HYDERABAD HEADLINES

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SADHULAL PALIAL HONOURED WITH GOVERNOR EXCELLENCE AWARD 2026

STADIUM 11



ANUSHKA'S FAMILY MAKES A MEGA DEAL

BOX -OFFICE 12



TGSRTC Union Polls: Employees Union Leads in Early Trends

98% turnout recorded; final results scheduled for Oct 17

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) recognised union elections witnessed a high turnout, with around 98 per cent of eligible employees exercising their franchise on October 9. The contest is primarily between the Employees Union (EU) and the Telangana Mazdoor Union (TMU)-led alliance. Of the 34,899 eligible voters, 33,973 cast their votes at 115 polling stations across the state. Turnout stood at 99 per cent in the Greater Hyderabad zone, 98 per cent in Hyderabad and 97 per cent in Karimnagar.Preliminary reports indicated that the Employees Union was leading in the early trends. However, the final outcome is subject to the official counting and declaration of results. The elections are being held after a gap of 10 years and will determine which unions represent employees at the state and regional levels.

HYDERABAD

TG Govt envisages plans to strengthen public transportation in CURE region

- Leverage modern technology in projects
- Ensure smoother traffic flow around KBR Park
- CM Orders officials to conduct a comprehensive study on the use of recycled water
- CM Revanth Reddy holds a review of works in the CURE zone today





HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Shri A Revanth Reddy emphasized that the public transportation should be strengthened within the CURE zone to meet the future requirements.

The Chief Minister held a review of the improvement of public transportation, road connectivity and the utilization of recycled water in the CURE zone.

During the meeting, the officials made a power point presentation outlining the requirements for implementing a Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) system in Hyderabad which is witnessing heavy traffic flow and congestion.

The CM suggested designing the Personal Rapid Transit system to connect high-traffic areas—including locations frequented by the public and workplaces for factory workers and employees—with Metro, MMTS, and Bus stations.

CM Revanth Reddy ordered the officials to study the world's best PRT systems and submit a report. The authorities were also instructed to envisage plans and execute the works expeditiously.

The Chief Minister stressed prioritizing the selection of key neighborhoods, use of state-of-the-art technology, and efficient maintenance. The CM also ordered officials to accelerate the construction of flyovers and underpasses to enhance connectivity between various areas within the city and ensure smooth traffic flow.

The CM issued directives regarding measures to streamline traffic around KBR Park by implementing a one-way system. Officials briefed the Chief Minister on the plans for the one-way arrangement, specifically addressing the integration of roads from various neighborhoods and thoroughfares, as well as the provisions for free-left turns and U-turns.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ➤

Rs. 1,090-cr steel flyover to ease traffic congestion around KBR Park

HYDERABAD

The Telangana government has finalised plans for a 4.3-km-long, six-lane elevated steel corridor from Jubilee Hills Check Post Junction to NFCL Junction to ease traffic congestion around KBR Park. The project, costing Rs.1,090 crore, will provide signal-free movement at five major junctions. Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, who inspected the ongoing works around KBR Park on Friday along with District Collector Dr. Priyanka Ala, GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan and other officials, said the existing one-way traffic system around the park would continue.

The earlier proposals for separate underpasses and grade separators have been withdrawn in favour of the integrated elevated corridor, which will be executed in two packages under the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode. The first package, costing Rs.580 crore, involves a steel flyover from Jubilee Hills Check Post Junction to Mudha Junction.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ➤

CJP's Movement in Delhi Tomorrow

HYDERABD



A protest by CJP is scheduled for tomorrow in Delhi. The atmosphere has heated up again due to issues with the Election Commission. Protests are being held across the country against the Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. This protest aims to demand the resignation of Gyanesh Kumar.

Protests against Gyanesh Kumar are being observed in many places. In this context, it has been reported that the Cockroach People's Party (CJP) will hold a protest tomorrow. Additionally, it has come to light that some CJP activists in Nagpur have been issued notices by the police in relation to the protest planned in Delhi tomorrow.

Furthermore, it has been reported that security agencies have been placed on high alert for the CJP protest in Delhi tomorrow. The Jantar Mantar area has taken on a camp-like appearance, and barricades have been erected on the roads leading to Jantar Mantar. There will be a heavy police presence to maintain law and order.

CEO refutes claims of 95 lakh voter deletions in Telangana

HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudharsan Reddy on Friday refuted reports claiming that 95 lakh votes have been purged from the state's electoral rolls, dismissing the claims as false.

Addressing the ongoing voter list verification process, Sudharsan Reddy clarified that 73,39,235 electors were categorised under the Absentee, Shifted, and Dead (ASD/VSD) list. As part of the review, authorities issued 92,23,486 notices to voters, while 64,701 notices remain pending distribution.

According to official data, election officials have completed field verification for 82,11,205 electors so far. Of those verified, 74,62,851 individuals were deemed eligible and retained on the rolls, whereas 12,969 electors were identified as ineligible. Decisions remain pending for 18,12,367 electors.



2026 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Navi Pillay

OSLO, NORWAY: Navi Pillay, a South African-born jurist and former U.N. human rights chief whose career has spanned from defending the rights of an imprisoned Nelson Mandela to leading a panel that found that Israel committed genocide in Gaza, won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for efforts that the award committee said promoted international law as it comes under attack. Her win is sure to be seen as a high-profile rebuke to U.S. President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Goal Is to Make Telangana Free of Land Disputes

- Comprehensive Land Resurvey to Be Completed Within 18 Months
- 14 Officials Appointed to Supervise Survey Across Seven Zones
- Quality, Transparency and Speed Are Crucial to the Resurvey
- Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy holds a high-level review meeting



HYDERABAD

Revenue, Housing, and Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has directed officials to implement a robust action plan to complete the comprehensive land resurvey being undertaken across Telangana within 18 months, with the objective of building a state free of land disputes in line with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's vision.

On Friday, the Minister reviewed the progress of the land survey at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat with the officials appointed to supervise the exercise.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister stressed that speed, quality and continuous monitoring at every stage of the survey must be accorded the highest priority. He noted that a comprehensive land survey was being undertaken in the state after nearly 125 years and urged officials to utilise this opportunity responsibly to find permanent solutions to land-related problems.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ➤

Telangana Global Summit Aims to Attract Worldwide Investments

- Summit to Elevate Telangana's Global Profile
- Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Issues Key Directives to Officials on Global Summit Preparations



HYDERABAD

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has directed officials to ensure that the various committees constituted by the government for the Invest Telangana Global Summit 2.0, scheduled to be held at Bharat Future City on December 7, 8 and 9, work in coordination and complete the assigned tasks expeditiously.

On Friday, he visited the war room established at Praja Bhavan to oversee arrangements for the Global Summit and issued several key instructions. Speaking on the occasion, Bhatti Vikramarka stressed that officials must discharge the responsibilities assigned to them by their respective departments efficiently. He called for clear measures to ensure continuous information sharing and coordination among departments.

He said every department must contribute to the successful conduct of the summit. The Deputy Chief Minister stated that the summit was being organised with the objectives of ensuring Telangana's comprehensive development, attracting investments from across the world and taking the state's international reputation to new heights.

He called upon every official to work collectively and take shared responsibility for making the prestigious event a success.



'Shocked that President accepted what we said'

Rahul Gandhi makes big claim after meet over CEC row

New Delhi: After meeting President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said that he was "shocked" that she accepted the Opposition's allegations of 'vote chore' rather than denying it.

The Opposition MPs met the President amid the ongoing protest against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over the irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). Following the meeting, Gandhi said that the President accepted the statement and sought proof of 'vote chori'.

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Power at Your Doorstep: TGSPDCL's "Basti Bata"
Successfully Resolves Electricity Issues Across 21 Circles

Under CMD Jitesh V. Patil's leadership, utility teams step directly into local communities to resolve low-voltage issues, upgrade transformers, and boost power safety.

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI



The "Basti Bata" (and "Praja Bata") initiative, launched under the leadership of TGSPDCL Chairman and Managing Director Shri Jitesh V. Patil, IAS, is making significant strides across Telangana. Aimed at providing high-quality, uninterrupted, and safe electricity directly to consumers, power utility officials and technical staff across 21 distribution circles are actively visiting bastis, villages, and residential colonies to inspect local power infrastructure and resolve long-standing grievances on the spot.

To ensure long-term grid stability and public safety, comprehensive maintenance and upgrade works are being executed in all participating regions. Field teams are clearing tree branches and creepers near power lines, thoroughly cleaning Distribution Transformer (DTR) yards, setting up LT line spacers, and carrying out extensive transformer maintenance. Additionally, crews are charging single-phase DTRs, fixing low-voltage issues, replacing damaged units with new transformers, and conducting vital substation maintenance. In rural areas, land surveys are already underway to establish new substations to meet future energy demand.

These operations are actively taking place across diverse urban and rural zones. In the Siddipet circle, such as Tuniki Bollaram village, DE (Operation) officers conducted interactive face-to-face meetings with local sarpanches and residents to address power issues directly, a model also replicated in the Mulugu sub-division.

In the Hyderabad Metro Zone, intensive safety and line maintenance drives were carried out across Saidabad, Shankarmutt, Langar Houz, Asmangadh, Lalbazar, and Bairamalguda. Furthermore, crucial repairs and infrastructure strengthening were completed across Mahabubnagar, Jadcherla, Devarakadra, Narayanraopet, Suryapet, Nalgonda, Mothkur, and Tripuraram.

Beyond infrastructure maintenance, TGSPDCL officials are using these community outreach visits to hold public awareness sessions on electrical safety, accident prevention, proper equipment handling, and DTR protection.

Utility representatives reaffirmed that bringing services directly to the public's doorstep is the central goal of the Basti Bata program. Moving forward, TGSPDCL plans to expand this initiative to continually boost power quality, eliminate unexpected supply interruptions, heighten safety standards, and ensure maximum consumer satisfaction across the state.



"Unfounded Allegations Harm Academic Environment": JNTUH Students Support VC Leadership

Student delegation addresses recent misinterpretations, advocating for truth and institutional progress over unverified claims

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI

Bonafide students of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad (JNTUH) have publicly voiced their support for the Vice-Chancellor, condemning recent misleading campaign aimed at tarnishing the institution's reputation and degrading the VC's character.

Clarifying the details surrounding the controversy, student representative Challa Ramakrishna Reddy noted that the Principal, Head of Department, and students from VJIT College had recently met the Vice-Chancellor to invite him as the chief guest for an upcoming event. Considering his tight schedule, the VC expressed that he would attend if time permitted. Students highlighted that misinterpreting a standard response regarding event attendance and framing it as discrimination against women is unjustified and misleading.

Refuting claims of gender bias, the students pointed out that JNTUH maintains a strong commitment to women's empowerment and equal opportunity. They noted that the university currently has a female Registrar, alongside numerous female directors, professors, and faculty members serving in key leadership roles.

"Constructive feedback for university growth is welcome, but spreading unverified allegations that damage personal reputations harms the academic environment," said Challa Ramakrishna Reddy. "As bonafide students, we stand by the dignity of our university, its progress, and its values of equality."

The students reaffirmed their trust in the Vice-Chancellor's leadership, emphasizing his focus on student welfare, academic standards, and institutional development. They urged the student community to act responsibly and verify facts before reacting to unproven claims.

The solidarity declaration was supported by JNTUH students Jayaram, Sairam, Sampath, Harsha, Ram, Durga, Aravind, Vikram, Srinu, Nitin, Yash Vardhan, Shiva, Ganesh, Varun, Chandu, Arjun Sai, Tobi, Nikhil, and Abhinay, among others.



Internet Services Suspended Within a 4-Km Radius in New Delhi

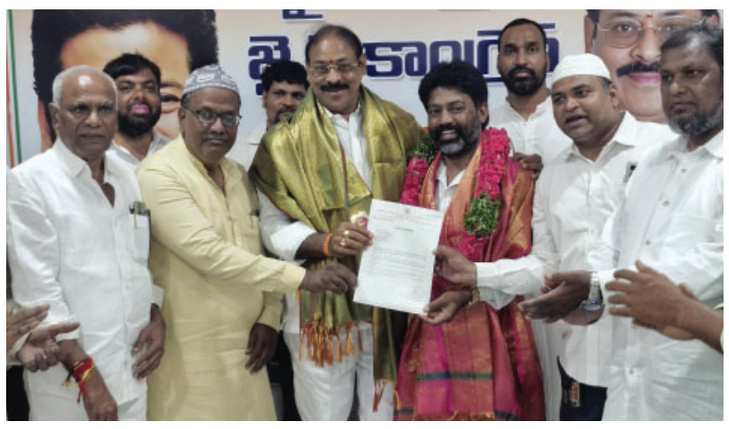
NEW DELHI

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the temporary suspension of internet services in parts of New Delhi. Internet services will be suspended within a 4-kilometre radius of the Janpath–Kartavya Path intersection. The suspension will remain in effect from 10 p.m. on October 9 to 10 p.m. on October 10. Orders have been issued to suspend all types of mobile internet services during this period.

"Be Accessible to the People": Bandi Ramesh Urges Leaders at Channu Pasha's Felicitation

Kukatpally Congress leadership signals strong push to address civic issues and consolidate minority support ahead of upcoming challenges

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI



In a push to fortify the party's grassroots outreach and minority representation in the constituency, newly appointed Kukatpally Minority Chairman Mohammed Channu Pasha paid a courtesy visit to TPCC Vice President and Kukatpally Constituency In-Charge Bandi Ramesh.

The meeting took place at the Kukatpally Congress Party headquarters at Sri Hema Durga Bhavan. Marking the appointment, Bandi Ramesh warmly congratulated Channu Pasha, honoring him with a traditional shawl and presenting sweets in the presence of key local party leadership. Addressing party workers during the event, Bandi Ramesh highlighted the essential role minority leaders play in expanding the Congress Party's presence across urban pockets. He instructed local leaders and activists to maintain seamless coordination and stay accessible to the public to solve civic and socio-economic issues proactively.

He expressed confidence in Pasha's leadership, calling on him to carry out his designated responsibilities with dedication to both the electorate and the party. Accepting the mandate, Mohammed Channu Pasha assured senior leadership that he would work diligently to resolve local issues and build a cohesive network of minority party workers across the constituency.

The program saw strong participation from local leaders and supporters, including Laxmaiah, Nawaz, Pasha, Akbar, Sachin, Barkat Ali, Prasanna Kumar, Aslam, Parvez, Ramana, Khaja, Ramadevi, and Swaroopa, among others.

Telangana raises fire NOC height limit for apartments to 24 metres

HYDERABAD



The Telangana government has raised the height limit for residential apartments requiring a Fire No Objection Certificate (NOC) from 18 metres to 24 metres. A fire tower will be mandatory for buildings exceeding 24 metres in height. The government has also introduced a provision to facilitate ventilation in diesel generator (DG) rooms located in basements. The changes follow consultations with representatives of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), the National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) and the Builders Federation. Telangana Fire Services Director General Vikram Singh Mann issued orders implementing the revised regulations, which came into force on October 7, 2026. The government aims to simplify the process of obtaining fire NOCs while ensuring compliance with prescribed fire safety measures in buildings.

Revanth to review El Niño impact, rain deficit on Oct 12

HYDERABAD

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will convene a special review meeting with state Ministers on October 12 to evaluate the severe impact of El Niño and address the prevailing deficit rainfall across Telangana. The high-level discussions will focus on immediate interventions required in rain-deficient areas, relieving agricultural distress, and managing critical resources including irrigation, drinking water supply, and surging electricity demand.

Telangana has recorded a 17% overall drop in normal rainfall this season, with drought-like conditions now affecting approximately 235 mandals. Following a comprehensive discussion during the recent State Cabinet meeting, the Legislative Assembly passed a formal resolution urging the Union Government to declare the affected mandals as drought-hit and release a special financial assistance package of ₹20,000 crore.

The upcoming October 12 meeting is set to review the mitigation action plan drafted by the Cabinet sub-committee, alongside recommendations gathered from all-party consultations, farmers' unions, and sector experts.

World Egg Day celebrations mark Poultry India Expo 2026 launch

HYDERABAD

The Telangana Poultry Federation and the National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC), Hyderabad Zone, celebrated World Egg Day at Peddamberpet here on Friday, highlighting the nutritional benefits of eggs and their role in promoting healthy living.

The event, supported by IPEMA–Poultry India, also marked the launch of the 18th Poultry India Expo 2026, with Telangana Minister for Animal Husbandry Dr. Vakiti Srihari unveiling the exhibition poster. Ibrahimpatnam MLA Malreddy Ranga Reddy attended as guest of honour. Uday Singh Bayas, President of IPEMA–Poultry India, emphasised that eggs are an affordable source of high-quality protein, vitamins and minerals, urging people of all age groups to include them in their daily diets.

The expo will be held at the HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, from November 25 to 27, with Poultry Knowledge Day on November 24, bringing together stakeholders from across the poultry value chain.

Recognised as the World's Largest Poultry Expo, Poultry India Expo serves as a comprehensive platform bringing together the entire poultry value chain—from equipment manufacturers, technology providers and nutrition specialists to farmers, veterinarians, researchers and industry leaders.

CONTINUATION FROM PAGE 1

Goal Is to Make Telangana Free of Land Disputes

FROM PAGE 1

14 officials appointed to supervise the resurvey

The Minister said that 14 officials, with two each from the Revenue and Survey Departments assigned to each of the seven zones, had been appointed to continuously monitor the resurvey at the field level.

He directed them to regularly assess the progress, quality of the survey and public response, and take decisions based on local conditions. The Minister said the resurvey was progressing intensively in a total of 2,768 villages. These include 365 villages without maps in the first phase and 2,240 villages at the rate of 70 villages per district, as stated in the review. So far, the survey had been completed in 245 villages.

He said the 14 officials had been appointed as supervisors to monitor this prestigious government initiative. The target was to complete the first phase of the survey by the end of November.

Two survey teams in every mandal

The Minister said steps had been taken to ensure that the survey was conducted in at least two revenue villages in every mandal. Two survey teams had been constituted for each mandal. Each team would comprise a licensed surveyor, a GPO, a Deputy Tahsildar or Revenue Inspector (RI), a senior assistant, a junior assistant and other personnel. He directed Tahsildars to visit the areas under survey every day and personally inspect the progress.

Officials were instructed to collect clear daily information on the locations surveyed, the number of acres and survey numbers covered, the number of villages where work was in progress, public feedback and any difficulties encountered during the exercise. The Minister emphasised that the resurvey must be conducted without even minor errors, ensuring that there would be no scope for land disputes in the future.

Dedicated dashboard to be established in Hyderabad

The Minister directed officials to establish a dedicated dashboard in Hyderabad to enable continuous monitoring of the resurvey at the state level.

He instructed them to use technology to display real-time information on survey progress, daily performance, village-wise completion status, survey teams deployed, rovers being used and their locations.

He assured officials that there would be no shortage of funds for procuring surveyors, rovers, servers, other technical equipment and materials required for the exercise.

The government would release the necessary funds immediately, he said, directing officials to purchase additional rovers as well.

Weekly reviews at the state level

Describing the resurvey as a prestigious government initiative, the Minister directed officials to conduct reviews at the state level every week. He said he would personally review the progress once every 15 days.

He also instructed officials from the concerned departments to be present during surveys of government lands, particularly when identifying and demarcating boundaries.

Warning against malpractice, the Minister said that collecting money from the public in the name of the resurvey would not be tolerated under any circumstances. He directed officials to take stringent action against anyone causing inconvenience to the public.

Minister Ponguleti speaks to the media

During an informal interaction with media representatives at the Secretariat on Friday, Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy addressed issues relating to land in Erravalli.

He said that, out of the 385 acres in Erravalli, a discrepancy of 45 acres had been identified and fresh notices had been issued to conduct the survey again.

