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HM Shah to
inaugurate 3rd
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Conference in Delhi,
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India

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Ex-India fast
bowler Zaheer Khan
appointed Chennai
Super Kings head
coach for IPL 2027

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BJP Wins 197 Rajasthan Civic Body Posts, Congress 94

AAP, CPM and RLP secure one post each; remaining mayoral contests due on September 25

Jaipur, Sept 21

The BJP has won 197 mayoral and chairperson posts as results for 301 civic bodies in Rajasthan were declared, while Congress secured 94. Independents won seven posts, and AAP, CPM and RLP bagged one each.

The BJP also won mayoral posts in six of the seven municipal corporations declared so far, while Congress retained Bikaner. BJP candidates registered notable wins in Ajmer and Pali despite Congress having stronger councillor numbers there.

The electoral process is not yet complete, with mayoral elections in three municipal corporations, including Jaipur, and one municipality scheduled for September 25.

In Ajmer, BJP's Anamika Sharma was elected mayor after securing 43 votes, despite the BJP having won 32 councillor seats in the corporation. In Pali, BJP candidate Namita Bubakia won the mayoral election with 33 votes. The BJP secured 21 councillor seats, while Congress won 29. However, Congress candidate Sumitra



- BJP bags 197 of 301 posts declared so far
- Congress wins 94; Independents secure seven
- BJP takes six of seven declared mayoral posts
- Final contests, including Jaipur, due September 25

Jain received only three votes.

The BJP also secured the mayoral posts in Udaipur and Alwar. Paras Singhvi won in Udaipur, while Sumanlata Agarwal emerged victorious in Alwar. Agarwal secured 42 votes against Congress candidate Kamlesh Sharma, who received 23 votes. In Bikaner, Congress candidate Anil Kalla was elected mayor. Kalla is the nephew of former minister BD Kalla.

Another notable result came from Atru municipality in Baran, where Congress candidate Nisha Nainwal defeated Krishna Murari Dilawar, brother of Education Minister Madan Dilawar, by three votes in the chairperson election.

The results also saw the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) make a surprise entry by winning a civic body chairperson post.

CPM and RLP also secured one post each, while independents won seven posts.

Owaisi Sets Oct 2 Deadline for UP Alliance; Congress, Rajbhar Push Back

AIMIM chief calls for Opposition unity and stronger Muslim representation ahead of 2027 polls; Congress leaders question tie-up while UP minister Rajbhar says alliance unlikely

New Delhi/Lucknow, Sept 21

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi has said his party will announce its decision on an alliance for the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections by October 2, as political exchanges intensified over the possibility of a broader Opposition arrangement in the state.

Owaisi said AIMIM was fully preparing for the elections and hoped to send its candidates to the Uttar Pradesh Assembly. He stressed the need for greater political representation of Muslims and said leadership should also emerge from within the community.

Pitching for Opposition cooperation, Owaisi said parties seeking to prevent the BJP from securing a third consecutive term in

- AIMIM to announce its alliance decision for UP elections by October 2
- Owaisi says Opposition parties cannot stop BJP individually
- Party seeks greater political representation and leadership for Muslims
- Congress leaders criticise AIMIM's strategy; Rajbhar doubts Owaisi-SP-Congress tie-up

Uttar Pradesh should consider working together, arguing that no single political party could achieve that objective alone. AIMIM has been stepping up organisational and public outreach activities across the state. His remarks, however, drew sharp reactions from rival parties.

Uttar Pradesh Minister and SBSP chief Om Prakash Rajbhar said he did not expect Owaisi, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and Congress leader Rahul

Gandhi to come together, citing differences over political leadership and representation.

Congress MP Imran Masood also criticised Owaisi's proposal, arguing that AIMIM's electoral presence could ultimately benefit the BJP. His remarks represented Congress criticism of AIMIM's strategy rather than an established finding about its electoral impact. Congress leaders also said no alliance discussions with AIMIM had taken place.

With Owaisi now fixing October 2 as the date for clarity on AIMIM's alliance plans, attention is expected to focus on whether the party contests independently or reaches an electoral understanding with other political groups ahead of the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections.



Six Children Drown in Bihar Floodwaters

Bhagalpur, Sept 21

Six children drowned while bathing in floodwaters in the Sultanaganj block area of Bihar's Bhagalpur district, officials said on Monday.

The incident occurred near a gas warehouse close to Tareta village under Bhirkhurd panchayat.

According to local residents, the children had entered the floodwaters when they reportedly lost their balance and drowned. Residents launched a search operation and informed the Sultanaganj police and the Circle Officer.

The bodies of all six children were subsequently recovered and taken to Sultanaganj Hospital. Arrangements were being made to send the bodies to Bhagalpur for a post-mortem examination. The children were reportedly residents of Dudhaila village.

Speaking to IANS, a relative of one of the deceased children said: "The children had gone to pluck flowers for puja. They did not know that it (the water) was deep. While trying to hold on to each other, they all fell in."

Another relative said, "They left home at 9 a.m. and said they were go-

Telangana Media Delegation Visits PIB Kolkata, Discusses Government-Media Communication

Five-day press tour offers journalists first-hand exposure to key institutions and developmental initiatives in West Bengal

Kolkata, Sept 21

A delegation of journalists from Telangana, currently undertaking a five-day media familiarisation tour of Kolkata, visited the Press Information Bureau (PIB), Kolkata, where the members held an extensive interaction with T. V. K. Reddy, Director General, East Zone.

The visit formed part of the delegation's programme aimed at providing journalists with first-hand exposure to important institutions, developmental initiatives and public communication mechanisms in West Bengal.

During the interaction, Reddy outlined the objectives of the press tour and spoke about the pivotal role of the Press Information Bureau in serving as an institutional bridge between the Government and the media. He explained the functioning of PIB's East Zone and the mechanisms through which information relating to government policies, flagship programmes, welfare initiatives and development projects is disseminated



to journalists and the wider public.

The discussion also covered the evolving nature of government communication in an increasingly digital media environment, the importance of timely access to authentic information, and the role of regional journalists in taking policy-related information to audiences beyond metropolitan centres.

Members of the Telangana delegation exchanged views with PIB officials on their professional experiences, information requirements and expectations from such media outreach pro-

grammes. The interaction provided an opportunity for journalists to gain a deeper understanding of the institutional processes involved in public information dissemination and media coordination.

Munsif Daily Correspondent Syed Iftequar Hussain is among the journalists representing Telangana on the five-day press tour. He participated in the interaction at PIB Kolkata and other engagements organised as part of the visit.

The tour is designed to enable participating journalists to engage directly with senior officials and

institutions and obtain first-hand insights into projects and initiatives of wider public importance, thereby enriching field-based reporting and strengthening professional interaction between the media and public institutions.

As part of the interaction, commemorative mementoes were also exchanged. Syed Iftequar Hussain is seen at right in the accompanying photograph while presenting a memento during the visit, marking the occasion and the professional exchange between the visiting Telangana media delegation and PIB Kolkata.

Two Arrested After Minor Student Molested in Bihar

Patna, Sept 21

Two persons have been arrested after a video allegedly showing the molestation of a minor schoolgirl in Bihar's Jamui district went viral on social media.

The Class 10 student and a boy were reportedly travelling on a scooter after coaching classes when a group intercepted them near the Jamui-Lakhisarai border. The video allegedly shows the girl being physically harassed and the boy being assaulted when he intervened.

Jamui police have launched an investigation and arrested two suspects. Officers are examining the video to identify others involved and establish the exact circumstances of the incident.

Police said further details would become clear after the investigation.

HC Notice to Two BRS MLCs in Speaker Abuse Case



Hyderabad, Sept 21

The Telangana High Court on Monday issued notices to BRS MLCs Tata Madhu and N. Naveen Kumar Reddy on a police petition seeking cancellation of their bail in a case involving alleged abusive remarks against Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar. The matter was adjourned to Wednesday.

The two MLCs were arrested on September 8 under provisions of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act following an incident at the Assembly entrance. A Nampally court later rejected the police custody plea and granted them bail.

Saifabad police subsequently approached the High Court challenging the bail order. The BRS, meanwhile, has alleged police excesses against its legislators during the Assembly confrontation.

Danam Nagender Moves SC Against Disqualification



New Delhi, Sept 21

Former Telangana MLA Danam Nagender on Monday moved the Supreme Court challenging the Telangana High Court order disqualifying him under the anti-defection law.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi mentioned the matter before Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, who agreed to list Nagender's Special Leave Petition for hearing on Wednesday.

On September 18,

the High Court had set aside Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar's order dismissing disqualification petitions against Nagender and declared him disqualified with effect from April 23, 2024.

The court held that Nagender, elected from Khairatabad on a BRS ticket in 2023, incurred disqualification after contesting the 2024 Secunderabad Lok Sabha election as a Congress candidate. It also declared the Khairatabad Assembly seat vacant.

Constable Dies by Suicide During Video Call

Hyderabad, Sept 21

A 35-year-old police constable died by suicide at his residence in Shalivahana Nagar, Moosaram Bagh, late Sunday night while on a video call with a woman, police said. The constable, identified as Muthe Chandrasekhar, was working as a writer at Malakpet Police Station. Police said he reportedly told the woman during the call that he intended to take his life. The woman immediately alerted Chaitanyapuri police, who informed Malakpet police. Officers rushed to the residence but found him dead. The body was shifted to Osmania General Hospital for postmortem examination. Police are investigating the circumstances and possible reasons behind the incident.

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Harish Rao Condemns Arrest of BRS Leaders Near Jurala

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad,Sept. 21:

BRS Legislature Party Deputy Leader T. Harish Rao condemned the arrest and detention of BRS leaders and workers near the Jurala Project.

He said BRS leaders and workers, along with farmers, were protesting to demand the release of irrigation water for their fields from the Jurala ayacut. He called for the immediate release of water for the Jurala ayacut and the release of the detained farmers and BRS leaders.

Harish Rao said former ministers S. Niranjan Reddy, C. Lakshma Reddy, and V. Srinivas Goud, former MLA



Chittam Ram Mohan Reddy, Venkateshwar Reddy, and other leaders had been detained for supporting farmers. He questioned why Krishna River water was being taken to Kuppam, about 738 kilometres from Srisailem, while, according to him, farmers in the neigh-

bouring Palamuru region were being denied water. The former minister also questioned why pumping operations had not been carried out despite abundant flows in the Krishna River over the past two-and-a-half years. He alleged that water was being released

to Andhra Pradesh while Telangana’s farmers were being ignored, and described it as a betrayal of farmers by the Congress government.

Harish Rao further asked whether this did not reflect the government’s failure and demanded a response from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on the issue.

He said the Jurala Project currently had around 8.4 TMC of water available, but irrigation water was still not being released. He alleged that police were arresting people for demanding water and criticized the Revanth Reddy government,

Telangana to emerge as major hub for health innovation: Sridhar Babu

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 21:

Telangana aims to develop the State as a major hub for health innovation by bringing together its strengths in information technology, emerging technologies, pharmaceuticals, life sciences and start-ups with the healthcare sector, Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu said.

Speaking at the inauguration of the national conference ‘HOMA CME 2026’ at T-Hub on Monday, organised on the theme ‘Beyond Numbers – Precision Phenotyping in Diabetes and Metabolic Care’, Sridhar Babu said

technology could play an important role in improving healthcare delivery and addressing emerging public health challenges.

