



Lovlina to fight for gold
Lovlina Borghain scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman boxer to reach back-to-back Asian Games finals, while debutants Priya Ghanghas and Kapil Pokhariya settled for bronze medals here on Wednesday.

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Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home
While many things are needed for people to lead happy and contented lives, food, shelter, and clothing are universally accepted as the basic minimum requirements of human beings. There is in fact this adage in Telugu.

P6

Lighter cars get relief under new CAFE norms
The government has notified the third phase of Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE-III) norms for passenger vehicles, giving lighter cars relatively softer efficiency targets while requiring greater improvements from heavier vehicles.

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Priyanka Jawalkar grabs attention in sheer pink saree
Priyanka Jawalkar stunned in sheer pink saree. The actress is garnering love for flaunting a pretty traditional look on her social media. Even though she has been seen in cameo roles in many of the web shows that she has been a part.

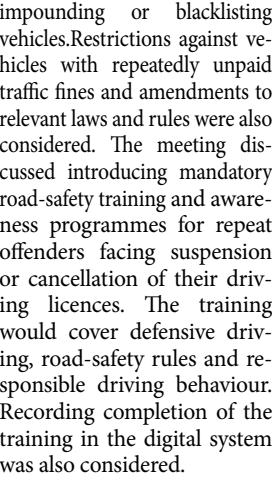
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WINDOWS

Tougher penalties for traffic violations soon in state

BENGALURU: The government is considering introducing a points-based driving licence system, under which repeated traffic violations would attract penalty points and a driving licence could be suspended once a prescribed threshold is reached, officials said on Wednesday. The proposal was discussed at a joint review meeting of the Home and Transport departments chaired by state Home Minister Priyank Kharge and Transport Minister Byrathi Suresh here. The meeting focused on measures to improve road safety, curb traffic violations and ease congestion in Bengaluru, Kharge's office said in a release. Under the proposed system, points would be assigned for different traffic violations and accumulated against a driver's record. Reaching a specified limit could result in suspension of the driving licence, it said. The meeting also examined the legal changes required to introduce the points-based system, it added. The departments discussed directly integrating the Transport Department's Sarathi driving licence system with the Bengaluru Traffic Police's e-Challan system. The integration would enable traffic police to verify a driving licence's validity on the spot, access a driver's previous violation history and link newly recorded offences directly to the driver's digital record. The move is expected to reduce paperwork and make enforcement of traffic rules more effective, it said. The meeting also discussed increasing fines for traffic violations that affect traffic flow and public safety in Bengaluru. These include parking on footpaths, driving against traffic on one-way roads, driving on footpaths, unauthorised parking, parking in no-parking zones, violating traffic signals and obstructing the free flow of traffic. The proposal also includes higher penalties for repeat offences and dangerous driving, particularly involving two-wheelers. Officials discussed identifying motorists with five or more traffic violations, recovering pending fines and, where necessary, impounding or blacklisting vehicles. Restrictions against vehicles with repeatedly unpaid traffic fines and amendments to relevant laws and rules were also considered. The meeting discussed introducing mandatory road-safety training and awareness programmes for repeat offenders facing suspension or cancellation of their driving licences. The training would cover defensive driving, road-safety rules and responsible driving behaviour. Recording completion of the training in the digital system was also considered.



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INDIA unveils rallies, marches over electoral transparency

PURNA SINGH
NEW DELHI

THE INDIA bloc on Wednesday announced a joint campaign demanding greater transparency in electoral rolls and the election process, including five rallies in October-November and nationwide demonstrations. The dates and venues will be finalised soon, with a major rally scheduled in Delhi on November 1. The parties also agreed on a common action plan on electoral issues. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge demanded greater transparency in

changes to electoral rolls, including constituency- and booth-level details of additions, deletions and corrections. He also sought notice and an appeal mechanism before voter names are removed. Kharge and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. Kharge also demanded replacing EVM voting with ballot papers and restoring the voter list prepared before the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). "Save Democracy Marches" will be held across the

• Kharge and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar

• Rahul said INDIA bloc leaders are committed to accountability over what they described as threats to democracy and constitutional rights

country from October 2 to 8, with district-level protests. Opposition MPs will march to the Election Commission on October 6 and seek an appointment with the President. Rahul Gandhi said INDIA bloc leaders were committed to accountability over what they described as threats to democracy and

constitutional rights. The meeting followed reports that Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had raised objections multiple times over decisions related to the SIR exercise. The Election Commission has maintained that differences during institutional deliberations are normal and that its orders



Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi with former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at the INDIA bloc meeting in Delhi

have legal validity.

