SITUATION REPORT

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ODISHA · STATE & DISTRICT-WISE

CYCLONE ARNAB

Impact, response and field observations after landfall



Deaths reported 1 Puri

COVERAGE 24–29 OCTOBER 2026

As of 29 October 2026, 3:30 pm IST

FIELD PHOTOS BY AAINA

Compiled from field & public report

01 KEY FIGURES

The state at a glance

Very Severe Cyclonic Storm Arnab crossed the Andhra Pradesh coast near **Narsapur–Yanam** between 2 am and 8 am on 28 Oct 2026 and entered Odisha as a weakening system through **Malkangiri**. The state declared zero casualties, but **one death was reported in Puri** district. The heaviest damage came *after* landfall, when the remnant stalled over **Ganjam, Gajapati and Kandhamal** and flooded rivers through 29 Oct.

1

DEATHS IN ODISHA

Reported in Puri (Astaranga block); the state claims zero.

28 Oct · Odisha Bhaskar; PTI

17

DISTRICTS AFFECTED BY RAIN

Southern Odisha.

29 Oct · Outlook

GANJAM

WORST-AFFECTED DISTRICT

Per IMD; Ganjam had the highest rain.

28–29 Oct · PTI; Ommcom News

31,255 – 1 lakh

PEOPLE EVACUATED

Varies by official and hour (see Section 3).

27–28 Oct · Ommcom; PTI; IANS; ETV Bharat

2,245

PREGNANT WOMEN MOVED

Of 4,139 identified; 931 delivered.

28 Oct · Ommcom News

62 · 9 · 244

RESPONSE TEAMS

ODRAF · NDRF · Fire Services.

28 Oct · Ommcom News

20,19,124

POWER CONSUMERS HIT (TPSODL)

65.41% restored.

28 Oct · Ommcom News

546 mm

HIGHEST 24-HR RAIN

Patrapur (Ganjam).

8:30 am, 29 Oct · Ommcom News (SRC)

2 rivers

ABOVE DANGER MARK

Rushikulya (Purushottampur); Vamsadhara (Kashinagar).

29 Oct · Ommcom; Pragativadi

19,143

FISHING BOATS BROUGHT ASHORE

11,955 sea; 7,188 Chilika.

28 Oct · Ommcom News

02 TRACK, WARNINGS & RESPONSE

Government decisions, newest first

26 Oct — Cyclonic Storm Arnab (PTI)

27 Oct — VSCS ~260 km SE of Visakhapatnam (DT Next)

28 Oct · 2–8 am — Landfall at 125–135 kmph, gusting 150 (Down To Earth)

28 Oct · eve — Severe CS by 8:30 am; CS by 8:30 pm; deep depression ~60 km S of Malkangiri (PTI; Ommcom)

29 Oct — Depression over S Chhattisgarh–S Odisha (Newsdrum)

The name, from Bangladesh, means "ocean" (Odisha Bytes, 25 Oct).

Warnings

- **25 Oct:** Red warning for Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri (Odisha Bytes)
- **28 Oct:** Red alert extended to Nabarangpur; heavy-rain alerts for 10 more districts (PTI)
- **28 Oct night:** Flash-flood alert for 17 districts (Odisha Bhaskar)
- **29 Oct:** Red and orange alerts continued (Pragativadi)

Key decisions

DATE	DECISION	SOURCE
29 Oct	Amit Shah promised full central help; Inter-Ministerial Central Teams to assess damage	Pragativadi
29 Oct	Chief Secretary Anu Garg approved Coast Guard helicopter airlift in Ganjam	Pragativadi
28 Oct	CM declared zero-casualty target met; 8 ministers and 7 IAS officers camping in districts	PTI
28 Oct	Employee holidays cancelled; control rooms 24x7; schools and anganwadis shut in affected areas	Ommcom News
27 Oct	Suresh Pujari, Odisha's Minister of Revenue and Disaster Management, chaired a high-level review; 8 districts on high alert	UNI
26 Oct	Sea fishing and tourist entry to hills, waterfalls and dams banned in 6 southern districts	PTI
25 Oct	8 ministers posted to 8 districts; 5 districts classed Category-1; all 30 districts on alert; reservoir pre-release sought from Centre, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand	Odisha Bytes
24 Oct	CM set the zero-casualty goal; priority evacuation of patients, pregnant women and the elderly	Odisha Bytes

