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CJP launches ‘Jail Bharo’ stir in Mumbai, seeks CEC’s resignation

Thousands gather at Shivaji Park despite police denial of permission; protesters demand halt to SIR

IANs News
Mumbai, Oct 2

The Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) on Friday launched its ‘Jail Bharo’ agitation at Shivaji Park here, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and raising concerns over electoral-roll management and the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise.

The protest was organised despite Mumbai Police denying permission for the gathering. Thousands of CJP supporters and citizens reached Shivaji Park, with police deploying heavy security, barricades and quick-response teams around Dadar and the adjoining areas.

Addressing the gathering, CJP founder Abhijit Dipke called for an independent investigation into electoral-roll management and demanded an immediate halt to the SIR exercise. The organisation also sought restoration of the January 2025 electoral lists and a comprehensive audit of recent voter deletions.

Dipke said the protest was aimed at raising concerns over the protection of voting rights and democratic institutions. He also challenged the Maharashtra government over warnings of arrests for participating in the agitation and said the protesters were prepared to face detention.

Actors Shabana Azmi and Naseeruddin Shah and singer Vishal Dadlani were among the public figures who attended the protest. Actor Prakash Raj extended support through a video message. The participants spoke about the importance of voting rights and the need to safeguard democratic institutions.

The CJP also demanded repeal of the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023, and sought a more transparent appointment process involving wider political and civil society participation.

A counter-protest was held nearby by a group calling itself Gen Next Mumbai, which accused the organisers of disrupting public life and misrepresenting constitutional processes. Some local residents and housing associations also raised concerns over traffic restrictions, noise and security arrangements.

Police personnel, including women officers and quick-response units, remained deployed around Shivaji Park and adjoining roads. Minor scuffles were reported over barricades, but the gathering remained largely peaceful.

CJP leaders said the Mumbai agitation would be followed by rallies and campaigns in other states, including West Bengal, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, before a proposed demonstration at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi.

- CJP demands resignation of CEC Gyanesh Kumar and an independent probe into electoral-roll management.
- Protesters seek a halt to the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and an audit of voter deletions.
- Actors Shabana Azmi, Naseeruddin Shah and singer Vishal Dadlani joined the protest.
- Police maintained heavy security around Shivaji Park as a counter-protest was also held nearby.



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Telangana to launch school breakfast central kitchens on Dec. 9

Revanth Reddy directs officials to complete works by Nov. 30 and ensure quality, nutritious meals

- All central kitchens under the government school breakfast scheme will be inaugurated across Telangana on December 9.
- Kitchens will be linked to the Integrated Command and Control Centre for regular monitoring.
- Junna Solar Systems and Chain Labs India pledged ₹5.17 crore and ₹4 crore respectively for kitchens in Nagarkurnool and Vikarabad.
- CM calls for student nutrition tracking, calorie monitoring and region-specific breakfast menus.

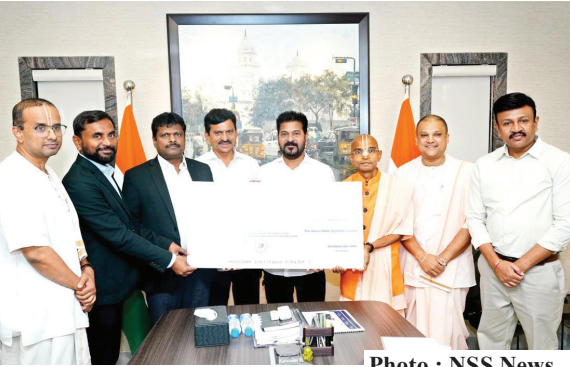


Photo : NSS News

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 2

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday announced that central kitchens established to provide nutritious breakfasts to government school students will be inaugurated across the state on December 9.

He directed officials to complete the works by November 30 and make arrangements for students to visit the kitchens. The facilities will be linked to the Integrated Command and Control Centre in Hyderabad for regular monitoring.

At a meeting with Hare Krishna Foundation representatives, Junna Solar Systems and Chain Labs India signed agreements to support the scheme. The companies are establishing centralised kitchens in Nagarkurnool and Vikarabad and contributed ₹5.17 crore and ₹4 crore respectively.

Revanth Reddy stressed the need for quality food and said the breakfast programme aims to improve students’ nutrition and encourage regular attendance. He called for records to track students’ physical growth and academic progress, besides an application to calculate meal calories.

The CM also suggested that menus should reflect regional dietary habits and stressed careful implementation of the long-term programme. Ministers and senior officials attended the meeting.

US man charged over \$300 million China tech smuggling case

IANs News
Washington, Oct 2

The owner of a California technology company has been arrested on federal charges of allegedly smuggling more than \$300 million worth of export-controlled computer servers containing US-made graphics processors to China, the US Justice Department said.

Greg Lui, 38, of San Gabriel, California, was arrested on a three-count indictment alleging that servers containing graphics processing units (GPUs) were routed through Malaysia and Singapore to evade US export controls.

Prosecutors said Lui owned Earthmade Computer Inc. and, along with alleged co-conspirators, purchased restricted equipment from 2023 to 2024 and shipped it to China without required licences. The equipment was allegedly sent through third countries and accompanied by false documentation. The indictment alleges that Earthmade received more than \$176 million from two Malaysia-based shipping companies between January and October 2024 as part of the scheme.



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Passenger tries to open plane’s emergency exit at Shamshabad Airport



IANs News
Hyderabad, Oct 2

An alleged attempt by a passenger to open an aircraft’s emergency exit during boarding created a scare at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), Shamshabad, early Friday.

The incident occurred while passengers were boarding an IndiGo flight to Kadapa in Andhra Pradesh. After airline staff alerted authorities, the passenger was deboarded and handed over to RGIA Police.

According to police, the passenger was shifted from the ninth row to the second row, an emergency-exit seating area. While settling in, he allegedly touched the emergency exit handle, triggering a security alarm.

A case has been registered at the RGIA Police Station. The passenger told police that he had touched the handle unintentionally. Further investigation is underway.

The incident comes days after an alleged cockpit attack on a fly-dubai flight from Dubai to Tel Aviv, in which the Indian pilot raised an alarm and passengers overpowered the co-pilot. The aircraft was later diverted to Tabuk in Saudi Arabia.

Governor, CM pay tributes to Gandhi at Babu Ghat



Photo : Syed Omar

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 2

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Babu Ghat in Langer Houz here on his birth anniversary on Friday.

They offered floral tributes at Gandhi’s Samadhi and paid homage at his statue. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud, Ministers Ponnampallam Prabhakar, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and Mohammed Azharuddin were among those present.

The Governor and Chief Minister also inaugurated a digital museum and participated in an all-faith prayer meeting at the Prayers’ Hall, which has a 76-foot-long collage featuring more than 400 photographs of Gandhi.

Shukla said Gandhi’s ideals of truth, non-violence and compassion continue to inspire humanity, while Revanth Reddy recalled his contribution to India’s freedom struggle and ideals of self-reliance, gram swaraj and social equality. The Governor also paid tributes to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, describing his life as a symbol of simplicity, integrity and selfless service.

Intelligence-led operations target LeT militant, Rs 3,000-crore drug haul

IANs News
New Delhi, Oct 2

Two major security operations this week — the killing of senior Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Mohammad Asif alias Hashim Moosa in Jammu and Kashmir and the seizure of narcotics worth over Rs 3,000 crore in the Arabian Sea — have highlighted the role of intelligence-led operations and inter-agency coordination.

Moosa was killed in an intelligence-led operation in Budgam after security forces received technical and human intelligence about his movement and presence, according to the Union Home Ministry.

In the second operation, the Indian Coast Guard and Gujarat ATS, working with central intelligence agencies, intercepted an Iranian dhow west of Lakshadweep on September 25 and seized about 526 kg of heroin and methamphetamine worth



more than Rs 3,000 crore. Five Pakistani nationals were apprehended.

Officials said intelligence gathering is increasingly combining ground-level inputs with technology, including data analysis, cyber monitoring, artificial intelligence and machine learning. Human intelligence, however, remains important for assessing and validating technology-generated inputs.

Security agencies are now dealing with a wider range of threats, including terrorism, narcotics trafficking, drones, infiltration, cyber threats and disinformation. At the recent National Security Strategies conference, Union Home Minister Amit Shah directed agencies to develop standard operating procedures based on AI-driven analysis of information available through the Multi Agency Centre.

Officials said closer integration of Human Intelligence and Technological Intelligence is helping agencies identify and assess emerging threats more rapidly.

Neeru Dhanda named India’s flag-bearer for Asian Games closing ceremony

IANs News
Nagoya, Oct 2

Double gold medallist Neeru Dhanda will carry the Indian flag at the closing ceremony of the 2026 Asian Games in Nagoya on Sunday after a standout campaign in shooting.

The 27-year-old trap shooter has won three medals — two gold and a silver. She won silver in the women’s trap team event with Aashima Ahlawat and Manisha Keer before claiming individual trap gold, becoming the first Indian woman to win an Asian Games gold in the discipline.

Neeru followed it with another gold in the trap mixed team event with Kynan Chenai. The pair scored 34 hits to break



the previous Asian record of 33.

The closing ceremony will be held at the Nagoya City Mizuho Park Athletic Stadium on Sunday. Neeru’s three-medal haul has made her one of India’s leading performers at the Games.

YSRCP alleges neglect of drought-hit Rayalaseema farmers

IANs News
Tadepalli, Oct 2

YSRCP leaders on Friday alleged that the Andhra Pradesh government had neglected drought-hit farmers in Rayalaseema while promoting the proposed Rs 1 lakh crore horticulture hub.

Former minister Kurasala Kannababu and party leader Gadikota Srikanth Reddy claimed that severe rainfall deficits had affected crops, dried borewells and left horticulture farmers struggling. They demanded immediate drought relief, crop-loan rescheduling, crop insurance, input subsidy and compensation for damaged crops.

