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POLICE STATION

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Diplomacy Amid Turbulence: Murmu, Pezeshkian Reaffirm India-Iran Ties and Push for Regional Peace

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian's first visit to India comes amid an escalating West Asian conflict and severe disruption to strategic Gulf shipping routes, adding urgency to New Delhi's call for dialogue and diplomacy.

- President Droupadi Murmu held talks with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Saturday.
- Murmu reiterated India's position that conflicts should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy.
- The leaders highlighted India and Iran's longstanding cultural, civilisational and people-to-people connections.
- Pezeshkian is in New Delhi for the 18th BRICS Summit, marking his first visit to India as President.



The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu meeting with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit, in New Delhi on Saturday.

New Delhi, Sept 12

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday met Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian at Rashtrapati Bhavan, reaffirming India's commitment to lasting regional peace and stressing that conflicts should be addressed through dialogue and diplomacy.

Welcoming Pezeshkian on his first visit to India as President, Murmu highlighted the longstanding friendship between India and Iran, rooted in deep civilisational, cultural and people-to-people ties. She also appreciated Iran's support and high-level participa-

tion during India's BRICS presidency.

The meeting acquired added strategic significance because Pezeshkian's visit coincides with the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi and comes against the backdrop of renewed conflict in West Asia and mounting threats to maritime commerce.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had met Pezeshkian on Friday, their second interaction in less than two weeks after talks at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in Bishkek on August 31. Modi similarly emphasised lasting peace, freedom

of navigation and commerce, and protection of seafarers.

Those concerns have intensified as commercial traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has fallen sharply amid the conflict, while instability around the Red Sea and Bab el-Mandeb has added another layer of risk to global energy and freight movements.

For India, which maintains important relations with Iran as well as Gulf Arab states and other regional powers, sustained engagement with Tehran remains significant for regional stability, maritime security and wider economic interests.

Consensus in a Crisis: BRICS New Delhi Declaration Urges Middle East Restraint, Rejects Trade Barriers

The unanimous declaration couples a call for diplomacy in the escalating regional conflict with strong language on terrorism, the Pahalgam attack and unilateral trade restrictions.

New Delhi, Sept 12

BRICS leaders on Saturday unanimously adopted the New Delhi Declaration, expressing deep concern over escalating tensions in the Middle East and calling for maximum restraint, dialogue, consultation and diplomacy to prevent further deterioration of the regional situation.

The consensus is significant for host India as the expanded grouping includes Iran and the United Arab Emirates, whose strategic positions in the current regional crisis differ sharply. Securing common language on a rapidly evolving conflict underscored New Delhi's effort to keep BRICS focused on negotiated solutions despite geopolitical divisions among its members.

The declaration also voiced concern

over the growing use of unilateral tariff and non-tariff measures, warning that such actions can distort international trade and undermine the multi-lateral trading system.

In a provision carrying particular significance for India, BRICS strongly condemned the April 22, 2025 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, and reiterated zero tolerance towards terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. It also stressed the need to combat terrorism financing and reject double standards in counter-terrorism efforts.

The declaration gives India a diplomatic outcome spanning three major priorities — regional stability, terrorism and resistance to unilateral trade barriers — at a summit taking place amid heightened global economic and security uncertainty.



PM, Witnessing 'Bharat Innovates' along with Leaders of BRICS Member Countries, visits the Bharat Innovates exhibition at Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi on Saturday.

Saudi Pipeline Shutdown Raises Fresh Fears Over Global Oil Supply

Riyadh, Sept 12

Saudi Arabia's temporary shutdown of its 1,200-km East-West oil pipeline after drone attacks has intensified concerns over global energy supplies as instability increasingly threatens both major alternative export corridors around the Arabian Peninsula.

The pipeline, which carries crude from Saudi Arabia's eastern producing regions towards Red Sea export facilities, has become particularly important during disruption to the Strait of Hormuz. Saudi and Iraqi authorities said the drones were launched from Iraqi territory. Baghdad has opened an investigation, while no group has so far claimed responsibility.

US President Donald Trump said on Saturday that he believed Iran was "probably" responsible. His statement remains an allegation rather than an independently established finding.

The disruption comes as Iran-aligned Houthi forces advance near the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, increasing pressure on Red Sea shipping. Together, the developments threaten routes designed to reduce dependence on Hormuz and have heightened fears of further oil-market disruption.

Verification Gap Widens: Only 22% Turn Up for Hyderabad SIR Hearings

- Hyderabad has 12,54,917 flagged SIR cases requiring verification.
- Of these, 5,82,217 fall under "No Mapping" and 6,72,700 involve anomalies.
- Only around 22% of affected voters had appeared for hearings at the latest reported stage.
- Claims and objections can be filed until October 7.

New Delhi, Sept 11

Electoral authorities in Hyderabad are facing a major response gap in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, with only around 22% of voters called for verification hearings having appeared before officials so far.

According to district-level figures, 12,54,917 electors have been flagged for scrutiny. Of them, 5,82,217 are classified under "No Mapping", where current voter records could not be linked with the earlier electoral roll, while another 6,72,700 cases involve discrepancies or anomalies.

Notices have been generated for all flagged cases, and polling-station-wise details have been made available through the Telangana Chief Electoral Officer's

website. Officials have urged electors receiving notices not to ignore the hearing process and to produce the prescribed supporting documents.

Turnout varies sharply across constituencies. Sanathnagar has reported particularly low participation, while Karwan, Yakutpura and Jubilee Hills have recorded comparatively higher attendance.

The poor response assumes greater significance because unresolved verification could affect a substantial number of city electors. Following a revised Election Commission schedule, claims and objections may be submitted until October 7, while disposal of cases can continue until November 5. The final electoral roll is scheduled for publication on November 9.

Monsoon Roars Back: Mancherial Tops Telangana Rain Chart at 132.3 mm

Hyderabad, Sept 12

Telangana's southwest monsoon intensified sharply on Saturday, with parts of the northern and northeastern districts receiving heavy rainfall, confirming earlier warnings of increased monsoon activity across the State.

Kannepalli in Mancherial district recorded 132.3 mm of rainfall between 8.30 am and noon, the highest reported during the period.

Raiparthy in Warangal received 89.3 mm, followed by Rebbena in Kumuram Bheem Asifabad with 73.5 mm and Kesamudram in Mahabubabad with 71.5 mm.

Bheemini in Mancherial registered 68.5 mm, while Kalleda in Warangal received 66.3 mm.

Hyderabad and neighbouring districts saw comparatively lighter rainfall. Ghanpur in Ghatkesar mandal of Medchal-Malkajgiri re-

corded 22.5 mm, while Malkajgiri received 9.8 mm and Abdullapurmet 5.8 mm by Saturday afternoon.

The renewed rainfall is significant for agriculture after a relatively weak August left several districts with seasonal deficits. However, intense short-duration spells also heighten the risk of waterlogging, overflowing drains, difficult road conditions and localised flash flooding in vulnerable low-lying areas.

RELIEF AFTER DEMOLITION: High Court Stays Rs 6.41-Crore Recovery in Saharanpur Mosque Case

Prayagraj, Sept 12

The Allahabad High Court has stayed recovery of ₹6.41 crore in damages imposed on the management of the mosque demolished at the Saharanpur Collectorate, while seeking a response from the Uttar Pradesh government on a petition challenging the eviction proceedings.

Justice Rohit Ranjan Agarwal directed the State to file a counter-affidavit within three weeks

and listed the matter for October 12. The interim order concerns recovery of the damages; it does not reverse or stay the demolition, which had already taken place on September 5 after the district judge dismissed an appeal on September 2.

Petitioner Mohammad Tanveer Ahmad has questioned the July 16 City Magistrate order, arguing that the land's ownership was not properly determined and referring to earlier revenue records

and its claimed registration as waqf property.

The State disputes that position, maintaining that official records describe the property as Collectorate/ Kutchery land and questioning the documentary basis of the private ownership and waqf claims. The High Court has not adjudicated those competing claims on merits.

The intervention comes as security remains heightened in parts of western Uttar Pradesh following the demolition.

Musi Under Green Scrutiny: NGT Seeks Telangana's Clearance, Project Records

Hyderabad, Sept 12

The National Green Tribunal's Southern Bench has issued notices to the Telangana government in a challenge concerning the Musi rejuvenation project, directing authorities to furnish details of environmental clearances and other information relating to its implementation. The matter is listed for October 16.

The proceedings arise from a petition by a group

tended that while the Musi development corridor extends about 55 km, the environmental assessment covered only around 20 km, and have sought wider scrutiny of the project's ecological implications.

The petitioners have also raised concerns

about possible effects on Mrugavani National Park and construction activity in areas adjoining Osman Sagar and Himayat Sagar reservoirs. These assertions remain claims before the tribunal and have not been accepted as findings by the NGT.

Zomato begins charging customers up to Rs 20 'cash on delivery' fees

New Delhi, Sept 12

Eternal-backed food delivery platform Zomato has begun charging customers an additional fee of Rs 5 to Rs 20 for choosing cash on delivery (COD) as the company seeks to monetise payment methods amid intensifying competition.

The 'pay on delivery fee' shown separately on the app's bill summary appears to be levied on orders where customers opt to pay in cash at delivery.

In addition, app screenshots showed the charge commonly at Rs 5, though in some cases users were billed Rs 7 or as much as Rs 20, according to multiple reports. The fee is separate from Zomato's platform fee, restaurant packaging charges and GST, while customers who pay online are not charged the COD fee.

Zomato processes an estimated 2.3-2.5 million food orders a day even as new players step up their presence, with Rapido's Ownly gaining traction and Flipkart piloting its Eat In food-delivery offering.

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Tahsildar Jailed for two years in 10k Bribery Case

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.12

Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Saturday asserted in the Legislative Assembly that the state government’s ongoing revenue reforms aim to protect citizens’ properties and land rights, alleging that the previous BRS regime misused the Dharani portal to grab lakhs of acres.

Participating in a short-duration discussion on Section 22-A prohibited lands, the Minister accused the previous BRS government of exploiting the state’s resources for personal gain.



Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda on Saturday assured Andhra Pradesh of the Centre's support for the proposed Quantum Bio Valley in Amaravati and said a technical team would visit the State to discuss the initiative.

