

CM announces hike in incentive for rural health workers ahead of assembly polls

PATNA, JUL 30

AHEAD of the Bihar assembly elections, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Wednesday announced that ASHA workers in the state will now get Rs 3,000 per month as an incentive, a substantial increase from the existing amount of Rs 1,000. He also doubled the RID incentive of Mamta health workers from Rs 300 per delivery.

In a post on X, Kumar said, "Since the formation of the government in November 2020, we have worked extensively to improve health services. Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and Mamta workers have played a significant role in enhancing health services

in rural areas." ASHA workers will now be provided with an incentive amount of Rs 3,000 instead of Rs 1,000," he said. Mamta workers will now get an incentive amount of Rs 600 per delivery, up from the existing Rs 300, the CM added.

Reacting to CM's announcement, RID leader Tejashwi Yadav said he had initiated the process of increasing the incentive amount for ASHA and Mamta workers during his 17-month tenure as the state health minister. "This enhanced incentive amount will boost their morale and strengthen health services in rural areas," he said. The decision to increase their incentives was taken



in view of the contributions of ASHA and Mamta workers to strengthen health services in rural areas, the CM wrote on social media. ASHA workers are at the base of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) pyramid. In order to provide effective medical services to the rural population, the NRHM proposed the introduction of female health workers at the village level for every 1000 population, an official said.

Nitish said that ASHA workers will now be provided with "an incentive amount of Rs 3,000 instead of Rs 1,000." Mamta workers will now get an incentive amount of Rs 600 per delivery, up from the existing Rs 300

Mamta workers are contractual health activists in maternity wards of government hospitals to take care of newborns and their mothers, he said. ASHA workers are intended to facilitate access to health services, mobilise communities to realise health rights and access entitlements, and provide basic community-level care, the official added.

Yadav, in a post on X, said, "During my 17-month tenure as health minister, I had initiated the process of increasing

the incentive amount for ASHA and Mamta workers, which was in its final stage, but then the CM, as usual, took the RID (formed government with BJP)." He also alleged, "This incompetent NDA government had been sitting on it (proposal to increase incentive) for two years. Finally, they had to bow down to our demand and increase the incentive amount for ASHA and Mamta workers." The government has not fully implemented the RID's demand, he claimed.

Pawan Khera alleges ₹70,800 crore scam in Bihar, blames ruling NDA govt

PATNA, JUL 30

VETERAN Congress leader and party's Media



Chairman, Pawan Khera, on Wednesday, launched a scathing attack on the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government in Bihar, alleging a massive Rs 70,877 crore scam following revelations in the latest Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report. Speaking at a press conference at the state party headquarters in Patna's Sadaqat Ashram, Khera described the alleged irregularities as a state-level scam, but a "national scam", saying that funds from the Central government were also involved.

He accused the double-engine government of

financial mismanagement, claiming Utilisation Certificates (UCs) for funds allocated under key government schemes had not been submitted by as many as 10 major departments of the Bihar government.

Khera cited the department-wise figures from the CAG report, alleging Rs 28,154 crore in Pandhara, Rs 12,623 crore in Education, Rs 11,065 crore in Urban Development, Rs 7,800 crore in Rural Development, Rs 2,107 crore in Agriculture, Rs 1,977 crore in Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe Welfare, Rs 941 crore in Social Welfare, Rs 911 crore in Backward and Extremely Backward Welfare, Rs 860 crore in

Cooperative Department. "These departments have failed to submit UCs, meaning there is no evidence of whether the funds were actually used. This raises serious concerns about misappropriation and large-scale corruption," he said. Khera also added that corruption is institutionalised under the current NDA government in Bihar, alleging that senior bureaucrats, ministers, and officials have a "fixed commission of 50 per cent".

He said that the CAG's role is to audit every government department, and the non-submission of UCs is a clear violation of law, leading to misuse. Citing fiscal inefficiency, Khera also claimed that over the past five years, the Bihar government has failed to spend Rs 3,39,667 crore from its own state budget. — IANS

Tata Steel Q1 FY26 PAT surges 118pc to ₹2,007 crore



MUMBAI: Tata Steel reported a consolidated profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 2,007 crore for Q1 FY26, marking a 118 per cent year-on-year (YoY) surge. Consolidated revenues stood at Rs 53,178 crore, with EBITDA at Rs 7,480 crore and margins around 14 per cent. India operations led growth with Rs 31,137 crore in revenue and Rs 7,486 crore in EBITDA, delivering a strong 24 per cent margin. PAT from India was Rs 3,454 crore. Crude steel production stood at 524 million tons, while deliveries were 4.75 million tons, despite planned maintenance shutdowns. Tata Steel invested Rs 3,828 crore in capital expenditure during the quarter, ramping up its MTPA Kalinganagar blast furnace and commissioning a galvanising line at the 2.2 MTPA CRM complex. Work on the Ludhiana Electric Arc Furnace and a major UK low-carbon steel facility is also underway. International revenues came in at €536 million (UK) and €1,519 million (Netherlands). As of Q1, net debt stood at ₹8,835 crore, with gross liquidity of ₹43,578 crore. On July 24, the company completed its acquisition of Neelchal Ispat Nigam Limited, reinforcing its domestic steel presence.

