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AIMIM Chief Asaduddin Owaisi criticises Mohan Bhagwat's Remarks on Muslims and RSS ideology

Citybeat, Page 3



After Rs 40K annual aid pledge, Akhilesh promises to reopen 26,000 schools 'closed down' by BJP govt

Nation, Page 4



Convergence of India-Uzbekistan can be bridge between Central and South Asia: Uzbek media

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Messi's Four-Goal Brilliance Leads Inter Miami to 7-1 Rout of Montreal

Sports, Page 7

HIMALAYAN FLOOD TOLL NEARS 800

KATHMANDU/BEIJING, AUG. 30:

Nepal Reports 781 Deaths As Mass Burials Begin And The Search For Thousands Continues.

The combined death toll from floods and mudslides across Nepal and Tibet has reached 797, with 3,048 people still missing. Rescue teams, including over 10,000 Nepali troops and international specialists, are searching flooded hydropower sites and isolated areas. Nepal has begun mass burials of unidentified victims, with DNA samples collected before burial. Meanwhile, 149 Indian nationals stranded in Tibet have safely crossed into Nepal as evacuation and tracing operations continue.

AT A GLANCE

HIMALAYAN FLOODS

	797	COMBINED NEPAL-CHINA TOLL
	3,048	STILL MISSING
	149	INDIANS RESCUED
	781	NEPAL DEATHS
	16	TIBET DEATHS
	90,000+	PEOPLE AFFECTED

STILL MISSING: REGION-WISE

NEPAL	TIBET (CHINA)
2,502	546



Greater Noida: Six-Year-Old Found Dead, Accused Killed in Police Encounter

Six-year-old disappeared from Haldoni village on Friday; police says the main suspect opened fire during a weapon-recovery operation.

Munsif Bureau
Greater Noida, August 31

A six-year-old girl who went missing from Haldoni village in Greater Noida on Friday was found dead near a pond on Saturday, triggering protests by local residents. Her family has alleged that she was sexually assaulted before being murdered. Police said the post-mortem report is awaited to establish the allegation.

The family, which runs a sweet shop, reported her missing at Ecotech-3 police station on Friday night. Police registered a case, formed five teams and examined CCTV footage and other evidence. Investigators identified two suspects and are examining the possible involvement of others.

Police said the main accused was taken into cus-

A Case That Shocks the Conscience



tody on Saturday. During questioning, he allegedly disclosed that weapons connected to the crime had been hidden near the D-Park police outpost.

When taken there for recovery and reconstruction of the crime sequence, the accused allegedly retrieved a concealed pistol and fired at police, injuring Head Constable Ravi Kumar. Police said they returned

fire in self-defence, injuring the suspect. Both were taken to hospital, where the accused was declared dead; the constable remained under treatment.

The child's post-mortem is being conducted by a panel of doctors and videographed. Police have registered the case under Sections 65 and 103 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and relevant provisions of the POCSO Act.

QUICK UPDATE



Heavy Rain Alert For Several States As Bay System Intensifies

IMD forecasts very heavy rain over Jharkhand and extremely heavy falls in parts of Odisha and Chhattisgarh on August 31.

New Delhi, August 30

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned of widespread heavy rainfall across eastern and central India on August 31 under the influence of a well-marked low-pressure area over the northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining West Bengal-north Odisha coasts.

Jharkhand and Gangetic West Bengal are likely to receive isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall, while extremely heavy falls are possible over Odisha and Chhattisgarh. Bihar is also forecast to experience fairly widespread to widespread rainfall from August 31 to September 2, with isolated heavy falls.

The IMD has also forecast thunderstorms, lightning and gusty winds in parts of the affected region. Authorities and residents have been advised to remain alert to weather-related disruptions as the system moves inland.

Software Glitches Leave 32 Lakh Telangana Voters 'Unmapped' in SIR

Possible software glitches and name mismatches trigger notices despite voters submitting 2002 roll details, with Hyderabad accounting for over 5.8 lakh unmapped electors.

Hyd, Aug 31: Concerns have emerged over the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Telangana after voters who say they supplied details from the 2002 rolls were nevertheless classified as "unmapped" and issued notices.

Reports citing electors and Booth Level Officers point to possible glitches in the Election Commission of India's software and difficulties uploading older roll details. Voters said they had spent considerable time tracing family entries in the 2002 electoral rolls before completing their enumeration forms. One elector,

V. Swapna, said her family located and submitted the relevant details, yet every family member subsequently received an unmapped notice.

Officials and BLOs cited in reports said the ECI application could reject or fail to accept older-roll information when even minor differences appeared in names. The ECI's own SIR search portal also cautions that spellings in earlier rolls may vary and advises users to try alternate spellings when searching.

Delivery of notices has raised separate concerns. In some localities, voters reportedly said BLOs

were not visiting homes and were instead asking electors to collect notices from community halls.

Telangana has 32,36,659 electors in the "no mapping with SIR 2002" category, including 5,80,908 in Hyderabad. Notices specify hearing dates and times before the relevant Electoral Registration Officer or Assistant ERO, where affected electors are expected to present documents.

Under the revised timetable, claims and objections can be filed until September 16, the notice and disposal phase runs until October 15, and the final electoral roll is scheduled for October 19.

21-Year-Old Nurse Found Murdered in Hyderabad; Minister Orders Probe

Young nurse found dead in hospital quarters at Thukkguda; police detain Bihar man as family demands justice.

Hyderabad, August 30

A 21-year-old nurse, Vuke Shirisha, from Bhadradri Kothagudem district was found dead with facial injuries in staff quarters near Prime Care Hospital, Thukkguda, under Pahadishareef police limits.

Police later detained 34-year-old Sanaullah Khan of Bihar and said he allegedly attempted to

sexually assault Shirisha and strangled her when she resisted.

Her body was shifted to Osmania General Hospital for post-mortem. Telangana Tribal Welfare Minister Adhuri Laxman Kumar directed police to conduct a thorough probe. BJP workers and the victim's family protested at OGH, demanding justice.

Six Cars Gutted in Filmnagar Cellar Fire; 15 Residents Evacuated

Short Circuit Suspect As Firefighters Avert Casualties

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 29

Six cars were gutted after a fire broke out in the cellar of a residential building at HUDA Enclave, Journalist Colony, Filmnagar, on Saturday night. Fire officials said the blaze began around 9.45 pm, apparently due to an electrical short circuit.

Fire tenders from Panjagutta, Jubilee Hills

and Annapurna Studios rushed to the spot. Firefighters first evacuated 15 residents trapped inside before bringing the flames under control. No casualties were reported.

Officials said the timely evacuation prevented a major tragedy. The extent of property damage is being assessed, with all six vehicles parked in the cellar reported completely gutted.

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STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves

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



Mohammed Abdul Jaleel, Editor-in-Chief of The Munsif Daily, was felicitated by Hazrat Hafiz Qari Shah Mohammed Abdul Muqtadir Qureshi Chishti Sabri, Successor (Khalifa) of Hazrat Qutb-e-Deccan Baba Sharfuddin (Rahmatullah Alaih), on the occasion of the relaunch of The Munsif English Daily on Sunday. The felicitation took place during the Grand Mehfil-e-Naat-e-Rasool and Majlis-e-Zikr-o-Sulook at Markaz-e-Khidmat-e-Khalq, Hyderabad, near Noor Colony, Akbar Road, beside Noor Masjid.

Kulsumpura Traffic Police Conduct ‘Arrive Alive’ Road Safety Awareness Drive at Gudimalkapur Market

MUNSIF BUREAU
Hyderabad, Aug 30

As part of the ongoing ‘Arrive Alive’ Road Safety Programme, the Kulsumpura Traffic Police on Sunday conducted a road safety awareness session at the Gudimalkapur Market premises.

The programme was organised to create awareness among members of the market committee and drivers of four-wheeled vehicles about the importance of responsible driving and strict compliance with traffic rules and road safety regulations.

During the awareness session, police officials highlighted several essential safety measures, including the need to possess a valid driving licence before operating a vehicle and the strict



prohibition on allowing minors to drive.

Participants were also advised about the mandatory use of helmets while riding two-wheelers and were cautioned against driving under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances.

The Traffic Police further stressed the impor-

tance of following safe overtaking practices and avoiding overtaking vehicles from the left side. Motorists were urged to obey traffic signals, road signs and other traffic regulations to ensure their own safety as well as that of other road users.

Officials appealed to all participants to adopt responsible and attentive

driving habits and strictly follow traffic laws to prevent road accidents and contribute towards making Hyderabad’s roads safer.

The awareness programme was conducted by the Kulsumpura Traffic Police as part of its continued efforts to promote road safety and reduce accidents in the city.

RS Praveen Kumar demands Owaisi to secure justice to rape attempt victim

NSS
Telangana, Aug 30

BRS party general secretary RS Praveen Kumar on Sunday demanded that AIMIM party chief Asaduddin Owaisi take action to ensure justice for the victims of the MIM party MLC Mirza Rahmat Baig.

He urged Owaisi to take the victims to the DGP or the Police Commissioner, present the available evidence and ensure a case is registered against Mirza Rahmat Baig to secure justice for them.

It is known that Syed Sabdar Ali, a journalist from the Old City, had alleged that the MIM party MLC Mirza Rahmat Baig was caught while raping a minor girl. Ali claimed that Asaduddin Owaisi was already aware of the incident, in which some youths caught Baig in the act, assaulted him and recorded videos. In



response, the MIM party leadership took stern action against MLC Mirza Rahmat Baig. The party announced his immediate expulsion and directed him to resign from his MLC post and submit the resignation letter to the state Legislative Council Chairman. The MIM Joint Secretary SA Hussain Anwar issued a statement to this effect.