He stated that some assigned lands in Erravalli had changed hands and that the government would identify such cases and take appropriate action.

The Minister also said that, as promised during the elections, the government would identify the martyrs and ensure justice for them.

He added that any assigned lands in Erravalli found to have been held in violation of the rules would be distributed to the poor.

TG Govt envisages plans to strengthen public transportation in CURE region

FROM PAGE 1

CM Revanth Reddy directed officials to expedite the shifting of utilities, flyover construction between Nagarjuna Circle and Jubilee Check Post. Noting that similar projects in cities like Mumbai are completed within a year, the Chief Minister advised studying the technology and work methods adopted.

Setting one year deadline to complete all the projects, the CM instructed the officials to conduct a study on constructing a radial road parallel to Hyderabad-Mumbai bullet train corridor. Feasibility of both widening existing roads and constructing new ones between Shankarpally and Chevella was discussed in the meeting.

During reviewing the use of recycled water through big initiatives, the Officials briefed the CM on the plans for utilizing 500 MLD of recycled water. The meeting decided to take up necessary works for the use of recycled water by 'Bharat Future City,' and Data centers in Chandanvalli and Alur, and other industries. Measures would also be taken to ensure the use of recycled water in the construction of high-rise buildings, as well as for landscaping and in parks.

CM Revanth Reddy ordered officials of the GHMC, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri corporations, HYDRAA, Water Board, and Hyderabad Growth Corridor Limited to work in coordination for the implementation of the CURE Act. Cyberabad and Malkajgiri Corporation Commissioners were ordered to expedite the works of the corporation offices.

CM Secretary Manik Raj; Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited Advisor NVS Reddy and Additional Managing Director Ajit Reddy, Commissioners of Hyderabad, Cyberabad, and Malkajgiri corporations—R.V.V. Karnan, Srujana, and Vinay Krishna Reddy, Water Board MD Ashok Reddy; and others were present.

Rs. 1,090-cr steel flyover to ease traffic congestion around KBR Park

FROM PAGE 1

The second, estimated at Rs.510 crore, will extend from Mudha Junction to Mufakkam Jah College, with a dedicated ramp connecting to Banjara Hills Road No. 1.

Officials said modern modular steel construction technology would help speed up the project while minimising inconvenience to commuters. The alignment has also been designed to avoid extending into the environmentally sensitive areas surrounding KBR Park.

The revised plan is expected to save approximately Rs.800 crore in land acquisition costs and another Rs.400 crore in construction expenses, translating into estimated public expenditure savings of Rs.1,200 crore compared with the earlier proposals. Once completed, the corridor is expected to reduce traffic queues, travel time and fuel consumption while preserving the park's existing greenery. (NSS)



Revanth Reddy extended bathukamma greetings to all the women

HYDERABAD

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy extended Bathukamma festival greetings to all the women and daughters of the state. He expressed his wish that all women celebrate the festival with great enthusiasm, joy, and traditional songs and dances for nine days, from Engili Pula Bathukamma to Saddula Bathukamma.

Telangana's unique tradition lies in arranging Bathukamma floral stacks with a variety of flowers found nowhere else in the world, worshipping Goddess Gauramma, and celebrating nature.

The Chief Minister described the Bathukamma festival as a living testament to the collective way of life of the people of Telangana and their unity in sharing both joys and sorrows.

He stated that the festival, which showcases the cultural richness of the people and the unity of women, embodies numerous social values.

He said Bathukamma stands as a symbol of Telangana's self-respect and its traditions passed down through generations. The Chief Minister stated that, in keeping with Telangana's culture of worshipping nature, the people's government is giving priority to environmental protection.

He expressed his hope that Bathukamma celebrations would fill every household with happiness and that all the people of the state would celebrate the festival with joy, peace, and prosperity.

FIEO Program highlighted the Customs Schemes





- **facilitation measures available for international trade**

HYDERABAD

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) organised a one-day program on "Customs Schemes for Exporters: Benefits, Procedures and Compliances" on 9 th October, 2026 at Hyderabad in association with ICICI Bank.

The program highlighted the Customs Schemes and facilitation measures available for international trade, with emphasis on benefits, eligibility, procedures, documentation and compliance requirements.

The program enabled participants to identify the most suitable Customs scheme, understand the application procedure, claim eligible benefits and maintain proper post-export compliance, thereby reducing transaction costs and improving export competitiveness. The program discussed important areas such as Advance Authorisation, Duty Free Import Authorisation, EPCG Scheme, bonded manufacturing and warehousing, export under Bond/LUT, AEO, EMI and Customs facilitation, Customs compliance, digital Customs services and ICEGATE procedures.

The program witnessed participation from exporters, manufacturers, MSMEs, entrepreneurs, trade professionals and other stakeholders interested in understanding the schemes and expanding their businesses internationally.

The program concluded with an interactive session in which participants discussed their challenges and explored opportunities for utilizing various schemes to increase exports and build sustainable global business relationships.

Sri D. Sri Nagesh, IRS. Assistant Commissioner of Customs, Hyderabad Customs Commissionerate, Sri S. Anil Kumar, President, Hyderabad Customs Brokers' Association, Sri Srinivas Tatikonda, Zonal Head, and Sri Ch. Raju, Regional Head of ICICI Bank Limited and Sri R. Kulkarni, Head (FIEO), Telangana Chapter, addressed the program.

Federation of Indian Export Organisations popularly known as 'FIEO' was set up by Ministry of Commerce, Govt of India in 1965. FIEO is the apex body of the Government recognised Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards and Development Authorities in India. FIEO provides a wide range of services to exporters, including market research, trade information, export promotion activities, organizing overseas trade fairs and exhibitions, training programs, and policy advocacy.

GITAM Scholar Awarded Ph.D. in Chemistry



HYDERABAD: GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, proudly congratulates Dr. Ram Reddy Mudireddy on being awarded a Ph.D. in Chemistry for his pioneering research on the design, synthesis, and biological evaluation of novel α-glucosidase inhibitors, under the guidance of Prof. Rambabu Gundla, Department of Chemistry, GITAM School of Science. His doctoral research focused on developing new benzisoxazole-triazole and cinnamohydrazide derivatives as potential antidiabetic agents. The synthesized compounds demonstrated promising α-glucosidase inhibitory activity, with several candidates showing significantly stronger activity than the standard drug acarbose. Molecular docking and in-silico ADME/Tox studies further supported their favourable binding interactions, pharmacokinetic properties, and drug-like characteristics. The findings highlight the potential of these novel molecular scaffolds for further development as therapeutic candidates for diabetes management. D.V.V.S.R. Varma, Resident Director; Dr. M. Reza, Director, School of Science; and Dr. Gousia Begum, Head, Department of Chemistry, congratulated Dr. Ram Reddy Mudireddy on his academic achievement and appreciated Prof. Rambabu Gundla for his dedicated mentorship and guidance throughout the doctoral research.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

CENTRAL WORKSHOPS GOLDEN ROACK
SOUTHERN RAILWAY, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI - 620 004 (EXTRA DIVISION)
E-Tender Notice No. CWC192CORROSION-AIRBRAKE
Dated : 07.10.2026
"Corrosion (cross members) attention and Air Brake System attention in LHB coaches".

Value	Rs. 2,12,00,200.00 inclusive of GST @ 18%
Bid Security Amount	Rs. 4,24,000.00
Contract Period	24 Months
Tender Closing Date & Time	30.10.2026 @ 1 2.00 hours.

Assistant Works Manager, Carriage/
for Chief Workshop Manager / Golden Rock

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

(WORKS)
E-TENDER NOTICE
TENDER NOTICE NO. : 12-DY-CE-WS-PER-2026-27
Closing Dated : 06.11.2026

For and on behalf of the President of India. the XEN/C&W/PER, Southern Railway, Chennai - 600 023 invites e-tender for the following work as per the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderers/contractors intending to apply for the tender need to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and **only ONLINE tender will be accepted.**

Name of Work : Tender No. 12-DY-CE-WS-PER-2026-27-LW/PER-Annual Cleaning and Maintenance of existing lines storm water drains, water pipelines and repairs of drains at LW/PER.
Tender No. : 12
Approximate cash value (in Rs.) : Rs. 71,00,123/-
Earnest Money : Rs. 1,42,000/-
Bidding Start Date : 23.10.2026
Closing Opening date and time : 06/11/2026 11.30 Hrs.
Cost of tender form : Rs. Nil
Period of Completion in months : 12 Months.

For further details refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact office of the Dy Chief Engineer/Workshops/Perambur, Chennai-600 023.

XEN/CW/PER

Scheduled Power Cut in Gachibowli on October 10: 6-Hour Shutdown Announced



- **TSSPDCL plans maintenance across 11KV feeders affecting APHB Colony, Telecom Nagar, Main Road, and nearby localities from 9 AM to 3 PM.**

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI

The Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TSSPDCL) has announced a planned power disruption in parts of Gachibowli on Saturday, October 10, 2026. Electricity supply will be suspended from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM to facilitate urgent repair and preventive maintenance works across various 11KV feeders in the Gachibowli section.

The temporary outage will affect multiple residential and commercial localities across the division. Major impacted areas include APHB Colony, JV Colony, Telecom Nagar, Gachibowli Main Road, Old Gachibowli, Indira Nagar, Vinayak Nagar, and the general Gachibowli vicinity. Residents and local business owners in these neighborhoods are urged to complete essential chores and plan their schedules around the six-hour maintenance window.

To minimize inconvenience, the electricity department advises residents to charge backup devices, store adequate water for household needs, and unplug sensitive electrical appliances prior to 9:00 AM to prevent potential voltage fluctuations when power is restored.

For real-time updates, emergency assistance, or local queries, residents can directly reach out to the Assistant Divisional Engineer (ADE/Gachibowli) Shiva Krishna Prasad at 8712469628, the Assistant Engineer (AE/Gachibowli) at 8712469631, or contact the local Fuse-off Call Office at 8712469652.

Postal Department is Redefining its Functions with the Changing Technology



- **Lion Capt Dr. Burra Madhusudhan Reddy, social activist**

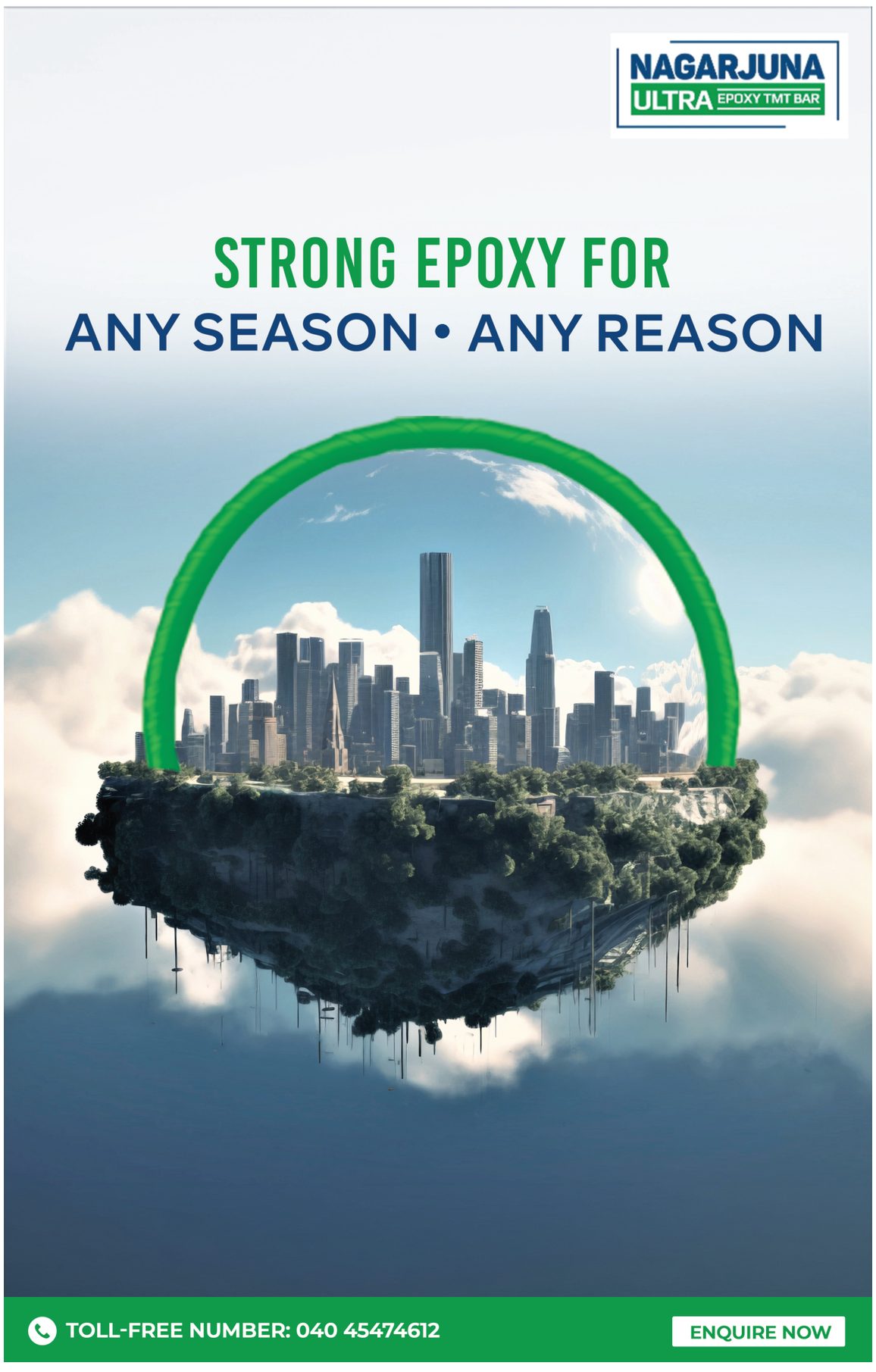
KARIMNAGAR

With the digital technology revolution and the advent of private courier companies competition, there is a need for postal departments across the country to redefine their services, said noted social activist, writer and orator Lion Capt Dr. Burra Madhusudhan Reddy.

Speaking at a special program organized by Satavahana Lions Club on the occasion of World Postal Day and National Postal Week celebrations at the premises of the local Tower Circle General Post Office today, he said that it is heartening to see that the postal services, which started in 1837 under the leadership of Lord Dalhousie, the father of Indian postal services, have gradually expanded across the country, extending their silent and selfless services even to remote areas, and providing various facilities to the civil society. He expressed gratitude on behalf of the civil society to the 1.65 lakh employees who are providing invaluable postal services across the country.

On this occasion, Karimnagar Postal Division Superintendent K. Saidi Reddy said that the postal department is performing its services with precision despite the pressure of work and thanked the members of the Satavahana Lions Club for recognizing and honoring the services of our department.

On this occasion, the officials of the Satavahana Lions Club honored the postal superintendent K Saidi Reddy and Postmaster Tirupati with great honors and extended their greetings on the occasion of World Post Day. The club's president and secretaries Lion Marripalli Mahender, Lion Narla Venugopal, Lion Inugurthi Ramesh, Lion D Tirupati Reddy, Lion Pachunuri Surender, Lion Anasuri Srinivas along with 50 postal staff participated in this program.



KCR Extends Bathukamma Festival Greetings to the People of Telangana

HYDERABAD



K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), the first Chief Minister of Telangana and president of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), extended his greetings to the people of the state on the occasion of the commencement of the Bathukamma festival, Telangana's state festival, which celebrates the cultural richness of women through traditional songs and dances and symbolizes their self-respect.

KCR stated that Bathukamma is unique among the traditional festivals of India, as the women of Telangana worship flowers as manifestations of the divine and celebrate their reverence for nature. He said that Bathukamma has become an integral part of the lives of the people of Telangana, reflecting the state's way of life, the self-respect of its women, and its social and cultural traditions.

KCR noted that celebrations would take place across the state during the nine-day Bathukamma festival, which begins with Engili Pula Bathukamma and concludes with Saddula Bathukamma. He said that women and girls gather with their children to celebrate Bathukamma through traditional songs and dances, offering prayers and paying their respects to the floral festival. KCR recalled that the first government of Telangana not only granted Bathukamma the status of a state festival but also introduced the tradition of distributing Bathukamma sarees to women as a festive gift. He further recalled that the then BRS government had implemented several robust welfare initiatives to protect the dignity and self-respect of women and promote their well-being.

SHORT TAKES

SIR process has become a nationwide flashpoint: Shaik Mahboob Ali

HYDERABAD: *Telangana State Parents Committee president Shaik Mahboob Ali has alleged that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls undertaken by the Election Commission of India has become a focal point of political and legal controversy across the country. Addressing a press conference at NSS in Hyderguda here on Friday, along with committee treasurer Shaik Mohammad and advisor Dr. K. Devaraju, Mahboob Ali raised concerns over alleged changes to Form 6 by the Election Commission. He pointed out that allegations had been made that the Commission unilaterally introduced an additional declaration in the form. He also referred to the Supreme Court's reported questioning of the Commission's authority to make such changes. Mahboob Ali further cited opposition allegations that the SIR process had resulted in the deletion of millions of voters' names across the country, particularly pointing to the removal of lakhs of names in Bihar. He announced the committee's full support for a protest scheduled to be held at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Saturday. The protest is being organised by the Cockroach Janata Party, various student unions and opposition groups, he said. The committee expressed concern over the electoral roll revision process and called attention to the ongoing political and legal debate surrounding the exercise.*

Greater Focus on Horticulture Crops in View of El Niño

- **Increase in the area under horticulture crops is a positive development.**
- **Expand vegetable cultivation and aim to reach a stage where produce can be exported to other states.**
- **Take steps to establish cocoa procurement centres to facilitate farmers growing cocoa as an intercrop in oil palm plantations.**
- **Complete recruitment in Oilfed without delay.**
- **Implement the farm mechanisation scheme being run by the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments through a unified nodal agency.**
- **Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao reviews progress with officials**



HYDERABAD

State Agriculture, Marketing, Cooperation, Handlooms and Textiles Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao said the state government was considering measures to provide greater encouragement to horticulture crops while educating farmers about alternative crops in view of the El Niño phenomenon.

On Friday, the Minister reviewed the implementation of horticulture schemes in the state, progress in oil palm cultivation and other related issues at a meeting with officials of the Horticulture Department and Oilfed at the Secretariat.

Increase in the area under horticulture crops is a positive development The Minister said the increase in the area under horticulture crops in the state was an encouraging development.

Officials informed him that, compared with previous levels, cultivation of spices had increased by 65 per cent, red chilli by 83 per cent, other aromatic crops by 192 per cent, and flowers by 198 per cent.

The Minister directed officials to sustain this progress in horticulture and take the necessary steps to expand cultivation further.

Expand vegetable cultivation and aim for exports to other states

The Minister called for a significant increase in the area under vegetable cultivation across Telangana. He directed officials to ensure that quality seeds were readily available to farmers, increase production and improve marketing facilities.

He said Telangana should develop the capacity to export vegetables grown in the state to other states and instructed Horticulture Department officials to prepare a comprehensive plan towards achieving this goal.

Target of cultivating oil palm on 10 lakh acres

The Minister said there was considerable scope to expand oil palm cultivation in Telangana. As the state had suitable conditions for cultivating oil palm on approximately 20 lakh acres, he directed officials to formulate an action plan to bring at least 10 lakh acres under the crop.

He instructed officials and oil palm companies to work in coordination with a target of bringing 2 lakh acres under oil palm cultivation every year.

With oil palm fresh fruit bunch prices rising, the Minister said farmers' interest in and demand for the crop were likely to increase. He directed officials to ensure that nurseries prepared sufficient quantities of quality planting material in advance to meet farmers' requirements.