Army chief Dwivedi reviews security situation in Manipur

IMPHAL, JUL 30

ARMY chief General Upendra Dwivedi reviewed the security situation in Manipur on Wednesday, emphasising the operational readiness of the Assam Rifles and Army formations in the restive state, he said. General Dwivedi was also briefed on the on-ground conditions and ongoing initiatives aimed at ensuring peace and security, they added.

General Upendra Dwivedi, COAS, visited Manipur to assess operational preparedness and enhance military-civil cooperation. He lauded troops for their professionalism and resilience. The COAS also met the Hon'ble Governor, reaffirming collaborative efforts for peace and development," a defence statement said. General Dwivedi was accompanied by senior officers, including the Eastern Army Commander, during the day-long trip. He met Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla at the Raj Bhavan in Imphal.

"The governor extended his heartfelt congratulations to the Army leadership on the successful execution of Operation Sindoor, and commended the Army for its exemplary professionalism, commitment, and tireless efforts in ensuring the security and stability of the region," a statement issued by the Raj Bhavan said. "The Chief of Army Staff expressed his appreciation to the Governor and the Government of Manipur for their continued support and active facilitation in the successful organisation of the event," it said. — PTI

Bengal LoP seeks disciplinary action against EROs receiving Form-6 applications from fictitious voters

KOLKATA, JUL 30

THE Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly, Suwendu Adhikari, on Wednesday morning, demanded action against the electoral registration officers (EROs) in the state who are allegedly involved in accepting Form-6 applications from fictitious voters without proper verification. Form 6 is an application for the inclusion of one's name in the electoral list.

Quoting a memo issued from the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), West Bengal, Manoj Kumar Agarwal, citing instances of EROs receiving considerable number of Form-6 applications from fictitious

voters during sample checks, Adhikari said that "fictitious voters added to the rolls and unauthorised meddling by casual data entry operators is the root of corruption under a regime led by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee."

According to Adhikari, the "irregularities in the system are two-fold: first, depth of corruption, and secondly, the EROs handing over voter lists-related jobs to unqualified hands. He demanded this trend as an assault on every citizen's right to participate in a fair election.

"I demand an immediate investigation and appropriate action against

those responsible. The state administration had been rigging the system. It's time to put things in order," the leader of the opposition added.

He also questioned why contractual employees of the state government have been involved in electoral functions for different forms related to the electoral revision system. "BLOs collected documents under urgency, and EROs, who are permanent state government

State-run Behala College gets autonomous tag

KOLKATA: State-run Behala College, affiliated with the University of Calcutta, has been granted autonomous status, enabling the institution to independently manage its academic functioning for 10 years, varsity officials said on Wednesday. The university issued a letter on Monday to the college administration conferring the status. According to a college official, Behala College is the only non-religious, non-minority, state-aided institution in West Bengal to have been granted autonomy, they added.

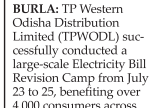


"University of Calcutta is hereby pleased to confer the status of an autonomous college under this university in favour of Behala College for a period of 10 years from the academic year 2025-26 to 2034-2035," CU's letter signed by registrar Debasis Das addressed to the Principal Sharmila Mitra read. — PTI

employees, admitted to providing unauthorised access to subordinate contractual staff for disposal of Form 6 applications," Adhikari claimed. In just a couple of days back, Adhikari wrote a letter to the Chief Election

Commissioner (CEC), Gyanesh Kumar, requesting the latter to take note of the abnormally high number of Form-6 applications submitted last week in West Bengal, clearly share a border with Bangladesh. — IANS

TPWDL resolves over 1,200 complaints in Bill Revision Camp across Western Odisha



BURLA: TP Western Odisha Distribution Limited (TPWODL) successfully conducted a large-scale Electricity Bill Revision Camp from July 23 to 25, benefiting over 4,000 consumers across its operational areas. Held across all sections, subdivisions, and division offices, the camp aimed to resolve billing complaints and enhance consumer satisfaction. Supervised by respective SDOs and ESOs, the three-day initiative saw participation from 4,002 consumers, with 1,234 billing complaints resolved on the spot and 2,768 queries clarified without dispute. A separate Consumer Complaint Resolution Camp was also held on July 25 at TPWODL's Sambalpur East Division in Bhatupada, addressing issues related to metering, billing, power reliability, and supply quality. Many grievances were resolved on-site, earning appreciation from participants.

TPNODL hosts blood donation camp



BALASORE: To commemorate the 121st birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna JRD Tata, TP Northern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPNODL) organized a blood donation camp at NOCCI ComCenX, Balasore, alongside events across its division offices. In collaboration with the Odisha Blood Centre, the camp collected 68 units of blood, with enthusiastic participation from employees and local volunteers. TPNODL CEO Gajanan K Saha highlighted the event as a tribute to Tata's legacy of service and compassion, reaffirming the company's commitment to community welfare beyond its power distribution role.