However, the party did not disclose the specific reasons behind the action taken against Rahmat Baig in its statement. Mirza Rahmat Baig had been elected as an MLC in 2023. His term of office is scheduled to continue until May 2029.

AIMIM Chief Asaduddin Owaisi criticises Mohan Bhagwat’s Remarks on Muslims and RSS ideology

MUNSIF BUREAU
Hyderabad, Aug 30

AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi criticised RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat’s recent statement that “If any Hindu thinks that there should be no Muslim in Bharat, he will not remain Hindu,” questioning the RSS’s position on minorities in a post on X.

Owaisi referred to writings and positions attributed to prominent RSS thinkers, including K. B. Hedgewar and M. S. Golwalkar.

According to a biography of Hedgewar published by the RSS, he opposed Mahatma Gandhi’s emphasis on Hindu-Muslim unity during the freedom struggle. The book, Dr Hedgewar, the Epoch-Maker: A Biography, says he did not favour the slogan of “Hindu–Muslim Unity”.

Owaisi also cited Golwalkar’s writings. In Bunch of Thoughts, a chapter titled “Internal Threats” identifies Muslims and Christians as major threats and expresses views that critics interpret as advocating suspicion toward Muslim citizens. The work also contains critical remarks about Christians and their



influence on India’s religious and social fabric.

He further referred to Golwalkar’s 1940 statement describing the RSS as being inspired by “one flag [saffron], one leader and one ideology”, arguing that it reflected an opposition to democratic pluralism.

Owaisi’s post also invoked the 2002 Gujarat violence and the treatment of Muslims during the riots, referring to contemporary reports of attacks, destruction of property and alleged police inaction.

He questioned the RSS’s ideological influence on issues including the Uniform Civil Code, anti-conversion laws and the use of legislation such as the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Owaisi concluded by challenging Bhagwat to publicly recite selected passages from the works of V. D. Savarkar, Hedgewar and Golwalkar and allow people to assess the RSS’s ideology for themselves.

Bhatti meets Farm Labourers, Reviews Welfare Schemes in Khammam

NSS
Telangana, Aug 30

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Sunday interacted with agricultural labourers on the outskirts of Rayannapeta village in Bonakal mandal of Khammam district and enquired about the welfare schemes being implemented by the State government.

During his whirlwind tour of the constituency, Bhatti Vikramarka set aside official protocol and personally walked into the agricultural fields to meet women labourers engaged in farm work.

The women expressed delight at the Deputy Chief Minister’s interaction with them and shared their experiences of the



changes brought about in their lives by the welfare measures of the Congress government.

The agricultural labourers said the welfare schemes being implemented by the Indiramma People’s Government were providing them much-needed support and bringing positive changes to their lives.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhatti Vikramarka said the Finance de-

partment was regularly releasing the required funds to the concerned departments to ensure the effective implementation of welfare schemes being provided to the people.

He said identifying the needs of the people, addressing them and bringing meaningful change to their lives were the fundamental responsibilities of the People’s Government.

Telangana SIR Portal Allows Direct Upload of all 11 Supporting Documents

MUNSIF BUREAU
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Telangana’s online Special Intensive Revision (SIR) portal now allows electors to directly upload documents from all 11 officially recognised categories, simplifying the enrolment and verification process.

The update was introduced by the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Telangana after advocates Neha Amreen and

Qudsia Tabassum of the Hum Foundation submitted a representation pointing out technical restrictions on the website.

Earlier, electors responding to SIR notices could upload only three types of documents: birth certificates, matriculation or educational certificates, and passports. The limited dropdown menu had restricted the choices available to applicants.

Following the update, the portal’s dropdown

menu includes all 11 valid document categories under the SIR framework. Electors can now select and upload whichever recognised document they possess as proof.

The change is expected to reduce procedural difficulties and prevent delays for those responding to SIR notices. It also gives applicants greater flexibility while submitting supporting documents online, making the process more accessible and efficient.

Workers in Central and State Government Schemes are Treated like Slaves:

NSS
Telangana, Aug 30

CPI State Secretary and party MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao on Sunday criticised the treatment of workers engaged under schemes including ASHA, Anganwadi, Mid-Day Meal, NHM, CRP, VAO, Mission Bhagiratha, SERP and the Employment Guarantee Scheme, calling it a grave injustice.

He said around 2.15 lakh workers provide essential public services and function as part of the State government machinery, but were denied minimum wages and la-

bour law protections. A conference was held at the AITUC State office in Himayatnagar, coinciding with the AITUC’s 4th State Conference in Karimnagar, demanding that scheme workers be recognised as government employees.

Kunamneni said the Congress government had made several promises to scheme workers before the elections, but not a single promise had been fulfilled even after three years of its tenure. He said this had caused disappointment and frustration among workers.

He demanded immediate recognition of

scheme workers as government employees and assured them that he would raise their issues during the upcoming Assembly sessions. He also called upon workers to unite and fight for their rights.

Kunamneni alleged that the State government was treating scheme workers who serve the administration like slaves despite their low wages. He demanded that they be recognised as workers and provided benefits such as PF and ESI.

AITUC senior leader B.V. Vijayalakshmi said workers from ASHA, Anganwadi, Mid-Day

Meal and NHM schemes had waged several struggles, but the government had failed to fulfil its promise of increasing their wages. She urged the Centre and State governments to seriously consider their demands.

She said recognising grassroots workers who provide essential public services as government employees would help improve service delivery. Vijayalakshmi also called for a comprehensive discussion on their issues at the AITUC State 4th Conference and formulation of a future course of action for their struggles.

All Party Workers Should Strengthen BJP: Union Minister Kishan Reddy

MUNSIF BUREAU
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Union Minister Kishan Reddy on Sunday urged BJP workers to strengthen the party through co-ordination and collective effort. He was speaking at a meeting in Tandur to mark Ramesh’s appointment as Vikarabad district party president.

Recalling the BJP’s support in the region under Tiger Narendra, Baddam Bal Reddy and Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, Mr. Reddy expressed confidence that the party would win all three Assembly constituencies in the district in

the next elections.

He recalled hoisting the first BJP flag with Sarveshwar Reddy and Bal Reddy when the party was formed in July 1980. He said the BJP shared a strong bond with Tandur’s people and had a history of challenging the Majlis party. Unity among workers, he said, could deliver a major victory.

Mr. Reddy criticised the BRS government’s decade-long rule as “dynastic plunder” and accused the Congress government of running a “commission-based” administration. He alleged that ministers and MLAs were demanding 30%

commissions on real estate deals, contracts and construction projects.

He expressed concern over Telangana’s debt, claiming that the State, formed with a budget surplus, now owed ₹13 lakh crore and that retired employees were not receiving their full benefits. He blamed both BRS and Congress for the situation.

Questioning Congress leader Rahul Gandhi’s demand for Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s resignation, Mr. Reddy asked whether Mr. Modi should step down for achievements including corruption-free governance, action against terrorism,

the construction of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, protection of Muslim women’s rights, free rice for the poor and subsidies for farmers.

He said Mr. Modi was the first Prime Minister from a Backward Class background and alleged that his clean governance had become a “thorn in the side” of the Congress.

Mr. Reddy urged people who had experienced BRS and Congress rule to give the BJP an opportunity to provide good governance. He asked workers to approach voters confidently, raise public issues and work unitedly to expand the party across Telangana.

Bahadurpura MLA Mohd Mubeen Appointed AIMIM In-charge of Rajendranagar Assembly Constituency

MUNSIF BUREAU
Hyderabad, Aug 30



The All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) has appointed Bahadurpura MLA Mohd Mubeen as the party's in-charge of the Rajendranagar Assembly constituency.

According to an official party announcement, Mubeen has been entrusted with overseeing AIMIM's organisational activities in Rajendranagar and representing the party in the constituency. All AIMIM office-bearers and members in Rajendranagar have been asked to coordinate with him regarding party organisational activities.

Mohd Mubeen expressed his heartfelt gratitude to AIMIM president Barrister Asaduddin Owaisi and the party's Floor Leader Akbaruddin Owaisi for reposing their trust and confidence in him by appointing him to the responsibility. He said he was deeply honoured by the opportunity and would strive to fulfil the trust placed in him with utmost dedication, sincerity and commitment.

Mubeen further assured the party leadership and the people of Rajendranagar

that he would work tirelessly to strengthen AIMIM and serve the welfare of the people under the guidance and leadership of the party's senior leaders.

Meanwhile, in a separate development, AIMIM on Saturday, August 29, expelled its leader Mirza Rahmath Baig from the party with immediate effect and directed him to resign from the Telangana Legislative Council. In a brief statement, AIMIM Joint Secretary S.A. Hussain Anwar said Baig had been expelled and asked him to immediately submit his resignation to the Chairman of the Telangana Legislative Council. The party did not disclose the reason for the disciplinary action.

The development came amid allegations circulating on social media against Baig. He denied the allegations and claimed that deepfake videos had been created and circulated with the intention of damaging his reputation. Baig maintained that there was no truth in the allegations and said he had done nothing wrong.

Baig also expressed hope that AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi would ensure justice in the matter. He said he wished to continue working as a party worker and clarified that he had not gone into hiding. According to Baig, he was away for Umrah and returned to Hyderabad on Saturday.