AP Waqf Board Gets International Recognition for Providing Free Residential Education to 250 Students

NSS
Amaravati, Sept.12

The Andhra Pradesh State Waqf Board has achieved an international recognition for its Taleem-e-Hunar programme, which provides free residential education to meritorious students from economically weaker families. As part of the programme, the Waqf Board conducted a talent-based test and selected 250 Intermediate students for free residential education. The achievement was recorded on June 14, 2026, in Vijayawada, and has now been recognised by the International Book of Records under the cate-

gory “Most Meritorious Students Got Free Residential Education (MASS).” The International Book of Records has listed the Andhra Pradesh State Waqf Board as the record holder for the achievement. Waqf Board Chairman Abdul Aziz said the recognition was a proud moment for the Board and those associated with the Taleem-e-Hunar programme. He said the main aim of the initiative was to help talented students continue their education without being held back by financial problems. According to Abdul Aziz, the programme is not just about providing ed-

ucation but also about giving students an opportunity to build a better future. He said the international recognition would encourage the Waqf Board to take up more programmes in education and skill development and extend support to more deserving students. Abdul Aziz also acknowledged the support of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Minister Nara Lokesh and Minority Welfare Minister N.M.D. Farooq for giving importance to educational empowerment. He congratulated the Waqf Board members, officials, staff, educational institu-



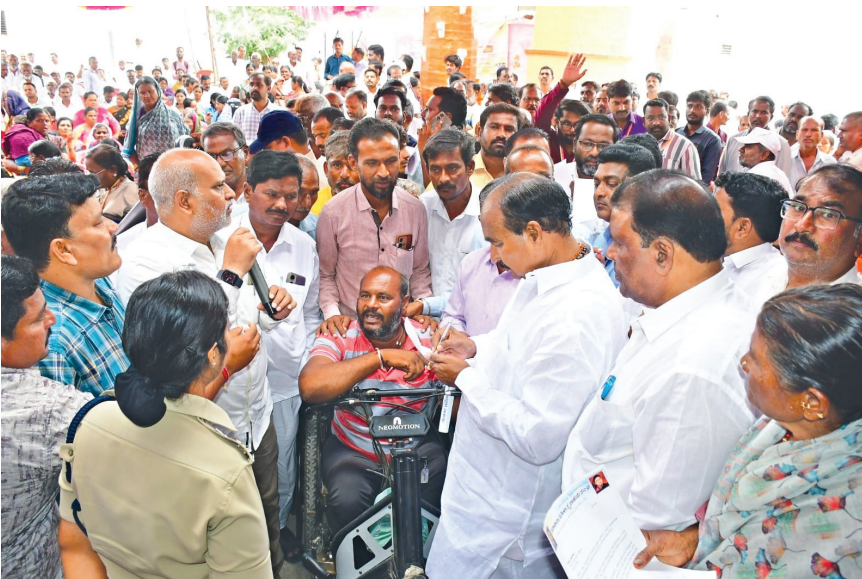
tions, teachers, students and parents who were involved in the programme. The Waqf Board said the recognition in the International Book of Records marks an important milestone and will encourage it to expand educational opportunities for talented students from economically weaker backgrounds.

MLA Allam Prabhu Patil Hears Public Grievances at Praja Seva Meeting in Taj Sultanpur

Munsif Bureau
Kalaburagi, Sep. 12

MLA Allam Prabhu Patil chaired a Hobli-level Praja Seva (Public Service) Meeting in Taj Sultanpur village of Kalaburagi taluk on Saturday, where he heard the grievances of thousands of residents and resolved several complaints on the spot. Addressing the gathering, the MLA said the state government has launched several public welfare schemes, including the Five Guarantee Schemes, to ensure all-round development. He urged people to make full use of these benefits to improve their lives.

He said the government spends ₹58,000 crore annually on implementing the Five Guarantee Schemes. He added that the Praja Seva initiative



was launched under the leadership of the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to bring government services directly to people’s doorsteps. Crores

in Crop Compensation and Development Works

Allam Prabhu Patil said that farmers in the southern region who had insured their crops last year received ₹30.21 crore and

an additional ₹7.35 crore from the state government as compensation for heavy rainfall. Farmers of Said Chincholi-Taj Sultanpur alone received ₹5.57 crore in compensation.

Nagpur-Warangal greenfield highway set for Dec 2027 completion: Komatireddy

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 12:

The Nagpur-Warangal Greenfield Highway in Telangana will be completed by December 31, 2027, and opened to the public immediately after, Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy announced in the Legislative Council on Saturday.

Replying to questions raised by MLCs Pochampally Srinivas Reddy and Prof. Kodandaram, the Minister underscored the critical role of the Nagpur-Mancherial-Warangal-Khammam-Vijayawada corridor in boosting regional connectivity. Of the total 310-km stretch, 280 km passes through Telangana, spanning four to five key districts and significantly shortening trav-



el times toward Nagpur and Vijayawada.

Addressing the timeline, the Minister explained that while tenders for the Mancherial-

Warangal segment were awarded in March 2023 with agreements signed in May 2023 under a two-year completion window, the project

faced delays due to land acquisition disputes and litigation.

“Nearly all land acquisition bottlenecks have now been cleared,” Komatireddy Venkat Reddy assured, noting that handover is pending for only two brief stretches totaling around 7 km, which will be resolved shortly. He emphasised that affected farmers will receive fair compensation at prevailing market rates to ensure no financial hardship.

Following the delays, the government granted the contractor an extension to finalise construction by the end of 2027. Additionally, the Minister confirmed that instructions will be issued to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to construct an exit point near Parkal for commuter convenience.

SIR Notices to Be Issued and Verification Process to Be Accelerated

Munsif Bureau
Nizamabad, Sep. 12

Collector Bhavesh Mishra directed officials to ensure that notices under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) are issued to every voter who has been identified under the categories requiring verification, while ensuring that the verification process is conducted transparently and strictly in accordance with the prescribed guidelines.

The Collector held a review meeting with Tahsildars at the Mini Conference Hall of the Integrated Collectorate Office Complex on Friday evening.



He reviewed the mandal-wise progress of issuing, distributing and verifying SIR notices and stressed that the SIR process should be given the highest priority. In view of the extension of the deadline by the Election Commission, he instructed offi-

cials to make use of the additional time and complete the process within the stipulated period. He emphasized that there should be no scope for errors during the verification of notices and that all certificates and documents related to each case must be

thoroughly examined.

He directed officials to strictly follow the guidelines issued by the Election Commission. Tahsildars were instructed to conduct field visits and monitor the performance of BLOs and supervisors at polling stations on a daily basis.

The Collector also directed officials to complete the distribution of the remaining notices at the earliest, with special attention to areas where a large number of notices are still pending.

If any voters have permanently migrated to another area, officials should ensure that they submit Form-8.

Free Tailoring Training Centre Inaugurated to Empower Women in Kagaznagar

Munsif Bureau
Kagazmagar, Sept.12

A Free Tailoring Training Centre, established to empower women with vocational skills and create self-employment opportunities, was inaugurated in Ward No. 1, Guntur Colony of Kagaznagar Municipal Town. The centre was launched under the leadership of Ward Councillor Mohammed Taj Bhai, while Municipal Chairperson Shaheen Sultana attended the event as the chief guest. Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson Shaheen Sultana said that establishing such training centres to equip

women with practical skills is a commendable initiative. She noted that by acquiring vocational skills such as tailoring, women can create dignified employment opportunities for themselves and become financially self-reliant. She further said that every possible support would be extended to help women and youth develop their talents and connect them with employment opportunities. She appealed to the residents of Ward No. 1, especially women, to make full use of the free tailoring training centre, complete the training, and turn their skills into a source of income. She also emphasized that the importance

of vocational skills is increasing steadily in today’s world and that young people should pursue professional training alongside formal education. Such centres, she said, can play a significant role in guiding women and youth toward self-employment.

Councillors, local residents, community elders, and other dignitaries were present at the event. Participants appreciated the establishment of the free tailoring training centre and expressed hope that it would benefit women in Guntur Colony and nearby areas by enabling them to acquire skills and advance in self-employment.

Dancer arrested in sexual harassment case

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.12:

A dancer who had earlier emerged as the winner of a Telugu dance reality show has been arrested in connection with a sexual harassment case registered at Miyapur Police Station. According to police, a young woman approached the Miyapur police on September 9 and lodged a complaint against the suspect, Raju. She allegedly accused him of sexually harassing her by promising to help her secure opportunities in the film industry.

Adilabad airport to boost regional connectivity in north Telangana: Kishan Reddy

Munsif Bureau
Hyderabad, Sept 12:

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy said the proposed Adilabad Airport would pave the way for improved regional connectivity and strengthen civil aviation infrastructure in North Telangana.

In a statement, Reddy said a review meeting on the project was held with Union Minister for Civil Aviation K. Rammohan Naidu in the presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. It was decided to appoint nodal officers from the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Telangana government within a week to take forward the project in “mission mode”.

He said the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) and Master Plan for the proposed Joint-User Airfield (JUA) would

be expedited.

Reddy said the project represented a crucial step towards fulfilling the long-standing aspiration of people in the erstwhile Adilabad district and North Telangana. He recalled that he had raised the need for an airport and an Air Force station in Adilabad with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, stressing the region’s strategic importance and the need to improve connectivity.

According to Reddy, the Defence Ministry had agreed to develop a Joint-User Airfield in Adilabad and assured full cooperation. Several meetings were subsequently held involving the Defence and Civil Aviation ministries and Telangana government officials.

Officials from the Defence and Civil Aviation sectors inspected the proposed airport site on April 17, 2026. The inspection



concluded that a 2.75 kilometer runway would be required.

The Telangana government has also been asked to acquire an additional 1,500 acres of land, in addition to the 369.45 acres already held by the Indian Air Force.

The proposed facilities include infrastructure for trainer aircraft, parking for visiting aircraft, weather shelters, aircraft hangars, an operational complex, training facilities and maintenance infrastructure.

Centre Backs Amaravati Quantum Bio Valley, Nadda Assures Support

Munsif Bureau
Vijayawada, Sept 12:

Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda on Saturday assured Andhra Pradesh of the Centre’s support for the proposed Quantum Bio Valley in Amaravati and said a technical team would visit the State to discuss the initiative.

