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Markets are now watching U.S. jobs and inflation data alongside developments in Hormuz, where disrupted shipping remains a major threat to global energy supply and price stability. Any further escalation could quickly deepen market volatility.



STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves

Politics, governance, districts, development, welfare and issues shaping the

Hyderabad DCC condemns Telangana BJP chief over minority welfare claims

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Hyderabad District Congress Committee (DCC) President Syed Khalid Saifullah on Monday strongly condemned Telangana BJP President N. Ramchander Rao, accusing him of misleading minorities with what he described as unsupported claims over their share in Central Government welfare schemes. Saifullah challenged Rao's claim that minorities constituted between

22% and 37% of beneficiaries under schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. He said official documents cited by him showed the minority share under Mudra at roughly 8% to 14% during different years, far below the range claimed by the BJP leader. "Mr Ramchander Rao is the president of a national party's Telangana unit. When he quotes figures concerning crores of citizens, he has a responsi-

bility to produce evidence. The Government of India's own documents do not support the numbers he is presenting to the people of Telangana," Saifullah said. Citing NITI Aayog's November 2023 impact assessment of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Saifullah said Table 24 of the report recorded the minority share of Mudra accounts at approximately 12%, 13%, 11%, 10%, 10%, 8% and 14% across the years covered between 2015 and 2022. He further said that the minority

share in the amount disbursed under Mudra did not exceed 12% during the period, stressing that the proportion of accounts and the proportion of total lending were separate indicators. Saifullah also cited a Union Finance Ministry press release dated October 29, 2024, which stated that minority borrowers received ₹45,088 crore under Mudra during 2023-24. According to him, this amounted to roughly 8.5% of the total lending under the scheme during that year. He also referred

to an SBI research report that, he said, placed the minority share at around 11%. "Eight per cent, eleven per cent, fourteen per cent - where is the 22% to 37% that the BJP President is claiming? These are not Congress figures. These are figures contained in institutions and documents of his own government," Saifullah said. Questioning Rao's claims regarding Jan Dhan and Ujjwala, Saifullah demanded that the government disclose the source and methodology used to calculate any nationwide religion-wise



Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy along with AIMIM president and Hyderabad MP Barrister Asaduddin Owaisi, MLA Ahmed Balala, MP. Anil Kumar Yadav, GHMC commissioner R. V. Karnan unveils the plaque during the inauguration of a new high-level bridge at Musarambagh in Hyderabad on Monday. The bridge, constructed by the GHMC, is aimed at improving connectivity and easing traffic congestion in the area. Pic. Syed Omar

Appeal for Resolution of Issues Faced by the Poor, Workers and Eligible Beneficiaries in Bahadurpura Zone

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

The CPI(M) Bahadurpura Zone Committee has appealed to the authorities to address the following issues faced by poor, working-class and deserving people in the area:

Double-Bedroom Houses: The applications submitted by eligible poor

families in Bahadurpura Zone for double-bedroom houses should be verified, and the houses should be sanctioned at the earliest. Pension applications submitted by poor people, senior citizens, widows and other eligible beneficiaries are still pending. The authorities have been urged to resolve these applications immediately and take steps to provide pensions

to those eligible. The 14 types of essential commodities should be regularly made available to poor families through government ration shops. Senior officials have also been requested to take note of the issue. Ration Should Be Distributed Every Month The committee stated that distributing three months' worth of ration at once is causing serious dif-

ficulties for poor families. Therefore, steps should be taken to ensure that ration is distributed regularly every month. People are forced to spend several hours, and in some cases one to four days, at ration shops to collect three months' ration at once. Daily-wage workers are particularly affected, as they lose one to four days of wages because they are unable to go to work.



Usman Bin Mohammed Alhajri, has intensified the anti-dengue and anti-mosquito campaign to protect residents of Karwan from dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases.

AIMIM leader stabbed to death in Hyderabad's Falaknuma

NSS
Hyderabad, August 31,

Hyderabad: An All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) leader was stabbed to death in Hyderabad's Falaknuma area, officials said on Monday. The deceased has been identified as 60-year-old Mahboob Ali. The incident occurred late Sunday night. The officials said that the motive for the murder was not immediately known.

According to initial information, the AIMIM leader was stabbed in Watepally, Falaknuma police station area, on Sunday night. Officials said that a

group of five to six people attacked Ali. They added that the attackers surrounded him near the Almas Hotel and attacked him with knives and sickles. The AIMIM leader was seriously injured by the multiple stab wounds. The perpetrators fled the scene after the incident. The officials said that following the incident, Ali fell on the road and was like that for about 15 minutes. He was then taken to a hospital; however, he died during treatment. Upon receiving information about the attack, Falaknuma police arrived at the scene and began an

investigation. In an official statement regarding the incident, the police said, "Three special teams have been formed to apprehend the suspects. The motive for the murder was not immediately known." Following the incident, AIMIM MLA Mohammed Mubeen met with the bereaved family and expressed his condolences. "Deeply saddened and shocked by the brutal murder of Marhoom Mahboob Ali Sahab, AIMIM Worker, who was attacked by unidentified assailants with deadly weapons at Alam's Hotel, Vattepally," Mubeen wrote in a post on X. The MLA reached the

police station and met with police officers and demanded strict and immediate action against those responsible for this crime. "We urge the Government of Telangana and Hyderabad Police to strengthen patrolling, crack down on anti-social elements, and take stringent action against the growing menace of drugs and violent crime, so that the safety and security of every citizen is ensured," Mubeen added. Police said that an investigation is currently underway and information is being gathered from the eyewitnesses and the family of the deceased. Further details are awaited.

Man's organ donation helps four patients

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Hyderabad: Family members of 25-year-old B Vishal, a resident of Bhopuji Nagar, Yaprul, Alwal, Medchal Malkajigiri, who was declared brain-dead, have donated his organs to needy patients under a state-run organ donation

initiative. On August 23, Vishal, who is running his father's business, met with a road traffic accident near Neredmet while attempting to help another person. Vishal's motorcycle skidded and collided with a road divider, and in the process he sustained serious injuries. Immediately, his fam-



ily members shifted him to a private hospital in Hyderabad for emergency treatment. With his

health not improving, the attending team of doctors declared him brain-dead on Monday. The father of the youngster, Balu Bhai, made the heartfelt decision to donate his brain-dead son's kidneys (02), liver (01), and Heart (01) and, in the process, help four patients in need, Jeevandan on Monday said.

Intensified Dengue and Mosquito Prevention Drive in Karwan Assembly Constituency

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Hyderabad: Following the directions of Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President B. Mahesh Kumar Goud and Hyderabad in-charge Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar, Congress party's contested MLA and in-charge of the Karwan Assembly Constituency, Usman Bin Mohammed Alhajri, has intensified the anti-dengue and anti-mosquito campaign to protect residents of Karwan from dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases.

For the past two weeks, Usman Alhajri has been continuously visiting dengue-affected areas and locations conducive to mosquito breeding. In coordination with GHMC Deputy Commissioner Jani Basha, Executive Engineer Lal Singh, and officials from the

Entomology Department, he has been working to ensure comprehensive mosquito-control and sanitation measures. Special attention is being given to major mosquito-breeding centres, including Langar Houz Lake, Shah Hatim Lake, the Musi River and the Zia Guda dumping yard. Measures such as drone-based spraying, manual anti-larval operations, elimination of mosquito-breeding sites and large-scale fogging are being carried out to prevent mosquito breeding and control the spread of dengue.

Usman Alhajri said that under the strong leadership of Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, the Telangana government is giving top priority to protecting public health and preventing mosquito-borne diseases. He further said that,

following his continuous representations and efforts, cleaning work using Hitachi machines is expected to begin soon to remove wild vegetation and accumulated garbage from the Musi River. The initiative will help eliminate mosquito-breeding sites while also improving environmental sanitation and promoting a healthier environment. Usman Alhajri stressed that an integrated and sustained strategy is essential for effectively combating dengue.

This includes eliminating mosquito-breeding sites, maintaining sanitation, carrying out anti-larval measures, continuous monitoring, fogging and creating public awareness. He assured that his campaign against dengue and mosquito breeding would continue without interruption until effective and

comprehensive preventive measures are fully implemented across all areas of the Karwan Assembly Constituency. During today's visit, B Block President Vinod Chougale, Zia Guda Division President Darshan Kumar, Tamkanata Arun Kumar, Karwan Youth Congress President Sai Kumar, Youth Leader Sadiq Bin Umar Alhajri, Ali Bin Usman Alhajri, Karwan Mahila Congress President Madhavi, Nanal Nagar Division President Nagulapally Srinath, Nanal Nagar In-charge Aftab Qureshi, Khairatabad DCC Secretary Laxman, Zia Guda Division In-charge Naveen Kumar, Secretary Anand Kumar, Osama Bin Usman Alhajri, Mahesh Mudire, Abdul Rasheed Khan, Afroz Khan, and other Congress party leaders and workers were present.

TSPTA Demands Withdrawal of External Evaluation Orders for Classes 1 to 9

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Hyderabad, August 31 (Press Note): Telangana State Primary Teachers Association (TSPTA) State President Syed Shoukat Ali has urged the Telangana Education Department to immediately withdraw the orders introducing external evaluation for students from Classes 1 to 9.