The BJP rejected the opposition's approach and questioned the INDIA bloc's organisational strength and cohesion. BJP leader Shah Nawaz Hussain described the meeting as a "flop show" and claimed that the opposition grouping

had neither a formal office nor a president or convenor. "There is no such thing as the I.N.D.I.A. Alliance," Hussain said, alleging that the grouping lacked a clear policy and leadership structure. He also claimed that the number of parties associated with the alliance

was declining with each meeting. The BJP said the outcomes of the INDIA meeting were "zero vision, 100 per cent frustration, and an advance excuse for poll defeats", with the leaders of the opposition grouping rejecting Rahul's leadership.

EC dumps SIR declaration from Form 6 after row

HANS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI

THE Election Commission on Wednesday removed the additional Special Intensive Revision (SIR) declaration from online Form 6 in states and Union Territories where the revision exercise has concluded. The change was made on the ECINET portal and comes four days after the full Commission decided that the additional requirement would apply only during the SIR exercise. Form 6 is the statutory form used by eligible citizens to apply for inclusion in electoral rolls. The additional declaration had required new applicants to indicate whether their names, or those of their parents or grandparents, appeared in electoral rolls prepared during an earlier SIR. Applicants could also be asked to provide relevant electoral roll details. With the declaration now removed in states where SIR has ended, new applicants

Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had raised objections to the change, arguing that the statutory form could not be modified without amending the relevant rules



will have to submit only the statutory Form 6 prescribed under the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. The additional SIR-related requirement continues in states and

UTs where the revision is still underway. The move follows controversy over the alteration of Form 6. The Indian Express had reported that Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had raised objections to the change, arguing that the statutory form could not be modified without amending the relevant rules. The report also said the two Commissioners had recorded objections on SIR-related decisions on multiple occasions, raising questions over the decision-making process within the Commission. The ECI subsequently announced that the statutory forms would be used during non-SIR periods and set up an expert panel to review ECINET's compliance with laws and rules.

Pilots fight mid-air; 'passenger' lands Israel-bound flight in Saudi

JEDDAH: A commercial flight, carrying around 180 passengers, headed to Israel made an emergency landing in Saudi Arabia Wednesday after an apparent altercation in the cockpit. Some reports said a man pulled a knife and attacked a pilot, but officials have not confirmed that account. Cluster 2, which operates several airports in Saudi Arabia, said the captain and first officer were both injured and taken to a hospital. The incident sparked a military response from Israel, which couldn't rule out that the incident was terrorism related. Whether it was terrorism-related remains contested among Israeli officials. An Indian national was the captain of a Flydubai flight who fought with his co-pilot during a violent cockpit confrontation that forced the aircraft to make an



emergency landing in Saudi Arabia. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Saudi Arabia had arrested the pilot of a Flydubai flight who stabbed another pilot and apparently tried to crash a plane full of Israelis. The flight from Dubai to Tel Aviv landed in Saudi Arabia Wednesday after triggering a general emergency alert. That was briefly changed to an unlawful interference alert before reverting to a general emergency.

The flight tracker also reported the plane dropped from 33,000 feet to 17,000 feet in about a minute before circling. One passenger told The Associated Press her daughter heard screaming and someone she believed was the pilot calling for help. Other passengers who spoke to The New York Times said two other pilots were on the flight. They took control of the plane and landed it in Saudi Arabia.

