

Covert attempt to help militants regroup in North-East: Assam CM

The CM was speaking in Kokrajhar on the sidelines of the commemoration of completion of five years of the Bodo Peace Accord

NISHAT NIZAMI
GUWAHATI, 29 JANUARY

Amid the prevailing tension in the neighbouring country, Chief minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma said that in the year 2020. Elaborating on the subject, he said: "Today the situation is not good in Bangladesh. There are reports that the ISI and sections of Bangladeshi establishments are trying to regroup militants in North-east. But my own assessment is that it would not be practically possible because within Assam, nobody wants to disturb peace now. The people of Assam are united that we will not give any place for violence. So even though I do not have confirmed news but even if there are some efforts, it will not have much impact because people want peace. You cannot run a militancy movement only from outside the country if there is no local support. Today there is absolutely no local support."

The chief minister was speaking in Kokrajhar on the sidelines of the commemoration of completion of five years of the Bodo Peace Accord signed in the year 2020. Elaborating on the subject, he said: "Today the situation is not good in Bangladesh. There are reports that the ISI and sections of Bangladeshi establishments are trying to regroup militants in North-east. But my own assessment is that it would not be practically possible because within Assam, nobody wants to disturb peace now. The people of Assam are united that we will not give any place for violence. So even though I do not have confirmed news but even if there are some efforts, it will not have much impact because people want peace. You cannot run a militancy movement only from outside the country if there is no local support. Today there is absolutely no local support."

Asked if the border is being fenced, he said: "There is fencing around the border. Assam and Bangladesh border is in a completely fenced state. But the problem is that there are porous areas. In porous areas over Brahmaputra, you cannot fence it. There is no technology. So we are monitoring through gadgets. The BSF has all the gadgets and every day there are 10 to 12

Bangladeshi being captured. So, Assam is very vigilant when it comes to infiltration from Bangladesh."

Responding to the question of reports of the exiled ULFA leader Paresh Barua being in touch with a section in Bangladesh to revive militancy in Assam, the CM said: "My personal opinion is that Paresh Barua wants peace and I keep talking to him. I have no information and no idea that he wants to destabilise Assam. He may not come to a negotiating table but I am of the opinion that he does not want to destabilise peace and prosperity of Assam."

Notably, the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) is an autonomous body established under the sixth Schedule of the Constitution for the BTR. The body has forty elected seats. During the last polls, the party founded in August 2015 got 16 seats without the Bharatiya Janata Party but



later formed an alliance with the ruling party of Assam. The BTC is headed for polls this year where the United People's Party Liberal headed by Pramod Boro is in power. Talking about whether the state BJP would continue its alliance with the UPPL in the forthcoming elections, the CM said: "Last time we contested independently but post elections we formed the government together. Now also, although we have a very strong

presence, we have not claimed neither for the post of chief nor for deputy chief. So this is the way of BJP's approach towards the tribal community. When elections will come, the party president and Pramod Boro would sit together and decide whether it is better to contest together or independently. It is to be decided on the basis of strategy. Sometimes if we contest together we may not get many seats but if we contest inde-

pendently we might get more votes."

Mr Sarma also underlined how the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) had transformed into a place of peace. "Earlier even the Assam CM would come once in five years while other people would not come. There were bomb blasts, grenades. Now around 6,000 people have been brought into the main stream. If these many people had weapons, the situation can be assessed from this. Today there are no armed youths. In the past three and a half years, not even violence but there have been no incidents of democratic agitation. The entire Assam, particularly the BTR has become peaceful. We want more and more development by working together. The Indian government, state and the BTR are working together on this. The Bodo, non-Bodo narrative has also been eliminated."

Akhilesh, Mayawati condole loss of lives in Mahakumbh stampede

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, 29 JANUARY

Leaders cutting across party lines on Wednesday condole the loss of lives during a stampede-like situation at Mahakumbh in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj district, and appealed to the state government to provide adequate treatment to the injured.

At least 30 pilgrims were killed dead and over 60 people, mostly women, injured during the stampede-like situation in the Mahakumbh late Tuesday night even as the Amrit snan on Mauni Amavasya of the 13 Akharas commenced late Wednesday amid tight security measures.

Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav issued a statement on social media X on Wednesday saying that the news of the casualties of devotees in the Mahakumbh is very sad.

"There is an appeal to our government that medical arrangements should be made immediately by transporting seriously injured to

the nearest best hospitals. Besides, arrangements should be made to identify the bodies of the dead and hand them over to their families and send them to their residence," he appealed.

