



India complete clean sweep

India needed exactly an hour on day five to complete a seven-wicket win over West Indies and seal a 2-0 series sweep at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Tuesday. KL Rahul anchored the chase with an unbeaten 58 off 108 balls, hitting six fours and two sixes to help India easily hunt down 121.

Our future is in our own hands and right here

The old proverb about distant mountains being shiny is finally making sense to Indians. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks after the visa incident must be taken seriously. His pointed comments—stressing that we must stand on our own feet—are something Indians

Adani Group leads infra RoA globally

Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani said the conglomerate's return on assets (ROA) rose to 16.5 per cent in the financial year 2024-25 -- placing it among the top performers in the global infrastructure sector.

Mrunal Thakur sets the ramp on fire

Actress Mrunal Thakur, who is gearing up for the release of her upcoming film Dacoit alongside AdiviSesh, made a stunning appearance at Lakmé Fashion Week, leaving fashion enthusiasts captivated with her bold and glamorous runway presence.

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WINDOWS

Father dies of heart attack after teen son dies in his lap

RAMBAN: In a truly tragic incident, a man died of a heart attack after his son collapsed in his lap while they were on their way to a hospital in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district on Tuesday morning, officials said. The incident occurred in the Tethar area of Banihal, when Shabir Ahmed Gania (45) was taking his ailing son Sahil Ahmed (14) to a hospital. Sahil collapsed in his father's lap on the way. Unable to bear the shock, his father suffered a fatal heart attack, officials said. The duo's bodies were brought to the sub-district hospital in Banihal in the morning, they said.

from train in Jharkhand

RANCHI: Thirteen children, including a girl, were rescued from a train in Jharkhand while they were being allegedly trafficked to Goa, officials said on Tuesday. Acting on intelligence inputs on Monday evening that some children were being trafficked through the Vasco da Gama (VSG) Weekly Express, RPF personnel boarded the train at Muri station, they said. "The personnel kept an eye on the children till the train reached the Ranchi station, where they were rescued. The children were aged between 12 and 17, and most of them had boarded the train at the Jasidih Junction," an RPF of-

of the banned CPI (Maoist) rendered before the police in Bhadradri Kothagudem district of Telangana on Tuesday, police said. This comes hours after senior Naxalite Mallojula Venugopal alias Bhupathi and 60 other cadres surrendered before police in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district. Attracted by the Telangana government's surrender and rehabilitation policy, along with the developmental and welfare activities under "Operation Cheyutha", a community outreach initiative conducted by the police in collaboration with the CRPF, the Maoists cadre chose to renounce the path of Naxalism and embrace a peaceful life with their families, Bhadradri Kothagudem Superintendent of Police B Rohit Raju said in a release.







Please carry the newspaper that says inflation has come down — we'll need to show it

13 kids rescued

ficer said.

Six Maoists surrender before Telangana Police

HYDERABAD: Six members



to the vegetable vendors!



this time will be deadlier than the past. It will be more powerful. Yes, you are very right. It (Operation Sindoor 2.0) has to be deadlier. There is no doubt about it, says Western Army Commander

Jammu

Asserting that Pakistan has no capacity to fight India but it may attempt Pahalgam-

Army commander Lieutenant General Manoj Kumar Katiyar on Tuesday said the response — Operation Sindoor 2.0 — will be deadlier.

He maintained that Paki-

stan continues its policy of

"bleed India through a thousand cuts" and said the Army is fully prepared to deal with "The action we will take this time will be deadlier than the past. It would be

more powerful. Yes, you are

very right. It (Operation Sin-

door 2.0) has to be deadlier.

There is no doubt about it," Lt Gen Katiyar told reporters.

door 2.0 will be deadlier than the first one. He was replying to a ques-

tion whether Operation Sinbe Pahalgam-type attacks

Asked whether there will

he said that until there is a change in Pakistan's thinking, it will continue to carry out such mischiefs.

in the future by Pakistan,

"It does not have the capacity to fight a war with us. They do not want to fight a war. It does mischief as per its policy of 'bleed India through a thousand cuts."

The Western Army commander said that India had inflicted heavy damages on Pakistan in Operation Sindoor. "We have destroyed its posts and air bases, but it may again attempt some-

MODI 'GOOD FRIEND', MUNIR 'FAVOURITE FIELD MARSHAL': TRUMP

TEXAS: United States President Donald Trump praised India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi without naming him, saying 'India is a great country with a good friend of mine at the top'. Earlier praising Sharif and his 'favourite field marshal Pakistan army chief Gen Asim Munir, Trump also invited the Pakistan prime minister to address the gathering.

Sharif said peace has been achieved in the Middle East after 'untiring and relentless efforts' of President Trump.

thing (Pahalgam-type attack). We have to remain prepared. We are fully prepared.

time will be deadlier than in the past," he said.

I am confident the action this

One more suicide: New twist in IPS officer's case

► Mystery deepens as ASI shoots himself dead, implicates Puran; Rahul visits the senior officer's family and calls for the respect of all Dalits

► Congress leader asks **Prime Minister Narendra** Modi and the state government to take immediate action and arrest the officials responsible

Hans News Service Chandigarh

A Haryana assistant subinspector in Rohtak shot himself dead on Tuesday and purportedly levelled corruption allegations against the late Inspector General Y Puran Kumar, adding a murky twist to the suspected suicide of the senior Dalit officer who served in the same district. ASI Sandeep Kumar's alleged suicide comes in the backdrop of the escalating row over Puran Kumar's death, which has led to a shakeup of the police brass and also become a huge political issue.

Earlier in the day, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi visited the senior officer's family and called for the respect of all Dalits. He asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the state government to take immediate action and arrest the officials



responsible.

The second suicide of a Haryana cop has muddied the waters even more, the questions becoming louder, the mystery deeper.

Sandeep Kumar's shock death came hours after the state government late Monday night sent state DGP Shatrujeet Kapur on leave. Before that, the government transferred Narendra Bijarniya, former Rohtak superintendent of police. The two were among the eight officials named by Puran Kumar in a note he left behind.

O P Singh, a 1992-batch IPS officer of DGP rank, has been assigned "additional charge of DGP Harvana during the leave period of Shatrujeet Kapur", according to an official order.

Sandeep Kumar, who was posted in the cyber cell and whose body was recovered from his Rohtak home, left behind a six-minute purported video and a three-page suicide note naming Puran Kumar. The veracity of the video and the statement could not



be immediately verified.

Police sources said the ASI played a role in the arrest of head constable Sushil Kumar. an aide of Puran Kumar who was found with a gunshot wound in his Chandigarh home on October 7.

"Sandeep shot himself," said a senior police official from Rohtak.

Asked about the video and the note, he said, "To say anything at this stage is difficult... the forensic team is investigating."

Sandeep Kumar levelled serious allegations against Puran Kumar in the purported video, saying even Bhagat Singh made sacrifices and walked a difficult path after which the country awakened.

Puran Kumar's name had cropped up in a bribery scandal recently.

A liquor contractor in Rohtak filed a bribery case against head constable Sushil Kumar. He alleged Sushil Kumar sought a bribe of Rs 2.5 lakh in Puran Kumar's name (when he was posted there).

BJP drops Speaker, fields two Deputy CMs

HANS NEWS SERVICE Patna/ New Delhi

The ruling BJP on Tuesday sprang surprises with its first list of 71 candidates for the Bihar assembly polls, denying a ticket to Speaker Nand Kishore Yadav, a seven-term MLA, while fielding Deputy CM Samrat Choudhary in a direct election after over a decade.

Mangal Pandey, a member of the legislative council, has also been fielded by the party for the assembly polls. While Choudhary, who had last won an assembly election



RJD ticket, has been fielded from adjoining Tarapur, Pandey has been named the BJP

Notably, both Choudhary and Pandey are former state BJP presidents, and so is Yaday, who has been replaced in Patna Sahib with Sanjay Kumar Gupta, a low-key state secretary of the party.

SAU student sexually assaulted on campus

Hans News Service New Delhi

A woman student of South Asian University (SAU) here was allegedly sexually assaulted by four people on campus, triggering protests

The student was found injured, with her clothes torn, on campus on October 13, a day after she was reported missing, the police said on Tuesday.

by students.

SAU condemned the incident "in the strongest terms" and said it stands with its students.

A PCR call was received at Maidan Garhi police station around 3 pm on Monday, reporting that a woman student who had gone missing from SAU in south Delhi's Chhatarpur was found injured on campus, the police said.

"The call was made by someone known to the student. A team immediately reached the spot. Based on the statement of the victim, an FIR has been registered under the relevant sections. The investigation is being conducted with due sensitivity and priority," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Ankit Chauhan.

He said the student was found near the university auditorium after a search within the campus. She was rushed to a nearby hospital for medical examination. She is being counselled.

Bulk SMSes, voice messages during 'silence period' on EC radar

New Delhi

AS Bihar prepares for phase one of assembly polls on November 6, the Election Commission has warned that bulk SMSes and audio messages during the 48-hour 'silence period' which starts before the conclusion of voting, is prohibited.

Meanwhile, Election Com-

mission said that first randomisation of Electronic Voting Machine- Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (EVM-VVPATs) for the second phase of Bihar Assembly Elections has been completed. In a note issued on October 9 outlining campaigning restrictions, the poll authority said, political advertisements on any election matter in TV, cable networks, radio, cinema halls, use of bulk SMS/voice messages, audio visual displays in any polling area during the period of 48 hours ending with the hour fixed for the conclusion of the poll for any election in the polling area is prohibited.

Separately, in a statement on Tuesday, the EC said it has issued orders on October 9, requiring every registered and national and state politi-



cal party and every contesting candidate to apply to the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) for pre-certification of all political advertisements on electronic media, including social media before publication.

tuted at the district and state levels for pre-certification of political advertisements as per the prescribed guidelines. No political advertisements

MCMCs have been consti-

are to be released to any internet-based media/websites, including social media websites, by political parties or candidates without pre-certification from the respective MCMC, it cautioned.

The MCMCs will also keep a strict vigil on suspected cases of paid news in the media and take suitable action.

Given the penetration of social media in the electoral landscape, candidates have also been instructed to share the details of their authentic social media accounts at the time of filing nomination.

Citing provisions of the electoral law and a subsequent Supreme Court directions, it said political parties should also submit a statement of expenditure incurred on campaigning through internet, including social media websites to the ECI within 75 days of the completion of the assembly elections.



from Parbatta in 2010 on an candidate from Siwan. Health and Law Minister



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Supreme Court asks Rajasthan govt

Why no CCTV cameras in interrogation rooms of police stations?

On September 4, the apex court had taken suo motu cognisance of a media report which stated that 11 lives were lost in police custody in Rajasthan in the first eight months of 2025, of which seven incidents occurred in Udaipur division

Hans News Service New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Rajasthan government why no CCTV cameras are installed in the interrogation room of police stations.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta observed that interrogation room of a police station is the "main place" where CCTV cameras have to be there.

"As per your affidavit, there

is no camera in the interrogation room which is the main place where cameras have to be there," the bench said.

The top court said installing CCTV cameras would entail cost but "it is a question of human rights".

It also asked the state how it proposes to have an oversight mechanism.

The bench was hearing a suo motu matter concerning lack of functional CCTVs in police stations.

On September 4, the apex

court had taken suo motu cognisance of a media report which stated that 11 lives were lost in police custody in Rajasthan in the first eight months of 2025, of which seven incidents occurred in

The apex court had in 2018 ordered installation of CCTV cameras in police stations to check human rights

the Udaipur division.

During the hearing on Tuesday, the bench observed why an agency cannot be involved in the oversight pro-

"The feed has to go to some centralised place or agency where there is an oversight," the bench said.

It also heard the submissions of senior advocate Siddhartha Dave, who was appointed as an amicus curiae to assist the court in a separate matter in which the top court had passed an order in December 2020.

In that order, the top court had directed the Centre to install CCTV cameras and recording equipment at the offices of investigating agencies, including the CBI, the Enforcement Directorate and the National Investigation

Dave told the bench that he has filed an updated report in the matter.

He also stressed that an oversight mechanism was

The bench referred to the affidavit filed by Rajasthan in the suo motu matter and

said no CCTV cameras were there in the interrogation room of police stations.

It asked the Centre and other states to file responses to the report placed by the amicus and posted the matter for hearing on November 24. While hearing the suo motu matter on September 15, the apex court flagged the issue of oversight and said it was thinking of having a control room without any human intervention for monitoring of feeds of CCTV cameras in-

stalled at police stations. In its order passed in the matter on September 26, the bench posed several queries to the Rajasthan government and directed it to apprise about the number of CCTV cameras installed in each police station across the state.

The top court had also asked whether any regular audit was conducted to check the functioning of the installed cameras.

AYODHYA NEW HUB OF 'BLACK **CAT' NSG FORCE: AMIT SHAH**

This will be the sixth regional hub of the National Security Guard (NSG) after Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Gandhinagar

Hans News Service Manesar

THE government will set up another regional hub of the 'Black Cat' commando force NSG in Uttar Pradesh's temple town Ayodhya, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Tuesday.