He said the State government was working to create an ecosystem that brings healthcare professionals, researchers, technology companies, life sciences institutions and start-ups together to develop and scale solutions for healthcare.

Referring to the growing burden of diabetes and other metabolic disorders, Sridhar Babu said changing lifestyles were contributing to the increase in such conditions. He stressed the importance of early identification and said

data and technology could complement conventional medical approaches in the management of chronic diseases.

The Minister said the government would encourage new ideas and innovations aimed at addressing emerging healthcare challenges.

He called upon doctors, researchers, institutions and technology companies to work with the government to strengthen public healthcare and develop solutions that could be taken to a wider population.

At the event, Sridhar Babu released The New Paradigm, authored by physician Dr. Muddu Surendra Nehru.

He also launched ‘Metric Explorer’, a free metabolic calculator application designed to help users assess metabolic health parameters. As part of a Proof of Concept (PoC) initiative, a free protocol will be offered to 50 selected patients from government hospitals. The initiative will examine the application of a precision-based approach to metabolic care. Sridhar Babu said greater collaboration among medical professionals, researchers and technology companies could help translate new ideas into practical healthcare solutions and strengthen Telangana’s capacity for health innovation. (NSS)



A delegation of local Muslims, led by senior Congress minority leader Mohammed Moez, met Mahabubnagar District Collector Khushbu Gupta and submitted a detailed memorandum seeking protection of the one-acre and 10-gunta land of the historic graveyard located at Ramachandrapuram village in Mahabubnagar Rural Mandal and prevention of illegal encroachments. The delegation informed the Collector that some miscreants and influential elements were forcibly carrying out illegal constructions on the valuable Waqf land belonging to the graveyard and were attempting to violate the sanctity of the holy site.

Speed Up Land Acquisition and R&R Works for Irrigation Projects: Uttam Kumar Reddy

Nizamabad Bureau
Nizamabad :, Sept.21:

State Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to accelerate land acquisition, forest land compensation, and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) works for irrigation projects. He instructed that all pending land acquisition cases be completed on a priority basis.

On Monday, Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, and Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju reviewed the progress of land acquisition, forest land

compensation, and R&R works for irrigation projects through a video conference with collectors of all districts. The minister said the Chief Minister had approved the full release of funds required for irrigation projects.

Around ₹6,000 crore will be allocated for land acquisition during the 2026–27 financial year. Of this, ₹1,050 crore and an additional ₹1,500 crore, totaling ₹2,550 crore, have already been released.

He expressed concern that a significant portion of the released funds was still lying in

officials’ accounts instead of reaching beneficiaries.

He instructed district collectors to ensure immediate compensation payments to landowners and farmers.

The minister said that if payments were delayed due to a shortage of funds or any other reason, detailed reports should be submitted to the government along with proposals for additional funds. He also directed that special officers be appointed for land acquisition works with clearly defined responsibilities to complete the process within the stipulated timeframe.

KTR Demands Release of Water from Jurala Project for Farmers

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Sept 21 :

BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao condemned the arrests and house detention of party leaders who demanded the release of water from the Jurala Project to save standing crops in the erstwhile Mahabubnagar district.

He warned that farmers’ anger against the Congress government was growing and demanded the immediate release of the detained BRS leaders, along with the

release of water for farmers in the Jurala ayacut.

Rama Rao said former ministers S. Niranjan Reddy, C. Lakshma Reddy, and V. Srinivas Goud, along with former MLAs and other BRS leaders, had been taken into custody, exposing what he described as the Congress government’s failure.

He alleged, “Instead of addressing the problems faced by farmers, the government is arresting BRS leaders to hide its incompetence.”



Delegation Seeks Better Sanitation and Veterinary Doctor for Slaughterhouse

Nizamabad Bureau
Nizamabad; Sept.21:

A delegation met District Collector Bhavesh Mishra during the Prajavani programme and submitted a memorandum highlighting issues related to the city’s slaughterhouse.

The delegation demanded that the Municipal Corporation immediately ensure proper sanitation and hygiene arrangements at the slaughterhouse. It also called for the appointment of a permanent veterinary doctor to safeguard public health.



The delegation further urged the authorities to utilize the funds already sanctioned for the construction and modernization of the slaughterhouse,

invite tenders without delay, and build a modern facility equipped with improved amenities.

Hafiz Laiq Khan said the

Municipal Commissioner should take immediate sanitation measures to protect public health. Mohammad Anwar Khan also appealed to TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, Telangana Government Adviser Shyam Reddy, and Minority Affairs Adviser Mohammad Ali Shabbir to ensure that the sanctioned budget is utilized and tenders for the construction work are issued promptly. Maulana Karimuddin expressed concern over poor sanitation and unhygienic conditions around the slaughterhouse and demanded immediate action.

Mahabubnagar Delegation Seeks Protection of Ancient Graveyard

Munsif News Bureau
Mahabubnagar,Sept 21:

A delegation of local Muslims, led by senior Congress minority leader Mohammed Muiz, met Mahabubnagar District Collector Khushboo Gupta and submitted a detailed memorandum seeking the protection of 1 acre and 10 guntas of ancient graveyard land in Ramachandrapuram village of Mahabubnagar Rural Mandal and action against alleged illegal en-

croachments.

The delegation informed the Collector that some anti-social and influential elements were allegedly carrying out unauthorized constructions on the valuable Waqf land of the graveyard and attempting to violate the sanctity of the burial ground.

Mohammed Muiz said the alleged encroachers were not only trying to occupy the land but were also creating serious obstacles to burial rites, disrupting

the peaceful atmosphere of the village. He demanded that the ongoing unauthorized construction work be stopped immediately and strict legal action be taken against those allegedly interfering with burials. District Collector Khushboo Gupta listened carefully to the delegation’s grievances and responded promptly by directing the concerned Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) and Mandal Revenue Officer (MRO) to take appropriate action.

Mahabubnagar Delegation Seeks Protection of Ancient Graveyard Land

Munsif Bureau
Medak :, Sept.21:

In view of the upcoming Vinayak immersion, Medak District Additional SP Vikrant Kumar Singh, IPS, visited Kamantoor Tank and reviewed the arrangements being made for the immersion.

He inspected the barricading, electrical lighting, police deployment, and traffic control arrangements.

He directed officials to take advance measures to regulate the crowds and ensure that the public faces no inconvenience.



nience.

The Additional SP instructed police personnel to remain alert at all times and be prepared to respond immediately

in case of any emergency.

He appealed to the public to follow the safety guidelines issued by the police and cooperate in ensuring a peace-

ful immersion. DSP Prasanna Kumar, CI Krishnamurthy, SI Suman, and other police personnel were present on the occasion.

CS directs steps to boost revenue from mineral resources

NSS
Hyderabad,Sept 21:

On the directions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Monday held a review meeting with senior officials of the Mines and Geology department at the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the functioning of the department, administrative matters, revenue mobilisation, recruitment to vacant posts, promotions and other issues.

On the occasion, he directed officials to take measures to augment government revenue through the efficient utilisation of mineral resources available under the department’s jurisdiction.

Sanjay Jaju instructed officials to expedite the filling of vacant posts and grant promotions to eligible employees as per rules. He stressed the need for appropriate measures to ensure that staff shortages did not affect the department’s functioning.

Rights Must Go Hand In Hand With Responsibilities: Governor

NSS
Hyderabad,Sept. 21:

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Monday called upon the citizens, particularly the youth, to balance their rights with duties and contribute to nation-building with patriotism, discipline and a strong sense of national responsibility.

Addressing the 19th National Conference of the Rashtriya Sainik Sanstha at the Military College of

Electronics and Mechanical Engineering (MCEME), Secunderabad, the Governor said the energy of the youth should be channelled towards strengthening and developing the nation.

Recalling the integration of Hyderabad State with the Indian Union, Shukla highlighted the role of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and the Indian Army in the process. He also lauded the Rashtriya Sainik Sanstha for promoting

patriotism, discipline and national consciousness and for bringing ex-servicemen and patriotic citizens together.

The Governor said India’s progress towards Atmanirbhar Bharat required close coordination among research institutions, the armed forces and the defence industry.

He described MCEME as an important centre for advanced military technology and training.



CMC facilitates immersion of 81,315 Ganesh idols in six days

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.21

The Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) has facilitated the immersion of 81,315 Ganesh idols over a six-day period, coordinating round-the-clock operations across 53 designated immersion points within its limits. According to official figures released by the corporation, the total includes 66,530 idols under three feet in height and 14,785 idols measuring above three feet. Kukatpally Circle record-

ed the highest number of immersions at 23,501, followed by Kompally Circle with 11,526 and Serilingampally Circle with 8,495. Other major tally breakdowns across circles include Jeedimetla (7,145), Miyapur (6,256), Chintal (4,408), Ameenpur (4,274), Allwyn Colony (4,015), Patancheru(3,661), Nizampet (3,257), Narsingi (3,024), Madhapur (2,828), Dundigal (1,846) and Medchal (1,079). To ensure smooth operations, joint support teams from sanitation, engineer-



ing, traffic, and public safety departments have been deployed at all designated locations. Civic teams are prioritising the immediate removal of floral offerings, pooja materials, and im-

mersion-related debris to maintain cleanliness in and around water bodies. The CMC Commissioner directed field teams and senior officials to maintain continuous site monitoring, ensure adequate deployment of machinery and personnel, and work in tight coordination with line departments. The corporation stated that monitoring and sanitation efforts will remain active at all 53 sites until the immersion process is fully concluded. (NSS)



Nirmal District SP Dr. G. Janaki Sharma, IPS, Inspects Ganesh Immersion Route in Bhainsa
Nirmal District Superintendent of Police Dr. G. Janaki Sharma, IPS, along with senior police officials, inspected the location through which the Ganesh immersion procession will pass on Friday.ASP P. Sai Kiran and other police officials were also present during the inspection.The Ganesh immersion procession will be held on Friday, in view of which the Bhainsa Police have made elaborate security arrangements to ensure peaceful and smooth conduct of the event.

Telangana HC issues notices to BRS MLCs in Speaker abuse case

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.21:

The Telangana High Court on Monday issued notices to BRS MLCs Tata Madhu and B. Naveen Kumar Reddy in connection with a case alleging that they abused Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar. The police approached the High Court challenging an earlier order of the Nampally court directing that the two MLCs should not be arrested. The police sought setting aside of the lower court's order. Appearing for the police, Public Prosecutor Nageswara Rao submitted that Tata Madhu and Naveen Reddy had allegedly used abusive language against the Speaker.