Kishan Reddy Inspects Redevelopment Works at Vikarabad Railway Station”



NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy inspected the ongoing redevelopment works at Vikarabad Railway Station on Sunday. Chevella MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy, other public representatives, Secunderabad Divisional Railway Manager Dr. R. Gopalakrishnan and senior Railway officials accompanied him.

The Minister visited the construction sites and reviewed the progress of the station building, platforms, 12-metre Foot Over Bridge, parking and circulating areas. He also examined the safety measures being implemented at the site.

Speaking to the media, Kishan Reddy said Vikarabad station was being redeveloped as an Amrit Station at a cost of Rs. 24.35 crore to improve passenger convenience, accessibility and the overall station environment. The project includes a

12-metre-wide Foot Over Bridge, lifts, escalators, upgraded waiting halls, improved circulating areas, entrance and façade enhancements, and better lighting.

He said 40 railway stations across Telangana were being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme at a cost of more than Rs. 2,000 crore.

The Union Minister said Telangana's railway network had undergone significant transformation over the past 12 years under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. He highlighted projects involving new railway lines, doubling and third-line works, bypass lines, station redevelopment, electrification and safety improvements.

Reddy said Telangana was the first State to implement the indigenous Automatic Train Protection System, Kavach. Upgradation to Kavach 4.0 is under way on various sec-

tions. He said five Vande Bharat trains were operating from Hyderabad and Secunderabad, connecting the twin cities with Visakhapatnam, Tirupati, Bengaluru and Nagpur.

On the Regional Ring Rail, Reddy said the Final Location Survey for the proposed 400-km rail network along the outer periphery of Hyderabad's Regional Ring Road was sanctioned in 2023. The LiDAR survey has been completed and the Detailed Project Report submitted for the northern section. The alignment for the southern section is being finalised.

Konda Vishweshwar Reddy said the redevelopment would provide modern infrastructure, world-class facilities and improved passenger amenities.

Earlier, Kishan Reddy received a Guard of Honour from the Railway Protection Force. He later planted saplings on the station premises along with the Chevella MP.

Telangana to Witness Moderate to Heavy Rains

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 30

The Meteorological Department has forecast moderate to heavy rains across several Telangana districts on Sunday and Monday, warning of gusty winds linked to a low-pressure area over the northwest Bay of Bengal.

Moderate rainfall is likely in Adilabad, Asifabad, Jagtial, Mancherial, Peddapalli and Karimnagar. A yellow alert has been issued

for Bhupalpally, Mulugu and Mahabubabad, while heavy rain is expected in Warangal, Nizamabad and Bhadradi Kothagudem.

Several parts of Hyderabad may also receive moderate to heavy rain. The city remained overcast on Sunday morning, with showers likely during the afternoon and night.

Officials warned that winds could reach 40–50 kmph and urged residents to remain cautious. People were advised to avoid standing under

trees, near electric poles or hoardings during rain and strong winds and to move to safer places.

The department also forecast heavy rain with thunder and lightning in parts of Andhra Pradesh, including Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema. Residents in vulnerable areas were advised to follow official updates, avoid unnecessary travel and take precautions against waterlogging, falling branches and power-related hazards.

Hyd Police Invoke PD Act Against PDS Rice Black-Marketeer

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Hyderabad City Police have invoked the Preventive Detention (PD) Act against Md. Rafiq (24) a habitual offender allegedly involved in the illegal procurement, transportation and black-marketing of subsidised Public Distribution System (PDS) rice.

Police said Rafiq, who works as a CCTV technician and resides in Talabkatta, used to procure PDS rice at low prices, stock it in large quantities and transport it to different destinations for commercial gain. His activities allegedly caused financial losses to the State Government



and the Civil Supplies Corporation and undermined the PDS system.

Rafiq is facing cases registered at Bhavani Nagar, Mirchowk and Medak town police stations under provisions of the BNS, Essential Commodities Act and related PDS regulations.

The Hyderabad Commissioner of Police

issued the PD order on August 13, 2026, citing his repeated involvement in activities prejudicial to public order.

Acting on the order, Bhavani Nagar police on Saturday apprehended Rafiq and executed the detention order, subsequently remanding him to Chanchalguda Central prison.

Govt will be Taught a Lesson if Auto Drivers are Deceived Again: T Auto Rickshaw Drivers

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Telangana Auto Rickshaw Drivers' Union (TARDU) General Secretary B. Venkatesham on Sunday warned that all their issues must be resolved in accordance with the assurances given by State Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar during the last week's discussions with the auto driver unions. He stated that they would not tolerate any further deception of the auto drivers through procrastination or a negligent attitude as seen in the past and threatened severe consequences if

such actions recurred.

The leaders from various auto unions felicitated B. Venkatesham and other leaders at Satyanarayana Reddy Bhavan in Himayatnagar of the city in recognition of their efforts to bring the auto drivers' issues to the government's attention and seek resolutions.

Speaking on the occasion, Venkatesham demanded the speedy implementation of Minister Ponnam Prabhakar's promises: increasing the auto meter fares in line with rising costs, establishing a welfare board for transport workers, providing ₹12,000 in

annual financial aid and third-party insurance to the auto drivers, launching a government-run auto app and resolving other pending issues. He warned that failure to do so would trigger massive, unprecedented protests, including the blockade of the Assembly, the Secretariat, and the Chief Minister's residence with thousands of the auto-rickshaws and cabs.

The Union leaders Bikshapathi Yadav, Munnuru Krishna, Ch. Jangayya, S. Ashok, Bhaskar, Ghani, Md. Khaja, M. Narasimha, M. Srinivas and others also participated in the event

BRS remembering disabled welfare only after losing power: Adluri

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Welfare Minister Adluri Lakshman Kumar questioned the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) over its record on the welfare of persons with disabilities, asking whether the party remembered the community only after losing power.

Addressing a media conference at the CLP Media Centre on Sunday, Kumar criticised former minister and BRS leader T Harish Rao for allegedly making false claims at a meeting with persons with disabilities. He also objected to Rao's alleged use of singular and disrespectful references while criticising Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.

Kumar alleged that persons with disabilities were forcibly brought to the meeting and made to listen to political criticism. Welfare issues, he said, should be discussed with facts and figures, not used for political purposes.

He claimed the BRS failed to fulfil key promises made to persons with disabilities in its 2014, 2018 and 2023 election manifestos during its decade in power.

The Congress government, he said, had spent Rs 50 crore on vehicles, battery-operated vehicles and assistive devices, with another Rs 50 crore planned next year. Kumar also reiterated the government's commitment to raising disability pensions to Rs 6,000.

The Munsif Daily and Deccan Advocates Forum Launch SIR 2026 Open House for Free Legal Guidance

MUNSIF BUREAU
Hyderabad, Aug 30

The Munsif Daily, in collaboration with the Deccan Advocates Forum, has launched the “SIR 2026 Open House”, a special initiative aimed at providing free legal guidance to citizens on issues arising from the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The initiative will offer legal assistance to citizens dealing with SIR notices, discrepancies and logical inconsistencies in electoral records, as well as claims, objections and the disposal of notices. The programme is intended to help voters understand the SIR process and take appropriate steps



to safeguard their electoral rights.

Senior legal expert Advocate M.A. Mujeeb, who has more than 30 years of experience in the legal field, will provide guidance to citizens on SIR-related notices and electoral mat-

ters. He will assist citizens in understanding the nature of notices issued to them and the appropriate procedure for submitting claims and objections.

The programme will be conducted every Sunday from August 30 to October

15, 2026, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Silver Oaks Complex, opposite Khaja Mansion Function Hall, Masab Tank, Hyderabad.

Citizens who require legal assistance or clarification regarding SIR-related matters can visit the Open House during the scheduled hours. For further information, they can contact:

93948 00442
87901 51524

The Munsif Daily and the Deccan Advocates Forum said the initiative is aimed at ensuring that citizens have access to timely legal guidance during the electoral revision process and are able to effectively address discrepancies, respond to notices and protect their right to vote.

Telangana's Identity at Godavari Pushkaralu: Konda Surekha

NSS
Hyderabad, Aug 30

Minister for Forests, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha has directed officials to make elaborate arrangements for the Godavari Pushkaralu in a manner that showcases Telangana's distinct identity, culture and traditions. She said the facilities being created for devotees should provide not only a spiritual experience but also reflect the grandeur of Telangana's hospitality and cultural heritage.

Konda Surekha inaugurated the office of the Special Officer, established on the first floor of Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad on Sunday, to

ensure effective coordination of arrangements for the Godavari Pushkaralu, scheduled to be held in Telangana from June 26 to July 7, 2027.

The Minister inspected various sections of the office along with officials of the Endowments Department and later conducted a review meeting in the newly established conference hall on the premises.

Speaking on the occasion, Konda Surekha said Rajamahendravaram had traditionally been the place most prominently associated with the Godavari Pushkaralu. She directed officials to organise the upcoming festival in Telangana on a grand scale and in a

manner that highlights the State's unique identity, making Telangana a distinctive destination for the Pushkaralu.

She said the Special Officer's office would function as the central coordination point among various government departments, district administrations, local bodies and the Endowments department for the conduct of the festival.

In view of the large number of devotees expected to attend, the office would play a crucial role in coordinating infrastructure development, construction and improvement of bathing ghats, sanitation, drinking water supply, transportation, traffic regulation,

security, medical services and uninterrupted power supply, she said.

The office would also facilitate regular reviews of the progress of various works to ensure their timely completion and the successful conduct of the Pushkaralu, the Minister said.