This will be the sixth regional hub of the National Security Guard (NSG) after the existing hubs of Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Gandhinagar. The force also has a small unit called 'task force' in Jammu. NSG hubs in different parts of the country enable its commandos to reach any emergency immediately and effectively.

Addressing the 41st Raising Day of the anti-terror



commando force at its headquarters here, Shah said the Modi government is set to bring about a major change

in the functioning of the

NSG in the coming days. "So far, five hubs of the NSG have been established in

intermediate, Ankit enrolled

Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad (Gandhinagar). In addition, a new hub is also going to be set up in Ayodhya. Here, the NSG personnel will be deployed and available round the clock," he said.

The government operationalised four regional hubs of the NSG in Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Kolkata on June 30 and July 1, 2009. The decision to set up these hubs was taken following the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks of 2008 to reduce the time for elite commandos to reach an attack site.

Previously, NSG commandos had to be airlifted from Delhi, which caused delays.

In March 2011, the central government gave the nod for setting up another NSG re-

Hans News Service

gional hub in Gandhinagar. The NSG unit serves as a specialised backup force for prolonged, high-risk antiterror operations. The hubs help in honing the professional acumen of the NSG commandos and also contribute significantly to capacity building of the first responders, police forces of

the states.

The NSG, raised in 1984, is a world-class "zero-error" force and can counter any kind of attack with minimum response time. The NSG, which comprises personnel from the Indian Army and the Central Armed Police Forces, has a multi-dimensional responsibility of countering terrorist attacks, hijack attempts and also providing proximate security.

Raebareli Dalit lynching case: Two more arrested



HANS NEWS SERVICE Raebareli

TWO more people were arrested on Tuesday in connection with the lynching of a Dalit man earlier this month in Raebareli district after being mistaken for a thief, police said.

According to a statement issued by the Raebareli police, the two arrested have been identified as Chhotu alias Sujeet Agrahari and Avinesh Singh alias Saurabh Singh Baghel, both residents of Baniyan ka Purwa in Pachkhara village.

The arrests were made on Monday and Tuesday, taking the total number of people held

Ayodhya Deepotsav: 15 temporary hospitals ready

in the case to 14, the statement said. "The investigation is being conducted by Circle Officer (Dalmau) Girija Shankar Tripathi. Efforts are on to trace others involved in the incident, including those who may have fled to other districts or states. Strict legal action will be taken against all the accused," the police said.

Officials said the main accused, who had allegedly beaten the victim, Hariom Valmiki, to death, was arrested following an encounter with the police on October 10. Earlier, nine people were arrested immediately after the case was registered, and two more were held on October 8.

Police also said that account-

ability has been fixed on the law enforcement side, with five policemen, including two subinspectors, suspended. Social media videos related to the incident are also being examined.

The police said among those accused in the case are people belonging to various castes, including Dalits and backward communities, and appealed to the public not to give the incident a caste colour.

Valmiki, a Dalit resident of Fatehpur district, was lynched on the night of October 2 near Jamunapur in Rae Bareli's Unchahar area after being mistaken for a thief. Following the incident, the police registered a case and arrested several accused. The incident also raised a political furore with Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Raebareli MP Rahul Gandhi expressing concern over it and speaking to the family, assuring them justice even even as opposition Samajwadi Party in UP slammed the BJP-led government over law and order issues, particularly crimes against Dalits.

Student found hanging in his room in UP's Hamirpur

elder son of Chandrashekhar,

a ration dealer and resident of

Marathipura locality, they said.

According to the youth's uncle,

Milan, Ankit was good at stud-

ies and had topped his high

the district in his intermedi-

ate exams, but when he could

not, he became withdrawn,"

Milan said. After completing

"He once said he would top

school examinations.



Hans News Service HAMIRPUR

A 21-year-old Bachelor of Arts (BA) student allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself in his room in Maudaha town of Uttar Pradesh's Hamirpur district, police said on Tuesday.

The deceased, identified as Ankit alias Hariom, was the

Maudaha for a BA course and was in his final year, his uncle said. "He used to talk about pursuing a B.Tech degree from His father, Chandrashekhar, said that after having dinner

on Monday evening, Ankit went to the terrace for a walk. "When he did not return for a long time, we went upstairs and were shocked to find him hanging from a saree tied to

the ceiling," he said. The family took him to the local government hospital, where doctors declared him

brought dead. Maudaha SHO Umesh Kumar Singh said the body has been taken into custody and sent for post-mortem.

and Allied Sports, Manali,

and have one instructor

Ayodhya THE Uttar Pradesh health de-

temporary hospitals are being established for Deepotsav to ensure the health and wellbeing of devotees and tourists attending the festival. "In addition, ambulances will be stationed round-the-clock at 10 key locations across the entire fair area," it said in a statement. Ayodhya's Chief Medical Officer Dr. Sushil Kumar Baniyan, said that complete

Ballia

vigilance will be maintained regarding health services throughout Deepotsay.

Tuesday. Ashok Kumar Yadav

only woman pilot among the 20 trainees preparing to fly professionally

"All hospitals will be equipped with essential medicines, paramedical staff, and

specialist doctors," he said. Ambulances will be stationed at all times at the folhoomi Complex, Shri Hanumangarhi, Shri Kanak Bhavan Complex Ghat, Bandha Tiraha (Veena Crossing), Hanuman Gufa (Shri Ram Katha Museum), Saket Petrol Pump, Ayodhya Dham Railway Station, and Shri Nageshwar Nath Temple, according to the statement. Additionally, 50 beds have been reserved across three major hospitals to ensure emergency preparedness during the event, it said.

lowing locations: Control Room, Shri Ram Janmab-

Wanted cattle smuggler held after encounter with police

Hans News Service

(40), a resident of Darampur A cattle smuggler carrying a reward of Rs 25,000 on his village in the Phephna area, head was arrested following was nabbed while he was tryan encounter in the Dubharh ing to flee to Bihar. He susarea here, the police said on tained a bullet injury in his leg during the operation, they said. During checking near the road leading to Janeshwar Mishra Setu on the Green Field Expressway, police sig-

nalled a man coming on a

motorcycle to stop. However, the motorcyclist started fleeing in the oppo-site direction while firing at the police team with the intention to kill, Additional Superintendent of Police Kripa Shankar said. The police chased the man, who again opened fire after finding himself surrounded by the team. The police personnel retaliated in self-

defence and arrested the ac-

cused, the officer said.

Tourism dept gears up for paragliding in Jammu by next year

Tariq Sofi Aitham

THE Jammu Tourism Department is preparing to give the region's skies a new identity by introducing commercial paragliding near here by early next year.

The project is also a story of personal courage and empowerment led by Dolly Sharma, the only woman pilot among the 20 trainees preparing to fly professionally. Aitham is a paragliding location near Jammu that has undergone trials and is being developed by the tourism department to boost adventure tourism. The take-off point is about 19 km from Jammu city and the landing zone is the sand bed of the Sardhan stream. The trial flight is approximately four minutes.

is recommended for paragliding and we want to operationalise it in the next five to six months before the end of the current financial year," Joint Director, Jammu Tourism, Aijaz Qaiser told PTI on the concluding day of the six-day refresher course for the 20 paragliding pilots here. The refresher course is part of advanced training for the pilots who have already completed their P1, P2 and P3 courses from the National Institute of Mountaineering and allied sports. They will be undergoing P4

The project is also a story of personal courage and empowerment led by Dolly Sharma, the "This is the only site that

training courses at Bilaspur (Govind Sagar lake) and Bir-Billing (Himachal Pradesh) which is considered Asia's ing for P4 shortly. with the A B Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering

from there with a two-member technical team from Himachal Pradesh that su-

pervised the training schedbest-in-class institute for ule," Qaiser said. paragliding and related activities. "These 20 pilots On the completion of the pilots' advance training, he have just completed their said, the department plans SIV course from Himachal to make them fly regularly so Pradesh and will be leaving that they can complete their in two batches for Bir-Billmandatory flying hours to conduct solo and tandem We have collaborated flights with passengers.

"This is a 190 sq km area with ideal take-off slopes, consistent wind conditions, and panoramic views.



We are in the process of taking over this land to raise infrastructure,

multi-cuisine restaurants, a

sunset point and a yoga plat-

The officer said the initiative is part of a broader push to develop adventure tourism in the region and make Jammu a year-round destination for visitors seeking more than pilgrimages and heritage trails.

form," he added.

Sharma, the only woman among the trainees, who has been pursuing adventure sports for the past five years, said this opportunity represents both professional growth and a step forward for women in the region.

"The experience has been very good. Being a woman is not a weakness — there is nothing that a woman cannot do," she said, brimming with confidence before taking flight and making a perfect landing.

For Sharma, the project represents something deeper than tourism or business.

"This is about confidence. Adventure tourism will attract visitors, yes, but it will also give local youths, especially women, a chance to learn new skills and see themselves in a new light."

Oaiser said the mandate of his department is to promote adventure tourism and create opportunities that also benefit local youths.

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2.5% decline in road crash deaths, 2.9% dip in fatal crashes

A senior police officer says the Delhi traffic p olice has adopted a multi-pronged approach, including analysing crash data, identifying risk factors and recommending engineering changes, to reduce road deaths

Hans News Service New Delhi

ROAD crash deaths in the national capital have reduced by 2.5 per cent till September 2025 compared to the same period last year, while fatal road crashes dipped by 2.9 per cent, according to data released by the Delhi Traffic Police on Tuesday.

The police attributed the steady decline to "consistent and systematic efforts"

involving data-driven, evidence-based interventions and improvements in road infrastructure. According to police data, the number of people killed in road crashes dropped from 1,178 last year to 1,149, while fatal crashes fell from 1,148 to 1,115 during the same period. A senior police officer said

the Delhi Traffic Police has adopted a multi-pronged approach, including analysing crash data, identifying risk factors and recommending engineering changes, to reduce road deaths.

"The continued reduction in road crash deaths is a direct result of targeting risk factors and recommending life-saving measures at high-risk locations. The Delhi Traffic Police remains committed to reducing road crash deaths," Special Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Ajay Chaudhry said.

The police said its Crash Research Cell analyses fatal crashes and identifies blackspots, locations prone to repeated incidents. The Traffic Police Engineering Cell then visits these sites to suggest design improvements and other safety

Notably, the Delhi Road Crash Report, earlier known as the Accident Report in Delhi, has been renamed to replace the term 'accident' with 'crash' to reflect the global view that such incidents are preventable and

This year, the traffic police identified 143 high-risk locations across the city and recommended safer road designs, improved signage, and road repairs. It has also proposed speed-calming measures at more than 30 locations near schools, colleges and hospitals, including new speed breakers and safer pedestrian crossings.

Over 3,600 traffic personnel have been trained in speed management and data-based enforcement tech-



niques in collaboration with road safety experts, the statement said. The Delhi Traffic Police continues to coordinate with various departments through District Road Safety Committee (DRSC) meetings and to comply

the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety, the police added.

'Late payment charges on water bills to be completely waived off'

Consumers can visit their nearest Delhi Jal Board (DJB) office to avail of the benefit: Chief Minister Rekha Gupta

Purna Singh New Delhi

THE Delhi government has announced a major relief measure for residents struggling with unpaid water bills. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said that citizens will receive a 100% rebate on late payment charges on water bills until January 31, followed by a 70% rebate from February 1 to March

Beginning Wednesday, consumers can visit their nearest Delhi Jal Board (DJB) office to avail of the benefit. Gupta said the government has waived surcharges worth ⊠11,500 crore and slashed the penalty for unauthorized connections to ∑1,000. Illegal



water connections can now be regularized for ∑1,000, while commercial connections will be regularized for just ∑5,000, down from the earlier fee of \(\text{\subset} 61,000.

Gupta said the government had spent the past seven months overhauling the functioning of the Jal

As part of the reform, 34

new Zonal Revenue Offices (ZROs) will be established, with each ZRO catering to two assembly constituen-

The new system will ensure smooth billing, prompt grievance redressal, and better service delivery.

She added that after the Diwali relief on GST, the government is extending another "gift" in the form of a water bill rebate.

'Wherever we went, people would show us their water bills and ask when the errors would be fixed. This move is for them," she said.

Taking aim at the previous Aam Aadmi Party government, Gupta alleged that the Jal Board was left financially crippled and that its connections were deliberately capped at 2.9 million. She said the outdated revenue system created unnecessary hardships for residents.

Delhi's Water Minister Pravesh Verma said a software glitch that had earlier disrupted billing has now been resolved. He added that while the new rebate scheme may result in thousands of crores in losses for the Jal Board, it will greatly benefit Delhi's citizens.

Verma said the penalty rate will also be reduced from 5% to 2%, and all penalties and interest on unpaid bills will be fully waived.

"Our priority is to ease the financial burden on the public and ensure fair, transparent water billing across the city," he said.

HC gives Kejriwal final chance to present arguments in bail case

Purna Singh New Delhi

THE Delhi High Court has given former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal one last opportunity to present his arguments in the petition challenging the trial court's order that granted him bail. Justice Ravindra Dudeja scheduled the next hearing for November, directing that no further chances would be given after that date.