Protest erupts at Tank Bund over Ganesh immersion restrictions

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 21

Tension prevailed at Tank Bund here on Monday as representatives of the Bhagyanagar Ganesh Utsav Samithi staged a protest against the denial of permission for Ganesh idol immersion at the location. The Samithi representatives staged a sit-in at Tank Bund and demanded that the restrictions on idol immersion be lifted. During the protest, they removed barricades erected around the area. Police personnel attempted to stop the protesters, leading to a scuffle between the two sides. Several police personnel

During the protest, they removed barricades erected around the area. Police personnel attempted to stop the protesters, leading to a scuffle between the two sides. Several police personnel fell to the ground during the altercation, resulting in a tense situation at the spot.

fell to the ground during the altercation, resulting in a tense situation at the spot. The Samithi representatives insisted that permission be granted for the traditional immersion of Ganesh idols at Tank Bund. Even after removing the barricades, they continued their protest by staging a sit-in at the location. Following the incident, police were deployed in large numbers in and around Tank Bund, and

security was tightened to prevent any untoward incident. The Ganesh Utsav Samithi has been opposing the restrictions imposed at Tank Bund for the Ganesh immersion. While alternative arrangements have been made for the immersion programme, the Ganesh Utsav Samithi has been demanding permission to conduct the traditional immersion at Tank Bund.

CEO reviews SIR-2026 Progress, Directs Officials to Clear Pendency

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.21

Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C Sudharsan Reddy along with Additional CEO Vasam Venkateswar Reddy, and Deputy CEO G.S. Chary on Monday reviewed the progress of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) - 2026 through a video conference with the Commissioner, GHMC and District Election Officer, Hyderabad, and all District Election Officers (DEOs), Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant EROs (AEROs). The CEO directed the officials to expedite the



disposal of cases under the Anomalies and No-Mapping categories and appreciated the progress made by the EROs and DEOs. BLO Supervisors, BLOs and AEROs were instructed to adhere to daily targets and

complete the assigned work within the stipulated timeline. Officials were asked to promptly dispose of pending Forms 6,7 and 8, as well as enquiry and hearing cases, while allowing electors adequate time to submit sup-

porting documents. The CEO instructed BLO Supervisors and BLOs to be familiar with the indicative list of documents and clearly explain the requirements to electors. He also clarified that Booth Level Agents (BLAs) should not be involved in serving notices and their role should be limited to assisting BLOs in identifying houses. Pending cases at the ERO level should be cleared without delay. Additional manpower, including computer operators, may be deployed wherever necessary, with their work properly supervised by AEROs, EROs and BLO Supervisors.

Students Urged to Trust Natural Intelligence Over AI Girls Advised to Be Cautious: Noorani, Qayum Khan

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 21:

Artificial Intelligence is undoubtedly the need of the hour, but students should make greater use of their natural abilities and intelligence. Excessive dependence on AI may make them reliant on it. Allah Almighty has blessed every human being with intelligence, talent, capability and wisdom. In comparison, excessive use of artificial intelligence amounts to being ungrateful for the abilities bestowed by God, said Ghulam Ahmed Noorani, IRS, former Deputy Commissioner of Customs and Central Excise. He was speaking as the guest of honour at the convocation of Presidency College, Falaknuma,

held on September 20. Dr Syed Fazal Hussain Parvez, Chief Editor of Gawah, attended as the chief guest, while Smt. Durga, a retired teacher, participated as a special invitee. M.A. Qayum Khan, Secretary, and Principal Mohan Kumar were present on the dais. Addressing the girl students, Noorani said that after obtaining their degrees, they were entering a new phase of life in which they would need to take every step carefully. Referring to the unforgettable role played by Muslims in the development of the country, he paid tribute to the Muslim freedom fighters. Dr Syed Fazal Hussain Parvez said that it was true that educating a girl meant educating an entire society.



Usman Shaheed Society Honors Speech & Naat Winners

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept.21

Speech and Naat recitation competitions on the theme of Seerat-un-Nabi ﷺ were successfully organised for school and college students by the Usman Shaheed Memorial Society as part of the Milad-un-Nabi ﷺ celebrations at Urdu Hall, Himayatnagar. Prizes were distributed among the winners by Mr. Mohammed Abdul Jaleel, Editor-in-Chief of The Munsif Daily; Professor S.A. Shakoor, Director, Dairatul Maarif; and Maulana Muzaffar Ali Sufi Abul-Ulai. The prize winners were presented with cash awards, mementos and certificates. A large number of students from several reputed schools and colleges across the city participated in the compe-

titions, including M.S. Degree College, City Junior College, Capital Degree College, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, TMREIS Asif Nagar, TMREIS Charnarin, Gautam Model, Malika Boys Town, Safdaria Girls, Madina High School, St. Mary's, St. Anthony's, New Modern High School, Peeragaon Modern, Shangri-La High School, Blooming Buds, N.S. High School and several other institutions. The programme was patronised by Ms. Musarrat Shaheed and Mr. Sufi Sultan Shattari. The panel of judges comprised Abu Masood Abdul Ghani, K.N. Wasif, Dr. Rubina Shabnam, Saifuddin, Engineer, and Dr. Laiqa Parveen. Dr. Javed Kamal served as the compere and played an important role in ensur-

ing the successful conduct of the event by utilising his organisational and communication skills to the fullest. Latifuddin Latif, Abu Umar Siddiqui, Ms. Wajida Sultana, Ms. Rehana Sultana, Syed Mujeebullah Hussaini, Abu Mazhar Khalid Siddiqui and Ms. Zubaida extended their full cooperation and helped make the arrangements effective. Meals were arranged for all participating students and teachers. The management of Urdu Hall also extended its full cooperation. Ms. Musarrat Shaheed, the organiser of the programme, expressed her gratitude individually to all those who contributed to the successful conduct of the event.

Seerat-un-Nabi Quiz Winners Honoured in Bandlaguda

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Sept 21:

The 5th Annual Seerat-un-Nabi (SWS) Quiz Results Announcement and Prize Distribution Ceremony, organised by the Shaik Mahboob Ali (RH) Islamic Center, was held at Jama Masjid Rahmat-e-Alam, Bandlaguda, here on Sunday night. Around 180 students participated in the annual quiz,

which was organised to encourage children and youngsters to learn about the life, teachings and exemplary character of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and to implement his Seerat in their day-to-day lives. General Secretary Salauddin Affan, Organising Secretary Mohammed Bin Omer and Abdul Mannan Umri attended the programme.

Addressing the gathering, the speakers stressed the importance of developing love for the Prophet (peace be upon him), good manners and Islamic values among children and youth. They emphasised the message "Huzur Ki Muhabbat Iman Ka Lazmi Hissa" — love for the Prophet is an essential part of faith — and urged the younger generation to understand and follow

his teachings in their daily lives. Janab Mohammed Abid Sahib said that good manners, Islamic values and respect for parents, elders, neighbours and children were particularly important for the present generation. He said parents have a major responsibility in the tarbiyat (moral and character-building) of their children and should guide them to-

wards the teachings and noble example of the Prophet. He also expressed concern over the influence of social media and other distractions on children and youth and urged parents to encourage youngsters to study the Seerat of the Prophet and practise its teachings in their daily lives. Mohammed Bin Omer said the life of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) provides

guidance on compassion, patience, kindness and respect for people of all ages. He urged parents to spend more time with their children and create an environment in which Islamic values and good character are nurtured. Janab Mohammed Omar, DJS, called upon families to read and understand the Holy Quran and implement its teachings in everyday life.

CM Revanth Reddy Reviews Warangal Super Speciality Hospital Works

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Sept 21:

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday reviewed the ongoing construction and development works of the Warangal Super Speciality Hospital at the Bodhi Pavilion of the MCR HRD Institute here. The meeting was attended by MP Vem Narender Reddy, CMO Principal Secretary Sri D. Sridhar, R&B

Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, CMO Secretary Manick Raj, Medical and Health Principal Secretary Christina Z. Chongthu, Municipal Administration Secretary T.K. Sridevi, Warangal Collector Satyasharada Devi, Hanamkonda Collector Chahat Bajpai and other senior officials. The Chief Minister expressed dissatisfaction over the slow progress of the hospi-

tal works despite funds being sanctioned through the green channel. He directed officials to ensure that construction works are carried out round the clock for the next 30 days to accelerate completion. Mr. Revanth Reddy instructed officials to prepare a detailed work schedule and strictly follow it. CMO officials were asked to regularly visit the project site and review the progress.



ACB RAIDS BANDLAGUDA RTO; THREE OFFICIALS SUSPENDED

NSS
Hyderabad, Sept 21:

Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) officials on Monday conducted surprise raids at the Bandlaguda Regional Transport Office (RTO) following complaints from vehicle owners alleging harassment and delays in getting services despite submitting the required documents. The ACB team questioned RTO officials

during the inspection. The raids gained significance after video footage purportedly showing RTO constable Arun counting cash inside his chamber went viral. Meanwhile, Transport Commissioner suspended three officials in connection with the incident - RTO Ramchander, Motor Vehicle Inspector (MVI) Bhim Singh and constable Arun.



At a Glance

Mobile retailers seek UPI fee exemption

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep. 21



The All India Mobile Retailers Association (AIMRA) has urged the Finance Ministry to exempt small and medium mobile retailers from any proposed UPI Merchant Discount Rate (MDR). It said retailers operate on thin margins and a 0.4 per cent charge could raise costs. AIMRA claimed retailers processing Rs 10 lakh-Rs 40 lakh monthly in UPI payments could face Rs 4,000-Rs 16,000 in added costs monthly.

ED arrests Guwahati bookie in IPL case

IAN S
Guwahati, Sep. 21

The Enforcement Directorate has arrested Deepesh Bajoria in an alleged IPL betting money-laundering case. The ED said Bajoria was a principal bookie in a syndicate operating across Assam and the Northeast. It alleged that a firm account linked to him recorded credits of Rs 28.12 crore and debits of Rs 28.03 crore. A special PMLA court remanded him to six days' ED custody. Further probe is underway.

KATHUA TRUCK DRIVER HELD FOR SHARING ARMY CONVOY FOOTAGE

IAN S
Jammu, Sep. 21

Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested a 24-year-old truck driver in Kathua for allegedly monitoring Indian Army personnel and military convoys and sharing live footage with Pakistani intelligence handlers, sources said.

The accused, identified as Aman, reportedly lived near the International Border. Investigators said he had installed a CCTV camera outside his residence to monitor Army personnel and convoys.

HM Shah to inaugurate 3rd National ANTF Conference in Delhi, focus on drug-free India

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep. 21

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the 3rd National Conference of Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) heads of states and Union Territories here on Tuesday, with the two-day event set to deliberate on strengthening the country's fight against drug trafficking and substance abuse.

On the occasion, HM Shah will also release television commercials (TVCs) aimed at spreading awareness about the harmful effects of drugs and the need to stay away from substance abuse. He will also lay the foundation stones for the new complexes of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Zones in Lucknow and Dehradun.

The event will also witness the felicitation of the best-performing ANTF among the states and Union Territories. The revamped NCB website will also be launched during the conference.

The two-day conference is being organised by the NCB and will bring together the heads of ANTFs from all 36 states and Union Territories. Representatives from various government departments, agencies and other stakeholders are also expected to participate in the deliberations.

Officials said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Home Minister Amit Shah, the government is working in "mission mode" to protect the country's youth from the adverse consequences of drug abuse and to



strengthen efforts against the drug menace.

"Prime Minister Modi has set the goal of a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, and realising this vision is not possible without building a drug-free India. This conference will serve as a powerful platform to safeguard future generations from the menace of drugs," an official said.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, the conference, being held under the theme 'United Resolve, Shared Responsibility', will review the progress made towards targets assigned to state and UT ANTFs under the recently released Vision Document on Narcotics Control (2026-29).