He also stressed that there should be no delays in distributing seedlings and that farmers should receive them when needed.

Establish at least one oil palm factory in every undivided district

The Minister said processing facilities must also be expanded in line with the growth in oil palm cultivation. The government was considering establishing at least one oil palm processing factory in every undivided district, he said.

He directed officials to make the oil palm factories currently under construction operational by Sankranti and complete work on processing units within the stipulated deadlines.

The Minister made it clear that the government should not hesitate to cancel the district allocations of companies that had failed to achieve the expected progress in oil palm cultivation. He said the companies must act responsibly and meet their assigned targets.

Encourage cocoa cultivation as an intercrop in oil palm plantations

The Minister said farmers in some parts of Telangana were earning good incomes by cultivating cocoa as an intercrop in oil palm plantations. He called for efforts to create awareness among farmers and expand this practice across the state.

He observed that establishing cocoa procurement centres could further encourage farmers to take up cocoa cultivation. Officials were asked to explore the possibility of opening procurement centres in the first phase in the Aswaraopet and Dammapeta areas.

Implement farm mechanisation through a unified nodal agency

The Minister directed officials to implement the farm mechanisation scheme currently being operated by the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments through a single, unified nodal agency instead of implementing it separately through the two departments.

Expedite recruitment in Oilfed

The Minister directed officials to recruit the staff required to achieve the targets for expanding oil palm cultivation.

He instructed them to speed up the process of filling vacancies in Oilfed and complete the preliminary recruitment procedures by the end of October. He further directed officials to take steps to complete the recruitment process over the following two to three months.

Agriculture Department Secretary K. Surendra Mohan, Horticulture Department Managing Director, Oilfed Managing Director Yasmin Basha, and officials from the concerned departments attended the meeting.

Adluri assures help to bring back Telangana man's mortal remains from Ukraine

HYDERABAD

Welfare Minister Adluri Lakshman Kumar and Choppadandi MLA Kavvampalli Satyanarayana visited the Pravasi Prajavani on Friday and reviewed the implementation of the Chief Minister's Prajavani grievance redressal programme.

During their visit, the Minister and the MLA interacted with officials and petitioners and reviewed the grievances being received from citizens, including those seeking assistance in matters concerning Indians stranded or affected abroad.

A family from Hasnabad village in Jagtial Urban mandal approached the Pravasi Prajavani seeking assistance in bringing home the mortal remains of Vavilala Sudarshan, who reportedly died in the Ukraine war on September 1.

According to the family, the Ukrainian Embassy had advised them to pay ₹6 lakh towards the transportation of the mortal remains to India. Sudarshan's wife Bhargavi, mother Gangu and village sarpanch Bathula Gangadhar approached the Pravasi Prajavani seeking Government assistance.

The Minister assured the family that he would take up the matter with the officials concerned in the Chief Minister's Office and initiate necessary steps to extend assistance. State Nodal Officer for the Chief Minister's Prajavani K. Vidyasagar, Vice-Chairman of the Telangana Government NRI Advisory Committee Manda Bheem Reddy, committee members Chennamaneni Srinivasa Rao and Swadesh Parikipandla, among others, were present.

Comprehensive Action Plan to Promote Medical and Wellness Tourism in Telangana

- **Prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) before Telangana Global Summit**
- **Establish a Single Window Portal to Facilitate Medical Tourism**
- **Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju Calls for Large-Scale Promotion of Medical Tourism**



HYDERABAD

Chief Secretary to the Government of Telangana, Sanjay Jaju, has directed officials to formulate a comprehensive strategic action plan for the development of medical and wellness tourism as part of the Telangana Tourism Policy 2025–30.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the potential, development strategies and future course of action for medical and wellness tourism at a meeting with senior officials held at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat on Friday.

The Chief Secretary observed that Telangana has immense potential to emerge as a leading destination for medical tourism, particularly in view of Hyderabad's world-class healthcare facilities, advanced medical equipment and availability of highly qualified medical professionals. He called for concerted efforts to promote Telangana as an international medical tourism destination on a large scale.

During the meeting, officials informed that Hyderabad has 89 NABH-accredited hospitals and 8 JCI-accredited hospitals. They also stated that patients from several countries, particularly in the Middle East and Africa, are visiting Hyderabad for medical treatment. The availability of advanced medical technology, modern equipment and quality healthcare services offers significant opportunities to attract more international medical tourists to the city.

The Chief Secretary directed officials to prepare a clear action plan covering infrastructure development, investment opportunities, international promotion and coordination among various stakeholders. He instructed them to promote projects in the medical tourism sector under the Invest Telangana initiative and prepare the necessary Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) before the Telangana Global Summit.

Emphasising the need to provide seamless services to international patients, the Chief Secretary called for improved coordination among various departments, hospitals and concerned institutions. He directed officials to take steps towards establishing a Single Window Portal for Medical Tourism to facilitate access to medical consultations, treatment, hospital services and other essential facilities.

He also stressed the need to streamline procedures relating to organ transplantation in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations, while ensuring transparency in approvals, coordination and service delivery.

The Chief Secretary directed all concerned departments to work in close coordination to develop Telangana into an international hub for medical and wellness tourism.

He further instructed officials to finalise priority projects, investment proposals and implementation plans ahead of the Telangana Global Summit. YAT&C Special Chief Secretary Vani Prasad, Health Principal Secretary Christina Z. Chongthu, Finance Special Secretary Sikta Patnaik other senior officials attended the Meeting.

Telangana statehood was achieved through students' sacrifices: Harish

SIDDIPET



Former Minister and BRS leader T. Harish Rao has said that Telangana statehood was achieved through the sacrifices of countless students and the relentless efforts of leaders who dedicated their lives to the statehood movement.

Harish Rao, along with renowned writer Nandini Sidda Reddy, participated in an event held at a government degree college in Siddipet district as part of the 'Siddipet District Decennial Celebrations'.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao stressed the importance of understanding the history of Siddipet and Telangana. He recalled the contributions of Professor K. Jayashankar, who dedicated his life to the Telangana movement, and former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), who gave up his political positions in 2001 to spearhead the movement. KCR achieved Telangana statehood in 2014 through his fast-unto-death, overcoming tremendous challenges. After the formation of the state, KCR focused on accelerating its development, he added.

Harish Rao highlighted the growth of medical education in Telangana, stating that the number of government medical colleges had increased from five at the time of state formation to 33. Similarly, the number of MBBS seats had risen from 2,780 to 10,000, he noted.

Claiming that Telangana had emerged as a leading state in grain production and medical education, Harish Rao said other states were increasingly looking to Telangana's development model for inspiration.

He also recalled the reorganisation of districts under KCR's leadership, stating that the initiative was aimed at improving administration and bringing government services closer to the people. "Creating a district was not merely about drawing boundaries. We divided the region into districts with the objective of providing prompt services to the people. There is hardly a family that has not benefited from the formation of the district", he said.

Harish Rao called for a forward-looking approach to Siddipet's development, emphasising the need to assess the situation before the district's formation, the progress achieved since then and the opportunities that lie ahead. (NSS)



BRS leaders demand removal of CEC, raise concerns over EVMs

HYDERABAD

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLA Dr. Palla Rajeshwar Reddy on Friday demanded the immediate removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyaneshwar Kumar, alleging that he was acting in favour of the ruling BJP at the Centre.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad, along with former ministers Gangula Kamalakar and Errabelli Dayakar Rao, Rajeshwar Reddy alleged that the BJP was the sole beneficiary of the deletion of voters' names from electoral rolls. He accused the CEC of colluding with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to help the BJP win elections in several states.

Criticising the BJP's reported victory in West Bengal, he alleged that electronic voting machines (EVMs) had been manipulated. He further claimed that the destruction of 4,000 EVMs following the elections in Bengal had raised serious questions about the Election Commission's functioning. Former minister and BRS MLA Gangula Kamalakar called for the doubts surrounding EVMs to be addressed and clarified, urging the authorities to ensure transparency in the electoral process.

Meanwhile, former minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao announced that the BRS had postponed its protest scheduled for Saturday near the Chief Electoral Officer's office at Burgula Ramakrishna Rao Bhavan in Hyderabad, citing the festive season. The BRS leaders reiterated their demand for greater transparency and accountability in the conduct of elections.

Bharat Ratna Should Be Conferred on Kanshi Ram: Kavitha

- **We will strive to achieve a Telangana based on social justice, inspired by him, says Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha**

HYDERABAD



Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha said that Kanshi Ram was a great leader who translated Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of political power for oppressed communities into practice.

On the occasion of his death anniversary on Friday, she paid floral tributes to his portrait at the party office in Banjara Hills.

Speaking on the occasion, Kavitha demanded that Kanshi Ram be conferred the Bharat Ratna. She said that, inspired by his ideals, her party would strive to achieve a Telangana rooted in social justice.

She stated that ensuring genuine political representation for oppressed communities would be the greatest tribute to the great leader. She asserted that the party would certainly ensure that members of oppressed communities enter the Legislative Assembly in the coming days.

Kavitha said Kanshi Ram was the inspiration behind the Telangana Rakshana Sena's commitment to social justice. She called upon all party leaders and cadres to remain committed to this mission and work continuously towards the empowerment of Bahujans.

Take Panchajanyam to Every Household: Kavitha

Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha called upon party leaders and workers to take Panchajanyam, the party's core ideology, to every household.

The party's state executive committee meeting was held on Friday at its office in Banjara Hills. In-charges of parliamentary and Assembly constituencies, district presidents and secretaries, and presidents and secretaries of affiliated wings participated in the meeting.

Addressing the gathering, Kavitha advised party leaders and workers to stand by people and support them whenever they faced problems.

She said that when the party leadership questioned middlemen who were exploiting farmers in Nizamabad district, other political parties had also begun extending their support to farmers. The initiatives undertaken by party leaders in Nizamabad demonstrated how constructive programmes could benefit thousands of farmers, she added. She urged every party leader to remain among the people at all times and work towards strengthening the organisation.

Kavitha also outlined the programmes the party should undertake throughout the year. She said that even after three years in power, the Congress government had failed to fulfil the promises made to the people. She called upon party leaders to raise public awareness about the unfulfilled promises in their respective areas.

Stating that the Telangana Rakshana Sena would have to compete with major political parties, she called upon the party leadership to prepare itself for the political challenges ahead.

Job Mela to Be Held in Suryapet on Oct 11

- **Urban International School Chairman Vikram Rao Announces Mega Job Fair**

SURYAPET



A mega job fair will be held on October 11 (Sunday) at the Public Club Auditorium in Suryapet district headquarters under the aegis of Urban International School, Hyderabad, to provide employment opportunities to unemployed youth from Suryapet district and its surrounding areas, school chairman Ponugoti Vikram Rao announced. Speaking at a press conference held in Suryapet on Friday, he said that employment opportunities would be provided to 500 candidates at the reputed Earbirds company in Hyderabad. He further stated that their school would be launched at BB Gudem in Suryapet district headquarters in the 2027–28 academic year. He urged eligible unemployed young men and women to make the best use of this opportunity. School Founder and Managing Director Surendra Naidu, Chief Administrative Officer Rajagopal, and others were present at the meeting.

Right to Information Act Is the Heartbeat of Democracy: Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla

Telangana Governor unveils 'Samachara Darpanam' brochure.. Proactive disclosure of information, timely responses and citizen-centric governance will further strengthen public trust

The Right to Information (RTI) Act is not merely a piece of legislation but the heartbeat of democracy, providing a strong foundation for transparency, accountability and public participation in governance, Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla said.

The Governor was speaking as the chief guest at a programme organised by the Telangana Information Commission at Ravindra Bharathi in Hyderabad on Friday as part of RTI Week 2026, being observed from October 5 to 12. The celebrations mark 21 years since the Right to Information Act, 2005, came into force. The Governor said that transparent and accountable governance was essential to strengthening the relationship between the government and the people in a democracy. He noted that the landmark legislation, introduced in 2005, empowered ordinary citizens to question the administrative system and directly seek information relating to government activities.

Every application filed under the RTI Act was not merely a piece of paper or a formal request, but represented an underlying problem, a demand for the protection of rights or an effort to secure justice, he said. Therefore, the success of the Act should not be measured solely by the number of applications and appeals disposed of, but also by the lasting and transparent changes it brought about in administrative practices, he observed.

Proactive disclosure is the soul of the RTI Act

The Governor described proactive disclosure under Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act as crucial, calling it the very soul of the legislation.

He said information regarding government schemes, policies, eligibility criteria and application procedures should be easily accessible to the public and regularly disseminated. This would also reduce the need for citizens to file RTI applications to obtain information that should already be available, he noted.

In a diverse state like Telangana, information should be made available in Telugu as well as other languages that people can understand, the Governor said.

He stressed that ensuring unhindered access to information for rural communities, women, persons with disabilities and marginalised sections of society was a collective responsibility.



Use modern technology to improve transparency

The Governor said modern technologies such as artificial intelligence, data analytics and digital records management could make information systems more transparent, faster and more efficient when deployed securely and inclusively. He urged Public Information Officers (PIOs) and First Appellate Authorities to treat every application with responsibility. Responses should be clear, impartial, sensitive and supported by appropriate reasons, and must be provided within the prescribed time limits, he said.

At the same time, he emphasised the need to maintain a balance between administrative transparency and citizens' right to personal privacy.

Governor appreciates Telangana Information Commission's efforts

The Governor appreciated the Telangana Information Commission's efforts to raise public awareness, provide appropriate guidance and strengthen good governance.

He called upon all stakeholders to work towards building a transparent and empowered Telangana in which every citizen could seek information with confidence and every government institution discharged its duties responsibly and sensitively.

Every disclosure of information and every timely response would further strengthen trust between the government and the public, he said. On the occasion, the Governor unveiled Samachara Darpanam, a publication brought out by the Telangana Information Commission.

Director General of Police C.V. Anand subsequently administered the RTI pledge. The Governor also presented awards to officials and departments in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the implementation of the RTI Act.

RTI Awards presented

The following officials received awards in various categories:

Best Proactive Disclosure Category

- Nalgonda Collector Chandrashekhar
- Mahabubabad Municipal Commissioner Vinod Kumar
- TGGENCO CMD Harish

Best Performing District Category

- Bhadradri Kothagudem Collector Ankit
- Suryapet Collector Tejas Nandlal Pawar
- Hanumakonda Collector Chahat Bajpai

Best Performing Head of Department Category

- Rural Development Commissioner Divya Devarajan

Best Performing Secretariat Department Category

- Finance Department Principal Secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania

Best Public Information Officer Category

- Khammam District Revenue Officer Ramamurthy
- Nizamabad Municipal Corporation Assistant Commissioner Naseer
- Mahabubnagar District Education Officer Vijayakumari

Special Category

- Telangana State Road Transport Corporation Managing Director Nagireddy
- Ramagundam Tahsildar Ravinder

Information Commission disposes of 21,000 cases in 15 months

Speaking on the occasion, State Chief Information Commissioner Dr. G. Chandrashekhar Reddy said the Commission had disposed of 21,000 out of 30,000 cases in just 15 months. The Commission had brought pendency down to nearly zero in 24 departments and completed an audit process that had remained pending for eight years, he said. He added that the long-pending issue of annual reports had been addressed by submitting digital copies of the ten annual reports covering the period from 2014 to 2023 to the Legislature. The reports for 2024 and 2025 would be presented subsequently, he said. The Commission was prioritising institutional modernisation through initiatives such as the unveiling of its new logo by the Chief Minister, the launch of Samachara Darpanam and the introduction of virtual hearings under a hybrid system, he explained. Dr. Reddy said government departments needed to proactively disseminate information to meet the expectations of today's youth, particularly Generation Z, who seek immediate access to information. He stressed that proactive disclosure mandated under Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act should be implemented effectively, with information made easily accessible to the public through a well-functioning online RTI portal. These measures would help reduce unnecessary litigation, particularly in high-workload departments such as Revenue and Municipal Administration, while encouraging greater participation by rural residents and women in exercising their right to information, he said.

Dignitaries attend the programme

Former Supreme Court judge Justice Subhash Reddy, State Chief Information Commissioner Dr. G. Chandrashekhar Reddy, DGP C.V. Anand, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Vinay Kumar, Finance Department Principal Secretary Sandeep Sultania, Special Chief Secretary to the General Administration Department Benhur Mahesh Dutt Ekka, State Information Commissioners P.V. Srinivasa Rao, Mohasina Parveen, Desala Bhupal and Vaishnavi Merla, GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan, senior state government officials, Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities from various departments attended the programme.



Availability of Safe Drinking Water Is a Priority for North Eastern Railway

Gorakhpur, October 9, 2026: North Eastern Railway (NER) is conducting regular and intensive inspections to ensure the availability of clean and safe drinking water for railway passengers and employees. Priority is being given to the continuous monitoring and maintenance of water tanks, water coolers, taps, filters, distribution points and pipelines at railway stations, offices and residential colonies. Health inspectors are regularly conducting residual chlorine tests, bacteriological culture tests and chemical analyses to ensure the safety of drinking water. Providing pure drinking water to passengers and railway employees is one of the top priorities of the railway administration, and this initiative will continue as an ongoing campaign. Under the joint guidance of Dr. Ramesh Chand, Chief Medical Superintendent of the Lucknow Division, and Shri Bhuvanesh Singh, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Infrastructure), chief health inspectors and health inspectors conducted a total of 133 residual chlorine tests and five bacteriological culture tests at 16 major railway stations and four major residential colonies. Following the inspections, all water samples were found to comply with the prescribed standards. Similarly, residual chlorine tests and bacteriological culture tests are being conducted regularly at major stations under the Izzatnagar Division. In the Varanasi Division, chief health inspectors and health inspectors inspected water tanks, water coolers, water filters, pipelines and pumping systems at railway stations, residential colonies, coaching depots, hospitals, health centres, running rooms, crew lobbies and offices. The inspection campaign will continue across all stations, residential colonies and offices of North Eastern Railway to ensure the quality of drinking water facilities. Health inspectors are carrying out regular tests to ensure that passengers and railway employees receive clean drinking water that meets the prescribed standards.

CM Assures BC Representation Through Party After Supreme Court Ruling on Reservations

Government's initiative to address issues of Garbha Kandrika lands in Prakasam district

Steps to complete Pothula Chenchayya–Paleru Reservoir to meet irrigation and drinking water needs of Prakasam

KONDAPI (PRAKASAM DIST):

Responding to the Supreme Court's decision on BC reservations, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said the Telugu Desam Party would continue to support Backward Classes and ensure their representation through the party. Stating BCs are the backbone of the TDP he said the party had consistently worked for their social, economic and political advancement.





The Chief Minister alleged that the opposition party had obstructed the implementation of the 34 per cent reservations introduced earlier, resulting in their reduction to 24 per cent causing loss to many BC candidates.

He alleged that the opposition was approaching courts to obstruct local body elections under the pretext of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), fearing electoral defeat.

Addressing the 'Mee Bhoomi–Mee Hakku' public meeting at Narsingolu in Kondapi constituency of Prakasam district on Friday, the Chief Minister distributed pattadar passbooks to farmers. He said the government was issuing secure passbooks with the State emblem and enhanced security features following Resurvey 2.0.

Criticising the previous government, Chandrababu Naidu alleged that land security had deteriorated during its tenure, with encroachments, irregularities and disputes undermining the revenue system. He said photographs of political leaders had been placed on survey stones and public property documents.

The Chief Minister stated that the Land Titling Act had created uncertainty over land ownership and that his government had repealed it. He alleged that lands belonging to political opponents had been included in the 22A prohibited properties list.