Nadda was responding positively to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu’s proposal to accord national recognition to the proposed project. Describing the Chief Minister’s vision for the Quantum Bio Valley as excellent, the Union Minister said the Centre would examine the suggestions and extend necessary support. Nadda was speaking at an event in Vijayawada where he, along with the Chief Minister, launched 10 critical care blocks and 12 integrated pub-

lic health laboratories across Andhra Pradesh. The Union Minister also praised the State government’s Sanjeevani programme and said the Centre would examine the possibility of implementing it nationwide. He assured support for initiatives focused on early disease detection and prevention, improved treatment and affordable healthcare. Praising Chandrababu Naidu’s leadership, Nadda said Andhra Pradesh was in safe hands and described the Chief Minister as a visionary and committed leader. He also lauded the State government’s efforts to strengthen healthcare infrastructure. Nadda repeatedly highlighted Naidu’s emphasis on “the kitchen as the pharmacy and food as medicine”, saying the principle was fundamental to maintaining good health.



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Excise Shop Renewal Applications Open Till Sept 21

NSS
Amaravati, Sep. 12

The Andhra Pradesh Excise department has finalised the schedule for re-

newal of 3,736 retail liquor shops across the State, with existing licensees allowed to submit renewal applications from Saturday

to September 21. Excise Commissioner Chamakuri Sridhar said the renewal process would cover six working days.

21 KG GANJA SEIZED, FOUR INTER-STATE PEDDLERS HELD IN HYD

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.12

Habeeb Nagar Police arrested four persons and seized 21 kg of dry ganja, allegedly part of an inter-state drug supply network, during a raid at Mangerbasti on Friday.

Acting on credible information that ganja suppliers were arriving in the area to sell the contraband, police alerted senior officers and conducted a raid. Four accused were apprehended before they could distribute the ganja to local

peddlers. Police also seized Rs.25,000 in cash, four mobile phones, a blue briefcase and a jute bag from the accused.

The arrested persons were identified as Sandeep Nandha Kishore Bhongade (38 years) of Maharashtra, allegedly the supplier; Rahul Rajesh Patil (24), an X-ray technician from Maharashtra, allegedly the transporter; and Hyderabad residents Kamble Umesh (29) and Kamble Suraj (24), who allegedly acted as local transporters and peddlers.

According to police, Bhongade and Patil alleged-

ly procured the 21 kg ganja in Maharashtra at around Rs.20,000 per kg and brought it to Hyderabad on September 11, concealing it in a briefcase and jute bag. They allegedly planned to sell it to local peddlers at around Rs.40,000 per kg. Police said Umesh and Suraj allegedly concealed the ganja at a house in Mangerbasti and were waiting to hand it over to other local drug peddlers when they were arrested. A case has been registered under various sections of the NDPS Act at Habeeb Nagar Police Station. The

investigation is underway to trace the source, intended recipients and other members of the alleged supply network.

Senior officers appreciated SHO M. Ashok Kumar, SI T. Purshotham Rao and their team for the seizure and detection of the alleged inter-state network. Police appealed to the public to share credible information about the sale, transportation, storage or procurement of narcotic substances, assuring that the identity of informants would be kept confidential wherever permissible. (NSS)



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Sridhar Babu tables CURE Bill for Hyderabad's 30-year growth plan

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 12

IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu introduced the Core Urban Region (Integrated Governance) Bill-2026 in the Assembly on Saturday, outlining a vision to transform Hyderabad into a sustainable "Blue and Green City" capable of competing globally. Speaking on the bill, the Minister said the legislation creates a statutory framework to streamline civic administration and anticipate the capital's infrastructure requirements over the next 30 years. As part of this over-

haul, the government plans to condense sections within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Act, divide GHMC into three municipal corporations, and establish a CURE apex governing council chaired by the Chief Minister.

"We must preserve Hyderabad's glorious past while preparing the city for future demands," he said.

Sridhar Babu stated, highlighting key infrastructure approvals including ₹7,345.12 crore for Phase 1 of the Musi River rejuvenation and projects to draw 20 TMC of



Godavari water to the city. "The government intends to treat sewage and use the recycled water for afforestation and pollution control," he said.

CM Revanth releases 'Varadhi' on reedom fighter P.N. Murthy

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept, 12

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday released "Varadhi," a book chronicling the life and contributions of noted freedom fighter P.N. Murthy, at the Telangana Assembly Committee Hall here.

Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Minority Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin were present at the book release programme.

The book contains several interesting accounts of the freedom struggle in the Telangana region, the armed struggle, the revolt against the Razakars and the nature of administration in the post-Independence period.

Authored by Purna Bodha Srikanth, son of P.N. Murthy, the book was released to mark the freedom fighter's 100th birth anniversary. Writer Sripada Srinivas of Rajahmundry handled the editorial work.

P.N. Murthy rendered 44 years of dedicated service to the Congress party, beginning in 1952-53 in the erstwhile Hyderabad State and continuing from 1953 to 1956 in the erstwhile Andhra State. He subsequently served the party in Andhra Pradesh from 1956 to 1996.

QUALITY EDUCATION FOR POLICE CHILDREN KEY TO STAFF WELFARE: DGP ANAND

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 12:

Providing quality education to the children of police personnel is a key component of police welfare and will help personnel remain focused on their duties, Director-General of Police C.V. Anand said here on Saturday.

Anand laid the foundation stone for Academic Block-I of the Young India Police School (YIPS) at the OCTOPUS-Greyhounds campus in Manchirevula.

The DGP said the school was established following Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's direction

in December 2024 to set up a dedicated institution for children of police personnel. Envisioned on the lines of Army and Sainik schools, YIPS aims to provide education meeting national and international standards.

The school began functioning from a temporary campus in April last year with 120 students. Its strength has since grown to around 360 students and is expected to reach upto 720 next year after completion of the new building.

On this occasion, Anand said YIPS would focus on academics, discipline,

sports and co-curricular activities, while promoting a drug-free and healthy environment. Students will also be encouraged to participate in cricket, rock climbing, horse riding and other adventure activities.

The school will admit children from other sections of society at affordable fees, besides children of police personnel and Home Guards. 50 percent of the seats will be reserved for general students, he noted. The government is supporting the development of YIPS as a full-fledged institution offering education up to Plus-Two in a single

campus. Several committees, including academic panels, have been formed to oversee its development.

Anand said the objective was to transform YIPS into a high-standard educational institution within the next two to three years.

He called for coordinated efforts to complete the construction and development works at the earliest. "Education should go beyond academics and prepare children to become responsible citizens", the DGP said, stressing that the welfare and health of police personnel were closely linked to effective policing.

Singareni steps up OB removal to boost coal supplies

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept, 12

Singareni Chairman and Managing Director Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti has directed the General Managers of all areas to ensure that the revised overburden (OB) removal targets are achieved on a daily basis to facilitate adequate coal supplies to meet the State's growing power requirements.

The CMD issued the directions while reviewing the performance of 19 offloading companies engaged in OB removal operations across 15 open cast mines of Singareni on Saturday. Addressing the meeting, Buddhaprakash Jyoti said power consumption in Telangana

was increasing significantly and Singareni was taking steps to ensure adequate coal supplies to thermal power stations.

He stressed the need to achieve the revised OB removal targets at all open cast mines to meet the increased coal supply requirements. He said a target of 1,205 lakh cubic metres of OB removal had been set for the April-August period of the current financial year. Against this, 1,221 lakh cubic metres was removed, registering an achievement of 101 per cent. However, only eight of the 19 offloading companies had achieved 100 per cent of their assigned OB removal targets by the end of August.

The CMD directed the

General Managers concerned to ensure that the remaining companies improve their performance and extend full cooperation in meeting the assigned targets. Buddhaprakash Jyoti said the prescribed daily OB removal target for September, initially fixed at 7.28 lakh cubic metres, had been enhanced to 12.1 lakh cubic metres in view of the rising demand for coal. He directed all concerned to work towards achieving the revised target without fail. During the meeting, the CMD reviewed the number of shovels and dumpers being deployed by each offloading company and assessed the additional equipment required to achieve the assigned targets.

TELANGANA LANGUAGE DAY RINGS LOUD IN BAY AREA

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.12:

Telangana Language Day was celebrated with enthusiasm in the Bay Area under the aegis of the Telangana Cultural Association (TCA), bringing together Telugu and several other Indian-language communities.

Renowned commentator and OSD, Telangana Official Language Commission, Madipalli Dakshinamurthy, who travelled from Hyderabad, was the chief guest at the programme held in Dublin, California. Representatives of Telugu, Kannada, Hindi, Punjabi, Tamil, Malayalam and other Indian associations attended. Speaking on the occasion, Dakshinamurthy said Telangana language is more than a means of communication - it embodies the region's history, culture, emotions and way of life.

30 Lakh Devotees expected to visit Khairatabad Ganesh

Munsif Bureau
Kagaznagar, Sept, 12

With more than 30 lakh devotees expected to visit the Khairatabad Bada Ganesh during the 10-day Vinayaka Chavithi festival, Hyderabad Traffic Police have announced an extensive traffic management plan and urged devotees to rely on public transport.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) D. Joel Davis, along with senior traffic officials, inspected the primary routes and access roads on Saturday and issued guidelines for devotees and motorists.

Devotees can reach the pandal through four designated entry routes -

Khairatabad Metro Station, Dwarka Hotel / Telephone Bhavan, Mint Compound / IMAX Prasad's side and the colony / basti route behind the idol.

Officials advised devotees to prefer Metro, MMTS and RTC buses. Metro services will operate from 6 am to 11 pm, while special RTC buses will supplement the nearly 2,200 regular buses that operate on the Khairatabad route daily.

As the heaviest rush is expected during afternoons, weekends and public holidays, devotees have been advised to visit during mornings and early afternoons, preferably on weekdays.

Those using private ve-

hicles have been urged to carpool.

Parking facilities have been identified at IMAX Ground, HMDA Lake View Parking, E-Racing Ground behind NTR Park and Maktha Parking on Necklace Road. Visweswarayya Bhavan will also be available from the Metro/VV Statue side, while parking at Telephone Bhavan will be limited.

Autos and app-based cabs will not be permitted to stop on the main carriageway between VV Statue, Khairatabad and Nirankari. Pick-up and drop-off will have to be made at the open ground near the MMTS station.