Addressing an emergency state sub-committee meeting held at the organisation's state office in Hyderabad on Sunday night, Syed Shoukat Ali said the decision was an extremely unwise move in the history of the Education Department. He said the decision was taken hastily, ignoring the fundamental objectives of the Right to Education (RTE) Act

and the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) system, causing serious concern among education experts. He said government primary and upper-primary schools in the state are already facing shortage of teachers, lack of basic facilities, teaching difficulties and excessive workload. Introducing an additional external evaluation system under such circumstances would put further pressure on teachers and adversely affect the teaching process. Syed Shoukat Ali pointed out that the no-detention policy from Classes 1 to 9 is in force under the RTE Act and the CCE system is being followed accordingly. He said third-party evaluation of SA-1 and SA-2 examination answer scripts at the mandal level goes against the principles

of CCE and could harm educational standards rather than improve them. He recalled that board examinations for Class 7 were discontinued in the past because they created unnecessary financial and administrative burdens. Reintroducing external evaluation along similar lines is therefore unjustifiable, he said, urging the government to immediately cancel the policy. The meeting was attended by State General Secretary R. Rohit Naik, Associate President P. Sudharani, R. Manga, Dr. Sajid Miraj, Vice Presidents Ramakrishna, Ghulam Ahmed, Sheikh Shabir Ali, A. Narayana Reddy, Syed Yahya, N. Ramalingam, S. Nirmala, D. Rajamouli, A. Narendra and B. Jaya, among other leaders.

Auto driver sentenced to 20 years in POCSO case

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

HYDERABAD: The Fast Track Special Court for Rape and POCSO Act cases at LB Nagar on Monday sentenced a 26-year-old auto driver to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment in a POCSO case registered by Pahadishareef police in 2023. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 and directed payment of Rs 1 lakh as compensation to the victim. The convict, Syed Mukaram, was found guilty of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl repeatedly on the pretext of marriage. According to police, the victim's mother lodged a complaint on December 18, 2023, stat-



Telangana State Primary Teachers Association (TSPTA) State President Syed Shoukat Ali has urged the Telangana Education Department to immediately withdraw the orders introducing external evaluation for students from Classes 1 to 9.

CS directs officials to fast-track railway projects in Telangana

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Hyderabad, Aug.31 (NSS): Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju has directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination with South Central Railway (SCR) officials to resolve pending issues related to ongoing railway projects in Telangana at the earliest. The Chief Secretary held a review meeting at the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat on Monday with SCR General Manager Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, Special Chief Secretaries Vikas Raj and

Naveen Mittal, and other senior officials to review the progress of various railway projects in the State. The meeting discussed the progress of railway projects, issues hampering their implementation, land acquisition, administrative approvals required from various departments and the support to be extended by the State government for their timely completion. Sanjay Jaju emphasised that improved railway connectivity was crucial for Telangana’s economic, industrial and regional development. He directed departmental officials and

District Collectors to expedite the resolution of pending issues and ensure that projects were completed within the stipulated timelines. Officials informed the meeting that Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for 17 railway projects covering 2,023 km, with an estimated cost of ₹50,870 crore, had been submitted to the Railway Board. Around 21 issues were reviewed during the meeting, including construction of railway underpasses and overbridges, approach roads, road widening, doubling of railway lines and improving public transport

connectivity to Charlapalli Railway Station. Sanjay Jaju directed senior officials of the concerned departments to conduct joint inspections along with SCR officials and identify appropriate solutions to resolve the pending issues. In accordance with the directions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, officials were also asked to prepare plans for expansion of railway lines in the Future City, Outer Ring Road (ORR) and Regional Ring Road (RRR) areas. The Chief Secretary stressed the need for continuous coordination between

State government departments and SCR officials for timely execution of railway projects. He assured that the State government would extend all necessary cooperation and support. Jaju further directed officials to prepare comprehensive DPRs to secure funds under the Centre’s PM Gati Shakti initiative. He also called for DPRs for the expansion of MMTS, establishment of railway terminals in the ORR and RRR regions around Hyderabad to meet the city’s future requirements, and land acquisition for

Youth Congress workers protest, blacken BJP office in Hyderabad

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Youth Congress workers on Monday, August 31, held a protest at the Telangana BJP’s office in Hyderabad, throwing black paint on the office’s rear gate to condemn the alleged ‘shuddhikaran ceremony’ at the venue where Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge addressed a rally in Uttarakhand’s Haldwani. The Youth Congress workers raised slogans against the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Centre, and burnt an effigy targeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah outside the BJP office at Nampally. The workers, led by

Telangana Youth Congress president Jakkidi Shiva Charan Reddy, sought the resignation of Shah over the alleged use of pellet guns during the Cockroach Janta Party-led protest at Jantar Mantar in Delhi last month, against the NEET question paper leak, a Congress release said. Reacting to the protest at the BJP office, Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay Kumar asked what the policemen were doing when black colour was applied to the gates and an effigy was burnt. “Is the intelligence working in the state?

Were the police watching tamasha when the BJP office was being attacked in broad daylight? Are you working like a stooge?” Sanjay Kumar asked in a statement. Noting that the patience of BJP should not be considered a weakness, he warned that Congress leaders will not be able to move freely if Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) decides to pay back. He demanded that the Congress leadership should respond to the issue. The Union minister spoke to top police offi-

I Will Never Forgive Prashanth Reddy

Munsif Bureau
Nizamabad, August 31:

Telangana Rakshana Sena chief K. Kavitha said Telangana should be transformed not merely into a “Golden Telangana” but into a “Bahujan Telangana.” She said she had returned to Nizamabad with a commitment to bring meaningful and qualitative change to people’s lives and would take forward a new political force with the support and blessings of the people. Addressing a public meeting in Nizamabad, Kavitha said she was extremely happy to meet people in her native district for the first time four months



after the formation of her party. She said Telangana was achieved so that its own government could make decisions for the welfare of its people. Although some good work was done after the formation of the state, much more remained to be done, and there was a

need to think about how the lives of Telangana’s people could be further improved. She said people had risked their lives during the Telangana movement, with around 1,600 youths sacrificing their lives. It was not merely a political struggle but a battle for their lives, she said. However, she questioned whether the people had actually experienced the change they had dreamed of after Telangana was formed. Despite giving the BRS government 10 years in power, the Kaleshwaram project was built at a cost of around Rs 1 lakh crore, but not even an acre of Nizamabad re-

ceived water from it, she alleged. If people’s problems had still not been resolved after the formation of Telangana, there was a need to think differently and build a new political force, she said. Kavitha said the people of Nizamabad had known her as the daughter of the region and daughter-in-law of the district for the past 20 years. They had elected her as an MP and MLC, and wherever she went, she raised her voice with the confidence given to her by the people of Nizamabad. She said she had now formed a party not for positions but for the people and appealed to



Youth Congress workers on Monday, August 31, held a protest at the Telangana BJP’s office in Hyderabad, throwing black paint on the office’s rear gate to condemn the alleged ‘shuddhikaran ceremony’ at the venue where Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge addressed a rally in Uttarakhand’s Haldwani.

Karimnagar to be transformed into a model city of development: Bandi Sanjay

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug.31

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Monday announced that new roads and drains would be constructed in every lane across the outskirts of the Karimnagar Municipal Corporation. He stated that, thanks to the significant influx of funds from the Centre, Karimnagar was being transformed into a model city within the Telugu states through various projects including the construction of model roads, a skywalk, foot-over bridges and storm-water drains, as well as the improvement of junctions. It was stat-

ed that over ₹22,000 crore had been spent on the development of the Karimnagar Parliamentary constituency including the Karimnagar Corporation over the past seven years. The Union Minister laid the foundation stone for drainage pipeline and CC road works estimated to cost ₹70 lakh under UIDF funds near MLC Gopal Rao’s building in the 45th Division (Mankammathota) of Karimnagar. Karimnagar Mayor Kolagani Srinivas, Deputy Mayor Sunil Rao, Municipal Commissioner Prafull Desai, local corporators and several BJP leaders participated in the event.

Subsequently, Bandi Sanjay issued a statement to the media. In the statement, he said that he was working with great determination to develop the Karimnagar Corporation in every possible way and added that As part of this effort, they secured ₹50 crore in UIDF funds from the Centre and added that there was a possibility of obtaining another ₹30 crore. “Additionally, we persuaded central authorities to include Karimnagar in the UCF list and secured ₹840 crore in funds. We intend to transform the face of the Karimnagar Corporation using these funds. We are set to con-

Revanth calls for 6-day statewide protests demanding KCR’s resignation

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, Aug.31 (NSS):

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday called for a six-day statewide protest starting Tuesday, demanding the immediate resignation of Leader of the Opposition K. Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) over his continued absence from official duties. Addressing a public gathering following the inauguration of the Moosarambagh Bridge, the Chief Minister alleged that KCR has drawn ₹1.24 crore in salary and utilised state resources totaling ₹21 crore spent on security and perks—over the last 1,000 days without working a single hour.

“Government employees are dismissed if they remain absent from duty for a year. What should be done with KCR?” Revanth Reddy asked, questioning the justification for spending public funds on an absent lawmaker. The Chief Minister urged citizens and party cadres to join protests across Telangana, culminating in a major demonstration at Indira Park on September 6. Setting the stage for a showdown in the upcoming legislative session, Revanth Reddy challenged the BRS chief to face the government on the floor of the House. “I will address all these issues in the Assembly from September 7 directly in



In connection with Milad-un-Nabi, a grand gathering of Hamd and Naat-e-Rasool ﷺ was held at Kohinoor Colony, Alkapur, under the auspices of Khanqah Chishtia Sabiria, Markaz-e-Khidmat-e-Khalq. On the occasion, Aziz e Deccan, Khadim Qaum wo Millat, Hazrat Hafiz Qari Shah Mohammed Abdul Muqtadir Sahib Qureshi Qadri Chishti Sabiri, grandson of Hazrat Qutb-e-Deccan (RH), felicitated Mr. Mohammed Abdul Jaleel Sahib, Editor-in-Chief of the Urdu daily Munsif, on the publication of The Munsif English Daily. Also seen in the photograph are Hafiz Mohammed Abdul Ghafoor Musaddiq, son of the Khadim Qaum wo Millat, Dearest Abdul Gaffar Muzammil and Dr. Qari Taiyyab Pasha Quadary.