Konda Surekha welcomed the sanction of ₹1,000 crore by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for conducting the Godavari Pushkaralu on a grand scale.

Endowments Director Hanumantha Rao, RJC Ramakrishna Rao, DC Krishna Prasad, along with officials and employees, engineers, architects and contractors attended the programme.



Quick Update
Plea Wants Ethanol Percentage On Every Petrol Nozzle And Bill

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30

The Supreme Court will hear an E20-related petition on August 31 that asks for something motorists currently do not consistently get at the fuel pump: a clear statement of exactly how much ethanol is in the petrol being sold.

The petition, filed by Narendra Kumar Goswami, seeks mandatory and uniform ethanol-content labels on every petrol dispensing nozzle. It also wants the ethanol percentage printed clearly on fuel invoices. The matter is listed before Justices M M Sundresh and Prasanna B Varale.

NEET PG 2026 re-exam: NBEMS announces September 5

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30

The National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) has issued a notice stating that the NEET PG 2026 examination could not be completed at the iON Digital Zone iDZ Sitapura centres (TC Nos. 41682 and 41683) in Jaipur, Rajasthan, due to an internal power failure at the centres, attributed to M/s TCS Ltd. The examination was scheduled to be held from 9 am to 12 pm on Sunday. However, the power failure disrupted the computer-based examination, leaving some can-

IAS officer Gyanendra Kumar sent to judicial custody

Munsif Bureau
Bengaluru, Aug 30 (IANS)

IAS officer Gyanendra Kumar, who served as Controller of Examinations of the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC), has been sent to judicial custody on Sunday in connection with the alleged recruitment scam involving the appointment of veterinary officers.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID), which is probing the case, arrested Kumar after questioning him for two days.

Ex-Nepal Minister blames China for not issuing alert ahead of devastating flash floods

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30 (IANS)

In the aftermath of the tragic flash floods in Nepal, that has so far claimed 734 lives, the Himalayan nation’s former Forest and Environment Minister Madhav Prasad Chaulagain claimed that China had not issued any warning before the disaster struck the country.

The former Minister told NDTV that Nepal did not receive any timely alert from the Chinese side before a wall of ice, rock and mud tore through the Nepal-Tibet border on Wednesday morning, calling the withholding of data, “against humanity”.

Rejecting Beijing’s assertion that the collapse

‘Akin to spreading rumours’: Customers, tea stall vendors reject LoP Rahul’s ‘different cups for Dalits’ claim

Munsif Bureau
Maharajganj, Aug 30 (IANS)

Customers and a tea stall vendor in Uttar Pradesh’s Maharajganj on Sunday rejected the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi’s claims that Dalits, the most disadvantaged class of society, are served tea in separate paper cups at stalls, referring to it as “rumours”.

Addressing the media a day ago, LoP Gandhi said: “Dalits are not allowed to drink water from the village well, forcing them to dig their own wells because they are barred from using the common village well.

At tea stalls, two types of cups are used - reusable glass cups and disposable paper or plastic cups. Dalits are served in the disposable cups,

while others are served in glass cups”.

A couple of customers, being regular visitors to a local tea stall in Maharajganj shared their views, contrasting Rahul Gandhi’s claims of ‘casteism’ entrenched in the society, so much so that it could be experienced in tea cups as well.

Speaking to IANS, a customer, who identified himself as Ravi Dubey,

turned down the claims made by the Leader of Opposition.

“I regularly go to tea stalls and there is no such thing of discriminating on the basis of caste.

All of us sit together... everyone is equally treated at tea stalls,” he said.

“Whatever he (Gandhi) has said is absolutely wrong,” Dubey asserted.

Another customer, Shyam, echoed similar

view, saying: “I have been coming to this tea stall for a long time now, no one is asked about their caste before being served tea.”

“Everyone is treated equally...whatever Rahul Gandhi said is not true,” he told IANS.

Sanjay, who runs a tea stall in the area, also rejected Rahul Gandhi’s claims, saying: “I don’t ask anyone their caste

before serving them tea. I equally serve and respect everyone.”

“This is a rumour being spread by Rahul Gandhi that Dalits are served in different cups at tea stalls,” he told IANS.

Earlier in the day, Union Minister Giriraj Singh had criticised the LoP, accusing him of “attempting to create infightings” among social communities for his “pur-

suit of power”.

Rahul Gandhi made the remarks on Saturday while demanding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi instructs officials to file an FIR against those allegedly involved in the “shuddikaran” or purification of the Ramlila ground in Haldwani after Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge addressed a public meeting there.

Militant killed, six injured in inter-factional clash in Manipur; grenade hurled at oil pump

Munsif Bureau
Imphal, Aug 30 (IANS)

At least one militant was killed, and six others were injured in an armed clash between two factions of a militant outfit in Manipur’s Noney district, while unidentified men hurled a grenade at an oil pump in Thoubal district, officials said on Sunday.

A police official said that a heavy gunfight broke out between cadres of the Zeliangrong United Front-Kamson (ZUF-K) and the Zeliangrong United Front-Jenchui (ZUF-J) in Noney.

During the clash, a self-styled second lieutenant of ZUF-J, identified as Jangailing Gonmei, 29, sustained bullet injuries and later died. Six other cadres belonging to the ZUF-J faction were also injured in the gunfight, the



official said. The injured militants were shifted to a hospital, where their condition was stated to be stable. Details about the condition and whereabouts of the remaining militants were being ascertained, officials said.

In a separate incident, unidentified men hurled a grenade at an oil pump in Manipur’s Thoubal on Saturday evening. However, no one was injured in the explosion.

After Rs 40K annual aid pledge, Akhilesh promises to reopen 26,000 schools ‘closed down’

Munsif Bureau
Lucknow, Aug 30 (IANS)

Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday claimed that more than 26,000 schools have been closed down by the ruling dispensation in Uttar Pradesh and those at the receiving end are mostly the children from the PDA (Pichhda, Dalit and Alpsankhyak) community, a bloc that his party seeks to consolidate and mobilise ahead of 2027 Assembly elections.

Akhilesh also promised to reopen all the 26,000 schools if the people vote his party to power in the ensuing elections. This comes days after Akhilesh Yadav promised to provide women Rs 40,000 every year if his party returns to power in Uttar Pradesh.

The SP supremo made

the assertion about securing the rights of the PDA community during his address to the media at the party headquarters.

He stated that strengthening the education system and saving government schools would be his priority. Yadav also questioned Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath’s claim regarding the provision of 1 lakh jobs.

“If the SP comes to power, these communities (Pichhda, Dalit and Alpsankhyak) will be granted rights and a share of power proportionate to their population,” he said.

Raising the issue of the state’s dilapidated roads, he said that the roads in many places have turned into stretches of potholes.

He alleged irregularities and scams within the



Irrigation department and called for an investigation into the matter.

Targeting the government on the issue of law and order, SP president remarked that the Chief Minister has consistently claimed that mafia and criminals have fled Uttar Pradesh; the reality appears to be the opposite - gangs and criminals

from other states are now coming to Uttar Pradesh to commit crimes.

Akhilesh also took aim at Om Prakash Rajbhar, president of the Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP). He mentioned that the SP had organised a programme for the Arkvanshi community in Hardoi, noting that some of his former associates are no longer

149 Indian Nationals rescued in Nepal after floods



Visuals from Trishuli in Navakot District in Nepal, one of the hardest hit during the recent floods.

Kathmandu,” he said on X. Meanwhile, Indian Ambassador to Nepal Naveen Srivastava on Sunday met members of

the Indian Forensic Team deployed in Nepal to assist in identifying the mortal remains of victims of the devastating flash floods

and reiterated that India will continue to strongly support Nepal’s ongoing rescue and relief operations.

How Indian Army aviation pilots executed rescue at 18,600 feet near Nun Kun

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30

The National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Post Graduate (NEET-PG 2026) will be held across 1,300 centres in 340 cities across the country on Sunday with more than 2.73 lakh medical graduates expected to appear in the exam, an official said.

The National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) had released NEET-PG 2026 admit card on August 26, the official said.

A total of 2,73,183 candidates had registered for NEET-PG 2026, representing an increase of

more than 12.5 per cent compared to the previous year, the official said, adding that the exam will be conducted in a single shift.

Clearing NEET-PG allows doctors to secure seats in various advanced medical courses across government and private colleges and pursue courses including MD (Doctor of Medicine) and MS (Master of Surgery). Earlier, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare J.P. Nadda reviewed the preparedness for NEET-PG 2026.

The Union Minister directed all stakeholders to ensure a smooth, secure,

transparent and technology-enabled examination process.

For maintaining the integrity of the exam, the authorities are relying on an extensive security framework which includes CCTV surveillance, biometric verification, frisking, signal jammers, dynamic computer allocation, live monitoring through central and regional command centres, and deployment of more than 60,000 examination personnel.

Nadda urged candidates not to be misled by rumours or fraudulent claims relating to the examination.

AAP Leader Murdered In Punjab. Attackers Chased His Bike, Opened Fire

Munsif Bureau
Mamdot (Ferozepur,) Aug 30

Gurpreet Singh Gopi, an Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader, was shot dead after armed assailants allegedly chased the motorcycle on which he was travelling and opened fire in Mamdot town of Punjab, police said on Saturday.

Gurpreet Gopi and a man identified as Harpreet were riding a motorcycle when the attackers, who were travelling in a car, chased them and opened fire, said Bhupinder Singh Sidhu, senior superintendent of police. Gopi was killed in the firing. The SSP said an old dispute was behind the attack, with an election-related dispute emerging as a key angle in the investigation.