Kannababu also questioned the funding and implementation of the horticulture hub, while former minister Sake Sailajanath alleged that the project could benefit corporate entities at farmers’ expense.

The allegations came on the day the state government launched the Global Horticulture Hub–Rayalaseema Rising project at Madanapalle.



Gandhian path ideal and worth following: Nizamabad Mayor



Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct 2

The path shown by Mahatma Gandhi is ideal and worth emulating by everyone, said Nizamabad Mayor Kooragayala Umarani, calling upon people to uphold his ideals and work for the welfare of society.

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the Mayor, along with Additional Collector Bhujanga Rao, Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dilip Kumar and other officials, paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at his statue at Gandhi Chowk here on Friday.

The dignitaries also paid homage to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary. They recalled the significant contributions and services rendered by both national leaders to the country.

The speakers said Gandhi and Shastri had set examples of simplicity, dedication and commitment to public service. They urged people, particularly the younger generation, to follow the ideals and values shown by the two leaders and contribute to the progress of the nation and welfare of society.

Leaders of various political parties, representatives of different organisations and prominent citizens participated in the programme.

Nizamabad She Teams provide round-the-clock support to women

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct 2

Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, said the district’s She Teams were working round the clock to ensure the safety and security of women and children and provide support to those facing harassment or other difficulties.

He said that from January to September 2026, the She Teams conducted 416 awareness programmes and inspected 1,027 identified hotspots across the district, particularly crowded areas and locations vulnerable to harassment. A total of 161 petty cases were registered, while 61 issues were resolved through counselling.



The Commissioner said 154 cases were registered against persons caught harassing women or creating public nuisance during the period. Special teams were also deployed during the Durga Navaratri celebrations to prevent harassment and take action against troublemakers.

Awareness programmes were conducted in 59 villages on crimes against women, child marriages, cybercrimes, social media-related offences and good touch and bad touch. The teams also received around 62 calls concerning women’s issues and took steps to address them.

The Commissioner said the She Teams would continue to play a key role in protecting women and children and urged those facing harassment or requiring assistance to contact the She Team at 8712659795.

SCR GM inspects Mahabubabad Station, track renewal works

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 2

South Central Railway (SCR) General Manager Sanjay Kumar Srivastava on Friday conducted a detailed inspection of Mahbubabad Railway Station and the ongoing Track Relaying Train (TRT) works between Mahabubabad and Tadla Pusapalli stations.

Dr. R. Gopalakrishnan, Divisional Railway Manager, Secunderabad Division, and other senior railway officials accompanied the General Manager during the inspection.

Srivastava travelled by a special train from Kacheguda to Warangal for a rear-window inspection, reviewing signal visibility, overhead traction systems, track conditions, sectional caution orders and permissible speeds.

At Mahabubabad station, he participated in the Swachhta Hi Seva programme, administered the cleanliness pledge and planted saplings. He also reviewed the ongoing redevelopment of the station under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.

Mahabubabad MLA Dr. Murali Naik Bhukya met the General Manager and discussed railway development plans for the constituency. Srivastava later interacted with the media and briefed them on ongoing railway projects.

The General Manager subsequently inspected TRT works between Mahabubabad and Tadla Pusapalli. The specialised mechanised equipment carries out several track-renewal operations in a single work block, including removal of old rails and sleepers, ballast levelling and compaction, laying of new sleepers and installation of new rails.

Railway officials said the mechanised process significantly reduces manual intervention, eliminates the need for basic cranes and helps minimise disruption to train services while expediting track renewal.

Komatireddy slams opposition over drought politics

NSS News Nalgonda, Oct 2

Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Friday mounted a sharp attack on the Opposition BRS and BJP, accusing their leaders of taking “sadistic pleasure” in the public distress caused by widespread drought-like conditions.

Addressing reporters at Indira Bhavan in Nalgonda, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy blamed the global impact of El Niño and an increased reliance on agricultural borewells for triggering a sharp spike in Telangana’s power demand, which has now touched nearly 20,000 MW.



He dismissed the previous Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) administration’s claims of delivering uninterrupted free electricity as “false propaganda.”

“We are not making false promises like the previous government did regarding a ‘Dalit Chief Minister’ or ‘24-hour power.’ We are placing the true facts before the people,” Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said, adding that the Revanth Reddy-led Congress government remains committed to ensuring round-the-clock quality power despite climate challenges and rising demand.

Highlighting energy infrastructure achievements, the Minister stated that the Congress administration successfully commissioned the Yadadri Thermal Power Station after works had stalled under BRS rule. He added that the state is leveraging all available resources, including support from Coal India, to sustain grid stability.

On local infrastructure and housing, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy announced that he has urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to sanction an additional 5,000 Indiramma housing units for the Nalgonda Assembly constituency.

Exuding confidence ahead of upcoming political contests, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy asserted that Congress would secure victories in the two Graduate MLC constituencies and the Khairatabad Assembly bypoll, forecasting that the party would retain power in the state.

Vivekananda Reddy murder case: ED issues notice to Kadapa MP Avinash Reddy

IANS News Hyderabad, Oct 2

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued a notice to Kadapa MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy and directed him to appear before it on October 14 in connection with the investigation into alleged financial transactions related to the murder of his uncle and former Andhra Pradesh minister Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy.

Avinash Reddy, one of the accused in the 2019 murder case, is the cousin of former Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party President Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

After questioning Yerra

Gangi Reddy and other accused in connection with the alleged financial transactions linked to the case, the ED has now summoned the YSR Congress Party MP.

Gangi Reddy appeared before the ED officials in Hyderabad for two days (September 28 and 29).

The Central agency also questioned Uma Shankar Reddy, Sunil Yadav and Shaik Dastagiri, an accused-turned-approver, as part of the probe into the alleged money laundering and financial transactions connected with the murder conspiracy.

The ED last week questioned and recorded Sunil Yadav’s statement. Gangi Reddy and

Umashankar Reddy were reportedly questioned based on this statement.

The agency is probing the financial transactions before the murder as the CBI suspects that Rs 40 crore ‘supari’ (contract) was offered to the accused to kill Vivekananda Reddy.

The ED began a money laundering probe on the basis of the case registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the charge sheets filed by it.

It was in August last year that the ED registered an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR). The ED is also looking into the alleged transfer of Rs 4 crore and the payment of Rs 1 crore as an advance to

Shaik Dastagiri.

Last month, the ED conducted searches at multiple locations, including the premises linked to Avinash Reddy, his father Y.S. Bhaskar Reddy, and other accused in the murder case.

Vivekananda Reddy, brother of former Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy (YSR), and uncle of former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, was murdered at his residence in Pulivendula on March 15, 2019, weeks before the elections.

The 68-year-old former state minister and former MP was alone at his house when unidentified persons barged in and killed him.

The CBI took over the investi-



gation in 2020 at the direction of the Andhra Pradesh High Court while hearing a petition by Vivekananda Reddy’s daughter, Sunitha Reddy, who raised suspicion about some relatives.

Expediting the probe, the CBI in 2023 arrested Bhaskar Reddy and his follower, Uday Kumar Reddy. It filed the first charge sheet in the case in 2021 and supplementary charge sheets in 2022 and 2023.

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Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct 2

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KTR recalls Kalyana Lakshmi launch, lauds KCR’s welfare vision

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 2

BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) on Friday recalled the launch of the Kalyana Lakshmi scheme on its 12th anniversary, saying it was aimed at supporting daughters from economically weaker families. In a post on X, KTR said the scheme was inspired by an incident witnessed by former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao during the Telangana movement, when a tribal family struggled to arrange their daughter’s marriage after losing their savings.

He said the incident prompted KCR to help the family and later led to the launch of Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes. KTR described the initiatives as an example of welfare-oriented governance and greeted the beneficiaries.

TTD steps up arrangements for Navaratri Brahmotsavams

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 2

TTD JEO Dr. A. Sharath directed officials to complete arrangements for the Srivari Navaratri Brahmotsavams, scheduled from October 12 to 20, in a coordinated manner.

Reviewing preparations through a virtual meeting on Friday, the JEO instructed officials to ensure drinking water, toilets, signages, information boards, LED screens and public announcements at key locations, parking areas and holding points.

He also directed officials to set up a special Coordination Centre to monitor arrangements daily, install welcome arches at the four major entry points to Tirupati and maintain cleanliness on major roads and other areas frequented by devotees.

TTD JEO (Health and Education) Prabhala Gopinath and senior officials from engineering, health, transport and other departments participated in the meeting.

Harish hails Marasam’s 40-Yr Literary & Social Journey

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 2

BRS leader and former Minister T. Harish Rao on Friday lauded the Manjeera Writers’ Association (Marasam) for its four-decade-long contribution to literature and social movements.

Addressing the association’s 40th-anniversary celebrations here at the Basheerbagh Press Club, Rao said he had shared a close association with Marasam for more than two decades. Sustaining a literary organisation for 40 years despite political and administrative pressures was “like walking on the edge of a sword”, he said.

Rao recalled Marasam’s role in several public movements, including the 1992 anti-liquor campaign, protests over starvation deaths and farmer suicides, and the campaign against gutkha. He also highlighted the contribution of writer Nandini Siddha Reddy and the Telangana Writers’ Forum to the Telangana movement. Poets and writers such as Nandini Siddha Reddy and Deshapathi Srinivas had influenced his political understanding and helped refine his



language and oratory skills, he noted.

Rao credited the previous BRS government with reviving the Telangana Sahitya Akademi, appointing Siddha Reddy as its first chairman and organising the World Telugu Conference. He also recalled the recognition given to Telangana icons and the government’s efforts to provide jobs to around 550 artists.

Expressing concern over declining reading habits among children in the digital age, Rao called for concerted efforts by parents and governments to revive a culture of reading. Books remain an important source for future generations to understand the Telangana movement and its struggles, he added.

