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"For a stronger and more prosperous Gujarat, good governance is an essential foundation." - Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Gujarat

PM Modi Conferred Oman's Highest Civilian Honour, Joins Nelson Mandela and Queen Elizabeth II

(Gns). Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday was awarded The First Class of the Order of Oman, the highest civilian honour of the Gulf nation, marking his 29th international recognition. Prime Minister Narendra Modi received The First Class of the Order of Oman, the Gulf nation's highest civilian honor, on Thursday, marking his 29th international recognition, and he met with Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to discuss bilateral ties and welcome the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). With this, PM Modi joins a distinguished list of global leaders that includes Nelson Mandela and

Queen Elizabeth II. The Order of Oman has earlier been conferred on several internationally respected figures such as Queen Elizabeth II, Nelson Mandela, Queen Máxima of the Netherlands, Japan's Emperor Akihito and King Abdullah II of Jordan. PM Modi's inclusion places him among a select group of leaders recognised for their contributions to bilateral ties and global engagement. PM Modi arrived in Oman on Wednesday as the final stop of his three-nation tour. He was received by Sultan Haitham bin Tarik at the Al Baraka Palace in Muscat ahead of formal bilateral discussions. The visit underscored the growing political and economic engagement

between India and Oman. India and Oman Sign Free Trade Agreement During their meeting, PM Modi and Sultan

enhance economic growth and generate employment," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. "For people, CEPA means more jobs, better market access for businesses, stronger supply chains and greater economic opportunities on both sides," Jaiswal added. Wider Cooperation and Business Engagement According to the MEA spokesperson, the two leaders also "exchanged views on a wide range of topics, including defense and security, trade and

investment, energy and agriculture, technology and emerging and new fields, culture and people-to-people relations, and more." Regional and global issues were also part of the discussions, Jaiswal said in a post on X. Earlier in the day, PM

Modi addressed the India-Oman Business Forum, where he highlighted reforms introduced in India over the past 11 years that have strengthened its position as one of the world's most competitive markets, ANI reported.

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Haitham welcomed the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), describing it as a key step in deepening the India-Oman strategic partnership. "The agreement will increase the trade between India and Oman, boost investment, catalyse economic diversification, unlock opportunities in all major sectors of the economy,

Shivraj Chouhan Accuses Congress of Hypocrisy Over G RAM G, Says 'Ram on Lips, Dagger in Heart'

(Gns). Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Thursday launched a sharp attack on the Congress, accusing the opposition of undermining parliamentary traditions during the passage of the G RAM G Bill in the Lok Sabha. Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan criticized the Congress for undermining parliamentary traditions during the Lok Sabha passage of the G RAM G Bill, accusing them of transforming democracy into mob rule and betraying Mahatma Gandhi's ideals. Chouhan defended the new bill, citing extended employment guarantees and increased central gov-

ernment funding, while responding to concerns raised by Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. Reacting to the chaos that followed the bill's approval, Chouhan said the conduct of opposition MPs had damaged democratic norms and reduced Parliament to disorder. Referring to the scenes witnessed in the House after the Speaker cleared the bill through a voice vote, Chouhan said he was deeply disturbed by the manner in which the opposition protested. "I am distressed. My heart is heavy. Opposition has trans-

formed democracy into mob rule," he said while addressing reporters. Opposition MPs, who demanded that the G RAM G Bill be referred to a

the vote. "Parliament is not a building of bricks and mortar... but a temple of democracy. Meaningful discussions should take place. I listened carefully to what our opposition friends said (during the debate yesterday) and today, I was supposed to answer all the questions," Chouhan said. 'Betrayal of Bapu's Ideals' Condemning the protest, the minister said the actions of the opposition went against the very principles they claimed to uphold. "But the kind of undignified behaviour that was displayed... is a betrayal of Bapu's ideals," he remarked.



standing committee, entered the Well of the House holding photographs of Mahatma Gandhi. Some lawmakers also took copies of the bill after Speaker Om Birla rejected further debate and proceeded with

'Come to Kerala': Shashi Tharoor Takes Dig at Rajeev Shukla After Fog Halts Lucknow T20 Match

(Gns). A fog-hit international match in Lucknow has triggered a wider debate that now blends cricket administration, air quality concerns and political sparring. The India-South Africa T20I match in Lucknow was abandoned due to poor visibility caused by fog, prompting Congress MP Shashi Tharoor to suggest shifting winter matches to Kerala, citing better air quality compared to North India; this sparked debate on scheduling and political reactions including Rajeev Shukla's response. After the India-South Africa fourth T20I was abandoned due to poor visibility, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor used the moment to question winter scheduling choices and took a pointed dig at BCCI vice-

president Rajeev Shukla, suggesting that Kerala would be a better host during this season. Fog Forces Abandonment of Lucknow T20I The fourth T20I match of the five-game series between India and South Africa, scheduled at Lucknow's Ekana Cricket Stadium, was called off at around 9.30 pm after dense fog reduced visibility to unsafe levels. Players were unable to continue as conditions worsened, leaving thousands of spectators disappointed. Fans later voiced their frustration over the

cancellation, calling for better planning to avoid such disruptions. Tharoor Pushes for Winter Matches in Kerala Reacting to the washout, Shashi Tharoor took to X to

crossed 411, Kerala's capital reported a far lower AQI of 68. He argued that shifting winter fixtures to the south could help prevent weather-related interruptions and spare fans from repeated heartbreak. 'How Will They Play If They Cannot See the Ball?' Speaking to reporters outside Parliament, Tharoor expanded on his remarks. "How will they play if they cannot see the ball? That's why I am saying, this pollution problem is not there in South India. The ball can then be seen, we can play well and cricket fans won't be heartbroken," he said. His comments were widely shared, with many supporters echoing concerns over pollution and visibility issues in winter matches held in northern venues.



highlight the stark contrast in air quality between north and south India during winter. The Thiruvananthapuram MP pointed out that while the Air Quality Index in several north Indian cities had

Mamata slams BJP over MGNREGA name change row, rechristens Bengal job scheme after Mahatma Gandhi

(Gns). West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday strongly criticised the BJP-led Centre for renaming the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). In response, she has announced to rename the state's rural employment scheme after Mahatma Gandhi. Speaking at a business and industry conclave, Banerjee said the removal of Mahatma Gandhi's name from the national rural jobs programme was deeply dis-

treating and reflected a lack of respect for national icons. t Expressing anguish over the move, Banerjee said the decision to drop Gandhi's name filled her with "deep shame". She said, "The removal of Mahatma Gandhi's name fills me with deep shame. A Bill has been introduced that removes the name of Mahatma Gandhi from MGNREGA. Are we now forgetting even the

Father of the Nation?" Her remarks came



shortly after the Lok Sabha passed the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and

Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Bill, replacing the MGNREGA job scheme.