Since assuming office, the coalition government had removed 16.48 lakh acres from the 22A list, he said. He added that disputes involving around 41,000 acres in areas such as Kangundi, Amalapuram and Shettipalli had been resolved. In Prakasam district, the government was also addressing issues concerning Garbha Kandrika lands spread across four mandals. He stated that 40.58 lakh pattadar passbooks had been distributed across the State so far. During October alone, more than four lakh passbooks bearing the Raja Mudra had been distributed in 790 villages. The Chief Minister announced that construction of the Pothula Chenchayya–Paleru Reservoir had been taken up to meet irrigation and drinking water requirements in Prakasam district.

The project would be completed within two years at a cost of ₹166.40 crore. It would provide irrigation water to 9,500 acres and drinking water to 35,000 people in 15 villages, he said. He also laid the foundation for the Vemurupadu road in Ponnaluru mandal and a bridge across the Paleru River. These works would be completed at a cost of ₹28 crore. Chandrababu Naidu said water had been brought to the erstwhile Prakasam district through the Veligonda project and assured that the second phase would also be completed to provide irrigation and drinking water to all areas. The Chief Minister said the government had initiated plans to develop the erstwhile Prakasam district and Rayalaseema districts into world-class horticulture hubs. He said the Ramayapatnam Port project, which should have been completed earlier, had suffered from neglect. The coalition government had accelerated the works to promote regional development. The government was committed to developing all regions while balancing welfare, development and good governance, he said. The Chief Minister said the welfare of the people remained the coalition government's foremost priority. He urged people to think not only about the well-being of their families while praying but also about the performance of the government and the public good.

National Overseas Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities

Director M. Venugopal Reddy Urges Eligible Students to Avail the Scheme

VIJAYAWADA

M. Venugopal Reddy, Director of the Department for the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities, Transgender Persons and Senior Citizens, has urged eligible students with disabilities to make use of the National Fellowship/Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities (NFPwD) scheme offered by the Central Government to pursue higher education abroad.

He stated that the National Overseas Scholarship scheme for persons with benchmark disabilities is being implemented by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. The scheme provides financial assistance to students pursuing Master's degree and Ph.D. programmes at prestigious foreign universities and educational institutions.

He explained that applicants seeking a scholarship for a Master's degree must have secured at least 55 per cent marks or an equivalent grade in the relevant Bachelor's degree. Applicants seeking admission to a Ph.D. programme must have secured at least 55 per cent marks or an equivalent grade in the relevant Master's degree.

Selected candidates will receive financial assistance, in accordance with the scheme's guidelines, to cover tuition fees, maintenance allowance, contingency allowance, airfare, visa fees and medical insurance, among other expenses. Urging all eligible persons with benchmark disabilities to take advantage of this opportunity, M. Venugopal Reddy advised them to visit the Central Government's official website for the complete scheme guidelines and further details:

Official website: https://depwd.gov.in/

Land Acquisition in the Name of High-Speed Rail Without Official Requisition is illegal: Railway Minister

NEW DELHI:

The Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, met the Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, to discuss the Hyderabad–Chennai, Hyderabad–Bengaluru and Hyderabad–Pune High-Speed Rail corridors. He clarified that no land acquisition requisition has been sent to the respective state governments and that any land acquisition being carried out in the name of High-Speed Rail at this stage is illegal.

Public Awareness on the Nutritional Value of Eggs Must Be Increased: Minister Vakiti Srihari

HYDERABAD, OCTOBER 9

Nutrition plays a crucial role in adopting a healthy lifestyle, and eggs are an important source of nutrition, said State Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries, Youth Services and Sports Vakiti Srihari. Speaking at a programme organised on the occasion of World Egg Day, the Minister emphasised the need to increase public awareness about the nutritional value of eggs.

Eggs: An excellent source of nutrition

The Minister said that although there were differing opinions in society regarding the consumption of nutritious foods such as eggs, milk and meat, a balanced diet was essential for good health. He highlighted the importance of nutrition in ensuring the physical and mental development of children and young people. He called for efforts to educate everyone, from rural communities to urban populations, about the nutritional benefits of eggs.

Everyone must prioritise health

The Minister observed that regardless of the achievements one attains in life, poor health can lead to numerous difficulties. He said his own experiences had helped him realise the need to pay greater attention to personal health.

He called upon everyone to make a healthy lifestyle and proper dietary habits an integral part of their lives.

Government committed to poultry sector development

The Minister said egg production was not limited to poultry farming alone. It involved the collective efforts of farmers, poultry industry representatives, veterinary doctors, scientists, and professionals in transportation and marketing. He noted that the development of the poultry sector would generate employment for farmers, improve access to nutritious food for the public and contribute to the state's economic growth. Assuring the sector of government support, he said that just as the government was extending assistance to the agricultural sector, he would also work towards resolving the problems faced by the poultry industry. He urged industry representatives and poultry farmers to bring their concerns to his attention. He assured them that he would take up the issues with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and work towards finding solutions.

Special initiatives to raise public awareness

The Minister suggested that students should be educated about the importance of nutrition from the school level itself. He stressed the need to recognise the significance of programmes that provide eggs to children and expand awareness about nutritious food. He called for awareness campaigns on egg consumption and nutritional benefits across Hyderabad, other urban centres, rural areas and even remote tribal hamlets.

The Minister said that ensuring the availability of quality eggs was just as important as maintaining quality standards during their production, storage, transportation and sale. He urged all stakeholders to act responsibly to ensure that consumers received safe and high-quality food products.

Full support for the poultry sector

Minister Vakiti Srihari affirmed that the government would discuss issues concerning the poultry sector with industry representatives and explore solutions at the government level. He called upon the government, farmers, industry representatives, medical experts and the public to work together towards building a healthier Telangana. The Minister expressed hope that the programme would not only enhance public awareness about the nutritional value of eggs but also contribute to the further development of the poultry sector. MLA Malreddy Rangareddy, Telangana State Road Transport Development Corporation Chairman Malreddy Ram Reddy, poultry industry owners and other prominent representatives attended the programme.

EDITORIAL

The TVK By-Election Double: A Seismic Shift in Tamil Nadu's Dravidian Polity

The outcome of the Tamil Nadu assembly by-elections in Madurantakam and Dharapuram marks a decisive moment in Dravidian political history. By sweeping both reserved constituencies, Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay's Tamizhaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) has converted early skepticism surrounding its governance into a resounding electoral endorsement. For a four-month-old administration, these victories serve as crucial validation, proving that the party's victory in the recent assembly general elections was no fleeting pop-culture anomaly, but the beginning of a sustained structural shift in the state's political landscape. For the AIADMK, the results represent a severe crisis of political identity and relevance. Both Madurantakam and Dharapuram were held by AIADMK legislators who defected to the TVK, resigned their seats, and sought a fresh mandate under Vijay's banner. The inability of the AIADMK to reclaim these constituencies, coupled with its dismal third-place finish in both contests, underlines a growing erosion of its traditional voter base. Trailing significantly behind both the TVK and the DMK, the party faces an existential threat to its claim as the primary opposition in Tamil Nadu. The voters' endorsement of defecting candidates indicates that cadres and loyalists are increasingly seeking a viable alternative outside the traditional two-party framework. For M.K. Stalin's DMK, the defeat carries significant strategic warnings. The ruling party's attempt to paint the bypolls as a referendum on political opportunism and defection failed to resonate on the ground. Despite aggressive campaign drives and localized political machinery, the DMK's inability to capture either seat highlights the limits of its counter-narrative against the rising tide of TVK. By competing against a consolidated opposition, the DMK now confronts a far more formidable political environment, where anti-incumbency and public discontent find an organized and attractive alternative in Vijay's platform. For TVK chief C. Joseph Vijay, these victories mark his transition from a star-powered political challenger into an astute electoral strategist. Winning both seats—significantly in distinct geographical regions of northern and western Tamil Nadu—proves his party's capacity to absorb conventional political bases while maintaining grassroots momentum. Beyond expanding TVK's strength in the legislative assembly, the mandate solidifies Vijay's personal authority and offers him a clear runway to advance his party's governance agenda with renewed political legitimacy.

VERDICT

Both Are the Same

They shine like Sun and
Moon above,
With smiles of care, with
words of love—
Yet cloak deceit in noble
flame,
Two faces—yet they're both
the same.

One chants of service, loud
and clear:
"I see your pain, I hold it
near!"
But every promise, every
plea, Is stitched in threads
of trickery.

The other, too, with purse in
hand,
Buys hearts and hope across
the land.
With gold and wine they
woo the crowd,
Then preach their lies with
voices loud.

They swear on God, on
sacred fire,
To cleanse the world, to lift
it higher.
Yet hand in hand they chase
the prize,
Their truths are traps, their
vows are lies.

Once crowned, the first will
grin with pride,
"Behold my power!" he will
confide.
And call the second with
delight
While shadows silence those
who fight.

No sweat upon their palms
we see,
Yet live in gold and revelry.
While we, beneath their
schemes and games,
Are lost in toil, consumed by
flames.

We dreamt they'd lift us
from our grief—
But devils danced behind
belief. They drained our
hope, devoured our will,
Yet still we bow, submissive
still.

With polished robes and
pious tone,
They break our backs, yet
stand alone.
No tyrant wore a gentler
mask
No villain dared so soft a
task.

They rise again with newer
names,
But play the same corrupted
games.
And though we see, and
though we know,
Still on our knees, we rise
too slow.

So let this truth not fade or
flee
No matter how disguised
they be,
With crowns or coins, with
faith or fame
Beneath it all, they're just
the same.

..: Dr. Peruka Raju :..
National Poet
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Himalayan Pilgrimages Must Also Aim to Free the Mountains from Pollution



The Himalayas are not merely a range of mountains; they are the foundation of India's cultural consciousness, spiritual faith and natural life. Their lofty peaks bear the memories of ancient penance and meditation, their rivers sustain the lives of millions, and their valleys have been home to countless sacred shrines that have drawn devotees for centuries. Himachal Pradesh, along with the wider Himalayan region, is blessed with numerous important Hindu pilgrimage sites. Visiting these sacred places is an expression of faith for millions. Unfortunately, in recent years, the distinction between pilgrimage and tourism has increasingly blurred. Entertainment, recreation and consumer-driven lifestyles are gradually overshadowing spiritual contemplation, placing an ever-growing burden on the fragile Himalayan environment. The Himalayas possess a unique natural beauty, but their ecological sensitivity is also their greatest vulnerability. The soil in high-altitude regions is thin, vegetation regenerates slowly, and waste decomposes far more slowly than it does in the plains. Yet, thousands and even millions of people converge on these environmentally delicate areas. Long queues of vehicles, mounting pressure on parking facilities, unplanned expansion of hotels and roadside eateries, plastic bottles, food wrappers, polythene bags and disposable products are steadily damaging the natural beauty and ecological balance of the mountains.Reports indicating that more than 800 tonnes of waste had been collected during the Char Dham Yatra by mid-September this year bring the gravity of the crisis into sharp focus. The accumulation of 50.30 tonnes of waste in the highly sensitive Kedarnath region between April and August is particularly alarming. These figures deserve serious attention because a plastic bottle discarded at a high altitude is not simply a piece of litter. It can remain in the environment for years, threatening the soil, water sources and wildlife. The irony is profound: people visit these sacred places seeking inner purification, restraint and renunciation, yet leave behind a trail of waste. Can such a journey truly be called a pilgrimage? A pilgrimage is not merely about reaching a temple; it is also an inward journey that transforms the human being. If we bow our heads before a deity and then throw plastic into the very mountains whose sanctity brought us there, our faith remains incomplete.

In this context, the 'Carry Me Back' campaign offers an encouraging ray of hope. Nearly 5,000 pilgrims reportedly carried back more than 12 tonnes of compressed plastic waste from an approximately 18-kilometre stretch. This demonstrates that when pilgrims are made active participants in environmental protection, they can make a substantial difference. The initiative is not merely about collecting rubbish; it seeks to transform the very mindset with which people undertake pilgrimages. Such campaigns should be expanded and implemented across Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and other Himalayan pilgrimage destinations. The experience of the Amarnath Yatra also offers valuable lessons. The expansion of reusable utensils and water-refilling facilities reportedly helped reduce waste per pilgrim by 15 per cent, even as the number of pilgrims increased by 17 per cent. This demonstrates that environmental pressure can be reduced when convenient, practical and scientifically designed alternatives are made available. Appeals to pilgrims alone are not enough. Administrations must establish systems in which environmentally responsible behaviour becomes the easiest and most natural choice.

The uncontrolled increase in crowds at religious and tourist destinations in Himachal Pradesh is part of this larger crisis. During peak seasons, Shimla, Manali, Dharamshala, Chamunda, Jwalamukhi, Chintpurni, Naina Devi and other destinations face mounting pressure on transportation, water supply, sewage systems, solid-waste management and local resources. Mountain regions cannot withstand the same level of human pressure as cities in the plains. Therefore, the popularity of a pilgrimage or tourist destination should not be measured merely by how many people it attracts. The time has come to replace the assumption that 'more tourists mean more development' with a more responsible principle: the more ecologically sensitive a destination is, the more carefully tourism must be managed. Every pilgrimage and tourist destination should undergo a scientific assessment of it carrying capacity, and the number of daily visitors should be regulated accordingly, taking seasonal conditions into account. Single-use plastics must be effectively restricted, water-refilling stations expanded, and deposit-and-return systems introduced for bottles and packaging. Waste should be segregated at source, while shopkeepers, hotel operators and vendors must be held accountable for the waste they generate.

Most importantly, the mindset of pilgrims must change. The mountains are not playgrounds for our amusement; they are a priceless natural heritage that belongs to future generations. The river beside which we offer our prayers sustains millions of people living downstream. The forests we capture in our photographs maintain the ecological balance of the mountains. And when we revere a mountain as Devbhoomi, the land of the gods, throwing plastic on its slopes is an insult to the very faith we profess. Episodes of extreme rainfall, floods, landslides and avalanches in Nepal and across the Himalayan region have repeatedly warned us that interference with fragile mountain ecosystems can have grave consequences. It would not be scientifically sound to attribute every natural disaster directly to tourism or pollution. Nevertheless, unplanned construction, excessive human pressure, forest degradation and inadequate waste management can intensify the vulnerability of mountainous regions and aggravate the consequences of extreme weather events.

Today, the Himalayas are increasingly becoming a landscape of mounting environmental concerns. Over the past few decades, particularly in Himalayan states, natural resources have been exploited indiscriminately in the name of development, while religious tourism has contributed to pollution on a substantial scale. Construction activities that disregard environmental regulations and ecological realities have further compounded the risks of floods and landslides. This raises a fundamental question: what should be the true measure of development in mountain states? Where construction is genuinely necessary, it must be undertaken through scientific planning, strict environmental safeguards and designs capable of withstanding the region's natural hazards. Unfortunately, large structures have often been erected in the name of promoting tourism and pilgrimage without adequately considering their vulnerability to floods and landslides or their impact on the environment. In many instances, the caution and accountability expected from government authorities have been lacking. Development that endangers human lives and destroys the natural foundations of a region cannot be called sustainable progress. The Himalayas give us an extraordinary range of gifts—water, forests, biodiversity, climate regulation, cultural heritage and spiritual inspiration. In return, our responsibility extends far beyond offering prayers at their sacred shrines. We must also protect the natural world that makes these places sacred. If a pilgrim can carry a bottle of water up a mountain, there is no reason why the empty bottle cannot be carried back down. This simple act of responsibility can become the foundation of a much larger transformation. Faith and environmental protection are not opposing forces; they are complementary expressions of the same sense of reverence. The true spirit of a pilgrimage is fulfilled only when a devotee returns from a temple carrying not just sacred offerings, but also a renewed commitment to protecting nature. Governments must create effective systems, local communities must participate actively, and pilgrims must pledge to bring their waste back with them. Only through such collective responsibility can the sanctity of the Himalayas be preserved.

Calling the Himalayas Devbhoomi is not enough to protect them. Their sanctity can be preserved only when we treat them with the reverence, restraint and responsibility that a divine land deserves. A pilgrimage must purify not only the pilgrim's heart but also the pilgrim's conduct towards nature. Let every journey to the Himalayas become a commitment to leave the mountains cleaner, the rivers purer and the environment safer than we found them. That is the true meaning of pilgrimage, an expression of gratitude towards nature, and our moral obligation to generations yet to come.



LALIT GARGG
Writer, Journalist,
Columnist

Transition, Not Tragedy

Decoupling Tech Careers From The H-1B Pipeline



During the peak years, more than 283,000 Indian software engineers had active H-1B work visas. In the years since, the numbers have reduced. In some ways this was inevitable. Even without the increased restrictions on visa and green card applications, the demand for software engineers will continue to recede as the nature of work is changing. Basic coding has been automated, and this will accelerate as AI becomes more useful for tech companies. Job losses in the tech industry have been increasing in the last two years globally. In 2025, over 122,000 tech jobs were eliminated across 278 companies and in 333 layoff events. And in 2026 (till early October 2026) over 130,000 tech jobs were eliminated across 311 companies in 351 layoff events according to an estimate by Layoffs FYI, an industry tracker. The combined total is roughly 253,000 tech jobs lost across 2025 and 2026-to-date. According to Roger Lee, founder of Layoffs.fyi, AI was cited in 33% of tech layoff events in 2026, up from just 1% in 2024. The tech industry has a larger crisis of skills to deal with. The older skills are no longer relevant. And people with new skills are not being created fast enough to meet the demand.

This asymmetry is likely to remain for the next few years for global tech companies. "US employers continue to face persistent talent and skills shortages and rely on the H-1B program as an essential component of a broader set of strategies to recruit, develop, and retain the workforce they need," wrote Emily M Dickens, chief administrative officer, of Washington DC based talent organization SHRM in a letter to US government. Employers continue to face significant challenges in finding qualified talent. In 2026, SHRM research found that nearly 68% of organisations struggled to recruit for full-time positions, while 53% of HR professionals reported that hiring had become more difficult than it was a year earlier. These challenges are particularly acute in sectors such as engineering, computer science and information technology, healthcare, finance and accounting, and education.

The same research helps explain why many employers rely on H-1B sponsorship. Among organisations that use the program, 65% cited the need for highly specialised skills and expertise, 51% pointed to critical skills shortages, and 49% said they were unable to find sufficiently qualified US candidates. A similar situation exists in the Indian tech industry. A study by industry body Nasscom has argued for deeper AI skills for Indian professionals. Nasscom argues that academia and industry must work together to rethink talent development for an AI-native workplace. Educational institutions need to move beyond a narrow focus on coding by placing greater emphasis on engineering judgment, domain expertise, and new approaches to assessment. At the same time, employers must redesign how foundational capabilities are built, strengthen mentorship, provide more opportunities for independent problem-solving, integrate AI verification into everyday workflows, and invest continuously in developing early-career talent. The challenge therefore for the Indian tech industry, talent managers and policy makers is to reorient the education to employment journey for a world of automation and AI. For the professionals who will find the path to H-1B narrowing, many new opportunities are expanding. According to industry estimates, many professionals are moving from legacy IT companies to GCCs. In recent years, GCC has expanded hiring of tech professionals. Global Capability Centers (GCCs), also known as captive centers or shared services centers, are wholly-owned subsidiaries of multinational companies that deliver technology, analytics, R&D, engineering, finance, HR, and operations services to their parent organisations. According to a joint report by Nasscom and Zinnov, India's GCC ecosystem expanded to 2,117 centres operating through 3,728 units by FY26, employing 2.36 million professionals and generating $98.4 billion in revenue. Since FY21, the number of GCCs has increased by 32%, with 506 Forbes Global 2000 companies establishing operations in India. Artificial intelligence has become a key catalyst for this growth. Nearly half of all GCCs established since FY21 were designed with AI at their core, and more than 1,200 centres have integrated AI and machine learning capabilities into their operations. This transformation is supported by over 250 dedicated Centres of Excellence and a talent pool of approximately 250,000 AI professionals, reinforcing India's position as a strategic hub for AI-led innovation and enterprise transformation. India's GCC workforce of 2.36 million people is four times larger than the estimated number of Indians working in the US on H-1B visas at any given time. Apart from GCCs, the start up ecosystem including large Unicorn are increasing employment for tech professionals. While there is no official count specifically for tech professionals employed by startups, most are in hiring mode. According to India's Startup India program, DPIIT-recognised startups had created more than 2.33 million direct jobs by FY2025-26, with total recognised startups exceeding 223,000. Most of these jobs involve knowledge of coding or AI. Talent moves where the demand is. Mobility of professionals is dictated by growth of industries and creation of new businesses. In previous decades, professionals moved to the US. As Indian and Asian economies grow, so will the need for professionals with relevant tech skills. The restrictions on green card and H-1B visa is not the end of the road. Professionals who may have to return from the US are likely to find ample opportunities for growth in India. This is a time of transition, not tragedy.