He also observed that while artificial intelligence could generate poems and books, it could not replicate the emotional depth and authenticity of poetry born out of a writer’s personal experiences.



TNGO Nizamabad thanks government for approval of two DAs

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Oct 2

The Telangana Non-Gazetted Officers (TNGO) Nizamabad district unit has thanked the State Government for approving the release of two Dearness Allowances (DAs) for employees. In a statement, the TNGO Nizamabad district unit expressed gratitude to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, TGEJAC State Chairman Maram Jagadishwar, Secretary General Eluri Srinivasa Rao and TNGO State General Secretary S.M. Hussaini (Mujeeb) for their efforts in securing the Cabinet approval. The employees' body also thanked State Government Advisors Podduturi Sudarshan Reddy and Mohammed Ali



Shabbir, TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud, Nizamabad Rural MLA Rekulapally Bhupathi Reddy and other leaders for extending their support. The TNGO unit said the approval of two DAs addressed one of the long-pending demands of government employees. It urged

the government to take steps to resolve other pending issues, including implementation of the Pay Revision Commission (PRC) recommendations with 51 per cent fitment, release of remaining DAs and settlement of pending bills of employees and pensioners.

The organisation also appealed to the government to consider the demand for abolition of the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) and restoration of the Old Pension Scheme, besides addressing issues related to health cards and other non-financial demands.

Cleanliness must become a daily habit, not a one-day campaign: MLA

Munsif News Bureau
Kagaznagar, Oct 2

Sirpur MLA Dr Palvai Harish Babu called upon people to make cleanliness a part of their daily lives rather than restricting it to one-day campaigns. He made the appeal while participating in a 'Clean and Green' drive at the Kagaznagar Bus Stand on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The MLA joined municipal staff and BJP leaders and workers in cleaning the bus stand premises and personally cleaned the toilets. Plantation activities were also taken up, followed by floral tributes to

Mahatma Gandhi. Dr Harish Babu said Mahatma Gandhi had attached great importance to cleanliness and the drive was organised in the spirit of his message. Referring to the Swachh Bharat Mission launched under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said the programme had provided toilet facilities to crores of families and helped protect the dignity of women. He urged people to keep their homes, streets and surroundings clean and remove stagnant water to prevent mosquito breeding and reduce the risk of dengue and other infectious diseases. He stressed that clean towns

and villages could be achieved only with active public participation and called upon parents to teach children the importance of hygiene and a healthy environment. Later, fruits and biscuits were distributed among passengers and members of the public at the bus stand. BJP district president Dhooni Srisailam, councillor Chappakorti Srinivas, Erla Vishweshwara Rao, Golapalli Veerabhadra Chary, Kopula Shankar, Hanumanth Rao, Arun Loya, Lonare Ravinder, Aggila Srinivas and Sai Charan, besides other BJP leaders, workers and municipal staff, participated in the programme.



TUWJ (IJU) leaders seek special law for journalists' protection



Munsif News Bureau
Asifabad, Oct 2

TUWJ (IJU) District President Abdul Rahman and General Secretary S. Sampath Kumar have demanded a special Central law to ensure the safety, security and protection of journalists across the country. Observing Journalists' Demands Day in Asifabad on Friday, the district unit organised a rally from Ambedkar Chowk through Vivekananda Chowk to Gandhi Chowk, where journalists staged a protest highlighting issues related to their welfare,

rights and professional security. Addressing the gathering, the TUWJ leaders said journalists were facing increasing insecurity and financial difficulties due to inadequate wages. They urged the Central Government to constitute a new Wage Board for journalists and restore the statutory rights of working journalists affected by the new labour codes. They also demanded that the Telangana Government fulfil its commitment to allot houses and house sites to all eligible journalists. They sought cashless health

cards for journalists and their families on par with government employees to help them access medical treatment without financial hardship. Later, the journalists paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi by garlanding his statue. District Accreditation Committee member Prakash Goud, TUWJ district treasurer Adapa Satish, vice-presidents Krishnaraju, Chandrakant and Naveen Goud, Press Club president S. Venugopal, general secretary Varanasi Srinivas and several journalists participated in the programme.

Revanth Reddy regime is "full of lies": Koppula Eshwar

Munsif News Bureau
Karimnagar, Oct 2

Former Minister and BRS leader Koppula Eshwar on Friday accused the Congress government in Telangana of pursuing political vendetta against the BRS and neglecting development and welfare. Addressing a press conference at Shubha Mangali Banquet Hall here, Eshwar condemned the early-morning arrests of BRS workers ahead of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's visit to Sircilla, describing the action as an attack on BRS activists and people of the region. He alleged that the government had failed to implement the Congress' "Six Guarantees" and several other promises, while claiming that farmers were facing problems including inadequate irrigation, urea shortages and delays in paddy procurement. He also criticized the implementation of Rythu Bandhu and the farm loan waiver. Eshwar contrasted the



Congress government's policies with those of the previous BRS government, particularly in the handloom sector. He recalled measures including Bathukamma saree orders, subsidies, Nethannaku Bharosa and insurance support for weavers. The BRS leader said the previous government had developed Sircilla after making it a district headquarters and establishing a Collectorate, educational institutions and other infrastructure. Eshwar also referred to the large number of weaver suicides in the region during an earlier Congress regime, saying Sircilla had acquired the grim nickname "Urisilla".

Integral High School scores double success in handball



Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Oct 2

Integral High School has recorded a double success in handball at the School Games Federation (SGF) district-level competitions, with its U-17 team emerging as Nizamabad district champions and four students earning selection to the Nizamabad district U-14 team. The U-17 team comprising Mohammed Ayaaz Hussain and Abdul Ayaan of Class 10, and Abdul Hannan and Mohammed Hamza Uddin of Class 9, displayed strong teamwork, determination and sporting spirit to win the district-level tournament. Adding to the school's achievement, Class 7 students Aliza Shueb and Sidra were selected to represent Nizamabad

district in the U-14 girls' team. Class 8 students Mohammed Zaid and Mohammed Shueb were selected for the U-14 boys' team. The students have been training under handball coach Shaihaan Hashmi, whose regular guidance and dedicated efforts have helped them improve their skills and confidence. The school management congratulated the players, coach and Physical Education Department for their efforts. The management said sporting activities play an important role in developing discipline, teamwork, perseverance, confidence and leadership among students. It also appreciated the students for balancing their academic commitments with their sporting interests and wished them success in the upcoming competitions.

Harish Rao seeks Rahul Gandhi's intervention over proposed power sector privatisation

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 2

BRS senior leader and former minister T Harish Rao has urged Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi to intervene immediately to stop the proposed privatisation and equity dilution of key Telangana public-sector institutions, including TG-Transco, TG-Genco, Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and the Discoms. In a letter addressed to Rahul Gandhi, the BRS leader alleged that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy was moving towards dilution of ownership in strategic public assets. He questioned whether such a policy was consistent with the Congress party's own economic commitments. Harish Rao cited the Congress manifesto, 2019, which, he said, restricted disinvestment to non-core and non-strategic public-sector enterprises, as well as the 2023 Raipur Economic resolution, which emphasised that disin-

vestment should not lead to private monopolies or duopolies. "A CWC resolution cannot be binding in Delhi and optional in Hyderabad", Harish Rao said, questioning the Congress national leadership's silence on the reported proposals. Harish Rao argued that TG-Transco could not be treated as an ordinary commercial enterprise, describing it as a critical public utility forming the backbone of Telangana's electricity transmission network. He pointed to its extensive transmission infrastructure, including 400-kv, 220-kv and 132-kv substations, more than 31,420 circuit kilometres of EHT lines and 1,184 power transformers, and questioned the reported proposal to initially dilute 26 percent equity. According to Harish Rao, the proposed transaction raises a broader question over whether strategic public infrastructure is gradually being opened to private ownership and influence. He expressed apprehension that any move involving TG-Transco could eventually

be followed by similar proposals concerning TG-Genco, SCCL and the Discoms. QUESTIONS CONG LEADERSHIP'S STAND Harish Rao said Congress leaders had repeatedly criticised the Union Government over monetisation and privatisation of public assets and had raised concerns about dilution of strategic public-sector institutions. He asked Rahul Gandhi to clarify whether the proposed Telangana measures were consistent with the Congress's national economic policy. "If the proposals are consistent with the party's policy, the Congress national leadership should explain how. If they are not, the national leadership has a responsibility to intervene", he added. Harish Rao, in his letter, urged Rahul Gandhi to: a) stop the proposed privatisation and 26 percent equity dilution of TG-Transco; b) prevent any move towards IPOs, equity dilution or privatisation of TG-Genco, SCCL, Discoms

and other strategic core-sector public institutions; c) direct the Telangana government to clarify the proposals consistency with the Congress manifesto, 2019 and Raipur Economic resolution, 2023 and d) ensure that no irreversible decision affecting ownership or control of strategic public assets is taken. Harish Rao said the issue was no longer merely a Telangana policy matter and urged the Congress national leadership to make its position clear. He concluded by seeking Rahul Gandhi's "clear and categorical intervention" to halt the proposed TG-Transco privatisation and prevent further dilution of Telangana's strategic public-sector institutions.



Shastri's life a symbol of simplicity, integrity and service: Governor

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 2

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla paid floral tributes to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary at his statue near Lal Bahadur Play Ground in Rahimpur. Recalling Shastri's contribution to public life, the Governor said his life remained a symbol of simplicity, integrity, discipline, patriotism and selfless service. Despite holding the highest public office, Shastri remained committed to a simple way of life and dedicated himself to public service, he said. The Governor said Shastri attached great importance to



integrity, ethical values and public responsibility. His commitment to placing national interest above personal considerations had earned him a distinctive place in the country's public life, he added. The Governor recalled the leadership provided by Shastri as Prime Minister during a challenging peri-

od for the country. His call of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" highlighted the contribution of the armed forces to national security and the role of farmers in ensuring food security, he said. The Governor said Shastri's values of national unity, integrity, peace, patriotism, discipline, duty and service remained relevant.