During Tuesday's proceedings, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) informed the court that Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju was unavailable as he was engaged in a matter before the Supreme Court. The High Court then made it clear that both sides must complete their arguments at the next hearing.

Earlier, on August 7, 2024, the High Court had observed that Kejriwal was already out on interim bail granted by the Supreme Court. The bench questioned whether there was



Kejriwal, in his response, alleged that the ED had obtained witness statements under undue pressure.

Previously, the Delhi High Court had stayed the trial court's bail order, calling it flawed. The court said that the lower court had failed to examine the documents properly and had not given the ED sufficient opportunity to present its case.

It also noted that the trial court had not complied with the two essential conditions outlined under Section 45 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Kejriwal's interim bail granted by the Supreme Court earlier this year, was specifically for election campaigning and could not be cited as a general ground for personal liberty, the court remarked.

Notably, Kejriwal was arrested by the CBI on June 26, 2024, in connection with the alleged excise policy scam. While he has been granted regular bail in the CBI case, he continues to face proceedings in the ED case linked to the same matter.

Delhi Cong chief detained for protesting against vote theft

HANS NEWS SERVICE New Delhi

Devender Yadav and other party workers were detained in southwest Delhi's Najafgarh area while staging a protest against vote theft. Police said they detained 56 people, including Yadav.

"They were protesting and were moving towards Jawahar Chowk in the area. We have detained them as they have no permission for protest. They were taken to Najafgarh Police Station," a senior police officer told PTI. "We will continue to raise our voice against vote theft. Our morale will not be broken by police and the government," the Congress said. On August 7, Rahul Gandhi made explosive claims of "huge criminal fraud" in polls through



"collusion" between the BIP and the Election Commission and cited an analysis of voter rolls in a constituency in Karnataka last year.

Soon after Gandhi levelled the charge, the chief electoral officers of Karnataka and Maharashtra asked the former Congress chief to share names of electors he claimed were "wrong" in the voters' list along with a signed declaration for poll authorities to initiate "necessary proceedings" in the matter.

14-year-old boy found hang in Delhi home

Hans News Service New Delhi

A 14-year-old boy was found his home in northwest Delhi's Tri Nagar area, police said on Tuesday. Police found a video on his phone which recorded the incident and they are looking into whether the boy was attempting to record a reel and it was an accident, or he intentionally ended his life.

The incident came to light on Sunday when the Keshav Puram police received information from Deep Chand Bandhu Hospital (DCBH) about a boy, later identified as a class 9 student, found hanging in his house.

The boy was declared brought dead at the hospital, police said. According to the officer, the boy lived with his parents and elder sister.

"During the initial probe, it was found that the boy had hanged himself from a ceiling



fan using a curtain. He also placed his mobile phone at a distance and recorded a video of the entire act," said the police officer. The officer added that no

foul play has been found so far. The scene of crime was inspected by the crime team and exhibits, including the mobile phone of the deceased, were recovered for forensic exami-

"The body was preserved at BJRM Hospital and later handed over to the family after postmortem," he added. Police said investigators are examining multiple angles, including the possibility that the boy might have been experimenting while shooting a

video for social media.

"We are verifying whether he was attempting to make a reel or if it was an act of suicide. The phone video and digital contents are being carefully analysed. There is no background noise or any voice in the video," said a police source.

'Disaster risk reduction not cost, but collective investment in shared future'

NEW DELHI: Disaster risk reduction is not a cost but a collective investment in the shared future of the world, top PMO official P K Mishra

Addressing the G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Minisin South Africa, Mishra, the principal secretary to the prime minister, said India is committed to advancing multi-hazard early warning systems, leveraging anticipatory financing for anticipatory action, and promoting public-private partnerships for resilience.

Mishra also emphasised on India's pioneering role in creating the G20 DRR Working Group in 2023.

He reiterated India's leadership through the Coalition for Disaster Resilient (CDRI), Infrastructure which had extended technical assistance to 50 countries. Mishra applauded South Africa's G20 presidency for advancing a spirit of partnership and amplifying Africa's perspectives



within the disaster risk re-

duction agenda. The minis-Declaration 'Resilience for All: Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction through Solidarity, Equality and Sustainability' on October 13, coinciding with the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction. During the Ministerial Roundtable on the Voluntary High-Level Principles for Investing in DRR, Mishra highlighted India's integrated approach built on risk information, financing strategy, innovation and local-level investment. "India's governance framework embedded DRR within its National Adaptation Plan, sectoral policies, and financing windows, ensuring that resilience, inclusivity and sustainability were woven into every level of develop-

ment planning," he said.

Over 700 kg of banned firecrackers seized, 2 held

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police have seized 725 kgs of banned firecrackers in two separate operations carried out in Dwarka and Najafgarh areas and nabbed two people for illegally stockpiling the crack-

Acting on a tip-off, a team raided a house in Uttam Nagar and apprehended Gaurav Gupta, the officer said, adding that 77 kg of firecrackers were recovered from his residence.

Gupta, who earlier sold firecrackers with a valid licence till 2022, continued the trade despite the ban on the sale and use of prohibited fireworks, police said.

In another raid, the team apprehended Rajeev Kumar (52), a resident of Najafgarh, after recovering 648 kg of illegal firecrackers stored at a storage unit in Shyam Vihar.

The items were kept under the guise of a carton storage unit in a densely populated area, posing a serious threat to public safety, the

police said. Further investigation is underway to identify the supply chain and other persons involved,

they added.

COVID may alter offspring's brain growth, cause anxious behaviour

Lead researcher Anthony Hannan said it is known that male mice exposed to adverse environmental and lifestyle factors, such as consuming a poor diet before mating, can change brain development and behaviour in offsprings

New Delhi

CHANGES in sperm caused by COVID-19 in a mouse could affect the offspring's brain development and cause anxious behaviours, a study has found, suggesting that the viral disease may have longlasting effects on future generations, even as the results would need to be verified in humans, researchers said.

The team from Australia's Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health

found that an offspring mouse conceived after a father has been infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus and developed COVID-19 symptoms have higher levels of anxiety-like behaviours.

"We let male mice recover from SARS-CoV-2 infection for a few weeks before they mated with healthy females. We found that the resulting offspring showed more anxious behaviours compared to offspring from uninfected fathers," Elizabeth Kleeman, research officer and first author of the study published in the journal Nature Communications, said. All offsprings from COVID-19-affected fathers were seen to display increased anxiety-like behaviours.

"Using an established mouse-adapted SARS-CoV-2 preclinical model, we infected adult male mice with the virus, or performed a mock control infection, and bred them with naive female mice four weeks later, when males were no longer infectious.

Here we show that offspring of infected sires display increased anxiety-like behaviours," the authors wrote.

Lead researcher Anthony Hannan said it is known that male mice exposed to adverse environmental and lifestyle factors, such as consuming a poor diet before mating, can change brain development and behaviour in offsprings. "This is because the father's

experiences can alter the in-

formation carried in sperm,

including specific RNA mole-

cules, which transmit instructions for offspring development," Hannan said

Analysis of RNA gene material from infected fathers' sperm showed altered molecules, including those involved in regulating genes known to be important for brain development.

Female offspring mice also had significant changes in how specific genes in the brain's hippocampus region -- important for regulating emotional responses such as

anxiety and stress -- behaved, the study found.

"These kinds of changes in the hippocampus, as well as other brain regions, may contribute to the increased anxiety we observed in offspring, via epigenetic inheritance and altered brain development," co-senior author Carolina Gubert said. Epigenetics refers to the process by which a gene interacts with the environment to produce an observable behaviour. Hannan said the study is the first of



its kind, and added that if the results are verified in humans, millions of children and families worldwide could be impacted, "with major implications for public health".

"While more research is needed, particularly in

the sperm and offspring of humans infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, these findings suggest that the COVID-19 pandemic could have long-lasting effects on future generations," the lead researcher said.

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India's global reset: Rebuilding ties with Canada, US and the West

▼NDIA and Canada have agreed Lon an "ambitious roadmap" to restore and rebuild bilateral relations, which sharply deteriorated following the killing of a Khalistani Sikh extremist in the North American country in 2023. This is a pleasant surprise, as the then prime minister, Justin Trudeau's party, the Liberal Party, returned to power this year. It may be recalled that Trudeau played a pivotal role in souring Indo-Canadian relations. The objective of the new roadmap is to advance "cooperation in various domains, including trade, investment, agriculture, science and technology, civil nuclear collaboration, artificial intelligence, critical minerals, and energy," said External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar after meeting his Canadian counterpart Anita

Anand in New Delhi. This should be seen as part of a major reset in India's engagement with the world: there is new urgency in boosting relations with other countries, especially the West. After months of bitterness over US President Donald Trump's peevish remarks about India, the two countries have also decided to hold trade negotiations this week. India has reportedly promised to import US energy and gas as it aims to placate Washington's concerns over the issue of Russian oil purchases.

Trump's conciliatory tone in his statements has played a part in ensuring this. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer's recent visit should also be viewed in the same light. It has helped widen engagements between the two nations in critical areas such as trade, technology,

defence, and security. His trip was preceded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to London in July, when the two countries signed a crucial comprehensive economic & trade agreement (CETA) that is currently awaiting ratification. Around the same time, the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), which India signed with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in March 2024, came into effect. The EFTA, comprising Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein, is a vital bloc for India's export diversification strategy. EFTA nations have pledged substantial long-term investments in India's manufacturing and services sectors in return for tariff concessions, establishing a new model for future trade negotiations. India is also actively

negotiating a broader free trade agreement (FTA) with the European Union, its largest trading partner in goods. The growing economic interdependence, catalysed by Trump's aggressive tariffs, has created strong momentum for an ambitious FTA that could remove regulatory barriers, liberalise services, and enhance investment protections.

With more than 6,000 EU companies already operating in India, both sides see immense potential in expanding cooperation in sectors such as digital technologies, renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, and green mobility. These developments have also effected a shift in India's external engagement—from reactive diplomacy to a proactive and strategic recalibration of partnerships. The empha-

sis is on diversification, resilience, and technological collaboration. Whether it is through rebuilding trust with Canada, reviving trade talks with the US, strengthening strategic ties with the UK, or pursuing ambitious economic integration with Europe, India's foreign policy today reflects a confident, globally oriented vision. This transformation is being driven by both geopolitical and economic imperatives. In an era of fragmented global supply chains, energy insecurity, and technological competition, India's ability to maintain balanced relations with major powers while pursuing its developmental priorities is becoming its most valuable diplomatic asset. The new roadmap with Canada, therefore, is not an isolated event but part of a larger narrative.

Our future is in our own hands and right here



Ravulapati Seetaramarao

↑HE idea that "a job is a man's defining characteristic" longs to an older era. In today's modern age there's no need to give that saying any weight. What matters now is whether jobs are available to everyone — are people with education actually getting work?

That is the question we need to ask. Are jobs meant only for the educated lot? No. Eligibility should be judged only by job-related requirements cal fitness, education and skills, among others, must be taken into account. This piece is not meant to analyse job availability across the whole world. It is limited to understanding what the employment situation is like in

Health and education are inseparable. You can learn only if you are healthy. In the past, rural areas had more people in good health. Today, there is not much difference between villages and towns when it comes to protecting people's health

Previously there was less need for people in villages to search for jobs. Formal schooling was not a requirement for most village work. Agricultural labour, farm tasks and various trades were plentiful; people earned their livelihoods and did not struggle to put food on the table on an everyday basis. Simply put, illiteracy did not prevent people in villages from getting work and the migration to towns was much lower.

In the past, resources for education in villages were extremely limited. Village life revolved around temple scholars teaching basic lessons; there were only a few schools and no higher education institutions. Most village students studied only up to about the fifth grade. To study beyond that, they had to go to nearby towns or cities. Those engaged in farming and trade had only minimal financial resources, so higher education was virtually inaccessible to them.

Times have changed! The value of education is finally understood! The determination to study no matter what-regardless of being poor or rich—has become widespread. That is why village elders now routinely work hard to send their children to towns for higher education. The belief that "higher education means studying in America" has taken hold.

In the 1980s and '90s

load. Poetry is not just an



The old proverb about distant mountains being shiny is finally making sense to Indians. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks after the visa incident must be taken seriously. His pointed comments-stressing that we must stand on our own feet—are something Indians, especially those who pin their hopes on overseas jobs, should take particular note of. We don't have to idolize America.

ing abroad became easier for students who had reached a certain level in life. Education loans were readily available in banks and villagers mortgaged their fields and property and sent their children overseas for further studies. While studying and working there, many sent their earnings back to their parents, which improved the financial standing of their respective families. When villagers became better off, they migrated to towns seeking a more comfortable life. Their children, who would visit occasionally, also preferred town life.

With the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act assuring at least 100 days of work (some kind of employment) for every adult in each village, a regular cash flow began to reach people alongside their livelihood. As a result, traditional manual and agricultural labour that young people used to do in the villages appeared bur-

The quest for urban life and luxury and people heading to the city, rang in drastic changes in village life. Agricultural work and field-level labour declined, as a result of which the rural agricultural system began to suffer. Unemployment figures began to increase in villages, while government schemes and welfare programs remained only on paper.