Traffic diversions will also be enforced around

Rajdoot Lane, Dwarka Hotel, Mint Lane, IMAX and Rajiv Gandhi Statue. Pedestrians will be allowed to cross roads only at designated points, including Khairatabad Junction, Shadan U-turn and Nirankari.

Around 500 police personnel, supported by pushing teams, will be deployed at major traffic choke points to regulate vehicle and pedestrian movement.

The Traffic Police clarified that darshan of the Khairatabad Bada Ganesh will conclude on September 23, with no darshan permitted on September 24. Devotees have been urged to plan their visits accordingly and cooperate with personnel on duty. (NSS)



Providing quality education to the children of police personnel is a key component of police welfare and will help personnel remain focused on their duties, Director-General of Police C.V. Anand said here on Saturday. Anand laid the foundation stone for Academic Block-I of the Young India Police School (YIPS) at the OCTOPUS-Greyhounds campus in Manchirevula.

GITAM students gain hands-on exposure to machine learning on microcontrollers

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 12

GITAM School of Core Engineering, Hyderabad, organised a two-day professional development workshop on "Machine Learning on Advanced Microcontrollers" in collaboration with SANSI RF and Communication Systems, providing 80 students with hands-

on exposure to the emerging field of Tiny Machine Learning (TinyML).

Organised by the Department of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engineering (EECE), the workshop focused on practical learning, covering machine learning fundamentals, TinyML, sensor interfacing, data acquisition, dataset creation,

model training, deployment on microcontrollers and real-time inference.

As part of the workshop, students developed and implemented five practical projects, gaining experience in the complete machine-learning workflow - from collecting sensor data and preparing datasets to training models.

Every Language has its own significance: TPCC Chief

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 12

TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud on Saturday stressed the need to respect and promote all

Indian languages, saying the country's linguistic diversity was one of its greatest strengths.

Addressing a Hindi Diwas programme at the Hyderabad

Press Club, Mahesh Kumar Goud said India was a unique confluence of diverse languages, cultures and traditions. Quoting the popular saying, "Desha bhashalanda

Telugu lessa", he said every language had its own historical and cultural significance and deserved equal respect.

He said Hindi Diwas, observed on September 14, had

been a long-standing tradition, while stressing that the development of Hindi should go hand in hand with the promotion and preservation of regional languages.



NIA searches 10 locations in J&K in LeT-linked cross border terror conspiracy case

IAN S
Srinagar, Sep 12:

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday conducted searches at 10 locations in Jammu & Kashmir in connection with a cross-border terror conspiracy involving Pakistan-based handlers of the proscribed terrorist organisation, Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and their network of local Over Ground Workers (OGWs).

The searches were conducted at locations in Kupwara, Kulgam, Bandipora, Baramulla, and Sopore to unearth further evidence relating to the conspiracy and to ascertain the roles of individuals providing logistical and other support to infiltrated terrorists.

The teams of NIA sleuths were assisted by Jammu and Kashmir Police and the CRPF during these raids.

The case, initially registered as FIR No. 0024/2026 at Police Station Zakoora, Srinagar, was subsequently re-registered by the NIA as RC-02/2026/NIA/JMU under Section 23 of the UA(P) Act, 1967, Sections 7 and 25 of the Arms Act, 1959, and Section 4 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908.

The investigation commenced following the arrest of an OGW, associated with LeT, during the late-night hours of March 31 at a checkpoint. A hand grenade and live ammunition were recovered from his possession.

Further investigation sub-



sequently led to the arrest of Pakistani nationals linked to the conspiracy and revealed the identities and suspected roles of members of the local support network. Investigation conducted so far has revealed linkages between Pakistan-based LeT handlers and their local associates, who were being used for communication, movement and concealment of infiltrated terrorists, provision of shelter, reconnaissance and other logistical facilitation.

The NIA is also examining the financial trail, communication channels, movement of the accused, and the source and supply chain of arms and explosives, with a view to establishing the complete network and uncovering the extent of its activities. The searches conducted today are part of NIA’s continuing investigation into the larger conspiracy and the support mechanism facilitating cross-border terrorism.

During the searches, further incriminating material relevant to the case was seized/secured, which is being examined and corroborated with other evidence collected during the investigation.

The NIA continues its investigation to identify all persons involved in the conspiracy and establish their respective roles. Further legal action, including arrests and recoveries, may follow subject to the outcome of the investigation.

The anti-terror agency regularly conducts raids and searches across J&K as part of ongoing probes into terror financing, conspiracies, and militant networks. Searches frequently cover multiple districts across the Kashmir Valley and Jammu regions, including Srinagar, Pulwama, Shopian, Kulgam, Anantnag, Baramulla, Kupwara, Sopore, Bandipora, and Kishtwar.

Operations are tied to cracking down on OGWs, terror funding networks, hybrid militants, and premises linked to proscribed groups like Jamaat-e-Islami.

The NIA has handled several critical, high-profile cases in J&K targeting terror finance, cross-border conspiracies, and high-visibility attacks, including the Red Fort car bomb blast on November 10, 2025, and the June 9, 2024 Reasi pilgrim attack case.

Udhayanidhi Stalin Slams TVK Govt as Power Crisis Sparks Protests in Tamil Nadu

IAN S
Chennai, Sep 12:

Tamil Nadu Opposition leader Udhayanidhi Stalin has criticised the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) government following a surge in complaints of unscheduled power cuts and low voltage across the state over the past two days.

Residents in several districts have taken to the streets, alleging that prolonged outages have disrupted their daily lives and affected commercial and industrial activities.

In Tirunelveli district, residents of Mudaliarpatti and surrounding areas staged a demonstration at night, carrying torches and candles to protest repeated interruptions in electricity supply.

Residents of Ammapettai and North Ariyavur in the Srirangam Assembly constituency of Tiruchi district continued their road blockade for the second consecutive day.

They alleged that the authorities had failed to resolve the persistent power supply problems despite repeated complaints.

A similar protest was held near Kadavur in Karur district, where residents claimed that power cuts lasting between four and six hours had occurred regularly for more than 10 days.

Azad Demands Sanjay Nishad’s Resignation, Questions UP Law and Order

Nishad had staged a protest over the alleged murder of party worker Vinod Sahani in Gonda; Azad calls for impartial action irrespective of caste or religion



IAN S
Lucknow, Sep 12:

Aazad Samaj Party-Kanshi Ram President and MP Chandrashekhar Azad on Saturday demanded the resignation of Uttar Pradesh Cabinet Minister and Nishad Party chief Sanjay Nishad, saying he should step down on moral grounds over the alleged murder of a party worker.

Speaking to reporters, Azad demanded that Nishad should resign from a government that, according to him, makes claims about maintaining good law and order but has failed to protect people from weaker sections and provide them justice.

“I would say that Sanjay ji should resign on moral grounds from a government which makes false claims that law and order is very good, but is unable to protect responsible people from weaker sections and provide them justice. I do not think the demands he had made will be fulfilled,” he said.

He further alleged that the government tends to favour accused persons when they belong to the same caste as the Chief Minister, and called for impartial action irrespective of caste or religion. “Because when the criminal belongs to the same caste as the Chief Minister, then over the past few years, it has been seen that the Chief Minister and the government tend to favour the accused rather than the victims.

This is a matter of great concern,” he said. Azad stressed that the Chief Minister, irrespective of who holds the position, should remain impartial and ensure that legal action is not influenced by caste or religion.

“But the question is, can anyone’s murder be justified on the basis of a Facebook post? If someone has made a Facebook post, action can be taken against it, and an FIR can be registered,” he added.

Meanwhile, Azad’s remarks came after Nishad staged a sit-in protest at

the King George’s Medical University mortuary in Lucknow late Thursday evening over the death of party worker Vinod Sahani, who was allegedly attacked with bullets and knives in Gonda.

Opposition leaders from the Samajwadi Party also joined Nishad during the protest. They alleged that even a minister was not being heard by the present government.

Nishad had demanded the immediate arrest of all the accused, action against police personnel allegedly responsible for failing to ensure justice and security, and protection and a government job for the victim’s family.

He also alleged that members of the Nishad community had previously been targeted in the name of criminal cases and encounters. Nishad warned that the party would intensify its agitation if the accused were not arrested. However, amid speculation over his protest, Nishad on Friday clarified that his sit-in was aimed at raising issues concerning the Nishad community and did not indicate any differences with the BJP-led government.

“We have been able to get a murder case filed because we are in the government. Whatever help we can extend to the community is through the government,” he said.

Delhi GST Dept Seizes Rs 5 Crore Goods at Nizamuddin Station

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep 12:

The Delhi government’s Goods and Services Tax (GST) department, in coordination with railway officials, seized a consignment of 50 tonnes of goods, including copper scrap, worth nearly Rs 5 crore at Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station, an official said on Saturday.

The GST department had received a tip-off that some goods were being transported on a train without mandatory documents such as invoices and e-way bills, said an official statement.

Acting on the information, the department carried out the operation in coordination with railway officials.

According to Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the government’s aim is not just to take action but to put in place an effective system that ensures businesses operate transparently and every due tax is collected.

The consignment had arrived at Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station on a train that originated in Renigunta, Andhra Pradesh. During the inspection, officials seized around 25 tonnes of copper scrap, estimated to be worth Rs 3 crore, the statement said. In addition, around 25 tonnes of mixed scrap, clothing and other goods were found, with an estimated value of around Rs 2 crore.

Scindia urges Mandaviya to act on demands over LNIPE Guwahati student’s death

IAN S
Gwalior, Sep 12:

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has urged Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya to take immediate action on demands raised by students following the death of 22-year-old LNIPE student Shruti Upadhyay at the institute’s Guwahati campus.

Scindia sought ₹50 lakh compensation for Shruti’s family and an impartial inquiry into alleged medical negligence and administrative lapses. He also called for action against the concerned warden if found responsible and sought the removal or transfer of LNIPE Registrar Yatendra Kumar Singh.

Shruti, a third-year B.P.Ed student and tennis player,

died at Nemcare Hospital on September 8 after suffering acute abdominal pain. Fellow students alleged that her complaints were initially dismissed and she was given painkillers before her condition worsened.

Scindia assured students and family that anyone guilty would face action and accountability fixed if negligence was established.

