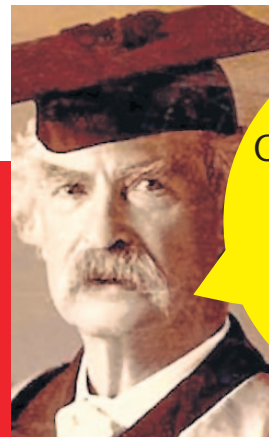


# FREE PRESS JOURNAL

# SCHOOL

MUMBAI | FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 28, 2025



Classic - a book which people praise and don't read - Mark Twain

In past one week, over 100 short-tailed bats were killed by feral cats and they have also pushed the southern dotterel bird almost to extinction

## New Zealand declares war on 'stone cold killers'



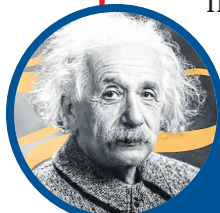
### 5K Sal trees face axe

Large-scale infestation of borer insects has threatened the existence of about 5,000 sal trees spread across four forest ranges in Madhya Pradesh's Dindori district along the Chhattisgarh border, with the authorities now planning to cut them.

New Zealand is planning to eradicate feral cats across the country by 2050 with the aim of protecting its fragile native wildlife. Conservation Minister Tama Potaka described feral cats as "stone cold killers" and confirmed they will be added to the Predator Free 2050 list, a program launched in 2016 to target invasive species that threaten birds, bats, lizards, and insects, according to CNN. Feral cats are wild hunters that live independently of humans, unlike pet cats, surviving entirely by hunting, Potaka explained. To preserve New Zealand's unique biodiversity, which is home to several species found nowhere else on Earth, it is necessary to control their population.

They are wild hunters and kill native species.

**DID U KNOW?**  
Removing feral cats will boost biodiversity, preserve heritage landscapes, and maintain New Zealand's ecological identity.



Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving - Albert Einstein

## Asim Munir to control all 3 Pak forces, nukes



Pakistan's military is entered one of its most powerful eras, with army chief Asim Munir taking charge as the country's first Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) on Thursday. The post places Syed Asim Munir at the helm of all three services - the army, air force and navy, besides controlling the country's nuclear arsenal.

## Deepti Sharma becomes costliest buy at WPL auction



Star India all-rounder Deepti Sharma emerged as the costliest buy of the 2026 WPL mega auction while, Shree Charani and Laura Wolvaardt, also walked away with hefty pay cheques, The seasoned Deepti expectedly fetched the big bucks with UP Warriorz retaining the India all-rounder for a whopping Rs 3.20 crore.



Danny's absence gave birth to Amjad Khan as Gabbar, and the rest is history  
- Ramesh Sippy

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## Sikkim Park among best managed globally

**DID U KNOW?**  
Khangchendzonga National Park spans over approximately 1,784 sq. km and encompasses Mount Khangchendzonga - the world's third-highest peak

The IUCN recognition to the Khangchendzonga National Park (KNP) in Sikkim shows the state's holistic approach towards conservation, where nature and culture coexist in harmony, a minister said. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

has declared the national park as one of the 'Best Managed Protected Areas' in the world. The IUCN has also rated Khangchendzonga National Park as 'Good' in its 2025 global review of natural world heritage sites, making it India's only site to secure this grade.



## Soha Ali growing micro-greens



Actress-author Soha Ali Khan has shared that she has started growing her own micro-greens and hinted that there's more to the story. Known for her interest in fitness and mindful living, Soha took to her Instagram Stories, where she shared a video of the plants on her balcony. She also posted a close-up image of the micro-greens she is growing in a pot.

## Cough redundant, lungs have adapted



Stand-up star and actor Vir Das started his day with a sharp quip about Mumbai's worsening air quality, saying he's reached a point where coughing has become redundant as his lungs have "adapted."