Note: It is clarified that in the Munsif edition dated Monday, 31 August, the reference appearing alongside the name of Hazrat Hafiz Sahib describing him as “khalifa of Hazrat Qutb-e-Deccan Baba Sharafuddin” was published incorrectly, causing concern among readers.

Sangareddy Collector suspends TGSWRCW Budhera principal over complaints

NSS
Sangareddy:, Aug.31

District Collector Prateek Jain on Monday suspended the principal of TGSWRCW, Budhera, P Shailaja. Several complaints were

received regarding lapses in the administration and management of the college, negligence in the discharge of duties, and the way in which the principal was dealing with the students. As per the directions of the District Collector,

Andole Assembly Constituency Special Officer A Jagadish, Mandal Special Officer Ramachari and District Coordinator Kalpana visited the Budhera college and conducted a comprehensive inspection. They examined

the overall functioning and administration of the college, facilities being provided to the students and other related issues, and submitted a detailed report to the Collector. After examining the findings and observations

contained in the inspection report, Jain took action against the principal. The District Collector made it clear that every effort must be made to provide students with a conducive educational environment and necessary

Professor Arshia Jabeen to Become Head of the Department of Urdu at the UOH from Today

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, August 31,

Professor Arshia Jabeen, a senior faculty member and renowned researcher and critic in the Department of Urdu at the University of Hyderabad, will assume charge as the Head of the Department of Urdu from Tuesday, September 1, 2026. Professor Arshia Jabeen holds a distinguished position in the field of teaching and research in Urdu



language and literature. In addition to her academic and research contributions, she has played an

active role in organising numerous seminars, conferences and literary and academic programmes held at national and international levels. She is the author of several research papers and books and has guided a large number of research scholars. Her appointment as Head of the Department of Urdu is being described as an important and welcome development for the department. Academic circles expect that under

her leadership, the department’s teaching, research and literary activities will receive further impetus, while its academic reputation at the national and international levels will be further strengthened. The faculty members, research scholars and students of the Department of Urdu congratulated Professor Arshia Jabeen on taking up her new responsibility and conveyed their best wishes for her tenure.

Nepal floods: 28 Andhra pilgrims safely cross affected area after Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

NSS
Tirupati:, Aug.31

At least 28 pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh who travelled to Nepal for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra are expected to return to their respective destinations on Friday after completing the pilgrimage and safely crossing a flood-affected area. Venkatramana, proprietor of the Tirupati-based travel agency that organised the trip, said the group left for Nepal

on August 21 and comprised 28 people, all from Andhra Pradesh. “Twenty-eight pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh who travelled to Nepal for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra have completed their pilgrimage and are expected to return to their respective destinations this evening after safely crossing the flood-affected area,” Venkatramana told PTI. He said the pilgrims encountered the flood

situation while travelling towards an immigration office, but their vehicle had crossed the stretch shortly before floodwaters reached the area. The waters arrived approximately five minutes after the vehicle had crossed the location, he added. Venkatramana said all 28 pilgrims were safe and that none had suffered injuries or faced any other reported difficulty due to the floods.

The group was travelling from Nepal to Delhi, following which the pilgrims would take separate flights to their destinations. Some were scheduled to travel from Delhi to Visakhapatnam, while others would fly from Delhi to Hyderabad and then proceed to their respective places in Andhra Pradesh. Venkatramana also said he would travel to Tirupati on August 29 from Kathmandu.



Assam CM Announces Rs 50,000 Crore Infra Push, Cancer Care Boost

IANSGuwahati, Aug 31

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday highlighted a Rs 50,000 crore infrastructure vision, along with major steps in cancer care, job creation and sports facilities, describing them as key moves for the state’s long-term growth. He also highlighted a direct flight to Bangkok, saying improved connectivity could boost tourism, trade and business. Sarma said the initiatives reflect Assam’s broader push to emerge as an economic and connectivity hub in the Northeast.

Bihar, Jharkhand Settle Son River Water Dispute after 26 Years

IANSPatna, Aug 31

Bihar and Jharkhand have reached a historic agreement on sharing the waters of the Son River, ending a dispute that had dragged on for 26 years. Under the settlement, Bihar will receive 5.57 million acre-feet (MAF) of water, while Jharkhand will get 2 MAF from the total allocation of 7.75 MAF. The consensus was reached during a meeting in New Delhi chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, attended by Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Paatil. Announcing the development through a



post on X, Choudhary described the resolution as a “historic achievement in Bihar’s interest.” He said the agreement would increase water availability for irrigation, benefit farmers, strengthen agriculture and give fresh momentum to development in Bihar. He also noted that Jharkhand

would benefit from the arrangement and expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. The dispute dates back to 1973, when an agreement under the Bansagar Project allocated 7.75 MAF of water to undivided Bihar, alongside

Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. With Jharkhand carved out of Bihar in 2000, the new state sought a share of the Son River’s water, citing its source and catchment area. Bihar maintained its claim to the full allocation, leading to a prolonged stand-off. The disagreement stalled Bihar’s proposed

Indrapuri Reservoir Project, as Jharkhand withheld its No Objection Certificate (NOC) amid the dispute. With the new agreement, both states now have defined shares, paving the way for renewed progress on water-management and irrigation projects. The resolution is seen as significant for Bihar’s agriculture, particularly in areas dependent on Son River irrigation, while Jharkhand gains clarity on its entitlement. The settlement marks a breakthrough in the long-running water dispute and is expected to strengthen cooperation between the two neighbouring states on resource management.

RPF Seizes Cannabis, Liquor From Two Trains in Saharsa

IANSPatna, Aug 31

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) seized 14.02 kg of cannabis and 18.75 litres of foreign liquor during separate operations at Saharsa Railway Station, officials said on Monday. The total value of the seized contraband is estimated at around Rs 7.25 lakh. Acting on information received through the Rail Madad service on August 30, RPF personnel searched an unclaimed bag in coach D-04 of the Rajya Rani Express and recovered cannabis worth around Rs 7 lakh. The Excise Department was informed and took

possession of the seized material. In a separate operation, the RPF acted on a tip-off from the Crime Intelligence Branch, Samastipur, about liquor smuggling on the Vaishali Express. Personnel searched an electric box on the roof of a general coach and recovered 25 bottles of Royal Stag liquor, totalling 18.75 litres and valued at around Rs 25,000. Both seizures were handed over to the Saharsa Excise Department for further legal action. The RPF said the operations reflected increased surveillance to curb the smuggling of narcotics and liquor through trains.

Indians Can Now Make UPI Payments in Uzbekistan

IANSNNew Delhi, Aug 31

Indian tourists, business travellers and students visiting Uzbekistan will soon be able to make instant merchant payments through the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), following an agreement to link India’s digital payments system with Uzbekistan’s national QR payment network. NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), the international arm of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has signed a commercial agreement with the National Interbank Processing Centre JSC (NIPC), which operates Uzbekistan’s national payment system, HUMO. The agreement was signed on August 30, according to a Finance Ministry statement. Under the partnership, Indian travellers will



be able to use UPI-enabled mobile applications to scan Uzbekistan’s interoperable national QR code, UZQR, and make instant payments at merchants across the country. The announcement came during Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s bilateral visit to Uzbekistan. The agreement follows approvals from the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of Uzbekistan, which has designated HUMO as NIPL’s authorised partner for cross-border merchant payments. Integration with the Central Bank’s Unified National QR infrastructure is expected to provide UPI users with broad acceptance at retail outlets,

hotels, restaurants and service establishments. The initiative will enable person-to-merchant payments directly from Indian bank accounts, reducing dependence on cash and international cards while helping travellers avoid some foreign exchange markups. The move strengthens cooperation between India and Uzbekistan in digital public infrastructure. The Maldives last month became the ninth country to announce the integration of its Maldives Instant Payment System, Favara, with UPI. The service allows users in the Maldives to transfer money to beneficiaries in India in real time, with transactions initiated in Maldivian Rufiyaa and credited in Indian Rupees. UPI is now accepted in 10 countries, including Singapore, the UAE, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Bhutan, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Greece.

All 12 MLAs Intact: Meghalaya Regional party Chief Dismisses BJP Merger Buzz

IANSShillong, Aug 31

United Democratic Party (UDP) president Metbah Lyngdoh on Monday dismissed reports that nine of the party’s 12 MLAs were planning to join or merge with the BJP, saying all legislators remain with the party. Lyngdoh said he had personally spoken to every UDP MLA and none had expressed any intention to join the BJP. He termed the merger reports speculation and denied claims that legislators had travelled to Delhi, Guwahati or Kolkata for political negotiations.

He said some MLAs had met Union Home Minister Amit Shah over proposed amendments to the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), but the meeting was later portrayed as a political exercise. He also clarified that four MLAs travelled to Kolkata for personal work. Lyngdoh rejected reports of dissatisfaction with his leadership and said there was no internal discontent in the party. He urged the media to independently verify political claims before publishing them, warning that unverified reports could create confusion among the public.