Delhi BJP, AAP Clash Over ‘Sheesh Mahal’ Visit

IAN S
Gwalior, Sep 12:

The Delhi BJP and AAP exchanged allegations ahead of the Assembly’s Public Accounts Committee visit to former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal’s renovated official residence, “Sheesh Mahal”, on September 14.

AAP leader Atishi said BJP’s claims about a swimming pool, bar and golden toilet seat would be exposed during the visit. Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor, however, accused

Kejriwal of violating rules and indulging in wasteful expenditure during the bungalow’s renovation.

Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta and PAC Chairman Ajay Mahawar are expected to inspect the premises with cameras. The BJP government plans to convert the sealed bungalow into a state guest house.

The row intensified after the BJP govt sealed the bungalow and announced plans to convert it into a state guest house. AAP dismissed BJP’s allegations of rule violations as politically motivated.

Rajasthan Civic Polls: Jaipur Ward 62 Re-Poll Ordered After 110 Deleted Voters Cast Ballots

IAN S
Jaipur, Sep 12:

The State Election Commission, Rajasthan, has directed that a re-poll be conducted at the polling station located at Government Upper Primary School (Room No. 4), Tila Wala, Sanganer, under Part No. 23 of Ward 62 of the Jaipur Municipal Corporation.

According to the Commission, an incident occurred during polling on Saturday, in which 110 voters whose names appeared in the list of deleted entries cast their votes at the polling station.

After examining reports submitted by the District Election Officer and the Returning Officer, the Commission concluded that the fairness of the election process had been compromised. In view of the circumstances, the Commission has ordered a fresh poll on September 13, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., under Rule 55 of the Rajasthan Municipalities



(Election) Rules, 1994.

The Commission has directed the concerned officials to provide written information about the date, time, and venue of the re-poll to all contesting candidates and their election agents. They have also been instructed to ensure wide publicity of the re-poll arrangements in the concerned area. Only voters who are duly authorised to vote will be permitted to cast their ballots during the re-poll.

For voter identification, indelible ink will be applied to the middle finger of the left hand. The mark will be made from the base of the nail to the first joint of the

finger.

The Commission has further clarified that, if required, fresh ballot papers and tendered ballot papers for use in connection with the EVMs may be printed. The EVMs used during the original polling on September 11 will be sealed and kept in safe custody.

Earlier, elections were conducted in a total of 309 urban local bodies across the two phases on September 9 and 11 in Rajasthan. The combined voter turnout was recorded at 72.95 per cent.

The election results are scheduled to be declared after counting of votes on September 14.

Air India pilot dies of cardiac arrest in Delhi hotel

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep 12:

An Air India pilot died of cardiac arrest while on a layover at a hotel in Delhi on Friday evening. The pilot was found unconscious in his room and was rushed to a hospital, where he was declared dead. The pilot, who had earlier worked with Air

India Express, joined Air India a few months ago and was undergoing training to operate Boeing 787 aircraft. He was scheduled to operate a flight early Saturday morning.

According to police, the pilot’s brother alerted the hotel after he failed to respond to calls. The room was opened with a master key,

and the pilot was found unresponsive inside. Air India said it was in touch with his family and extending all possible support.

The pilot was found unconscious after his brother alerted the hotel management. Police opened the room with a master key and rushed him to hospital, where he was declared dead.

Bihar Flood Situation Worsens, Nearly 48.22 Lakh People Affected

IAN S
Chennai, Sep 12:

Patna: The flood situation in Bihar worsened on Saturday, with nearly 48.22 lakh people across 15 districts affected as several major rivers, including the Ganga, continued to flow above danger levels.

According to the Disaster Management Department, the floods have affected 574 gram panchayats in 87 blocks across Patna, Bhojpur, Saran, Vaishali, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Buxar, Samastipur, Munger, Katihar, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Purnia, Madhepura and Araria. The number of affected people stood at 47.33 lakh on Friday.

The Water Resources Department has directed officials to maintain close watch over vulner-

able riverbanks and embankments, warning that sudden changes in water levels could trigger rapid erosion. Officials have been asked to immediately inspect areas showing signs of bank collapse or a shift in river currents and take preventive measures.

Continuous rainfall in Bihar, along with heavy showers in Nepal’s catchment areas, has caused water levels to rise in several rivers. The state has received 108.8 mm of rainfall so far in September, around 20 per cent above normal.

At 6 am on Saturday, the Ganga was flowing at 36.48 metres at Sultanganj in Bhagalpur, nearly 1.98 metres above the danger mark, although the water level was showing a declining trend. The Gandak, Kosi, Burhi Gandak, Punpun, Bagmati and Ghaghra rivers were also



flowing above danger levels at several locations.

The state government has stepped up relief and rescue operations. As many as 1,248 community kitchens and 13 relief camps are currently functioning, providing food, shelter and medical assistance to 12,260 flood-affected people.

Authorities have dis-

tributed around 3.53 lakh polythene sheets, 59,500 dry-ration packets and 1,400 food packets so far. About 1,794 boats are being used for evacuation and transportation, while 11,424 quintals of animal fodder have also been supplied.

To strengthen emergency response, 27 teams of the State Disaster

Response Force and 10 teams of the National Disaster Response Force have been deployed across affected districts.

The Bihar Meteorological Centre has forecast partly cloudy conditions across most parts of the state over the next two days, with the possibility of strong winds.



BRICS LEADERS REAFFIRM CULTURAL, PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE COOPERATION IN NEW DELHI DECLARATION

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep. 12



BRICS leaders on Saturday reaffirmed the importance of cultural and people-to-people cooperation in the New Delhi Declaration adopted at the 18th BRICS Summit. They said exchanges and initiatives were vital to promoting mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation among BRICS nations and their peoples. “We welcome the holding of important engagements such as the Parliamentary Forum, the BRICS Tourism Ministers’ Meeting, the Business Council, the Business Forum, the Women’s Business Alliance, the Youth Council, the Youth Summit, Meeting of the Deans of Diplomatic Academies, the Think Tank Council, the Academic Forum, the Civil Council and the Civil Forum,” the declaration said. The leaders called for greater respect for cultural diversity, innovation and creativity, and advocated stronger international people-to-people exchanges. They also recalled the UN General Assembly resolu-

tion on the “International Day for Dialogue among Civilisations”. They welcomed the outcomes of the BRICS Women Ministerial Meeting in Kochi, based on the vision of women-led development and women’s all-round advancement. The leaders also welcomed the outcomes of the 13th BRICS Education Ministers’ Meeting in Bhubaneswar and reaffirmed education co-operation as a driver of sustainable development, inclusive growth and people-to-people ties. On labour cooperation, they encouraged efforts to improve livelihoods, promote high-quality and productive employment, invest in human capital and

of economic growth, employment, foreign exchange earnings, inclusive development, local livelihoods, economic diversification, heritage preservation and cultural understanding. It said BRICS countries had strong potential to develop sustainable and resilient tourism, including ecotourism, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. It also highlighted sport as a vehicle for social development, people-to-people exchanges and healthy societies, commending the progress of the BRICS Sports Working Group and implementation of the memorandum on cooperation in physical culture and sport. The leaders reaffirmed youth’s role in advancing resilience, innovation, inclusion and sustainable development, and welcomed the BRICS Ministerial for Youth Affairs, Youth Council and Youth Summit. “We commend India’s BRICS Chairship in 2026 and express our gratitude to the government and people of India for holding the 18th BRICS Summit in the city of New Delhi,” the declaration said.

North Korea fires multiple short-range ballistic missiles towards East Sea: JCS

IAN S
Seoul, Sep. 12



North Korea fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles towards the East Sea on Saturday, South Korea’s military said, a day after South Korea, the US and Japan concluded their trilateral military exercise. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said it detected multiple ballistic missiles launched from the Wonsan area at around 5:20 a.m. The missiles flew about 250 km before falling into the sea. South Korean and US intelligence authorities are analysing their exact specifications, while relevant information was also shared with Japan, Yonhap News Agency reported. “Our military is closely monitoring North Korea’s various movements under a firm South Korea-US defence posture, and maintains the capabilities and readiness to overwhelmingly

respond to any provocations,” the JCS said. Sources said the North appeared to have fired Hwasong-11 series ballistic missiles and rounds from 600-mm multiple rocket launchers in successive launches. The latest launch came after Seoul, Washington and Tokyo concluded the five-day Freedom Edge exercise on Friday in international waters east and south of South Korea’s Jeju Island. The drills proceeded as planned despite Seoul and Washington scaling back their annual Ulchi Freedom Shield exercise

vowed to take “reflective countermeasures”. “If the US and its allies attempt to provoke a new military confrontation with the DPRK, the latter will take strong and reflective countermeasures from the standpoint of power,” Kim said, referring to North Korea by its official name, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. North Korea last fired a barrage of short-range ballistic missiles towards the East Sea on August 20, during the allies’ UFS drills. Pyongyang has long condemned joint South Korea-US exercises as rehearsals for invasion and frequently responds with weapons tests. Saturday’s launch came ahead of an expected high-stakes summit between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Washington later this month, where North Korea-related issues are expected to be discussed.

CIA BRIEF FLAGGED BIN LADEN THREAT TO INDIA

IAN S
Washington, Sep. 12

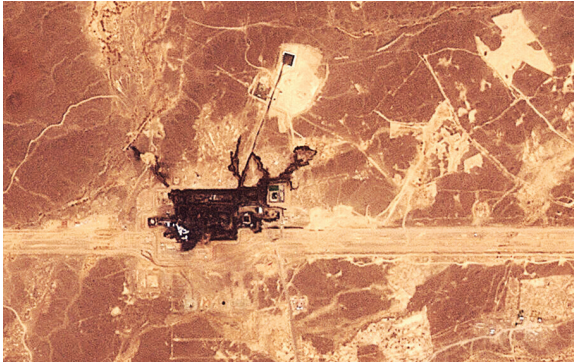
A CIA intelligence brief listed India among countries where Osama bin Laden intended to carry out attacks in 1998, according to newly released documents detailing his network’s global reach and links in Pakistan. The August 28, 1998, assessment named India and Pakistan, along with Egypt, countries in the Arabian Peninsula, Uganda and possibly Nigeria, as potential locations for attacks. The source was redacted, and the document did not identify an Indian target, attack date or

specific operational plan. Titled Bin Ladin Terrorist Network Still a Threat, the brief said bin Laden and other terrorist leaders in Afghanistan had survived US strikes, while their communications network remained intact. Training had resumed at some camps and others were being relocated. It assessed that bin Laden could draw on individuals and allied groups in at least 60 countries. The document is among 71 President’s Daily Brief products declassified by CIA Director John Ratcliffe to mark the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks.