Vir posted a video on Instagram from his living room in Mumbai. A text overlay on the clip read: "Morning from Mumbai." In the clip, he is heard saying: "Morning from Mumbai everyone, hope everybody's doing well. I'm not gonna cough at this point, my lungs have adapted, it's fine."

# Mosquito repellent detergent



Amid a rise in mosquito-borne diseases, including malaria, dengue, and chikungunya, researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi on Thursday informed the development of an innovative mosquito repellent detergent. The new mosquito repellent detergents are available in both powder and liquid forms and maintain comparable wash-care properties, said the researchers. "We have developed smart detergents to protect people from dangerous mosquito-borne diseases. The

Currently, the available protective measures against mosquitoes include liquids, coils, lotions, creams, roll-ons, sprays, and patches. However, these options come with their limitations



their hands, covered with fabrics, into a box containing starved mosquitoes. The number

of mosquitoes landing on the fabric was then evaluated. Fabrics washed with our detergents demonstrated a significant reduction in mosquito landings. Since a mosquito's proboscis can easily penetrate fabric structure, it is crucial to deter them from landing on textiles. products have been tested in a commercial laboratory and have proven effective at repelling mosquitoes," said Prof. Javed Nabibaksha Sheikh, Dept. of Textile and Fibre Engineering, from the IIT Delhi. The testing involved a "hand-in-cage" method, where volunteers inserted

of mosquitoes landing on the fabric was then evaluated. Fabrics washed with our detergents demonstrated a significant reduction in mosquito landings. Since a mosquito's proboscis can easily penetrate fabric structure, it is crucial to deter them from landing on textiles.



## Don't judge without knowing truth

Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana and singer Palash Muchhal's wedding and all the chaos around it have been stirring headlines for the last two days. Coming out in support of Palaash, his cousin Neeti Tak wrote on her social media account, "Palash is going through a critical condition. You all should not judge him without knowing the truth."



In sport, there's nothing more satisfying than hearing a big crowd go silent  
- Pat Cummins

Navi Mumbai, Vadodara among venues



The tournament will open in Navi Mumbai, with final at Vadodara

# WPL from Jan 6



Navi Mumbai and Vadodara are the venues for the 2026 Women's Premier League, to be held from January 9 to February 5. The tournament will open at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai, while the final is scheduled to be held at Kotambi Stadium in

Vadodara. The announcement was made by WPL Committee Chairman Jayesh George before the competition's first-ever mega auction began in New Delhi on Thursday. The WPL Committee had a meeting at the auction venue around noon to finalise the dates and venues, with the full schedule expected to come out soon. As per the dates announced by George, the fourth WPL final will be held two

days before the 2026 Men's T20 World Cup begins in India and Sri Lanka. The rationale behind keeping the second half of WPL 2026 in Vadodara is also due to the Kotambi stadium being set to host the men's ODI series opener between India and New Zealand on January 11.

**DID U KNOW?**  
The tournament will mark return of women's cricket for first time after India's 2025 World Cup victory.

## Greenhorn vanquishes world champion

The 16-year-old Tanvi Sharma lit up Day 3 of the Syed Modi International 2025 with a career-defining victory, shocking former World No. 1, former world champion and Olympic medalist Nozomi Okuhara in a gripping three-game battle. The World Juniors silver medallist showed remarkable grit, rallying from a game down to claim a memorable 13-21, 21-16, 21-19 win in just under an hour.



## India to clash with Lebanon



With the group finely poised and qualification hopes very much alive, the India U17 men's team will take

on Lebanon in a pivotal AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026 Qualifiers Group D encounter on Friday, at the EKA Arena in Ahmedabad. India come into this fixture on the back of a spirited and impressive 3-1 comeback win against Chinese Taipei on Wednesday.

## India conquer New Zealand 3-2



Indian men's hockey team delivered a strong performance, winning 3-2 against New Zealand in a competitive

match at the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Stadium in Ipoh on Thursday. Amit Rohidas (4'), Sanjay (32'), and Selvam Karthi (54') scored for India, while George Baker scored twice for New Zealand in the 42nd and 48th minutes. India will next play Canada on November 29.