The Chief Minister has announced that the state's rural job guarantee programme, 'Karmashree', would now be renamed after Mahatma Gandhi. She said, "We have decided to rename our Karmashree scheme after Mahatma Gandhi. We seek nothing except respect. And if some do not know how to honour Mahatma Gandhi, we will demonstrate what true respect means."

Editorial

Conditional Peace

The latest round of diplomacy around Ukraine marks a subtle but consequential shift in how the war’s possible endgame is being framed. For the first time, the emphasis is less on victory or defeat and more on risk management: how to stop the fighting without freezing Ukraine into permanent vulnerability.

The offer of “Nato-like” security guarantees, even without formal alliance membership, reflects an acknowledgement that Ukraine’s core demand has always been deterrence, not symbolism. This matters because the failure of past ceasefires was not rooted in ambiguity but in imbalance. Ukraine disarmed itself of leverage while Russia retained both military pressure and strategic intent. Any pause in hostilities that does not decisively alter this equation would simply reset the clock for the next assault. Strong, treaty-backed guarantees ~ especially those ratified through domestic political processes in Western capitals ~ signal an attempt to correct that flaw.

Yet the diplomatic momentum also exposes a deeper unease: security is being discussed with unprecedented clarity, while sovereignty is being deferred. The question of territory, particularly in eastern Ukraine, is increasingly treated as a technical problem to be managed rather than a political reality to be resolved. Proposals for economic zones or special arrangements may sound pragmatic, but they risk institutionalising ambiguity where clarity is essential. A ceasefire that leaves control undefined may reduce violence in the short term, but normalises coercion as a tool of territorial revision. Ukraine’s apparent willingness to compromise on alliance aspirations should not be misread as surrender. It reflects a hard-earned understanding that security on paper is meaningless unless it is enforceable, and that guarantees matter more than labels.

But flexibility has limits. Asking Ukraine to accept territorial withdrawals or asymmetrical concessions without reciprocal steps from Russia undermines the logic of deterrence that guarantees are meant to create. For the United States and its partners, the challenge is credibility. Security promises that depend on political will alone are vulnerable to electoral cycles and shifting priorities. Embedding commitments in binding frameworks raises the cost of backtracking, but it also demands honesty about what guarantors are prepared to do if deterrence fails. Ambiguity may be useful in strategy, but it is dangerous in peace agreements.

Europe’s cautious optimism reflects both exhaustion and urgency. Another winter of war, marked by attacks on energy infrastructure and civilian life, sharpens the desire for a pause. But peace achieved by deferring the hardest questions is postponement. A settlement that secures borders only rhetorically while leaving them militarily exposed invites future escalation under worse conditions. The emerging talks suggest that an end to large-scale fighting is no longer unthinkable. That alone is significant. But the shape of that end matters as much as its timing. If security is strengthened while sovereignty is diluted, the war may stop without being resolved. The true test of the current diplomatic effort will be whether it can deliver both deterrence and dignity ~ or whether it settles for quiet over justice, stability over principle.

Choking Normality

Delhi’s annual descent into a grey, choking winter is no longer an environmental anomaly; it is a predictable civic failure.

Delhi’s annual descent into a grey, choking winter is no longer an environmental anomaly; it is a predictable civic failure. Each year, the city feigns reacting with urgency once the air turns visibly toxic ~ closing schools, halting construction, and restricting vehicles ~ yet the predictability of the crisis exposes the hollowness of these responses. When emergency measures become seasonal routine, they cease to be emergencies and start resembling an admission of defeat.

The most troubling aspect of Delhi’s pollution crisis is not the severity of the air, but the normalisation of it. Residents have learned to read air quality numbers like weather forecasts, adjusting daily life around danger rather than demanding its removal. Children attend school online not because of floods or earthquakes, but because the air outside is unsafe to breathe. Courts shift to virtual hearings, flights are delayed, and visibility collapses ~ yet the city continues to function as if this is merely an inconvenience, not a public health emergency unfolding in slow motion.

The science is well understood. Fine particulate matter penetrates deep into the lungs and bloodstream, increasing the risk of respiratory disease, heart conditions, and long-term cognitive harm. Hospitals report surges in respiratory illness, including among otherwise healthy adults. And yet, policy remains trapped in a cycle of attribution rather than accountability. Weather patterns, crop burning, and wind direction are cited as causes, but these explanations quietly absolve governance of responsibility. Climate and geography may shape the crisis, but they do not create it.

What Delhi faces is not underlying trajectory. Worse, they shift the burden onto citizens, asking them to stay indoors, wear masks, and adapt, while systemic reforms move at a glacial pace. Clean air becomes a personal coping exercise rather than a collective right.

If Delhi is to break this cycle, it must move from

just an air pollution problem but a coordination failure across states, sectors, and political timelines. Agricultural practices beyond city borders, unchecked vehicular growth, construction dust, industrial emissions, and poor urban planning all converge over the capital each winter. Addressing one source temporarily while ignoring others only guarantees relapse. The result is a fragmented approach where no single authority bears full responsibility, and therefore none delivers lasting solutions. Emergency restrictions, though necessary in moments of crisis, are ultimately palliative. They protect the vulnerable briefly but do little to alter the

crisis management to prevention. This requires year-round enforcement of emissions standards, credible incentives for cleaner farming practices, sustained investment in public transport, and regional coordination that survives election cycles. Most importantly, it demands political honesty: acknowledging that air pollution is not a seasonal inconvenience but a chronic public health threat. Until then, each winter will arrive with the same warnings, the same restrictions, and the same exhausted hope that next year might be different. Delhi is not running out of data or expertise. While the city prides itself on being the beating heart of a proud nation, its lungs tell a different story.