In fact, the culture of doing hard work for a livelihood disappeared from the

rural fabric. In this situation, ordinary B.A. and M.A. graduates and young people were subject to unemployment woes even in towns. Jobs matching their education were hard to find, and hiring of such people for low-level work steadily de-

Every incumbent government promises job calendars before elections, but those promises are just for namesake — there's no evidence of actual follow up. Outsourcing practices that treat workers like expendable pieces have created an unstable, uncertain life for youth. Under the guise of welfare schemes, governments are trying to buy votes in villages and towns — especially by pacifying young people — but it's unfortunate that they haven't been able to create government jobs and meaningfully address the unemployment issue. It's true that the recent policies announced by US President Donald Trump are hitting India hard. For new applicants (skilled non immigrants) the H 1B visa fee has surged to nearly six times the current fee making it much harder for those hoping to go to the U

Moreover, this approach will severely affect many long standing software companies in the United States in the coming years. Bringing in new workers under this visa has become risky Un-

S for work.

der the lottery system, until now roughly 85,000 people went each year; that number has reportedly plunged dramatically recently. There could be many difficulties ahead in hiring specialised workers.

The old proverb about distant mountains being shiny is finally making sense to Indians. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks after the visa incident must be taken seriously. His pointed comments-stressing that we must stand on our own feet-are something Indians, especially those who pin their hopes on overseas jobs, should take particular note of. We don't have to idolize America.

In fact, we must not forget that for many years India's youth-driven economic growth was largely due to progressive policies followed in the US. That said, given the current situation, Trump and others are firmly convinced that America's economic rebound is the result of its lighter, more permissive policies. Other countries don't have the right to dismiss that belief.

If we can develop our own products, jobs and skills without being intimidated by tariffs, even if the benefits don't come today, we can achieve the results we hope for tomorrow.

(The writer is a retired IPS officer, who has served as an Additional DGP of Andhra Pradesh)

LETTERS

Remembering Dr Kalam, the 'people's president'

THE 'World Students Day', instituted by the UN, is celebrated annually on October 15 to commemorate the birth anniversary of out former president Dr Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam. The day celebrates his extraordinary efforts in science, education and the military. Hailed as the "Missile Man of India" for his outstanding achievements in developing ballistic missiles and launch vehicle technology, and his commitment to education and his rapport with students led to the inception of this day. The 'World Students Day' focuses on encouraging students to become leaders and innovators and about how education can transform the mindset of individuals and help them shape a better future for all. India's 11th president had embarked on his avowed mission to transform India into a fully developed country by 2020, through the 'Lead India' campaign. Dr Kalam always spoke of a good society that can be built when students have knowledge and are proficient in their subjects, thanks to the pioneering role of teachers. The life of Bharat Ratna, popularly hailed as the 'people's president', stands as an inspiration to students and

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy, Karimnagar

Kalam's life an inspiration to Gen Z

 $M^{\rm ANY}$ great Indian personalities have been born in October, including Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Dr Homi Bhabha. We remember with reverence Dr APJ Abdul Kalam-scientist, 'Missile Man', Bharat Ratna and 'people's president'-every October 15, marking his birth anniversary. I recently reread Wings of Fire (Expanded Edition), which has sold over two million copies since its publication in 1999. The edition features a moving foreword by his private secretary, Harry Sheridan, and around 50 new photographs that bring alive his inspiring journey. In 2002, when persuaded to contest the presidential election, BJP's Pramod Mahajan asked him for an auspicious time to file his nomination. Kalam replied, "Any time is auspicious for me," explaining that for as long as the Earth rotates and orbits the Sun, every moment is blessed by science, not astrology. Whether politicians have honed scientific thinking or not, his words remain a timeless lesson in scientific thinking for Gen Z and generations be-

N Nagarajan, Hyderabad

Educate girls for their safety

THIS has reference to the article 'Didi shocks the na-▲ tion. Everyone knows the ground realities. As per the 2022 NCRB report, approximately 31,516 rape cases reported across the country. On an average 86 such cases are reported each day. Many girls stay in hostels to be safe when away from their family. Hostels and colleges are like home away from home. It is the responsibility of the principals to create rules that no inmate leaves the campus late evenings without permission. They must mention the reason for going out, the location and when they are likely to return. The security staff must call the girl's parents and inform them that their daughter is going out late evenings. Every girl must be educated about aspects needed to ensure their safety. Meanwhile, police and legal authorities need to punish culprits responsible for heinous crimes almost immediately. That is the only solution to deter the culprits from indulging in macabre crimes.

G Murali Mohana Rao, Secunderabad-11

Mamata must prioritise safety of girls

The recent incident of gang-rape of a medical student in Durgapur has sparked nationwide outrage. This reflects the deteriorating law and order situation in West Bengal It is shocking that Chief Minister Mamata Baneries has shifted the blame on the college authorities wondering how the girl had come out of the campus at midnight. Despite systematic sexual exploitation and reign of terror by the ruling party hooligans, the silence on the part of the government and police inaction against the perpetrators are a clear pointer that saving the goons was more important than rendering justice to victims. Even as the incident highlights the vulnerability and safety of women due to state's negligence, it is time the court intervenes and ensures the harshest retribution to the perpetrators.

K R Srinivasan, Secunderabad-3

The voice within and the need for poetry

Every individual needs poetry in life- not just as written verses, but as the inner rhythm of thought



Dr Mylavaram CHANDRA SHEKAR

 ${f A}$ human being speaks — but not always from the heart. In today's ultra-connected world, dominated by artificial intelligence (AI) and instant messaging, our communications are often filtered through screens, algorithms, and trending nar-

When the heart wants to speak in its own rhythm, it takes the form of poetry.

A poem is born out of the urge to express what we truly feel. When we fail to convey our emotions directly — whether silenced by power imbalances in geopolitics or the high-pressure environments of business boardrooms - those emotions find their way through words.

Gentle, honest and rhythmic, poetry becomes not an ornament of language, but the purest reflection of the human mind, able to cut through the noise of propaganda, market sensationalism, and technological over-

emotional flow; it is also a courageous voice that seeks to unveil truth. In an era where deepfakes and misinformation shape public perception, poetry helps us distinguish between reality and illusion, allowing us to see things more clearly. Where news reveals facts, a poem adds a heartbeat to those facts, humanising headlines about conflict, recession, innovation, or migration. It is this pulse that links the lived experiences of people to unfolding events - and serves as a reminder to people in power of the human consequences beneath the

Over time, poetry has evolved:

Today's poet is not confined to flowers, the moon, rivers or nature. The modern poet writes about computer screens, smartphones, supply chains disrupted by conflict, and the human mind caught between economic volatility and the rapid pace of technological change. The poet observes how technology — from AI to blockchain — changes not only our surroundings but also our inner world, bringing with it questions of privacy, autonomy, and identity.

Poetry acts like a mirror — one that reflects our

In today's rapidly shifting geopolitical and economic landscape — where policy reversals, technological advances, and business disruptions are the norm - poetry teaches us that balance. It reminds us that victory is not about defeating others, but about overcoming the confusion within ourselves, and leading with vision and compassion

weaknesses, hopes, fears, and the most profound aspects of our consciousness. On the global stage, this mirror reflects the anxieties of societies facing job displacement due to automation or the divisiveness fuelled by social media echo chambers. Once we begin to see ourselves through this mirror, change starts within.

Every true poem asks a question: "Who are you really?" The search for this answer becomes a journey toward self-understanding, an inner resilience that is much needed in a time of rapid political, economic, and technological flux.

The fact is that poetry is also a form of knowledge

sharing. In business education, a lesson may fade from one's memory, but a poem about a leader's vision, an entrepreneur's struggle, or a worker's dream stays in the heart. Poetry teaches not just about what to think, but how to think — with empathy, with creativity and with an appreciation for complexity.

Through simple words, poetry sparks imagination and keeps erudition alive across generations, bridging the knowledge gap that often exists in the pursuit of innovation, policy and enterprise.

In society, differences of opinion are natural whether over trade policy, climate action or regulation of new technologies. Poetry builds bridges of understanding across those

A poet brings different perspectives onto the same page and encourages respect for each of them, much as successful global businesses and diplomatic initiatives navigate diverse viewpoints to reach a consensus. Poetry is not a voice of division; it is a song of connection, essential for collaboration and peaceful progress in our interconnected world.

Every individual needs poetry in life — not just as written verses, but as the inner rhythm of thought. A poem can offer courage when words fail, comfort when silence feels heavy, and clarity when the mind is restless, whether one is a policymaker, entrepreneur, student, or citizen seeking direction amid uncertainty.

Life is like a pair of horses pulling a chariot — it needs balance, patience, and direction to reach its destination.

In today's rapidly shifting geopolitical and economic landscape — where policy reversals, technological advances, and business disruptions are the norm — poetry teaches us that balance. It reminds us that victory is not about defeating others, but about overcoming the confusion within ourselves, and leading with vision and compassion.

The question "Why poetry?" may sound simple, but its answer is infinite. For every heart that feels deeply - especially in a world transformed by geopolitics, business cycles, and technology — a poem is already being written within. Poetry is the voice of that inner self a bridge between the silent heart and the speaking mind. It guides us gently toward understanding ourselves, and through that, understanding the world. This version weaves in the roles that policy, business, and technology play in shaping today's emotional and cultural landscapes, and highlights poetry's power as a counterbalance and guide in a complex, rapidly changing

Summary:

In a world of constant noise - from news feeds about global summits to the buzz of financial markets and relentless social media updates - poetry brings back silence. This silence helps us listen to our own hearts and regain perspective amid the turbulence of geopolitics and economic uncertainty.

(The writer is Program Head - PGDM BFS, Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad)

BENGALURU ONLINE

TN man 'sends hoax bomb threat' to residences of CM, Dv CM

BENGALURU: A probe has been launched to trace a man from Tamil Nadu who allegedly sent a hoax email recently threatening to blow up the residences of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, police said on Tuesday.

The emails were sent from a particular ID to the Tamil Nadu DGP on October 11, following which officials of the Karnataka police were immediately alerted and necessary precautionary measures were taken, they

The purported email from aarna.ashwinshekher@ outlook.com claimed that "four RDX devices and several IEDs" had been planted at the residences of both the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister and would be "detonated remotely."

As per protocol, precautionary measures were initiated, and the Bengaluru police carried out combing operations at both residences with the bomb detection and disposal squad. However, after thorough checks, the emails were declared a hoax, a senior police officer said. A case was registered by the police on their own against the sender of the purported email at Halasuru Gate police station under sections 351(4) (criminal intimidation) and 353(1)(b) (statements conducing to public mischief) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the officer said. "The particular email ID has been tracked to a man from Tamil Nadu and efforts are on to nab the culprit.

Read more at https://epaper.thehansindia.com

₹531 cr JSW industrial park to come up at Vizianagaram

- Govt approved JSW's shift from an aluminium refinery complex to a MSME and industrial park across 1,166.43 acres
- SW Industrial Park Ltd is expected to create 45,000 jobs
- State approvals include Rs 3 lakh per acre subsidy, land conversion exemptions, and infrastructure support, aiming to boost industrialisation in north Andhra

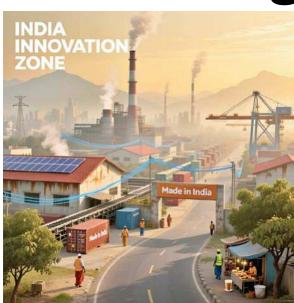
Hans News Service Vijayawada

THE state government approved the establishment of a Private Mega Industrial Park by JSW Aluminium Ltd (now renamed JSW Industrial Park Ltd.) in Vizianagaram district, with an investment of Rs 531.36 crore and an employment potential of 45,000 persons.

The industries and commerce department issued orders on Tuesday, granting ISW permission to change

its line of activity from an aluminium refinery complex to a multi-sector MSME and industrial park on the already allocated 985.7 acre land. The total project will now cover 1,166.43 acre across Musidipalli, Cheedipalem, Chinakhandeapalli, MB Vara, and Kiltampalem villages of Shrungavarapukota Mandal in Vizianagaram district.

The government has also approved the change of name from JSW Aluminium Ltd. to JSW Industrial Park



Ltd., and extended eligibility for incentives under the Industrial Development Policy

(IDP) 2023-27. JSW Industrial Park Ltd sought facilities under the AP Private Parks Policy (4.0), 2024–29, including sidies for green energy and rainwater harvesting sys-

These proposals were reviewed by the State Investment Promotion Committee (SIPC) on October 7, 2025, and subsequently approved by the State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) at its meeting on October 8, 2025.

The government approved a Rs 3 lakh per acre capital subsidy for JSW Industrial Park, along with full exemptions on land conversion and related fees.

APIIC will manage infrastructure, water allocation, and project publicity, while GVMC provides interim water and the revenue department clears 273.74 acres for allotment.

The project is expected to boost industrialization in North Andhra, attracting MSMEs and large units to Vizianagaram.