BJP to Contest all 117 Punjab Assembly Seats: Satish Poonia

IANSSChandigarh, Aug 31

BJP national General Secretary and Punjab organisational-in-charge Satish Poonia on Monday ruled out an alliance in the state, saying the party would contest all 117 Assembly seats independently in the 2027 elections. Speaking to the media after taking charge, Poonia said his immediate priority was to strengthen the organisation from the booth to the state level. He will review the party structure and meet the core committee, office-bearers, district presidents and in-charges. He said the BJP’s Seva Sankalp Abhiyan would be held across the country, including Punjab, from September 17 to October 17. The campaign will focus on Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s birthday, social service and public welfare. Poonia said the party’s



cadre was its biggest strength and workers would remain central to organisational activities. He said committed workers would be recognised and given responsibilities, despite the limited number of organisational posts and election tickets. Urging workers to maintain discipline, he said differences should be raised within the party framework. Discipline, commitment and collective effort, he added, would be vital to achieving the BJP’s “Mission Punjab 2027”. On a possible alliance, Poonia said the central leadership had made it clear that the BJP would

fight all 117 seats on its own. He added that meetings between political leaders and Prime Minister Modi should not automatically be seen as signs of an alliance. “I am the ambassador of the central leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party, and its clear message is that we will contest all 117 seats on our own strength. A meeting does not mean an alliance,” he said. Poonia said he would soon hold organisational meetings in Jalandhar and interact with leaders and workers to assess the party’s strengths and challenges and prepare a roadmap for the 2027 polls.

India’s Q1 GDP Growth at 7.8% Reflects Economic Resilience: MoSPI

MUNSIF BUREAUHyderabad, Aug 31

India’s real GDP grew 7.8% in Q1 of FY 2026-27, reflecting economic resilience supported by policy reforms, consumer spending and investment, MoSPI Secretary Dr Saurabh Garg said on Monday. He said GST reforms have improved transaction convenience and data quality, helping policymakers assess economic activity better. Despite global uncertainties, strong household consumption and corporate and government investment have sustained growth momentum.



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FIR Against Rahul Gandhi Shows BJP’s ‘Frustration, Desperation’: Congress

IANSNNew Delhi, Aug 31

The Congress on Monday criticised the registration of an FIR against Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi over his remarks on the alleged “purification” of a venue in Uttarakhand, calling it evidence of the BJP’s “frustration, desperation and anti-Dalit mindset”. Congress MP Kumari Selja questioned how permission was granted for the alleged purification ritual at the venue of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge’s programme. She said the BJP was in power at both the Centre and in Uttarakhand and asked whether such an act was acceptable. “If Rahul Gandhi has raised this issue, then it is like ‘Uta chor kotwal ko dante’,” Selja said, questioning the need to file an FIR against him.

Congress MP Randeep Singh Surjewala also criticised the Uttarakhand government, describing the FIR as proof of what he called the BJP’s “frustration, desperation and anti-Dalit mindset”. AAP Delhi president Saurabh Bharadwaj said the FIR was an attempt to silence the Opposition. He alleged that BJP leaders file cases against Opposition leaders whenever they get an opportunity to prevent them from speaking out. Police said the FIR followed a complaint by Amit Kumar, a member of the Valmiki community in Haldwani. Kumar alleged that Gandhi gave a caste-related interpretation to a religious ritual conducted at the venue of Kharge’s programme. The FIR was registered under provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) relating to promoting enmity between groups



and deliberate acts intended to outrage religious feelings. Provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, were also invoked. Kumar, a resident of Jawahar Nagar and member of the Shri Ram Sena Dharmarth Seva Nyas, said he was present during the ritual and cleanliness drive. He alleged that Gandhi’s remarks at a press conference in Delhi on August 29 hurt community sentiments. Kumar claimed that people from different sections, including members of Scheduled Castes, participated in the ritual and maintained that it had no connection with Kharge’s caste.

Delhi Govt Pushes PPP Model

IANSHyderabad, Aug 31

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday led the signing of MoUs to transform neglected spaces under



and around flyovers through public-private partnerships. The initiative aims to create clean, green, safe and useful public spaces. A 2.5-km stretch from Deepali to Mangolpuri Market will get fencing, greenery and environmental murals on 61 flyover pillars. The Kanodia Group will also develop and maintain about two acres of green belt along Mathura Road and MP Road.

Centre Defers Census 2027 Operations in Manipur amid Prevailing Situation

IANSNNew Delhi, Aug 31

The Centre on Monday decided to defer the Census 2027 exercise in Manipur amid the prevailing situation, officials said. The decision followed a high-level meeting chaired by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi. Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan and other senior officials attended the meeting. Officials said the meeting discussed the demand to defer the Census until the National Register of Citizens (NRC) is implemented in the state. The government agreed to the request, taking into account the concerns and aspirations of the people. Khemchand Singh

thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Shah and other central leaders for addressing the issue. He also thanked BJP president Nitin Nabin, 14 civil society organi-

in the Imphal Valley from August 17, demanding NRC updation before Census 2027. A 48-hour shutdown on August 18 and 19 disrupted normal life, while



sations (CSOs) and BJP MLAs who campaigned in New Delhi for NRC implementation. The Chief Minister urged civil society groups to avoid bandhs and general strikes, saying they cause hardship to the public. He called for continued dialogue and cooperation with the administration. The Campaign for Just and Fair Delimitation (JFD) launched protests

educational institutions remained closed for three days from August 20. Several district administrations had earlier deferred or cancelled training for Census enumerators and supervisors amid the protests. Singh had also assured a student delegation that the NRC issue would be discussed during the Assembly session beginning September 2.



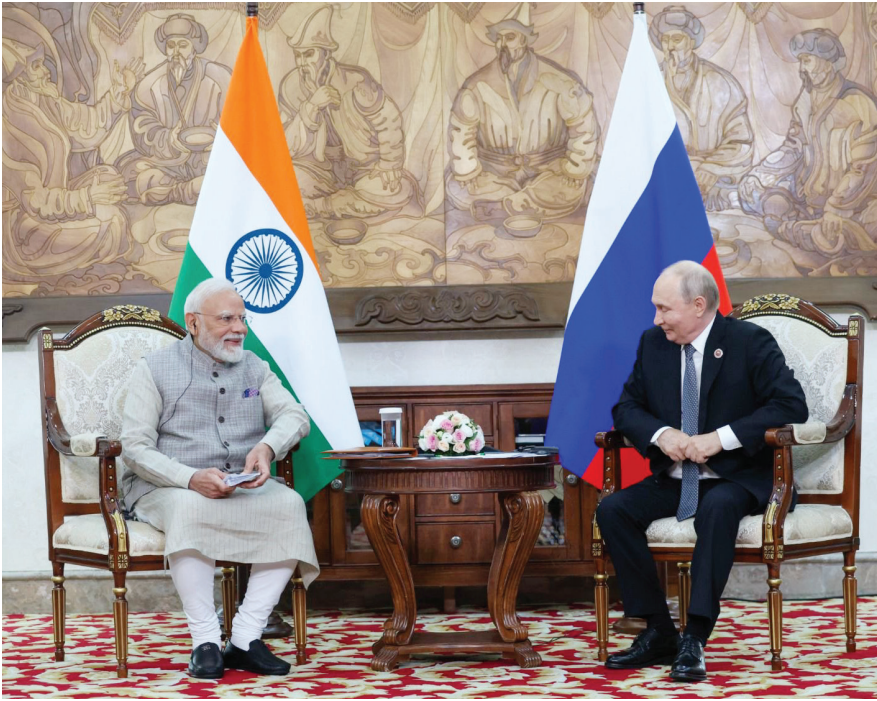
Must move from Endless War to End of War: PM Modi tells Putin

IAN S
Bishkek Aug 31

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday reiterated India’s support for all efforts to establish peace in Ukraine, saying humanity must move from an “endless war” towards an end to the conflict.

During his bilateral meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Bishkek, Modi said the two leaders had discussed the Ukraine situation in the past and that Putin had briefed him on various aspects of the conflict.

“Every day spent in war pushes humanity backwards, while every



step taken towards peace fills humanity with a new hope and enthusiasm. We must move from an endless war towards an end to

the war. This is essential for the well-being of humanity,” Modi said.

Calling it a “call of humanity”, the

Prime Minister said India’s message has consistently been that all issues should be resolved peacefully and at the earliest.

est. Referring to the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and Gautama Buddha, he said the message from India is to follow the path of peace.

Modi also said Indians were eagerly looking forward to welcoming Putin and the Russian delegation to the BRICS Summit in Delhi next month. He said Putin’s visit would further strengthen bilateral ties and deepen dialogue and cooperation within BRICS.

The meeting came days after External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Putin in Moscow on August 24 and handed over a personal message from Modi. Jaishankar also briefed Putin on discussions at the

27th India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission meeting and bilateral cooperation.

Putin said India-Russia relations continued to grow across government, parliamentary and economic spheres. He noted that bilateral trade had increased this year and credited Modi’s personal attention to strengthening ties.

He also highlighted cooperation in energy, fertilisers, nuclear power and high-technology sectors. Jaishankar said economic cooperation, nuclear energy and fertiliser supplies were among the areas showing significant progress.

India is a Dynamic, Resilient Economy: White House

IAN S
Asheville, Aug 31

The White House called India a “dynamic, strong and resilient economy” after official data showed GDP growth of 7.8 per cent.

White House Senior Deputy Press Secretary Kush Desai said the figures reinforced Washington’s view of India as a rapidly expanding economic power and a major opportunity for US businesses and investors.

Speaking on the sidelines of the G20 Finance Ministers’ meeting in Asheville, North Carolina, Desai said the US wanted to encourage American investment in India while seeking greater Indian investment in the United States.

He highlighted President Donald Trump’s commitment to ties with India and his friendship with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying further discussions were expected soon.

The India-US economic relationship is likely to feature in G20 talks involving Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent. Desai said boosting growth, wages and living standards would be priorities.

On the proposed trade agreement, he said negotiations had entered detailed technical discussions, including tariff classifications. He said Washington remained optimistic about building a strong economic and political partnership with India.

Iran Condemns US Strike on Larak Island, Asserts Right to Self-defence

IAN S
Tehran, Aug 31

Iran on Monday strongly condemned a US military strike on the southern Larak Island, calling it an “act of aggression” and asserting its inherent right to self-defence.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said the attack violated the country’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, killing and wounding military personnel and civilians and damaging public and private property.