VGRC's, District-Level Programme Organised in Morbi Under the Chairmanship of In-charge Minister Shri Trikam Chhanga

New Capital Investment of Rs. 2,470 Crore to Accelerate Morbi's Development
Out of 50 MoUs, five industrialists signed MoUs symbolically on the spot
Vibrant Gujarat Summit Attracts Global Industrialists to the State
Morbi's Development Driven by Entrepreneurial Spirit, Dedicated Workforce, and Progressive Industrial Policy : In -Charge Minister Shri Trikam Chhanga
Minister of State for Energy and Petrochemicals Shri Kaushik Vekariya Graces the event
Morbi, 18 December 2025 :A district-level Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference was held at Keshav Banquet Hall, Morbi, under the chairmanship of In-Charge Minister Shri Trikam Chhanga. During this Conference, MoUs worth Rs. 2,470 crore were signed between the District Industries Centre and 50 companies, of which five industrialists signed MoUs symbolically on the spot. The Vibrant Summit organised in Gujarat has emerged as a model and subject of study for several states across the country. By organising Vibrant Conferences at the district and regional levels throughout Gujarat, the state government is providing fresh momentum to local industries while simultaneously creating enhanced employment opportunities at the grassroots level.

District In-Charge Minister and Minister of State for Higher and Technical Education Shri Trikam Chhanga commended the visionary concept of Vibrant Gujarat initiated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He stated that initiatives such as Vibrant Gujarat have successfully attracted industrialists from across the world to Gujarat. As investments are being realised through concrete implementation

rather than remaining confined to documentation, Gujarat has emerged as a leading state in industrial growth and employment generation. He added that the state government has systematically removed obstacles to industrial growth and positioned industries as active partners in the development process. Guided by the Prime Minister's vision, Gujarat is pursuing industrial advancement while ensuring environmental conservation. Praising the enthusiasm of Morbi's industrialists, he emphasised that such commitment is vital to realising the vision of Viksit Bharat. He informed that over the last two years, the government has provided assistance of more than Rs. 460 crore to over 1,200 industries in Morbi for the development of various sectors. He also noted that, in addition to the clock and ceramic industries, Morbi is rapidly establishing a strong presence in the toy manufacturing sector. Due to the highly enterprising industrialists and hardworking labourers, Morbi's development has gained global recognition. On this occasion, it was stated that the administration and the government are fully committed to resolving the issues faced by industrialists.

Minister for State for Energy and Petrochemicals Shri Kaushik Vekariya stated that the Vibrant Summit initiated in Gujarat under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri

Narendra Modi is being effectively carried forward by Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel. He emphasised that this initiative not only benefits

Morbi holds a special place in the industrial sector, and efforts are underway to attract more investment to the district. The government is ready to provide

ence held in Morbi and added that Morbi's industrial sector has gained international recognition. The development of Morbi has been supported by industri-

In this event, 50 MoUs worth ₹2,470 crore were signed. Out of these, five symbolic MoUs totaling ₹1,024 crore were executed on-site. The five MoUs signed at the venue included a cement project with an investment of ₹500 crore, a renewable energy project worth ₹400 crore, and a fiber sector project with an investment of ₹100 crore.

President and industrialist Shri Jayanti Patel delivered the keynote address.

Additional Industries Commissioner (Extension) Shri R.N.Dodiya, delivered a speech and presentation, offering a detailed overview of investment opportunities in Morbi district and the Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference to be held in Rajkot, and guided industrialists to take maximum advantage of it.

On this occasion, financial assistance was distributed to beneficiary industrialists by In-Charge Minister Shri Trikam Chhanga and other dignitaries. At the beginning of the programme, the dignitaries inaugurated the Local for Vocal exhibition and interacted with stall holders. A total of 18 stalls were set up, including ceramic paper cups and plates, fashion designing, electrical parts, and more. In the second session, a seminar by experts was held on GST, GEM, incentives, and labour laws. On this occasion, the attendees watched a video clip on Vibrant Gujarat.

The event was attended by MLA Shri Durlabhji Dethariya and MLA Prakash Varmora, Collector Shri K.B. Jhaveri, District Development Officer Shri Shailesh Chandra Bhatt, Municipal Commissioner Shri Swapnil Khare, General Manager of the District Industries Center Shri S.B. Parejiya, former Minister Shri Brijeshbhai Merja, prominent leaders, entrepreneurs, and representatives of industrial houses.

the necessary facilities to industries. He extended best wishes for greater global recognition of Morbi's industries.

District Collector Shri K. B. Jhaveri, while welcoming the dignitaries and industrialists, said that Morbi's industrialists are full of enterprise. Nearly 3,000 factories provide employment to many people. Morbi has the potential to lead the entire state of Gujarat in the Vibrant Summit. He assured full administrative cooperation to ensure further growth of industries such as ceramics, coal, paper mills, clocks, salt, and others in Morbi. Thousands of labourers are earning their livelihoods in Morbi district. The Collector appealed to industrialists to use quality materials in machine maintenance to prevent industrial accidents.

Chamber of Commerce President Shri Jayanti Patel welcomed the conference

ists, labourers, the state government, local office-bearers, and the administrative machinery. He further added that this Vibrant Conference provides industrialists with an opportunity to present their issues along with signing MoUs.

MLA Shri Prakash Varmora, in his keynote address, shared his views on Vibrant Gujarat and stated that Gujarat is continuously progressing due to the government's industrial policy and development vision. He said that guided by the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the standard of living has improved in the state and the country. He emphasised the importance of positivity, creativity, and an active lifestyle. Additionally, he called upon the industrialists to enhance their skills, knowledge, and education.

On this occasion, Chamber of Commerce

NCPA in collaboration with Citibank announces Scholarship for Young Musicians (Hindustani Music) 2026-28.

Lucknow, 19 December 2025 – The National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), Mumbai, has invited applications for the NCPA City Scholarships for Young Musicians 2026–28. This initiative is dedicated to fostering emerging talent in Hindustani music. The program will support advanced training in vocal traditions such as Khayal and Dhrupad, as well as in the flute, harmonium, violin, sitar, sarod, and several other instruments. Selected scholars will receive a scholarship of ₹10,000 per month for a period of two years, from April 2026 to March 2028.