"Monitoring should be increased by using the helicopter while arrangements should be made to carry out the 'Amrit Snan of Mauni Amavasya' amidst safe management, keeping the unbelievable-immortal tradition of 'royal bath', which has been going on since long. We also appeal to the devotees to work with restraint and patience in this difficult time and conclude their pilgrimage peacefully.

"The government should take lessons from yesterday's incident and make additional arrangements for the stay, food and other facilities of the devotees. Wish for early health benefits of all those who were hurt in the accident," Yadav added.

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati said the incident is very sad and worrying.

TENDER

GOVT. OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
MAYURBHANJ IRRIGATION DIVISION, BARIPADA

1st Corrigendum to the 'e' Procurement Notice
Identification No. 02MBJ / 2024-25 of S.E. Mayurbhanj
Irrigation Division, Baripada

A-986

Due to some unavoidable circumstances, the date of availability of tender for online bidding, date of opening of tender and date and time of conducting transparent lottery is hereby changed as follows.

1. Availability of tender online for bidding	31.01.2025 from 10.00 hrs. to 10.02.2025 up to 17.00 hrs.
Instead of 24.01.2025 from 10.00 hours to 07.02.2025 up to 17.00 hours	
2. Date of opening of tender	11.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M.
Instead of On 10.02.2025 at 11.00 hours	
3. Date and time of Transparent Lottery (If required)	24.02.2025 at 11.30 A.M.
Instead of 20.02.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	

All other terms and condition remain unchanged.

Superintending Engineer
Mayurbhanj Irrigation Division
Baripada

OIPR-32158/11/0017/2425

ZORO protests abolition of free movement along Indo-Myanmar border

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
AIZAWL, 29 JANUARY

The Zo-Reunification Organization (ZORO), a prominent group advocating for the unity of Zo ethnic tribes, staged a massive protest on Tuesday against the Mizoram state government's order implementing the Central government's decision to abolish the Free Movement Regime (FMR) and introduce a new border pass system.

The demonstration included symbolic acts such as burning copies of the government order and was held in the state capital Aizawl along with other district headquarters—Champhai, Lunglei, Kolasib, Serchhip, and the towns of Mibung and Vaphai. Similar protests were also organised in Tengnoupal and Chandel districts of Manipur.

The FMR, a longstanding agreement between India and Myanmar, allowed residents along the 1,643-km-long Indo-Myanmar border to move up to 16 km into each other's territory without visas. The policy, which facilitated cross-border cultural ties, trade, and familial connections among the Zo ethnic tribes, has now been replaced by a stricter border pass system.

The new regulation mandates that residents within 10 km of the border on both sides must apply for official passes, significantly restricting mobility. Also, the Indian government has pushed for border fencing, a move widely opposed by the people of Mizoram.

Expressing strong discontent, ZORO's vice president Rohmingthanga Kawlni stated: "ZORO is saddened and disappointed by the Central government's decision to cancel the freedom of communication with our brothers

and sisters from the other side of the border. We also criticize the Mizoram state government for supporting the Centre's decision by issuing the order to scrap the FMR." In fact, the protest event also saw participation from key political figures across party lines. ZORO has also vowed to collaborate with the Mizo Zirlai Pawl (MZIP), a powerful student organization, to take the issue to the Centre. The groups plan to demand the reinstatement of the FMR and halt the border fencing project, arguing that such measures violate the historical and cultural ties of the Zo tribes spanning both sides of the border.

In addition to opposing the FMR's removal, it has raised concerns regarding the alleged forced repatriation of 28 Bangladeshi refugees by the Mizoram government and Assam Rifles.

Reports suggest that these

individuals had sought shelter in Mizoram but were sent back under disputed circumstances. The organisation has condemned these actions, reiterating Mizoram's history of providing refuge to persecuted minorities from neighbouring countries.

The abolition of FMR and border fencing initiatives are part of the Indian government's broader strategy to tighten border security amid growing concerns over illegal migration, insurgency, and smuggling activities.

However, for the Zo people, who share deep historical and familial connections across the Indo-Myanmar border, these changes represent a severe disruption to their way of life.

The escalating opposition in Mizoram indicates that this issue could develop into a significant flashpoint between the state and the Central government in the coming months.

Pragati Yatra: Nitish Kumar to visit Katihar today, review development projects

AGENCIES
PATNA, 29 JANUARY

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar will visit Katihar on Wednesday as part of the second phase of his Pragati Yatra to review ongoing development projects, inaugurate completed works, and lay foundation stones for various new infrastructure initiatives.