At a Glance

Northeast monsoon withdrawal delayed

IANSGuwahati, Oct. 2



The Southwest Monsoon has not yet withdrawn from the Northeast, even as its retreat has begun from parts of western India, including Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, an IMD official said on Friday.

The eight-state region recorded a 26 per cent rainfall deficit during June-September. Meghalaya recorded the highest deficiency at 60 per cent, followed by Manipur at 46 per cent, Arunachal Pradesh at 44 per cent and Assam at 28 per cent.

Sikkim and Nagaland recorded excess rainfall of 9 per cent and 6 per cent, while Mizoram and Tripura recorded deficits of 19 per cent and 16 per cent.

The IMD said all-India monsoon rainfall was 87 per cent of the Long Period Average, at 759.4 mm.

India’s Frozen food heads to Canada

IANSLNew Delhi, Oct. 2

APEDA facilitated the dispatch of 24 metric tonnes of frozen food products from Sonipat, Haryana, to Canada, the Commerce Ministry said on Friday.

The FPO-led consignment, exported by Aterna Foods Producer Company Limited, comprises 2,295 boxes of green peas, mixed vegetables, peas and carrots, sweet corn and samosas, valued at 35,140 Canadian dollars.

APEDA supported the exporter under its Financial Assistance Scheme. Chairman Abhishek Dev said direct export by the FPO would enhance value realisation for producers.

The shipment aims to expand access for processed food products and link farmer groups with buyers now.

CEC trying to cover his tracks: Chidambaram on Form 6 row

IANSLNew Delhi, Oct. 2

Congress leader P. Chidambaram on Friday accused Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar of trying to “cover his tracks” and reverse what he described as unilateral decisions taken in the name of the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The Congress MP In a post on X, Chidambaram referred to the ECI’s September 29 letter, calling it a “confession” that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls had left out many genuine voters and that the “left out” voters would now have to be re-enrolled.

His remarks followed the ECI’s decision on September 29 to remove the additional declaration attached to Form 6, the voter enrolment form, from its ECINET portal in states where the SIR has concluded. The changes came into effect on September 30.

Chidambaram alleged that control of ECINET had been centralised and the powers of Chief Electoral Officers, District Election Officers and Electoral Registration Officers had been taken away.



He claimed the SIR had resulted in voters being excluded “in haste” and questioned the ECI’s handling of the process. Chidambaram also claimed that several crores of voters were excluded and that the ECI was now spending money to include them.

The Congress leader further alleged that the ECI had been used to protect BJP governments and questioned the impact of the SIR on voters who, according to him, were unable to vote in recent Assembly elections in Bihar and West Bengal.

He referred to appeals in West Bengal, claiming that judges had allowed 93 per cent of cases disposed of, and questioned what happened to affected voters who were unable to vote in the Assembly elections.

Chidambaram said the

developments had exposed “fault lines” within the poll body. He cited an alleged protest by the Maharashtra CEO, the Odisha CEO’s application for premature retirement and an inquiry ordered by the Karnataka CEO into bulk Form 7 applications, mainly concerning Muslim voters.

He also said the Bombay High Court had raised questions with the ECI and Maharashtra CEO and urged other chief electoral officers to speak about what he called illegal directions and decisions.

Referring to West Bengal, Chidambaram said several judges hearing appeals had expressed frustration and claimed one judge had quit. He also questioned where the original file containing the decision to conduct the SIR was kept.

TWO PAKISTANI INTRUDERS SHOT DEAD BY BSF IN PUNJAB

IANSLChandigarh, Oct. 2

Two suspected Pakistani intruders were shot dead as Border Security Force (BSF) troops foiled an infiltration attempt along the India-Pakistan International Border in Punjab’s Tarn Taran sector on Friday.

The incident took place near Rajoke village.

According to preliminary reports, the suspected intruders were attempting to cross into Indian territory when BSF personnel sought to warn them. The troops reportedly challenged them before opening fire. Both suspects were killed in the firing, officials said.

Further details regarding the identities of the deceased, the circumstances leading to the firing and any material recovered from the site were not immediately available.

The incident comes amid continued security concerns along Punjab’s



553-km-long international border with Pakistan, which has witnessed several infiltration and cross-border smuggling attempts in recent years.

Meanwhile, Punjab Police dismantled two illegal arms and narcotics supply networks and apprehended four accused and recovered 10 kg of heroin and 10 pistols.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the accused are allegedly linked to foreign-based smugglers and are involved in procuring illegal weapons and narcotics, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said.

Two first information

reports (FIRs) were registered in Amritsar. Further investigation is underway to uncover the complete network and establish the backward and forward linkages, he added.

In a related earlier development, Amritsar Rural Police had dismantled an illegal arms and narcotics supply network with the arrest of three people, comprising a woman, her husband and her brother. The police had recovered 10.030 kg of heroin, two sophisticated assault rifles, including an AK-47 and an AK-56, along with three magazines and 10 cartridges from their possession.

GUJARAT UCC GETS PRESIDENT’S ASSENT, IMPLEMENTATION NEXT

IANSGandhinagar, Oct. 2

The Gujarat Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, 2026, has received President Droupadi Murmu’s assent, clearing a constitutional step for the state government to move ahead with its implementation.

According to official Rashtrapati Bhavan records, the President gave her assent to the Bill on September 17. The Gujarat government has also issued a gazette notification for the legislation.

The assent completes a constitutional step for the state. The Bill, passed by the Gujarat Assembly on March 24 after a debate lasting more than seven hours, seeks to establish a common legal framework for personal civil matters, including marriage, divorce, succession, inheritance and live-in relationships, irrespective of religion.

Opposition Congress members had walked out



during the discussion and sought that the legislation be referred to a Select Committee.

Among its provisions, the UCC prohibits bigamy and lays down uniform conditions for marriage and divorce.

It provides equal inheritance rights for sons and daughters and sets out rules for succession when a person dies without leaving a will.

The legislation recognises adopted children and children born through surrogacy or assisted reproductive technology within its definition of a child.

It also brings live-in relationships under a formal

legal framework. Partners in such relationships are required to submit a statement to the designated Registrar, while children born from such relationships are accorded legal recognition.

The Bill specifies circumstances in which a live-in relationship cannot be registered, including when one partner is already married or is in another registered live-in relationship.

The Code does not apply to members of Scheduled Tribes as defined under the Constitution. It also excludes certain groups whose customary rights are protected under Part XXI of the Constitution.

The Gujarat legislation follows Uttarakhand, which became the first state in India to implement a UCC in January 2025. Assam’s UCC Bill, passed earlier this year, received Presidential assent on September 29, according to Rashtrapati Bhavan records.

The Gujarat government had earlier constituted a committee to examine implementation of a UCC in the state.

The Bill was subsequently introduced after the panel submitted its report. The President’s assent date is confirmed by the official Rashtrapati Bhavan state-bills record.

SC TO HEAR PLEA CHALLENGING INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE OF POWERS BY CEC GYANESH KUMAR ON MONDAY

IANSLNew Delhi, Oct. 2

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a petition challenging the manner in which the powers of the Election Commission of India (ECI) are being exercised and questioning whether Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar can individually exercise or represent powers vested in the multi-member poll panel.

According to the cause list, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and comprising Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V. Mohana will hear the matter on October 5. The case was mentioned before the CJI on September 29 by senior advocate Vikas Singh, who sought court hearin

The petition seeks enforcement of the ECI’s collective decision-making framework and writ in the nature of quo warranto concerning the authority under which the CEC allegedly acted in the name of poll panel.

It contends that Article

324 of the Constitution vests the superintendence, direction and control of elections in the “Commission”, rather than an individual CEC. It also relies on Section 18 of the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, which provides for collective decision-making, with matters on which there is no unanimity to be decided by majority.

The plea refers to written communications and file notings attributed to Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi, alleging that they recorded at least 14 objections between October 2025 and August 2026 over decisions and steps allegedly taken in the ECI’s name without their approval.

The objections cited in the petition concern communications and orders allegedly issued without the poll body’s approval, the absence of agendas before and minutes after meetings, foreign travel allegedly undertaken



without approval, changes to Form 6, access to the electoral-roll database and filing of appeals before tribunals in West Bengal.

The petition also refers to concerns over the “gradual centralisation of the electoral roll database” and changes in the work allocation of the ECI’s IT establishment.

The petitioner has sought a declaration that powers vested in the ECI under Article 324 cannot be exercised or represented as an act of the poll body except in accordance with the constitutional and statutory framework.

It also seeks directions

to ensure compliance with collective decision-making and production of relevant records.

The ECI, meanwhile, has maintained that differences among the Commissioners do not amount to an institutional “rupture” and that internal objections and written notes are established mechanisms in a multi-member constitutional body.

The poll panel has said its decisions, including those relating to the SIR exercise, were unanimous and that differences raised by Commissioners are part of the normal deliberative and administrative process.

SAURABH BHARADWAJ, AAP WORKERS DETAINED AT JANTAR MANTAR PROTEST

MunsifNew Delhi, Oct. 2



AAP Delhi president Saurabh Bharadwaj and several party workers were detained by Delhi Police on Friday during a protest at Jantar Mantar against the Election Commission and alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Bharadwaj criticised the heavy security arrangements and urged party workers and supporters to join the mobilisation. He said he had travelled to Jantar Mantar using

the Metro and auto-rickshaw, spending Rs 91. Delhi Police had denied permission for the proposed gathering against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Restrictions under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)

were imposed across the New Delhi district, citing public safety, public order and smooth traffic movement.

The order prohibits unauthorised gatherings, public speeches, slogan shouting, processions, demonstrations and dharnas.