Emerging musicians are invited to submit their resumes, detailing their musical education, by email to indianmusicscholarships@ncpamumbai.com by December 20, 2025. Applications must clearly indicate the category for which the candidate is applying—whether it is Khayal, Dhrupad, or a specific instrument. Applications sent by physical or courier will not be accepted. Selected candidates will be contacted and invited to auditions, which will be conducted in February 2026 based on video recordings.

The resume should include complete information, including the applicant's name, date of birth, residential address, contact number, email address, and professional qualifications. It should also include a detailed account of the candidate's musical training—names of gurus or

teachers, total years of study, achievements, awards, previous scholarships, performance experience, and other important details related to their artistic journey.

Applicants are requested not to send scanned documents or audio/video files at this stage; a well-organized resume in the format listed will suffice.

Candidates selected for the next stage will be informed via email or phone.

For any clarification regarding the application process, candidates can call 9082620065 between 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Friday.

To be eligible, applicants for Khayal and Melody instruments must

“My biggest fear is that the world will find out I can’t even boil water,” says Isha Malviya from COLORS’ ‘Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment’

After bringing her 'Ek Number' energy to the initial episodes, Isha Malviya has emerged as one of Team Chhuri's most charming showstopper on COLORS' 'Laughter Chefs Unlimited Entertainment S3'. While the kitchen thrives on chaos with partners plotting mid-task pranks, ingredients vanishing right when things get serious, and last-second rescues becoming a routine, Isha has carved out a space that feels undeniably hers. Whether she's matching Elvish Yadav's cooking game or grounding the team with her intuitive reactions, Isha's natural ease in the middle of LC's signature mayhem has already made her an instant favourite.

1. This season comes with the full Kaanta-Chhuri takkar, and it's your first time stepping into the Laughter Chefs kitchen. How has it been so far?

A. Walking into this kitchen felt like being dropped into the middle of a very lively group project where everyone already

knows the shortcuts. The minute action is called, you can see both teams switch focus. Team Kaanta tries to pick up speed, Team Chhuri tries to stay one step ahead, and in between all this, someone is already planning how to distract the other side. I didn't expect the competition to be so heated and fierce; one has to keep an eye on one's dish and on what the opposite counter is up to. What I enjoy is that there's always some banter, some challenge, some moment that makes you forget you're new to this. I feel very welcomed and included.

2. You are paired with Elvish this season, and he is last year's winner. How is that partnership going and does it ever make you feel a little extra pressure in the kitchen?

A. Cooking with Elvish is honestly this strange

blend of comfort and chaos. He walks into the kitchen with this quiet confidence, like he already has the whole dish visualised in his head. I, on the other hand, walk in trying to decode what the plan actually is. I won't pretend there isn't pressure. He's a former winner - people expect things from him, and somewhere you don't want to be the reason the momentum breaks. But Elvish has never made me feel like I'm catching up to him. He's patient in a way most people don't get to see. Over time, we've found this rhythm where he kind of leads the dish, and I support the flow instead of tripping it. Our partnership shows in the outcome of each cooking battle.

3. You, Abhishek and Samarth are sharing the same kitchen this season despite everything that has happened earlier. How is

the vibe now when all of you are working together?

A. Honestly, it's absolutely normal now. I'm not someone who avoids situations, and moving on professionally was something that had already begun for me when I did Pati Patni Aur Panga with Abhishek. So, by the time Laughter Chefs came around, it wasn't something new or uncomfortable for any of us. At the end of the day, we're artists - whatever feelings existed earlier, you learn to put them behind you and focus on the work. My responsibility to entertain people is far bigger than anything that's happened in my past. I knew the three of us would be sharing the same space, and I was completely okay with that. And once you actually step into this kitchen, there's no time to dwell on anything outside the moment. The pace and the energy don't allow it. You find yourself helping one another, laughing at small things, and just doing

what needs to be done. Maybe that's why the show has climbed to No.1 non-fiction show right now, because even in the chaos, all we care about is giving our best.

4. Where do you stand with cooking right now? Still confused, or are you finding your own rhythm in the kitchen?

A. If I'm being honest, I'm still very much figuring things out as I go. My contribution to the kitchen was making tea and even that had people at home saying it's better if I don't make it, so stepping into a full cooking setup felt like entering another world. My biggest fear is that the world will find out I can't even boil water. I think in the LC kitchen, everything moves so quickly that you don't get time to overthink; you just pick up a knife and hope you're holding it the right way. Some days I surprise myself by chopping properly, and some days I look at the stove like it's challenging me back.

ENERGY CONSERVATION WEEK 2025 CELEBRATED OVER WEST

Mumbai, ERN RAILWAY

Railways' is taking significant steps to promote sustainability across its network reinforcing its commitment to energy conservation and environmental responsibility in today's rapidly evolving world. Continuing with this trend, Western Railway observed Energy Conservation Week from 08th to 14th December 2025 on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day, which is celebrated every year on 14th December, with the aim of creating awareness about energy conservation and highlighting the initiatives undertaken by Western Railway.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, throughout the week-long observance, a variety of energy conservation awareness programs were conducted across all six Divisions, five Workshops and in the Western Railway Headquarters. These initiatives included seminars, distribution of pamphlets, public announcements at railway stations, SMS

alerts, display of banners etc. Participative activities such as essay writing and

the significant role played by Indian Railways and Western Railway in promot-



Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta - General Manager of Western Railway is seen along with Shri Pradeep Kumar - Additional General Manager and Shri Rajnish Kumar Goyal - Principal Chief Electrical Engineer.

painting competitions were also part of the celebration with the objective of sensitizing railway staff as well as the public about the importance of energy conservation.

As part of the Energy Conservation Week 2025 celebrations, a seminar was organized, which was chaired by Shri Vivek Kumar Gupta, General Manager of Western Railway and was attended by the Additional General Manager, Principal Heads of Departments, Divisional Railway Managers, Senior Officers and staff members. This seminar highlighted

ing sustainable energy usage and supporting national and global climate goals.