Gopi and Harpreet were travelling on a motorcycle



while some of their friends were following them in a separate car. Police said the attackers opened fire at that car too. Investigators are examining the circumstances surrounding the firing on the vehicle and are trying to establish the com-

plete sequence of events.

“The two parties had an old dispute. The attackers have been identified and our teams have been formed. We will arrest them as soon as possible,” SSP Bhupinder Singh Sidhu said.

Students cannot be threatened for questioning, dissent is essential to democracy: Justice Ujjal Bhuyan

Supreme Court judge Justice Ujjal Bhuyan on Sunday said that students cannot be threatened with punitive action for expressing a different point of view or asking questions, stressing that the right to question is an essential part of citizenship, liberty and constitutional responsibility.

Justice Bhuyan was delivering the convocation address at the 13th Convocation of National Law University Delhi for its postgraduate programmes. In his address, he spoke on the importance of dissent, tolerance and independent thought in a constitutional democracy, particularly within universities.

“In a democracy, the right to question is not an act of defiance. It is an essential

expression of citizenship, liberty and constitutional responsibility,” Justice Bhuyan said.

He added, “So when students express a different point of view, when students ask questions, they cannot be threatened. They cannot be threatened with punitive action. That is unconstitutional. That is misuse of power and office.”

The judge said that the Constitution does not seek uniformity of thought, but creates a framework within which people holding different beliefs, opinions and convictions can live with equal dignity and participate in democratic life.

Woman nabbed with 50 grams of brown sugar near India-Nepal border

Munsif Bureau
Kolkata, Aug 30 (IANS)

Troops of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) apprehended a 48-year-old woman close to the India-Nepal border in Bihar’s Gaya district and seized 50 grams of suspected brown sugar from her on Sunday.

“Upon receipt of specific information from the Galgaliya Police Station in Bihar around 10 a.m., a joint operation was conducted by personnel of G Company, Bhatgaon, A Company, Nemuguri of the 41Bn SSB and the local police at the residence of Sabana Khatun at Timber Depot, close to the Galgalia railway station (Gaya),” a senior SSB official said.



Convergence of India-Uzbekistan can be bridge between Central and South Asia: Uzbek media

Munsif Bureau
Tashkent, Aug 30

The convergence of the trajectories of India and Uzbekistan can make their partnership one of the main bridges connecting Central and South Asia, according to an Uzbek media report.

At the core of these changes are the firm political will of the leaders of both states, the absence of fundamental contradictions, the historical closeness of the two nations, and the complementarity of their economies.

In other words, relations have entered a period of institutional strengthening, expanded



economic content, and a gradual transition toward joint value creation,” the Uzbekistan National News Agency (UzA) report said.

The report, coming ahead of the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said that the visit “will undoubtedly provide an additional impetus to

bilateral interaction, allowing the consolidation of agreements reached and the determination of new priorities for the strategic partnership”.

South Korean helicopter search for nine missing nationals in Nepal floods cancelled

Munsif Bureau
Seoul, Aug 30 (IANS)

The South Korean government and Doosan Enerbility Co. on Sunday cancelled plans to send two helicopters to search for nine South Koreans missing in Nepal’s devastating floods after local authorities declined their requests over safety issues, officials said.

Two helicopters had been scheduled to be used: one chartered by the government’s rapid response team and the other chartered by Doosan Enerbility.

Flight authorisation was not granted by the Nepali government, however, putting them on standby until further notice, Yonhap

News Agency reported.

On Saturday, a government-chartered helicopter carrying four rapid response team members flew twice from Kathmandu toward the flood site, becoming reportedly the only non-Nepali aircraft cleared to fly that day. The helicopter reportedly failed to land, and the search was instead conducted visually, with footage from the flight analysed.

Six employees of Doosan Enerbility and three of Korea South-East Power Co. remain missing since the massive floods struck Nepal’s north-central Himalayan border area Wednesday. They had been working at a hydroelectric



power plant construction site in the Rasuwa district

when the floods hit the region.

One killed in shooting at rave party in Switzerland’s Aarau

Munsif Bureau
Bern, Aug 30 (IANS)

One person was killed and five others were injured, some seriously, in a shooting at a rave party in Switzerland’s Aarau on Sunday, local media reported.

The shooting incident occurred in the Schachen area of Aarau at around 2:30 am (local time).

Following the shooting, police have cordoned off the affected area near the horse racing track, Switzerland-based Blick reported.

The Aargau Cantonal Police confirmed the casu-

alties that occurred during the shooting incident.

“According to preliminary findings, the shooting in the Schachen area of Aarau last night has resulted in one death and five injuries, some of them serious,” it stated.

Police have launched the search for the perpetrators, and police presence has increased in the city centre.

In a post on X, Aargau Cantonal Police stated, The area around the horse racing track, the swimming pool, and the sports field is cordoned off on a large scale. The police are asking the public to stay

away from the area. The police are also showing a heightened presence beyond Aarau as a precaution.”

The police further stated, “Due to the ongoing major police operation, Aarau Swimming Pool will remain closed until further notice. Visitors are requested to stay away from Aarau Schachen.”

Vanessa Rumpold, media spokesperson for the Aargau Cantonal Police, said the shooting occurred at the horse racing track and that it is not yet clear what happened, Blick reported.

The police have confirmed that a large group of people fired several shots. The Aargau Cantonal Disaster Response Unit (KKE) and an army Super Puma helicopter have also reached the site of the incident.

“The manhunt for the unknown perpetrator is underway. Possible motives as well as the exact circumstances of the crime are still unclear. The Aargau Cantonal Police is deployed with a large contingent and has initiated its investigations,” Aargau Cantonal Police posted on X.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Kyrgyzstan on Sunday to attend the 26th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Bishkek. Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers Adylbek Kasymaliev received PM Modi at Manas International Airport in Bishkek. (Complete News on Page 1)

Fourth India flight touches down in Kathmandu with relief supplies, technical assistance

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30 (IANS)

The fourth Indian flight carrying essential supplies and technical capabilities to support Nepal’s ongoing rescue and relief operations has touched down in Kathmandu, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Sunday.

EAM Jaishankar said the Indian Air Force C-130 aircraft brought additional assistance to the Himalayan nation, which has been hit by devastating floods, and is carrying specialised teams and equipment to strengthen the ongoing search, rescue and relief efforts.

“The fourth Indian flight has touched down in Kathmandu. It brings essential supplies and technical capabilities to support Nepal’s ongoing rescue & relief operations,” Jaishankar posted on X.

Earlier, the External Affairs Minister had said that the fourth flight from India was carrying 11 tonnes of assistance.

The C-130 aircraft transported a tunnel technical contingent along with equipment for search and rescue operations, as well



as a team of forensic experts and equipment for DNA analysis.

The consignment also included relief supplies such as blankets, sleeping bags, tarpaulins, plastic sheets and hygiene kits.

EAM Jaishankar said India was also extending substantial assistance for restoring critical infrastructure damaged by the floods. He noted that 16 trucks carrying equipment for a 230-foot Single Lane Modular Steel Bridge had reached Nepal, while equipment for the installation of seven more Bailey bridges would be supplied soon.

Technical teams required for the installation of the bridges are also expected to reach Nepal shortly, he said.

So far, a total of 68.5 tonnes of relief material has been airlifted to

Kathmandu from India. The assistance includes essential medicines, portable generator sets, food packets, water purification tablets and technical equipment.

“Our support to the relief and rescue efforts of Nepal continues,” EAM Jaishankar said.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), India began its emergency relief assistance to Nepal on Wednesday, when an IAF C-130J Hercules aircraft airlifted 10 tonnes of emergency relief material. The consignment included temporary shelters, blankets, hygiene kits, solar lamps and medicines.

On Thursday, an IAF C-17 Globemaster aircraft transported another 37.5 tonnes of relief items to Nepal.

North Korea replaces Defence Minister with Kim Song-gi in military reshuffle

Munsif Bureau
Seoul, Aug 30 (IANS)

North Korea has replaced its defence minister in a reshuffle of senior military leadership, state media reported on Sunday.

Kim Song-gi, director of the General Political Bureau of the North’s Korean People’s Army,

was appointed as the country’s new defence minister, replacing No Kwang-chol, according to the North’s Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

No was removed as defence minister and from the Party’s central leadership and appointed first vice-director of the Munitions

Industry Department of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee.

The reshuffle was decided at the second meeting of the ninth WPK Central Military Commission held the previous day, which was guided by leader Kim Jong-un, the report said.

In the latest reshuffle, veteran military official Pak Jong-chon was appointed vice-chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission after being re-elected as a member of the Party’s Central Committee and Politburo, reports Yonhap news agency.

Nepal floods: China deleting Tibet disaster videos, claims report

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30 (IANS)

China is deleting videos showing the devastation caused by catastrophic flash floods and mudslides in Tibet, following the glacial collapse on August 26, claimed a report by noted international daily.

A report by The Times of Israel claimed that the glacier collapse triggered a massive surge of mud, rock and water through the Lhende Khola and into the Bhote Koshi and Trishuli river systems, causing extensive destruction along the Nepal-Tibet frontier.



The report said that the disaster had already resulted in significant casualties. By August 28, Nepal had

reported 579 deaths, with nearly 1,924 people still missing. On the Chinese side, five deaths and 558

missing people were officially reported in Tibet’s Gyirong County, including 260 foreign nationals.