PRANJAL SHARMA
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Sadhulal Palial Honoured with Governor Excellence Award 2026

for Outstanding Contribution to Forest and Wildlife Conservation

Uttarakhand Governor Gurmit Singh presents award for wildlife protection, human-wildlife conflict mitigation and rescue management; recognition brings pride to Rawain Valley

Barkot, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand: Sadhulal Palial, Sub-Divisional Forest Officer (SDO) in the Upper Yamuna Forest Division, Barkot, has been honoured with the prestigious Governor Excellence Award 2026 for his outstanding contribution to forest and wildlife conservation, effective mitigation of human-wildlife conflict, protection of local communities and efficient management of wildlife rescue operations.

The award was presented by Uttarakhand Governor Lieutenant General (Retd.) Gurmit Singh during a formal ceremony held at Lok Bhavan, Dehradun, on the occasion of the concluding ceremony of Wildlife Protection Week 2026. The event was attended by Rajya Sabha MP Naresh Bansal, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Kapil Lal, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden Neena Grewal, along with other senior forest department officials.

Dedicated Efforts in Challenging Himalayan Terrain

Palial has been actively working to protect forests and wildlife in the remote and high-altitude areas of the Upper Yamuna Forest Division. He regularly undertakes intensive patrols with forest personnel to strengthen surveillance, prevent wildlife-related threats and ensure the protection of forest resources.

His work also focuses on reducing human-wildlife conflict through coordination with local communities. Whenever wildlife attacks or conflict-related incidents occur, he plays an active role in ensuring timely departmental assistance to affected



villagers, facilitating necessary action and maintaining effective communication with the public. These efforts have helped strengthen coordination and build trust between local residents and the forest department.

Training Forest Personnel and Raising Public Awareness

Palial has placed particular emphasis on improving the preparedness and professional skills of forest personnel involved in wildlife protection and rescue operations. Training initiatives cover safety measures during encounters with wild animals, understanding wildlife behaviour, precautions during rescue operations and effective management of human-wildlife conflict. He has also encouraged awareness programmes in villages and schools, along with activities related to forest fire prevention and control. Regular short- and long-distance patrols are undertaken to improve monitoring and protection of forest areas.

Promoting Biodiversity and Native Plant Species

Alongside wildlife protection, Palial has contributed to the promotion of native vegetation and natural forest regeneration. Initiatives include collecting seeds of indigenous plant species, training nursery personnel in seed management and plant production, and encouraging the cultivation of native species in forest nurseries. His approach highlights the importance of community participation, biodiversity conservation and the sustainable management of natural resources.

Nature and Literature Close to His Heart

Beyond his official responsibilities, Palial has a keen interest in nature, environmental conservation, writing and poetry. Through his literary pursuits, he seeks to communicate the importance of environmental protection and encourage greater sensitivity towards nature. "This Award Is Dedicated to Forest Warriors" Expressing his gratitude after receiving the honour, Palial said the achievement was dedicated to all those forest personnel and frontline workers who continue to protect forests and wildlife despite difficult terrain and challenging circumstances. He acknowledged the dedication of forest warriors who remain committed to safeguarding the natural environment even in adverse conditions. The recognition has brought happiness to Paluka village, his native region of Devrana Valley (Dhari Kafnaul), the wider Rawain Valley, and among his friends, relatives and family members. The Governor Excellence Award 2026 recognises Palial's dedication, professional commitment and leadership in forest and wildlife conservation. His achievement also highlights the importance of community participation, biodiversity protection and peaceful coexistence between humans and wildlife in Uttarakhand's fragile Himalayan ecosystem.



Green India Challenge Enters Sixth Year of Jammi Tree Drive

KUDAVELLI (DUBBAK MANDAL, SIDDIPET DISTRICT)



Green India Challenge has launched the sixth consecutive year of its statewide Shami (Jammi) sapling programme, "Oori Ooriko Jammi Chettu, Gudi Gudiko Jammi Chettu," with a plantation and poster release at Sri Ramalingeshwara Swamy Temple, Kudavelli.

Former Member of Parliament and Green India Challenge founder Joginipally Santosh Kumar, together with MLA Kotha Prabhakar Reddy, planted a Shami sapling at the temple and unveiled the campaign poster. Former Chairman of the SC and ST Commission Bakki Venkataiah, sarpanches of several villages, and local leaders joined the programme.

Call to restore the spiritual place of the Shami tree

Addressing the gathering, Santosh Kumar urged that the Shami tree be restored to its rightful spiritual dignity, and that a sapling be planted in every village and every temple in the State. He said Green India Challenge would take responsibility for that effort.

On Vijaya Dashami it is customary to circumambulate the Shami tree after reciting:

Shami shamayate papam Shami shatru vinashanam Arjunasya dhanurdhaari Ramasya priyadarshini It is believed that, by the grace of the Divine Mother, the observance removes fear of adversaries, confers victory and cleanses doshas. In Telangana it is also a Dasara tradition to exchange Shami leaves with relatives and friends as a wish for one another's well-being. Protecting the State Tree

The Government of Telangana has recognised the Shami as the State Tree. Soon after the formation of the State, then Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao declared it so. Despite that status, the species has been declining for several reasons. Against that background, Santosh Kumar resolved that a Shami tree should stand in every village and every temple, and began distribution of saplings seven years ago. This year, he announced, Jammi saplings will be supplied to villages and temples across the State, with Green India Challenge assuming that responsibility. He recalled that making the Jammi tree part of village, temple and school life was in keeping with the vision set at the birth of Telangana. Those present commended him for carrying forward a tree that has been part of daily and ritual life since the Vedic period, and pledged to plant, protect and nurture a Jammi sapling in every locality. The Green India Challenge team said the "village-to-village, temple-to-temple" drive would be taken up in the run-up to the coming Dasara and Navaratri festivities.

About Green India Challenge

Green India Challenge was launched in 2018 by former MP Joginipally Santosh Kumar as a green movement inspired by the environmental vision of Telangana's founding Chief Minister, K. Chandrashekar Rao. The campaign has sown crores of seeds in forest areas and, with youth and students at its centre, has given life to crores of saplings. By drawing in people's representatives, private institutions, corporates and civil society, it has grown into a nationwide effort and a model for many.

Suvendu Adhikari sets Gujarat model goal for Bengal, eyes 50% progress in 5 years

At a Kolkata event, Suvendu Adhikari said West Bengal should become self-reliant and emulate Gujarat within five years. He tied the pitch to Modi's development record, welfare outreach and the BJP's recent bypoll gains.

Suvendu Adhikari on Friday said West Bengal had become a "dependent" state during the nearly 50 years of Left Front and Trinamool Congress rule, and said it should be made self-reliant under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaking in Kolkata, he also said the state should move ahead on the path of development and try to become like Gujarat over the next five years.

Addressing an exhibition held as part of the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan at the Indian Museum, Adhikari referred to his recent visit to Gujarat and described the state as "like a well-drawn picture and a fairy-tale state".

He said, "West Bengal had become a dependent state in the 50-year rule of the Left and the Trinamool Congress. We are working to transform it into a self-reliant state under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi". He added, "Let us endeavour to make West Bengal like Gujarat in the next five years. If not fully, at least 50 per cent of that should be achieved". Referring to the BJP's victories in the Rejinagar and Nandigram assembly bypolls, Adhikari said people in the two constituencies had brought down the "wall of communalism". "People's faith in the Prime Minister's development initiatives and the state government was reflected in every booth in Rejinagar and Nandigram," he said. He also said the nationalists had defeated the previous TMC regime's alleged divisive politics based on people's language and origin. The BJP won the bypolls in the two assembly seats by record margins. Speaking about his visit to Vadnagar in Gujarat's Mehsana district, the birthplace of Modi, Adhikari said, "It was my lifetime achievement to attend the concluding session of the main programme of Seva Sankalp Abhiyan at Vadnagar in Gujarat".

Assam: BJP's Devasish Sharma wins Nagaon LS bypoll by 1,42,224 votes

GUWAHATI: (Oct 9) The BJP wrested the Nagaon Lok Sabha seat from the Congress on Friday, with saffron party candidate Devasish Sharma defeating his nearest rival AIUDF chief Badruddin Ajmal by 1,42,224 votes in the by-poll, the Election Commission said. Sharma, a former IAS officer, polled 7,14,349 votes, while Ajmal, the Binnakandi legislator, bagged 5,72,125 votes. Former Congress MLA Sibamoni Bora finished a distant third with 1,29,492 votes, according to data available on the EC website. The bye-election to the Nagaon Lok Sabha constituency was necessitated after Congress' Pradyut Bordoloi, who held the seat since 2019, resigned from the grand old party to join the ruling BJP.

Antyodaya Families to Get Concessional Loans for Animal Husbandry

Incentive of Rs 10 Per Litre of Milk- Chief Minister

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 9

Haryana Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini said that new employment opportunities would be created for Antyodaya families in the state having an annual income of up to Rs 1.80 lakh. These families would be provided loans at concessional interest rates for animal husbandry, along with an incentive of Rs 10 per litre of milk, which would be utilised towards repayment of their loans. The Chief Minister gave these directions to officers for the effective implementation of schemes being run for Antyodaya families, as well as for introducing new schemes while chairing a review meeting of the Mukhyamantri Antyodaya Parivar Utthan Yojana at the Haryana Civil Secretariat on Friday. During the meeting, the Chief Minister reviewed the progress of various schemes being implemented by different departments to strengthen the economic condition of Antyodaya families and provide them with employment and self-employment opportunities. He also directed bank officers to ensure timely and hassle-free availability of loans to eligible Antyodaya families to enable them to undertake income-generating activities and become economically self-reliant. The Chief Minister said that effective coordination between the schemes of various departments and the loan facilities offered by banks



was essential for creating employment opportunities for Antyodaya families. He said that engaging these families in milk production could prove highly beneficial in meeting the growing demand for milk. He said that while the Animal Husbandry Department was providing a subsidy of up to Rs 80,000 for the purchase of buffaloes by such families, additional financial assistance of Rs 50,000 would be provided through Vita. Vita would procure milk from these buffaloes, while the government would provide an additional incentive of Rs 10 per litre. Interest-free loans would be provided to women's Self-Help Groups and Scheduled Caste families, with the interest being borne by the government. The Chief Minister directed the Animal Husbandry Department to achieve the target of providing loans for the purchase of at least 15,000 buffaloes during the current year. The Chief Minister further directed officers to formulate new schemes to enhance the income of Antyodaya families. He also instructed them to open as many Har Hith Stores, Vita booths and milk bars as possible across all districts. He said that 1,450 Har Hith Stores were currently operational in the state. He directed officers to open 200 new Har Hith Stores and 300 new Vita booths, milk bars and Sanjha Bazaars by November 1. The Chief Minister also issued necessary directions to officers of the Development and Panchayats Department to take steps for opening Har Hith Stores and Vita booths on Panchayat land in villages, and to officers of the Urban Local Bodies Department for similar initiatives in urban areas. He said that Har Hith Stores and Vita milk booths should be opened in every village, colony, sector and housing society.

GM of NFR conducts safety inspection of Alipurduar Division

Inaugurates maintenance and training facilities and lays foundation stone of sports complex

MALIGAON, 09 OCTOBER, 2026





Shri Chetan Kumar Shrivastava, General Manager, Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR), conducted a safety inspection of Alipurduar Division on 7 th October, 2026. Shri Devendra Singh, Divisional Railway Manager, Alipurduar and senior officials of NFR accompanied him. The visit focused on reviewing operational safety, upgrading maintenance infrastructure and strengthening staff training facilities. As part of the visit, the General Manager conducted a window trailing inspection from New Bongaigaon to Alipurduar Junction. He closely examined the condition of railway tracks, bridges, overhead electrical installations and other railway assets along the section to assess their upkeep and identify maintenance requirements. At Alipurduar Junction, the General Manager visited the station yard, Carriage and Wagon Depot and Multidisciplinary Zonal Training School. He inaugurated a newly constructed pit line, a Bio-Toilet Laboratory and a Carriage and Wagon Model cum Staff Training Room. These facilities are expected to strengthen coach inspection, support effective maintenance of bio-toilet systems and enhance hands-on learning for staff. The improvements will contribute to greater rolling stock reliability, better cleanliness and enhanced passenger comfort. The General Manager also inaugurated an Automatic Block Signalling Model Room, an IP Exchange and an AI-enabled Smart Learning Centre. These facilities will deepen staff understanding of signalling systems, strengthen communication infrastructure and support technology-based learning. He further laid the foundation stone of a Multidisciplinary Sports Complex at Alipurduar Junction. The proposed complex will promote physical fitness, encourage sports participation and nurture sporting talent among railway employees, while encouraging teamwork and discipline. These initiatives underline N. F. Railway's commitment to modernising infrastructure and investing in its workforce to deliver safer, more efficient and passenger focused railway services.

India Has Entered New Era under PM Shri Modi's Leadership: CM Dr. Yadav

BHOPAL:



Friday, October 9, Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that India has entered a new era of development under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, with Madhya Pradesh advancing rapidly on the same path. As part of the month-long 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' marking the Prime Minister's birthday, children showcased their creativity and patriotism through spectacular rangoli artworks at the 'Seva Ke Rang–Rashtra Ke Sang' programme at TT Nagar Stadium. The Chief Minister, addressing the human rangoli formation programme, appreciated the children's artistic expression and their enthusiasm for the nation.

Human Rangoli Depicts Map of India

Chief Minister Dr. Yadav viewed large rangoli artworks depicting the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the vision of a developed India on Friday. He also sat among children participating in a human rangoli formation in the shape of India's map and interacted with them. The Chief Minister released colourful balloons into the sky as the stadium reverberated with chants of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai'. Reaffirming their commitment to making India a developed nation by 2047, the youth raised slogans of "We Will Do It" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai". Their enthusiasm was palpable, with students eager to shake hands with the Chief Minister, greet him and seek his blessings.

Indian Athletes Excel at the 2026 Asian Games

Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that India's talented athletes demonstrated outstanding performance across various sporting events at the Asian Games 2026, held in Japan. Madhya Pradesh secured a total of 11 medals at the competition. He extended his best wishes to all the state's athletes for a bright future.

Rangoli Conveys the Message of a Developed and Strong India

State BJP President and senior MLA Hemant Khandelwal said that children created beautiful rangolis at the large-scale 'Seva Ke Rang–Rashtra Ke Sang' programme organised under the Seva Sankalp Abhiyan. Through their artwork, they conveyed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a developed and strong India. He said that the country's talented youth would lead India in the future.

Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Vishwas Kailash Sarang, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Backward Classes and Minority Welfare Krishna Gaur, local MP Alok Sharma, MLAs Rameshwar Sharma and Bhagwandas Sabnani, Rahul Kothari and Ravindra Yati, along with other public representatives, athletes and students, were present at the programme.

Future partnerships must create capabilities, not dependencies: EAM

ADDIS ABABA

External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar on Friday said partnerships of the future must "help create capabilities, not promote dependencies", and called for a reformed UN Security Council with fair representation for Africa, while speaking on the India-Africa partnership at the Adwa Memorial Museum in Addis Ababa.The EAM said Adwa belonged not just to the history of Ethiopia, but to Africa and, in many ways, to the history of the global South.

"It inspired those struggling against colonialism and racial domination in Africa and beyond. It strengthened the belief that all subjugated people had the right and the capacity to determine their own destiny," he said.

While the vocabulary and the challenges may have changed, the essential question remained "who gets to decide our future," EAM Jaishankar said, adding that "this is the question that brings the global South, especially India and Africa, together."

Recalling the shared experience of colonialism, the EAM invoked Nelson Mandela's words, "You gave us Mohandas Gandhi, we gave you Mahatma Gandhi."



"India consistently opposed colonialism and apartheid. For us, African freedom was not some distant geopolitical question. It was part of the unfinished business of our own freedom," he said.

"It is no longer sufficient to describe India and Africa only through the vocabulary of historical solidarity. History has given us trust," EAM Jaishankar said, stressing that the relationship must now evolve.

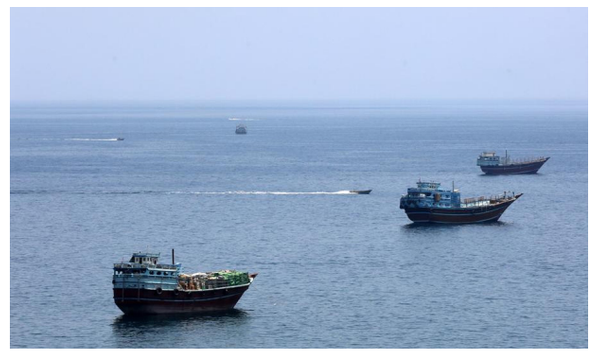
He said development partnerships could be built on mutual respect. "They need not be prescriptive, condescending or conditional. They can be based on respect and equality, shared capabilities, and most of all, shared prosperity," he said.

On global governance, EAM Jaishankar said India worked resolutely during its G20 Presidency in 2023 to secure permanent membership for the African Union, and "the same logic now applies to the reform process of the UN Security Council".

Reform, he said, "is not merely to add more seats around an old table. It is to make global governance more democratic, more responsive, and more representative", adding that Africa must be represented fairly in both categories of Council membership, in line with the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration.

Turning to Ethiopia, the EAM recalled the participation of Indian soldiers in the country's liberation from Italian occupation and the generations of Indian teachers who taught in Ethiopian schools and universities. He noted that bilateral ties were elevated to a strategic partnership during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit last year.

"We seek fairness, we seek representation, we seek opportunity. And above all, we seek the freedom to shape our own future," EAM Jaishankar said, adding that India would walk the path with Africa as a friend and partner.



Iran's IRGC says hit 'giant' LPG ship seeking to cross Hormuz Strait through 'illegal' route

TEHRAN

The navy of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) announced Friday that its forces had hit a "giant" ship carrying liquefied petroleum gas within the preceding hours as it sought to cross the Strait of Hormuz through the "illegal" route south of the waterway.

In a statement published on the IRGC's official news outlet Sepah News, the navy said following the strike, the vessel, identified as NV Sunshine, caught fire in its engine room and propulsion system.

It stressed that the US military is directly responsible for such incidents and the escalation of tensions in maritime transport in the region, adding that the US military causes such incidents through its interventions, manipulation of shipping and insurance companies and payment of massive bribes, Xinhua News Agency reported.

It warned that companies allowing themselves to be deceived by the United States will be sanctioned, "and the necessary punitive measures will be enforced against all vessels belonging to the violating companies."

The IRGC Navy also emphasised that from now on, taking actions against violating vessels will not be limited to the Strait of Hormuz, and any vessel crossing the unauthorised route will be "pursued, and definitely punished" anywhere in the region.