Ministers posted (27–29 Oct)

Ganjam – Bibhuti Jena · Gajapati – Suryabanshi Suraj · Koraput – Dy CM K V Singh Deo · Rayagada – Dy CM Pravati Parida · Malkangiri – Nityananda Gond · Nabarangpur – Krushna Chandra Patra · Kalahandi – Mukesh Mahaling · Kandhamal – Rabi Narayan Naik (Odisha Bytes, 25 Oct)

Resources deployed (28 Oct)

1,510 power chainsaws · 225 towing tenders · 110 boats · 135 dewatering pumps · 225 tower lights, plus dry food, polythene sheets and anti-snake venom (Ommcom News). Two more ODRAF units were sent to Gajapati on 29 Oct, taking it to 6 (Pragativadi).

03 EVACUATION & VULNERABLE GROUPS

Same day, different totals

The state total was reported differently through the day. Shelters readied rose from **1,735** (27 Oct) to **2,067** (28 Oct).

REPORTED	PEOPLE EVACUATED	WHERE	SOURCE
27 Oct	**47,830**	8 districts	Pujari
28 Oct · 2:42 pm	**~28,000**	324 shelters	SRC; ETV Bharat Odisha
28 Oct	**31,255**	—	Chief Secretary's review; Ommcom
28 Oct eve	**43,827**	634 relief centres	CM; PTI
28 Oct	**~1 lakh**	—	Pujari; ETV Bharat Odisha

4,139

PREGNANT WOMEN IDENTIFIED

CM, 28 Oct

2,245

MOVED TO HEALTH FACILITIES

CM, 28 Oct

931

DELIVERIES

All reported well; several newborns named Arnab, Toofan or Barsha.