### QUICK NEWS

#### Cummins back in squad

Pat Cummins is set to be included in Australia's squad for the second Ashes Test, providing another significant boost following their victory in Perth. Cummins will be named in the squad that will be announced on Friday.

#### Botham criticizes Bazball

England legend Ian Botham criticised Bazball, suggesting that Ben Stokes and his team should consider returning home if they refuse to adapt after their embarrassing defeat in Perth. England was thoroughly outplayed by Travis Head's brilliance.

#### Jaipur Polo in final

The second encounter of the Kota Cup, ended in a stylish victory for the Jaipur Polo team as they came out victorious by a scoreline of 10-6 against Chunda Polo to qualify for the final of the tournament.



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## Captains gather for trophy photoshoot in Chennai, Madurai

**A**head of the highly anticipated FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Tamil Nadu 2025, captains from all 24 participating nations gathered for a special photo session with the coveted trophy. Twelve captains assembled in Madurai at the newly inaugurated Madurai International Hockey Stadium, and another twelve in Chennai at the historic Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium, making this a memorable event. The tournament begins on November 28, with India hosting their first Pool B match in Chennai.



## Jemimah opts out of remainder



**B**risbane Heat have confirmed that star India cricketer Jemimah Rodrigues will not return for the remainder of the WBBL season, granting her request to stay in India following the postponement of teammate Smriti Mandhana's wedding. Rodrigues flew home after the Heat's clash with the Hobart Hurricanes to take part in the celebrations, but the event was called off later.

### Women's World Cup 2025

WWC set unprecedented digital engagement records, becoming the most digitally consumed women's cricket event ever and one of the most-watched women's sports events globally

# Record 5.2 billion views



The ICC announced that the 2025 Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 set unprecedented digital engagement records, becoming the most digi-

tally consumed women's cricket event ever and one of the most-watched women's sports events globally. "The tournament captivated fans around



the world, generating 5.2 billion video views, a dramatic leap from the 1.5 billion achieved during the 2024 ICC Women's T20 World Cup. Social media engagement soared to 279 million interactions, more than triple last year's figure (84 million), while the ICC website and app

attracted 8.5 million unique visitors, up from 3 million in 2024," the ICC said. Never-before-seen camera angles and cinematic content also went viral worldwide, including one clip that exploded across platforms and even drew reactions from the players themselves.



**Did You Know?**  
The winning moment amassed over 87m views, while the jubilant scenes from the semi-final surpassed 70m.

## Assam to host Santosh Trophy 2025-26

**T**he final round of the 79th National Football Championship for the Santosh Trophy 2025-26 will be held in Assam in January 2026. The group stages will take place across nine venues from December 15 to 26,

2025. Thirty-five teams will contest the group stage, consisting of nine groups. The group winners will join hosts Assam, West Bengal and Kerala in the 12-team final round that will be hosted in Dhakuakhana and Dhemaji.



## PM lauds Deaflympians for historic tally

**P**M Narendra Modi on Thursday congratulated Deaflympians for their extraordinary performance at the recently concluded 25th Summer Deaflympics 2025 in Tokyo. India took home 20 medals. "Heartiest congratulations to our Deaflympians for their extraordinary performance at the 25th Summer Deaflympics 2025

in Tokyo. With a historic best-ever medal tally of 20 medals including 9 Golds, our athletes have once again proven that determination and dedication can lead to outstanding results. Compliments to every athlete, coach and support staff. The entire nation is proud of you all!" posted PM Modi on X.

FP SCHOOL EDITOR: AMRISH HERDENIA

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## November: National Novel Writing Month & National Family Week

# Creativity, family & stories: A weekend to remember

**TINA KHATRI**

As National Novel Writing Month and National Family Week draw to a close, let imagination bloom and hands create. Roll dough into tender ravioli, fold paper into a proud rooster, and fill blank pages with daring tales. In the kitchen, at the craft table, or with pen in hand, joy and adventure await — where family, creativity, and stories intertwine.