The deliberations will also focus on initiatives and measures undertaken by various stakeholders to combat drug trafficking and substance abuse across the country, the ministry said.

The conference will discuss the identification and adoption of appropriate strategies to further strengthen the Centre's measures for supply reduction, demand reduction and harm reduction, according to the Home Ministry.

The technical deliberations have been structured around the four

strategic pillars outlined in the Vision Document -- Enforcement, Intelligence and Operations; Precursors and Synthetic Drugs Control; Demand and Harm Reduction; and Capacity Building and Coordination.

As part of the two-day event, eight technical sessions have also been planned.

The discussions will also underline the need for a whole-of-government approach, with participating states and UTs, departments, and agencies expected to use the conference as a platform to renew their collective commitment towards tackling drug trafficking effectively across the country over the next three years.

The deliberations are expected to result in actionable strategies aimed at further strengthening drug law enforcement mechanisms and protecting the country's youth from the harmful effects of drugs.

The national conference will also seek to deepen and strengthen a future-ready partnership between the NCB and state and UT ANTFs, to enhance coordinated action against drug abuse and work towards the vision of a Drug-Free India.

Delhi-NCR to stay dry, AQI rises

IAN S
New Delhi, Sep. 21

Delhi-NCR is likely to remain dry on Monday, with no significant rainfall expected in Delhi, Noida, Gurugram, Ghaziabad and Faridabad, the India Meteorological Department said. Temperatures to reach 35-36 degrees Celsius. Delhi AQI rose to 160 on Sunday, highest in 62 days, according to the Central Pollution Control Board. PM2.5 and ozone were the main pollutants; stagnant winds worsened air.

Over Rs 60 crore alleged tax evasion detected in GST raid on Bhopal gutka factory

IAN S
Bhopal, Sep. 21



The Goods and Services Tax (GST) intelligence department has detected alleged tax evasion of more than Rs 60 crore following a raid on a tobacco and gutka manufacturing unit in Bhopal, officials said.

The factory, located in New Chouksey Nagar in the Nawabganj area, was allegedly being operated illegally, with machinery concealed on the premises.

According to officials, the unit was owned and operated by Suresh Singh and manufactured tobacco products under the brand name 'Guru'.

During the raid, GST Intelligence officials reportedly found evidence indicating large-scale tax evasion. Singh was arrested and subsequently sent to jail, according to available information.

The department has launched an investigation to establish the full extent of the alleged tax violations and determine whether others were involved.

Officials are examining the factory's manufacturing activities, machinery, financial records and other documents. Investigators are also examining whether the unit was operating without proper registration, documentation or payment of applicable taxes.

The alleged concealment of machinery has

emerged as a key aspect of the investigation. Authorities are expected to examine the period of the alleged violations and scale of manufacturing.

The raid forms part of GST enforcement efforts to identify businesses allegedly involved in tax evasion and unauthorised manufacturing. Tobacco and gutka manufacturers are subject to taxation and regulatory requirements.

Further legal action has been initiated. Details of the alleged violations are expected as the probe progresses.

GST cuts vs Inflation



Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said GST rate cuts have been offset by rising inflation, arguing that their impact on consumption has been mixed. Photo from 'X'.

India studying new US law on sanctions against Russian oil buyers: Piyush Goyal

IAN S
New Delhi Sep. 21

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday that India would first study the details of US tariffs that could be imposed on buyers of Russian oil under the new law, before taking up discussion on the matter "at an appropriate time."

The minister was responding to questions here on the 'Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026' that has just been signed into law by US President Donald Trump. The new law clears the way for the US administration to impose tariffs of up to 100 per cent on countries that continue to buy Russian oil and gas. The measure could expose major buyers such as India and China to higher duties on their exports to the US.



"The details are now emerging. We will study them and discuss the matter at an appropriate time," Piyush Goyal said at an event in the national capital.

His remarks came after Trump signed the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act of 2026 into law on September 18.

The 100 per cent tariff is not an automatic duty, but the maximum tariff that the US could impose

under the new law.

Meanwhile, India and the US continue to negotiate a bilateral trade agreement, with both sides remaining in regular touch on the issue. Goyal is expected to hold bilateral discussions with the US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer during the G20 Trade Ministerial in Milwaukee later this month.

The bill, passed by the US House of

Representatives, gives Trump broad powers to levy tariffs of up to 100 per cent on the top five purchasers of Russian oil and gas. China and India are among the top two buyers of Russian oil.

The bill also extends to Iran's energy and weapons sectors. The bill is named after the late Senator Lindsey Graham who passed away in July this year. He was one of Ukraine's strongest supporters in the US as the country is fighting a prolonged war with Russia. The bill includes exceptions for countries that import less than 15 per cent of their natural gas from Russia and are working to decrease their dependence.

The bill also includes sanctions against Russian President Vladimir Putin, senior members of the Russian government as well as banks and Russia's shadow fleet of tankers used to avoid sanctions.

TIGHT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE AS J&K ASSEMBLY SESSION OPENS IN SRINAGAR

IAN S
Srinagar, Sep. 21



Security was tightened across Srinagar on Monday, as the autumn session of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly began, with heightened arrangements outside the Assembly complex and Civil

Secretariat to regulate movement and ensure smooth proceedings.

The General Administrative Department (GAD) issued guidelines on vehicle entry and parking around the Civil Secretariat. Private vehicles of Civil Secretariat and Assembly employees have been barred from entering the Secretariat premises.

Vehicles of the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, ministers, Advisor to the Chief Minister, Speaker and legislators will be parked at designated locations

within the Assembly Complex. Authorised vehicles of accredited media personnel will be allowed into the Civil Secretariat after security checks.

The session is scheduled from September 21 to 30, with seven sittings. September 23 will be a holiday for the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh, while September 26 is an off day and September 27 falls on Sunday.

Ahead of the session, Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather reviewed security arrangements with senior officers and direct-

ed authorities to ensure security at the Assembly Secretariat and MLA Hostel.

The session will begin with obituary references, followed by Question Hour and business.

The opposition BJP and PDP have said they will raise issues. Though the Congress supports the National Conference (NC) government, J&K Pradesh Congress Committee president Tariq Hameed Karra said the alliance would not prevent the party from raising issues during the session.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan to join BJP's 'Nasha Mukt Punjab Yatra'

IAN S
Chandigarh, Sep. 21

Union Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will visit Punjab on Monday to participate in the BJP's 'Nasha Mukt Punjab Yatra' campaign against drugs.

Chouhan will pay obeisance at Takht Sri Damdama Sahib in Talwandi Sabo before joining this campaign. At 10 a.m., he is scheduled to inaugurate the yatra at Dana Mandi at Ravidasia Chowk.

He will also address a public meeting in Maisarkhana and interact



with farmers and women associated with self-help groups in Bathinda.

His visit comes as the four-day campaign enters its final leg, with the yatra scheduled to reach Bathinda and conclude the BJP's statewide outreach programme.

The BJP launched the campaign on September 18. BJP national president

Nitin Nabin flagged off the first march from Ekta Sthal at Madhopur in Pathankot. The second yatra was held on September 19 from Fatehgarh Sahib and flagged off by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.

The third yatra was held on September 20 from the Sadiki border in Fazilka and was flagged off by Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal.

The campaign focuses on drug abuse, a major concern in Punjab. The BJP says the yatra seeks to raise awareness about the impact of drug use and promote a drug-free Punjab.

8.9 kg marijuana seized airport

IAN S
Ahmadabad, Sep. 21

Customs officials at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport seized 8.913 kg of hydroponic marijuana from a Mumbai resident arriving from Bangkok on Monday. The contraband was concealed among clothes in his checked-in baggage, officials said. The passenger was intercepted after profiling and arrested under the NDPS Act. The seizure was made after a field test confirmed the substance as ganja. Further investigation is continuing.



At a Glance

Moscow-bound flight turns back amid drone attack

IANSA
ANKARA, Sep. 21

A Turkish Airlines flight from Istanbul to Moscow returned to Istanbul on Sunday after approaching the Russian capital amid a major Ukrainian drone attack, according to flight data and Turkish media. Flight TK407 entered Russian airspace before turning back and landing in Istanbul. At least 35 Turkish-operated flights to and from Moscow’s Vnukovo airport were delayed or cancelled.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said Russian air defences intercepted more than 1,600 drones across Russia since Saturday, including about 450 approaching Moscow. The Russian Defence Ministry said its forces conducted strikes on Ukrainian defence, energy and transport infrastructure over the past week. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Moscow would consider Western troop deployment in Ukraine a direct war.

Houthi report 28 airstrikes as Yemen fighting continues

IANSA
Sanaa, Sep. 21

Yemen’s Houthi group said 28 airstrikes hit three provinces over the past 24 hours as fighting with government forces continued on several fronts. Houthi spokesperson Yahya Sarea said F-15 and Typhoon jets operating from Saudi bases carried out strikes in Taiz, Marib and Al-Jawf, putting the total since the latest escalation at 760. Houthi-run Al-Masirah TV reported a strike on a telecommunications tower in Al-Jawf and artillery fire in northern Saada. Government forces said they retook positions in western Taiz, while front lines remained unchanged. The Houthis recently seized Mocha, Dhubab and Mayyun Island, prompting government forces to block advances toward Bab al-Mandab. Fighting has intensified on several fronts recently.

XI TO VISIT US, HOLD TALKS WITH TRUMP ON KEY ISSUES

IANSA
Beijing, Sep. 21

Chinese President Xi Jinping will pay a state visit to the United States from September 23 to 25 at the invitation of US President Donald Trump, China’s Foreign Ministry announced on Monday. Xi will meet Trump to discuss major issues concerning bilateral ties, as well as world peace and development, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said.

Guo said the exchange of visits by the two presidents within six months would be a milestone of historic significance. He said China would work with the US to strengthen dialogue and cooperation, manage differences and develop a constructive relationship of strategic stability.

The visit comes as Washington and Beijing seek to manage a range of economic and strategic disputes. US officials said Trump’s talks with Xi are expected to cover artificial intelligence, trade and the supply of rare earth minerals. Discussions are also expected to address fentanyl precursor chemicals and other areas of bilateral tension.



On rare earths, a senior US official said Washington expected China to honour previously negotiated commitments to supply the minerals to the US and global markets. The official said Chinese performance had fallen short of American expectations.

AI is also expected to feature prominently in discussions. US and Chinese officials held senior-level talks in New York ahead of the leaders’ meeting, including discussions on AI safety and related issues. US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said the two sides had agreed to continue AI safety discussions.

Trade will also be on the agenda, including the existing tariff arrangement between the two countries. US officials said the administration was considering reducing some tariffs on a narrow range of goods considered neither sensitive nor strategic, but gave no details.

Fentanyl precursor chemicals are another issue. A senior US official accused China of remaining a major supplier of the chemicals used by Mexican cartels and said Washington wanted broader action from Beijing.

US officials also said sanctions on Chinese and Hong Kong entities accused of supporting Iran would remain in place.

Trump has previously raised cases of people he considers wrongfully detained in China, although officials did not confirm specific cases for the upcoming meeting.

The visit will begin with Trump greeting Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, at Joint Base Andrews on Wednesday, according to the announced programme. Thursday’s schedule includes a White House arrival ceremony, a military review, bilateral talks and a state dinner. On Friday, Xi and Peng are expected to have private tea with Trump and his wife, Melania Trump, and visit the National Archives before Xi departs.