Shri Vineet further added that, in recognition of meritorious work in the field of Energy Conservation for the year 2024-2025, fifteen railway officials were felicitated with Merit Certificates and Cash Awards for their outstanding contributions towards enhancing energy efficiency and implementing innovative energy-saving measures on Western Railway.

In his concluding address, Shri Gupta,

General Manager, appreciated the sustained and dedicated efforts of the Electrical Department in planning, implementing and monitoring various energy conservation initiatives across Western Railway. He appreciated the department's proactive approach in adopting innovative technologies and in spreading awareness among the staff and stakeholders.

The General Manager also offered valuable guidance and suggestions to further sustain and strengthen energy conservation measures in the future. He emphasized the importance of continuous monitoring, adoption of newer energy-efficient technologies, increased use of renewable energy, and collective participation of all departments. He urged officers and staff to incorporate energy conservation into routine working practices to achieve long-term environmental as well as financial benefits.

Western Railway continues to remain committed to strengthening its energy conservation initiatives and fostering a culture of sustainability at all levels of the organization.

Fire department team did mock drill in KM hospital



The fire department team is accompanied by the general manager and staff of the hospital during the mock drill.

Suggested fire prevention methods to doctors and hospital staff

Mathura. Mock drill was conducted today regarding fire prevention in KM Hospital. The fire department team suggested methods of rescue to the doctors and hospital staff in case of fire. Information about how to use fire fighting equipment in case of fire was also given by the

Assistant Fire Officer. During this, the General Manager of the hospital was also shown how to operate the fire extinguisher.

Under the direction of District Fire Officer, Jasram of Fire Safety Department, FM Yogesh Yadav, Vivek Saraswat reached KM Hospital today. Here the functionality of fire fighting equipment was tested. The fire fighting system was

checked by removing water at each point. Fire department officer gave training on how to extinguish fire with fire system by burning cardboard. Method of using fire extinguisher was also explained. During this period, General Manager of the hospital Swati Sharma, Ashish Sharma, Nursing Incharge Pawan Bansal, Vishnu Sharma, Gajendra Singh, Ghanshyam etc. were mainly present. Apart

from this, the fire fighting team inspected the fire fighting system installed in the hospital and informed the employees of every department about fire prevention. KM University Chancellor Kishan Chaudhary said that the mock drill is meant to prevent incidents like arson, the employees have received mock drill training

India's Atmanirbharta in Defence Emerges as a Measurable and Credible Reality: Shripad Naik

Structural reforms, record defence production and exports mark India's transformation from importer to global defence manufacturer

(Gns). Union Minister of State for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, while addressing a press conference in New Delhi today said that India's journey towards Atmanirbharta in defence has been decisively shaped by the visionary and resolute leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, whose clear articulation that national security, economic strength and technological sovereignty are deeply interconnected has transformed defence manufacturing from a strategic necessity into a national mission.

The Minister said that the country has moved with confidence from being a major importer of defence equipment to a nation that designs, develops, manufactures and increasingly exports advanced defence systems, firmly positioning defence self-reliance as a cornerstone of India's rise as a strong, secure and self-assured global power.

He added that the defence sector has undergone a structural transformation from import dependence to indigenous capability, anchored in the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India – Make for

the World. In recognition of the momentum achieved, 2025 has been declared the 'Year of Reforms' in the Ministry of Defence, marking accelerated progress in defence indigenisation alongside enhanced operational preparedness of the Armed Forces.

Shri Naik noted that defence production reached an all-time high of ₹1.54 lakh crore in FY 2024-25, rising from ₹46,429 crore in 2014-15, demonstrating the scale, depth and maturity of India's indigenous defence manufacturing base. Defence exports surged to a record ₹23,622 crore in FY 2024-25, compared to less than ₹1,000 crore in 2014, underscoring India's emergence as a credible and competitive global defence supplier. India has supplied a wide spectrum of defence products—including ammunition, arms, sub-systems, complete systems and critical components—to around 80 countries, reaffirming its role as a reliable partner in the global defence supply chain.

He further said that the private sector's contribution has risen to nearly 23% of total defence production, reflecting growing competitiveness, innovation and confidence of Indian industry, while Defence Public Sector Undertakings continue to play a critical role, accounting for about 77%

of total defence production within a more accountable and performance-oriented framework. Five Positive Indigenisation Lists, covering over 5,500 items, have



been notified, with more than 3,000 items already indigenised, decisively reducing import dependence and strengthening domestic capability.

The Minister observed that indigenous platforms such as LCA Tejas, LCH Prachand, ATAGS, Akash missile systems, radars, corvettes, armoured vehicles and drones are significantly enhancing the operational readiness and combat capability of the Armed Forces. Operation Sindoor, executed on the strength of indigenous equipment and systems, marked a milestone in India's journey towards technological self-reliance in drone warfare, layered air defence and electronic warfare, clearly demonstrating the operational relevance of Atmanirbharta.

Shri Naik said that Mission Sudarshan Chakra,

announced by Prime Minister Modi from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Independence Day 2025, aims at neutralising enemy defence infiltrations and strengthening India's offensive and protective capabilities. Inspired by the legendary Sudarshan Chakra of Shri Krishna, the mission symbolises speed, precision and decisive power, underscoring India's commitment to strategic autonomy and rapid, effective response. Under this mission, an expanded nationwide security shield is envisaged, with enhanced protection of public spaces and critical areas by 2035, reflecting a long-term, self-reliant approach to national security.

He informed that defence Industrial Corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have together attracted investments of over ₹9,145 crore, with 289 MoUs signed, unlocking ₹66,423 crore in potential opportunities. The Defence Procurement Manual 2025, launched in October 2025, simplifies revenue procurement of goods and services worth nearly ₹1 lakh crore, enhancing transparency, uniformity and participation of domestic industry. A comprehensive review of the Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 has also been initiated to align procurement with national priorities, promote indigenous design and facilitate technology infusion.

“Jahannum Mein Jaye”: Giriraj Singh on Girl Refusing to Take Job After Nitish Kumar Hijab Row

(Gns). Union Minister Giriraj Singh has stepped firmly into the political storm surrounding Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar after a controversy erupted over an incident involving a veiled woman doctor at a government event.