Palle Panduga 2.0 to change rural landscape: Pawan

- Deputy CM urges officials to design Palle Panduga 2.0 to build on the success of its earlier phase and transform the state's rural landscape
- The review meet emphasised comprehensive plans for urban-level infrastructure in villages, focusing on roads, cattle shelters, and improved sanitation through magic drains

Hans News Service Mangalagiri

DEPUTY Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan said that Palle Panduga 2.0 should be designed to sustain and build upon the success of the earlier phase of Palle Panduga, ensuring a complete transformation of the state's rural landscape.

Chairing a review meet-

Uttam reviews Devadula project

works; urges for timely completion

Directs the Irrigation department to remove procedural bottlenecks, expedite pending works, and ensure irrigation benefits reach all the

ing with senior officials of the panchayat raj and rural development at his camp office on Tuesday, the Deputy CM reviewed preparations for the soon-to-be-launched Palle Panduga 2.0 initiative.

He directed officials to prepare comprehensive plans aimed at promoting urbanlevel infrastructure and facilities in villages. The review covered key focus areas such

as road development, new road construction, repair works, establishment of cattle shelters (Goshalas), and the creation of magic drains for improved sanitation. Senior officials including special chief secretary of Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Shashi Bhushan Kumar, Commissioner Krishnateja, OSD Venkatakrishna, chief engineer (panchayat raj) Balu Navak, and other senior officials participated in the review meeting. Deputy CM reiterated that Palle Panduga 2.0 should serve as a catalyst for a vibrant and self-reliant rural Andhra Pradesh setting a benchmark for holistic rural development.

190 new 108 ambulances to replace old ones

Ambulance colours changed as per National Ambulance Code

Hans News Service GUNTUR

THE state government is set to roll out 190 new 108 emergency ambulances across the state. This initiative will ensure that victims of road accidents and other emergencies are shifted to hospitals much faster than before.

According to the tender guidelines issued by the government, the new ambulances have been fully prepared and will soon be flagged off by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and health minister Y Satya Kumar Yaday.

ambulances which frequently broke down and required repeated repairs will be replaced with these new vehicles. As a result, patients will receive medical attention within the crucial 'Golden Hour', Satya Kumar Yadav said in an official statement. Unlike in the past, the new ambulances have been painted in colors specified under the 'National Ambulance Code'. During the previous YSRCP regime, the maintenance of 108 emergen-

The old, poorly maintained

cy ambulances deteriorated severely. After the coalition government assumed power, it awarded the 108 ambulance maintenance contract in April this year to Bhavya Health Services Pvt. Ltd., selected through a transparent tender process.

As per government regulations, the company spent about Rs.27 lakh per ambulance. The new fleet includes 56 advanced life support and 134 basic life support ambulances. The ALS ambulances are equipped with two ventilators and other critical medical devices, enabling the treatment of severely injured patients during transit.

The system is designed to ensure that emergency calls lead to hospital transfers within an hour, known as the 'Golden Hour'.

road and water connectivity,

two 25 MW substations, re-

moval of 273.74 acres from

Section 22A for land allot-

ment, royalty exemptions on

site materials, water at Rs 25

per KL for 25 years, 50 per

cent CAPEX reimbursement

At present, 650 ambulances are operating across A.P.. With the addition of new vehicles and the removal of outdated ones, the total operational fleet will now reach 731 ambulances.

Following the Central government's national ambulance code, the new fleet adopts a white and red colour scheme, which is now mandatory for all 108 emergency ambulances across the country



Govt to re-register 2,180 acres under Kakinada SEZ to farmers

Vijayawada

THE state government has decided to re-register 2,180 acre land under the Kakinada Special Economic Zone (SEZ) without charging stamp and registration duties, benefiting over 1,550 farmers in the Tondangi and Uppada Kothapalli mandals along the Kakinada coast.

Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan, who had promised during the last election to return the SEZ lands to farmers, took the

initiative to resolve this long-standing issue. He held discussions with Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, following which the government approved the waiver of registration fees and stamp duty. "This move ensures that farmers regain their lands without any financial burden, fulfilling the promises made during the election," officials said.

The re-registration process will formalize land ownership, giving legal clarity and long-term security to the affected farmers.

अखिल भारतीय कांग्रेस कमेटी **All India Congress Committee** 24, अकबर रोड, नई दिल्ली-110011 24, Akbar Road, New Delhi-110011

No second term for sitting DCC presidents: AICC

AICC state affairs in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan and PCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud conveyed this directive during a Zoom meeting with DCC presidents

Hyderabad

THE All India Congress Committee (AICC) has made it clear that the current District Congress Committee (DCC) presidents in Telangana will not be eligible for a second term. Meenakshi Natarajan, AICC state affairs incharge, and Mahesh Kumar Goud, PCC chief, conveyed this directive during a Zoom meeting with DCC presidents on Tuesday.

The meeting was part of the ongoing exercise for se-

lecting new DCC presidents in the state. Officials emphasized that the candidates for the post must have worked in the party with discipline for at least five consecutive years. Natarajan and Goud warned that the AICC observers would disqualify those failing to meet this requirement.

The party officials also clarified that family members of elected public representatives would not be given priority. Instead, preference would be given to the leaders from SC, ST, BC, minority com-

munities, and women. Strict instructions were issued regarding the conduct of interactions with AICC observers. Leaders were advised against holding personal meetings or conversations and were told that all meetings should take place at party offices or public venues accessible to all, not in

private homes or offices. Additionally, party leaders were asked to ensure local participation, with at least 100 people from a village signing petitions to support the AI-CC's vote-theft programme.

farmers in drought-prone areas of North Telangana Hyderabad IRRIGATION and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Jayashankar Kumar Reddy, accompanied by Minister D. Seethakka and elected representatives of the combined Warangal district, reviewed the progress of the J. Chokka Rao Devadula Lift Irrigation Scheme (JCRDLIS) and

schedule. During the review meeting, the minister directed the Irrigation department to remove procedural bottlenecks, expedite pending works, and ensure irrigation benefits reach all the farmers in drought-prone areas of North Telangana.

emphasized the Congress

government's commitment

to complete the project on

On this occasion, the officials informed that the Devadula project, designed

to lift 38.16 TMC of water from the Godavari River near Gangaram village in Bhupalpally district, aims to irrigate 5.57 lakh acres across Hanamkonda, Warangal, Karimnagar, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Jangaon, Yadadri, Suryapet, and Siddipet districts. The project involves a total lift of 469 metres and is being implemented in three phases, including major pump houses, tunnels, reservoirs, distribution systems, and canals.

The latest progress report shows 3.17 lakh acres have been brought under irrigation so far. When combined with 58,028 acres irrigated through groundwater, the overall potential will reach 6.14 lakh acres upon completion. The government has spent Rs. 14,269.63 crore of the revised project cost of



Rs.18,500 crore, with Rs. 4,230 crore remaining for

completion. Physical works are progressing steadily: 1,663 km of earthwork completed out of 2,430 km planned; 669 km of pipelines laid; 8,510 of 16,113 structures finished; and 799 km of canal lining completed. 39 of 46 tanks and 18 of 21 pump houses are operational, with ranging from 67% to 95%. Under Phase-I, lifting 5.18 TMC over 170 days annually, already serves 1.23 lakh acres, while Phase-II, targeting 7.25 TMC for 1.93 lakh acres, is near completion.

Phase-III, covering 2.39 lakh

acres, is under execution

in eight packages, with two

packages completed. Un-

der land acquisition, about

32,079 acres was secured out of 34,386, leaving 2,307 acres pending, mainly in Phase-III

Uttam Kumar Reddy instructed the officials to complete all pending land acquisition, lining, and mechanical works in the next financial year and to prioritize commissioning remaining pump houses. He also stressed clearing all pending contractor payments to avoid work delays.

He reaffirmed the government's resolve to make Devadula project fully operational within two years, providing dependable irrigation to nearly six lakh acres, improving crop productivity, and enhancing drinking-water availability in north and central Telangana. "Every rupee spent must translate into water flowing into the fields", he noted. (NSS)

Streamline urea distribution in rabi top priority: Agri director

HANS NEWS SERVICE GUNTUR

STREAMLINING the distribution of urea for the upcoming rabi season will be the top priority for the agriculture department, said newly-appointed director of agriculture, Dr Manazir Jeelani Samoon, after taking charge at the directorate of agriculture office in Mangalagiri on Tuesday.

Soon after taking charge, Dr Samoon held a comprehensive review meeting with additional directors, joint directors, and section heads to assess crop conditions, input availability - especially urea — and the status of ongoing Central and state agricultural schemes. He directed officials to prepare an action plan to ensure smooth and transparent urea distribution, preventing the bottlenecks experienced during the previous season.

Dr Samoon reviewed the software system for urea distribution and instructed that real-time monitoring of fertilizer stocks through the



Director of agriculture Dr Manzir Jeelani Samoon addressing a meeting of additional directors, joint directors, and section heads at his office in Mangalagiri on Tuesday

IFMS system be strictly implemented. He emphasised that Rythu Seva Kendras (RSKs) would play a key role in fertilizer supply, directing officials to verify login access, biometric devices, and operational readiness well before the Rabi season.

The meeting also discussed the Digital Agriculture Platform and the implementation of applications like D-Krishi, e-Panta, AGILE, AP-AIMS 2.0, and

Dr Samoon stressed the need to adopt precision farming and drone-based spraying of nano-fertilizers and pesticides in selected pilot areas.

He underscored the im-

portance of accurate crop area and yield data, directing that crop-cutting experiments under the Crop Insurance Scheme be conducted as per schedule. He also called for proactive measures to strengthen Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and ensure that farmers face no inconvenience during procurement operations.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE

contract basis at NSG-5 & NSG-6 category stations over Delhi Division (File No.C6/STBA/Policy/II/18)

1.0 Tender No. : C-6 / STBA / Policy /II/ 18

2.0 Name of the work and its locations : Appointment of twenty (20) Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBAs) - one (01) for NSG-5 category station and nineteen (19) for NSG-6 category stations - for issuance of Unreserved Tickets through the Computerized Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) for a period of three (03) years over Delhi Division.

i.0 Cost of Tender : Rs. 1,000/- + 18% GST i.e. 1180/- (Rupees One Thousa

One Hundred Eighty only). 4.0 Required Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to be deposited : An amount of Rs.2,000/- (Rupees Two Thousand only) shall be applicable for applying to NSG-6 category stations, and Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) for

applying to NSG-5 category stations. Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased:
Commercial Branch, DRM Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi w.e.f. 15.10.2025

to 06.11.2025 on working days in between 11:00 hours to 17:00 hours. 6.0 Tender Type : Open Tender

7.0 Date & time for submission of tender and opening of the tender: 07.11.2025 up to 15:00 hours at Commercial Branch DRM Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi thereafter, same will be opened on same day at 15:10 hours

8.0 Where complete details of tender can be seen : Tender Notice

and Tender Documents is available at Northern Railway website i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in in PDF format. SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3169/2025

Sports Nation

India's Mathew wins bronze in Para **Powerlifting World** C'ships

NEW DELHI: India's veteran para powerlifter Joby Mathew clinched a bronze medal at the Para Powerlifting World Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Mathew won bronze in Legend (Masters) category on Monday.

After his opening lift of 147kg was declared invalid, he took it as a personal challenge, increasing the weight to 148kg on his second attempt and executing it flawlessly. Building on that momentum, he raised the bar further to 152kg, successfully completing the lift to surpass his previous personal best of 150kg achieved two months ago in the Beijing World Cup.

The gold was won by Thailand's Phongsakon Chumchai who lifted 162kg, followed by Peru's Neil Gracia who lifted 161kg. This was Mathew's second World Championship medal, following his bronze in Dubai 2023, where he competed in the 59kg weight category.

India complete clean sweep

Rahul hits unbeaten 58 in seven-wicket over WI in 2nd Test of 2-match series

NEW DELHI: India needed exactly an hour on day five to complete a seven-wicket win over West Indies and seal a 2-0 series sweep at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Tuesday. KL Rahul anchored the chase with an unbeaten 58 off 108 balls, hitting six fours and two sixes to help India easily hunt down 121.

The victory marks India's first Test series win under Shubman Gill's captaincy, following the drawn 2-2 result in England earlier this year. Though the margin suggests an easy victory, India were to earn it in New Delhi and defeat West Indies for the tenth straight time in

West Indies, asked to follow on, refused to fold easily, thanks to John Campbell and Shai Hope's twin centuries and a defiant last-wicket 79-run stand which led to the contest stretching to day



five. But once play resumed, India made quick work of the chase despite an early wobble and earn 12 valuable points to their World Test Championship tally, where they are still at number three and their points percentage now

at 61.9. It was a brave fight from the West Indies, who showed grit and character after a heavy innings defeat in Ahmedabad. Yet, in the end, India's depth and composure, despite spending 200 overs on the field, proved to be decisive, as Rahul, Gill and Yashasvi Jaiswal were amongst the run-makers, while Kuldeep Yadav picked eight wickets

and docile. The day began with KL Rahul and B Sai Sudharsan

the United States, Australia,

South Africa, the UK, and

Trinidad & Tobago, among

others. Through this expan-

on a pitch which was slow

playing out four maidens before the latter broke the shackles by dancing down the pitch to loft Jomel Warrican through the line over mid-off for four.