The summit follows Trump’s three-day visit to China in May, when he met Xi in Beijing and visited the Temple of Heaven. The upcoming talks are expected to focus on managing differences while maintaining dialogue between the world’s two largest economies. Both governments have described continued high-level engagement as important for stabilising ties and addressing disputes through dialogue in the talks.

United Russia leads Russia’s State Duma election

IANSA
Moscow, Sep. 21

Russia’s ruling United Russia party won 57.83 per cent of the vote in the election to the ninth State Duma, according to preliminary results released by the Central Election Commission (CEC) after 95.18 per cent of ballots were counted.

CEC Chair Ella Pamfilova said United Russia was followed by the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) with 13.81 per cent, the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR) with 8.98 per cent and New People with 7.96 per cent. A Just Russia received 4.96 per cent. The final results are expected on Friday.

Turnout in the three-day election, held from Friday to Sunday, was 59.32 per cent, compared with 51.72 per cent in 2021, according to the CEC. The State Duma has 450 seats, with half allocated through party lists and the other 225 elected in single-member constituencies.

Pamfilova said Russian electoral infrastructure faced more than 100 million potential cyber threats during the voting period. She said the official elec-



tion website and other platforms were targeted by high-capacity DDoS attacks, web-server intrusions and attempts to exploit system vulnerabilities. According to her, national security systems identified and filtered the malicious activity, with no successful cyber breaches recorded.

She also said investigations found that attacks targeting the remote electronic voting system mainly originated from overseas, with some using spoofed Russian IP addresses. Pamfilova accused Western actors of seeking to disrupt Russia’s electoral process, alleging that lawyers and others were looking for legal loopholes and spreading disinformation.

She also criticised Western governments and

institutions for questioning the legitimacy of Russia’s elections, saying they were interfering in the work of the CEC.

The election involved 10 political parties. The CEC said the preliminary figures remained subject to change as counting continued. In the single-member constituencies, United Russia candidates were leading in 208 of the 225 seats, according to preliminary CEC data. CPRF candidates led in five, while A Just Russia and independent candidates were ahead in four each, LDPR candidates in two and a Rodina candidate in one. The preliminary distribution would give United Russia 355 seats, CPRF 40, LDPR 25, New People 20 and A Just Russia four, with remaining seats pending as counting is completed soon.

WORLD LEADERS GATHER AT UN AMID WARS, GLOBAL CRISES

IANSA
United Nations, Sep. 21

World leaders and representatives from 193 countries will gather at the United Nations this week for the annual high-level General Assembly meeting, with wars and global crises dominating the agenda.

The session opens on Tuesday with Brazil’s President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva delivering the traditional first national address, followed

by US President Donald Trump. The Gulf conflict, the Ukraine war, the Gaza situation and Sudan’s civil war are expected to feature prominently, alongside climate change, terrorism, global hunger and poverty.

Much of the diplomacy is expected to take place through meetings on the sidelines.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the

high-level week should be used to facilitate meetings among leaders involved in the crises facing the world. He cited last year’s meeting between the US and several Muslim countries, which he said contributed to a Gaza peace plan.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Khalilur Rahman, president of the current General Assembly session, will preside over the pro-

ceedings. The theme this year is “Restoring trust, managing transformation: A UN that delivers for all”.

Several major leaders will be absent, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will deliver India’s address on Saturday here.

Bangladesh dengue deaths hit yearly high in September

IANSA
Dhaka, Sep. 21

Bangladesh has recorded 87 dengue-related deaths so far in September, the highest monthly toll from the mosquito-borne disease this year, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Six more deaths were confirmed in the 24 hours ending at 8 a.m. local time on Sunday, taking the country’s dengue death toll this year to 184. The DGHS reported 1,593 new cases during the period, pushing confirmed infections since January to 61,972.

September has emerged as the deadliest month, with 87 deaths recorded in its first 20 days, compared with 43 in August, 36 in July and 13 in June, according to DGHS figures. A total of 26,126 new cases were reported during the first 20 days of September, after 20,536 infections were recorded in August.

The government launched a three-month



dengue prevention campaign earlier this month as cases continued to rise. Dengue is a viral disease transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes and can cause high fever, headache, exhaustion, severe muscle and joint pain, vomiting and rash.

According to a recent report by Bangladeshi daily Prothom Alo, dengue has spread across all 64 districts, with several hundred patients being hospitalised every day. The report said deaths from the disease were being recorded almost daily.

Speaking at an event at the Dhaka Reporters Unity on September 9,

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare MA Muhit said dengue infections had begun to rise and that the peak period was expected in the last week of September and early October.

Prothom Alo reported concerns over inadequate coordination in dengue prevention efforts, despite years of warnings about rising infections and deaths. The report said the lack of coordination remained a major weakness in efforts to prevent the disease and contain its spread. Authorities closely monitor dengue cases.



A deadly day in Sudan’s gold mines

Rescue teams search collapsed shafts in Sudan after 10 miners were killed and 21 injured. Photo from: X

Taiwan condemns China for dangerous manoeuvres against fishing vessel near Palawan

IANSA
TAIPEI, Sep. 21

Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) on Monday condemned reported dangerous manoeuvres by the China Coast Guard against a Philippine fisheries vessel near Palawan, saying such actions endanger lives, maritime safety and regional stability.

In a statement on X, MOFA said Taiwan would continue working with partners for a free and open Indo-Pacific.

It described the reported actions as coercive and provocative.

The statement follows Taiwan’s criticism in July of China Coast Guard patrols east of Taiwan. The Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) said China had no sovereignty, jurisdiction or law enforcement authority in waters east of Taiwan, describing the patrols as an unlawful expansion of authority that breached international law and threatened regional stability.

“Repeating an illegal act

does not make it lawful, nor will such actions gain international recognition,” the MAC said in July.

The council’s statement came after China announced new coast guard patrol east of Taiwan. The China Coast Guard said its fleet would conduct “law enforcement patrols” in the area and strengthen such operations in what it called China’s jurisdictional waters.

The MAC said Taiwan’s Coast Guard Administration, together with other government

agencies, would take necessary measures to protect the island’s sovereignty and ensure the security of surrounding waters in response to what it described as China’s increasing destabilising actions.

Taiwan also said it would continue working with democratic partners to uphold freedom of navigation and the security of regional sea lanes. The MAC said Taipei opposed attempts to change the international order through force or coercion.

Imran Khan’s sisters Uzma, Noreen detained for 30 days, after Aleema’s arrest

IANSA
Islamabad, Sep. 21

Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan’s sisters Uzma Khan and Noreen Niazi were detained for 30 days on Monday, a day after their sister Aleema Khan was detained under the Punjab Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) Ordinance, local media reported.

The Lahore Deputy Commissioner ordered Uzma and Noreen’s detention under the MPO,

stating that they were “prejudicial to the public safety and maintenance of public order”. They will remain in custody at Central Jail, Kot Lakhpat, according to Dawn.

The detentions come ahead of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf’s (PTI) planned protest march to Islamabad on September 27. PTI chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan condemned Aleema’s detention and called for her immediate release, saying the party’s planned march

would be peaceful and political.

Aleema Khan was detained for 30 days under the MPO on Sunday. Her driver, Muhammad Ameer, was also ordered detained for 30 days, The Express Tribune reported.

Aleema’s son, Shahrez Khan, alleged that his mother was abducted after leaving home and said the family had no information about her whereabouts. He claimed she was on bail in all cases against her in Lahore and demanded

that authorities disclose where she was being held and ensure her release.

Imran Khan’s son, Kasim Khan, also alleged that police had taken his aunt into custody and demanded access for her family and lawyers, as well as disclosure of her location and release.

The detentions drew criticism from PTI leaders and Imran Khan’s family as tensions rise ahead of the September 27 protest.

SIR
2026:

By Dr Rasia Nayeem Hashmi

The purpose of revising electoral rolls should be simple: to ensure that every eligible citizen remains on the voters’ list and that ineligible names are removed. The Election Commission of India has also stated that the aim is to ensure that “no eligible citizen is left out while no ineligible person is included.”

But for many ordinary voters, the present exercise is becoming a source of anxiety—not because they have done anything wrong, but because of mistakes made in electoral records more than two decades ago.

Consider a few cases that have come to light.

In one case, a woman was mapped with her *father. However, a notice was issued stating that the age difference between **the woman and her son was only 15 years*, and she was asked to produce proof.

The question is obvious: How can a voter be held responsible for an apparent discrepancy created by the system’s interpretation of old records?

In another case, a man’s name in the 2002 electoral roll contained a simple spelling error—an “O” had been entered as a “D”. Because of this discrepancy, a notice was issued not only to him but also to his two children whose names had been mapped to his record.

Then there is the case of a voter who correctly opted for *self-mapping. However, because his name appeared with spelling mistakes in the 2002 electoral roll, the computer system apparently treated his mapping as **progeny map-

Pichhlon Ne Khata Ki Thi... Aglon Ne Saza Paayi



ping* instead of self-mapping. He was then asked to produce documents relating to his parents.

The voter had done nothing wrong

The spelling mistake was not made by him. It had been made when the old electoral roll was prepared. The subsequent incorrect classification was also not his doing. Yet he is now being asked to deal with the consequences of both.

This is where the process becomes particularly frustrating.

When the voter approached the BLO, he was reportedly told that the BLO could not do much and that he should approach the ERO. But the ERO was not available to resolve the matter. The voter was ultimately told to wait and respond if another notice was issued.

What is an ordinary citizen supposed to do in such a situation?

Another voter found that, in the 2002 electoral roll, *his own name had mistakenly been entered in the column meant for his father’s name*. This too was clearly an old data-entry mistake. Yet he received a notice under the anomaly category.

He submitted the required documents. But even after doing so, the computer system reportedly continued to show

that his mapping had been done through his progeny rather than through himself.

At this point, one cannot help asking:

Who is responsible for correcting an error that neither the voter created nor caused?

The 2002 records cannot be treated as perfect

The 2002 electoral roll is more than two decades old. At that time, electoral records were prepared in a very different manner. Names were written down and later entered into computer systems. Spelling mistakes, differences in the way names were written and other clerical errors were not unusual.

The Election Commission’s own voter-search system recognises that spelling variations may exist between old and current records and advises users to try different name variations while searching.

This is important.

A person whose name was incorrectly recorded more than 20 years ago cannot reasonably be expected to explain why a government record was entered incorrectly at that time.

More importantly, ordinary citizens in 2002 had no reason to imagine that a small spelling mistake in a voter list could create a serious problem for them decades later.

People simply did not know that an incorrect spelling, a

wrong father’s name or an incomplete entry could one day become a major issue.

A computer can find an error, but it cannot always understand it

There is nothing wrong with using technology to make electoral-roll revision faster and more systematic.

But technology has its limits.

A computer can identify a mismatch. It cannot always understand the reason behind that mismatch.

A spelling difference does not necessarily mean that two records belong to different people. An unusual age difference does not automatically mean that a relationship is wrong.

An incorrectly entered father’s name does not prove that the voter is someone else’s progeny.

And if a voter has opted for self-mapping, an old spelling mistake should not result in the system automatically treating the case as progeny mapping.