CM, 28 Oct

04 RAINFALL & RIVERS

24 hours to 8:30 am, 29 Oct 2026

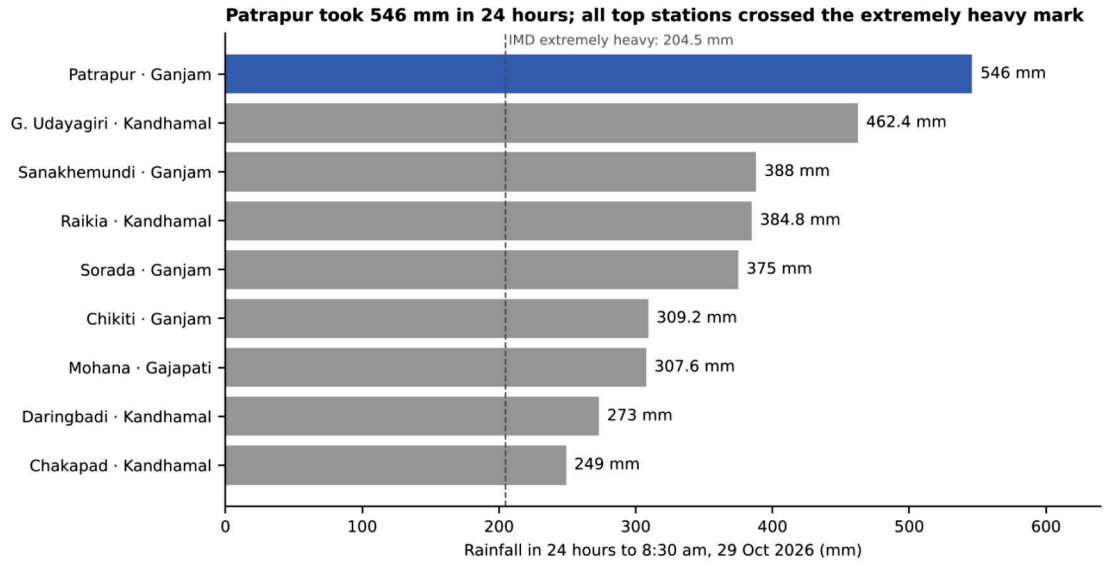


Fig. 1 · Nine highest stations, 24 hours to 8:30 am, 29 Oct 2026. Every top station crossed the IMD "extremely heavy" mark of 204.5 mm. Source: SRC Odisha data via Ommcom News.

On 28 Oct the state average was **23.9 mm**, led by Pottangi (Koraput) at 188 mm (SRC, Ommcom News). In the next 24 hours rain intensified over **Ganjam** (six of the ten wettest stations) and **Kandhamal**, where G. Udayagiri's **462.4 mm** was a record for the district (Kanak News; Sambad).

04 RIVERS & RESERVOIRS

Rainfall & rivers, continued

RIVER / RESERVOIR	READING	IMPACT	DATE	SOURCE
Rushikulya at Purushottampur (Ganjam)	17.500 m vs danger 16.835 m	Embankment breach at Goba; Tankachhai–Hinjilicut road under ~3 ft	**29 Oct**	Ommcom; Dharitri
Ghodahada near Palaspur (Ganjam)	~5 ft over bridge	Digapahandi–Aska Road (NH-326) cut	**29 Oct**	Ommcom News
Dah reservoir (Bhanjanagar)	Full at 4 am	Released into Lohorakhandi; low parts of Bhanjanagar town flooded	**29 Oct**	Dharitri
Vamsadhara at Kashinagar (Gajapati)	55.60 m vs danger 54.60 m	Flood alert	**29 Oct**	Pragativadi; The Sakala
Gotta Barrage (Andhra Pradesh)	All 22 gates open, ~48,676 cusecs	Watched for flow into Gajapati	**29 Oct**	Pragativadi
Mahendratanaya (Gajapati)	Rising	Baghasala village inundated; Paralakhemundi at risk	**29 Oct**	Pragativadi
Harabhangi reservoir (Rayagada)	2 gates opened (4 per The Indian Awaaz)	Outflow into the Bansadhara	**28 Oct**	ETV Bharat Odisha

05 SERVICES, TRANSPORT & EXAMS

POWER

65.41% of 20.19 lakh TPSODL consumers restored by 28 Oct; Gajapati 81.16%, Malkangiri 71.61% (Ommcom News). Widespread blackouts and mobile outages were still reported in the south on 29 Oct.

RAIL

22 trains cancelled from 27 Oct, rising to **more than 50** on the east coast by 28 Oct (UNI; PTI). On 29 Oct, high water on two Ichchapuram–Jhadupudi bridges cancelled **9 more** trains, including the Vande Bharat and Hirakhand Express; 14 were diverted (Ommcom News).

AIR & ROAD

The Bhubaneswar–Jeypore–Visakhapatnam flight was cancelled on 28 Oct (PTI); bus services were cancelled in the south (29 Oct); Chilika boats suspended 26–29 Oct (The Week).

SCHOOLS

Closed in **16 districts** on 28 Oct (CM, PTI); Ganjam extended closure to **31 Oct** (Dharitri).