Though it was followed by a bit of prodding and defending against Warrican and Khary Pierre, Rahul kept India steady by dancing down the pitch again - this time off Pierre – and loft over longon for six, before whipping the spinner off his wrists through mid-wicket for four more. (IANS)

BRIEF SCORES:

India 518/5 dec and 124/3 in 35.2 overs (KL Rahul 58 not out, B Sai Sudharsan 39; Roston Chase 2-36, Jomel Warrican 1-39) beat West Indies 248 and 390 in 118.5 overs (John Campbell 115, Shai Hope 103; Jasprit Bumrah 3-44, Kuldeep Yadav 3-104) by seven wickets

str8bat launches str8bat Pro in Hyderabad: Next-gen smart tech for batting

Hyderabad

BUDDING young cricketers or professional cricketers, improve your cricketing skills and correct flaws in your batting with the help of India's leading sports tech innovator str8bat which has come up with first of its kind AI powered str8bat Pro, next-gen smart tech for batting.

Embedded with cuttingedge sensor technology and designed for elite-level precision, the product marks a breakthrough in how batting data is captured, interpreted, and applied-without altering the bat's feel or form. The ultra-thin, ultra-light product in the form of a bat sticker is str8bat's proprietary Gen-AI



technology that delivers realtime insights on bat speed, swing angles, impact zones, and more in a form that is invisible, intuitive, and fully customizable.

Budding cricketers such as Yashaswai Jaiswal, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and Riyan Parag have being playing with using this technology, as seen taking the popular

"PowerShot Challenge," while at Rajasthan Royals (source), showcasing how str8bat pro is being used to scout for talent by analysing data and not leaving it to guesswork.

Coinciding with its launch, str8bat announced its official expansion into 10 countries, focusing on emerging cricket markets including India, Canada, New Zealand,

sion, Str8bat aims to empower young athletes worldwide. Madhu Sudan, Co-Founder of str8bat, said, "Our goal has always been to democratise elite-level cricket analytics to make world-class

player. With the launch of the str8bat Classic and the nextgeneration str8bat Pro sticker, we've achieved just that. The Pro's ultra-light sensor, engineered over months, perfectly blends with the shape and weight of the bat that delivers unmatched accuracy without changing how the bat feels. From helping players at Rajasthan Royals refine their

insights accessible to every

power-hitting to being recognised by Cricket Australia as a benchmark for batting analysis, str8bat is changing how the game is understood. With over 20,000 units sold and our footprint now expanding globally, starting from our earliest success here in Hyderabad, this is just the beginning of how we're helping cricketers get better, faster, wherever they play."

The ultra-thin, ultra-light str8bat pro, available with an annual subscription also includes access to Masterclasses with Julian Wood, National Batting Coach for Sri Lanka and Nandan Phadnis, High Performance Coach at India's Centre of Excellence. The str8bat classic cost Rs 6,499 and Pro version cost Rs 7,999.

need to stay in present' Kushan Sarkar New Delhi VIRAT KOHLI and Rohit

Sharma are keen on playing the 2027 ODI World Cup but India head coach Gautam Gambhir was noncommittal over the star duo's future on Tuesday, saying the ODI World Cup is still more than two years away and "it

is important to stay in the

present".

With Shubman Gill's appointment as the ODI skipper, the national selectors have already hit the transition button in ODI cricket and there is a lot of doubt over the future of the ageing stalwarts who will be 39 (Kohli) and 40 (Rohit) re-

spectively in 2027. "The 50-over World Cup is still two and a half years away. It is very important to stay in the present. Obviously they are quality players. They are coming back. Their experience is going to be valuable in Australia.

"Hopefully those two guys can have a successful tour, and more importantly, as a team we can have a successful series," Gambhir said when asked about the future of the two former skippers.

Gambhir on Rohit, Kohli's future

'ODI WC is still 2.5 yrs away,

It is believed that a lot will depend on how the duo plays in the nine ODIs in the next couple of months (3 vs Australia, 3 vs SA and 3 vs NZ).

In the past one year, the Indian team has undergone transition across all formats under Gambhir's coaching. When asked what are the

attributes he is looking for when he wants to blood a player in the national team, Gambhir presented his checklist. "First and foremost, you look at talent. Then you look at the work ethic. You look at the characters in that dressing room, especially in red-ball cricket.

"You look at what they bring on the table, apart from the amount of runs and wickets they do, I think how hungry they are. And if you've got all those attributes, you will definitely have a successful Test career."

With so much of competition for slots, Gambhir feels that international cricket is an "insecure environment".

"For me, giving them a longer run is very, very important because as we all know that international cricket is a very insecure environment because only 15 players can go on to represent the country and there are so many people waiting for their opportunity.

"So make sure first you pick the right characters and then if you see that, try and give them a longer run so that they themselves should be content and happy that they've got a longer run rather than just chopping and changing as well."

Personally, Gambhir has an aversion towards the word "dropping" and he feels emotional when a worthy player misses out on a national team

"Sometimes it's difficult as a head coach and a team management where you will have to sometimes leave out players. I don't like using this word, dropping players because you don't drop players, you only select players."

"When a player is left out, the least a coach can do is be empathetic and not ruthless."

WOMEN'S WC: SL, NZ SPLIT POINTS **AFTER RAIN WASHES OUT MATCH**

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka and New Zealand shared points as their Women's World Cup match was abandoned due to persistent rain after strong batting performance by the hosts here on Tuesday. Opting to bat, Nilakshika De Silva's belligerent fifty was the perfect antithesis to skipper Chamari Athapaththu's graceful half-century as Sri Lanka posted a challenging 258 for 6.

However, rain lashed the R Premadasa Sta-

dium just before New Zealand began their chase and the match could not resume from that point. After the washout, Sri Lanka continued to stay at the seventh place, having collected 2 points from four games while New Zealand, who now have 3 points, were static at number five on the table. This is the second World Cup game that has been washed out with Sri Lanka's fixture against Australia also abandoned last week because of rain.

What sort of friendship is this?: Cong jabs PM after Trump's praise of Munir

THE Congress on Tuesday attacked the government over US President Donald Trump's praise for Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir, saving what kind of signal is the American leader sending to India, in spite of PM Narendra Modi's "desperate attempts" to ingratiate himself with him.

What sort of friendship is this between Trump and Modi, the opposition party asked, citing instances of Trump's praise for Munir and the Field Marshal whose in- Marshal' and gives special

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said Prime Minister Modi keeps calling President Trump his good friend and to be fair the American leader also keeps calling Modi his good friend.

"But what sort of friendship is this? President Trump hosted Field Marshal Asim Munir to an unprecedented lunch in the White House on June 18, 2025. This was

past meetings between the flammatory and communally the backdrop to the Pahalgam terror attacks orchestrated by Pakistan on April 22, 2025," Ramesh said on X.

> Then President Trump met with the Field Marshal a second time in the White House on September 26, 2025, when the Field Marshal presented President Trump with a box of rare earths, he said.

> "Now in Egypt yesterday, President Trump calls Asim Munir as 'my favourite Field

place to the PM of Paki-President Trump sending to India, in spite of Mr. Modi's desperate attempts to ingratiate himself with the US President?" Ramesh said.

What sort of friendship is this, Ramesh asked.

Noting that Trump has called Munir his 'favourite', Congress MP Manickam Tagore said the same Munir has overseen terror plots and cross-border attacks against India.

the world is not standing with India it's now prai ing those who target India. This is not diplomacy — this is disaster. For years, Modi claimed 'India has never been stronger globally'. Yet today, even leaders like Trump are openly glorifying those responsible for terror against our nation - without a single word of protest from Modi," the Congress MP said.

"Where is the 56-inch diplomacy now? Where is the

"Under Modi's watch, 'strong leader' who said he would isolate Pakistan inenemies are being endorsed and our PM remains silent, it's clear - Modi's foreign policy has collapsed. Loud on propaganda, mute on national pride," he said.

India deserves leadership that earns respect through principles, not photo-ops, Tagore said.

"Foreign policy isn't about hugs -- it's about standing firm for the nation's dignity," he said. (PTI)

Husband murders wife



Govind Pansare murder

Bombay HC grants bail

Shameful! WHO issues alert against Indian cough syrups

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued an alert against three "substandard" oral cough syrups identified in India -- Coldrif, Respifresh TR and ReLife -- and urged national regulatory authorities worldwide to immediately notify it if these are detected in their country.

It has also advised healthcare professionals to report the detection of these substandard products and any incident of adverse effects, or lack of expected effects to their national regulatory authorities or National Pharmacovigilance Centre.

The alert comes after at least 22 children, mostly under the age of five, have died due to suspected kidney failure after being administered Coldrif in Madhya Pradesh. Besides, at least three children have allegedly died in Rajasthan after consuming cough syrup in different districts

of the state. The WHO has further



called for increased surveillance and diligence within the supply chains of countries and regions likely to be affected by these substandard products.

"Increased surveillance of the informal/unregulated market is also advised," the alert issued on Monday said. The affected products are oral liquid medicines containing active ingredients commonly used to relieve symptoms of common cold, flu, or cough According to the alert, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) of India reported to WHO the presence of Diethylene Glycol (DEG) in at least

three oral liquid medicines in October 8. This followed informa-

tion identified by WHO on September 30 of localised clusters of acute illness and child fatalities in India. The CDSCO informed WHO that the contaminated products were reportedly consumed by the affected children and confirmed that relevant state authorities have ordered an immediate halt to production at implicated manufacturing sites and have suspended product authorisations. In addition, a recall of the contaminated products has been initiated by relevant state authorities. (PTI)

Bihar polls: JD(U) MP Mandal to resign over ticket distribution

PATNA: JD(U)'s Bhagalpur MP Ajay Kumar Mandal sought to resign on Tuesday, stating that he was not consulted over the distribution of tickets for the Bihar assembly elections in his region. The Nitish Kumarled party is yet to comment on the letter, which Mandal shared on X.

"Despite being a member of parliament from Bhagalpur, the party has not reached out to me for advice regarding ticket distribution in the region. In that case, there is no point holding the MP post," he said in the letter, addressed to Kumar.

He said in his 20-25 years of service to the Bhagalpur region, as an MP and MLA, he has considered JD(U) as his family, but "decisions made in the past few months" do not augur well for the future of the party.

He alleged that the "prioritising outsiders" has "weakened the roots" of the JD(U), adding that "party workers are feeling sidelined". This, he said, reflects poor-

ly on the leadership of the

chief minister. (PTI)

for insurance money HAZARIBAGH: A man was arrested for murdering his newly married wife and making it appear like an accident to claim insurance money in Jharkhand's

Tuesday. Padama Out Post (OP) in charge, Sanchit Kumar Dubey told PTI on Tuesday, that 30-yearold Mukesh Kumar Mehta had murdered his wife Sevanti Kumari (23), whom he had married four months back, on October 9 night and staged it as a road mishap to claim the insurance money of Rs

"We received a complaint from passersby on October 9 about a couple lying injured due to a road mishap along Padama-Itkhori stretch of NH-33. We rushed to the spot and brought the deceased Sevanti Kumari and her husband, who pretended to be unconscious to Sadar Hospital.

"While the wife was declared dead and the body was sent for post-mortem, the husband, who had sustained superficial injury, underwent treatment," the police officer said. However, locals suspected the husband's behaviour during the last rites of the wife.

"We received complaints from locals about the suspicious behav-



Hazaribag district, police said on iour of the husband during the last rites of the wife. We started an investigation and found that he had applied for an accident insurance claim of Rs 30 lakh. We became suspicious and started interrogating the accused," added

the police officer. "During intense interrogation, he confessed to the crime for insurance money and said that on October 9 night he had brought his wife for treatment of stomach pain and beat her up with helmets leading to bleeding and then strangled her. He also laid the body on the road after inflicting damage to the bike and also to himself and lied on the road to make it appear like an accident," the police officer said.

The officer said the bike did not have damage as could have happened due to the impact of a mishap. Even his injuries were minor.

"We arrested him and sent him to judicial custody on Monday evening," said the police officer.



including prime accused Virendrasinh Tawade, arrested in connection with the killing of rationalist and author Govind Pansare in 2015. Besides Tawade, Justice S G Dige of the HC's Kol-

bail to two other accused --Sharad Kalaskar and Amol While Tawade and Kale

hapur bench also granted

will walk out of prison, Kalaskar will continue to remain in jail as he had been convicted in the 2013 case of rationalist Narendra Dabholkar's murder. His appeal against conviction is pending before the HC.

Justice Dige on Tuesday said he was granting bail to the three accused, and would pass a detailed order later. "The applications (filed by the accused for bail) are allowed. I will pass a detailed order later," he said. The bench refused to stay its order at the request of a lawyer appearing for



Pansare's family.

Pansare was shot at on February 16, 2015, in Maharashtra's Kolhapur and succumbed to his injuries a few days later on Febru-

ary 20. In January this year, six other accused - Sachin Andure, Ganesh Miskin, Amit Degvekar, Amit Baddi, Bharat Kurane and Vasudev Suryavanshi - were granted bail on the grounds of long incarceration and the fact that the trial is not likely to be completed in the near future.

Pansare and his wife were returning home from their morning walk in the Samrat Nagar area of Kolhapur when two motorbike-borne men fired multiple rounds at them before fleeing.