Union Minister Giriraj Singh defended Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's actions regarding his interaction with a veiled woman doctor at a government event, sparking controversy, while opposition leaders like Iltija Mufti condemned Singh's remarks, and the incident involved appointment letters for over 1,200 AYUSH doctors.

Singh not only defended Kumar's actions but also sparked fresh outrage with his sharp remarks aimed at the woman who reportedly

refused to accept her appointment letter.

The controversy has intensified political sparring between the ruling alliance and the Opposition, while

Minister had done nothing inappropriate. Drawing parallels with routine identity checks, Singh said face verification is a basic requirement in many official



drawing strong reactions from leaders across party lines and civil society.

Giriraj Singh Backs Nitish Kumar, Sparks Outrage

Speaking to reporters, Giriraj Singh reiterated his support for Nitish Kumar, asserting that the Chief

processes.

"Nitish Kumar has done nothing wrong," Singh said.

"If anyone goes to take an appointment letter, should they not show their face? Is this an Islamic nation? Nitish ji was acting as a guardian. If you go to take your passport, or go to

the airport, do you not show your face? You talk about Pakistan and 'Englishtan'. This is India and only Indian laws will work here. Nitish Kumar did nothing wrong," he told journalists.

When asked about reports that the woman doctor refused to take the job following the incident, Singh responded bluntly, "Woh refuse kare yaah jahannum mein jaye (She can refuse or go to hell)," before walking away.

Opposition and Public Figures React Sharply

Singh's remarks triggered immediate backlash, particularly from Opposition leaders and activists. PDP leader Iltija Mufti, daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, condemned the comments in a strongly worded post on X.

India and Oman sign Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

(Gns).

India and Oman have taken a significant step in building a stronger economic partnership with the signing of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement today under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef signed the agreement.

This Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) marks an important milestone in India's engagement with the Gulf region and reflects the shared commitment to deepen bilateral economic

integration. Oman is an important strategic partner in the region and is a key gateway for Indian goods and services to the wider Middle East and Africa. Nearly 7 lakh Indian nationals reside in Oman, including Indian merchant families with a presence of over 200-300 years, contributing significantly to Oman's economy and society. Indian enterprises have built a strong presence in Oman, with over 6,000 Indian establishments operating across sectors. Annual remittances of around USD 2 billion further reflect the depth of economic engagement. Bilateral trade between India and Oman stands at

over USD 10 billion, with strong potential for expansion under the CEPA framework.



This is the 2nd Free Trade Agreement signed in the last 6 months after United Kingdom and is a part of strategy to sign trade agreements with

developed economies that are not competing with our labour-intensive interests and provide opportunities for Indian businesses.

The CEPA secures unprecedented tariff concessions for India from Oman. Oman has offered zero-duty access on 98.08% of its tariff lines, covering 99.38% of India's exports to Oman. All major labour-intensive sectors including Gems & Jewellery, Textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural products, engineering products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and Automobiles receive full tariff elimination. Out of the above, immediate tariff elimination is being offered on 97.96% Tariff Lines.

Journalists mobilized over the indecent remarks made by narrator Anirudracharya towards the media, submitted a memorandum to the District Magistrate.

Mathura. Recently, there is deep anger in the journalist community over the indecent, derogatory and indecent remarks made by the narrator Aniruddhacharya towards the media and journalists while narrating the story from the public platform. The narrator addressing the media with words like "Manthara" and "Dhritarashtra" is a grave insult to the entire media world, which cannot be accepted in any form.

In this regard, on Thursday morning, under the joint aegis of Uttar Pradesh Shramjeevi Journalist Union and Vrindavan Media Club, hundreds of journalists of the district took out a procession at the District Magistrate's office carrying placards in their hands with enthusiastic slogans of "Anirudracharya Murdabad", "Journalist Unity Zindabad" along with narrator Anirudracharya KWhile raising slogans against, a letter has been sent to the Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh Government

through the District Magistrate, Mathura, informing them about the whole matter and demanding appropriate and strict action against the culprit, so that such indecent statements are not repeated in future. In this regard, District President of Uttar Pradesh Shramjeevi Journalist Union, Narendra



Bhardwaj said that media is the fourth pillar of democracy and this kind of comment on its role is not only against decorum, but is also an insult to democratic values. He said that if Anirudracharya did not apologize, there would be agitation in the entire state. Vrindavan Media Club President Premendra Asthana said that Anirudracharya's absurd statement has hurt the sentiments of journalists which is unbearable.

Journalist society has made it clear that there will

be no compromise on the dignity and respect of journalism and the administration is expected to take the matter seriously and take necessary action soon. District Magistrate



Chandraprakash Singh said that freedom of expression does not allow anyone to indulge in obscenity. He said that considering the memorandum sympathetically, further strict action will be taken. Prominent among those who gave memorandum were journalists Narendra Bhardwaj, Pawan Navratna, Ajay Sharma, Kishan Chaturvedi, Vineet Mishra, Dr. Vijay Vidyarthi, Dilip Chaturvedi, Nitin Gautam, Omar Qureshi, Anupam Acharya, Manmohan Pareek,

Madhusudan Sharma, Pawan Gautam, Premendra Asthana, Mohanshyam Sharma, Vipin Parashar, Manmohan Gaur, ParvezAhmed, Yogesh Bhardwaj, Ravi Chaudhary, Mohanshyam Rawat, Suresh Saini, Matul Sharma, Ravi Yadav, Satish Anshuman, Shivangi Chaudhary, Meera Sharma, Girish Kumar, Pravesh Chaturvedi, Dinesh Acharya, Ramesh Chand, Lokesh Chaudhary, Prakash Saini, Chandramohan Dixit, Rahish Qureshi, Gajendra Chaudhary, Vipin Saraswat, Girdhar Chaudhary, Mahesh Kumar, SubhashHundreds of journalists like Saini, RK Dhargar, Neeraj Chaturvedi, Ashfaq Chaudhary, Kanhaiya Saini, Giani Pandit, Gopal Chaturvedi, Deepak Saraswat, BL Pandey, Gaurav Sharma, Mohan Meena, Sumit Goswami, Gaurav Sharma, Abid, Shyam Sharma, Nirmal Rajput, Prateek Chaturvedi, Mantraveer Chaudhary etc. were present.

