THE BREAKFAST TABLE

DAILY

"The day's news, for everyone at the table."

SCAN TO READ & PLAY

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TOP STORY • INDIA

Odisha Families Shelter From Cyclone Akvan

The storm reached land on Friday morning, weaker than feared.

Written and fact-checked by AI · News Pebbles

This week, about 3.72 lakh people in Odisha left home for a while because a big storm was coming. A lakh is 100,000. Officials moved them to nearly 10,000 shelters, safe places to stay until the danger passed.

The storm, Cyclone Akvan, crossed the coast near Gopalpur on Friday morning, with gusts up to 90 km an hour. It was weaker than first forecast. A cyclone is a giant spinning storm that feeds on warm, wet air from the sea; over land, that fuel is cut off.

Among those moved to safety were 4,470 women expecting babies. Since then, 1,450 have given birth, and the mothers and newborns are safe. Odisha's top official said there were no reports of people hurt or of major damage so far. Still, dozens of trains were cancelled, and more heavy rain is expected.



Akvan crossed the Odisha coast near Gopalpur on Friday morning.

WHY IT MATTERS

Warnings that come early give families time to move, and Odisha moved people before the storm arrived; officials have had no reports of anyone hurt so far.

WORLD • CHINA

Three Big Leaders Meet, but Ukraine Has No Seat

Trump, Xi and Putin talked together in China for the first time.

The United States, China and Russia are three of the world's most powerful countries. On Thursday their leaders, Donald Trump, Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin, met as a group of three for the first time, in Shenzhen, a city in southern China.

They talked for about an hour and a half. Afterwards they shared a joint statement, a message all three agreed on. It promised to pump more oil and gas. It also said there can be no winners in a nuclear war, so one must never start.

Yet the statement did not mention the war in Ukraine, now in its fifth year. Nobody from Ukraine was in the room, and Ukraine's foreign minister said no decisions can be made without Ukraine.

Putin said Russia will not hold talks with Ukraine for now, after a Ukrainian attack on a bridge to Crimea. Trump gave the meeting 12 out of 10.

WHO SAID WHAT AFTER SHENZHEN

Joint statement: more oil and gas, never a nuclear war
Putin: no talks with Ukraine for now
Ukraine: no decisions without Ukraine
Trump: the meeting scored 12 out of 10

What each side said after the meeting, as reported by news outlets. The rows are not ranked.

CONNECT THE DOTS

History: Trump and Putin last met at a summit in Alaska in August 2025.

*New to this story? Catch up with **The story so far** on Read & Play.*

UNITED STATES • GOVERNMENT

Who Decides on War? A Close Vote in the Senate

Senators turned down a plan about the war with Iran.

In America, the Constitution, the country's founding rules, splits the power over war between Congress and the president.

On Thursday the Senate, one part of Congress, voted on a plan telling the president to take US armed forces out of the fighting with Iran. It lost, by 48 votes to 51. The House of Representatives, the other part of Congress, had already approved the plan in September.

Three Republicans voted for it and one Democrat against. Even if it had passed, it would not have gone to the president to sign, so it would mostly have been a message. Democrat Tim Kaine said the 3 November election showed the war is unpopular; Republican Thom Tillis called the plan "just a statement from Congress." By 13 November, the war had cost at least $48.3 billion.

WHY IT MATTERS

In a vote this close, a few senators changing sides can decide the result.

Also in United States

• California: San Francisco broke a rain record set in 1918.

• Florida: Floods led to nearly 100 rescues in Brevard County.

ONE-LINE BRIEFS

• Climate: A new draft deal at the COP31 talks in Turkey no longer mentions fossil fuels.

• Science: A brain area known for listening also plans our words just before we say them.

TALK ABOUT IT

TALK ABOUT IT

What could our family do together when we hear a storm warning?

Why might Ukraine want to be in the room when other countries talk about its war?

Should a big decision like going to war be made by one person or by many people? Why?

INDIA • JAPAN

India and Japan Team Up on Supplies

Ministers met in Tokyo to plan safer supplies.

India and Japan want to make sure no single country can cut off the supplies their economies depend on, such as computer chips and medicines.

On Thursday, two ministers from each country met in Tokyo, Japan's capital, for 90 minutes. A meeting like this is called a "2+2." They agreed to build stronger supply chains, the paths goods travel from makers to users, for computer chips, critical minerals, clean energy and medicines. Their joint statement warned about countries using trade to pressure others, without naming any country.

They also agreed to work together on defence: Japan's forces will be allowed to train with missiles on Indian firing ranges. Each country also supports the other's wish for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. Japan has promised to invest about $62.5 billion in India over ten years, and the next 2+2 meeting will be held in India.

WHY IT MATTERS

Shared supplies make it harder for one country to cut off things people need.

SPORTS CORNER

HOCKEY: INDIA'S WOMEN START WITH A WIN

Defending champions **India** beat **Malaysia 4-1** in their first match of the Women's Asian Champions Trophy on Thursday. Malaysia scored first, but India fought back. **Puja Sahoo**, playing her first match, was Player of the Match. It is the first international hockey tournament ever held in Bhopal.

TOMORROW'S WATCHLIST

• Saturday: India's women play South Korea at 7 pm in the Asian Champions Trophy.

• Saturday: The COP31 climate talks in Turkey are expected to run into overtime.

"A warning heard early keeps a family safe together."

Keep exploring. See you tomorrow.