Assistant engineer arrested in disproportionate assets case

PBD BUREAU/PTI
BHUBANESWAR, JUL 30

AN assistant engineer in Odisha was arrested in Odisha on Wednesday for possessing allegedly disproportionate to his known sources of income, the Vigilance Department said.

He was arrested a day after raids were conducted on his properties and offices, it said. The assistant engineer was "forwarded to the court of special judge, Vigilance, Bhubaneswar for possession of disproportionate assets (DA) to the tune of 317 per cent of excess, his known sources of income, which he could not account for satisfactorily", the department said in a statement.

Personnel of the vigilance wing also launched raids on properties of another assistant engineer, a close colleague of the one accused.

Further investigation is underway.

Fraudsters who posed as vigilance cops to dupe retired doctor arrested

PBD BUREAU
KENDRAPARA, JUL 30

POLICE on Wednesday arrested six persons, including a 20-year-old student and a woman in Kendrapara for looting the house of a retired doctor by posing as vigilance officials, police said.

According to Derabish police station inspector-in-charge, Anubika Prasanna, the accused were arrested after a special squad formed to trace the culprits cracked the case by analysing call detail records (CDRs) and CCTV footage from the area.

CM Khandu hails Arunachal's major transformation in horticulture sector

ITANAGAR, JUL 30

ARUNACHAL Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Wednesday hailed the transformation and growth of the state's horticulture sector, announcing several major milestones that have placed the state among the top producers of kiwi, mandarin oranges, and large cardamom in the country. He also unveiled the state's long-term vision for agriculture through the Horticulture Policy 2025-35.

"From the hills of Dambuk to the orchards of Ziro, our farmers are producing what's possible when vision meets hard work," Khandu said in a post on X, celebrating the state's achievements. Arunachal Pradesh has emerged as the largest producer of kiwi in India, with production exceeding 7,000 metric tonnes, and is also

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ITANAGAR, JUL 30

just better production numbers but a shift in the rural economy driven by confidence and opportunity. "Milestones we've achieved show the spirit of our land," he said. The chief minister also underscored the significance of the newly

launched Horticulture Policy 2025-35, which he described as a cornerstone of the state's agricultural transformation. "With the Horticulture Policy 2025-35, we're not just supporting agriculture, we're investing in dignity, sustainability, and opportunity," he asserted. —PTI

2 dists secure top position in PMMY enrollment

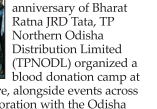
ITANAGAR: Arunachal Pradesh has made significant strides in the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMY), with Anjaw and Pakke Kessang districts securing the top two positions nationally in percentage enrollment progress. According to the latest report of the Union Women and Child Development ministry, released on July 25, Anjaw district achieved a remarkable 354 per cent progressive enrollment target, ranking first in India. Pakke Kessang followed closely with 313 per cent, placing second nationwide. The progress has propelled Arunachal Pradesh's overall performance in the PMMY rankings, lifting the state from the bottom tier to the 6th position among all states and union territories. Other districts showing strong performance include Lower Dibang Valley (147%), Lower Siang (114%), and East Siang (61%), all of which have exceeded their set targets. — PTI

Tata Steel Foundation holds health camp on JRD Tata's 121st birth anniversary



SUKINDA: To commemorate the 121st birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna JRD Tata, Tata Steel Foundation held a free health camp near Saruabli in Kamarda Chromite Mines. The camp served 120 local people, including 53 men, 67 women, and 16 children. Participants received free medical check-ups, basic health tests, and medicines. Among attendees, 14 were diagnosed with high blood pressure, 3 with diabetes, and 9 reported fever. Hemoglobin tests on 36 people revealed 15 with mild anaemia and 3 with moderate anaemia. The event was attended by senior officials, including Naveen Shrivastava, Head Mining at Saruabli and Kamarda Chromite Mines, and Dr. Bhagirathi Soren, Consultant Medical Officer, along with other medical staff from Tata Steel Foundation. The camp honours JRD Tata's legacy of prioritizing community health and welfare. Tata Steel Foundation continues to uphold his vision by supporting healthcare initiatives in the regions where it operates.

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Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
Jagriti Vihar, Burla-768020, Dist. - Sambalpur, Odisha
Ph. (EPEX): 0663-2542461 to 469 Website : www.mahanadicoal.in

Notice
All the tenders issued by OIL and its Subsidiaries for the procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in, respective subsidiary Company, (MCL, www.mahanadicoal.in), Oil 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-5265

GMR Kamalanga Energy Ltd.
Registered Office Address: 25/1, SKIP HOUSE, MUSEUM ROAD, BANGALORE, KARNATAKA 560025 INDIA
CIN: U40101KA2007PLC044809

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform you that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide their File No J-13012/3/2011-IA, II (T) dated 23 July 2025 have accorded Environmental Clearance for the expansion of existing 100 MW (3x350 MW) project by addition of 1x350 MW Coal-based Thermal Power Plant (Phase-II) by M/s. GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited located at Village Kamalanga, Block-Opadapa, District-Dhenkanal-759121, Odisha.

Copy of the Environmental Clearance letter referred above is available at website of the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change, web link: https://parivesh.nic.in.

Place: Dhenkanal
Date: 29.07.2025