VP Radhakrishnan calls Christmas celebration of peace, compassion

(Gns). Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan on Thursday participated in a Christmas celebration organised by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) in New Delhi and extended warm greetings and best wishes to the Christian community ahead of the festival.

Speaking on the occasion, Radhakrishnan said Christmas is a celebration of universal values such as peace, compassion, humility and service to humanity.

He noted that the message of love, harmony and moral courage taught by Lord Jesus Christ has timeless relevance and resonates deeply with India's own spiritual traditions that emphasise coexistence, compassion and respect for human dignity.

Recalling the long presence of Christianity in India, the

Vice-President highlighted the quiet yet significant contribution of the Christian community to India's social, cultural and developmental journey. He lauded the community's sustained work in education, healthcare, social reform and human development, which has reached even the remotest parts of the country, and



described it as an integral part of nation-building.

Referring to his personal experience, Radhakrishnan said during his tenure as governor of Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and other states, he had the opportunity to interact closely with several Christian organisations. He also recalled celebrating Christmas every year at a church in Coimbatore during his tenure as a Member of Parliament and the spirit of mutual understanding he shared there.

Maha Sports Minister Kokate resigns as Bombay HC set to hear plea to stay conviction today

(Gns). Maharashtra Sports Minister Manikrao Kokate, who has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment in a 1995 forgery and cheating case, resigned from his post on Thursday. Kokate has also sought a stay on his conviction to continue serving as an elected representative, and the Bombay High Court has agreed to hear his plea on Friday, December 19. The Representation of the People Act, 1951, mandates the disqualification of elected representatives sentenced to imprisonment for two years or more in a criminal case. After accepting Kokate's resignation on Thursday, NCP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar tweeted from his X account, "Maharashtra cabinet minis-



ter and my party colleague Manikrao Kokate submitted his resignation to me after the court's decision. In keeping with our party's long-standing philosophy that the rule of law is supreme and above all individuals, the resignation has been accepted in principle." "I have forwarded Shri Kokate's resignation to the Hon'ble CM for due consideration and acceptance, in accordance with constitutional procedure. Our party has always believed that public life must be guided by constitutional morality, institutional integrity, and respect for the judiciary. We stand firmly by the rule of law and will continue to act in a manner that upholds democratic values and public trust." The development came after Kokate was stripped of his portfolios on Wednesday, after which Maharashtra Governor Acharya Devvrat re-assigned these to Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar. In a letter addressed to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Governor Devvrat said, "I have received your letter dated December 17, 2025, recommending that the portfolio of Sports and Youth Welfare, Minority Development and Aukaf held by Adv Manikrao Saraswati Shivaji Kokate be allocated to Shri Ajit Ashatai Anantrao Pawar,

Deputy Chief Minister (Finance and Planning, State Excise. I hereby convey my approval to your abovementioned recommendation." Earlier, the Nashik Sessions Court upheld Kokate's two-year sentence in a 1995 fraud and forgery case, as well as issued an arrest warrant against him. Manikrao Kokate is currently undergoing treatment at Lilavati Hospital in Mumbai. It is not immediately known whether Kokate will be arrested from Lilavati Hospital itself. Nashik Police Commissioner Sandeep Karnik has sought detailed information on the matter from senior police officers, and various options are being examined, sources said.

Himachal Guv stresses Centre-State coordination to strengthen public accountability

(Gns). Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Thursday inaugurated the induction training programme of the 2025 batch of Officer Trainees of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS), along with officers from Bhutan and the Maldives, at Yarrows in Shimla in Himachal Pradesh. Emphasising the importance of close cooperation between the Centre and State Governments, he highlighted the critical role of financial accountability in strengthening governance and contributing to nation-building. Recalling the rich legacy of the National Academy of Audit and Accounts (NAAA) since its establishment in 1950, the Governor said the Academy has played a



pivotal role in promoting transparency, financial discipline and good governance. He said it was a Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, Shukla noted that the institution has been regarded as one of the most vital constitutional offices since the framing of the Constitution. He reminded the trainees that they were joining an organisation entrusted with safeguarding public resources and ensuring accountability in public

administration. "As auditors, your role goes far beyond financial scrutiny. Every audit you conduct opens doors for systemic improvement, strengthens governance and enhances the quality of public service delivery," the Governor said. He added that the credibility of governance largely depends on the integrity and effectiveness of audit institutions. Referring to the global stature of the CAG of India, the Governor said the institution's responsibility for auditing major international organisations, such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization, reflects India's credibility and growing influence on the global stage.

IMD sounds alert for severe cold, cold day and dense fog in UP

(Gns). The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted severe cold in Uttar Pradesh over the next three days. According to the Meteorological Department, intense cold may prevail in most parts of the state from December 18 to December 21, and visibility may be very low in the morning. Dr AK Singh, Scientist at the Meteorological Department, said that due to adverse conditions in the lower atmosphere, north-westerly cold winds, and the effect of Western Disturbance, the minimum and maximum temperatures are being closely monitored across the state. The cold will be felt especially in the Terai region and the plains. According to the Meteorological Department,



when the maximum temperature in the plains drops to very dense fog. Visibility can be less than 50 metres in many places. This may affect road, rail, and air traffic. The Meteorological Department says that on the first day, cold weather conditions are expected in many districts of east and central Uttar Pradesh, along with dense fog. Dense fog may also cover some districts.

On the second day, the cold is expected to persist across large parts of the state. Many districts may continue to experience cold-day conditions, with some even seeing serious cold-day situations. Dense fog in the morning could affect traffic. On the third day, chances of relief from cold and fog remain low, particularly in the Terai region, where very dense fog and chills are likely to persist. The Meteorological Department has advised the general public not to go out unnecessarily in the morning and late at night, wear warm clothes, and take special care of the elderly and children. Drivers have been asked to drive at a slow speed during fog, use fog lights, and maintain a safe distance.