### Homemade Ravioli

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup flour ● 1 egg ● ½ cup filling (cheese, spinach, or mashed veggies) ● Pinch of salt
- Optional: water, olive oil

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix flour, egg, and salt to make a smooth dough.
2. Knead dough 5–7 minutes and let rest 15–20 minutes.
3. Roll dough into a thin rectangle.
4. Place small teaspoons of filling evenly on the dough.
5. Brush around filling with water and cover with another sheet of dough.
6. Press around filling to seal and cut into squares or fun shapes.
7. Boil ravioli in salted water 3–5 minutes until they float.
8. Drain and top with cherry tomatoes, butter, or cheese.

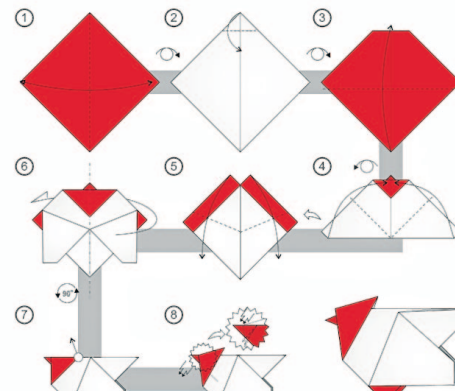
### Origami Rooster

#### Materials:

- One square sheet of paper (color side down).

#### Instructions:

1. Fold square diagonally to make a triangle.
2. Bring bottom corners up to form a diamond/kite shape.
3. Fold in half lengthwise.
4. Squash fold top flap.
5. Repeat on back; use inside-reverse fold for legs/feet.
6. Fold top corner back for comb.
7. Inside-reverse fold tip to make beak.
8. Adjust folds for final shape (head, tail, wings, feet).



### The Plot Puzzle

Instructions: Fill in the blanks with your own ideas. Be creative with characters, settings, conflicts, and plot twists. Once complete, expand your story into a full chapter!



Title: The Secret of (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) \_\_\_\_\_ had always been (3) \_\_\_\_\_, but nothing prepared them for the day they discovered (4) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 At first, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ tried to (5) \_\_\_\_\_, but (6) \_\_\_\_\_ forced them to (7) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 In the heart of (8) \_\_\_\_\_, they met (9) \_\_\_\_\_, a mysterious (10) \_\_\_\_\_ who promised to (11) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 But there was a catch: (12) \_\_\_\_\_. If (13) \_\_\_\_\_ failed, then (14) \_\_\_\_\_ would happen.  
 Determined, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ used (15) \_\_\_\_\_ and (16) \_\_\_\_\_ to overcome the first obstacle: (17) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 But just when it seemed safe, (18) \_\_\_\_\_ appeared, revealing (19) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 With courage, cunning, and (20) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ finally faced (21) \_\_\_\_\_. In that moment, they realized that (22) \_\_\_\_\_ was the key to everything — and that the greatest adventure is (23) \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Mysterious location, artifact, or secret  
 2. Protagonist name  
 3. Character trait or ordinary routine  
 4. Unexpected discovery / event  
 5. Initial reaction / attempt  
 6. Opposing force / conflict  
 7. Alternative action / decision  
 8. Critical setting (forest, city, castle, etc.)  
 9. Supporting or strange character  
 10. Role / species / profession of that character  
 11. Promise, offer, or clue  
 12. High-stakes condition or rule  
 13. Person or protagonist who might fail  
 14. Consequence if the challenge fails  
 15. Skill, tool, or talent  
 16. Another skill, tool, or ally  
 17. First major obstacle  
 18. Twist or surprise antagonist  
 19. Secret or revelation  
 20. Special quality, magic, or strategy  
 21. Final antagonist or challenge  
 22. Key lesson, object, or realization  
 23. Moral, personal growth, or ultimate adventure

### Answer Key