Hans India

-Bhavish Aggarwal, chairman, Ola Electric

Ola Electric may enter the energy storage market, which is expected to reach over \$30 bn by 2030. It could involve Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) for homes and businesses Physich Agranual shairman Cla Floating

BIZ BRIEFS Kotak releases

stock picks

Kotak Securities, a brokerage house, has released Top Stock Picks for Muhurat Trading on this Diwali. Indian markets have been lacklustre in Samvat-2081 and underperformed several global peers. The firm has recommended following stocks to buy during this season, Adani Port and SEZ (ADSEZ), Acutaas Chemical (ACUTAAS), Cummins India (KKC), Eternal, ICICI Bank (ICICIBC), Mahindra & Mahindra and Reliance Industries (RIL).

Malabar Gold opens showroom

Malabar Gold and Diamonds, a Jewellery retail chain, has opened its showroom at Vaishali Enclave, Pitampura, further strengthening its footprint in Delhi. The Pitampura showroom has relocated from NSP to Vaishali Enclave. Spanning across 9,500 sft., the showroom offers a more organized space and improved parking facilities. The showroom was inaugurated by Bollywood actor and brand ambassador Anil Kapoor and will showcase a range of jewellery in diverse designs and styles.

Noise launches new product

Noise, a leading connected lifestyle brand, announced the launch of Master Buds Max, India's first overear headphones under its flagship Master Series with Sound by Bose technology. Amit Khatri, Co-Founder of Noise said "Master Buds Max is a milestone in India's global audio journey. With Sound by Bose technolcategory-leading ANC, and dynamic EQ, we are delivering a product that sets new standards in its category. At the same time, we've ensured it remains acces sible, because we believe premium innovation should be experienced by millions, not just a few."

Jawa unveils festive offers

TawaYezdi Motorcycles is helping its buyers improve their odds of getting a delivery of their favourite motorcycle during the festive period. Customers can now pre-book their preferred Jawa or Yezdi motorcycle online at just Rs999 with a benefit of reduced on-road prices. Sharad Agarwal, CBO, JawaYezdi Motorcycles, said: "The GST rate revision has meant most of our motorcycles now start from Rs 1.5 lakh."

Samsung logs record sales

Camsung, a consumer Selectronics brand, announced a strong start during the festive sales on a range of products including televisions and air conditioners. A Samsung India spokesperson, said: "Sales of Samsung's premium televisions jumped 2x as compared to the corresponding festive period last year on account of unmatched deals, extended warranties, GST rate cut, and increasing adoption of AI televisions in India. Furthermore, the sales of refrigerators, washing machines, and ACs posted 1.3x growth during the Navratri period."

Wholesale price inflation drifts lower to 0.13% in Sept

Wholesale price inflation was 0.52% in Aug, 1.91% in Sept last year

NEW DELHI: Wholesale price inflation (WPI) softened to 0.13 per cent in September on easing in prices of food articles and manufactured items, government data showed on Tuesday. WPIbased inflation was 0.52 per cent in August and 1.91 per cent in September last year.

"Positive rate of inflation in September 2025 is primarily due to an increase in prices of the manufacture of food products, other manufacturing, non-food articles, other transport equipment and textiles, etc," the Industry Ministry said in a statement.

According to WPI data, deflation in food articles was 5.22 per cent in September, compared to 3.06 per cent in August, with vegetables experiencing a decline in prices. Deflation in vegetables was 24.41 per cent in September, as against 14.18 per cent in August. In the case of manufactured products, inflation eased to 2.33 per cent, as against 2.55 per cent in August. Fuel and power witnessed a negative inflation or deflation of 2.58 per cent in September, as against



3.17 per cent in the previous

Barclays India Chief Economist Aastha Gudwani said that amid generally lower global commodity prices, WPI inflation is expected to stay subdued for longer. India Ratings and Research, Associate Director, Paras Jasrai, said core inflation rose to a 31-month high of 1.9 per cent in September 2025, driven by a record pace of jewellery price growth at 34.1

per cent year-over-year. "Wholesale inflation was flat at 0.02 per cent in the second quarter of FY26, reaching an eight-quarter low. This, along with record-low retail inflation, is expected to result in muted GDP deflator growth and will put pressure on corporate margins in 2QFY26. Looking ahead, a favorable base effect is expected to push the wholesale index back into deflation in October 2025.

UK NHS awards £1.2-bn contract to Infosys

IT bellwether Infosys on Tuesday said it has awarded a 1.2 billion pounds, 15-year contract by the UK's NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) to deliver the Future NHS Workforce Solution in England and Wales.

Infosys said it will develop a cutting-edge, data-driven workforce management solution that will replace the current Electronic Staff Record (ESR) system and continue to pay 1.9 million NHS employees in England and Wales over 55 billion pounds in payroll annually.

"Delivering the Future NHS Workforce Solution is a critical step in supporting the ambitions of the 10-Year Health Plan. The solution will go far beyond simply replacing ESR -- it will be a strategic enabler for building a workforce that is fit for the future," said Michael Brodie, Chief Executive, NHSBSA.

Bengaluru

By working with Infosys, 'we're creating a modern, data-driven solution that will help the NHS better attract, retain and support its people", he added.

ADANI GROUP LEADS INFRA RoA GLOBALLY

Return on assets at 16.5%; Its net debt-to-EBITDA ratio at 2.6x reflecting conservative leverage profile

Mega Capex Drive

- Group takes up \$100-bn capex for next 5 yrs
- Will self-fund a large share of i
- As part of reducing reliance on external markets

New Delhi

ADANI Group chairman Gautam Adani said the conglomerate's return on assets (ROA) rose to 16.5 per cent in the financial year 2024-25 -- placing it among the top performers in the global infrastructure sector. Speaking at the Group's annual Shantilal Adani Lecture Series, Adani attributed the performance to disciplined growth and efficient capital deployment.

"This figure demonstrates



CEO, Google Cloud

that our growth is profitable, our assets are productive, and our capital is working with precision," he said.

The Group's net debt-to-EBITDA ratio stood at 2.6x, reflecting a conservative leverage profile. With robust internal cash flows, Adani said the company expects to selffund a large share of its \$100 billion five-year capex plan,

reducing reliance on external markets.

"This high ROA does more than generate cash. It fortifies our credibility with lenders, deepens investor confidence, and underpins our ability to take bold bets while preserving balance sheet integrity. It is the invisible scaffolding that supports everything we

Citing a \$500 billion opportunity in India's electricity sector by 2032, Adani said the Group is targeting a 20 per cent share of that market. Looking ahead, Adani outlined a Two-Track Organization' model as part of the Group's next transformation phase, combining artificial intelligence with human judgment.

The Agentic Track will bring data-driven precision, while the Human Track will guide it with judgment and ethics," he said. He also highlighted finance transformation initiatives such as the Finance Control Tower - a real-time visibility platform - and a Global Capability Center that integrates AI-led workflows for greater efficiency. "Finance is no longer a back-office function. It is the cockpit of strategic control - where foresight meets discipline," Adani said.

Silver surges to

record high

of \$52.50/oz

MUMBAI: Silver prices

soared to an all-time high

above \$52.50 an ounce on

Tuesday, boosted by a his-

toric short squeeze in Lon-

don and strong demand for

safe-haven assets amid global

economic uncertainty. Spot

silver rose as much as 0.4

per cent to \$52.58 an ounce

in London, breaking the pre-

vious record set in January

1980, when the billionaire

Hunt brothers tried to corner

Gold prices also climbed

to a new record, marking

eight consecutive weeks of

gains, supported by rising

geopolitical tensions and ex-

pectations of US interest rate

the market.

ECONOMY



IMF raises FY26 GDP growth forecast to 6.6%

NEW DELHI: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday raised India's GDP growth forecast to 6.6 per cent for 2025-26 from 6.4 per cent earlier despite the punitive tariffs slapped by the US on the country's exports.

The upward revision was on 'carryover from a strong first quarter, more than offsetting the increase in the US effective tariff rate on imports from India since July', the IMF said in its World Economic Outlook.

In the April-June quarter of 2025-26, India grew at its fastest pace in at least a year, clocking a GDP growth rate of 7.8 per cent on the back of strong private consumption.

With the government rolling out sweeping GST reforms with tax rates reduced on consumer goods and services across the board, the domestic demand is expected to gain further momentum ahead. This is expected to offset the negative impact on external demand for Indian goods due to the US

Corporate India doubling capex to \$800 bn by 2030

An addl \$1 trn investment is expected during 2031-35 for advanced R&D: S&P

New Delhi

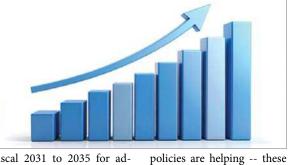
INDIA'S leading corporate companies may double spending and capital expenditure over the next five years, driven by rising revenues and profits, a report said on Tuesday. The report by ratings firm S&P Global Ratings noted similarities to China's corporate growth in the 2000s and India's corporate growth, highlighting that a huge revenue surge is expected for India's top companies.

porate capital spending to reach approximately \$800 billion from fiscal 2026 to fiscal 2030, largely driven by infrastructure investments. An additional \$1 trillion investment is expected from

fiscal 2031 to 2035 for advanced research and development, the report noted.

"Improving infrastructure, political stability, and lean rporate balance propelling large expansion plans that will widen revenue bases for Indian corporates," said S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Neel Gopalakrishnan.

"Supportive government



include a focus on domestic self-sufficiency, more exports, and development of a supply-chain ecosystem," he

"Our baseline view is that India's growth momentum will stay strong, and its industrial base and supply chains will get deeper and more efficient," said Gopalakrishnan.

India's securitisation issuance at all-time high of ₹2.35 trn in FY25

MUMBAI: India's total securitisation issuance reached a record high of Rs2.35 trillion (\$27 bn) in fiscal 2025, with about 22 per cent allocated to residential mortgagebacked securities (RMBS), a report has said. The bulk of the RMBS issuance has been through bilateral assignments, according to the data compiled by S&P Global Ratings. Pass-through certificate structures form a significantly smaller segment of the RMBS market compared to their share in India's overall securitisation market.

"In our view, the first RMBS transaction announced by RMBS Development Co. Ltd. (RDCL) could improve investor confidence pave the way for further issuance based on passthrough certificates (over bilateral assignments), in line with typical structures in global securitisation markets," the report said.

It further emphasised



that India could draw more domestic and offshore investors into its mortgage securitisation market as the country has emerged as one of the fastest-growing global economies. It has favourable demographics, rapid urbanisation, and strong policy support to meet its growing

"This has propelled housing market growth. New residential mortgage origination volumes rose about 40 per cent between fiscal years 2020 and 2025 (years ended March 31)," the report said.

The rally in silver comes amid concerns over liquidity in the London market, which has triggered a worldwide rush to secure the metal. Prices in London are trad

ing at a rare premium compared to New York, prompting traders to fly silver bars across the Atlantic -- a costly move usually reserved for gold -- to benefit from higher



Tech M Q2 net falls 4.44% to ₹1,194.5 cr

MUMBAI: IT services company Tech Mahindra on Tuesday reported a 4.44 per cent decline in its September quarter net profit to Rs1,194.5 crore. The post-tax profit is lower than the Rs1,250 crore it had posted in the year-ago period and marginally higher than the Rs1,141 crore it reported in the preceding June quarter. Its revenue grew to Rs13,995 crore from Rs13,313 crore a year ago and Rs13,351 crore in the quarter-ago period, as per an exchange filing. Its managing director and chief executive Mohit Joshi said the Americas saw an over 2 per cent decline in revenues during the quarter, mainly due to macroeconomic issues.

RBI may not go for Repo cut in Dec: Yes Bank NEW DELHI: The wait-andgrowth conditions, the depth

watch policy of the RBI on the monetary policy is prudent, a report said on Tuesday, adding that the bank's dovish tone suggests further easing, but a December rate cut is not 'a done deal'.

While any further rate cut by the RBI will depend on

of further rate cuts may be extremely limited and hence the RBI may also want to retain the powder dry for now, the report from Yes Bank said. The report maintained that the tone of the policy remained dovish, which signalled further easing, possi-

bly as early as December. Despite the current inflation trending at less than the lower bound of the RBI tolerance level and expectations of a 2.6 per cent inflation for FY26, the RBI did not alter its monetary policy rate and stance at the last meeting in October.

Nifty forecast at 28,781 in next 12 mths

Domestic-oriented sectors to drive growth; PL Capital predicts

a 12.1% EPS CAGR for Nifty from FY25 to FY27

Mkts down for 2nd session on weak global cues

Muted start to ongoing Q2 results, weaker-than-expected inflation data raised concerns about slow demand, intensifying profit booking amid FII outflows

MUMBAI: Benchmark BSE Sensex fell by 297 points on Tuesday in its second straight day of losses due to selling in metal, select auto and pharma shares amid weak trends in Asian and European mar-

Reversing its early gains, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 297.07 points or 0.36 per cent to settle at 82,029.98 as 23 of its constituents closed lower and seven with gains. During the day, it dropped 545.43 points or 0.66 per cent to 81,781.62. The 50-share NSE Nifty went lower by 81.85 points or 0.32 per cent to 25,145.50.