During his visit, he will go to Rampur Panchayat under the Koda Assembly constituency.

CM Nitish Kumar will engage directly with residents, Jivika groups, and other community representatives to address their concerns.

He will inspect key public infrastructure, including residential schools dedicated to the minority community in Rampur Panchayat, hospitals,

roads, and Anganwadi centres.

The Chief Minister will take a detailed review meeting with district officials to assess the progress of government welfare schemes and ensure their effective implementation.

Senior officials, ministers, and local MLAs have already reached the venue and all administrative arrangements have been finalised for the visit. The Pragati Yatra aims to strengthen governance, public infrastructure, and welfare programs across Bihar, ensuring that development initiatives reach the grassroots level effectively.

CM Kumar, during the Pragati Yatra in Purnea on Tuesday, inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 62 development projects worth Rs 580 crore.

ODISHA HYDRO POWER CORPORATION LTD.
OFFICE OF THE SENIOR GENERAL MANAGER (ELECTRICAL)
BALIMELA HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT
AT/POST: BALIMELA, DIST.: MALKANGIRI, PIN-764051 (ODISHA)
Phone Nos.: 06861-232581(O) / 232641 (R), Fax No.: 06861-232541
E-mail: unit.head_balimela@yahoo.com / bhep.balimela@gmail.com

Notice Inviting Tender No. BHEP/462024-25 DATED: 27.01.2025

The Unit Head, Balimela Hydro Electric Project, Balimela, Dist.: Malkangiri invites percentage rate bids in double cover system i.e. Cover-I (Technical Bid) & Cover-II (Price bid) for the work through e-procurement as detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Estimated Cost	E.M.D.	Class of Contractor	Cost of bid documents	Period of Completion
1.	Job contract for maintenance of Newly constructed Training Hotel at BHEP, Balimela for 01 (one) year	Rs. 15,28,035.00	Rs. 16,000	'C' or 'D' class contractors registered with the State Govt. / Central Govt. / MES / Railways	Rs. 6,000 + GST @ 18% = 7,080	01 year (365 days)

Availability of bid document in the portal: From 11.00 hrs. of 31.01.2025 to 17.00 hrs. of 11.02.2025. Last date & time of submission of bid: Up to 17.00 hrs. of 11.02.2025. The date & time of opening of the bid: 12.30 hrs. onwards of 12.02.2025 (Only Technical Bid). Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>
OIPR-04019/11/0053/2425

Unit Head
BHEP, Balimela

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
(Mobile No. 96461-55525)

Open E-Tender Enq. No. 7650/P-3/EMP-1292 Dated 24.01.2025

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. ID: 2025_POWER_133642_1 for Procurement of spares for Soot blowers of stage -II & III units at GGSSTP Roopnagar. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 28.01.2025/05.00 PM onwards
Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RTP-13/25

MCL MAHANADI COALFIELDS LIMITED
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
JAGRUTI VIHAR, BURLA-769020, DIST.: SAMBALPUR (ODISHA)
Tel. Phone (EPABX): 0662-2542481 to 485, Website: www.mahanadicoal.in

Notice

"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in, respective Subsidiary Company (MCL, www.mahanadicoal.in), CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in>, and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in> in addition, procurement is also done through GeM Portal <https://gem.gov.in>."

R-5239

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
WESTERN IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHAWANIPATNA-766001
E-mail ID: sewic2012@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-Procurement Notice No. ADDLCE, WIC-04/2024-25
PERCENTAGE RATE e-TENDER

A-994

1. The Additional Chief Engineer, Western Irrigation Circle, Bhawanipatna, Dist.: Kalahandi, Pin-766001 (Odisha), on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites "PERCENTAGE RATE Bids" IN DOUBLE COVER SYSTEM, in electronic tendering system for the construction works detailed in the table below.

2. Package No. : ADDLCE, WIC (NID)-01/2024-25 to ADDLCE, WIC (NID)-03/2024-25.

Types of Work : 04 (Four) Nos. of Road works.

Approximate Value of work : Varies from Rs. 109.26 to Rs. 169.22 lakh (excluding GST).

Period of Completion : 11 (Eleven) calendar Months.

Classification of Bidder : 'A' & 'B' Class Contractor only.

Tender documents available on website : Can be downloaded from Website (<http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in>)

Bid documents available Date and Time : 01.02.2025 at 11.00 hrs.

Bid clarification start date & closing date : 01.02.2025 to 10.02.2025 during office hours

Online bid submission closing date and time : 17.02.2025 at 17.30 hrs.