According to the statement, the IRGC's naval forces are in full control of the Strait of Hormuz, will prevent the "aggressive" armies' presence in the region, and will deal decisively with the "enemy's" attempts to disrupt this management.

Separately, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Thursday stressed that his country will not abandon the negotiating table although the United States has attacked it twice amid previous talks between the two sides, according to a statement issued by his office.

Indian crew members injured onboard MT On Peace recovering well: Embassy

MUSCAT

The Embassy of India in Oman on Friday informed that all the crew members who were injured onboard the Panama-flagged commercial vessel MT On Peace are recovering will in hospitals in Khasadb, Sohar and Muscat.

"Update on MT ON PEACE: We deeply appreciate the timely assistance of Omani authorities in evacuating and providing medical treatment to injured Indian crew members of MT ON PEACE. All the injured crew members are recuperating well in hospitals in Khasab, Sohar and Muscat. The Indian Embassy is in close touch with family members, shipping companies, hospitals and Omani authorities, and closely following up the recovery of injured seafarers," the Embassy stated on X.

On Tuesday, India condemned the attack on MT On Peace off the coast of Oman, which was struck by a projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz. It reiterated its call for an immediate cessation of such incidents in the interests of peace and stability in the region.

The total crew onboard the vessel includes 17 Indian nationals, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) statement. As many as 12 crew members, including 11 Indian nationals, were injured in the attack.

"We condemn the attack earlier today on a Panama-flagged commercial vessel MT On Peace (IMO 9893204) off the coast of Oman, where it was struck by a projectile while transiting the Strait of Hormuz. Of the total crew of 19, 17 are Indian nationals. It is learnt that 12 crew members have been injured, including 11 Indian nationals," the MEA said in a statement.

"With the assistance of Omani authorities, the injured crew have since been evacuated and are receiving medical treatment in Khasab, Oman.

Trump announces Russian diesel deal after Putin call

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump has announced a major agreement with Russian President Vladimir Putin under which Moscow would supply millions of tonnes of diesel to the United States and global markets, saying the move would bring down fuel prices sharply.

Trump said on Friday that he had just concluded a telephone discussion with Putin and that Russia had agreed to begin supplying diesel immediately, with additional shipments scheduled for November and subsequent deliveries.

The announcement comes as Trump seeks to lower energy costs for American consumers, particularly farmers, ranchers and truckers, while maintaining his administration's position that Iran must not acquire nuclear weapons.



"I have just concluded a highly successful discussion with President Vladimir Putin, of Russia," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

According to the US President, the two leaders agreed that Russia would immediately supply more than 300,000 tonnes of diesel to the American and global markets.

Another 500,000 tonnes would be supplied during November, followed by an additional one million tonnes immediately thereafter.

Trump said Russia would subsequently deliver another three million tonnes of diesel, depending on the condition of its refining facilities.

The quantities outlined by Trump amount to more than 4.8 million tonnes of diesel across the different stages of the proposed arrangement.

The US President linked the Russian diesel agreement to what he described as American control over the Strait of Hormuz, a strategically important maritime passage for international energy shipments.

"Between our TOTAL CONTROL of the Strait of Hormuz, and this great announcement on Russian Energy, Diesel Prices for Americans and, indeed, the World, will be COMING DOWN, IN RECORD NUMBERS, AND FAST!" Trump said.

His statement presented the two developments as central to his efforts to reduce diesel prices in the United States and international markets. Trump placed particular emphasis on the impact of fuel prices on American agriculture and transportation, two sectors that rely heavily on diesel.

"Lower prices for Americans, especially our Great Farmers, Ranchers, and Truckers, is my Greatest Priority," he said.

Elon Musk sarcastically posts 'Dear Prime Minister Ambani,' alleges monopoly over Starlink's India entry

NEW DELHI

SpaceX and Tesla CEO Elon Musk on Friday took another swipe at billionaire Mukesh Ambani over Starlink's entry into India, calling him "Dear Prime Minister Ambani," and accusing him of seeking to maintain a monopoly and questioning whether he would allow the satellite internet service to compete in the country.

In a post on X, Musk addressed Ambani as the "real boss of India" and apologised for not recognising his influence. "Dear Prime Minister Ambani, Please accept my humble apologies for not realizing that you are the real boss of India," Musk posted.

"Naturally, you would prefer to maintain your monopolistic exploitation of the great people of India, but would you nonetheless consider allowing Starlink to compete?" he added.

He said that "there are many areas of India, as there are in all countries, with no Internet access, which denies children the opportunity for education and for small businesses the opportunity to sell their goods to a global market. Starlink would change their lives for the better."

LIVED EXPERIENCES HEARD : REAL VOICES, REAL CHANGE

(On the occasion of "World Mental Health Day" on 10 October)



The WHO defines health as a state of complete physical, mental, and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease. The WHO defined mental health as a state of wellbeing where an individual can cope with life's normal stresses, realise their abilities, learn and work productively, and maintain social contacts. It can be influenced by biological, environmental, and socioeconomic factors. Mental health plays a vital role in our overall wellbeing, yet it remains overshadowed by stigma, silence, and lack of understanding. Millions of people around the globe experience mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, trauma, substance abuse, environment, family history, physical health, sleeplessness, chronic illness, diet, economic conditions, social connections, alcohol, smoking, social isolation, brain injury, debt, childhood adversity, fear, limited access to care etc.

World Mental Health Day

To address these challenges, "World Mental Health Day" is observed annually on 10 October to raise awareness about mental health issues and encourage global action to improve care and support since 1992. The theme of World Mental Health Day-2026 is "Lived Experiences Heard : Real Voices, Real Change", underscoring the urgent need to strengthen mental health support in times of crisis such as disasters, wars, conflicts, pandemics and other emergencies that will have long-term psychological effects. It reminds societies that resilience and recovery after a crisis depend not only on rebuilding structures, and caring for affected minds. The awareness of causes of mental health problems, early detection, explaining type of disorder, and erase stigma are the main factors that are to be addressed from this dais.

Ways to Maintain Mental Health

The mental wellbeing starts from everyday habits and attitudes that strengthen resilience and reduce stress. Simple lifestyle changes can make large difference in mental wellness. The activities like meditation, yoga, regular exercise, proper sleep, balanced diet, mingling with people, optimum workload, erasing bad habits, positive hobbies, relaxation time, setting goals, learning new skills, kind to yourself and others, ask for help at times of need, consulting professionals and displaying mindfulness. Cries such natural disasters, conflicts, wars, public health emergencies, digital age related lifestyles cause emotional distress, with 20 percent people, especially children and adolescents experiencing mental health conditions. The supporting the mental well-being saves life, gives strength to cope, the space to heal, generate hope, and rebuild communities. It is essential for governments, healthcare workers, NGOs, school staff and community members to come together to protect the wellness of global society. The World Mental Health Day should create a world where mental health is valued, protected, and accessible for all, especially in the face of adversity. The "Lions International" voluntary service organisation has rightly taken the proactive initiation to promote awareness on "Mental Health & Wellness" in over 210 countries of the world through their lions clubs, benefiting school children to the senior citizens.

- Capt Dr Madhusudhan Reddy Burra
9949700037.

Ethiopian PM and EAM Jaishankar explore opportunities to strengthen bilateral relations

ADDIS ABABA

External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar and Abiy Ahmed Ali, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, met in Addis Ababa on Friday and explored opportunities to further strengthen bilateral relations through enhanced cooperation and strategic partnerships.

"Met with S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of India, and his distinguished delegation today. Our discussions reaffirmed the longstanding friendship between Ethiopia and India and explored opportunities further to strengthen bilateral relations through enhanced cooperation and strategic partnerships, building on my recent visit to India and engagements with Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Prime Minister Ali stated on X. Earlier, EAM Jaishankar visited the AI Institute in Addis Ababa. "A good visit to the AI Institute in Addis Ababa today. India and Ethiopia share the vision of 'AI for All', and its promise for advancing development and prosperity," EAM Jaishankar stated on X.



The EAM also visited the Ethiopia Science Museum and noted that it will play a greater role in science and innovation cooperation.

"Spent some time at the Ethiopia Science Museum, a symbol of Ethiopia's push toward a technology-driven, knowledge-based economy. Science and innovation cooperation will play a greater role in our Strategic Partnership," EAM Jaishankar stated on X.

He also held a meeting with his Ethiopian counterpart Gedion Timothewos in Addis Ababa, with discussions focused on further strengthening bilateral ties in education, culture, trade, investment and digitalisation.

The two ministers also exchanged perspectives on global developments, strengthening multilateral engagement and partnership between India and the African Union.

"Minister of Foreign Affairs Gedion Timothewos met with Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar at his office today. During the meeting, the Ministers discussed ways to further expand and strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries in education and culture, trade and investment, and digitalisation," Ethiopia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs posted on X.

UN chief hails Pillay's Nobel Prize as 'tribute' to defenders of international law, human rights

UNITED NATIONS

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres hailed on Friday the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Navanethem "Navi" Pillay as "a tribute to all those working to uphold and defend international law, the rule of law and human rights, and secure peace, justice and human dignity". Congratulating the former UN Human Rights High Commissioner of Indian origin, he said, "She has shown that the force of law must prevail over the law of force and that defending human rights is the surest safeguard against injustice". "The Nobel Committee reminded the world that peace must be built on lasting principles, not the will of the powerful", he said. Volker Turk, the current Human Rights High Commissioner, said, "This is a proud moment for the global human rights movement". "At a time when human rights are under attack on so many fronts, including from those who wield enormous power, this award is particularly poignant", he said. Guterres noted Pillay's work that started "in South Africa defending Nelson Mandela and others who stood up against the oppressive apartheid regime" continues today. As Human Rights High Commissioner, Pillay faced criticism from all sides, from virtually all countries, because of her fierce independence in calling out human rights violations. "For decades, she has been a champion of international law and human rights, and a steadfast, independent voice of justice amidst some of the most historic international legal cases of our time", Guterres said. As he noted, her current and recent human rights advocacy stretches from chairing the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory to being an international judge and president of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda on cases relating to international crimes.



Medicover: Patient Care Above Politics, Says Management

Hyderabad, October 9: Secunderabad hospital has served over 15,000 inpatients within a year of opening



Leaders across parties and governments, in Telangana and Maharashtra, have inaugurated Medicover hospitals Deliberate negative campaigns that create fear among patients are unacceptable: Mahesh Degloorkar, COO, Medicover Hospitals India Hyderabad: Medicover Hospitals remains fully devoted to serving patients, and the trust they place in the institution is its foremost responsibility, said Mr. Mahesh Degloorkar, Chief Operating Officer (COO), Medicover Hospitals India. He stated that Medicover has no political affiliation whatsoever, and that its doors are open to every patient irrespective of background or belief. "Patients and their families come to us at the most difficult moments of their lives. Earning and keeping their trust is what we work for every single day. Politics has no place in that," Mr. Degloorkar said. He noted that the Secunderabad hospital has served more than 15,000 inpatients within a year of opening. Many of them are patients with serious and complex conditions who come from different regions in hope of better treatment. The hospital's sympathies are with every family that has lost a loved one, he said, and every case is treated with the utmost seriousness. Addressing allegations of a political link, Mr. Degloorkar said leaders from different parties and governments have attended Medicover inaugurations in their official capacity. In Telangana, then Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao inaugurated a Medicover hospital during the BRS government, and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy inaugurated another under the current Congress government. Union Ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar and State Minister Ponnam Prabhakar attended the Secunderabad hospital's inauguration. Then Minister T. Harish Rao attended the Begumpet hospital's opening, and former Speaker Pocharam Srinivas Reddy has also attended a Medicover inauguration. In Maharashtra, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and senior leader Sharad Pawar have taken part in Medicover hospital inaugurations. "Public representatives attending a hospital inauguration in their official capacity cannot be portrayed as a political association," he said. Mr. Degloorkar said reports on certain YouTube channels have been aired without examining patients' clinical condition, the severity of their illness or their complete treatment details, and that this creates misconceptions and fear among the public. Any discussion of patient deaths, he said, must rest on full facts and medical records, not unverified information. Targeting the hospital for political gain causes unnecessary anxiety to patients and their families. He reiterated that Medicover Hospitals is committed to healthcare above politics. He urged that any allegations be examined on the basis of facts and evidence, and appealed to the public not to be misled by unverified campaigns.

About Medicover Hospitals

Medicover Hospitals India is part of Medicover, a Sweden-headquartered international healthcare group. In India, it operates 26 hospitals across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

World growth to slow to 2.6% in 2026 as Middle East crisis hits global economy

UNCTAD said global growth could slow to 2.6% in 2026 as the Middle East crisis drives an energy shock. The report also highlighted Asia's growth role, shifting trade flows and AI-linked market risks.



Global economic growth is expected to slow to 2.6% in 2026 from 2.9% last year as the energy shock triggered by the crisis in the Middle East puts pressure on the world economy, the United Nations trade and development body UNCTAD said on Friday.

In its Trade and Development Report, UNCTAD said global trade in goods and services is projected to expand by 4% in constant prices this year, following a record $35 trillion in global trade in 2025. However, higher energy prices are expected to drive much of the projected increase in trade. The outlook comes amid rising geopolitical risks, changes in global trade patterns and concerns over the financial risks associated with the artificial intelligence boom.

ASIA TO DRIVE GLOBAL GROWTH

Asia is projected to account for 59% of global economic growth in 2026, with India expected to expand by 7.3%, China by 4.5% and Indonesia by 5.2%, according to UNCTAD. The projections underline Asia's role in supporting global growth even as the wider economy faces pressure from the Middle East crisis and higher energy prices.

India's projected growth rate of 7.3% is higher than the forecasts for China and Indonesia in the report.

US-CHINA TRADE SHIFTS AS TENSIONS CONTINUE

Trade between China and the United States has fallen by more than 20% since 2024, while East Asia has expanded trade with both China and North America, UNCTAD said. The agency also warned that restrictions on trade and investment are making it harder for new companies to enter strategic sectors. "Export controls, investment screening and supply-chain conditions make strategic sectors harder for new entrants to access," UNCTAD said. The shift in trade flows points to changes in how countries and businesses organise supply chains as trade restrictions and geopolitical tensions affect global commerce.

AI BOOM BRINGS TRADE OPPORTUNITIES, FINANCIAL RISKS

Artificial intelligence-related products, including semiconductors, are emerging as the main driver of merchandise trade, according to UNCTAD. However, the agency cautioned that growth in AI-related trade does not automatically translate into broader development gains. It also warned that the AI boom could pose risks to financial stability as markets become increasingly exposed to a small number of companies. UNCTAD did not name the companies in its assessment.

The warning highlights the risks of relying on a narrow group of businesses to sustain market gains, even as demand for AI-related products supports trade.

WORLD BANK, IMF OFFER DIFFERENT GROWTH OUTLOOKS

The World Bank cut its global growth forecast to 2.5% in June, citing the impact of the war in the Middle East. In a worst-case scenario, it sees growth falling to 1.3%.

The International Monetary Fund has a more optimistic global growth forecast of 3%, but has also flagged the Iran war, trade fragmentation and potential AI-related market corrections as risks.

UNCTAD's projection of 2.6% growth places its outlook between the World Bank's forecast and the IMF's estimate, pointing to continued uncertainty over the global economic outlook.

TVS succession plan sees Venu Srinivasan and Mallika differ over asset ownership

The main point of disagreement is whether assigning businesses to the next generation also settles the ownership of family wealth.

A dispute over the division of family assets has reportedly emerged in the family of TVS Motor chairman emeritus Venu Srinivasan and industrialist Mallika Srinivasan. The disagreement centres on how the family's wealth should be divided between their children, Lakshmi Venu and Sudarshan Venu, with the two sides differing over whether a settlement has been reached, reported The Economic Times.

The dispute has continued for nearly 18 months, with mediation attempts failing and preparations under way for a possible legal battle. Venu and Sudarshan are aligned on one side, while Mallika and Lakshmi are seeking changes to the division of assets, the report said, citing sources familiar with the matter. The main point of disagreement is whether assigning businesses to the next generation also settles the ownership of family wealth. Lakshmi manages Sundaram Clayton (SCL), which operates in the components and die-casting business. Sudarshan heads TVS Motor Company and TVS Holdings. The disagreement has brought attention to a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed by the four family members on March 21, 2024. According to report, people close to Venu and Sudarshan say the MoU



formalised the division of family assets, with Lakshmi set to receive SCL and Sudarshan TVS Motor. However, sources close to Mallika and Lakshmi maintain that the agreement dealt only with the use of the family brand and non-compete clauses, and did not settle ownership of the assets. The disagreement has intensified as the market values of the two businesses have moved further apart, the report said. TVS Motor had a market capitalisation of Rs 1.83 lakh crore at Thursday's close, compared with Rs 24,000 crore for SCL. TVS Motor's market value has risen nearly fourfold in three years. In April 2025, stock exchanges were informed that Sudarshan had become a beneficial owner in TVS Holdings, which owns a 50.26% stake in TVS Motor.

People close to Lakshmi told that she sought clarification about the transfer but received no response. They argue that responsibility for managing a business does not automatically translate into ownership, the report mentioned.

Those aligned with Venu and Sudarshan say the arrangement followed a 2020 settlement among four branches of the TVS family, which separated their holding structures.

They maintain that the subsequent understanding was based on valuations and has been implemented.

Mallika's side disputes that any economic settlement covering the siblings' assets was concluded. It maintains that both children continue to have equal rights over Venu's family wealth, according to the report.

The latest disagreement follows tensions at Sundaram Clayton earlier this year, when Venu assumed the chairmanship and took on a larger governance role, while Lakshmi continued to focus on the business.

3 firms got satcom licences, can start ops after clearance: Minister on Starlink row

The Communications Minister said India does not allow a monopoly in any sector and that the government would enable customers to choose between services in a competitive market.

Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Friday said three companies have received satellite communication (satcom) licences in India and can begin operations once they meet individual security requirements and the government finalises the spectrum charge mechanism. Scindia's remarks come amid a controversy over satellite internet services following an exchange between Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Elon Musk on X over the rollout of satcom services in India. “There are three parties that have got a licence. As and when the government decides the charge system on a revenue basis, that spectrum will be assigned to them, and as and when they individually fulfil the security conditions, then they can start operations,” Scindia said. The minister said India does not allow a monopoly in any sector and that the government would enable customers to choose between services in a competitive market. “A lot of conversation is happening about one specific company, but three companies have got satcom licences,” Scindia said, adding that the government’s role was to provide consumers with a range of services to choose from.

TRAI, TELECOM DEPARTMENT NEAR DECISION ON SPECTRUM CHARGES

Scindia said the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) were close to taking a final decision on the pricing regime for satcom spectrum. The three licence holders will be assigned spectrum once the government decides the revenue-based charge mechanism. However, obtaining a licence alone will not be enough to begin commercial operations, as each company must also meet the applicable security requirements. The minister's comments clarify the government's position amid questions over when satellite internet services will become operational in India. Scindia also criticised the Congress over its position on the satcom controversy, saying the party had earlier objected to a particular individual receiving a licence but was now questioning why the same person was not being allowed to proceed. “I don't think they themselves know whether they are going left or right,” Scindia said, referring to the Congress. He said the party had initially raised concerns about a particular person getting a licence and was now aligned with that person in questioning the delay in granting spectrum.

Sensex jumps 879 points, Nifty tops 22,500 as IT stocks rally 3%

Markets rebounded sharply on Friday, led by IT buying and bargain hunting after Thursday's sell-off. The recovery eased immediate pressure, but crude prices, FII outflows and a weak rupee remain in focus.