Iran said its armed forces responded with “defensive” strikes against US bases in Jordan, which it alleged were used to launch and support the attack.

Tehran also blamed the US and Israel for insecurity in regional shipping routes and the Strait of Hormuz.



US Central Command spokesperson Tim Hawkins said US forces struck two launchers on Larak Island after Iranian forces were observed preparing to launch rockets with sea mines into the Strait of Hormuz. It was the first known US strike against Iran since late July.

Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said the attack had caused casualties and vowed retaliation. It later claimed its aerospace forces launched

drone and ballistic missile strikes on the King Hussein and Al-Azraq air bases in Jordan.

Iran’s army also said it attacked Al Minhad Air Base in the UAE with drones, targeting areas where US helicopters and personnel were stationed.

The UAE condemned the attack, calling it a direct threat to the safety of its citizens and residents and to the country’s security, stability and territorial integrity.

Belgium Prime Minister to Arrive in India on first Official visit this Week

IAN S
New Delhi, Aug 31

Belgium Prime Minister Bart De Wever will travel to India on an official visit from September 2-4, during which he will also hold bilateral talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

During their meeting on September 3, Bart De Wever and PM Modi will discuss the entire spectrum of bilateral relations, as well as regional and global issues of mutual interest. PM De Wever will also deliver a keynote address at a Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) business event, in the context of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Monday.

This will be PM De Wever’s first visit to India after assuming office in February last year. Belgian Defence Minister Theo Francken will also be in the visiting delegation.

After concluding his engagements in New Delhi, Bart De Wever will travel to Mumbai, where he will engage with various stakeholders, including

from the diamond, ports and logistics sectors.

“The visit will provide an opportunity to

counterpart Maxime Prevot met in Brussels and reviewed bilateral cooperation, including in



further strengthen the India-Belgium partnership and advance cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including trade and investment, defence and security, technology, renewable energy, connectivity and people-to-people ties, as well as to further deepen India-EU and India-Europe engagement,” the MEA mentioned.

Last month, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar and Belgium

day. Our partnership has witnessed significant deepening in recent years. Today’s discussions reflected the ambition of India’s ties with Belgium, and the European Union,” EAM Jaishankar posted on X after the meeting.

“Reviewed our cooperation including in political, economic, investments, clean energy, defence, mobility and pharmaceutical domains. Also focused on opportunities in ports, maritime, semiconductors as well as broader cooperation for supply chain de-risking. Had a useful exchange of perspectives on global developments, including in West Asia,” he added.

Belgium was one of the first European nations to establish diplomatic ties with independent India in September 1947. The strong bilateral relationship between India and Belgium is rooted in shared values, including a commitment to the rule of law, federalism, and pluralism, according to Indian Embassy in Brussels. Belgium also supports India’s bid for permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

UAE Air Force Responds to Drone Approaching from Iran

IAN S
Abu Dhabi, Aug 31



The UAE Air Force responded to a drone detected over its territorial waters and approaching from Iran, the Ministry of Defence said Monday. It added that the UAE Armed Forces remained on high alert, while air defence systems continued round-the-clock monitoring of the country’s airspace.

Earlier, Iran’s Army said it had launched dozens of attack drones at Al Minhad Air Base in the UAE, targeting US helicopters and personnel stationed there. The claim followed Iran’s announcement of retaliatory strikes against US military positions in the region after recent US attacks on Iran.

No One Found Inside Nepal’s Rasuwagadhi Hydropower Tunnel

IAN S
Tehran, Aug 31

A Nepali Army-led rescue team found no one inside the tunnel of the flood-hit 111-MW Rasuwagadhi Hydropower Project in Rasuwa, while the fate of 93 workers remains unclear, the Prime Minister’s Secretariat said Monday. The team, accompanied by engineers and a drone unit, searched the tunnel up to its endpoint after flooding in the Bhote Koshi River raised fears that workers could be trapped inside. However, no signs of human presence were found, and the team returned to Dhunche.

Nepal has launched search and rescue operations



at 11 flood-affected hydropower projects in Rasuwa and Nuwakot along the Bhote Koshi and Trishuli river corridors. The Independent Power Producers’ Association, Nepal, said 897 workers at the projects remain out of contact. The NDRRMA said seven

Indians and 15 Chinese nationals trapped at hydropower projects were rescued on Sunday. Indian and Chinese tunnel experts are assisting the Nepali Army. The Indian Embassy said its tunnel rescue team also searched sites in Chilime and Langtang and would continue operations.

South Korea Imposes Travel Ban on Parts of Pakistan

IAN S
Seoul, Aug 31

South Korea on Monday imposed its highest-level travel ban on Pakistan’s southwestern Balochistan province amid a surge in violence linked to coordinated separatist attacks. The Level 4 warning, the highest of the country’s four-tier system, will take effect at 11 p.m., the Foreign Ministry said. It urged South Koreans planning to visit the region to cancel their trips and those already there to evacuate. Travelling to or staying in restricted areas without

special permission can invite punishment.

The move comes amid renewed separatist activity in Balochistan. Balochistan Liberation Front chief Allah Nazar Baloch said the group’s sole objective was an independent Balochistan and ruled out concessions. He said talks with Pakistan would be possible only in the presence of international powers, while accusing the Pakistani military of using air strikes against civilians and alleging that restrictions on independent media prevented such incidents from being reported.

Bangladesh Measles Outbreak Claims six more Lives, Death Toll Mears 1000

IAN S
Dhaka, Aug 31

Bangladesh’s measles outbreak has claimed six more lives, taking the confirmed and suspected death toll to 973 this year, local media reported. The Directorate General of Health Services said 99 deaths had been confirmed, while suspected fatalities rose to 874. In the past 24 hours, authorities recorded 1,162 suspected and 94 confirmed cases, pushing the overall totals to 157,991 and 19,312, respectively.



The GCDG described the 2026 outbreak as one of Bangladesh’s worst recent health crises, blaming vaccine shortages, missed routine immunisations and procurement delays during 2024-25. It said measles vaccination coverage fell to 56.2

per cent in 2025. The WHO attributed the surge to measles-rubella vaccine stock-outs and inadequate routine immunisation coverage, warning that gaps in vaccination have left many children vulnerable.

An Educated Mother Is the Best Architect of a Conscious and Morally Upright Generation: Mufti Dr. Hafiz

Munsif Bureau: Throughout human history, knowledge has served as a lamp that has defeated the darkness of ignorance and illuminated the paths of awareness, civilisation, character and progress. Islam is a universal religion that has not only taught humanity the importance of worship but has also enriched people with knowledge, thought, reflection, research and understanding. Islam makes no distinction between men and women when it comes to acquiring knowledge; rather, the religion of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ regards education as a fundamental need of human life and a means of welfare and salvation.

Speaking on the topic “Women’s Education and Islam,” Maulana Mufti Dr. Hafiz Mohammed Saber Pasha Qadri, Khateeb and Imam of the Telangana State Haj House Mosque in Nampally, Hyderabad, said the importance Islam attaches to education can be understood from the very beginning of revelation, when Allah commanded Prophet Muhammad ﷺ with the word “Iqra” (Read). The opening verses of Surah Al-Alaq bring together the themes of reading, creation, the pen and knowledge, making it clear that the Islamic concept of knowledge is broad, comprehensive and aimed at building humanity.

He said the Holy Quran repeatedly encourages people to reflect on the creation of the universe, the earth and heavens, human existence and the signs of divine power. Therefore, the Islamic concept of knowledge is not restricted to traditional religious information; rather, every beneficial field of knowledge that leads a person towards knowing their Creator, improving themselves and serving humanity falls within its scope.

Maulana Saber Pasha Qadri said the responsibilities of the Prophet ﷺ included reciting the divine verses, purification of the soul, teaching the Book and wisdom, and imparting knowledge of matters previously unknown to people. Verses from Surah Al-Baqarah and Surah Al-Jumu’ah clearly explain these responsibilities. Since education and training were fundamental components of the prophetic mission, he said, there can be no justification for depriving women of this great blessing.

He stated that Islam makes no distinction between men and women regarding the obligation to acquire knowledge. The Prophet ﷺ is reported to have said that seeking knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim. The Hadith also gives glad tidings that the path to Paradise is made easier for those who pursue knowledge. Since such religious commands are general, women are also included, just as they are included in the commands regarding prayer, fasting, Zakat and Hajj.

He further said that the Prophet ﷺ himself made special arrangements for the education and training of women. According to a narration by Hazrat Abu Saeed Al-Khudri (RA), women requested the Prophet ﷺ to set aside a specific day for them because men were able to benefit from his teachings more frequently. The Prophet ﷺ designated a day for them, during which he advised them and taught them the commandments of Allah. This incident is clear evidence that women’s religious education was given formal importance during the Prophetic era.

Maulana said Hazrat Aisha Siddiqua (RA), the Mother of the Believers, is a shining example of women’s education in Islamic history. She held a distinguished position in Hadith, Islamic jurisprudence, Quranic interpretation and other religious sciences, and numerous people, including Companions of the Prophet, benefited from her knowledge. Her scholarly legacy is undeniable evidence that Islam gave women the right to play an active and respected role in the world of knowledge.

He said it is incorrect to portray

Purdah as a barrier to women’s education. Islam teaches modesty, chastity and purity, but it does not command women to be cut off from all educational, social and constructive activities. The Holy Quran instructs women to guard their gaze, avoid displaying their adornment and observe Islamic boundaries, but these teachings do not prohibit women from acquiring knowledge.