Police urged people to comply with the restrictions and warned that violations could invite legal action.

Heavy security and barricades were deployed around Jantar Mantar. Civil society groups, student organisations and

Opposition parties, including the AAP, Congress and RJD, were expected to participate.

The protest is part of an Opposition campaign over the SIR exercise and allegations concerning the electoral process.

The Election Commission has maintained that electoral-roll revision is being conducted according to established procedures.

Opposition parties are planning a “Save Democracy” campaign. A rally at the Election Commission’s office is planned for October 6.

FOUR MINOR GIRLS DROWN IN BIHAR POND DURING JITIYA FESTIVAL

IANSPatna, Oct. 2

Four minor girls drowned while bathing in a pond in Bankat village under the Paharpur police station area of Bihar’s East Champaran district during the Jitiya festival on Friday.

According to an official, several women and girls from the village had gone to the local pond to bathe as part of the festival. During the activity, the four girls reportedly moved towards a deeper section of the pond and drowned.

When the girls could not be seen for some time, villagers raised an alarm and began a search. Local residents entered the water and retrieved all four girls. They were taken to the Community Health Centre in Paharpur, where doctors declared them dead on arrival.

The deceased were identified as: Sonamati, 13, daughter of Pramod Mahto; Phulmati, 10, daughter of Pramod Mahto; Sonali Kumari, 10, daughter of Virendra Mahto; and Pratima Kumari, 12, daughter of

Achhelal Paswan.

After being informed, personnel from Paharpur police station reached the village and inspected the site. Police also spoke to the families and local residents to establish the circumstances surrounding the incident.

The bodies were taken into police custody and sent to Motihari for post-mortem examinations. Police said necessary legal procedures were being completed.

The deaths cast a pall of gloom over Bankat village, where Jitiya celebrations had been

underway since morning. The incident left the families of the four girls and other residents in mourning.

Villagers demanded better safety measures at the pond, including warning signs at dangerous sections and barricading around vulnerable areas to prevent similar accidents.

Meanwhile, the East Champaran district administration has initiated the process of providing compensation to the families of the deceased girls going forward.

At a Glance

Ebola death toll crosses 4,000

IANSS
Kinshasa, Oct. 2

The Ebola death toll in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has surpassed 4,000, with 4,018 deaths among 8,300 confirmed cases across seven provinces, health authorities said.

A total of 2,162 patients have recovered, while the case fatality rate stands at 48.4 per cent, Xinhua News Agency reported.

MSF warned that the actual toll could be higher because of gaps in surveillance.

Africa CDC official Wessam Mankoula said the outbreak had spread to 63 health zones across seven provinces, with 45 still reporting active transmission.

The agency cautioned that a recent decline in reported cases could reflect disruptions rather than a sustained fall.



Cornell rape case spotlights US campus assaults

IANSS
New York, Oct. 2

An alleged gang rape at Cornell University has renewed scrutiny of sexual assault after prosecutors reopened the 2024 case following a lawsuit.

The woman, identified as Doe, alleges she was drugged and sexually assaulted by Chi Phi fraternity members.

Cornell's inquiry resulted in expulsions and other disciplinary action, but no criminal charges were filed.

Prosecutors may now present the case to a grand jury. Cornell supports the investigation, while the accused deny the allegations.

Cornell's 2025 survey found 35 per cent of undergraduate women reported nonconsensual sexual contact since entering the university.

Governor Hochul has called for an independent review

TRUMP SAYS TARIFFS ARE BRINGING FACTORIES, JOBS BACK TO US

IANSS
Washington, Oct. 2

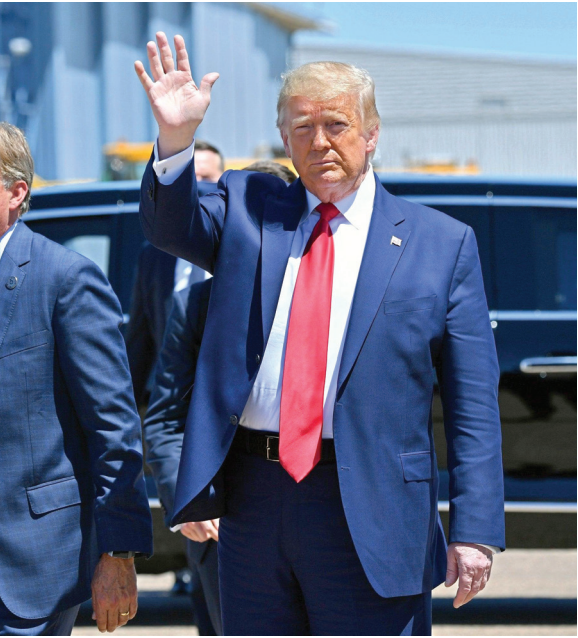
US President Donald Trump has credited his tariff policies with what he described as a revival in American manufacturing, saying higher duties on imports were encouraging companies to expand production and hiring in the United States.

Speaking at a Peterbilt truck manufacturing facility in Denton, Texas, Trump pointed to the company's expansion as evidence that his trade policies were working. Peterbilt's parent company, PACCAR, has said the Denton facility added more than 1,000 jobs, while Trump attributed the increase to tariffs.

CBS News "We have more factories being built... All over the country, they're building factories, plants, manufacturing's coming back," Trump said.

He argued that tariffs were preventing foreign producers from selling goods in the US at the expense of American jobs.

"They'd drop their products here; they'd walk away with the money, and you'd walk away with no jobs. But not with



me and we changed it," he said.

Trump also claimed that American exports had reached their highest level in history and that the US trade deficit with China had fallen to its lowest level in 44 years.

He further said manufacturing wages had increased and that the US had added 60,000 manufacturing jobs this year.

"After years of decline, this year, the United States has added 60,000 new manufacturing jobs," Trump said, adding that heavy-truck manufacturing had risen by about 31 per cent.

Trump also said heavy-truck shipments had reached an all-time high under his administration, declaring: "American trucking is back."

His remarks were consistent with the speech delivered at the Peterbilt plant on October 1. Roll Call Peterbilt events manager Sarah Renshaw told Trump that the company's tariffs-related expansion had enabled it to increase production and hire 1,000 employees.

"Mr. President, because of your tariffs, we have been able to hire -- increase production and hire 1,000

employees," she said. PACCAR CEO Preston Feight also thanked Trump, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and the administration for what he described as trade policies that strengthened American manufacturing and benefited Peterbilt and its customers.

Trump linked the industry's performance to his administration's decision to roll back environmental regulations affecting heavy trucks.

He singled out a nitrogen oxide regulation and said its rollback would lower production costs. "This action alone will cut an estimated \$6,000 from the cost of each truck built," Trump said.

Tariffs have been a central part of Trump's economic policy, with his administration arguing that import duties can protect domestic producers and encourage companies to manufacture in the US.

The Peterbilt visit gave Trump an opportunity to highlight those policies while pointing to recent hiring and production figures at the plant.

The administration has made tariffs central to trade policy.

G20 AGREES TO CONDEMN WEAPONISATION OF FOOD, SAYS GREER



IANSS
Milwaukee, Oct. 2

G20 countries have reached consensus to condemn the weaponisation of food through coercive trade actions, US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said, describing the agreement as a step towards preventing agricultural products and inputs from being used for economic or political pressure.

The consensus was reached after discussions at the G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting in Milwaukee, where the United States placed the issue on the agenda

"After days of discussions, and a willingness on the part of the members to act, we are pleased to have reached consensus on the G20 statement on the weaponization of food through

coercive trade actions, and we'll release it later today," Greer told reporters

"This is an important step towards ensuring that agricultural products are not used as a tool for economic or political coercion," he said

Greer said G20 members had discussed how trade in food, agricultural products and inputs could be used to exert pressure on countries, threatening livelihoods, distorting competition and eroding trust in the global trading system.

He said food weaponisation was a new subject for G20 discussions, although the underlying problem was not new.

The agreement, he said, would help mitigate the effects of coercive food trade measures globally. The consensus on food

also contrasted with disagreements over forced labour and structural excess capacity.

Greer said the G20 could not agree on a statement addressing forced labour. The US and a smaller group of trading partners, he said, would instead issue a joint statement on eliminating forced labour from global supply chains. The ministers also failed to reach consensus on structural excess capacity, although Greer said countries recognised it as a problem requiring action.

He said excess capacity affected steel, automobiles, batteries, solar panels and chemicals.

"Nearly all countries agree that our current system of trade remedies or responses is inadequate to solve this problem," Greer said.

US says California based law school discriminated against Asians

IANSS
Washington, Oct. 2

The Justice Department has accused UCLA School of Law of discriminating against Asian and white applicants by considering race in admissions.

The law school disputed the allegation and defended its process as merit-based. The department's Civil Rights Division said its investigation found discrimination against white and Asian students ad-



mitted to classes of 2023, 2024 and 2025. It said the practices violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the US Supreme Court's 2023 ruling restricting race in university admissions.

Assistant Attorney

General Harmeet Dhillon said UCLA Law operated a "two-tiered admissions system" in which the academic standard allegedly varied by race. UCLA Law said its admissions decisions comply with applicable laws and that its process is merit-based.

Justice Department said its investigation examined application essays and recruitment practices, including the school's "Diversity Admissions

Open House".

It alleged activities encouraged applicants to disclose their race. The department said its analysis found UCLA rejected white and Asian applicants with the same LSAT scores as admitted Black and Hispanic applicants.

It said half of admitted Black applicants in 2024 and 2025 had LSAT scores at or below those of 90 per cent of admitted white applicants.