The CIA described the collection as its largest release of declassified presidential briefing products related to 9/11. The documents also detail the Taliban’s refusal to expel bin Laden and Pakistan’s dealings with his network. A January 3, 2000, assessment said the Taliban’s Council of Ministers had unanimously decided against expelling him following Saudi and Emirati extradition requests. A June 27, 2000, brief described Pakistani efforts to restrict bin Laden’s network amid international pressure and fears that Islamic radicals could destabilise

IRAQ SACKS COMMANDER AFTER DRONES LAUNCHED FROM MAYSAN TARGET SAUDI ARABIA

IAN S
Baghdad, Sep. 12



Iraq’s Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Ali al-Zaidi, on Saturday dismissed the commander of the Maysan Operations Command after authorities confirmed that drone attacks targeting Saudi Arabia had been launched from a site in Maysan province in southern Iraq. Al-Zaidi also ordered an investigation into the Maysan Operations Command by forming a special investigative council, Sabah al-Numan, spokesman for the commander-in-chief of the Iraqi forces, said in a statement. The action came after the Iraqi government on Friday night condemned the attacks on Saudi Arabia, saying it rejected “any aggression that threatens the Kingdom’s security and stability”, Xinhua News Agency reported. Al-Numan said the Iraqi government appreciated Saudi Arabia’s response to Baghdad’s efforts to contain the situation. “The state will not tolerate any activity that endangers Iraq or its re-

lations with brotherly and friendly countries,” he said. Iraq also reaffirmed that its territory and airspace would “not be used as a launching point for attacks against any country” and said its policy was based on respect for the sovereignty of states. The Saudi Foreign Ministry said on Friday that several drones launched from Iraq had attacked the country’s East-West Pipeline, causing injuries and damage. Condemning the attacks, the ministry said that at the request of the Iraqi prime minister, Saudi Arabia had refrained from responding at this stage. Saudi Arabia has invested heavily in the East-West Pipeline, which transports crude oil from the country’s eastern oil-

fields to the Red Sea port of Yanbu, bypassing the Strait of Hormuz. In July, US and Saudi Arabian forces carried out precision airstrikes against Iran-aligned groups in eastern Iraq after more than 30 drone attacks targeted US troops and Saudi energy infrastructure, the US Central Command (CENTCOM) said. US and Saudi fighter aircraft struck several logistics and weapons sites used by the groups, according to CENTCOM. It described the operation as a response to aerial attacks conducted over the preceding 72 hours under the direction of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. “The unwarranted attacks against US forces were not successful,” CENTCOM said.

Pezeshkian meets President Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan

IAN S
New Delhi Sep. 12



Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian met President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Saturday during his visit to India for the 18th BRICS Summit. Pezeshkian arrived in New Delhi on Friday and was received by Union Minister of State Shantanu Thakur. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said India and Iran share civilisational ties, strong cultural links and close people-to-people bonds, and are working together as BRICS partners for shared progress and prosperity. The meeting came a day after Pezeshkian held talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit. The two leaders reviewed bilateral ties and discussed recent developments in West Asia. Modi reiterated India’s position that regional issues should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy, and stressed the need for continued efforts to ensure

lasting peace and stability. He also underlined the importance of safeguarding freedom of navigation and commerce, along with the safety and well-being of seafarers. The meeting was the second between Modi and Pezeshkian in less than two weeks. They had earlier met on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Bishkek on August 31. Modi thanked Iran for its regular, high-level participation in BRICS meetings despite challenging circumstances. He highlighted the bloc’s potential to promote resilience, innovation, cooperation and sustainability among countries of the Global South. According to the MEA, Modi also thanked Pezeshkian for partic-

ipating in the Leaders’ Session of the BRICS Business Forum. The two leaders appreciated continued cooperation between India and Iran on issues of mutual interest in multilateral organisations, including BRICS. India is hosting the 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on September 12-13. The summit brings together leaders of BRICS member and partner countries and outreach invitees. India’s BRICS Chairship is guided by the theme “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”, reflecting a people-centric approach rooted in “Humanity First”, the MEA said.

PAX SILICA OFFERS OPPORTUNITY BUT RAISES QUESTIONS FOR BANGLADESH

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep. 12

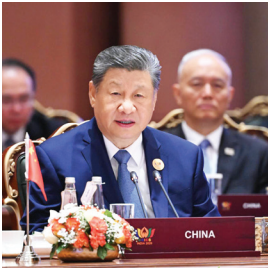
Bangladesh could become a Pax Silica partner, joining an alliance focused on artificial intelligence, semiconductors and critical mineral supply chains. Launched by the US in December 2025, Pax Silica seeks secure supply chains for critical minerals, semiconductors, AI infrastructure, advanced manufacturing and digital platforms. Its members include the US, UK, Japan, Singapore and India. For Bangladesh, the initiative could help diversify an economy heavily depen-

dent on garment exports. However, its technological capabilities remain limited. “Bangladesh’s current capabilities remain far below the level required to bargain as an equal partner. Semiconductor exports of \$8 million are tiny beside the announced \$1 billion target for 2030,” the report said. The country also faces unreliable power supply, limited research capacity, weak industrial ecosystems and regulatory constraints that could limit the benefits of technology partnerships. Closer alignment with

At a Glance

Xi Jinping: BRICS enters third golden decade

IAN S
Beijing/New Delhi, Sep. 12



China will assume the BRICS Chairship in 2027 and host the 19th BRICS Summit, President Xi Jinping said on Saturday, pledging to build consensus and work with all members. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said on X that China would “seize the opportunity to build consensus and work with all parties to plan for the future”. “Together, we will usher in the third golden decade of BRICS cooperation,” she said. On the Middle East, Xi said the war had caused serious losses to people across the region and was against the common interests of the international community. He called on relevant parties to pursue a political settlement and work towards a permanent and comprehensive ceasefire. Mao said China would work with fellow BRICS members to contribute to peace and stability in the region. Earlier on Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Xi held a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. At the meeting, Modi thanked Xi for China’s support and cooperation during India’s BRICS Chairship. “I thank you for your positive statement at the BRICS Summit. I express my gratitude for the support and cooperation received from China during India’s BRICS chairship,” Modi said, while welcoming Xi to India. The two leaders also discussed bilateral cooperation. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and other officials attended the meeting. India, which holds the BRICS Chairship in 2026, is hosting the two-day 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi from Saturday, bringing together leaders of member and partner countries and outreach invitees.

Corporate hospitals were built to save lives

By: Shujath Ali Sufi

Corporate hospitals were built to save lives. Somewhere along the way, too many began looking like businesses built around the sick.

Nobody questions the cost of modern medicine. But when every test has a price, every consumable carries a charge and every extra day adds another zero to the bill, patients have the right to ask: Are we treating the disease—or feeding the billing machine?

A frightened family is the easiest target. Tell them the scan is urgent, they pay. Say surgery cannot wait, they borrow. Keep a patient in ICU, and the meter keeps running. When life is at stake, bargaining becomes impossible.

The result? Families sell jewellery, mortgage homes, empty savings and borrow heavily just to keep someone alive. The patient may survive. The family may not recover financially for years.

Hospital bills often arrive like secret codes—pages of technical jargon, consumables and miscellaneous charges that ordinary people cannot decipher. Healthcare should not require a patient to become a medical expert and an accountant before understanding what they are being charged for.

And the uncomfortable question must be asked: Is every test necessary? Is every procedure essential? Is every additional hospital day medically justified?

Hospitals have costs. Doctors deserve to be paid. Businesses can make legitimate profits. But illness must never become a licence for exploitation.

A hospital is not a shopping mall.

An ICU is not a cash counter.

A patient’s fear is not a business model.

And saving a life should not mean destroying a family’s future.

Regulators need to stop merely issuing guidelines and start enforcing accountability. Bills must be transparent. Charges must be explainable. Unnecessary procedures must face scrutiny. Patients must have the right to independent second opinions.

The public deserves healthcare—not healthcare racketeering disguised as sophistication.

When a patient walks into a hospital, the first question should be, “How do we save this life?”

Not, “How much can we make from it?”

Al Qaeda is moving back towards a centralised, personality-driven leadership structure, moving away from its earlier decentralised regional model as it seeks to regain operational space from the Islamic State, intelligence officials said.

Al Qaeda came under intense pressure from the United States and other Western countries following the 9/11 attacks. The outfit was already significantly weakened, but suffered a major setback after its founder, Osama bin Laden, was killed by US forces in Pakistan in 2011.

After bin Laden’s death, his successor, Ayman al-Zawahiri, sought to move the outfit away from its earlier personality-driven leadership model. Under his leadership, Al Qaeda increasingly adopted a regional structure, with affiliated groups operating across Africa, Arab countries and the Indian subcontinent, including Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS).

Each of these regions was governed by different leaders whose job was just to run operations. This strategy is, however, set to change, and Al Qaeda realises that it needs to move back to the personality-driven strategy rather than having different leaders running the outfit in the various regions.

An official said that Al Qaeda is desperate to make a comeback.

“It realises that it has lost plenty of space to the Islamic State. Al Qaeda is also moving towards the Islamic State style whereby propaganda and radicalisation would be the primary driving factors,” the official said.

In terms of operations, Al Qaeda would use much less manpower and focus on carrying out terror attacks using drones, the official said.

To ensure that Al Qaeda goes back to its personality-driven model, the outfit’s media wing, Al Shahab, released a video of Hamza Bin Laden, the designated heir of Osama Bin Laden.

An Intelligence Bureau official said that this is a strategic move by the

Chart a Path Toward Pandemic-Resilient Care

India Health Forward 2047 Brings National Healthcare Leaders Together in Hyderabad

Compassionate Patient Response, Inc. (CPR) brought together over 100 leaders from healthcare, government, technology, academia, philanthropy, and investment at India Health Forward 2047: Creating Systems for Future of Care, held on Saturday, September 12, at Le Meridien, Hyderabad. The summit examined how India can build scalable, equitable, and pandemic-resilient healthcare systems ahead of the nation’s centenary in 2047.