Indian rescue team joins Nepali Army in search ops at tunnel sites

Munsif Bureau
Kathmandu, Aug 30 (IANS)

The Indian tunnel rescue team on Sunday joined the Nepali Army’s team to conduct search and rescue operations at hydropower tunnel sites in Chilime and Langtang area, the Indian Embassy in Nepal said.

“The tunnel rescue team from India worked with the Nepali Army’s team to conduct search and rescue operations at hydropower tunnel sites in Chilime and Langtang area today. The team will continue to conduct search and rescue operations in close coordination with the Nepali Army,” the Indian Embassy in Nepal said on social media platform X.

Meanwhile, a 19-member specialised forensics team from India began functioning in Kathmandu on Sunday.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), this team will help augment the analysis of DNA samples in Nepal for identification of mortal remains of the victims.

24-hour hotlines established for missing foreign nationals in Tibet

Munsif Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 30 (IANS)

The Embassy of India in Beijing has said authorities in China’s Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) have set up two dedicated 24-hour English-language hotlines to assist families seeking information about missing foreign nationals following the recent flash floods and mudslides in

the region.

“Following the recent flash floods and mudslides in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), People’s Republic of China, TAR authorities have established two dedicated 24-hour English-language hotlines to assist families seeking information about missing foreign nationals,” the Embassy of India in Beijing said in a post on X.

The Embassy shared the two numbers through which families can seek information about missing foreign nationals. The hotlines can be reached at 0086-891-6817165 and 0086-183-0802-6705.

The advisory comes amid a devastating natural disaster that has caused widespread destruction across Tibet and neighbouring Nepal. Catastrophic flash floods

and mudslides, triggered by the collapse of a Himalayan glacier, have severely affected areas along the China-Nepal border. At least 16 people have been reported dead and 546 missing on the Chinese side alone following the disaster, while critical infrastructure has also been extensively damaged. The disaster struck on Wednesday, August 26, with torrential floodwaters

and mudslides sweeping through affected areas. Roads, bridges and other essential infrastructure were damaged, disrupting transport and access to several affected locations.

Meanwhile, authorities in Nepal have issued fresh warnings as water levels in major rivers continue to rise following the extreme weather and flooding.

Nepal’s National Disaster Risk Reduction

and Management Authority (NDRRMA) issued a flood warning on Sunday, stating that the water level in the Bhote Koshi River in Rasuwa district had risen further.

“All those engaged in search, rescue and relief operations in affected areas, including Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading and Chitwan districts, those staying along the riversides, and all other con-

cerned are requested to remain alert,” the authority said in a notice issued on Sunday morning.

According to the Flood Forecasting Division under Nepal’s Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, the water level in the Trishuli River, downstream of the Bhote Koshi in the Galchhi area of Dhading district, has risen three metres above the usual level.

India Rebalances Economic Ties with US and China Amid Global Uncertainty



India is recalibrating its economic relationships with the United States and China, adopting a more balanced approach to trade, investment and supply chains amid rising geopolitical uncertainty and a moderation in growth forecasts.

According to an analysis published in Geopolitical Monitor, India has made progress on two important fronts in 2026 — reaching a negotiated settlement over its tariff dispute with Washington and cautiously easing restrictions on certain Chinese-linked investments for the first time since the border tensions of 2020.

The India-US economic relationship began to stabilise earlier this year.

On February 2, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump agreed during a phone conversation to reduce the reciprocal tariff on Indian goods from 25 per cent to 18 per cent. The additional 25 per cent punitive duty linked to India’s purchases of Russian oil was also dropped.

Both governments have since reaffirmed that the arrangement would remain in place regardless of the outcome of the US Supreme Court’s judgment on tariffs. However, Washington has imposed separate Section 301 duties of 10 per cent on certain products, while around 45 per cent of Indian exports remain outside their scope.

direct Chinese investment, which continues to require prior clearance. However, the changes created an automatic route for entities with non-controlling Chinese beneficial ownership below 10 per cent. A 60-day approval timeline was also introduced for selected manufacturing sectors, including capital goods, electronic components and solar inputs such as polysilicon and ingot-wafer.

By late August, the government had reported around Rs 4,896 crore in foreign direct investment across 29 projects under the eased framework. The investments cover sectors including information technology, pharmaceuticals, data centres and manufacturing.

The developments with Washington and Beijing, when viewed together, indicate a broader effort by India to diversify its sources of capital and export demand. This approach comes at a time when the global economic environment remains uncertain and growth forecasts have been revised downward.

The United Nations’ mid-year outlook projected India’s growth at 6.6 per cent in 2026, compared with an estimated 7.4 per cent in the previous year, citing geopolitical tensions and policy uncertainty as challenges to the global economic environment. S&P had earlier maintained a more optimistic outlook, forecasting 7.1 per cent growth for India in FY27, supported by steady exports and a recovery in the investment cycle.

Foreign capital remains important for maintaining external stability. Overseas investors put a record \$4.2 billion into Indian government bonds in June, the strongest monthly inflow since August 2024. The inflow came at a time when inflation had eased to 2.1 per cent and the Reserve Bank of India Governor described the domestic economic environment as being in a “Goldilocks” phase.

A more predictable tariff regime with the US could help reduce currency and bond-market volatility associated with sudden trade-policy changes. At the same time, the Press Note 3 relaxation could make it easier for multinational manufacturers with minority Chinese ownership to establish or expand production in India.

The economic recalibration is also taking place alongside renewed diplomatic engagement between India and China.

China reportedly eased export restrictions on rare-earth magnets, fertilisers and tunnel-boring machines in August last year, while bilateral border discussions have gained momentum during 2026.

The process reached another significant point this week with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval’s visit to Beijing for the first Special Representatives dialogue on the boundary dispute in five years. The talks come ahead of the BRICS summit that India is scheduled to host next month.

The future of India’s economic balancing strategy will depend on several factors beyond New Delhi’s control, including the durability of US Section 301 tariffs, the outcome of India-China border negotiations and the broader direction of global trade and investment flows.

For India, maintaining stronger economic channels with both Washington and Beijing, while managing the risks associated with each relationship, could provide greater flexibility at a time when the country continues to depend significantly on foreign capital, global markets and export demand for sustained economic growth.

AVOID MEASURES THAT UNDERMINE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

The Maharashtra government’s decision to give auto-rickshaw and taxi drivers another year to learn Marathi, while assuring them that no punitive or legal action will be taken during this period, has provided temporary relief to thousands of drivers, particularly those who have migrated to the state from other parts of the country for employment.

The issue arose after Maharashtra Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik ordered checks against drivers and notices were reportedly issued to those unable to speak Marathi. Drivers who failed to learn the language within the stipulated period faced the possibility of further action, including suspension of their licences. The move triggered resentment and protests among sections of the auto and taxi-driving community.

While learning and respecting the language of the state one works in is certainly desirable, making it a compulsory condition for earning a livelihood raises serious questions about constitutional rights. The Constitution guarantees citizens the freedom to move freely throughout India and to reside and pursue a profession, occupation, trade or business in any part of the country, subject to reasonable restrictions prescribed by law. A state government must therefore exercise caution before imposing conditions that could effectively obstruct these rights.

India is a multilingual country, and no single language can reasonably be imposed as a condition for citizens to earn their livelihood in another state. Millions of people continue to migrate across state borders in search of employment. Many belong to economically weaker sections and may have limited educational opportunities. Imposing a rigid language requirement on such workers could place an additional burden on people who are already struggling to make a living.

The issue becomes even more significant in Mumbai, which has long been a cosmopolitan city attracting people from across India and beyond. Its economy depends heavily on workers from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds. In such a city, encouraging people to learn Marathi is understandable and can be achieved through education, awareness and incentives. But coercive measures that threaten livelihoods are unlikely to strengthen social harmony.

What to Eat During a Stomach Infection: Experts Recommend Hydration and a Gradual Return to a Balanced Diet

When stomach infections cause vomiting and diarrhoea, many people turn to the traditional BRAT diet — bananas, rice, applesauce and toast — believing that it gives the digestive system a much-needed break. While these foods are generally easy to digest and may provide some relief, nutrition experts caution that relying exclusively on them for several days may not provide all the nutrients the body needs for recovery.

Stomach infections, often caused by contaminated food or water, can disrupt the normal functioning of the digestive system and lead to symptoms such as vomiting and diarrhoea. During this period, easily digestible foods can reduce the burden on the digestive system. However, the body also needs adequate fluids, electrolytes, energy, vitamins, minerals and other nutrients to recover properly.

Bananas, rice, applesauce and toast are generally gentle on the stomach and can be useful when symptoms are severe. However, their nutritional variety is limited. Since vomiting and diarrhoea can cause significant loss of fluids and electrolytes, patients should not depend solely on the BRAT diet to meet their nutritional requirements.

Once vomiting and severe diarrhoea begin to subside, a wider variety of foods can gradually be introduced rather than immediately returning to a regular diet. Foods containing soluble fibre, such as bananas, oats, apples, carrots and potatoes, may be useful during recovery. Soluble fibre absorbs water in the digestive tract and forms a gel-like substance, which can help improve loose stools. Fibre also serves as a source of nourishment for beneficial bacteria in the gut and may support the recovery of the gut microbiome after an infection.

However, increasing fibre intake too quickly may worsen bloating and digestive discomfort. During the acute stage of vomiting or severe diarrhoea, large amounts of insoluble fibre found in raw vegetables, bran and some whole grains may be difficult to tolerate. Therefore, fibre should be increased gradually as the digestive system begins to recover.