Foreign trekkers make their way through Nepal's rugged mountain landscape, reflecting the country's resilience as tourist arrivals rose 12.1 per cent in Sept. despite devastating floods in parts of the country. Photo from: X

UAE OFFICIAL PRAISES INDIAN PILOT AFTER FLYDUBAI COCKPIT ATTACK

IANSS
Abu Dhabi, Oct. 2

UAE presidential adviser Anwar Gargash has praised Indian Flydubai captain Smit Machchhar for his courage and professionalism during Wednesday's cockpit attack, which he described as a "dangerous terrorist act".

Machchhar was seriously injured after being attacked by his co-pilot on Flydubai flight FZ1073 from Dubai to Tel Aviv.



The aircraft was diverted to Tabuk, Saudi Arabia, where passengers and crew helped subdue the attacker before the flight landed safely.

Gargash said Machchhar "deserves every bit of appreciation" for showing cour-

age and responsibility in the face of a disaster.

He also urged caution over unverified accounts while investigations continue.

The UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs said a team of public prosecutors had been tasked with investigating the incident, including its circumstances, causes, motives and any possible connection to terrorist activity or prior planning.

The ministry said UAE judicial author-

ities have jurisdiction because the aircraft is registered in the UAE and flies its flag.

It also thanked Saudi authorities. Israeli Prime Minister's spokesperson David Mencer said the incident appeared similar to the September 11 attacks and alleged that the co-pilot had tried to sabotage the aircraft's controls.

The UAE has not announced a final finding on the full motive. The investigation remains ongoing.

13TH-CENTURY NEPALI DOCUMENTS RETURNED FROM GERMANY

IANSS
Kathmandu, Oct. 2



More than 800 historical documents linked to Nepal's political, legal, intellectual and cultural heritage have been returned from Germany and handed over to the National Archives

of Nepal, the Foreign Ministry said.

Some date to the 13th century and include palm-leaf manuscripts, royal decrees, court orders, legal records, Sanskrit texts and travel accounts.

The collection belonged to late German collector Joseph Peter Rindfleisch.

His son, Walter Rindfleisch, handed the materials to Professor Axel Michaels of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Michaels and his team helped facilitate their return.

The ministry said the documents had been collected from Nepal between the 1780s and 1990s.

The collection includes 465 palm-leaf manuscripts from the Malla period, 312 legal decrees and royal documents from the Shah and Rana periods, 18 manuscripts and travel diaries from Rana prime ministers' offices, and 11 manuscripts on various subjects.

Foreign Minister Shishir Khanal said the repatriation represented the restoration of Nepal's

cultural rights and ownership of its heritage.

The materials were preserved and catalogued by Heidelberg University Library before being repatriated. Khanal thanked Michaels, his research team and institutions involved in the return.

He said Nepal and Germany, both parties to the 1970 UNESCO convention on illicit trafficking of cultural property, had demonstrated their commitment to its principles.

India emerging as global space power

India is rapidly emerging as a global space power. From Aryabhata in 1975 to Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, Gaganyaan and the planned Bharatiya Antariksh Station, India has progressed from the early use of space technology for development to the frontiers of scientific exploration and is now moving towards human spaceflight, according to an article in Tanzania's The Guardian newspaper.

It also highlights that India's space programme is not confined to rockets and satellites, but is increasingly a powerful engine of innovation, industrial development, employment, scientific research and socio-economic transformation. Space technologies today touch communications, agriculture, education, healthcare, disaster management, environmental protection, navigation and everyday economic activity.

India is, therefore, moving towards a new identity as an increasingly important developer, explorer and provider of space capabilities worldwide.

The success of Chandrayaan-3 in 2023 demonstrated India's ability to achieve a highly complex lunar landing. Aditya-L1 subsequently extended India's scientific reach towards the Sun. SpaDeX demonstrated orbital docking capabilities, while Gaganyaan is preparing the country for human spaceflight.

The more ambitious Chandrayaan-4 project, approved in 2024, is designed to land on the Moon, collect samples and return them to Earth. Sample-return missions require far greater technological sophistication than a landing alone, involving multiple launches, rendez-



vous and docking, sample collection, ascent from the lunar surface and a safe return to Earth, the article observes.

India's planetary ambitions are expanding, with 'Shukrayaan' (Venus Orbiter Mission) targeted for launch in March 2028 to study Venus's atmosphere, surface and subsurface, offering insights into planetary evolution and habitability. Meanwhile, Aditya-L1, positioned about 1.5 million km from Earth, studies solar activity and space weather.

The most visible symbol of India's technological transition may be Gaganyaan, the country's human spaceflight programme. Human spaceflight requires a much higher level of reliability. Crew escape systems, life-support technologies, parachutes, re-entry systems and extensive testing are essential before astronauts can travel safely into space. India has therefore adopted a phased approach, using uncrewed missions to validate critical systems before undertaking crewed flights, the article states.

Gaganyaan is now part of a much larger vision. The Bharatiya Antariksh

Station is targeted to begin with its first module in 2028, with the broader station envisaged for completion by 2035. The long-term roadmap also includes a crewed Indian lunar mission by 2040. This progression from satellites to astronauts, to a space station, and eventually to the Moon illustrates the scale of India's emerging ambitions, the article observes.

The greatest contribution of India's space programme may ultimately be felt here on Earth. Satellite technology has become essential for weather forecasting, agriculture, navigation, communications, disaster management and environmental monitoring. Earth-observation satellites can help identify vulnerable areas before floods, cyclones and landslides, while satellite communications can support emergency response in remote regions.

Space-based data supports environmental management by monitoring forests, water bodies, urban expansion, pollution and weather patterns, thereby strengthening climate action and disaster preparedness. Satellite communications can ex-

pand access to healthcare in remote areas, while augmented and virtual reality enable medical education and training. India's space programme is, therefore, advancing inclusive development by connecting technologically advanced centres with remote and underserved communities.

India's space programme is also delivering broader technological benefits across the economy. Innovations in advanced electronics, sensors, materials, communications, navigation and manufacturing are finding applications beyond space missions. Technology transfers are strengthening domestic manufacturing and enabling Indian enterprises to enter sophisticated supply chains.

More than 900 application-specific integrated circuits developed by ISRO's Semi-Conductor Laboratory for railway locomotives illustrate this cross-sector impact. Thus, space investment creates a multiplier effect by generating knowledge, intellectual property, engineering expertise, manufacturing capabilities, and new commercial opportunities across the economy, the article added.

UPI's New MDR Rules Could Reshape India's Digital Payment Landscape

India's hugely popular Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is set to enter a new phase from October 15, when a 0.4 per cent Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) will apply to person-to-merchant transactions above Rs 2,000. The move ends more than six years of zero MDR on UPI and has triggered an important question for consumers, merchants and the digital payments industry: who will ultimately bear the additional cost?

A survey by LocalCircles suggests that consumers may resist any attempt by merchants to recover the MDR from them. Among the UPI users surveyed, only 14 per cent said they would continue using UPI and bear the additional cost if it were passed on to them. Around 27 per cent said they would switch to cash, while 26 per cent would use credit cards and 14 per cent debit cards. Another 4 per cent would opt for bank transfers such as NEFT or IMPS. The survey received more than 31,000 responses to this question.

The potential impact becomes more significant for high-value purchases. In another survey question involving more than 37,000 respondents, only 20 per cent said they expected UPI to remain their preferred mode for purchases above Rs 2,000 if an additional cost was imposed. Credit cards and cash were each chosen by 26 per cent, while 13 per cent preferred debit cards and 11 per cent bank transfers. Overall, 76 per cent of respondents said they would rely on cards, cash or bank transfers for such purchases.

The government has maintained that MDR is not a tax or a fee collected by the government or



the National Payments Corporation of India. The charge is intended to be shared among banks, payment service providers and UPI applications to support the operation and expansion of the payments ecosystem. Banks have been instructed to ensure that merchants do not transfer the MDR to customers, while UPI platforms have been barred from imposing separate platform or hidden charges. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has also said that the cost is not supposed to become the customer's responsibility.

The revised framework was enabled after Parliament amended the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, in August 2026. A subsequent government notification specified that RuPay debit card transactions and UPI payments of up to Rs 2,000 would remain protected from such charges. Person-to-person UPI transfers will continue to remain free, while small merchants receiving up to Rs 1 lakh a month through UPI QR codes are also exempt. The MDR for larger transactions has been capped at Rs 300, while certain essential sectors have a flat Rs 5 charge per

transaction. The introduction of MDR is also linked to the rising cost of maintaining India's enormous digital payments network. Government incentives for UPI reached Rs 3,631 crore in 2023-24, while Rs 2,000 crore has been allocated for 2026-27. The Department of Financial Services has described the continuation of zero MDR as financially difficult to sustain over the long term. Payment industry bodies have similarly argued that large merchants should contribute towards the cost of maintaining the system.

Trader organisations, however, have expressed reservations about the new arrangement. They fear that even if the rules prohibit passing MDR directly to customers, businesses may look for indirect ways to recover the expense. Possible responses could include encouraging cash payments, shifting customers towards bank transfers or adjusting prices. Retail and trader bodies have warned that even a relatively small additional cost could discourage digital transactions.

The scale of the issue is evident from UPI's extraordinary growth. In August 2026, UPI pro-

cessed a record 24.51 billion transactions worth Rs 29.82 lakh crore. Merchant payments accounted for 15.51 billion transactions worth Rs 8.95 lakh crore, with payments above Rs 2,000 representing around 67 per cent of merchant transaction value. This means the new MDR will affect a relatively limited portion of transactions by number, but a substantial share of the money flowing through the merchant-payment system.

The government's challenge will be to create a sustainable revenue model for the UPI ecosystem without weakening the convenience and affordability that made the platform a mass-market success. At the same time, merchants will have to absorb an additional cost while consumers will expect the promise of free UPI payments to continue. How effectively banks and regulators prevent the MDR from being quietly passed on to customers could determine whether the new system strengthens UPI's long-term financial sustainability or encourages high-value transactions to move back towards cards, cash and bank transfers.