Solo bike journey across India covering over 30,000 km

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MANGALURU

AFTER his first Journey throughout the state to address Government School children, former journalist and educational activist Srinivasan Nandagopal has now embarked on a nation-wide ride to create awareness and raise funds for Childhood Cancer Treatment along with his School-Connect activities. The Dreams on Wheels 2.0, second episode of his long rides, will traverse through over 30,000 kms across the country with an objective to sensitize people, especially students to empathize and stand with young warriors fighting the dreaded cancer. With the tag line "Every Child Deserves a Chance to Heal and Dream", the Dreams on Wheels 2.0 has

'Dreams on Wheels 2.0' by Srinivasan Nandagopal to focus on fund raising for childhood cancer



taken off from Mangalore on September 26 and travel through the 30-plus states and union territories in the span of next one year. The expedition will begin in Mangaluru and travel through Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai, Hyderabad, Odisha, West Bengal, the Northeast, North India, Western India and Central India before returning to Mangaluru. The theme of the initiative is "Health, Education and Personality Development." Through interactive sessions, the project will address stu-

dent wellness, hygiene, nutrition, emotional well-being, reading habits, communication, career awareness etc. Dreams on Wheels 2.0 builds on the first Dreams on Wheels expedition, during which Nandagopal travelled approximately 6,500 kilometres across Karnataka and interacted with more than 5,000 government-school children on examination preparedness and career orientation. The new expedition will expand the initiative nationally while adding a structured student-aspiration study and a stronger focus on health and personality development. A significant component of the project will be fundraising and public awareness for children undergoing cancer treatment. The campaign will be implemented through verified partner organisations and transparent, compliant mechanisms. Support may include treatment assistance, nutrition, accommodation, transport, psychosocial care and educational continuity. Dreams on Wheels 2.0 will be partnered by Tapasya Foundation, a dedicated centre for Childhood Cancer and Palliative Care in Mangalore. Srinivasan Nandagopal has been a working journalist for over two decades since

he Co-founded the Centre for Integrated Learning, an organization working with children and youth through an array of activities that add value to present education. CIL has been striving to evolve strategies and interventions that groom children and youth to transform into effective individuals and responsible citizenry. "While the first ride from November 2025 to March 2026 was more of connecting with students of Government Schools across Karnataka, this time it has a bigger purpose of raising funds for Childhood Cancer Treatment. The Dreams on Wheels 2.0 will ride on as my Pleasure for biking will converge with strong Purpose in supporting families who are devastated by the dreaded disease," Nandagopal stated.

Lashkar terrorist wanted in Pahalgam attack killed

BUDGAM

SECURITY forces on Wednesday recovered the body of a Pakistani Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist, identified as Mohammad Asif alias Hashim Moosa, along with war-like stores during a search operation in the general area of Palmaidan in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district. The killing of Moosa was confirmed by the Srinagar-based Chinara Corps, which said, "During the search early morning in General Area Palmaidan, body of Pak-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist, identified as Mohammad Asif alias Hashim Moosa recovered along with war-like stores." The Army and other



security agencies on Wednesday launched OP KORAG in the Youismarg area based on specific intelligence input. A Joint Search Operation was launched when vigilant troops observed suspicious activity and upon being challenged, terrorists opened fire, prompting a fierce exchange of gunfire during which Hashim Moosa was neutralised.

76-year-old man gets 13-yr jail for robbing bank 38 yrs ago

KOLLAM

A 76-year-old man has been sentenced to 13 years in prison and fined Rs 16,000 for his role in a robbery at the Nallurnad Service Co-operative Bank in Wayanad in 1988. Additional District and Sessions Court Judge L Jayavanth sentenced Kollam native Abdul Samad in

the case. He will undergo another 10 months in prison if he fails to pay the fine. According to police, the robbery took place in the early hours of January 8, 1988, when a six-member gang broke into the bank. The gang arrived in a car, broke the locks and entered the bank. The robbers took away a safe, nearly one kilogram of



gold ornaments and Rs 5,544 in cash. According to the pros-

The robbery took place in the early hours of January 8, 1988, when a six-member gang broke into the bank. The gang arrived in a car, broke the locks and entered the bank

ecution, two persons who reached the bank after hearing the noise were attacked

with a crowbar. Four of the accused -- Subair, Suresh Babu,

Allickutty and Naseer -- were arrested and sentenced in 1993. Another accused, O K Babu, who had remained absconding, surrendered before the court in 2017 and was later sentenced. Police arrested Samad in October 2024. He faced trial while in judicial custody. The court examined around 40 witnesses in

the case. The prosecution produced 166 documents as evidence and 21 material objects seized under the mahazar before the court. The initial investigation was conducted by the then Mananthavady police and it was later taken over by District CB-CID. Public Prosecutor E R Santhosh Kumar appeared for the prosecution.