● OPSC Mains · 31 Oct

The Koraput MP (28 Oct) and Brahmapur MP (29 Oct) sought postponement, citing flooding and outages at the Jeypore and Berhampur centres (Ommcom News). **No decision had been reported as of 29 Oct.**

06 DISTRICT SUMMARY

Evacuations as of 27 Oct (SRC; Minister Suresh Pujari)

DISTRICT	EVACUATED SRC; MINISTER	SHELTERS	HIGHEST 24-HR RAIN	MAIN IMPACTS	DEATHS
Ganjam	6,500; ~7,000	27	546 mm, Patrapur	Rushikulya breach; Sorada, Purushottampur, Bhanjanagar flooded; Bhootpankal bridge washed away	None
Gajapati	11,000; 12,000	175	307.6 mm, Mohana	Bansadhara above danger; landslide; Gundriguda bridge collapsed; 3 houses destroyed	None
Kandhamal	Not listed	—	462.4 mm, G. Udayagiri	Hill collapse at Balingia; villages marooned; Daringbadi without power	None
Malkangiri	9,850; 10,000	35	Not reported	System passed ~60 km south late 28 Oct	None
Nabarangpur	11,090; 12,000	134	Not reported	Red alert; little local reporting	None
Koraput	5,000; 6,000	47	188 mm, Pottangi	14 blocks watched for flash floods	None
Rayagada	300; 500	7	Conflicting	Harabhangi gates opened; landslides	None
Kalahandi	2,415; 3,000	14	Not reported	Puja arch fell on NH-26, 3 vehicles crushed	None
Nuapada	1,675; 2,000	17	Not reported	Flash-flood alert	None
Puri	Not listed	—	54.2 mm avg	Town waterlogging; beach and Chilika closed	1
Total	**47,830**	**456 (stated 466)**			

Sources: SRC Rajesh Prabhakar Patil and Minister Suresh Pujari, 27 Oct (ETV Bharat Odisha; Down To Earth). The two evacuation figures per district are the SRC and the Minister's numbers respectively.

● Hardest hit by rain

Ganjam and Kandhamal recorded the largest 24-hour totals;

● Deaths

One death was reported in Puri (Astaranga block). All other districts in the table reported none.

07 DISTRICT DETAILS

Ganjam · Gajapati · Kandhamal

GANJAM

- **Rain (to 8:30 am, 29 Oct):** Patrapur 546 mm, Sanakhemundi 388, Sorada 375, Chikiti 309.2, Rangeilunda 261, Digapahandi 252 (SRC via Kanak News).
- **Flooding (29 Oct):** Sorada town and four villages submerged (OTV Khabar); waist-deep water in Purushottampur, with fire service boat rescues in Handighar (Dharitri); Rushikulya embankment breached near Goba (Dharitri).
- **Bhanjanagar (29 Oct, Dharitri):** about 10 villages cut off after the Dah reservoir release; some thatched houses collapsed; livestock reportedly swept away; floodwater in low parts of the town. AAINA field photos (Section 8) show the same flooding around Mala Sahi and near the AAINA office between 1:46 and 2:03 pm.
- **Roads:** Bhootpankal bridge on NH-59 washed away, stopping Daringbadi–Berhampur traffic (Dharitri, 29 Oct); ~2 ft of water on NH-326 at Taptapani Ghat, where a landslide also turned back an ambulance (OTV Khabar; OdishaTV, 28 Oct).
- **People:** Coast Guard airlift of 120 marooned people from 4 clusters approved (Pragativadi, 29 Oct); 426–493 pregnant women shifted and 200–220 deliveries by 28 Oct (ETV Bharat Odisha; Ommcom News).
- **Crops:** paddy close to harvest and winter vegetables damaged, including in about 8,664 ha of paddy in Ganjam block (Dharitri; Down To Earth).

GAJAPATI

- **Rain:** Mahendragiri 249.9 mm (IMD, to 28 Oct); Mohana 307.6 mm (SRC, to 29 Oct) (Dharitri; Kanak News).
- **Damage (28–29 Oct):** 3 houses destroyed at Kumunda; Gundriguda bridge over the Mohana collapsed; ~30 roads blocked by trees; ~50 m of the Kaipur–Gangabada road buried by a landslide, cutting off villages (ETV Bharat Odisha; Odisha Bhaskar; The Sakala).
- **Rivers:** Vamsadhara at Kashinagar 1 m above danger; Mahendratanaya rising, Baghasala inundated (Pragativadi, 29 Oct). Two more ODRAF units sent, taking the total to 6.