Sensex ends 879 points higher, Nifty above 22,500; IT stocks rally Sensex ends 879 points higher, Nifty above 22,500; IT stocks rally 3% Indian stock markets rebounded sharply on Friday, October 9, as buying in information technology stocks and bargain hunting after the previous session's steep sell-off lifted benchmark indices. The recovery came despite lingering concerns over elevated crude oil prices, foreign investor outflows and the Reserve Bank of India's tighter monetary policy stance. The BSE Sensex ended 879.09 points, or 1.23%, higher at 72,472.33, while the Nifty 50 advanced 288.65 points, or 1.30%, to close at 22,520.45. The rally followed Thursday's sharp sell-off, when the Sensex plunged 1,045.46 points, or 1.44%, and the Nifty fell 371.25 points, or 1.64%. The benchmarks recovered on Friday as investors bought stocks at lower levels and IT shares rallied despite concerns over the US government's suspension of several technology companies from its green-card programme.

The rebound also ended the prolonged losing streak in benchmark indices, although the sustainability of the recovery remains uncertain as global and domestic headwinds persist.

IT STOCKS LEAD THE MARKET RECOVERY

Information technology stocks were among the biggest contributors to Friday's gains. The Nifty IT index rose 3.02%, making it one of the strongest-performing sectoral indices. The rally came after investors reassessed the immediate implications of the US government's suspension of major technology companies, including TCS, Infosys, Wipro and HCLTech, from the Permanent Labour Certification (PERM) programme, a key step in the employment-based green-card process. TCS said on Friday that its applications under the programme had been in single digits over the past two years and that it did not expect the suspension to affect its workforce strategy or customer engagements. The company also reiterated its plan to hire an additional 15,000 people in the US over the next five years. The clarification helped address some immediate concerns about the impact of the restrictions. However, the longer-term implications will depend on how the US action develops. TCS's September-quarter results, announced on Thursday, also supported sentiment. The company's annualised artificial intelligence (AI) revenue rose nearly 20% quarter-on-quarter to $3.1 billion from $2.6 billion, highlighting growth in AI-related business. TCS reported consolidated net profit of Rs 13,884 crore for the September quarter, up around 15% year-on-year, while revenue increased 11.2% to Rs 73,188 crore. However, sequential revenue growth remained subdued at 0.5% in constant currency terms, suggesting that client spending continues to be cautious even as AI-related opportunities expand.

BARGAIN BUYING AFTER THURSDAY'S SHARP FALL

Another key driver of Friday's rebound was bargain buying and short covering after the steep correction in the previous session. The sharp fall on Thursday pushed stock



prices lower, prompting some investors to look for opportunities in companies they believe have strong long-term prospects. This is known as bargain buying, or buying the dip. When prices fall sharply over a short period, investors may step in to accumulate stocks at lower valuations, providing support to the market. Traders who had bet on further declines may also buy shares to close their positions, a process known as short covering, which can add to the upward momentum. The broader market performance reflected this recovery. The Nifty 100 rose 1.21%, the Nifty 200 gained 1.28% and the Nifty 500 advanced 1.16%. The Nifty Midcap 50 and Nifty Midcap 100 climbed 1.55% and 1.56%, respectively, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 rose 0.54%. The India VIX, which measures expected market volatility, fell 6% to 14.36, indicating an easing in near-term market anxiety. However, bargain buying does not necessarily mean the market has bottomed out. The rebound could remain vulnerable if crude prices rise again, foreign investors continue to sell or global bond yields remain elevated.

MOST SECTORAL INDICES END IN THE GREEN

The recovery was broad-based, with most sectoral indices ending higher.

The Nifty FMCG index rose 2.20%, while the Nifty IT gained 3.02%. The Nifty PSU Bank advanced 1.63%, the Nifty Auto climbed 1.42% and the Nifty Financial Services 25/50 rose 1.36%. The Nifty Private Bank gained 1.32%, while the Nifty Metal and Nifty Media indices advanced 1.10% and 1.23%, respectively. The Nifty Realty rose 0.92%, and the Nifty Pharma gained 0.54%. The Nifty MidSmall IT and Telecom index climbed 2.56%, while the Nifty MidSmall Financial Services rose 1.44%. Healthcare, consumer durables and chemicals stocks also ended higher. The Nifty Oil and Gas index was the notable exception, slipping 0.09%.

CRUDE OIL, FII SELLING REMAIN KEY RISKS

Despite Friday's recovery, concerns over crude oil prices and foreign institutional investor (FII) selling continue to weigh on the market outlook.

Brent crude fell 1.26% to $102.97 per barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude declined 0.96% to $90.61, according to the market data available during the session. The easing in oil prices offered some relief, but Brent remained above $100 per barrel. High crude prices can increase India's import bill, put pressure on the rupee and add to inflationary risks. These factors could also complicate the outlook for interest rates and corporate earnings.

Dr V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments Limited, said domestic equities staged a relief rally supported by value buying and short covering after the recent correction. He added that IT stocks outperformed on the back of a strong start to the second-quarter earnings season and rising confidence in AI-driven revenue opportunities.

However, Vijayakumar warned that persistent FII outflows and elevated global bond yields continued to temper the recovery outlook.

He said investors would await domestic consumer price index (CPI) inflation data due on Monday for further cues on the interest-rate trajectory after the RBI shifted its stance towards calibrated tightening. The RBI raised the repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.50% and moved its policy stance from neutral to calibrated tightening. The decision added to concerns over borrowing costs and market valuations, contributing to the pressure seen after the Monetary Policy Committee meeting. Vijayakumar said the actual performance of companies in the September quarter, which is expected to show year-on-year growth, would be critical in determining whether the market rebound can be sustained.

RUPEE ENDS NEAR RECORD LOW

The rupee ended largely unchanged at 96.73 against the US dollar on Friday, but declined over the week.

The currency remained close to its all-time low of 96.96 per dollar, reached in May, despite the RBI's recent rate hike. Adverse hedging and investment flows continued to weigh on the currency.

A weak rupee, elevated crude oil prices and continued foreign fund outflows remain key concerns for the Indian market. While Friday's gains offered relief after the sharp correction, investors will continue to track these risks alongside corporate earnings and inflation data.

For now, the rebound reflects renewed buying at lower levels and optimism around IT earnings, particularly AI-related growth. Whether the rally lasts will depend on the strength of earnings, foreign investor flows and the direction of crude oil prices and global bond yields.

Buying a House

Precautions Every Homebuyer Should Take Before Making the Deal

Buying a house is one of the biggest financial decisions most people make in their lifetime. For many families, it represents years of savings, careful planning and the dream of having a secure place to live. However, the excitement of finding a beautiful home can sometimes make buyers overlook important legal, financial and practical checks. A property may look perfect from the outside, but problems related to ownership, approvals, construction quality, loans or hidden costs can emerge after the purchase.

That is why buying a house should not be treated simply as a transaction between a buyer and seller. It should be approached as a detailed verification process. Whether someone is buying an independent house, an apartment, a villa or a plot for future construction, taking precautions before signing the agreement can prevent serious financial and legal problems later.

Look Beyond the Appearance of the Property

The first mistake many buyers make is becoming emotionally attached to a property too quickly. A spacious living room, attractive interiors, modern fittings, a swimming pool or landscaped surroundings can create a strong first impression. But appearance alone cannot determine whether a property is a safe investment.

A buyer should first understand why the property is being sold and who actually owns it. The person negotiating the sale may not always be the sole legal owner. There could be multiple owners, inherited ownership, a power-of-attorney arrangement or an existing dispute.

The buyer should therefore verify the seller's identity and ownership documents before moving ahead. The name of the seller should match the relevant property records. If there are multiple owners, all necessary parties should be involved in the transaction.

This basic verification can prevent a situation in which a buyer pays a substantial advance and later discovers that another person has a legal claim over the property.

Verify the Title Before Paying a Large Advance

One of the most important precautions before buying a house is checking the property's title. Title essentially establishes who has legal ownership of the property and whether the seller has the right to transfer it.

A property lawyer should examine the title documents and the chain of ownership. This is particularly important for older properties, inherited properties and properties that have changed hands several times.

The buyer should not depend entirely on documents shown by the seller or broker. Independent legal verification is important because a property can appear legitimate while still having unresolved ownership issues.

In the case of inherited property, for example, the buyer should make sure that all relevant heirs have provided the required consent or documentation. If one legal heir has not agreed to the sale, complications can arise even after the transaction.



Check Encumbrances and Existing Loans

Another critical precaution is checking whether the property has any outstanding loan, mortgage, court attachment or other financial liability. A house may have been purchased with a bank loan that has not yet been fully repaid. In such a situation, the lender may have a charge over the property. The buyer should understand how the existing loan will be cleared and how the lender's charge will be released before the sale is completed. An encumbrance check can help identify registered claims or liabilities associated with the property. Buyers should obtain the relevant records and have them reviewed by a qualified professional.

This is one area where saving a little money by skipping professional verification can become extremely expensive later.

Check Approvals and Building Permissions

A beautiful house does not automatically mean that it is legally approved. Before buying, the buyer should verify whether the building was constructed according to the permissions granted by the relevant local authority. The sanctioned building plan, layout approval and other applicable permissions should be examined. For an apartment, buyers should also check whether the project and building have the necessary approvals and whether the actual construction matches the sanctioned plans. Unauthorised construction can become a serious problem. An owner may later face difficulties while obtaining loans, selling the property or making modifications. In certain situations, authorities can also take enforcement action against unauthorised structures. The safest approach is to compare the actual property with the approved plans rather than assuming that everything constructed on the site is legally permitted.

Do Not Ignore the Completion and Occupancy Documents

For newly constructed homes and apartments, completion and occupancy-related approvals are particularly important. These documents generally indicate that the building has been completed in accordance with applicable requirements and is suitable for occupation, subject to the local rules and project circumstances. A buyer should ask the developer or seller for the relevant documents and independently verify them where possible. For an apartment project, the buyer should also understand whether the promised amenities, common areas and facilities are actually part of the approved project. A brochure may show a clubhouse, landscaped garden or other facility, but the buyer should understand what is legally promised and what is merely promotional material.

Understand RERA Protection

For many residential projects in India, the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) framework provides important protections to homebuyers. Buyers should check whether the project falls under the applicable RERA requirements and verify the project's registration details with the relevant state RERA authority. The buyer should compare the information available in the official project records with what the developer is promising.

Important details such as the project layout, approvals, promised completion date and other disclosures can provide valuable information before making a purchase.

This is especially useful when buying an under-construction property. A buyer should not rely only on advertisements or verbal assurances from sales representatives.

Investigate the Land and Local Records

When buying an independent house or plot, land-related records become particularly important. The buyer should verify the property's survey number, extent, boundaries and relevant revenue or municipal records. The physical property should correspond with the documents. In some areas, properties may be affected by road widening, government reservations, acquisition proposals, water bodies, disputed boundaries or other restrictions. These issues may not be obvious during a normal property visit. A local property lawyer who understands the area's land records can help identify issues that a buyer unfamiliar with the locality may overlook.

Check Property Taxes and Other Dues

Before completing the purchase, the buyer should determine whether property tax and other applicable local dues have been paid. Outstanding municipal taxes, maintenance charges, utility bills or association dues should be identified and settled appropriately before the transaction is completed. The sale agreement should clearly state who is responsible for dues relating to the period before the transfer. This may appear like a small matter compared with the property's purchase price, but unresolved dues can create unnecessary disputes between the buyer and seller.

Visit the Property More Than Once

A property should never be purchased after only one visit. The surroundings can look completely different in the morning, afternoon and evening. Traffic, noise, parking pressure and neighbourhood activity may change considerably throughout the day. A buyer should visit the property at different times and, if possible, on both weekdays and weekends. The surrounding roads, drainage, water supply, public transport, schools, hospitals, markets and other facilities should also be examined. A house may look peaceful during a Sunday afternoon visit but may be located on a heavily congested road during weekday mornings. Talking to residents in the neighbourhood can also provide information that a broker may not mention.

Examine Construction Quality Carefully

For a newly built house or apartment, buyers should pay attention to construction quality rather than focusing only on interior design. Cracks, dampness, water seepage, uneven flooring, poor drainage, faulty electrical fittings and low-quality plumbing can become expensive problems after possession. For a significant purchase, getting an independent civil engineer or building inspection professional to examine the property can be worthwhile. In an older house, the condition of the roof, foundation, plumbing, electrical system and structural elements deserves particular attention. A property that requires major repairs may not actually be cheaper when the renovation costs are included.

Understand the Total Cost, Not Just the Sale Price

Many buyers calculate affordability based only on the quoted property price. This can give a misleading picture. The actual cost of buying a house can include registration and stamp-related charges, legal fees, brokerage, loan processing charges, interior work, maintenance deposits, parking charges and other project or transaction-related expenses, depending on the property and applicable rules. A buyer should prepare a complete budget before committing. For example, a house that appears affordable at first may become financially uncomfortable after adding renovation expenses and loan repayments. The buyer should also maintain an emergency fund instead of using every available rupee for the purchase.

Be Careful With the Home Loan

A bank approving a home loan does not automatically mean that a property is perfect. Banks conduct their own legal and technical checks, but buyers should still carry out independent verification. The buyer should compare interest rates, processing charges, loan tenure and other conditions before selecting a lender. More importantly, the monthly EMI should remain manageable even if household expenses increase in the future. A house should provide financial security, not turn into a permanent source of financial stress. The sale agreement is one of the most important documents in the transaction. Buyers should never sign it simply because the broker or seller says that it is a standard document. The agreement should clearly describe the property, purchase price, payment schedule, possession arrangements, responsibilities of both parties and consequences if the transaction does not proceed. Any promises made verbally should ideally be reflected in the written agreement wherever legally appropriate. If the document contains language that the buyer does not understand, it should be explained by an independent lawyer before signing. Once a substantial amount of money has been paid, negotiating from a position of strength becomes much more difficult.



SHORT NEWS

2nd T20I: Hope, Rutherford power West Indies to record chase against India in Ranchi

RANCHI

Skipper Shai Hope smashed a blistering 45-ball century before Sherfane Rutherford hammered 84 off 37 deliveries as the West Indies pulled off a sensational six-wicket victory over India in the second T20I at the JSCA International Stadium Complex in Ranchi on Friday, getting past a daunting target of 250 to register the second-highest successful run-chase in men's T20I cricket.

Hope and Rutherford shared a record 120-run stand for the fourth wicket after India pacer Mayank Yadav's hat-trick in the Power-play period had brought them back in the game with the visitors struggling at 44/3. Their counterattacking partnership was the biggest for the West Indies in T20Is for the fourth wicket as well as the third biggest for the fourth wicket against India in the shortest format. After a half-century off 24 balls, Hope had another brilliant follow-up to his tour, hitting 104 from 45 balls, the fastest T20I century by a West Indian against India and the second-quickest West Indian in the format (after Johnson Charles's 39-ball effort against South Africa in 2023).

Rutherford provided equally destructive support, bringing up his half-century off 24 balls and finishing with 84 off 37 deliveries, including seven fours and seven sixes. The left-hander's eighth T20I fifty also extended his sequence of consecutive 50-plus scores to three, putting him alongside Evin Lewis and Nicholas Pooran among West Indies batters to achieve the feat.

Both Hope and Rutherford recorded the joint-second-fastest half-centuries by a West Indies batter against India in T20Is, behind Johnson Charles' 20-ball effort in 2016.

Reverting to the visitors' pursuit of 249 for 5, they overtook Australia's 245 for 5 against New Zealand at Auckland in 2018 for the second-highest successful run chase in T20Is, behind South Africa's 259 for 4 in the 19th over against West Indies at Centurion in 2023. India also suffered a loss despite such a strong batting performance that led to 249 for 5 in 20 overs. India had earlier put up a strong total of 249/5, thanks largely to Sanju Samson's blazing knock of 82 off 41 balls, skipper Shreyas Iyer's quickfire 40 off 18 balls and Tilak Varma's unbeaten 44 off 18. The highly aggressive batting from the three helped the hosts arrest a middle-order collapse and end up with a huge total.



Samson was aggressive from the word go, punishing the West Indies pace attack with aggressive hitting during the powerplay. The right-hander scored a half-century off just 21 balls, tying the record for the fastest 50 by an Indian in T20Is versus West Indies, held by Virat Kohli. It was achieved at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai against West Indies in 2019. India were 79/1 at the end of the Power-play and raced to 127/1 at the halfway mark, with Samson and Ishan Kishan going at a good rate. Ishan Kishan played some flamboyant shots before he was bowled by Roston Chase for 43 off 22 balls in the 12th over.

Chase then bowled Dube for seven off 10 balls, dragging the left-hander on to his stumps, before Shamar Springer took the catch in the deep off a Kesture Paul delivery in the 15th over to dismiss 'missed chance' Samson. It was the right-hander's second consecutive half-century as he scored 82 (9×4, 4×6) before Kamil Pooran caught him.

Chase quickly clawed his way back, ending with 3/24, before India's momentum was finally checked in the final overs. Tilak and Iyer then bludgeoned the hosts' attack for an 83-run stand in 32 balls, taking the score to within almost 250 runs. Tilak was particularly brutal in the final stretch, clattering three sixes in a row while Dhir also brought out the big shots with a four off the sole ball he faced.

In reply, West Indies lost an early wicket when Mayank Yadav removed two in the first over. After mistiming a pull and falling for four off two, Kamil Pooran was snaffled at midwicket by a well-judged catch from substitute Ravi Bishnoi. Hetmyer was out for a golden duck to a delivery that was hurtling down at 144.5 kph before forcing him into a rushed cross-batted shot across the line.

Mayank returned to remove Rovman Powell for 24 off 13 balls in the sixth over, clocking 149.5 kph as he beat the batter's attempted heave and sent the off stump cartwheeling. His three-wicket burst left the West Indies in trouble, but Hope responded with an attacking half-century to keep the chase alive.

Hope's half-century was raised in 24 balls, with Rutherford at the other end matching the rate. They milked India's errors – Mayank a sitter of a catch from Kuldeep Yadav at short fine leg offered Hope a life just before drinks.

The southpaw capitalised on the respite and raced to his half-century off just 24 balls, flaying the Indian bowlers to all parts.

The 15th over finally saw Kuldeep winning the battle against Rutherford, as the left-arm wrist spinner trapped the batsman for 84 off 37 balls in his own bowling. However, Rutherford got a touch of luck when an outside-off length ball was played by him for a drive back of square and was caught by wicketkeeper Samson. The stand was worth 120 runs.

Yet the damage was done. Hope's magnificent knock had got the visitors close enough, and the West Indies crossed the line at 252/4 to clinch a historic six-wicket win with the highest successful T20I run chase in their history and second-highest in the format overall.

2nd T20I: No set total is enough with dew factor in play, says Iyer

RANCHI

India captain Shreyas Iyer said it was difficult to determine a par score with the dew factor playing a significant role after the hosts' imposing total of 249/5 was chased down by the West Indies in the second T20I at the JSCA International Stadium Complex here on Friday.

The West Indies rode on skipper Shai Hope's blistering 45-ball century and Sherfane Rutherford's explosive 84 off 37 deliveries to pull off a six-wicket victory, completing the second-highest successful run chase in men's T20I cricket with two overs to spare.

"Honestly speaking, you cannot put a number to it, because when the dew factor comes in, it plays a massive role. And even 249 was chased in, like, with two overs to spare. So you cannot give a number, or probably anticipate that, okay, this is the number we would be trying to score," Iyer said after the match.

Reflecting on the West Indies' remarkable batting display, Iyer acknowledged that the margin for error was minimal on a batting-friendly surface, where even slight lapses in execution proved costly.

"The margin of error on this wicket is very minor, and any delivery, if you miss it, if you miss to execute it, it was going onto the stands, and you could see how exceptional they were batting. So, a few missed chances here and there, but that's part and parcel of the game. But credit where it's due, they batted amazingly, and yeah, kudos to them," he said.