Balance of risks tilts decisively towards 25 bps rate hike

The balance of risks has tilted decisively towards a 25-bps rate hike by the RBI at this juncture, as a combination of broadening inflationary pressures, worsening global macros, evolving liquidity conditions and a renewed global repricing of risks is making the case for pre-emptive action stronger, SBI Research said on Friday.

The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is scheduled to meet from October 5-7, to decide on the benchmark repo rate.

The SBI report said that with geopolitical tensions, crude-price risks and global repricing of risks, "it would be prudent for us to rather act pre-emptively than being behind the curve."

"We also expect the RBI to upgrade the GDP forecasts upwards by 30 bps and inflation forecast by 20 bps for FY27," it said.

Inflation is becoming increasingly broad-based. CPI inflation rose to 4.82 per cent in August from 4.45 per cent in July.

Amid the Indian rupee being caught in a downward spiral, strengthening of Dollar Index, and constant pressure from FPI



selling since last Friday (\$4.45 billion), the conviction in RBI's ability to meaningfully intervene and thwart speculative forces would be litmus test of its innate strength, said the report.

"Even as rate hike looks imminent, the monsoon story deserves attention. The 2026 monsoon was the 4th driest since 2000, at just 87 per cent of LPA, with 43 per cent of districts receiving deficient rainfall," it noted.

Strong El Nino conditions and below-normal October rainfall could pose further risks to Rabi output.

Also, liquidity is high in headline terms, but effective liquidity creation is much lower under the hood.

Despite record \$143.5 billion forex inflows under the special swap facility,

regulatory requirements (CRR/SLR/LCR) constrain the deployment of incremental deposits.

"We estimate that to support an estimated 16 per cent credit growth for FY27/loans create deposits, there will still be a gap of Rs 8.2 lakh crore in deposit creation by banks because of regulatory dispensation, UPI and Sparsh requirements," said the SBI report.

Hence, going forward, system liquidity will automatically adjust and there is no need for additional manoeuvring.

While India need not press the panic button as of now, policy makers and regulators would do well to brace for an eventuality where evolving macros force resorting to some unconventional rate measures to safeguard broader interests, said the report.

Diabetes Patients Can Eat Fruits, But Portion Control Is Key

People with diabetes often become cautious about eating fruits because of their natural sugar content. However, completely avoiding fruits is generally not necessary, as whole fruits also provide dietary fibre, vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and other nutrients that are important for overall health. Experts say the way fruits are consumed also matters. Eating a whole fruit instead of drinking its juice allows the fibre to slow digestion and the release of sugar into the bloodstream, which may help reduce sudden spikes in blood glucose levels. At the same time, people with diabetes should pay attention to both the type of fruit and the quantity they consume.

Guava is considered a useful choice for people with diabetes because it contains a good amount of dietary fibre and is rich in vitamin C. Fibre can help slow the absorption of carbohydrates and may support better blood sugar control. Berries such as strawberries, blueberries and raspberries are also commonly recommended

because they contain antioxidants, vitamins and soluble fibre while generally having a lower sugar content than many other fruits. Pears are another fibre-rich option and can help slow the release of sugar into the bloodstream. Apples are also a suitable choice, particularly when eaten with the skin, as the skin contains additional fibre and nutrients. Oranges provide fibre, vitamin C and potassium, but experts advise eating the whole orange instead of drinking orange juice because juice contains much less fibre and can be consumed in larger quantities more quickly.

Kiwi contains vitamin C, vitamin E, potassium and dietary fibre and can be included in a diabetes-friendly diet when consumed in moderation. Papaya provides antioxidants and natural enzymes and can also be eaten in controlled portions. Pomegranate contains antioxidants and iron, but because its natural sugar content can add up depending on the quantity consumed, portion control remains important.



Mangoes need greater caution because they contain a relatively high amount of natural sugar and can have a higher glycemic impact than some lower-sugar fruits. This does not necessarily mean that mangoes must be completely avoided, but people with diabetes should keep the serving size small. Grapes also require attention because they are small and easy to consume in large quantities, which can result in a higher overall intake of sugar and carbohydrates.

Experts generally advise people with diabetes to

prefer fresh, whole fruits over fruit juices and dried fruits. Juices can deliver a large amount of sugar in a short period while providing considerably less fibre than whole fruit. Dried fruits are also more concentrated, making it easier to consume more sugar and carbohydrates in a small serving. Instead, having a controlled portion of whole fruit can provide greater satiety along with fibre and nutrients. Fruits may also be combined with protein-rich foods such as unsweetened yoghurt or a small portion of nuts, or

with healthy fats, depending on an individual's overall diet.

Portion size is particularly important because even a healthier fruit can raise blood sugar if eaten in excessive quantities. It can also be useful for people with diabetes to observe how their blood glucose responds to different fruits, as individual responses can vary. Fruits such as berries, cherries, apples, pears and guava can be considered as part of a balanced diet, while sweeter fruits can be consumed in smaller portions.



India's Women's Recurve Team Creates History, Wins First Asian Games Gold



Nisshin, Oct. 02:

India's women's recurve archery team scripted history at the Asian Games by clinching its maiden gold medal in the team event, defeating 10-time Olympic champions South Korea 5-3 in a tense final.

Ankita Bhakat, Keerthi Sharma and Kumkum Mohad held their nerve under pressure and delivered a remarkable performance despite challenging and windy conditions to overcome the defending champions.

The opening two sets were evenly contested, with both teams level on points. India, however, capitalised on crucial errors by South Korea in the third set and produced a strong finish to take a 4-2 lead. Under mounting pressure, South Korea scored 54 points in the fourth set.

India matched the score with 54, which was enough to secure the victory and seal the gold medal.

Keerthi Sharma, who was drafted into the team after former world No. 1 Deepika Kumari failed to make the squad following the selection trials, put in an impressive performance on the big stage.

India had earlier defeated China 5-1 in the semifinals to book their place in the title clash. The historic gold is India's fourth top finish in archery at the ongoing Asian Games. At the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games, India's women's recurve team had won the bronze medal.

This achievement marked a historic milestone for India's women's recurve archery team, as the squad secured its maiden Asian Games gold in the team event. Against a strong South Korean side, the Indian archers maintained their composure under pressure and delivered precise shots at crucial moments to clinch the title.

Asian Games: India-Pakistan meet for first time in continental showpiece for gold

Nisshin, Oct. 02:

India and Pakistan will be meeting each other in the Asian Games for the first time, and the clash will be for the biggest prize as the two men's teams battle it out for the gold medal on Saturday at the Karogi Sports Park here.

Defending champions India are into only their second Asian Games in the cricket event and have not met their arch-rivals Pakistan in the five games they have played since the Hangzhou 2023 Games. And this remains the case in the women's cricket event too, as the Harmanpreet Kaur side, which recently won the gold medal after beating Sri Lanka, has not met the Women in Green at the Asiad. The rivalry takes centre stage for the biggest prize now as India look to defend their gold medal from the 2023 edition with a full-strength Indian team on the Japanese shores.

India made light work of a second-string Sri Lankan side on a challenging surface as they registered a stellar 124-run win with Ishan Kishan and bowlers leading the way. On the other hand, Pakistan chased a decent 112 against Bangladesh in the semifinal in a six-wicket win with nine balls to spare in a curtailed game.

Both the teams saw their

India eye back-to-back Asian Games gold as arch-rivals clash in historic first final



quarterfinals washed out due to rain in Nisshin, and the semifinals were their first outings at the Games.

Kishan scored a marvellous 80 from 46 balls with five sixes and four fours, while teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi also gave a strong start of 38 from 21 balls as India made an over-par 169/7.

Defending a 170-run target against the Islanders, India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah ran through the opposition's top order to start off the second innings with a double-wicket over as opener Sineth Jayawardena and keeper-batter Sohan de Livera were dismissed for a duck.

He picked 2-7, while Axar Patel scalped 2-8 and Abhishek Sharma also took 2-2 as India bowled Sri Lanka out for 45 to win big. The Pakistani bowl-

ers spun a web to keep Bangladesh to 111/7. Ayub was in particular hard to deal with as he gave only three runs in his two overs for a wicket.

Pakistan were given a scare in the chase when Mahedi Hasan removed Sahibzada Farhan in the second over. Maaz Sadaqat (15 from 7 balls), Usman Khan (14 from 9 balls) and Saim Ayub (21 from 12 balls) kept the scoreboard ticking with their cameos.

Pakistan were 76/4 and then got the over that they needed when Abdul Samad and Hasan Nawaz took 23 overs from Mustafizur Rahman's 10th over, with Samad hitting 22 of them. The Men in Green then needed 13 runs from 18 balls, and they had done the hard work. Nawaz hit the winning four in the 12th over to win the game.

When: Saturday, October 3, 2026

Where: Karogi Sports Park, Nisshin

Where to watch: Sony Sports Network on TV. SonyLIV app and website for streaming

Squads:

Pakistan Squad: Sahibzada Farhan(c), Maaz Sadaqat, Usman Khan(w), Saim Ayub, Hasan Nawaz, Abdul Samad, Arafat Minhas, Ahmed Daniyal, Mohammad Wasim Jr, Abrar Ahmed, Sufyan Moqim, Saad Masood, Ali Raza, Akif Javed, Haider Ali

India Squad: Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson(w), Shreyas Iyer(c), Ishan Kishan, Axar Patel, Tilak Varma, Shivam Dube, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Yash Thakur, Vipraj Nigam

Asian Games: Parveen Hooda beats Nien-chin Che to secure India's second boxing gold



Nishio, Oct. 02:

Indian boxer Parveen Hooda ended her long wait for an Asian Games medal in style, clinching gold in the women's 65kg category at the Asian Games 2026.

The 26-year-old defeated Nien-chin Che of Chinese Taipei in a closely contested final on Friday, following Olympic bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain's gold in the women's 75kg event.