KANDHAMAL

- **Rain (to 8:30 am, 29 Oct):** G. Udayagiri 462.4 mm (a district record), Raikia 384.8, Daringbadi 273, Chakapad 249 (SRC via Ommcom News; Sambad).
- **G. Udayagiri:** a hill collapsed at Balingia village around 10 am on 29 Oct, burying farmland; there was a new landslide at Kalinga Ghat (Sambad).
- **Raikia:** a culvert washed away and four panchayats were cut off (Dharitri, 29 Oct).
- **Daringbadi:** without power since 27 Oct (18–25 panchayats); three Simanabadi villages were marooned with 5 ft of water over the bridge (Dharitri, 28–29 Oct). Minister Rabi Narayan Naik visited on 28 Oct (Dharitri).

07 DISTRICT DETAILS

Southern districts · Puri, Khordha & west

RAYAGADA · MALKANGIRI · KORAPUT · KALAHANDI · NUAPADA

- **Rayagada:** 52 people moved from Mutukuni (Padmapur); Harabhangi gates opened after the danger siren (ETV Bharat Odisha, 28 Oct); landslides in the Lanjia Saura area and at Tarabel on the Gajapati road (Sambad, 29 Oct). Deputy CM Pravati Parida inspected the reservoir (ETV Bharat Odisha, 28 Oct).
- **Malkangiri:** schools and liquor shops shut; 2,135 evacuated, including 260 pregnant women (ETV Bharat Odisha, 26–28 Oct).
- **Koraput:** 14 blocks monitored for flash floods and landslides (OTV Khabar, 28 Oct).
- **Kalahandi:** a Gajalaxmi Puja gate collapsed onto NH-26 at Junagarh, with no injuries; 25 families shifted (ETV Bharat Odisha, 28 Oct).
- **Nuapada:** flash-flood alert as the system exited (ETV Bharat Odisha, 28 Oct).

PURI, KHORDHA AND WESTERN DISTRICTS

- **Puri (28 Oct):** the only death reported in Odisha. A woman died when a tree toppled and a kitchen wall crumbled in Astaranga block (Odisha Bhaskar). Waterlogging hit Puri town on 27 Oct; the beach and Chilika were closed; the district averaged 54.2 mm of rain (ETV Bharat Odisha; SRC).
- **Bhubaneswar / Khordha:** rain began on 27 Oct and Khordha schools were shut (ETV Bharat Odisha, 27 Oct). On 28 Oct a Lakshmi Puja arch and idol collapsed in Bhubaneswar, and heavy rain cost street vendors their livelihood (ETV Bharat Odisha).
- **Western districts (29 Oct):** ripe paddy flattened by incessant rain in Jharsuguda (Sambad) and paddy destroyed in Bargarh (Dharitri).
- **Emergency services (28 Oct):** failures of the 108 ambulance service were reported in Rayagada and Keonjhar (Kanak News).

What the reporting does not yet show

Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, Kalahandi and Nuapada had little or no local impact reporting by 29 Oct. Rainfall for these districts is listed as “not reported” in the district summary rather than assumed.

08 FIELD PHOTOS

29 October 2026 · Shared by AAINA's field team

Most are from Bhanjanagar town (Ganjam). Times and GPS are from the NoteCam stamp; photos without a stamp are marked "not tagged".

1



Photo 1. People wading through a fast-flowing flooded lane.

Location and time not tagged

2



Photo 2. Mala Sahi near Ghumusur Radio, Bhanjanagar: waterlogged ground and leaning poles.

2:02 pm · 19.9318 N, 84.5777 E

3



Photo 3. Near AAINA office, Bhanjanagar: houses surrounded by floodwater.

1:48 pm · 19.9321 N, 84.5773 E

4



Photo 4. Mala Sahi, Bhanjanagar: street under water, two-wheelers standing in it.

