of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple movement will be inscribed in the Ram temple.  
On the third day of the meeting of the Shri Ram Mandir Nirman Samiti in the Ram Katha Museum in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh, Mishra said that the name of any particular person will not be inscribed in it.  
Sharing detailed information to the journalists in the construction committee meeting, chairman of the building construction committee Nipendra Mishra, said that a review was done regarding the rampart and lower plinth.  
He said that all the points were discussed in detail on the stone mural of Ram Katha to be installed in the lower plinth. He said that the work of installing three lifts in the Ram temple will start from September 1, 2025, soon the lifts to be installed will reach the Ram temple, he said.  
The Chairman said that 45,000 cu-



bic feet of stone is yet to be installed in the rampart. He said that the work of installing stones in the rampart will also be completed in six weeks. The stone work to be installed in the lower plinth of Ram temple has reached Ayodhya.  
He said that the work of installing murals will also be completed by the last week of September or the first week of October.  
Mishra said that the place for building the memorial of the martyr in the Ram Mandir struggle in Ram Mandir was selected in yesterday's meeting. The memorial of the martyrs will be installed at the same place where the pioneer of Ram Mandir movement Ashok Singhal had called upon the nation to participate in the movement.

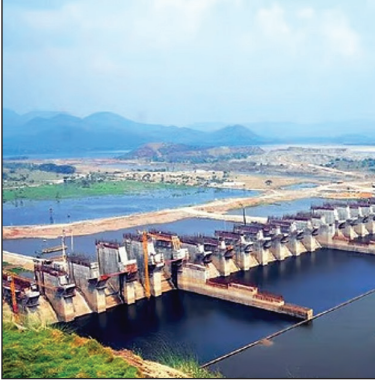
Digital Bharat Nidhi aims to spread broadband connectivity to all GPs, villages

**New Delhi (UNI)**  
Minister of State for Communications Pemasani Chandra Sekhar today informed about a set of projects under Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) aimed to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages in the country.  
The Minister informed Lok Sabha in a written reply: "As per RGI (Registrar General of India) data, out of the total 6,44,131 villages in the country, 6,26,055 are having internet facility (3G/4G) through mobile coverage network as on 30.06.2025."  
Highlighting the steps taken for village digitisation, he stated "BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) and villages in the country. A total of 13,01,193 no. of FTTH connections have been commissioned in the

country through BharatNet."  
"The Wi-Fi technology enabled FTTH connections are being used for accessing all type of online services such as e-education, e-health, e-governance, e-commerce etc including the usage by farmers in increasing their knowledge about agriculture and keeping themselves updated about new developments in agriculture," the Minister added.  
He also highlighted several other projects including 4G saturation projects, Border Out Posts (BoP) and Border Intelligence Posts (BiP) under the umbrella of Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN).  
The Minister informed that the Union Cabinet has approved the proposal of Department of Telecom (DoT) to proliferate Broadband through public Wi-Fi networks under the framework of Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PMWANI).

2.57 kg gold worth Rs 2.5 cr seized at Chennai Intl airport, five arrested

**Chennai:** In a major haul, Officials of the Customs Air Intelligence Unit (AIU) have seized 2.57 kg gold worth Rs 2.5 crore from two Sri Lankan passengers at the Anna International airport here and arrested a total of five people in this connection.  
Those arrested included two Sri Lankans and three Indians, including a receiver and a handler.  
A PIB release said based on the intelligence developed by AIU, surveillance was mounted on the Transit area of the airport by a covert ops team during the entire night of August 17 and 18.  
The surveillance team found two Sri Lankan passengers, who landed by an Indigo flight, to be suspicious based on their weird travel route of Dubai-Chennai-Singapore-Colombo with longer layovers at Chennai Airport.



mands of Odisha are addressed.  
Demanding initiation of a consultation process with all the concerned Chief Ministers through the CWC, BJD called for the prioritization of the safety and well-being of the trib-

Manipur Governor reviews development and security measures in Churachandpur

**Imphal (UNI)**  
The Governor of Manipur, Ajay Kumar Bhalla, visited Churachandpur district yesterday to review ongoing development initiatives and assess the prevailing security situation.  
The Governor's day-long tour began at the Pre-Fabricated Resettlement Camp in Torbung, where he interacted with IDPs, inaugurated a newly established Crèche Centre, and distributed relief materials to the displaced families. The Governor also felicitated two students who cleared the NEET-2025 examination, along with other meritorious students, and extended his best wishes for their future endeavours.  
Accompanied by the First Lady Governor, the visit marked a significant outreach to both civil society and

internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the district.  
Residents and student representatives submitted memoranda seeking construction of a multipurpose hall and stronger welfare measures for the displaced community. The Governor was received at the site by the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of Churachandpur, along with other senior civil and police officials.  
At the DC office, the Governor chaired interactive sessions with MLAs, civil society organisations, and student leaders. Delegates highlighted issues related to education, connectivity, and governance, and urged stronger intervention for the welfare of people and resettlement of IDPs. The Governor assured that their concerns would be addressed with sincerity.