He further noted that during the Prophetic era, women not only received education but also participated in social and welfare activities when necessary. During the Battle of Uhud, Hazrat Aisha (RA) and Hazrat Umm Salim (RA) were involved in caring for wounded and thirsty Muslims, while Hazrat Umm Atiyya (RA) participated in several battles, treating the wounded and caring for the sick. This demonstrates that Islamic society does not prevent women from contributing to society while maintaining dignity, modesty and Islamic boundaries.

Maulana Mufti Dr. Hafiz Mohammed Saber Pasha Qadri said Islamic history is illuminated by the achievements of remarkable women who made significant contributions in various fields, including Hadith, Tafsiir, Islamic jurisprudence, linguistics, grammar, medicine, poetry and writing. This historical reality refutes the notion that keeping the doors of education closed to women is a requirement of Islamic teachings.

He clarified that arranging female teachers for girls’ education is more appropriate and preferable. However, where such an arrangement is unavailable, it would not be correct to declare education by male teachers absolutely prohibited solely on that basis, provided Islamic boundaries, Purdah, modesty and other Islamic etiquettes are fully observed. The fundamental objective is to acquire knowledge while maintaining Shariah boundaries.

He said attempts by certain groups to restrict women’s education in the name of Purdah are not only academically weak but also inconsistent with Islamic history and the clear examples from the life of the Prophet ﷺ. Purdah is a protective shield for a woman’s dignity and chastity, not a wall that deprives her of knowledge. Islam has given both modesty and knowledge, chastity and awareness.

Maulana said the need for women’s education is greater today than ever before. An educated, aware and morally upright woman not only improves herself but also helps shape an entire generation. A mother is a child’s first school; when a mother is equipped with knowledge, awareness, good character and religious understanding, her influence extends to the entire family and society.

He appealed to scholars, parents and responsible members of society to create a favourable environment for the religious, moral, modern and scientific education of Muslim girls. Instead of depriving them of knowledge, they should be provided opportunities for higher education while maintaining Islamic values and etiquette. Considering women’s education contrary to Islam, he said, is a serious misconception; Islam seeks to place the lamp of knowledge in the hands of every human being.

In conclusion, Maulana Mufti Dr. Hafiz Mohammed Saber Pasha Qadri said there is a need to remove misconceptions about women’s education through the light of the Quran and Sunnah, the life of the Prophet ﷺ and Islamic history. The true spirit of Islam is reflected in knowledge, wisdom, modesty, character and service to humanity. Therefore, encouraging women’s education is, in fact, an adherence to the true spirit of Islamic teachings.

Q1 GDP booster: India stays on track as world’s fastest growing major economy

India remains the world’s fastest growing major economy with a 7.8 per cent growth in the April-June quarter of FY27, which places it ahead of every other large economy in the comparison.

Malaysia and Singapore grew 6.0 per cent and 5.9 per cent, respectively, Indonesia 5.29 per cent and China 4.3 per cent while the United States posted 2.1 per cent growth. In most large European economies, the growth rate was about 1 per cent or less.

India’s economy continues to grow strongly with demand rising across the income spectrum, and July’s vehicle market provides the clearest window into that change. Domestic passenger-vehicle sales reached 4.58 lakh units, up 34.3 per cent from a year earlier and the strongest July on record, according to official figures.

This matters beyond the automobile showroom. A car purchase supports steel, tyres, glass, electronics, finance, insurance, dealerships, repairs



and fuel retail. When sales rise at this pace, the benefit travels through a long domestic supply chain and supports activity in both large factories and small businesses, a senior official said.

Retail tractor sales jumped 28.1 per cent to 1.17 lakh units, their best-ever July. A tractor is a productive asset. Farmers usually make that purchase when they expect better crop prospects, stronger cash flow and sufficient confidence to invest, the official pointed out.

The sales in the 2-wheeler retail segment rose 28.3 per cent to 18.18 lakh units, while 3-wheeler sales increased by 16.2 per cent to 1.34 lakh. These records point to stronger rural purchasing power, easier mo-

bility and more earning opportunities for traders, delivery workers and small transport operators in the economy.

The breadth of the vehicle surge is especially important. Total retail registrations climbed 25.9 per cent to 25.91 lakh, and every major vehicle category recorded its strongest July this year.

Tax, payment, power and fuel data confirm that this is not only a dealership story. GST revenue grew 15.4 per cent in July, digital-payment volumes 16.6 per cent and transaction value 18.2 per cent. Electricity demand increased 10.7 per cent. Petrol consumption rose 9.2 per cent and diesel use 10 per cent.

Each series measures a different part of dai-

ly economic life, yet all point in the same direction: people and businesses are buying, paying, travelling, producing and shipping more than a year ago, the official observed.

This demand is supported by Bank financing that cycle at a faster pace. Overall bank credit grew at the highest pace in over a decade in Q1 FY26. The banking story also crossed a 14-year milestone: public-sector banks moved ahead of private-sector banks in credit growth for the first time in 14 years.

Crucially, lending is being supported by healthier balance sheets. Public-sector banks recorded their highest-ever annual net profit of Rs 1.98 lakh crore in FY2025-26 and their gross bad-loan ratio fell to a historic low of 1.9 per cent.

Indian industry is responding to the rise in orders. Headline industrial production grew 6.7 per cent in July and manufacturing output 7.3 per cent as 19 of the 23 manufacturing groups expanded.

Energy and logistics are keeping pace with

that higher level of activity. Coal India’s offtake reached 64.19 million tonnes in July, up 18.4 per cent and the highest ever for the month. Railway freight originating rose 8.9 per cent port cargo 8.8 per cent and electricity generation 7.3 per cent in July 2026

The export market is validating the same production story. Merchandise exports rose 19.6 per cent to \$44.24 billion in July, the highest-ever export value for the month.

Engineering-goods exports increased 17.7 per cent, electronics 57.4 per cent and chemicals 14.4 per cent. This means Indian producers are not only satisfying stronger domestic demand but also winning orders in world markets, including in higher-value manufactured products.

Foreign investors are adding another source of long-term capital as gross inward FDI reached about \$30.7 billion in April-June 2026, up 14.8 per cent and the strongest quarterly inflow in at least 15 years.

Fake porn apps on Facebook, Instagram used to target android users: Govt

The National Cybercrime Threat Analytics Unit (NCTAU), operating under the Union home ministry’s Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), has warned users about a rise in financial fraud involving malicious Android applications disguised as pornography apps and promoted through advertisements on Facebook and Instagram.

In an advisory issued by the I4C, the agency identified several apps, including “Night Play”, “Reloop”, “Kyss”, “Vimo”, “Rivo”, “Nexo” and “Vixa”, along with similar variants, as part of the threat.

According to the advisory, the malicious applications are primarily promoted through pornography-related advertisements or links on Facebook and Instagram.

Users clicking on these advertisements are redirected to websites hosting pornographic content, where they are prompted to download an Android Package Kit (APK) from outside the Google Play Store.

The websites involved are largely associated with “live” domains, the advisory said. After the initial application is installed, users may be prompted to download a secondary package disguised as an app update. This process can exploit permissions obtained or abused by the first application.

The malware subsequently seeks Accessibility and other sensitive permissions from the user. Once these permissions are granted, the malicious application can obtain extensive control over the device and continue operating in the background.

The NCTAU also warned that some variants may install a virtual private network (VPN), allowing attackers to route a user’s internet traffic through

servers under their control. This could expose transmitted data to misuse and facilitate further malicious activity.

The advisory noted that some of these applications may also prevent users from uninstalling them through normal device settings.

The suspected modus operandi begins with a social media advertisement, followed by redirection to a malicious website and APK installation.

This can lead to VPN installation in some cases, requests for Accessibility permissions, device takeover and eventually unauthorised financial transactions.

To protect themselves, users have been advised to download applications only from the Google Play Store or other trusted app stores.

The NCTAU has specifically cautioned against downloading APK files through advertisements, websites or suspicious links and urged users not to grant Accessibility permissions to unfamiliar applications.

The agency has also recommended that users regularly review applications installed on their Android devices and remove those they do not recognise.

Keeping Google Play Protect enabled, installing the latest Android security updates and regularly checking bank accounts and UPI transactions are among the other precautions advised by the agency.

For users who are unable to uninstall a suspicious application normally, the NCTAU has recommended restarting the device in Safe Mode and then navigating to the Apps section in Settings to remove the application. Users can also disable the app’s Accessibility access and revoke administrator privileges through the device’s security settings before attempting to uninstall it.

Lionel Messi Announces Retirement from International Football

Miami, Aug 31

Lionel Messi has announced his retirement from international football, bringing an end to one of the most remarkable careers in the history of the Argentina national team.

The 39-year-old made the announcement on Monday through an emotional statement posted on his official Instagram account. Messi said the decision had been on his mind since Argentina's defeat to Spain in the 2026 FIFA World Cup final and that the recent death of his father, Jorge Messi, further convinced him that it was time to step away from international football.

Messi made his senior Argentina debut in 2005 and went on to represent his country for more than two decades. During his international career, he made a record 207 appearances and became the central figure in one of the most successful periods in Argentina's modern football history.

After years of near misses and painful defeats, Messi finally led Argentina to World Cup

Lionel Messi has ended his 20-year international career with Argentina after winning the 2022 World Cup and two Copa América titles. The 39-year-old, who made a record 207 appearances for his country, said the time had come to step aside and give the next generation an opportunity.

glory in 2022. He also helped the national team win two Copa América titles, completing a remarkable transformation from a player who had endured repeated final defeats into the leader of a trophy-winning generation.

His international journey also included World Cup final defeats in 2014 and 2026. Argentina reached the 2026 final against Spain this summer but suffered another defeat, with the result becoming an important factor in Messi's decision to end his international career.