These are situations where *human verification is necessary*.

A computer-generated anomaly should therefore be treated as a reason to check the record—not as a reason to trouble the voter unnecessarily.

The strange irony: being absent from the old list may be easier than being present with an error

There is another curious aspect of the present situation.

People whose names are not found in the 2002 electoral roll and who receive notices under the unmapped category may, in some cases, be able to establish their eligibility through the prescribed procedure.

But those whose names *are

present in the old list but contain mistakes* may face greater difficulties.

One person may have a spelling mistake.

Another may have the wrong father’s name.

Someone else may have an unusual age difference.

Another may have an old entry that was incorrectly understood by the computer system.

As a result, there are situations where a person whose name is completely missing from the old list may find it easier to clear the matter than someone whose name is actually present but contains a small mistake.

That is an irony that deserves serious attention.

The purpose of the exercise should be to make the electoral roll more accurate—not to make innocent voters suffer because of mistakes in old records.

BLOs also need support

The frustration of voters is understandable when they approach a BLO and are told, “We do not know; speak to the ERO.”

At the same time, it would be unfair to blame BLOs for everything.

BLOs are dealing with a large amount of work, repeated queries and considerable pressure. They too need clear instructions and proper support from higher authorities.

If a computer system generates an anomaly, the BLO should know exactly what he or she is expected to do.

Voters should not simply be told to wait for another notice.

There should be a clear procedure through which a genuine mistake can be explained and corrected without making the voter run from one office to another.

What is needed is common sense

The Election Commission and the concerned authorities should consider a simple principle:

A discrepancy should lead to verification, not unnecessary harassment.

If the only problem is a minor spelling difference, it should be possible to verify the person’s identity through other available records.

If the age difference between two family members appears unusual, the voter should be given a reasonable opportunity to explain it and provide supporting documents.

If a father’s name or another relative’s name was wrongly entered in the old electoral roll, the surrounding evidence should be examined instead of relying blindly on the incorrect entry.

And if a voter has opted for self-mapping but the computer has classified it differently because of an old spelling mistake, there should be a simple way for the authorised officer to correct it.

Most importantly, once a voter has submitted satisfactory documents, there should be a clear system for updating the record and correcting any wrong computer classification.

Citizens should not pay for mistakes they never made

There is a larger issue here.

A voter should not have to take repeated leave from work, leave household responsibilities, travel to a polling station or government office several times and stand in queues simply to correct an error that originated in an old government record.

Every additional visit has a cost.

For elderly people, daily-wage workers, women, persons with disabilities and those who have difficulty travelling, the burden can be even greater. The purpose of electoral-roll revision is not only administrative accuracy.

It is also to ensure that eligible citizens can participate in the

democratic process without unnecessary difficulties.

Let the system correct its own mistakes

The Election Commission should therefore give clear instructions to field officials that *minor spelling mistakes, reasonable age discrepancies and clerical errors in decades-old electoral records should not, by themselves, become a reason to trouble or reject a voter.*

Each case should be looked at in its proper context.

If a voter can establish identity, relationship and eligibility through credible documents and other available evidence, the matter should be resolved through a simple verification process. A citizen should not be forced to prove that a mistake made by a data-entry worker more than two decades ago was not his or her mistake.

Nor should a computer-generated classification be treated as unquestionable simply because it appears on a screen.

Computers can flag anomalies. Humans must resolve them.

The integrity of the electoral roll is undoubtedly important. But electoral integrity and the convenience of citizens are not opposing goals. A good system must protect both.

The Election Commission should ensure that its scrutiny process is strict where there are genuine irregularities, but reasonable and understanding when the problem is simply an old clerical or spelling mistake.

After all, the voter did not write the wrong spelling in the 2002 electoral roll.

The voter did not enter the wrong father’s name.

The voter did not design the computer system.

Why, then, should the voter bear the consequences of all three?

The answer should be a system that identifies the discrepancy, checks the available evidence, corrects the record and moves on—without turning an innocent citizen’s routine electoral verification into an unnecessary ordeal.

GRSE Expands Shipbuilding Capacity as India Targets Global Top 10 by 2030, Top Five by 2047

With new shipyard capacity, commercial orders, exports and deeper indigenisation, GRSE is positioning itself for rising domestic and international maritime demand.

Based on PIB Inputs Munsif Desk

India’s shipbuilding ambition is entering a new phase. The country does not simply want to build more ships for its Navy and Coast Guard. It wants to become a much larger player in global shipbuilding, including commercial vessels and exports.

That is a difficult goal because India today accounts for less than 0.1 per cent of global shipbuilding. Yet the national target is to become one of the world’s top 10 shipbuilding nations by 2030 and move into the top five by 2047. GRSE Chairman and Managing Director Cmde PR Hari has himself described the scale of this challenge as significant, saying India will have to sharply increase its shipbuilding capability to move from its present small global share to those positions.

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers, or GRSE, is important in this larger effort because it is already expanding its capacity while also moving beyond its traditional dependence on defence orders.

GRSE has decades of experience in building com-

plex naval vessels. It built INS Ajay in 1961 and has since delivered 118 warships for the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and friendly foreign countries. In FY26 alone, it delivered eight warships. Its financial performance review shows revenue from operations of ₹7,002.16 crore during the year, up nearly 38 per cent from the previous year, while profit after tax rose to ₹747.93 crore, an increase of about 42 per cent.

These figures matter because expansion requires financial strength as well as engineering capability. New shipyards, modern equipment, larger fabrication facilities and advanced design systems need heavy and sustained investment.

GRSE can currently construct 28 large, medium and small vessels at the same time. Its infrastructure is being expanded to raise this capacity to 32 vessels. The company is also developing a major facility at Raichak in West Bengal with planned investment of more than ₹2,500 crore and is exploring another large facility on the western coast, including discussions in Gujarat.

This expansion address-

es a simple but important issue: India cannot become a major shipbuilding nation if its shipyards do not have enough capacity to handle rising orders.

Demand could come from several directions at once. The Indian Navy and Coast Guard will continue to require new vessels. Indian commercial shipping also represents a large potential market. At the same time, overseas shipowners are looking for additional shipbuilding centres as established yards in major shipbuilding countries operate under heavy demand.

GRSE is therefore trying to prepare capacity before demand becomes a bottleneck.

Its move into commercial shipbuilding is especially important. About five years ago, nearly 95 per cent of the company’s order book was connected with warship construction. Today, non-defence activity accounts for roughly 20 to 25 per cent.

That change is significant because commercial shipbuilding is necessary if India wants to become a major global shipbuilding country. Defence orders can develop sophisticated

engineering skills, but commercial orders provide scale and expose shipyards to international competition.

GRSE’s contract to build 12 multi-purpose vessels for a German commercial shipowner is a good example. The company has already undertaken projects for Mauritius, Seychelles and Guyana, but commercial vessels for an overseas customer represent another step towards competing in international markets.

The challenge in such markets is straightforward. Foreign shipowners have several countries and shipyards from which to choose. They look closely at price, quality, technical standards and delivery schedules. Indian shipbuilders therefore have to prove not only that they can build sophisticated ships, but that they can deliver them competitively and consistently.

This is why GRSE’s expansion is about much more than adding shipbuilding space.

A modern shipyard depends on hundreds of suppliers. GRSE is associated with around 2,500 MSMEs, and nearly 69 per cent of its domestic procurement in the previous year came

through MSMEs. These smaller companies supply equipment, fabricated structures, components and specialised engineering services.

In this sense, every major shipyard supports a much wider industrial network.

If India succeeds in increasing shipbuilding activity, the benefits could spread across manufacturing clusters producing marine machinery, electrical equipment, steel structures, propulsion systems and other specialised components. It could also create demand for skilled welders, designers, engineers, technicians and project managers.

Technology will be equally important.

GRSE says indigenous content in recent major warship projects has crossed 85 per cent. This is significant because stronger domestic capability reduces dependence on imported systems and makes the supply chain more secure.

However, the next stage will require deeper control over critical technologies, especially propulsion and other high-value systems. Building a ship in India is important, but the larger



industrial benefit comes when more of its key technologies are also designed, manufactured and supported in India.

GRSE’s effort to involve startups through its GAINS innovation programme fits into this approach. Startup participation increased from 49 in the first edition to around 61 in the second and 101 in the third, with the company targeting engagement with more than 150 startups in the latest edition.

This matters because modern shipbuilding is no longer only about steel and heavy machinery. Digital systems, automation, sensors, advanced materials and new technologies are becoming increasingly important. Bringing startups into the sector can help established shipyards adopt innovation faster.

GRSE’s engineering business also shows how shipbuilding skills can be used in other areas. Its Bailey Bridge business

has grown from revenue of around ₹35 crore about four years ago to more than ₹200 crore in the previous year, with a ₹250-crore target. These modular bridges are useful in difficult terrain, border areas and disaster-response situations.

The larger lesson from GRSE is therefore clear.

India’s shipbuilding ambition cannot be achieved by shipyards alone. Larger yards are necessary, but so are better marine equipment suppliers, skilled workers, strong design capability, efficient ports, ship financing, classification and certification systems, advanced propulsion technology and reliable supply chains.

Above all, delivery performance will matter. International customers must have confidence that Indian shipyards can complete ships to the required quality, cost and schedule.

The targets of reaching the global top 10 by 2030 and top five by 2047 remain ambitious objectives,

not achievements already secured. The distance India has to travel is considerable.

But GRSE’s present expansion shows what that journey will require in practical terms: more capacity, more commercial orders, more indigenous technology, deeper MSME participation and stronger links with global markets.

India’s progress in shipbuilding will eventually be judged not by announcements but by the vessels leaving its yards. If more naval ships, commercial vessels and export platforms are designed and built in India with a growing share of Indian technology and components, the country will be moving closer to becoming a serious global shipbuilding centre.

GRSE’s expansion is therefore more than a company growth story. It is an early test of whether India can turn its long-standing maritime potential into large-scale shipbuilding strength.



Asian Games: India Women face Sri Lanka in rematch of Hangzhou gold-medal clash

Nisshin, Sep 21:

Defending champions India will take on Sri Lanka in the women's cricket final at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games on Tuesday, with the two sides set for a repeat of the gold-medal clash from Hangzhou 2023.

The final will be played at Korogi Sports Park in Nisshin from 10.30 am IST. India reached the title clash after defeating hosts Japan by eight wickets in the quarter-finals and Bangladesh by 114 runs in the semi-finals. Sri Lanka beat Malaysia by 86 runs in the quarter-finals before defeating Pakistan by eight wickets in the last four.

The final comes just days after India defeated Sri Lanka by 72 runs in the Asia Cup final in Dubai. Shafali Verma, who has continued her strong form, scored an unbeaten century against Bangladesh in the semi-final. Sri Lanka will rely on captain Chamari Athapaththu, the tournament's leading run-scorer with 146 runs from two matches.

India have won 25 of their 31 T20I meetings against Sri Lanka, with the island nation winning five and one match ending without a result. India have also won their last seven encounters.

When: Tuesday, September 22, 10.30 am IST



Venue: Korogi Sports Park, Nisshin Live: Sony Sports 1, Sony Sports 3, Sony Sports 4 and Sony LIV.