Stock markets started the day on a high note but failed to hold momentum due to weak global trends and trade-related concerns, analysts said, adding that foreign fund outflows also impacted the sentiment. Bajaj Finance



broad-based profit-booking

amid a lack of fresh domestic

triggers, as weak cues from

Asian and European peers

dampened investor senti-

ment. Renewed US-China

trade tensions reignited risk

aversion, prompting a shift

toward safe-haven assets

such as gold and US Treasury

bonds, while equities came

was the biggest loser among Sensex stocks, dropping by 1.8 per cent. Tata Motors, TCS, Tata Steel, Bharat Electronics, NTPC, Trent, Asian Paints and Axis Bank were also among the laggards. However, Tech Mahindra, ICICI Bank, Power Grid, Hindustan Unilever and Reliance Industries were among the gainers.

under pressure on concerns of escalating global trade uncertainty," Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, Ajit Mishra, SVP, Re-

search, Religare Broking Ltd, said: "Stock markets opened on a positive note but failed to sustain early gains, ending marginally lower as trade-related concerns overshadowed favorable domestic cues."

The BSE smallcap gauge dropped 0.95 per cent and midcap index declined 0.74 per cent. All sectoral indices ended lower. Telecommunication dropped the most by 1.39 per cent, followed by oil & gas (1.01 per cent), realty (0.96 per cent), metal (0.95 per cent) and services (0.87 per cent). As many as 2,870 stocks declined, 1,337 advanced and 127 remained unchanged on the BSE.

NEW DELHI: The market benchmark Nifty is expected to touch 28,781 in about 12 months, a report said on Tuesday, citing the remarkable resilience of India's

economy and equity markets

in the face of global challeng-

es, including US tariffs, H-1B

visa fee hikes, and geopoliti-

cal volatility. PL Capital forecasts a 12.1 per cent EPS compound annual growth rate for Nifty from FY25 to FY27, adding that domestic-oriented sectors like banks, autos and metals will lead growth.The brokerage said that with normal monsoons, a 100-basispoint cut in interest rates, rationalisation of GST rates, and tax reductions an-

ducive for a strong revival in consumption. It also added that cement,

nounced in the FY26 Budget,

the conditions are now con-



metals, oil and gas are sectors to lead FY26 earnings. India's Q1 FY26 GDP growth reaffirmed the economy's resilience, surpassing expectations at 7.8 per cent yearon-year, compared with 6.5 per cent in Q1 FY25 and 7.4 per cent in Q4FY25, the report said.

High-frequency indicators, including GST collections, e-way bills, services exports, and credit growth, indicate strong underlying domestic demand. The revival of demand will likely increase private sector capacity utilisation and private capex, which have been waiting on the sidelines, PL Capital predicted.

The broking firm noted that India's services exports are entering a new growth phase, led by digitally delivered, high-value knowledge services."By 2030, the country is projected to host around 2,200 Global Capability Centres (GCCs) generating over \$100 billion in revenue, with total services exports expected to reach \$500 billion," the firm noted.

The talent landscape is evolving rapidly, with rising demand in areas such as AI, cybersecurity, GenAI product engineering, and sustainability analytics - further strengthening India's position as a global innovation hub, it added.

Bigg Boss Telugu Season 9' losing credibility?

MOSTLY DUE TO POOR CONTESTANT PICKS

SuhasSistu

BIGG Boss Telugu has long thrived on controversy, charisma, and compelling personalities. But season 9, so far, is eroding that foundation — and it's not because of the host or the format. Though it came with the tagline 'Idi chadarangamkaadu, raanarangam' (It's not chess, it's war), the show is not showing the same fire it promised. It's the weak selection of contestants that's turning what should be a high-voltage reality show into a forgettable routine. Where's the spark?

Contestant lineups in earlier seasons felt rugged, unpredictable, and teeming with clashing egos. This year's cast, however, leans heavily into "safe" names and internet personas, many carrying baggage from past controversies. For instance, Sanjana Galrani entered the house with known legal issues, immediately shifting focus from the show itself to her personal drama. Flora Saini's entry also brought pre-existing controversies to the fore

before she even got a chance to perform. Rules break, respect fades

When viewers see contestants breaking fundamental rules—like the rule of speaking Telugu—without apparent consequences, it signals weak enforcement and less accountability. Bigg Boss himself had to scold contestants for repeatedly ignoring Telugu. That undermines the very structure that gives the show its gravity. Drama by default, not design

Elsewhere, the show is

running out of organic tension. Relationships and fights feel manufactured. Wildcard entries like DivyaNikitha, selected despite having low support in the Agnipariksha audition, suggest favoritism over fair competition. When eliminations feel rigged or in-

A show built on gamble, not formula

viewers lose trust.

Bigg Boss is supposed to be about raw human unpredictability. This season, it has become a predictable exercise

fluenced by off-screen factors,

in name value and past controversies. The result: a show that looks busy but lacks depth, and reinforces the idea that the franchise is banking more on spectacle than substance.

With the latest wildcard entries like Divvela Madhuri and Ramya Moksha, who recently made headlines for their controversial public statements, the makers seem to be attempting a last-minute rescue operation to revive audience interest. These contestants bring drama potential, but whether they can inject real momentum into

the show—or simply add more noise without substance—remains to be seen. All eyes are now on how these wildcard contestants will shake up the

house dynamics in the coming weeks. If these contestants also fade like the rest—season 9 risks becoming one of its most forgettable chapters.

'MeesaalaPilla' from 'MSVP Garu': Vintage melody with modern touch

ranjeevi joined forces for the first time with blockbuster filmmaker Anil Ravipudi for the muchawaited family entertainer Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu. Touted to be packed with family emotions, humor, and mass appeal in Ravipudi's signature style, the film is gearing up for a grand Sankranthi 2026 theatrical release. The promotional cam-

paign began on a powerful note with the launch of the first single 'MeesaalaPilla', whose promo dropped during the Dussehra festival. Within hours, the track went viral across social media platforms, trending with thousands of fan-made reels and edits celebrating Chiranjeevi's unmatched screen aura and the song's vibrant energy.

One of the biggest talking points from the promo is the refreshing on-screen chemistry between Chiranjeevi and Lady Superstar Nayanthara. The duo is seen portraying a grounded and



charming husband-wife pair, offering a blend of fun, warmth, and emotional relatability-something audiences are already loving.

The song boasts a melodious yet upbeat vibe brought to life by the soulful vocals of Udit Narayan and Shweta Mohan. BhaskaraBhatla's playful lyrics add a catchy

local flavor, while BheemsCeciroleo's lively music makes "MeesaalaPilla" an instant chartbuster. Music lovers have already begun calling it one of the most addictive Telugu singles of the season.

Produced by SahuGarapati and Sushmita Konidela under the Shine Screens and Gold Box Entertainment banners, the film has now set high expectations among audiences. With the first single making waves, all eyes are now on the next glimpse from Mana ShankaraVara Prasad Garu as excitement continues to build ahead of its festive release.



'Mithra Mandali' pre-release event sparks buzz

→HE upcoming buddy comedy Mithra Mandali is gearing up for a theatrical release on October 16, generating strong buzz among audiences. Produced under BV Works and presented by Bunny Vas and SaptaAshwa Media Works, the film features Priyadarshi and popular digital star Niharika NM in lead roles. Directed by Vijayender S, the film boasts a huge ensemble cast including

> comedy icons Brahmanandam, Vennela Kishore, Satya, VTV Ganesh, and others.

> > sponse from viewers.

tations for the film.

Pradesh and Telangana.

The film features an impressive cast including

Selvaraghavan, Shraddha Srinath, and Manasa

Chowdhury in key roles, while Vishnu Vishal

will be seen as a determined police officer un-

raveling a dark mystery. Supporting roles are

As part of promotions, a grand prerelease event was held on October 13, graced by actor Sree Vishnu as the chief guest. Speaking at the event, he praised the team's effort and said, "Mithra Mandali is full of heart and humor. It will make audiences leave the theatre with a smile." He also appreciated Priyadarshi's script choices and welcomed Niharika NM to Telugu cinema.

Priyadarshi expressed confidence in the film's entertainment value, saying, "If you don't like this movie, don't watch any of my future films!" Niharika NM added that she was delighted to officially

enter Telugu films with a project rooted in friendship and emotion.

Producer Bunny Vas called Mithra Mandali a "clean family entertainer and an early Diwali gift", while assuring audiences that the film will deliver non-stop laughs. Director Vijayender thanked his team for their unwavering support and invited audiences to enjoy the emotional and humorous journey of friendship on screen.

With positive early buzz from trailers and songs, Mithra Mandali is set to entertain audiences starting October 16.

'Bison' trailer: Politically charged sports drama

▼ OUNG actor Dhruv Vikram, son of versatile star Chiyaan Vikram, is gearing up for what could be a defining moment in his career with his upcoming film Bison. Despite delivering strong performances in films like Adithya Varma and Mahaan, Dhruv is still awaiting that one big commercial breakthrough. Now, with acclaimed filmmaker Mari Selvaraj at the helm, Bison is generating strong expectations.

The trailer of the film, which released yesterday, has caught everyone's attention with its intense narrative and emotional depth. Staying true to his film-

making style, Mari Selvaraj once again chooses a socially grounded theme. The story follows Dhruv's character, a determined young man from a marginalised community whose life revolves around his passion for Kabaddi. The trailer opens with his



humble beginnings and turbulent journey, revealing the harsh oppression he faces from caste-based discrimination and societal prejudice.

Despite constant humiliation and setbacks, Dhruv's character refuses to surrender, instead rising with resilience to fight for identity, dignity, and the pride of his people. The trailer promises a raw, realistic sports drama layered with emotional intensity and strong social commentary—hallmarks of Mari Selvaraj's impactful storytelling.

Actresses Anupama Parameswaran and Rajisha Vijayan appear in strong rural roles, bringing authenticity to the village setting and emotional grounding to the story. Their rustic screen presence enhances the film's culturally rooted tone.

Backed by impactful visuals and a compelling narrative, Bison is set for release on October 17th, coinciding with Diwali. With a powerful theme, emotional depth, and Dhruv Vikram's intense performance, the film is being seen as a potential gamechanger in his career.



■HE upcoming web series Super Subbu brings a refreshing mix of humor, emotion, and social relevance to Indian storytelling. The plot follows the misadventures of a hapless young teacher who dreams of escaping his domineering father, only to end up with an unexpected assignment-teaching sex education in a conservative village. The biggest irony? He's a virgin himself, setting the stage for a comedy full of awkwardness, heartfelt moments, and selfdiscovery.

Director Mallik Ram explains the inspiration behind the series:"Super Subbu was born from the observation that sex education is still treated as a taboo subject in our society. Parents avoid it, schools skip it, and children grow up with confusion and myths. Through Subbu's journey, we use humor to break silence around a sensitive topic and make it accessible. The village of Maakhipur feels real and rooted, just like the people many of us grew up around. At its core, this story is about courage, community, and acceptance." Actress Mithila Palkar, who plays a key role, says,"It's a quirky yet meaningful story about dreams, relationships, and coming of age in unexpected ways. The characters feel so real, and the narrative is both funny and emotional. I'm excited for audiences to see me in a very different avatar." Actor Sundeep Kishan adds, "We're now telling stories that are brave and relatable. Super Subbu celebrates simple joys while addressing real issues through lovable characters and engaging writing." The series is expected to blend entertainment with a strong message, making it one to watch out for



played by Sai Ronak, TarakPonnappa, Mala Parvathi, Avinash, and Abhishek Joseph George.

The story is co-written by Manu Anand of FIR fame. Harish Kannan handles cinematography, San Lokesh is the editor, and Ghibran scores the music. The makers will soon announce updates on the trailer and audio launch events.

Mrunal Thakur sets the ramp on fire

Thakur, gearing up for the release of her upcoming film Dacoit alongside AdiviSesh, made a stunning appearance at Lakmé Fash-ion Week, leaving fashion enthusiasts captivated with her bold and glamorous runway presence.

Walking for ace designer duo Pankaj & Nidhi at Lakmé <u>Fashion</u> Week in partnership with FDCI, Mrunal embraced a powerful high-fashion avatar. She wore a shimmering golden sleeveless top paired with a sleek black skirt featuring a daring thigh-high slit, per-fectly blending elegance with drama. The look was elevated by statement golden earrings, adding just the right touch of opulence to her ensemble.

Interestingly, Mrunal opted for a minimalist styling approach, keeping her hands free of accessories and choosing classic black heels to maintain the focus on her striking outfit. Her makeup was sub-tle yet sharp, enhancing her natural beauty, while her hair was styled in a neat updo that highlighted her strong fea-

What truly stood out was her commanding runway at-titude. She skipped the usual smile and instead delivered intense, piercing expressions, locking eyes with the camera and exuding top-model confidence. Fans and fashion critics alike praised her fierce walk and bold aura, calling her one

of the best celebrity showstop-pers of the season. With every appearance, Mrunal Thakur continues to prove she's not just a rising star in cinema, but also a style icon who owns every frame—on screen and on the runway.