1:50 pm · 19.9324 N, 84.5775 E

5



Photo 5. Uprooted tree blocking half the road; a motorcyclist passes on the open side.

Location and time not tagged

6



Photo 6. Fire Services team and residents cutting fallen trees to clear the road.

Location and time not tagged

7



Photo 7. Ghumusur Radio, Bhanjanagar: floodwater spreading across low ground beyond a utility pole.

Time not tagged

8



Photo 8. Uprooted tree across the road outside a government office; a pedestrian with an umbrella looks on.

Location not tagged

09 OUTLOOK

What to watch next

The remnant was weakening to a **well-marked low** by the evening of 29 Oct, though heavy rain could continue in the south. A **fresh low over the South Andaman Sea** may become a depression within 48 hours (Ommcom News).

Still pending

- SRC damage assessment
- Central team visit
- Compensation
- OPSC decision on the 31 Oct exam

To keep watching

- Rushikulya, Vamsadhara and Mahendratanaya levels
- Ghat roads
- Gotta Barrage releases into Gajapati

Data notes & caveats

- **Deaths:** the state claims zero casualties; Odisha Bhaskar reported one death in Puri on 28 Oct. Other outlets cite regional tolls (Newsdrum, 29 Oct: 7 dead in Andhra Pradesh; The Business Standard BD, 28 Oct, citing an NDRF briefing: 3 dead). These are not Odisha counts.
- **Evacuations:** five different state totals were reported between 27 and 28 Oct, from 28,000 to about 1 lakh, depending on official and hour of day.
- **Shelters:** the district tally sums to 456, while IANS reported 466.
- **Harabhangi reservoir:** 2 gates opened per ETV Bharat Odisha; 4 per The Indian Awaaz.
- **Pregnant women, Ganjam:** 426–493 shifted and 200–220 deliveries, depending on source.
- **Photos:** times and GPS are from NoteCam stamps; five of the eight photos carry no stamp.

10 SOURCES

All pages opened on 29 Oct 2026

Dates are publication dates. Odia titles are translated. Links are clickable.

ETV Bharat Odisha

- 29 Oct Weakening to depression; orange alert
- 28 Oct Gajapati: houses broken, trees down
- 28 Oct Kalahandi: puja arch collapses on NH
- 28 Oct Deputy CM in Rayagada
- 28 Oct Malkangiri: 2,135 evacuated
- 28 Oct Ganjam: 426 pregnant women shifted
- 28 Oct SRC: next 24 hours crucial
- 28 Oct 1 lakh moved to safety
- 28 Oct Bhubaneswar: puja arch and idol collapse
- 28 Oct Bhubaneswar vendors lose livelihood
- 27 Oct Live updates (district round-up)
- 27 Oct Gajapati: 15,000 to be evacuated
- 27 Oct Malkangiri: 10,000 evacuated
- 27 Oct Puri waterlogging
- 27 Oct Rain begins; Khordha schools shut
- 26 Oct Malkangiri on alert

Dharitri

- 29 Oct Arnab heads to Chhattisgarh; less damage, more rain
- 29 Oct Rushikulya embankment breached
- 29 Oct Water enters villages, connectivity cut (Purushottampur)
- 29 Oct Heavy rain in Bhanjanagar, 10 villages waterlogged
- 29 Oct Bhootpankal bridge washed away
- 29 Oct Simanabadi: 3 villages marooned
- 29 Oct Widespread damage in Raikia
- 29 Oct Farmland submerged (Ganjam block)
- 29 Oct Paddy destroyed (Bargarh)
- 28 Oct Daringbadi in darkness for 2 days
- 28 Oct Minister visits Daringbadi
- 28 Oct Paddy flattened (Chhatrapur)
- 28 Oct Vegetable crops destroyed (Ganjam)
- 28 Oct Electric pole and trees down (Ganjam town)
- 28 Oct Administrative alertness (Koraput)