In his farewell message, Messi

said the decision was painful but that he understood the time had come. He stressed that he had always given everything for the

Argentina jersey and had fought to bring happiness and pride to the country's supporters. Messi revealed that he had written his retirement message shortly after the World Cup final but did not immediately publish it. Following the death of his father, Jorge Messi, the Argentine star said he became even more certain about closing the chapter with the national team.

The legendary forward also pointed to the emergence of a new generation of Argentine players. He said there was little time left in his international career and that young players deserved the opportunity to take the team forward.

Messi expressed deep gratitude to Argentina's supporters for standing by him throughout his two decades with the national team. He said he would now support Argentina

from outside the stadium, just like other fans, and would continue cheering for the team in both good and difficult moments.

The former Argentina captain also thanked his family, coaches, teammates and officials who accompanied him throughout his career. He said he was leaving with peace of mind and pride over the unforgettable moments he had experienced with his teammates while representing the country.

Messi concluded his emotional farewell with a tribute to Argentina, thanking God for making him Argentine and declaring his continued support for the national team. Although his international career has ended, Messi will continue playing club football with Inter Miami, where he remains under contract until 2028. His departure from Argentina closes an extraordinary chapter that began in 2005 and culminated in the World Cup triumph that had long been the defining ambition of his international career.



Smriti Mandhana Climbs to Second in Women's International Cricket Run-Scorers' List

New Delhi, Aug 31

Indian opener Smriti Mandhana continued her record-breaking run, moving to second place among the highest run-scorers in women's international cricket.

Mandhana achieved the feat during the Women's Asia Cup match against Thailand in Dubai, scoring 19 runs to take her international tally to 10,756 and surpass former New Zealand star Suzie Bates.

Former India captain Mithali Raj remains at the top with 10,868 runs, leaving Mandhana just 112 runs short of the record. Mandhana has scored 788 runs in nine Tests, 5,411 in 120 ODIs and 4,557 in 172 T20Is. The milestone comes soon after Mandhana completed 300 international appearances. She marked the occasion with a half-century in the historic women's Test at Lord's, becoming the first woman to score a fifty in a

women's Test at the iconic venue. Mandhana has also enjoyed a remarkable run in ODIs. She scored 1,062 runs in 18 innings last year, surpassing Australia great Belinda Clark's record of 970 runs in a calendar year set in 1997.

Mandhana continues to lead the list for most ODI runs by a woman in a calendar year, further strengthening her position among the leading batters in international women's cricket.

BCCI Seeks IPL Franchises' Views on Impact Player

New Delhi, Aug 31

The controversial Impact Player rule is once again under discussion in the Indian Premier League, with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) seeking feedback from all 10 franchises on whether the rule should continue.

Introduced in 2023, the rule has divided opinion among players and cricket experts. Several prominent players, including Rohit Sharma, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel and Shubman Gill, have expressed concerns about its impact, particularly on all-rounders.

The BCCI has now asked franchises to share their views on the rule and other issues, including the Players and Match

Officials Area (PMOA), umpiring, practice sessions and playing conditions. The franchises were asked to submit their feedback by Monday, August 31. The BCCI will review the responses before deciding on any changes for the next IPL season.

The Impact Player rule allows teams to replace a player during a match, giving them greater flexibility in their playing XI. However, critics argue that it reduces the importance of all-rounders and can affect the traditional balance of the game. The board is also expected to take stricter measures regarding unauthorised access to the Players and Match Officials Area, an issue that attracted criticism during the 19th IPL season.

Venus Williams Suffers 15th Straight Singles Defeat at US Open

New Delhi, Aug 31

Tennis legend Venus Williams suffered another first-round exit at the US Open after losing to fellow American Sofia Kenin in straight sets on Monday.

The 46-year-old, who entered the tournament on a wild card, lost the opening set 2-6. She fought harder in the second set but Kenin edged it by a single point to secure victory and advance to the second round.

The defeat was Venus' 15th consecutive loss in singles. She was making a record 26th appearance at the US Open, but could not produce a winning performance on her return to the Grand Slam.

Karur Vysya Bank Opens 16 New Branches Across Five Regions in a Day

KVB expands branch network to 919, strengthens presence across South India and Delhi NCR



Karur Vysya Bank MD & CEO Ramesh Babu inaugurates the bank's new Gachibowli branch in Hyderabad as part of the launch of 16 new branches across five regions.

New Delhi, Aug 31

Karur Vysya Bank (KVB), one of India's leading private sector banks, has expanded its presence across key markets by inaugurating 16 new branches in a single day, strengthening its footprint across southern India and Delhi NCR.

With the latest expansion, the bank's branch network has increased to 919 branches across the country. The new branches include six in Tamil Nadu, five in Andhra Pradesh, three in Telangana, and one each in Karnataka and Delhi NCR.

KVB Managing Director and CEO Ramesh Babu led the expansion by inaugurating the new Gachibowli branch in Hyderabad. The remain-

ing branches across different locations were opened virtually through video conferencing.

The expansion is part of KVB's strategy to strengthen its presence across metropolitan, urban, semi-urban and rural markets. The new branches will cater to retail customers as well as micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and agricultural businesses, while complementing the bank's growing digital banking network.

Ramesh Babu said the bank would continue expanding its branch network in markets offering strong business potential and opportunities to build deeper customer relationships. He added that while digital banking has made everyday transactions

easier, branches remain important, particularly for MSME, retail and agricultural customers.

The newly opened branches are located at Indhresham, Gachibowli and Kokapet in Telangana. In Tamil Nadu, the branches are at Chennai-Thirumangalam, Erode-Chithode, Sivagangai, Salem-Ammamet, Salem-Jagirrammapalayam and Rajahmundry-Konthamuru. The bank has also opened a branch in Udupi, Karnataka, and another at Gurugram-Udyog Vihar in Delhi NCR.

IMEI Tampering Can Lead to 3-Year Jail Term, Rs 50 Lakh Fine: DoT



New Delhi, Aug 31

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has warned citizens against tampering with the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers of mobile phones or using devices with unauthorised or modified telecommunication identifiers.

The department said such violations can attract imprisonment of up to three years, a fine of up to Rs 50 lakh, or both under the Telecommunications Act, 2023.

The DoT said tampering with telecom identifiers is prohibited under Section 42(3)(c) of the Act. Obtaining SIM cards or telecom identifiers through fraud, cheating or impersonation is also prohibited under Section 42(3)(e).

The offences are cognizable and non-bailable, while those who assist or promote such violations can also face the same punishment, the department said.

Citizens have been advised not to use or procure modems, modules, SIM boxes or other equipment with configurable or tampered IMEI numbers. The DoT also cautioned people against obtaining SIM cards using fake documents or handing over SIMs registered in their names to others.

The department warned that subscribers could face legal liability if SIM cards obtained in their names are subsequently used for cyber fraud or other illegal activities.

The DoT also advised citizens against using apps or websites to modify Calling Line Identity (CLI) or other telecom identifiers.

The government has encouraged users to make use of the Sanchar Saathi initiative to verify their mobile devices and connections. The platform allows users to check handset IMEI details, including the brand, model and manufacturer.

Virat Kohli Gets a New Tattoo, But Five Sessions Still Not Enough

New Delhi, Aug 31

Former India captain Virat Kohli has once again attracted attention, this time with a new tattoo on his left arm. The star batter, who already has an impressive collection of tattoos, has reportedly undergone five sessions for the latest design, but the artwork is still a work in progress.



The new tattoo features a distinctive water-ripple pattern, depicting the circular waves created when a drop of water falls on a surface. The intricate design has attracted considerable attention from fans, who are curious about its meaning and whether it carries any personal significance for Kohli.

Kohli has not publicly revealed the significance of the new tattoo. The design is reportedly being added to his existing arm tattoo collection and has been created by artists at Aliens Tattoo Studio.

The 37-year-old is well known for his interest in tattoos, with several of his

existing designs carrying personal or symbolic meanings. His latest addition has therefore sparked speculation among fans about the story behind the water-ripple artwork. The new tattoo comes as Kohli prepares for India's upcoming tour of the West Indies. The veteran batter recently impressed with a half-century in the ODI at Lord's against

England and is currently focused on the 50-over format.

Kohli remains one of India's most accomplished batters, with 54 centuries and 79 half-centuries to his name across international cricket. His latest tattoo has added another talking point around the star, even as he continues to focus on his cricketing career.

Pakistan Drop Seven Players, Reshuffle Coaching Staff After Lord's Defeat

New Delhi, Aug 31

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has overhauled the Test squad and coaching staff following the team's 194-run defeat to England at Lord's,

leaving Pakistan 0-2 down in the three-match series. The PCB released seven players, including Salman Ali Agha, Mohammad Rizwan and Imam-ul-Haq, and named seven replacements, including

Saim Ayub, Abdullah Fazal and Arafat Minhah ahead of the third Test at Edgbaston from September 9.

Pakistan have now lost five of their last six Test matches.



Maharashtra woman runs marathon barefoot to fund daughters’ education, wins it

A 47-year-old woman from Maharashtra’s Beed district ran barefoot in a marathon and secured first place, with the prize money set to help fund her daughters’ education.

Ramabai Ranveer, a resident of Ambajogai, works as a cook at an academy in the town. She was left with the responsibility of raising her two daughters after her husband died in an accident in Mumbai. Despite financial difficulties, she was determined to ensure that both daughters received a good education.

To support them, Ramabai enrolled her elder daughter at an academy in Ambajogai and took up work there as a cook. Her daily routine involves preparing meals while her daughters continue their studies and prepare for competitive exams.

In the meantime, a local organisation held the Amrit Daud marathon, with a first prize of Rs 3,000. Ramabai decided to participate.