Khurda Road-Puri Rail tourist corridor logs significant progress in distant signaling works

(Gns). East Coast Railway has achieved noteworthy progress in the ongoing "Provision of Double Distant Signaling (DDS) Work in the Khurda Road-Puri section of Khurda Road Division," a critical safety and capacity enhancement project sanctioned during the financial year 2024-25. This important initiative is aimed at enhancing passenger safety, improving operational efficiency and enabling higher permissible train speeds on this vital rail corridor. The Double Distant Signaling System is being implemented to facilitate an increase in sectional speed up to 130 kmph. By provid-

ing advanced signal information to Locomotive Pilots, DDS allows better anticipation of signal aspects, smoother speed regulation and safer high-speed train operations, especially on a busy passenger and pilgrim route like Khurda Road-Puri. The Signaling & Telecommunication (S&T) component of the project involves extensive upgradation across the section, covering 08 stations, 10 level crossing gates and one Intermediate Block Hut. As part of system integration, major signalling modifications have been undertaken, including Electronic



Interlocking (EI) alterations at six stations—Haripurgram, Sakthigopal, Birapurussottampur, Delang, Malatipatapur and Puri—Route Relay Interlocking (RRI) alteration at Khurda Road station and Panel Interlocking (PI) alteration at Motari station. All System Integration Plans (SIPs) have been duly approved to ensure safe and seamless incorporation of the upgraded signalling architecture. Since the award of the tender in November 2024, the project has recorded substantial progress. Commissioning has already been completed at Khurda Road, Haripurgram, Motari and Delang stations, along with three level crossing gates at KP-5, KP-9 and KP-11 in the section. The entire Double Distant Signaling work in the Khurda Road-Puri section is targeted for completion by January 2026. Upon completion, trains will be able to operate safely at enhanced speeds of up to 130 kmph, resulting in reduced travel time, improved punctuality.

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel holds review meeting to assess the State Government departments' budget expenditure

CM Directs Departments to Strengthen Planning and Meet Timelines: Also to Implement Quality Assurance similar to Urban Development's Quality Cell Gandhinagar, 18 December 2025: Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel conducted a high-level meeting in Gandhinagar to review the expenditure incurred by all State Government departments against the 2025-26 budget up to November 2025.

During the review, the Chief Minister conducted a comparative assessment of departmental expenditure under the budget up to November 30, 2025, and expressed satisfaction over the increase in spending against this year's budget provisions compared to the previous year. Furthermore, he directed all departments to strengthen their planning to ensure that prescribed procedures are completed within stipulated timelines and that further improvements in expenditure are achieved in the first quarter of the coming year.

Minister Dr Hasmukh Adhia, Chief Secretary Shri M. K. Das, Advisor to the Chief Minister Shri S. S. Rathore, and Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, and Secretaries of all departments attended the meeting. In this earlier meeting held as part of the initiative launched by Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel to review departmental expenditure against budget allocations and provide necessary guidance, a comprehensive review of the steps taken by departments to improve the quality of spending based on the

suggestions made was conducted. He specifically recommended systematic testing and quality monitoring for infrastructure projects and directed that strict action be taken if any discrepancies are identified in such projects. He further added that, on the lines of the Quality Cell established by the Urban Development Department, other departments should also take steps to ensure quality. Emphasising the need for the timely implementation of all schemes assisting individual beneficiaries, CM stated that scholarships and other assistance, old-age pensions, and widow assistance pensions must reach the rightful and genuine beneficiaries time-



ly manner. Advocating that the concerned departments utilise the data available with them to ensure smooth implementation of such schemes, CM instructed that emphasis should also be placed on timely expenditure against provisions of centrally sponsored schemes and that necessary follow-up be undertaken by completing subsequent allied processes to secure maximum funding from the Government of India. Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel also instructed senior secretaries of the concerned departments to function in a manner that ensures benefits genuinely reach the beneficiaries and to expedite the completion of projects at the planning stage so as to ensure effective implementation. Principal Secretary of the Finance Department expressed gratitude to all those present at the review meeting and assured that the Finance Department, together with all other departments.

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Healthcare Startup conclave envisions Odisha as future hub of impactful healthcare solutions

(Gns). The two-day Healthcare Startup Conclave 2025, organized by Startup Odisha, Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise Department concluded here on Thursday, catalyzing connections and knowledge-sharing in positioning Odisha as a future hub for affordable and impactful healthcare solutions. Themed "Inspiring Health Innovation for Odisha and Beyond", the event engaged over 150 healthcare entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, academicians, professionals, aspiring entrepreneurs and students, strengthening the state's path to becoming a healthcare innovation hub. The participants showed gratitude towards Startup Odisha for organizing such an inspiring and informative event and expressed their excitement for the Conclave. Dr. Amit Kumar Dinda, former Chief Coordinator of

AIIMS Delhi's Center for Medical Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CMIE), Scalable and Sustainable Health Innovations", moderated by Dr. Abhishek Gautam, Founder of Ambula, and featuring Dr. Dinda, Dr. Goyal, and Dr. Pavan Kumar. Day Two shifted focus to clinical collaboration and entrepreneurial journeys. Dr Kanhaiya Agrawal, Head of the Department of Nuclear Medicine at AIIMS Bhubaneswar, delivered a special address, emphasizing the importance of clinical partnerships for innovative solutions. The highlight was an insightful panel, "Early-Stage Health Startup

Experiences: Lessons from the Field," featuring founders Dr Padmaja Mohanty (Elmentoz Research), Dr Soubhagya Ranjan Kar (Prime Oral Care India LLP), and Dr Ashok Kumar Badamali (Inofinity R&D Pvt. Ltd.), who shared candid challenges on funding, regulation, and scaling. Throughout the conclave, the interactive "1 Problem 1 Solution Wall" fostered collaborative problem-solving, while the Mini Product Display showcased innovations from healthcare startups, sparking engagements between founders, investors, and clinicians. The event concluded by affirming the conclave's role in building a supportive community for healthcare innovators. Startup Odisha announced plans for follow-up sessions to provide continued sector-specific support, leveraging Odisha's strengths in medical institutions and biodiversity.



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देश-दुनिया के नवीनतम समाचार प्राप्त करने के लिए आज ही गरवी गुजरात हिंदी चैनल देखिये