A Day of Dialogue and Commitment

The summit opened with welcome remarks from CPR Co-Founder Krishna Kottapalli, followed by lamp lighting by spiritual teacher and author Sri M, Founder of The Satsang Foundation, who also addressed the gathering. This was followed by the opening keynote address from Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, physician, former IAS officer, and Founder & President of the Foundation for Democratic Reforms and Loksatta Party. The summit closed with a keynote address from Dr. P.V. Ramesh, former National and International

Civil Servant and former Principal Health Secretary of Andhra Pradesh/Telangana.

Over the course of the afternoon, four panels brought together practitioners, investors, and policymakers to translate dialogue into actionable next steps:

Panel 1 – Designing Scalable Care Infrastructure for Tier 2 & Tier 3 India

Panel 2 – Digital Health Implementation: What Works, What Fails, What Scales

Panel 3 – Funding the Future of Healthcare: CSR, Public-Private Partnerships & Ecosystem Collaboration

Panel 4 – Integrating the Ecosystem for Long-Term Clinical Outcomes

A key moment of the evening was a live testimonial shared by a patient treated at Maa Sharda Hospital in Vikarabad, a hospital partner that has benefitted from CPR’s fundraising efforts. The testimonial underscored the direct impact of CPR’s work on patients and their families, reaffirming the organization’s mission.

Looking Ahead: Four Regions, Four Hospitals

As the next chapter of this work, CPR is launching a two-year initiative



with organizations such as Rangaraya Hospital and Bajaj Finserv — supporting a fundraising goal of ₹10 crore over the next two years.

Leadership Perspective

“CPR is a journey of social consciousness, empathy, and compassion — an attempt to address the fundamental human right to healthcare in a society where care for everyone is a must,” said Dr. Satya Garimella, Co-Founder of CPR and cardiologist and cardiac electrophysiologist at Baptist Health Floyd in Louisville, USA.

“It stands for hope during the most daunting times in a patient’s life — a hope that should never be denied because of social or financial hierarchy. We started with the hope of touching one life, and today we have been fortunate enough to touch more than 10,000.”

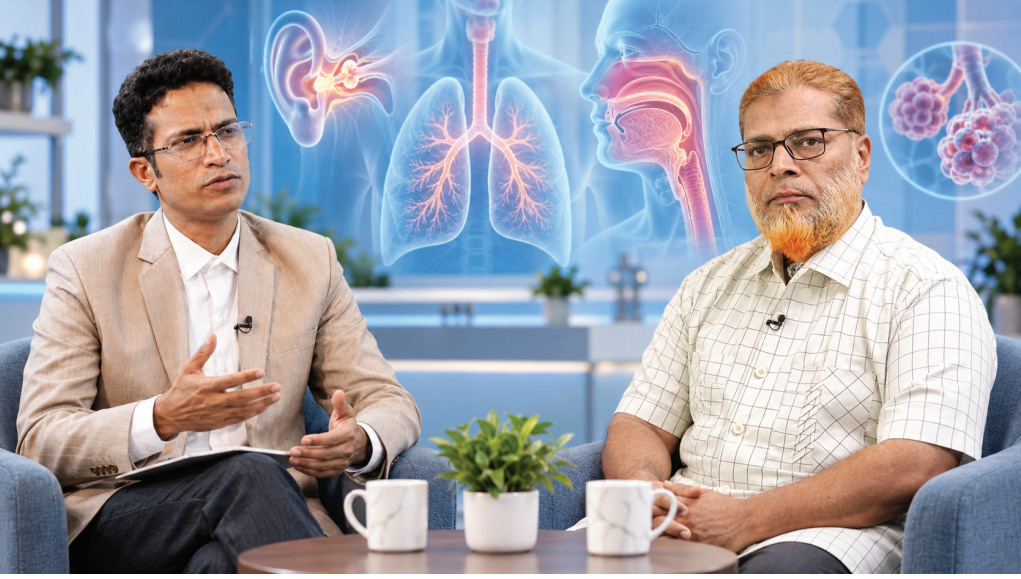
“The future of healthcare cannot be a conversation restricted to one segment. It requires partnership and collaboration across fields — from hospitals to academic institutions, and from government to private insurers to industry,” said Krishna Kottapalli, Co-Founder of CPR and healthcare entrepreneur.

“Everyone in this room is a key stakeholder. We are doing our part to move the needle, but it is your ideas and actions that will truly shape the healthcare system in India.”

Listening to the Warning Signs: Munsif Health Programme Focuses on Ear, Nose, Throat and Breathing Disorders

Hakim Ghulam Mohiuddin discusses recurring ENT symptoms, hearing loss, sinus problems, respiratory complaints and tobacco-related oral damage, stressing timely medical evaluation and caution against ignoring persistent symptoms.

- Programme highlights persistent ear pain, tinnitus, hearing difficulty, nasal allergy, sinusitis and breathing complaints.
- Viewers were advised not to ignore sudden hearing loss, severe breathlessness, chest pain or symptoms following injury.
- Excessive headphone use, loud sound exposure, pollution and tobacco products figured prominently in the discussion.
- Parents were urged to seek evaluation when young children do not respond normally to sound or show delayed speech.
- The programme repeatedly emphasised professional consultation instead of indiscriminate self-medication.



Dr Abdul Mogni Siddiqui in discussion with Hakim Ghulam Mohiuddin during *Sehat Ki Baat*, focusing on ear, nose, throat and respiratory health concerns.

Recurrent ear pain, reduced hearing, persistent nasal congestion, sinus problems and breathing difficulty should not automatically be dismissed as minor seasonal complaints, health experts said during a special episode of *Sehat Ki Baat*, Munsif News 24x7’s health series.

The programme, hosted by Dr Abdul Mogni Siddiqui, featured Hakim Ghulam Mohiuddin, Consultant Ortho-Neuro and General Unani Physician, Director of Ayesha Hospital and Chief Consultant at Luqmaan Clinic. The episode was presented with the support of Luqmaan Clinic and Ayesha Hospital.

Mohiuddin said ear, nose, throat and respiratory complaints are often interconnected and argued that recurring symptoms merit timely assessment. The discussion covered earache, wax build-up, tinnitus, dizziness, hearing impairment, allergic rhinitis, loss of smell, nosebleeds, sinusitis, throat problems and respiratory symptoms.

Particular concern was raised over prolonged exposure to loud music and continuous headphone use. The programme noted that people who repeatedly ask others to speak louder, keep television volume unusually high or struggle to follow conversations in crowded environments may require hearing assessment.

Attention was also drawn to children who fail to respond consistently to sound or show delayed speech development. The programme advised parents to seek professional evaluation rather than wait for the problem to resolve on its own.

Callers raised questions about recurrent cough and cold, vertigo associated with ear complaints and oral problems linked to gutka use. Mohiuddin warned that tobacco, gutka and similar products can seriously damage oral tissues and urged early consultation when persistent ulcers, restricted mouth opening or other abnormalities develop.

The programme also discussed home remedies used in traditional practice. However, viewers were repeatedly advised to seek qualified medical opinion, particularly when symptoms are persistent, severe or associated with injury. Sudden hearing loss, severe breathing difficulty, chest pain, bluish lips or rapidly worsening asthma-like symptoms were identified as situations requiring prompt medical attention.

- OUTCOME -

What Changes Now

◆ ◆ ◆

- Sudden or rapidly worsening hearing loss
- Severe breathlessness or chest pain
- Recurrent dizziness with ear symptoms
- Nosebleeding following injury or accident
- A child not responding normally to sound
- Persistent oral lesions or restricted mouth opening

FM Sitharaman, Zou Jiayi discuss opportunities to further deepen India-AIIB partnership

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday met the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) President Zou Jiayi and discussed opportunities to further deepen the India-AIIB partnership.

They also discussed ways to support India’s infrastructure and transport connectivity priorities, enhance local-currency financing, increase private-sector participation and global presence of AIIB, according to Finance Ministry.

Jiayi arrived in New Delhi to attend the 18th ‘BRICS Summit 2026’. Extending a warm welcome to Jiayi, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) took to X and posted, “The visit will strengthen partnerships to advance sustainable development and expand opportunities for emerging economies.”

Sitharaman earlier met Denis Manturov, First Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation.

Both sides held discussions on ways to further strengthen and deepen economic cooperation between the two countries.

It was agreed to advance negotiations on a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT), with a view to establishing a mutually beneficial framework for enhancing investment flows and economic engagement, according to an official statement. They also deliberated on opportunities to further strengthen co-operation in the financial services sector.

Meanwhile, PM Modi on Saturday announced the unanimous adoption of the New Delhi Declaration 2026 at the 18th BRICS Summit held in the national capital.

In his closing remarks at the BRICS Summit’s session on ‘Inclusive Global Governance and Strengthening Multilateralism’, PM Modi said, “The New Delhi Declaration adopted today gives clear direction to our shared resolve. Now it is our responsibility to convert these resolutions into concrete results.”

PM Modi said that the discussions between the BRICS leaders included perspectives on key regional and global issues and priorities to further strengthen BRICS cooperation.



1st T20I: Eyes on Delhi skies as Afghanistan-India lock horns in opener



New Delhi, Sep 12:

Delhi weather will be in focus as Afghanistan host India for a three-match T20I series in the national capital from Sunday onwards.

The monsoon in Delhi has brought sparse showers to the national capital in the last fortnight, and weather promises to be one of the things to keep a tap on as the two teams gear up for the clashes at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi.

As per AccuWeather, there is a 64 per cent chance of precipitation on Sunday as the rain threatens to interrupt the opener. The match is slated to begin at 7 PM and, going by hourly updates, the weather threat looms large in the afternoon and evening, more so than in the morning.

Till 12 noon, the rain chances stand at 10 per cent or fewer, but from 1 PM onwards, the precipitation chances hover around the 50 per cent mark. By 6 PM, the precipitation chances stay at 40 per cent, while at 7 they decline further to 37 per cent.

The precipitation chance increases a touch to 40 per cent for the next two hours before dropping to 37 per cent at 10 PM and 34 per cent at 11 PM. It seems that the weather won't be able to wash the clash out, but it can intervene with occasional showers.