India: Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, Gunalan Kamalini, Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Richa Ghosh (wk), Bharti Fulmali, Deepti Sharma, Shreyanka Patil, Shree Charani, Nandani Sharma, Kranti Gaud, Renuka Singh Thakur, Arundhati Reddy, Radha Yadav

Sri Lanka: Imesha Dulani, Chamari Athapaththu (c), Hasini Perera, Harshitha Samarawickrama,

Kavisha Dilhari, Hansima Karunaratne, Kaushani Nuthyangana (wk), Mithali Ayodhya, Kawya Kavindi, Chamudi Praboda, Sugandika Kumari, Rashmika Sewwandi, Nimasha Meepage, Sanjana Kavindi, Anushka Sanjeevani

India will also look to the experience of captain Harmanpreet Kaur and the all-round abilities of Deepti Sharma to strengthen their campaign in the title clash. With both sides familiar with each other and a major gold medal at stake, the final is expected to be a closely watched contest.

Dhoni part of decision making team to appoint Zaheer as head coach, says CSK MD Viswanathan



New Delhi, Sep 21:

Former India pacer Zaheer Khan's appointment as Chennai Super Kings' head coach for IPL 2027 was made with the active involvement of legendary captain MS Dhoni, franchise managing director Kasi Viswanathan said on Monday.

Five-time champions CSK appointed Zaheer, 47, to succeed Stephen Fleming, who ended his 18-year association with the franchise. Viswanathan said the cricket management considered Zaheer's IPL experience and playing background before finalising the decision, adding that Dhoni was part of the discussions.

"Definitely, he (MS Dhoni) was part of the decision when this was taken. Without his advice, we don't do anything," Viswanathan told IANS.

On Dhoni's playing future, Viswanathan said the former

India captain continues to remain a CSK player. Dhoni did not feature in IPL 2026 due to fitness issues.

Zaheer, a member of India's 2011 ODI World Cup-winning team, will have full autonomy over the selection of his support staff. He previously worked with Mumbai Indians as Director of Cricket Operations and Head of Global Development and later served as a mentor with Lucknow Super Giants.

Zaheer played 100 IPL matches for Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals, taking 102 wickets at an average of 27.27. The CSK role will be his first as head coach of a cricket team.

His immediate challenge will be to plan CSK's retention strategy and identify targets ahead of the IPL mini-auction in December. The franchise has missed the playoffs in the last three seasons and will look to rebuild ahead of the 2027 campaign.

Ex-India fast bowler Zaheer Khan appointed Chennai Super Kings head coach for IPL 2027

Chennai, Sep 21:

Five-time Indian Premier League (IPL) champions Chennai Super Kings (CSK) on Monday appointed former India left-arm fast bowler Zaheer Khan as their new head coach for the 2027 season.

Zaheer replaces Stephen Fleming, who stepped down earlier this year after the side failed to reach playoffs for a third straight time. It also brought an end to Fleming's 18-year association with the franchise and since then, he has taken over as the head coach of the England men's Test team.

"It's an honour to be a part of one of the most successful teams in the history of the IPL. As a cricketer, I have faced CSK on the field and have thoroughly enjoyed the contests. The atmosphere created by the Superfans at Chepauk make it even more special. I can't wait to join the legacy franchise with such a rich history," Zaheer said in a statement by the franchise on Monday.

During a distinguished 14-year international career, Zaheer represented India in 92 Tests, 200 ODIs, and 17 T20Is, picking up 610 wickets across formats. In the IPL, the veteran left-arm bowler turned out for Royal Challengers Bengaluru,



Mumbai Indians, and Delhi Capitals, claiming 102 wickets in 100 matches at an average of 27.27.

"We are pleased to confirm Zaheer Khan as the Head Coach for Chennai Super Kings. Zaheer's distinguished playing career and proven ability to nurture young talent make him a valuable addition to our setup. We are confident that his guidance will help strengthen the core of this franchise," said CSK owner Rupa Gurunath.

Zaheer, a key architect of India's 2011 ODI World Cup-winning campaign, brings a wealth of tactical acumen and coaching experience to CSK. He previously served as Director of Cricket Operations and Head of Global Development at Mumbai Indians, before taking up a mentoring role with Lucknow Super Giants in IPL 2025.

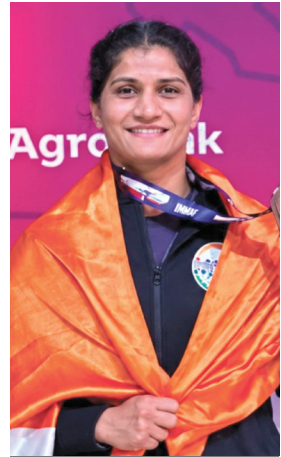
He also conducted a fast-bowling camp for

various pacers in India 'A', U19 and targeted pool at the BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru earlier this year. The decision to appoint Zaheer comes after extensive conversations happened with various candidates once Fleming left the CSK fold.

It is understood that CSK stalwart and former captain MS Dhoni had insisted on hiring an Indian head coach, citing the familiarity with Indian conditions and local players. "Zaheer is a world class bowler and has been a mentor to many young cricketers, especially fast bowlers, over the years.

"As a player, Zaheer was one of the key reasons for India's success in the 2000s. He's one of the finest cricketing brains and we look forward to having him in our family," said CSK Managing Director KS Viswanathan.

Suchika Tariyal bags historic MMA bronze for India at Asian Games



Nagoya, Sep 21:

Suchika Tariyal scripted history on Monday by becoming India's first Asian Games medallist in mixed martial arts, securing bronze in the women's traditional -60kg event at the Aichi-Nagoya Games. Her campaign ended in the semifinals after a narrow overtime defeat to Singapore's Hui Hoon Teo.

Tariyal had reached the semifinals after defeating Mongolia's Altanchimeg Baigalmaa 2-0 in the quarterfinals on Sunday, becoming the first Indian athlete to secure an Asian Games MMA medal. The 36-year-old has competed in judo, kurash and Jiu-Jitsu, winning a world title in fighting Jiu-Jitsu in 2024.

A national-level judoka, Tariyal competed at the 2022 Commonwealth Games before returning to MMA after a seven-year break. Her bronze at Aichi-Nagoya marks India's first Asian Games medal in the sport.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi is a dangerous combination of skill and smarts: Washington Sundar

New Delhi, Sep 21:

India all-rounder Washington Sundar praised teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, saying his combination of skill and cricketing intelligence makes him a dangerous player capable of winning matches for India.

Ahead of India's one-off T20I against Japan on Tuesday, Sundar said Vaibhav understands his own game and knows how to adapt to different opponents and conditions. He added that the youngster has already shown his potential and can be expected to win many games for the country.

Sundar also encouraged Japanese cricket fans to visit India during the IPL,



describing the tournament as the best T20 league and highlighting the passion for cricket in the country. He said the IPL has provided young Indian players with an important platform to develop and eventually represent the

national team. Welcoming the growth of cricket in Japan and the launch of the Japan Premier League, Sundar said the expansion of the sport into new regions could help the game reach a wider global audience.

Gill clear and authoritative despite being a man of few words: Holder

New Delhi, Sep 21:

West Indies all-rounder Jason Holder praised India ODI captain Shubman Gill's leadership, describing him as a calm and authoritative skipper who may not speak much but is clear about his demands from the team.

Holder, who played under Gill for Gujarat Titans in IPL 2026, said the young captain gives bowlers freedom to set fields and execute their plans. He also noted that Gill is still learning in his new leadership role and will benefit from the experience of senior players. India are set to host West



Indies for a three-match ODI series beginning September 27, although Holder has been rested for the tour. Holder also praised India's veteran batters Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, describing them as major challenges for any opposition in the 50-over format. He also backed young India

pacer Gurnoor Brar, praising his height, pace and ability to extract bounce and movement from the pitch.

"I would expect him to be a challenge for us," Holder said, recalling his experience of facing the pacer in the nets during their Gujarat Titans stint.

Asian Games: Aryan, Roshibina Devi advance to Wushu quarterfinals

Nagoya, Sep 21:

Indian Wushu players Aryan and Roshibina Devi advanced to the quarterfinals of the Asian Games after winning their respective 1/8 finals at the Aichi Prefectural Martial Arts Hall on Monday.

Aryan defeated Afghanistan's Safi Shahzada 2-0 in the men's 56kg pre-quarterfinal, while two-time Asiad medallist Roshibina outclassed Bangladesh's Shika Khatun by point difference in the women's 60kg 1/8 final.

Both Indians are now one win away from securing medals and will compete in the quarterfinals on Tuesday for places in the semifinals.

Roshibina has previously won silver at the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games and bronze at the 2018 Jakarta Games. She is also a South Asian Games gold medallist and a 2016 World Junior Championships bronze medallist.

Earlier, India's Nyeman Wangsu finished 15th in the women's Changquan final. Suraj Singh Mayanglambam also narrowly missed a podium finish on Sunday, placing 11th in the men's Changquan final.

Suraj scored 9.683 points in a 21-athlete field, finishing just 0.040 points behind the bronze-medal mark. Macau's Kuong Chi Hin won gold with 9.723 points, while compatriot Chi Kuan Song took silver with 9.720.

Asian Games: Rudrankksh Patil eyes 50m Rifle 3 Positions after two medals



New Delhi, Sep 21:

Having already won two medals at the ongoing Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, rifle shooter Rudrankksh Patil is "excited" for what is on offer as he gears up for the 50m Rifle 3 Positions event.

Patil, who won a team gold in the 2023 Hangzhou Games, backed that success with a double medal outing in Japan when he helped the men's team win the silver and went on to bag an individual bronze later on in the individual final.

Speaking after the success, he has put his focus on the 50m Rifle 3 Positions event, which is slated to take place on the coming Friday.

"So, this is my first time participating in the Games in double events and this is my second year after starting 3P.

"So, I'm very excited to play it out and I have good coaching, good guidance, good support from all the support staff and the Indian team which can help me, which I have to just follow and I think everything will be fine," he replied to IANS query during a roundtable interaction with media after his twin medal wins.

He shared the coaches' advice of keeping things simple and focusing on shooting rather than predicting medal

finishes, which can eventually lead him to win a medal.

"But our coaches have said that 'you have shot a certain score and that led to your selection during the tournament. You don't have to shoot anything extraordinary. You have to just shoot your daily thing, and that is just going to be enough'. And for the 3P finals and all, I myself am very excited to see how well I can perform, how well I can do in this event," he added. Patil was in gold medal position in the individual 10m final but dropped down later. He stated that the nerves played a role in the slip-up as he settled for a bronze.

"So when we started with the finals, I had a strong start, which gave me confi-

dence that today is my day. I'm doing really well. But at the same time, because I was rank one for a pretty long time and this year, I haven't played that many finals, so when I came into these finals, I wasn't so very confident.

"But we had a lot of training finals, which boosted my confidence a bit for the finals, which made me feel at home at the final range also. But as I was climbing up, knowing that I was in the gold medal position, it was going very well that started building up a bit of nervousness inside of me. And I think I could have handled it a bit better. But here we are with a bronze, so I'm happy with that also," he told the media.

Asian Games: Indian women's TT team beats Pakistan to enter quarterfinals

New Delhi, Sep 21:

India's women's table tennis team defeated Pakistan 3-0 to top Group F and enter the Asian Games quarterfinals. Sutirtha Mukherjee, Syndrela Das and Sreeja Akula won their singles matches in straight games.