Suitable foods during recovery may include bananas, oatmeal, applesauce, boiled potatoes, cooked carrots, rice with well-cooked vegetables, soft fruits and vegetable soups. Indian food options such as plain dalia and simple vegetable khichdi can also be considered as light and nutritious alternatives. Steamed foods such as idli may also be introduced gradually, depending on individual tolerance. Plain

Tamil Nadu Plans Subsidised Onion Sales Through Ration Shops as Prices Rise



The Tamil Nadu government is preparing to sell onions at subsidised prices through ration shops across the state after a sharp increase in retail rates put additional pressure on household budgets.

Onion prices have risen significantly over the past few weeks. Large onions, which were selling at around Rs 30 per kg at the end of last month, are now priced at nearly Rs 60 per kg in several retail markets. Small onions, or shallots, have also witnessed a steep increase, with prices rising from around Rs 40-50 per kg last month to nearly Rs 70 per kg.

The price rise has added to the burden on consumers who are already facing higher prices for several essential vegetables. In response, the state cooperative sector has decided to intervene by procuring onions in bulk and making them available to consumers through the public distribution system at prices significantly lower than those prevailing in the open market.

As part of the initiative, Tamil Nadu has approached the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) seeking an allocation of 70,000 kg of onions. The request comes after the Union government initiated measures to make onions available to consumers at affordable prices through retail channels.

Once the consignment is received from the Central agency, the onions are expected to be supplied to

ration shops across Tamil Nadu. The government is likely to sell them at around Rs 30 to Rs 40 per kg, potentially providing consumers with savings of up to Rs 30 per kg compared with prevailing market prices.

Officials said the first consignment will also help the government assess consumer demand before seeking additional quantities. Details regarding the number of ration shops that will participate in the programme, the quantity that individual ration-card holders can purchase and the exact date for commencement of sales are expected to be announced after the supplies reach the state.

The proposed intervention is aimed at providing immediate relief to households and reducing the impact of the sudden rise in onion prices. The cooperative sector and ration shops have previously been used by the government to make essential commodities available at controlled prices during periods of supply shortages or seasonal price fluctuations.

Authorities are expected to closely monitor onion prices and availability in wholesale and retail markets as the subsidised sales programme is implemented. Further quantities may be procured depending on market conditions and consumer demand.



Messi's Four-Goal Brilliance Leads Inter Miami to 7-1 Rout of Montreal

Miami, Aug 30

Lionel Messi produced a sensational performance, scoring four goals and providing an assist as Inter Miami thrashed CF Montreal 7-1 in their MLS clash on Saturday night. Carlos Casimiro opened

the scoring for Miami in the 20th minute before Montreal's Fabian Herbers equalised in the 37th. Messi restored Miami's lead with a free-kick goal in the 40th minute.

The Argentine superstar completed his first four-



Ranga Reddy Teams Shine at Telangana State Junior Championship



HYDERABAD, Aug 30

The Ranga Reddy district teams put up an impressive performance at the Telangana State-level Junior Championship competitions held in Nirmal on August 29 and 30, winning medals in both the boys' and girls' categories.

The Ranga Reddy boys' team secured the silver medal, while the girls' team clinched the bronze medal, showcasing their talent and determination at the state-level competition.

Ranga Reddy District Secretary Prabhakar expressed happiness over the athletes' performance and appreciated their efforts in bringing laurels to the dis-

trict. He said the hard work of the players and the dedicated training provided by their coaches played a key role in their success.

District Association Vice-President Paramesh congratulated the medal winners and praised their performance. Coaches Maheshwari, Manoj, Mahesh and Kimkala, who trained the athletes, along with Association members Mahender and Pavan, were also present and expressed their appreciation for the teams' achievement.

District Association members congratulated the medal-winning athletes and wished them greater success in upcoming competitions.

goal performance in MLS with further strikes in the 52nd, 83rd and sixth minute of stoppage time, with his final goal also coming from a free kick.

Luis Suárez added Miami's fourth goal in the 80th minute after being set up by Messi, while Shaw scored his first MLS goal late in the match.

The victory was Inter Miami's fifth consecutive win over Montreal and their first win since defeating the Canadian side 1-0 at the end of July. Messi's outstanding display also moved him closer to the top of the MLS scoring charts.

J&K Pacer Auqib Nabi Set for Surrey Stint in English County Championship

New Delhi, Aug 30

Jammu & Kashmir fast bowler Auqib Nabi is likely to represent English county side Surrey for a brief stint in the ongoing County Championship Division One season, with the Indian team management keen to give the promising pacer exposure to seamer-friendly conditions in England.

Nabi, who has secured his visa after completing the required paperwork, is expected to travel to England from New Delhi. He could be available for Surrey's upcoming fixture against Yorkshire from September 2 at The Oval, followed by matches against Sussex on September 8 and Glamorgan on September 15. The stint will also allow the Indian team management and selectors to assess Nabi's ability to swing the ball in English conditions, particularly with the upcoming Test tour of New Zealand in mind. Nabi had a remarkable Ranji Trophy season, finishing as the leading wicket-taker with 60 wickets at an average of 12.56,



helping Jammu & Kashmir win their maiden championship. He was also part of India's recent 1-0 Test series victory over Sri Lanka, although he did not play either match.

After his county stint, Nabi is expected to join the India A squad for two red-ball matches against Australia in Puducherry from September 22. His availability for Jammu & Kashmir's Irani Cup clash against Rest of India remains uncertain.

Meanwhile, India pacers Mohammed Shami and Mukesh Kumar could also feature in the later stages of the County Championship. Both are currently representing East Zone in the ongoing Duleep Trophy semi-final against Central Zone in Bengaluru.

Women's Asia Cup: Thailand Elect to Bowl Against India

New Delhi, Aug 30

Thailand won the toss and elected to bowl first against India in the Women's Asia Cup Group A match. Pratika Rawal

made her T20I debut, while Deepti Sharma played her 150th T20I. India, seven-time Asia Cup champions, will look to start their campaign with a win.

15-Year-Old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Creates History as Youngest First-Class Captain

New Delhi, Aug 30

Fifteen-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has created history by becoming the youngest captain in first-class cricket. The young opener took charge

of East Zone in the Duleep Trophy semi-final against South Zone after regular captain Ishan Kishan suffered a hand injury.

Vaibhav, who was the team's vice-captain, led experienced players in-

cluding Mohammed Shami, Abhimanyu Easwaran and Mukesh Kumar. Despite his young age, he impressed with his leadership, bowling changes and field placements.

India, New Zealand Sign Landmark MoU to Boost Softball Development



HYDERABAD, Aug 30

The Softball Association of India (SBAI) and Softball New Zealand (SNZ) have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote and develop softball in both countries.

The agreement was signed at Hotel The Lalit, New Delhi, by Jay Changlani, Board Member of Softball New Zealand, and Dr. Pravin Anaokar, Secretary General of SBAI. The MoU will initially remain effective for four years.

A key feature of the partnership is the launch

of an Indo-New Zealand bilateral softball series, to be hosted alternately in India and New Zealand. Softball New Zealand will also provide high-performance coaches for India's senior, junior and women's national teams.

The partnership will focus on athlete development, coaching, technical officials, infrastructure, sports science and grassroots programmes. Special emphasis will be placed on youth and women athletes, with structured development pathways through schools, colleges and universities.

India's Real GDP Growth Likely to Remain at 7-7.2% in FY27



New Delhi, Aug 30

India's real GDP growth is likely to remain resilient at 7-7.2 per cent in FY27, supported by strong domestic demand and the government's continued focus on capital expenditure, according to a report by EY.

The report said nominal GDP growth could reach 12.5-13 per cent during the financial year. It added that India's growth outlook remains relatively strong despite geopolitical uncertainties, elevated crude oil prices and a weaker global trade environment.

Strong domestic economic activity and sustained public investment are expected to support growth through the year. The report noted that industrial activity has also

shown signs of improvement.

According to EY, growth in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) accelerated to a 23-month high of 7.3 per cent in June 2026. As a result, average industrial growth during the first quarter of FY27 increased to 5.7 per cent, the highest level in eight quarters.

Manufacturing remained one of the major contributors to the improvement, with output rising 7.8 per cent in June. Electrical equipment, motor vehicles, textiles and food products were among the better-performing sectors.

However, some high-frequency indicators suggested that the pace of expansion may be moderating. The Manufacturing

PMI fell to 53.5 in July from 54.2 in June, while the services PMI declined more sharply to 53.3 from 57.4. Despite the decline, both indices remained above the 50-point mark, indicating continued expansion in economic activity.

Credit conditions have also remained supportive. EY said gross bank credit growth accelerated to a 25-month high of 18.6 per cent in June, indicating continued availability of financing for businesses and other sectors of the economy.

Government capital expenditure is another major factor supporting the growth outlook. Government capex growth recovered sharply to 23.7 per cent in the first quarter of FY27, compared with a contraction of 23.3 per cent in the fourth quarter of FY26.

Meanwhile, the fiscal deficit remained contained at 18.2 per cent of the annual budget target. EY said the renewed momentum in capital expenditure is expected to sustain domestic demand and strengthen the prospects for economic growth during FY27.

Over 7 Crore ITRs Filed for AY 2026-27; August 31 Deadline Nears

New Delhi, Aug 30

More than 7 crore income tax returns (ITRs) have been filed for Assessment Year 2026-27, the Income Tax Department said, urging taxpayers with business or professional income who are not subject to audit to complete their filing before the August 31 deadline.