Ommcom News

- 29 Oct Patrapur records 546 mm in 24 hrs
- 29 Oct Rushikulya above danger level
- 29 Oct ECoR cancels 9 trains, diverts 14
- 29 Oct Brahmapur MP seeks OES Mains postponement
- 29 Oct Fresh low over Andaman Sea
- 29 Oct Deep depression 60 km south of Malkangiri
- 28 Oct CS review: 31,255 evacuated
- 28 Oct 931 deliveries during cyclone
- 28 Oct Koraput MP seeks OCS Mains rescheduling

Odisha Bytes

- 27 Oct Plan to evacuate 48,000
- 27 Oct 1,735 shelters, ₹19 crore
- 27 Oct 22 trains cancelled
- 27 Oct 6 more passenger trains cancelled
- 25 Oct Ministers deputed to 8 districts
- 25 Oct Top officers deployed; reservoir release
- 25 Oct Track emerges; red alert

Pragativadi

- 29 Oct Floods and landslides in Gajapati
- 29 Oct Chief Secretary review; Ganjam airlift
- 29 Oct Amit Shah assures central aid
- 29 Oct Weakens into deep depression; alerts

Down To Earth

- 28 Oct Arnab batters southern Odisha
- 27 Oct 47,830 evacuated
- 27 Oct Another storm could head to Odisha
- 26 Oct Odisha prepares for mass evacuations

UNI

- 28 Oct Odisha escapes Arnab's fury
- 27 Oct ECoR cancels 22 services
- 27 Oct Eight districts on high alert
- 26 Oct Dy CM reviews Energy preparedness

Odisha Bhaskar

- 28 Oct Woman dies in Puri district
- 28 Oct Flash-flood alert for 17 districts
- 29 Oct Landslide cuts off Gajapati villages
- 29 Oct Rayagada stays on high alert

Sambad

- 29 Oct Landslide at Kalinga Ghat, record rain in G. Udayagiri
- 29 Oct Ripe paddy flattened by incessant rain (Jharsuguda)
- 29 Oct State news page: Rayagada landslide, Gunupur Vamsadhara

OTV Khabar

- 29 Oct Flood in Sorada
- 28 Oct NH-326 flooded at Taptapani Ghat
- 28 Oct Over 50 trains cancelled; Koraput 14 blocks watched

Kanak News

- 29 Oct Ganjam records 546 mm
- 28 Oct 108 ambulance failures

Newsdrum

- 29 Oct 7 dead in Andhra, Odisha flooded

Sambad English

- 29 Oct Landslide blocks Rayagada–Gajapati road

Outlook

- 29 Oct Weakens into deep depression

Argus

- 29 Oct Odisha braces for heavy rain

The Federal

- 29 Oct CM says zero-casualty target achieved

ETV Bharat

- 28 Oct Fallen trees disrupt Gajapati

OdishaTV

- 28 Oct Taptapani Ghat landslide

The Business Standard (BD)

- 28 Oct Arnab kills three (NDRF briefing)

Deccan Chronicle

- 28 Oct Arnab makes landfall, batters Odisha

Morung Express (IANS)

- 27 Oct 466 shelters; ~48,000 evacuated

DT Next

- 27 Oct Heavy rains lash Odisha

The Week

- 27 Oct Six districts on alert; Chilika boats

OrissaPOST

- 27 Oct Odisha steps up evacuation

Siasat (PTI)

- 27 Oct Andhra braces, 3 states on alert

Business Today

- 27 Oct 53 trains cancelled

Financial Express BD (Reuters)

- 27 Oct Thousands evacuate east coast

Daily Pioneer (PTI)

- 26 Oct Fishing, tourist entry banned

The Sakala

- 29 Oct Bansadhara crosses danger mark (Gajapati)

Sakala Khabar

- 27 Oct Kandhamal schools and anganwadis shut

Odisha Reporter

- 28 Oct CM: zero casualty achieved

The Indian Awaaz

- 29 Oct Heavy rain lashes southern Odisha; red warning for six districts