Date, Time and Venue of opening of Technical Bid online : 18.02.2025 at 11.00 Hrs. office of the Addl. Chief Engineer, Western Irrigation Circle, Bhawanipatna

Date, Time of opening of Financial Bid : To be intimated after evaluation of Technical Bid

Further details can be seen from Govt. Website. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation to the above notice will be published in the Govt. website www.tendersodisha.gov.in only.

Additional Chief Engineer
Western Irrigation Circle, Bhawanipatna

OIPR-32178/11/0005/2425

THE ODISHA SMALL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
(An ISO:9001:2008 certified Govt. Company)
Industrial Estate, Madhupatna, CUTTACK-753010, Odisha
Tel No.: 0671-2341204, 2342816 Fax: 0671-2341875/2342561
E-mail: osicldt@gmail.com / osicmd@gmail.com Website: osicldt.in

OSIC GST No. 21AAAC02101M1Z1

CAD-2395 e-Procurement Notice
Tender Notice No. 179/OSIC/MKT. Dated: 27.01.2025

The Odisha Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (OSIC) (A Govt. of Odisha Undertaking), Industrial Estate, Madhupatna, Cuttack-753010, Odisha, invites tenders in sealed cover under two bids system i.e. Technical Bid & Price Bid for "Supply & installation of Science Lab Equipments to Government Women's College, Sundargarh" as per specification in ONLINE MODE.

Date of Commencement of Tender	Last Date & Time of online submission and receipt of tender	Date & Time for online opening of tender	Cost of Tender Paper + GST @ 18%
27.01.2025 5.00 P.M.	17.02.2025 at 5.30 P.M.	18.02.2025 at 12.30 P.M.	Rs. 6,000

The tender notice may be downloaded from <http://tendersorissa.gov.in/> website: www.osicldt.in and the same can be submitted ONLINE along with cost of tender paper in shape of Bank Draft. Any corrigendum / addendum / information relating to this NIT will only be uploaded in above websites which will not be published in Newspapers.

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <http://tendersorissa.gov.in/> or www.osicldt.in. All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE ONLY.

Sd/-
OIPR-14073/11/0029/2425 GENERAL MANAGER (O)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Office of the Superintending Engineer
U.K. Head Works Division, Kolabnagar(K), PIN-764011
e-Procurement Notice-SE-UKHWD-12/2024-25 Dated: 27.01.2025
(ONLINE)

1. Name of Work	Civil Works
2. No. of Work	07 (Seven) Nos.
3. Approximate Value of Work	Rs. 25.62 Lakhs to 43.27 Lakhs
4. Class of Contractor	Registered & licensed Contractors of 'C' & 'B' Class
5. Period of completion	04 (Four) Calendar Months
6. Date & time of availability of bid documents online	30.01.2025 at 11.00 Hours to 10.02.2025 up to 17.30 Hours
7. Date & Place of opening of Bid online	11.02.2025 (10.30 Hours) at office of the Superintending Engineer, UKHWD, Kolab Nagar
8. Name of the officer inviting bids	Superintending Engineer, UKHWD, Kolab Nagar.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <http://tendersodisha.gov.in>
Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation, if any, required will be published in Govt website only.
OIPR-32015/11/0024/2425

Superintending Engineer
Upper Kolab Head Works Division
Kolabnagar

Over 50.7 million take dip in Sangam by 4 pm on Mauni Amavasya during Mahakumbh

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
MAHAKUMBH NAGAR,
29 JANUARY

On the holy occasion of the Mahakumbh's second Amrit Snan on Mauni Amavasya, the banks of the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj transformed into a vibrant tapestry of faith and divinity as over 50.7 million people took a dip at different ghats.

Against the backdrop of a stampede-like situation in which 30 pilgrims were killed and 60 injured near Sangam nose, a massive crowd of devotees gathered at Mahakumbh and took the holy dip in Sangam even before the break of dawn

on the occasion of Mauni Amavasya on Wednesday.

The Amrit Snan, scheduled to begin at 5 a.m., was delayed and commenced at 11 a.m.

Choppers showered flower petals on Naga Sadhus and saints during the Amrit Snan.

The scene at the Sangam reflected the profound essence of Indian culture and tradition. Devotees from across the country gathered at the confluence of the holy rivers Ganga, Yamuna, and the invisible Saraswati, to take a holy dip and seek blessings and purification.

According to officials, over 50.7 million people had taken a dip in the Sangam till 4 p.m.