Sutirtha beat Aleena Khan

11-3, 11-3, 11-4, while Syndrela defeated Kalsoom Khan 11-6, 11-7, 11-5. Sreeja completed the sweep with an 11-4, 11-4, 11-5 win over Fatima Khan. India finished with three wins from three, while the men's team beat Indonesia 3-0 but lost 0-3 to Iran. They will face Pakistan in their final group match.



Khan Sir's Bihar Flood Relief Goes Viral, Videos Show Teacher On Boats

As Bihar battles severe flooding, educator and YouTuber Khan Sir has stepped away from his classroom setting and into flood-hit areas, with videos showing him travelling by boat and participating in relief efforts going viral on social media.

According to recent reports, Khan Sir has been involved in relief operations using boats and walkie-talkies to reach affected areas and distribute assistance. The state itself is dealing with a large-scale flood emergency, with reports putting the number of affected people at around 48 lakh as of September 20. The videos, as expected, have led to mixed opinions on social media, with some users commenting on how his content is being engineered to put the spotlight on him.

One user commented on a video of Khan sir, saying: "Poor Khan Sir has become the god of Bihar, helping everyone all by himself He doesn't want to burden any one person with the trouble of his management What a spectacle, what a spectacle—Reels are getting cut PR guy says, Sir, point your finger



like this this time, we'll take it from this angle now, or else it'll flop this time, go ahead and apply some ointment and bandage it up., Hey, if you're sick, just sit down—let someone else handle it peacefully from your boat, dear sir, you go ahead and steal the whole show all by yourself.

But alongside the jokes and criticism, several users have been posting straightforward appreciation for his involvement. One comment read: "This is what makes Khan Sir truly special

Not just a teacher but someone who steps forward when people need help the most. Respect for

this effort and the humanity behind it"

Another user said: "Hats off to Khan Sir. Bihar needs more people like him to move forward"

A recurring theme in the comments is that Khan Sir is an educator rather than an elected representative. One user wrote: "Not a politician, Not an MLA. Khan Sir is just a teacher. Yet, despite being a teacher, he is helping people affected by the floods in Bihar. "

Another user highlighted Khan Sir's educational work and other initiatives: "This man has done so much for the people of Bihar despite being a teacher. He has taught children for free

and even helped build a hospital. Still, many people in Bihar misunderstand Khan Sir because the religion angle somehow always comes into the picture."

Not all the reactions were simply about the flood-relief work. Some commenters used Khan Sir's visibility during the crisis to make broader comparisons with Bihar's political leadership. One user claimed: "Looking at the way Khan Sir is actively involved in relief efforts, it seems like they've already outpaced the Bihar government."

The same commenter speculated about a possible political future for the educator: "If in the future Khan Sir appears in the race for Bihar's Chief Minister position just like Vijay, it might not be surprising at all. "

Bihar Floods

According to the Bihar Disaster Management Department, around 49.74 lakh people have been affected by the floods. The affected districts include Patna, Bhojpur, Saran, Vaishali, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Buxar, Samastipur, Munger, Katihar, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Purnea, Madhepura and Araria.

After Losing Mother, Son Takes 80-Year-Old Father On First Flight

What are the odds of a father and son, both sailors, crossing paths in the middle of a vast ocean while aboard two different ships? To be honest, very slim. But for Rusheel Saran and his father, that extraordinary coincidence became a moment that they will remember for life.

Rusheel took to Instagram to share the chance encounter he had with his father. In a video, he explained that they are both sailors, but they were sailing on separate vessels and in totally different directions when their paths unexpectedly crossed.

"It Turned Out To Be My Father"

"Today I had what might be one of the most iconic father-son moments of my life, and it happened in the middle of the ocean. I was sailing north when I noticed a massive vessel approaching us from the opposite direction. So naturally, I checked the charts, and that's when I realised who it was," he said in the clip. "It turned out to be my father. His ship was headed south, and my ship was headed north."

The encounter was particularly meaningful because of the vastness of the ocean and the unlikely circumstances that brought the two ships together. Reflecting on the moment, Rusheel recalled something his father told him.

"One Unforgettable Moment"

"Somewhere in this vast nothingness, a father and son found each other, sailing in different directions yet united by the same



ocean. Maybe that's what growing up is. You eventually set your own course, but you never really stopped sailing with the person who taught you how to navigate through life," his father told him.

In the caption of the post, Rusheel wrote, "A one in a billion chance brought my Papa and me, two generations of sailors, together in the middle of the ocean. Two ships, two journeys, and one unforgettable moment."

The video has struck a chord with viewers online, with many describing the chance meeting as a reminder of the enduring bond between parents and their children.

"Oofff, this hit me like a truck," said a user.

Another commented, "This is the rarest of rare moments in a Seafarer's life."

"This is so wholesome, dude. What a beautiful moment," an individual commented.

Gurugram Road Rage Turns Dangerous As Two Cars Repeatedly Ram Each Other

A road dispute in Gurugram's Sector 38 turned dangerous when two drivers were seen repeatedly crashing their cars into each other. The incident happened near HUDA Market and was captured on camera as people nearby moved away from the vehicles.

The footage shows a black Maruti Baleno and a cab-like Hyundai Aura facing off on the road. At one point, a man gets out of the white car, after which the black car appears to move towards him. He manages to get out of the vehicle's path. The exact reason for the argument is not yet clear.

The Two Cars Keep Crashing Into Each Other

The clash did not stop after the first collision. The black car is seen moving towards the other vehicle again, while the white car also moves forward and hits it.

The man who gets out of the white car is seen trying to stay away from the black vehicle. In another



part of the footage, he appears to strike the black car with a rock before getting back into his vehicle.

The white car then makes a turn and hits the black Baleno from the side. The two vehicles continue their confrontation before the incident comes to an end. Reports said no complaint had been received by police in connection with the Sector 38 incident at the time.

Another Gurugram Car-Ramming Case Happened Earlier

The Sector 38 incident came shortly after another road rage case in Gurugram's Sector 89. In that case, a man driving a Mahindra Thar allegedly

Foreigner Says 'India Has A Trash Problem'

A foreigner who was in India recently shared a blunt observation about the problem of littering in the country. He described that India had a "trash problem" and shared why areas behind fences often appeared noticeably cleaner, while the other side was filled with plastic wrappers, food packets and much more.

Taking to X, the foreigner named Damon Zumbroegel shared his observation while visiting a tourist spot in Mysore. Pointing to the clean surroundings, he said the area was free of trash because people were not allowed to enter certain sections.

"Everywhere Else In India Is Full Of Trash"

"That's Chamundi Hill in Mysore, the most sacred hill here. But you can see this lovely building and these grounds behind me without a single piece of trash. The only places I know of in India that have no trash are the ones they keep people out of with fences and barbed wire," he said. "Everywhere else in India is full of trash. Cows eating trash, trash all over the streets, trash everywhere."

In another clip, he contrasted the areas outside and inside a fence, saying, "Outside the fence, trash everywhere. Inside the fence, where nobody's allowed, no trash."

He References India's Use Of Biodegradable Containers In The Past

Damon then questioned what he saw as a contrast between cleanliness around homes and litter in public spaces. "Indians clean the front of their homes everyday. Sweeping and washing, it's a ceremony, and yet just over there istrash," he said.



Man rides with 5 children packed into metal basket, one seated in front

A woman travelling with a child after his medical treatment in Gorakhpur received a sweet gesture of kindness from a tea seller on a train. Seeing the exhausted mother struggling to calm her crying child, the vendor first offered her a cup of tea and then decided to entertain the little one himself.

The tea seller, identified as Raja Babu from Patna, was seen in a video dancing energetically in the aisle of the passenger train. With the child still crying, he kept dancing and making playful moves in an attempt to distract him and bring a smile to his face.

His effort soon appeared to work. The child's attention shifted towards the dancing vendor, while the mother smiled at the unexpected attempt to comfort her son.

Fellow passengers also watched the impromptu performance, with several



reacting with smiles and applause.

The video captured Raja Babu turning a tiring journey into a brief moment of joy. Rather than simply continuing with his work, he noticed the mother's exhaustion and chose to do something to ease the situation.

The video went viral on X and quickly garnered praise from social media

users. Many appreciated the tea seller for noticing the mother's situation and making an effort to help without being asked.

What began with a simple cup of tea ended with an impromptu dance in a train aisle. For the mother and her child, it was a small moment of kindness during what had otherwise been a tiring journey.

UP men caught cooking meat on funeral pyre as part of tantric ritual

Three men were arrested in Uttar Pradesh's Shahjahanpur after they cooked meat over the flames of an elderly man's funeral pyre in an attempt to perform a tantric ritual.

The incident came to light when the deceased's son returned to the cremation ground and found the accused cooking meat on the pyre.

As per the complaint filed by the deceased's son, his father died of illness on Saturday. His last rites were performed on Sunday afternoon, following which the family returned home after lighting the funeral pyre.

When his son returned to the cremation ground a short while later, he allegedly found village tantric Surendra, along with Rajendra and Ramcharan, cooking chicken on the burning pyre. When he objected to the utensils placed on the wood, Surendra allegedly abused him.

The ensuing argument and commotion drew other villagers to the spot, leading to chaos at the cremation ground. Police



were subsequently informed and arrested all three accused.

Police said the three men were under the influence of drugs when they were found cooking meat on the funeral pyre.

Speaking about the incident, an official said, "An elderly man died in Natthapur village. After his funeral, three people, under the influence of drugs, were cooking meat on his pyre. Based on the son's complaint, a case has been registered under the relevant sections, and all three accused have been arrested."

Police have registered a case under relevant sections of the law, and all three accused have been taken into custody as part of the investigation into the incident.

Nagaland Minister amused by monkey's rather lavish barbershop spa day

A monkey walked into a barbershop and apparently decided he deserved some pampering. He climbed onto the chair, settled in and let the barber work his magic with a relaxing massage.

The amusing video was shared by Nagaland Minister Temjen Imna Along, showing the monkey comfortably perched on the barber's chair as the barber gave him a relaxing body massage.

With his eyes closed and body completely at ease, the monkey looked like he had arrived at the shop with just one thing on his mind: some serious relaxation.

The barber, meanwhile, seemed more than happy to oblige. He continued massaging the monkey as the animal

sat calmly on the chair, enjoying every bit of the unexpected spa treatment.

Along shared the video with a playful caption that read, "Monkesh bhai is enjoying his massage time. Do Not Disturb."

And judging by the video, Monkesh bhai was taking that instruction very seriously.

The clip soon went viral, with viewers amused by the sight of the monkey enjoying a treatment that many humans would happily book for themselves after a long day. The animal's remarkably relaxed expression only made the scene funnier.

Social media users also had one important question: who was going to pay for all this?

Several viewers joked that



Monkesh bhai had managed to get a full-body massage without spending a single rupee. Others simply enjoyed watching the monkey sit back and soak up the attention like a regular customer.

From walking into a barbershop to getting a complimentary

massage, this monkey certainly seemed to have figured out the art of getting pampered without lifting a finger.

And if the barber was hoping for a tip, well, he may have to wait for Monkesh bhai to come back with his wallet.