India had appeared to seize control after Mayank Yadav struck three times in the powerplay, dismissing Kamil Pooran, Shimron Hetmyer and Rovman Powell to leave the visitors under pressure. However, Hope and Rutherford counterattacked with a 120-run fourth-wicket partnership that shifted the momentum decisively towards the West Indies.

Iyer praised Mayank's impact with the ball and the contributions of Sanju Samson and Abhishek Sharma, highlighting the importance of their performances in setting the tone for the team.

"Both were phenomenal in their departments, and this is what we look for now and then from Sanju and Abhishek. The way they've been performing consistently throughout, taking that responsibility and setting the pace for us — exceptional performances by them, and also Mayank," he said.

Premier League

Liverpool v Man City showdown in focus as competition returns



LONDON: The Premier League returns from the international break this weekend, with Sunday's clash between Liverpool and Manchester City at Anfield taking centrestage amid continuing uncertainty over City's financial rules case. City won their opening five league matches to lead the standings before the break but faces an unresolved appeal against an independent commission's findings concerning breaches of the Premier League's financial regulations. The club has denied wrongdoing, with potential sanctions adding to uncertainty over its future. City could also face a hostile reception at Anfield, where the two clubs have contested several fiercely fought encounters during their recent title battles. Erling Haaland faces a fitness assessment after being substituted early while on international duty.

ASIAN GAMES

Sprinter Manikanta Hoblidhar overcomes stomach cramps



NEW DELHI: Karnataka's international sprinter Manikanta Hoblidhar suffered stomach cramps but overcame the setback to emerge as the fastest man of the 65th National Open Athletics Championships here at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Friday. Hoblidhar suffered stomach cramps Thursday night but more than 20 hours later, emerged as the fastest male athlete of the meet, setting the track on fire. Hoblidhar is a fierce competitor. On Friday evening, he didn't show any signs of discomfort due to the stomach ailment he suffered the previous night. He clocked 10.25 seconds to win gold, but fell short of improving his own meet record of 10.19 seconds set last year."I was pretty confident of improving my personal best here in Delhi but missed because of stomach cramps," the Karnataka sprinter said.

Pro Wrestling League returns with blockbuster Season 6

NEW DELHI

A total of 86 elite grapplers, including World leaders and Asian Games medallists, will feature in Season 6 of the Pro Wrestling League (PWL) to be held at the KD Jadhav Arena from January 9 to 26, 2027.

The launch of the much-anticipated next season will herald the return of the league to New Delhi with high-octane bouts to be held at the iconic KD Jadhav Wrestling Arena at the Indira Gandhi Stadium.

Asian Games winners feted

The launch event was headlined by the grand felicitation of India's wrestling contingent following their medal-winning campaign at the Asian Games 2026.

Star grapplers Sujeet Kalkal, who clinched a historic gold in the Men's Freestyle 65kg category, and Aman Sehrawat, fresh from adding an Asian Games gold to his Paris 2024 Olympic bronze, were honoured alongside fellow medallists Antim Panghal, Nitesh Siwach, Deepak Punia and Sunil Kumar. The six-member medal-winning contingent was felicitated, celebrating one of India's strongest wrestling campaigns at the Asian Games in decades.

Hosting Season 6 in Delhi is a key part of the League's plan to be staged in a different franchise city every season, taking PWL to varied fan bases across the country. Season 6 will feature six high-calibre franchises competing for the coveted crown: Tiigers of Mumbai Dangals, Haryana Thunders, Delhi Dangal Warriors, Maharashtra Kesari, Punjab Royals, and UP Dominators. Season 6 will showcase 86 world-class men and women grapplers, including 34 Olympians and Commonwealth, Asian Games.

Fast bowlers share honours on Day One as South Africa restrict Australia to 187/6

DURBAN

A fast bowling attack minus spearhead Kagiso Rabada helped South Africa restrict Australia to 187/6 before bad light and rain brought an early end to the first day of the first Test at Kingsmead in Durban on Friday.

Despite missing Rabada, the likes of Anrich Nortje, Wiaan Mulder and Marco Jansen utilised early movement and bounce effectively after Australia elected to bat on a pitch carrying a tinge of grass. Mulder drew first blood by removing Travis Head (9), before Jansen ended Nic Maddinson's scoreless 33-ball stay on his Test return to leave the visitors reeling at 24/2.

Marnus Labuschagne (37) and Steve Smith (25) mounted a recovery with a 60-run



third-wicket alliance coming off 94 balls. Smith, who went past Steve Waugh to become Australia's third-highest run-scorer in men's Tests, hit spinner Keshav Maharaj for two sixes before falling to Jansen after lunch.

On the other hand, Labuschagne's 11th consecutive innings without a fifty ended when Mulder trapped him LBW with a sharp nip-backer. Nortje, making his comeback to red-ball cricket after three years, then dealt a double blow in a single over -- removing Alex Carey (14) and Beau Webster (4) to reduce Australia to 124/6.

But Matt Renshaw (46 not out) and skipper Pat Cummins (33 not out) displayed immense patience under heavy overcast skies and floodlights by stitching together an unbeaten 63-run stand off 140 balls for the seventh wicket to steady the innings.

Bad light and light rain eventually cut the final session short by an hour, with 65.2 overs bowled on the day. Jansen, Mulder and Nortje shared two wickets apiece for the Proteas, while off-spinner Simon Harmer bowled an economical spell of 0-34 in 14 overs. Play will resume early on Saturday with Australia seeking to build on their late recovery.

Top seed Wang reaches women's semifinals of WTT China Smash

BEIJING

Top seed Wang Manyu of China advanced to the women's singles semifinals at the 2026 WTT China Smash on Friday, sweeping South Korea's Shin Yu-bin 4-0. Wang extended her winning streak against Shin to eight matches, triumphing 11-8, 11-7, 11-3, 11-9 in half an hour.

"We just met [at the Asian Games], and we are familiar with each other's technical and tactical approaches. I was well-prepared for any difficulties ahead of this match," Wang said. Wang's compatriot Chen Xingtong rallied from two games down to eliminate Japanese chopper Honoka Hashimoto 5-11, 8-11, 11-2, 12-10, 11-3, 11-6, securing her first win in their third encounter, reports Xinhua.

"I was not quite used to her spin in the first two games, but I adapted better afterwards, stayed in contention and tried to attack whenever I had the opportunity," Chen said.

China's Wang Yidi squandered a two-game lead in a 4-2 defeat to Japan's Miwa Harimoto, while compatriot Zhu Sibing lost 4-1 to Japan's Hitomi Sato in a matchup between two defensive players. In the men's singles, China's Zhou Qihao beat South Korea's Jang Woo-jin 4-2 to set up a semifinal clash with world No. 1 Sora Matsushima, who beat Chinese Taipei's Feng Yi-hsin 4-1. Looking ahead to the semifinal, Zhou said, "I lost to Sora twice recently.

Facing him again, I will spare no effort for a win." The women's doubles final will feature the tournament's top two seeds. Japan's top-seeded pair Harimoto and Hina Hayata beat Chinese wild cards Wang Yidi and Jiang Yiyi.

Fenesta Open: Nitin Sinha stuns Manish Sureshkumar to reach men's final; Vaidehee in summit clash

NEW DELHI

Doubles partners throughout the week, top seed Manish Sureshkumar and third seed Nitin Kumar Sinha faced off in the semifinals of the 31st Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship, the latter pulling off an upset win in a marathon clash at the DLTA in New Delhi on Friday.

After Sureshkumar, last year's champion, claimed the opening set in a tiebreak, Sinha fought back to win the next two sets and seal a 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 6-1 victory. "It was a very long match, and it was very intense," Sinha said after the win. "I just wanted to stay in it and see how it goes, and it became very physical. I am really happy with the way I fought and played the match."

Sureshkumar and Sinha returned to the court later in the evening and teamed up to clinch the men's doubles title, defeating Rohith Gobinath and Srikar Doni 6-3, 6-2. "It was a very good match.

I think both of us were very exhausted after the singles in the morning. We're happy that we found



some energy and it was fun playing with Nitin this week," Sureshkumar said. "It's good to carry the winning momentum. Hopefully, we can play in some other tournaments in the future."

Sinha will face sixth seed Maan Kesharwani in Saturday's singles final. Kesharwani secured his place in the title clash with a 6-3, 7-5 victory over unseeded Suraj Prabodh in the other semifinal.

"The first set looked easy, but it was intense for me," Kesharwani said after the win. "Somehow, I won it. The second set, I was a little bit tired, but I made it. At 5-all, I broke him, and then I won the match. I will try to recover well, eat well, and try to sleep well and just be ready for tomorrow."

In the women's singles event, two-time former champion and top seed Vaidehee Chaudhari will take on second seed Shruti Ahlawat in the final after both players registered straight-sets victories in their respective semifinals.

Chaudhari needed 69 minutes to defeat fourth seed Sonal Patil 6-3, 6-1, while Ahlawat spent 61 minutes on court to beat Soha Sadiq 6-0, 6-1.

"From the very first point, I was trying to be very focused and trying to do what I can do best," Ahlawat said. "I've played her quite a few times now, and I was quite aware of what she was going to do and how I had to play."

Looking ahead to the final, Ahlawat said she would approach the contest like any other match. "I'm just going to treat it as any other match. I'm going to do what I do well. I've played her twice before. I'll just play my match and see how it is."

Lakshmi Arunkumar and Samhitha Chamarthi won the women's doubles title with a 5-7, 6-1, 10-5 win over Aishwarya Jadhav and Aakruti Sonkusare.

The longest match of the day came in the boys' U-18 singles draw, in which fourth seed Om Ramesh Patel battled for three hours and 16 minutes to overcome 15th seed Yashwin Dahiya 6-7 (3-7), 6-1, 7-5.

Patel will face 10th seed Ribhav Saroha in Saturday's final. Saroha defeated Srikar Doni 6-3, 6-2 in the other semifinal. In the boys' U-18 doubles final, top seeds Praneel Sharma and Aditya Mor clinched the title with a 6-2, 6-1 win over third seeds Raghav Sarode and Om Ramesh Patel. Third seeds Sanmitha Harini and Savitha Bhuvaneswaran won the girls' U-18 doubles title, defeating fourth seeds Sree Syleswari Velmanikandan and Riddhi Shinde 6-4, 7-5.

Ireland men's team to play five ODIs in Namibia in October-November; A team to tour Zimbabwe

DUBLIN

The Ireland men's cricket team will play five ODIs against Namibia in Windhoek from October 22 to November 1, said Cricket Ireland while announcing its extensive winter schedule on Friday.

Following the senior team's assignment in Namibia, the Ireland 'A' side, called as Ireland Wolves, will head to Zimbabwe for a tour featuring two four-day matches and five one-day fixtures against Zimbabwe A from November 6 to 28.

Paul Stirling will lead a 16-member ODI squad in Namibia, with Lorcan Tucker serving as vice-captain. Left-arm spinner Matthew Humphreys will captain the Ireland Wolves across both formats in Zimbabwe. Nine players selected for the senior series will also feature on the Wolves tour, while six squad members will later head to the UAE for the International League T20 (ILT20). Senior pacer Mark Adair has been included in the Wolves' red-ball



squad to provide leadership to the young seam attack.

Cricket Ireland's Director of High Performance, Graeme West, said the long-term importance of these winter tours is huge given that Namibia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa will co-host the 2027 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup and the qualifying tournament.

West noted that playing on turf wickets in warmer conditions offers crucial exposure "The squads selected for the senior men's and Wolves' tours feature the best of Irish men's current and emerging talent, and the chance for such a large cohort of players getting away during the winter months to play outdoors on grass in warmer conditions is a welcome one.

"With Namibia and Zimbabwe hosting the ICC Cricket World Cup and Qualification events in 2027 alongside South Africa, the tours provide great opportunities for our players to familiarise themselves with the conditions and some of their potential opponents.

Kajal's Joint Family Connection

Kajal Aggarwal has been a familiar face in Telugu cinema for nearly two decades, yet the actress continues to remain active in the industry and take on leading roles. While several actresses take a break after marriage and motherhood before returning to films in different kinds of characters, Kajal has managed to balance her personal and professional lives without stepping away from her career. The actress is now gearing up for her appearance in the much-anticipated film Ramayana, in which she is reportedly playing Mandodari, the wife of Ravana, portrayed by Yash. With Ranbir Kapoor playing Lord Rama and Sai Pallavi appearing as Sita, the film has generated considerable interest among audiences. Mandodari is an important character in the epic, and Kajal's reported involvement in the project has raised expectations about her role. The film is being planned as a two-part saga, with the first instalment expected around Diwali this year and the second part scheduled for next year, according to reports. Yash is expected to have a more prominent role in the second instalment, although Kajal's appearance in the sequel has not been officially confirmed. Despite her busy film schedule, Kajal remains equally active on social media and regularly participates in interviews, podcasts and talk shows. During a recent interview, the actress opened up about her family life and revealed an interesting detail about her decision to live in a joint family after marriage. Kajal revealed that she had always liked the idea of a joint family. Having grown up in such an environment, she wanted to continue living with family members even after marrying businessman Gautam Kitchlu. According to the actress, she expressed this wish to her husband shortly after their marriage, suggesting that they live together with his parents. Gautam was reportedly surprised by her suggestion and jokingly questioned why she wanted to live with her in-laws when many people preferred to maintain some distance from them. For Kajal, however, the idea of a joint family was perfectly natural. Growing up in a close-knit household had shaped her outlook, and she wanted her son to experience the same warmth and support. The actress also credited her family structure for helping her continue her career after becoming a mother. Kajal explained that she does not have to constantly worry about her son while attending film shoots because her family members share the responsibility of looking after him. According to her, the support she receives at home has given her the freedom to focus on her professional commitments without feeling anxious about her child's well-being. This family support system has played a significant role in helping her balance motherhood with the demands of the film industry. Kajal's journey demonstrates how a strong support system can help working mothers pursue their ambitions while managing family responsibilities. Rather than viewing marriage and motherhood as obstacles to her career, the actress has continued to take on projects with the confidence that her family is there to support her. Her comments also offer a glimpse into her personal values and the importance she places on family relationships. For Kajal, a joint family is not simply about living under one roof; it is about sharing responsibilities, offering emotional support and creating an environment where everyone can grow together. As she continues to juggle films, motherhood and public appearances, Kajal Aggarwal's experience highlights how family support can make a meaningful difference in the lives of working women.





Anushka's Family Makes a Mega Deal

Bollywood star Anushka Sharma and Indian cricketer Virat Kohli are once again making headlines with a major real estate investment. The power couple's latest purchase in Mumbai has attracted considerable attention, as Anushka's family has reportedly acquired an entire floor in a premium luxury residential project in Versova. According to reports, the family has purchased all three luxury apartments on the 24th floor of Godrej Skyshore, an upscale residential development located near the Versova coastline. The combined value of the three apartments is estimated to be around 44.1 crore, making it a notable deal in Mumbai's luxury real estate market. Interestingly, the three apartments have been registered under different ownership arrangements. One apartment is reportedly registered in Anushka Sharma's name, while another has been purchased in her parents' names. The third apartment is jointly owned by Anushka and Virat Kohli. The arrangement appears to offer the family an opportunity to live close to one another while maintaining individual privacy and independence. The development is expected to feature premium amenities, stunning views of the Arabian Sea and a luxurious living experience. The necessary registration formalities and stamp duty payments have reportedly been completed. However, the project is still under construction, with possession expected to be handed over to buyers by 2031, according to reports. Real estate investments are nothing new for Anushka and Virat. The couple already owns valuable properties in Mumbai's Worli area, as well as luxury villas and farmhouses in locations such as Gurugram and Alibaug. Their latest investment further highlights their interest in acquiring premium properties in strategically important locations. Apart from their successful careers in cinema and cricket, the couple has steadily expanded its investments across different sectors. Their latest reported purchase has attracted attention not only because of its value but also because of the family's decision to acquire an entire floor together. The move has sparked considerable discussion among fans and real estate observers, with many viewing it as a thoughtful way to keep the family close while ensuring everyone has their own space.



Ranabaali Trailer Packs a Powerful Punch

Vijay Devarakonda's Ranabaali has created huge buzz with songs and teaser. Today, makers dropped the trailer in a grad launch event. Ranabaali theatrical trailer offers a striking combination of rooted storytelling and massive cinematic ambition. Director Rahul Sankrityan takes viewers into the harsh reality of British-era India, where famine and colonial exploitation become the foundation for a larger story of resistance. Instead of immediately rushing into hero elevations, the trailer establishes the pain of the people and allows that emotion to fuel the arrival of its central warrior. And then Vijay Deverakonda takes over. As Singanamala Bobbili Ranabaali, Vijay brings extraordinary macho energy to the screen. His rugged styling, intense eyes, powerful physique and forceful dialogue delivery make the character feel like a man born from the soil he protects. he Rayalaseema slang is particularly effective, adding authenticity and giving his mass dialogues different high. When Ranabaali rises against the system, his rage feels justified by everything the trailer has established. The action is ferocious. Vijay's combat sequences have a physical intensity that makes every confrontation feel dangerous and immediate. The scale of the fights, combined with Ajay–Atul's high-energy score, gives the trailer a pulsating vibe. Arnold Vosloo's Sir Theodore Hector provides a threatening counterpoint to Vijay, while Rashmika Mandanna's Jayamma brings an emotional presence to the narrative. The trailer also leaves intriguing questions about the mysterious elements hidden within the story. Ranabaali is set to storm theatres worldwide on October 16. Produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y. Ravi Shankar under Mythri Movie Makers and presented by T-Series, Ranabaali has the scale of a pan-India event film while remaining deeply rooted in its regional setting.

Nithiin-Nani Films Race Against Time





Natural Star Nani recently had a release with The Paradise. The actor will next be working on a project in the direction of Sujeeth. In the meantime, he is also occupied as a producer. The next production venture from his banner is titled Alias Rukmini, starring Nithiin in the lead role. The film unit began the shoot and is planning to wrap it up at the earliest. The team announced today that the film will be released on December 4th. Nani is not only a successful actor but also a successful producer. The actor has cleverly planned to wrap up the film's shoot along with the post-production in just four months, which is absolutely commendable. The film unit announced the film in August and is now gearing up with further activities in full swing. So far, the team has not disclosed the details of the leading lady of the film, which they plan to do on the 13th of this month. Since the film is arriving in the first week of December, it will have an edge over other films releasing a little later in the same month. Since it is a romantic drama, and if it gets a good word of mouth, it will have a sustainable run at the box office. Directed by Murali Kanth Devasoth of Dandora fame, the film is bankrolled by Nani's sister Deepthi Ganta. Jomon T John is the DOP and Vijay Bulganin is the music director.

Delivery Boy Arrives on Oct- 23



Director Nani's emotional action entertainer Delivery Boy, starring Leo Sivakumar, Brigida and Radhika Sarathkumar in the lead roles, is set to hit theatres worldwide on October 23. The makers officially announced the release date through a poster shared on social media by popular music label Saregama Tamil. Produced by Amutha Leoni under the Asasi Creations banner, the film revolves around a hardworking delivery boy from a lower-middle-class family who struggles to save his mother. Director Nani has promised an emotionally gripping story that will keep audiences engaged from beginning to end. Shot entirely across Chennai and Coimbatore, the film's shooting was completed in just 42 days in December last year. The project also features Dushyanth, Kaali Venkat and Bose Venkat in important roles. Sundaramoorthy has composed the music, while Prasanna Kumar handles cinematography. The technical team also includes editor Vasanth, dialogue writer Nanda Mani Vasagam, stunt choreographer Phoenix Prabhu and art director Suresh Kalyani. With post-production progressing, Delivery Boy is gearing up for its worldwide theatrical release this October.

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