Dressed in a simple saree and standing among younger runners in track-

suits, Ramabai initially wore slippers for the race. However, they began slipping shortly after the race started. She took them off, held them in her hand and continued running barefoot.

She ran over the cold road and stones, while also managing her saree as she pushed ahead of the other participants. Ramabai eventually crossed the finish line first, leaving spectators cheering and applauding her determination.

Speaking about her victory, Ramabai said there were many women participating in the race, but she was determined to win the prize. She said she could see her daughters’ future while running and planned to use the Rs 3,000 prize money to buy books for them.

Her daughter Pooja also participated in the race and finished second. Pooja said she had encouraged her mother to take part but did not expect her to finish first.

Pooja said her mother had raised the sisters despite difficult circumstances and never gave

Ramabai Ranveer from Maharashtra’s Beed district won the Amrit Daud marathon after running barefoot in a saree. She said the Rs 3,000 prize money would go towards buying books for her daughters.

up. She is currently preparing for police recruitment and dreams of becoming a police officer. Her sister is preparing for banking examinations.

The family had earlier depended on agricultural work, while Ramabai took up cooking at the academy to support her daughters. Seeing Pooja’s dedication, the academy director also waived her fees.

For Ramabai Ranveer, the marathon victory was more than a race. After spending her days working in the kitchen to support her daughters’ education, she ran barefoot to win money that could help pay for their books.

4-year-old Arunachal girl who said ‘call us Indians’ gets calls from across India, parents respond

A four-year-old girl from Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, who went viral after responding to a social media comment calling her “Chinese”, has continued to receive attention from across the country. Tinkle Karga Gongo’s simple but firm message, “Don’t call us Chinese. Call us Indians. It makes me angry,” struck a chord with many people online.

Now, her parents have spoken about the response following the viral video. Her father said the family only learnt about the video several days after it was made, when it began circulating on social media. Since then, calls have been pouring in from different places, with people requesting interviews with Tinkle and reaching out to appreciate her for speaking up.

Tinkle first gained attention after responding to a comment that referred to her as Chinese despite her being Indian. In the video, the four-year-old repeatedly explains that she is from

India and asks people not to call her Chinese. She says, “Don’t call us Chinese. Call us Indians. It makes me angry.”

Her response quickly resonated with people because of how directly she expressed her feelings. Rather than ignoring the comment, the young girl chose to explain why being labelled Chinese made her upset. The video went viral on social media, bringing widespread attention to the child and her message.

Speaking about the response, Tinkle’s father said the family discovered the video only a few days after it was made. He said, “We learned about the video from social media after a few days it was made... calls are pouring in from everywhere.”

According to him, people have been calling the family to request interviews with Tinkle. He also stressed that such remarks should not be made about anyone, whether the person is a child or an adult. “It is a good thing that my daughter raised

her voice,” he said.

Her father also expressed hope that people across mainstream India would understand the issue and the pain his daughter experienced after being called Chinese. ‘We want to remain right here in India’

Tinkle’s father also spoke about his family’s connection to Arunachal Pradesh and India while discussing the broader issue. “If an incursion is taking place, it is deeply saddening, because we certainly don’t want to go to China; we want to remain right here in India,” he said.

His comments came as he spoke about the significance of his daughter’s response and why he believes people need to understand how such remarks can affect those on the receiving end. For the family, the incident has gone beyond a viral social media moment. They see Tinkle speaking up as an opportunity for people to understand the impact that assumptions about someone’s identity can have.

Krushna Abhishek celebrates Rakhi with mami Sunita Ahuja and her kids; Govinda skips celebration

Bollywood actor Govinda and his wife Sunita Ahuja have made headlines in the recent past due to their ongoing feud. Sunita has accused Govinda of infidelity multiple times, while the actor has denied all such accusations. Meanwhile, their family members have been trying to move on from the controversy, and recently, Govinda’s nephew Krushna Abhishek shared a joint post featuring photos and videos of him celebrating Raksha Bandhan with Govinda’s children, Tina Ahuja and Harshvardhan Ahuja.

The videos show Tina tying a rakhi to Krushna while she sings the “Bhaiya Mere Rakhi Ke Bandhan Ko” track. This leaves everyone laughing. Krushna also smiles and declares, “Next Bangkok tickets.” However, a voice in the background points

out that it is Krushna who actually wants to go to Bangkok.

The other videos show Arti Singh tying a rakhi to Harshvardhan. The clip shows him touching her feet and her giving him her blessings before they hug each other. Tina is also seen tying a rakhi to Harshvardhan in the clip. The photos from the celebration show the four of them posing with Sunita Ahuja.

The caption of the post read, “Hamari Wali Rakhi Celebrations! #latergram #rakhi.” While all the family members were present for the Raksha Bandhan celebration, Govinda couldn’t be seen in the photos and was likely absent from the celebration.

The recent controversy began after Govinda was spotted with his co-star Komal Rani Swarnkar. Later, while speaking



to the paparazzi, Sunita called him Komal’s ‘sugar daddy’. Govinda did not take Sunita’s jibe well and made multiple statements against her, asking her to ‘stay in her limits’. Sunita was then spotted at the family court

in Mumbai, sparking divorce rumours. However, while speaking to Rakhi Sawant, she clarified that she had gone to court to withdraw her old divorce petition because she believed Govinda and Komal were planning to

get married.

After the row, Krushna’s wife and actor Kashmera Shah came out in Sunita’s support. She told the paparazzi, “Woh meri family hai aur main apni family ko protect karungi. Main apni family ki auraton ke saath khadi hoon. Agar likhna hai, samajhna hai toh yeh samjho ki main Sunita ke saath khadi hoon. Aaj tak unhone kabhi awaaz uthayi hai? Kabhi kaha hai ki yeh galat hai woh galat hai? Aaj bol rahi hai na toh hoga kuch galat,” (That is my family and I will protect them. I stand with the women in my family. If you want to write or understand anything, understand this: I stand with Sunita. Has she ever raised her voice before? Has she ever said that something is wrong? She is speaking up today, so there must be something wrong.)”

Gwalior man’s girlfriend covers his car with 3,400 lipstick kisses



A Gwalior man turned his car into a “kissing car” for an Instagram reel, covering it with around 3,400 lipstick marks. The video crossed 5.5 million views in 24 hours before the stunt caught the attention of traffic police.

The race for viral reels and huge view counts has inspired plenty of unusual stunts, but one such attempt in Madhya Pradesh’s Gwalior ended with a young man facing traffic police action. Gwalior resident Aditya Sikarwar turned his car into a “kissing car” by covering it with thousands of lipstick marks before taking it onto the road for an Instagram reel.

The video quickly caught attention online, crossing 5.5 million views, or around 55 lakh, within 24 hours. But the same reel also brought the stunt to the notice of Gwalior traffic police, who traced the car through its registration number and took action.

How the ‘kissing car’ stunt was created

Aditya had planned the unusual reel for his Instagram account. As part of the idea, a female friend used red lipstick to leave around 3,400 kisses across the body of his white Maruti Suzuki Swift.

The marks covered almost the entire vehicle, including the bonnet and doors, leaving it covered in dark red lipstick prints. Aditya said the unusual “kissing art” took his friend around three-and-a-half hours to complete.

Once the car was covered, Aditya took it onto the road and filmed it while driving at high speed. He later uploaded the footage to Instagram under the name “kissing car”.

Viral reel puts Gwalior car on police radar

The reel spread rapidly and crossed 5.5 million views within a day. As the video gained traction, it also caught the attention of Gwalior traffic police.

The footage showed the lipstick-covered car being driven at high speed.

Its registration number, MP07 CC 9452, was visible in the video, allowing police to identify and trace the vehicle. A police team subsequently seized the car from the Thatipur area.

Aditya was then called to the traffic police station, where he was questioned about the stunt.

Aditya cleans 3,400 lipstick marks after police action

According to traffic station in-charge Abhishek Raghuvanshi, Aditya admitted his mistake at the police station. He then cleaned all 3,400 lipstick marks from the car with water while standing at the station.

Police also issued him a cash challan of Rs 5,500 for violating traffic rules and driving carelessly on the road.

The traffic police have warned that similar action will be taken against people who compromise road safety or ignore traffic rules in an attempt to create social media reels and attract views.

Hyderabad woman laid off by Amazon starts chicken farm, sells eggs as job hunt fails

A woman based in Hyderabad who was laid off by Amazon in March has started her own chicken farm and now sells eggs as she continues to pursue her interest in product management.

In a post on LinkedIn, Maria Harshitha wrote about her journey in detail saying she initially believed she would find an-

other job soon after being let go. She began applying to companies and reaching out to seniors and family members for referrals, but faced rejection after rejection.

Maria’s career largely revolved around a product, which had sparked her interest in product management. She wanted to upskill herself in the

field, but as the job search continued without success, her husband encouraged her to consider becoming her own boss.

The couple eventually began experimenting with poultry farming. “One random day, we built a chicken coop,” Maria said. They bought six chicks and took care of them while she continued applying for

jobs, only to discover that all six were roosters.

She then pushed her husband to get hens because she wanted her children to have what she considered healthier, home-produced eggs rather than store-bought ones. The family expanded the coop, got more chickens and eventually began collecting eggs.

What started as a way to

provide eggs for her children gradually turned into a business. Maria began selling the surplus eggs and eventually started her own chicken farm.

She drew a parallel between her new venture and her interest in product management, saying the eggs had become her “product” and she was now selling them while

working to meet demand with adequate supply.

“All things happen for the good of those who believe in Christ. Grateful for the redirection,” Maria said as she concluded her post. Her journey highlights how a prolonged job search can lead people to explore avenues outside their usual career paths. What began with



raising chickens for her family has since grown into a small business, with

Maria Harshitha now managing both the farm and its growing egg sales.