The department advised eligible taxpayers not to wait until the last minute

and file their returns at the earliest. Earlier, more than 5.9 crore ITRs had been filed by the July 31 deadline, which applied to individuals and entities not required to get their accounts audited. More than 40 lakh returns were reportedly filed on the final day as taxpayers rushed to meet the deadline.

The latest figures reflect continued growth in income tax return filing and timely compliance among taxpayers.

TNPDCCL to Hold Consumer Grievance Meetings in Four Chennai Divisions

New Delhi, Aug 30

The Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDCCL) will conduct consumer grievance meetings in Mylapore, Ambattur, Tondiarpet and KK Nagar on September 1.

The meetings will begin at 11 a.m., giving electricity consumers an opportunity to directly raise complaints related to power supply and other services with senior TNPDCCL officials.

In Mylapore, the meeting will be held at the Executive Engineer's Operation and Maintenance office at the 110 kV Valluvar Kottam substation on MGR Road, also known as Kodambakkam High Road. In Ambattur, consumers can approach the Executive Engineer's

office on Third Main Road inside the Ambattur Industrial Estate substation premises.

The meeting in Tondiarpet will take place at the Executive Engineer's Operation and Maintenance office at No. 805, Tiruvottiyur High Road, opposite the clock tower. In KK Nagar, the meeting will be held at the divisional Executive Engineer's office on the second floor of the 110 kV KK Nagar substation premises on Anna Main Road.

TNPDCCL officials have appealed to consumers with pending or unresolved complaints to attend the meeting in their respective divisions and submit details of their issues.

Officials said the grievances will be examined and appropriate action will be taken.

Digital Fertiliser System Covers Over 14 Crore Aadhaar-Linked Farmers

New Delhi, Aug 30

India's Integrated Fertiliser Management System (iFMS) has entered a new phase with several digital initiatives aimed at improving transparency, ensuring timely fertiliser availability and strengthening monitoring of the supply chain, according to an official statement issued on Sunday.

The system currently covers more than 14 crore Aadhaar-linked farmers, over 2.5 lakh retailers and around seven crore fertiliser sale transactions every year. It also supports the administration of nearly Rs 2 lakh crore in annual fertiliser subsidies.

Developed and technically supported by the National Informatics

Centre (NIC) for the Department of Fertilisers, iFMS connects key stages of the fertiliser supply chain, including production, imports, transportation, stock availability, retail sales and subsidy processing.

New digital dashboards and analytical tools allow officials to monitor fertiliser production, imports, dispatches, movement, stocks and sales at the national, state, district and retailer levels. This is expected to help authorities identify unusual trends and possible supply shortages at an early stage.

The system is also being integrated with farmer, land and crop databases. Initiatives such as the Framework for

Fertiliser Sale (FFS) allow farmers to book fertiliser through a mobile-based system using their AgriStack ID, followed by verification of land and ownership details. A QR-based booking is then generated and verified at the point of sale.

Digital monitoring has also been strengthened through the Vehicle Location Tracking System (VLTS) to improve visibility of fertiliser movement across the supply chain.

The government said these initiatives will strengthen subsidy monitoring, improve transparency and help ensure timely availability of fertiliser by using digital data to better understand demand, distribution and consumption patterns.

Lenovo Launches Legion Y700 Infinite Gaming Tablet with 165Hz OLED Display

New Delhi, Aug 30

Lenovo has launched its latest gaming tablet, the Legion Y700 Infinite, in the Chinese market. The tablet features an 8.4-inch OLED display with a 2.5K resolution and 165Hz refresh rate, designed to deliver a smooth gaming experience.

The tablet is available in three variants. The 12GB RAM + 256GB storage model is priced at 4,999 yuan (around Rs 71,000), while the 16GB + 512GB version costs 6,499 yuan (around Rs 92,000). The top-end



24GB RAM + 1TB storage variant is priced at 7,999 yuan (around Rs 1.13 lakh).

The Legion Y700 Infinite supports 100% DCI-P3 colour coverage, up to 4,000 nits peak brightness and a 3,400Hz touch sampling rate. It also comes with U9 Pro eye protection technology.

For performance, the tablet is powered by a special version of the Snapdragon 8 Elite Gen 5 chipset, paired with up to 24GB of RAM and 1TB of storage. It also supports 5G connectivity and dual SIMs, making it a high-performance device aimed particularly at gaming enthusiasts.

Finance Ministry to Begin Budget 2027-28 Preparations from October 12

New Delhi, Aug 30

The Finance Ministry will begin preparations for

the Union Budget 2027-28 from October 12, with a focus on boosting economic growth, creating jobs and

increasing domestic demand amid global uncertainties and high food and fuel prices.

Beyond the Hot Seat: Family's Plea for a 'Small Job' Turns KBC Moment Into a Jobs Debate

- Vishal Rathod, from Washim, Maharashtra, said he earns about ₹500–600 on days when daily-wage work is available.
- His father publicly appealed for a regular job for him; Amitabh Bachchan joined the request.
- Rathod eventually won ₹25 lakh and chose not to attempt the ₹50-lakh question.
- The viral exchange has fuelled discussion over irregular employment, household vulnerability and the difference in having work and having secure work.



A tearful appeal for a “small job” by the parents of Kaun Banega Crorepati 18 contestant Vishal Premchand Rathod has turned a television moment into a wider debate over insecure work. Rathod, from Washim in Maharashtra, told Amitabh Bachchan that he and his father seek daily-wage labour, earning about ₹500–600 when work is available, while his mother works as a cleaner. Missing even one day, he said, can mean lost income for the family. Bachchan joined his father’s appeal for steady employment. Rathod ultimately left the quiz show with ₹25 lakh after declining the difficult ₹50-lakh question on Wednesday night.

FLEXIBILITY, ONE WAY ONLY? 15-MINUTE DELAYS TURN WEEKEND WORK INTO A WORKPLACE

An employee on probation says HR questioned repeated late arrivals despite a record of extended hours and weekend duty, prompting a wider debate over whether workplace flexibility is expected from staff but reciprocated by employers.



A workplace dispute over delays of barely 15 to 20 minutes has ignited an online discussion about overtime, attendance discipline and what employees describe as one-sided flexibility in demanding workplaces.

The employee, writing anonymously on Reddit’s r/IndianWorkplace forum, said they joined an event company in May and remain on probation. Official working hours were stated to be 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., with weekends designated as days off. The employee, however, claimed that heavy workloads had frequently required late working, most Saturdays in July and occasional Sunday duty.

in a meeting with the manager, the post claimed.

The employee also disputed an allegation from HR that too many days of leave had been taken, saying the total amounted to two days in August and one in July, apart from an additional festival-related absence. Crucially, the worker said the company requires employees to maintain manual attendance records and that these document late working as well as Saturday and Sunday duty.

The dispute arose after the workload eased and the employee began arriving around 11.15 or 11.20 a.m. on some days. According to the post, the worker faces a commute of more than two hours each way involving traffic and multiple trains. HR subsequently questioned the late arrivals. When the employee raised previous overtime and weekend work, the issue was referred to a senior and later discussed

theless struck a broader nerve. Some Reddit users argued that punctuality and overtime should be treated as separate questions and advised the employee, particularly while on probation, to observe stated arrival times while continuing to document extra hours. Others questioned a workplace culture in which strict adherence is demanded at the beginning of a shift while finishing times remain elastic.

The debate also has a regulatory backdrop. The Union government says the four Labour Codes took effect on November 21, 2025. Under the official framework, normal working hours are generally limited to eight hours a day and 48 hours a week, while prescribed overtime attracts wages at twice the normal rate and is subject to applicable conditions.

THE ₹4,000 RIDE: Bengaluru Airport Taxi Claim Puts Passenger Trust Under Scrutiny

A UK-based content creator says she was charged ₹4,000 for a journey of just 14 km after being promised a metered fare, renewing scrutiny of airport taxi pricing weeks after Karnataka authorities moved against alleged overcharging by ride-hailing operators.



Content creator Abeeshna N said the incident occurred after she returned to India following three years abroad.

She alleged that the driver produced a ₹4,000 receipt after the 14-km journey, which she later discovered was fake.

Karnataka’s notified taxi structure provides distance-based fares, with the highest category starting at ₹130 for four kilometres and ₹32 for each additional kilometre, before permitted extras.

The state Transport Department had already issued show-cause notices to major aggregators in August over separate allegations of charging beyond notified fares.

ONE RAID AT A TIME: TUKARAM MUNDHE TURNS FOOD SAFETY INTO A PUBLIC RECKONING

More than 3,000 inspections under Maharashtra FDA Commissioner Tukaram Mundhe have exposed alleged hygiene failures from neighbourhood eateries to major chains, winning public support online even as some businesses challenge the regulator’s hard-edged enforcement in court.

An unusually visible campaign against unhygienic kitchens and unsafe food has turned Maharashtra’s top food regulator into an unlikely internet figure, as photographs from surprise inspections expose conditions ordinarily hidden from diners and push food safety into everyday public conversation.

Tukaram Mundhe, the IAS officer who took charge as Commissioner of Maharashtra’s Food and Drug Administration on May 25, has overseen a sharp escalation in inspections across restaurants, food businesses, warehouses and retail establishments. Reuters reported that more than 3,000 raids have been carried out since he assumed office, with images of unhygienic kitchens, pests and expired food circulating widely online and generating demands for stricter enforcement.

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