Weather permitting, eyes will be on the Indian big guns, with the likes of Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Sanju Samson and Axar Patel back in the squad after missing the 3-0 Zimbabwe T20I series.

Bumrah, Nitish Kumar Reddy and Washington Sundar have all been cleared fit to play as the BCCI confirmed that Harshit Rana was out due to a "rectus femoris strain", with Yash Thakur replacing him. The series marks Shreyas Iyer's first assignment as India captain in India. Although Afghanistan are the official hosts, Iyer would be leading the Men in Blue for the first time on Indian soil after leading them in the UK and in Zimbabwe.

India would look for a strong outing after they lost the two-match T20I series to Ireland 2-0 and a five-game T20I rubber to England 4-0 in their seven-game trip to the UK. However, India bounced back strongly in Zimbabwe with a 3-0 sweep.

"Hunger Still the Same": Shami Marks 100th First-Class Match with the Same Fire



New Delhi, Sep 12:

Veteran India fast bowler Mohammed Shami described his 100th first-class match as a special milestone, saying his hunger for wickets and passion for the game remain unchanged.

Shami reached the landmark while representing East Zone in the Duleep Trophy 2026 final against South Zone. East Zone went on to win the title, making the occasion even more memorable for the 36-year-old pacer.

"100th match is always special. It is a very long journey, with sacrifices and a goal in life," Shami said.

Reflecting on his career, he said the biggest difference now is his experience and maturity. "The hunger for the wicket and the passion to run are the same as before. Now I know planning and plotting better, and there is more maturity," he added.

Shami took 2/42 in the final and said the struggles and ups and downs of life have only strengthened his passion to keep competing.

Former India Cricketer S Sreesanth's Father Passes Away at 89



New Delhi, Sep 12:

Former India cricketer S Sreesanth is mourning the death of his father, V. Santhakumaran Nair, who passed away at the age of 89 while undergoing treatment at Lisie Hospital in Kochi, Kerala.

Santhakumaran Nair breathed his last at 9.44 pm on Friday at the hospital, where he had been receiving treatment. He hailed from Mathirappilly near Kothamangalam.

His mortal remains have been kept at the Lisie Hospital mortuary. Family members who are currently abroad are expected to arrive on Sunday, following which the body will be

taken to the family home in Kothamangalam.

The mortal remains will be kept at the family residence from 10 am to 2 pm on Sunday to allow relatives, friends and well-wishers to pay their last respects. The funeral is scheduled to be held around 4 pm on Sunday, according to the family.

Santhakumaran Nair is survived by his wife T.N. Savithridevi and children Deepusanth, Niveditha, Divya and former India cricketer S Sreesanth. His family also includes sons-in-law and daughters-in-law, including Kalpana, Captain Sajith, playback singer Madhu Balakrishnan and Dhuvaneshwari.

Star-studded field set for second edition of Archery Premier League



New Delhi, Sep 12:

The second edition of the Archery Premier League will be held in Hyderabad from October 8 to 18, featuring 36 Indian archers and 12 international stars from 10 countries.

Olympians Deepika Kumari, Atanu Das and Dhiraj Bommadevara will headline India's re-curve squad, while Jyothi Surekha Vennam and Ojas Deotale will feature in the compound category. Tokyo

Olympic champion Mete Gazoz, world No. 1 Marcus D'Almeida and Paris 2024 bronze medallist Casey Kaufhold are among the international stars taking part.

The six-team league will be held at People's Plaza on Necklace Road, with defending champions Rajputana Royals returning to defend their title. The Archery Premier League will feature 48 archers in Hyderabad from October 8 to 18, with six teams competing at People's Plaza.

'Stay on top of the rallies': Rybakina reveals plan to counter Sabalenka in US Open final

New Delhi, Sep 12:

Elena Rybakina said she will look to stay aggressive and control the rallies rather than allow Aryna Sabalenka to dictate play when the two meet in the US Open women's singles final at Arthur Ashe Stadium on Sunday.

Rybakina, who came from a set down to beat Coco Gauff 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the semifinal, knows she faces another stern test against defending champion Sabalenka, who defeated Jessica Pegula 7-5, 6-2 to reach her fourth consecutive US Open final.

"We know each other pretty well and have played so many times against each other. Yeah, just try to stay aggressive in important moments, not wait for her to dictate the point, and try to stay on top of the rallies," Rybakina told Jio Hotstar.

The final will be the 18th meeting between the two, with Sabalenka holding a 10-7 advantage in their head-to-head record. Rybakina, however, has already beaten her rival in a Grand Slam final this year, winning the Australian Open title in January.

Rybakina's run to the final has been particularly impressive given the doubts surrounding her participation before the tournament. She revealed that she was un-



sure whether she would be able to compete due to a foot problem and that she needed time to feel comfortable on court.

"I wasn't 100 per cent sure if I was going to be able to even play this tournament. In the first few matches, I was thinking about my foot and how it was actually going to react. I was not that comfortable playing the first few matches," she said.

"Then, slowly, my focus moved towards what I was doing wrong on the court and what I needed to improve. So yeah, slowly I found my way; there were also some very difficult opponents and great matches. I feel like something is definitely going my way, and I hope that

on finals day, I can do my best and that it also brings me success," she added.

Rybakina has had to dig deep physically during her run, playing back-to-back three-set matches in the quarterfinal and semifinal. She admitted there were moments when she felt the physical strain but said she kept convincing herself that she had enough energy to continue fighting.

"During the match, I was telling myself that I had not been practising for a week before the tournament. I was convincing myself that I wasn't tired and that I could still push, so yeah, honestly, I was just fighting for every point because both matches were very close," she said.

England Complete 3-0 Clean Sweep as Pakistan Fall Again at Edgbaston



New Delhi, Sep 12:

England continued their dominance at home, defeating Pakistan by eight wickets in the Edgbaston Test to complete a 3-0 clean sweep in the three-match series.

England, who had tightened their grip on the match from the opening day, wrapped up the con-

test on the fourth day. After restricting Pakistan to 449 in their second innings, the hosts were set a modest target of 130 runs.

The chase, however, got off to a dramatic start for England. Pakistan pacer Mohammad Abbas struck twice in the very first over. Ben Duckett was caught by the wicketkeeper off the first ball for a duck, while

Emilio Gay was trapped lbw off the final delivery, leaving England two wickets down without a run on the board.

Despite the early setback, captain Joe Root and Jordan Cox showed great composure. Root remained unbeaten on 62, while Cox finished on 59 not out as the pair added a crucial century partnership to take England comfortably across the finish line.

Abbas bowled an impressive spell and finished with 2-27, but Pakistan failed to capitalise on the early breakthroughs. Root also survived a major scare when he was bowled on 23, only for the delivery to be ruled a no-ball. He made full use of the reprieve and went on to play a match-winning innings.

The eight-wicket victory gave England their third consecutive win of the series and sealed a comprehensive 3-0 triumph over Pakistan.

'Leadership is something I really enjoy': Padikkal on India A captaincy

New Delhi, Sep 11:

Devdutt Padikkal is excited to begin his India A captaincy journey after being named skipper for the upcoming four-day matches against Australia A in Puducherry.

Padikkal gained valuable leadership experience while captaining Karnataka during the 2025-26 Ranji

Trophy season. He said the experience was a major learning curve and he hopes to carry those lessons into the India A set-up.

The left-hander has also enjoyed a strong run in red-ball cricket, recently returning to the India Test side and scoring centuries in successive Tests against Sri Lanka. He also made

62 for South Zone in the Duleep Trophy final.

Padikkal said captaincy is an added responsibility but can also help his batting by giving him greater motivation to contribute to the team's success. Devdutt Padikkal will captain India A against Australia A in Puducherry, drawing on his leadership experience with Karnataka.

Salman Khan's 'Maatrubhumi' release date to be announced soon after CBFC review!



Mumbai, Sep 12:

Salman Khan's forthcoming war drama, 'Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace', which was earlier called, 'Battle of Galwan', is one of the most anticipated films, adding to the buzz with every update.

As movie buffs wait with bated breath for some new update regarding the project, the sources claim that the makers will be announcing the release date for the Salman starrer as soon as (CBFC Central Board of Film Certification) watches the film.

The source further claimed that the work for 'Maatrubhumi' is almost finished, with only some VFX portions remaining.

A source close to the film shared, "Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace is almost ready. Just a few portions of the VFX are still in process, and the film is going to offer an absolutely spectacular theatrical experience like never before. As soon as all the relevant departments, including the CBFC, have watched the film, the makers will announce the release date. As of now, the censor board has not seen the film. Further updates will follow once the film reaches its final stage ahead of its public release."

Made under the direction of Apoorva Lakhia, the movie is a cinematic adaptation of the 2020 Galwan Valley clash on June 15,

2020, when our Indian soldiers clashed with Chinese troops in the Galwan Valley.

The movie will focus on Colonel Santosh Babu (Played by Salman Khan) and the 16 Bihar Regiment, who were tasked with enforcing a disengagement agreement along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Backed by Salman Khan Films, the film also stars Chitrangda Singh as the leading lady.

Salman's lineup further includes Vamshi Paidipally's 'SVC 63', co-starring Nayanthara, and an untitled thriller with Raj & DK.

In addition to this, Salman has returned as the host for the beloved reality show 'Bigg Boss 20'.

Tiger Shroff revisits his 'Baaghi' days practising kick boxing on the streets of Bangkok

Mumbai, Sep 12:

Bollywood actor Tiger Shroff took fans down memory lane by sharing a throwback rehearsal video from his Baaghi days, in which he can be seen practising kickboxing on the streets of Bangkok.

Tiger shared the old clip on Saturday and captioned it, "Just an Indian

kid kicking some ass on the streets of Bangkok," recalling his Baaghi rehearsals. The video appeared to show him preparing for one of the film's intense action sequences.

The post quickly drew reactions from fans, who praised Tiger's martial arts and action skills. One user called him a

"beast mode" performer, while another described him as the "world's oungest action hero." The Baaghi franchise remains one of the most popular film series of Tiger's career. The first film, directed by Sabbir Khan, was released in 2016 and featured Shraddha Kapoor and Sudheer Babu alongside Tiger.