The Rohtak-born boxer started strongly, winning the first round 5-0. Che fought back in the second round, also taking it 5-0. Parveen kept her composure in the final round and edged it 3-2 to secure the gold medal.

The achievement marks a major milestone for Parveen, who had earlier won gold at the 2025 World Cup, bronze at the 2022 World Championships and gold at the 2022 Asian Championships.

Parveen is now the third Indian woman to win a gold medal at the Asian Games.

Legendary boxer MC Mary Kom had won the women's 51kg event at the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon, while Lovlina added her name to the list earlier on Friday.

Lovlina, who turned 29 on Friday, secured India's first women's boxing gold in 12 years in the 75kg final by defeating China's Ziyi Bao 5-0.

The Tokyo Olympic bronze medallist improved on the silver medal she won at the previous edition with a dominant performance against Bao, securing a memorable birthday present. Lovlina is also only the second Indian woman after Mary Kom to win a boxing gold medal at the Asian Games and an Olympic medal.

Parveen's victory also adds to India's strong showing in women's boxing at the ongoing Asian Games, with Lovlina Borgohain having already secured gold in the 75kg category earlier on Friday.

Sujeet's Super Show, Wins Gold in Freestyle Wrestling

Nagoya, Oct. 02:

Indian wrestler Sujeet Kalkal clinched the gold medal in the men's 65kg freestyle wrestling event at the Asian Games after producing a stunning performance in the final.

Sujeet, who was initially trailing, staged a remarkable comeback in the second round to defeat Tajikistan's Abdulmazhid Kudiev 10-9 and secure the gold medal.

The Tajik wrestler dominated the opening



round and took a 9-2 lead. However, Sujeet bounced back strongly in the second round, winning it 8-0 to overturn the deficit and eventually claim the gold medal with a 10-9 victory. India's gold rush continued at the Asian Games as its

athletes added more top finishes. With Sujeet's victory, India's overall medal tally reached 75, comprising 15 gold, 25 silver and 35 bronze medals. In the men's 80kg boxing event, Ankush Panghal also secured a gold medal for India.

Yuzvendra Chahal retires from first-class cricket, vows to continue playing white-ball formats

New Delhi, Oct. 02:

Veteran India leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal on Friday announced his retirement from first-class cricket, saying his dream of playing Test cricket would remain unfulfilled.

Chahal, who played 72 ODIs and 80 T20Is for India, finished his red-ball career with 148 wickets in 49 matches. However, the 35-year-old said he is "not done yet" and will continue to pursue opportunities in ODI and T20 cricket.

Chahal's final first-class stint came with Northamptonshire in the 2026 County Championship, where he took 21 wickets at an average of 16.14. A member of India's 2024 T20 World Cup-winning squad, he remains active in limited-overs cricket. He has also continued to feature in domestic white-ball competitions in recent seasons.

Asian Games: Ankush wins gold in India's triple-delight as boxing campaign concludes with 6 medals

Nishio, Oct. 02:

Ankush Panghal clinched a gold medal in the men's 80kg final after a superb 4-0 win over Minseong Kim of South Korea at the Nishio Gymnasium at the ongoing Asian Games as India's boxing campaign came to a fruitful end.

Ankush dominated the bout from the word go and got the ruling of four of the five judges in his favour by 30-26, while one judge tied the two at 28-28. The Korean pugilist was docked a point for warning in the first round.

Ankush won the first round 4-1 as he landed his punches fiercely. He was even superior in the second round as he bagged it 5-0 with some 1-2s and pounced with counter punches. Kim also landed some punches, but the Indian looked far better.

The Indian produced another display of counter punches in the third round as he blended defence with

attack to take the third round 4-1 and won the contest 4-0.

This ended India's strong boxing campaign with a triple delight as the pugilists brought three gold medals and three bronze medals for a total of six at the Aichi-Nagoya Games.

Parveen Hooda and Lovlina Borgohain also won gold medals previously. Parveen won the closely contested final against Nien-chin Che of Chinese Taipei.

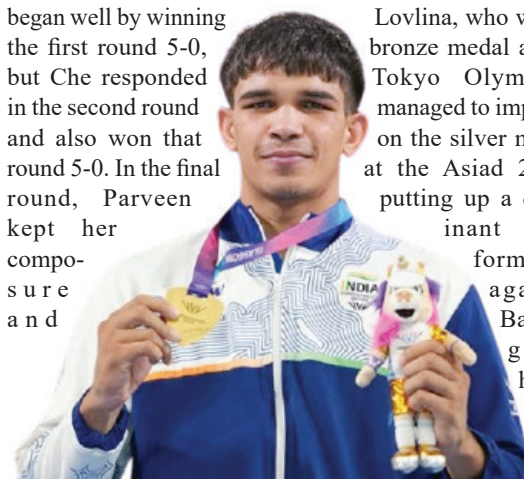
The Rohtak-born boxer began well by winning the first round 5-0, but Che responded in the second round and also won that round 5-0. In the final round, Parveen kept her composure and

won the round 3-2, thus securing the gold medal with a split 3-2 verdict.

Parveen is now the third Indian woman to win a gold medal at the Asian Games; legendary MC Mary Kom had won the women's 51kg event at the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon, Lovlina having added her second gold earlier on Friday.

Lovlina, who turned 29 on Friday, secured India's first women's boxing gold in 12 years in the 75kg final by beating China's Ziyi Bao 5-0.

Lovlina, who won a bronze medal at the Tokyo Olympics, managed to improve on the silver medal at the Asiad 2022, putting up a dominant performance against Bao to give herself a



3rd ODI: After run-fests, India seek bowling redemption against the West Indies in dead rubber

New Delhi, Oct. 02:

India will look to strengthen their bowling performance when they face the West Indies in the third and final ODI at the New PCA Stadium on Saturday. India have already clinched the three-match series 2-0.

The series has been dominated by high-scoring games, with 811 runs scored in the first two matches. India's new-ball bowlers have managed just one wicket in the opening 10 overs of both games, while Ravindra Jadeja has also been under pressure after taking only three wickets in his last eight ODI appearances. Captain Shubman Gill has led from the front with the bat, scoring an unbeaten 223 in the second ODI after a century in the first. Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli have also been among the runs.

India will be without Prasidh Krishna, who has



been ruled out with a hamstring injury. Mohammed Siraj could return after missing the first two games, while uncapped Anshul Kamboj has been added to the squad. With Jasprit Bumrah rested, the match will provide an opportunity to test India's back-up bowling options.

For the West Indies, John Campbell and captain Shai

Hope have provided solid starts, while Sherfane Rutherford, Roston Chase and Keemo Paul will look to strengthen the middle order and help the visitors avoid a 3-0 series defeat.

When: Saturday, October 3, 2 PM IST

Where: New PCA Stadium, New Chandigarh

Live: Star Sports Network and JioHotstar

New Delhi, Oct. 02:

ACC President and Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi will not attend the Asian Games men's cricket gold medal match between India and Pakistan due to prior commitments.

The Asian Cricket Council confirmed Naqvi's absence ahead of the high-profile final at the Korogi Sports Park in

Nisshin, while he extended his best wishes to all four teams competing for medals. Before the gold medal clash, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka will meet in the bronze medal match.

"ACC President, Mr Mohsin Naqvi, will miss Finals Day at #AsianGames2026 due to prior commitments, but sends his very best wishes to all four teams ahead of the Gold and Bronze

Medal Matches," the ACC said in a statement posted on social media on Friday.

India and Pakistan reached the Asian Games final after winning their respective semi-finals on Thursday. Pakistan defeated Bangladesh by six wickets in a rain-curtailed 13-over contest, while India registered a commanding 124-run victory over Sri Lanka in the second semi-final.

The final is also being played against the backdrop of strained diplomatic relations between the two countries following the Pahalgam terror attack in 2025. As per recent precedents, the customary post-match handshakes between the players are unlikely to take place.

India have since avoided handshakes with Pakistani players at several international cricket events

involving men, women and age-group teams, and have also declined tournament honours from Pakistani dignitaries. During India's successful Men's T20 Asia Cup campaign in 2025, Suryakumar Yadav's team defeated Pakistan three times, including in the final, without exchanging handshakes and declined to accept the trophy from Naqvi.

Man held after alleged desecration attempt at Hyderabad temple

IAN
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

Hyderabad Police took a man into custody after he allegedly entered the Santoshi Mata Temple in Dilsukhnagar and attempted to desecrate the idol while prayers were underway on Friday. The incident took place in the presence of the priest and devotees, with visuals circulating on social media purportedly showing the man entering the sanctum and throwing tree branches near the idol before leaving the premises.

The man was identified as Mohammed Ansari. Police took him into custody after devotees caught hold of him and handed him over to the authorities. According to police, Ansari is undergoing treatment for mental health issues. Police have registered a case and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the



incident and the motive behind the alleged act.

The incident triggered strong reactions from Telangana BJP leaders, who condemned the alleged desecration and questioned the security of temples in the state. BJP state president N Ramchander Rao alleged that Ansari entered the temple, raised religious slogans and attacked the

deity with sticks. He also criticised the state government and alleged that its policies had contributed to inadequate protection of temples.

BJP floor leader in the Telangana Assembly, Alleti Maheshwar Reddy, also condemned the incident and called for strict action against those responsible. He alleged that Telangana had witnessed

more than 15 reported incidents of temple vandalism and desecration since A Revanth Reddy became Chief Minister, and questioned the government's handling of temple security.

Police have continued their investigation into the incident, while further details regarding the case and the legal sections invoked are awaited.

Tiranga Ahimsa Car Rally Highlights Peace, Non-Violence and National Unity in Hyderabad

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

A vibrant display of peace, non-violence and national unity was witnessed in Hyderabad as Shri Vardhaman Sthanakvasi Jain Shravak Sangh, Greater Hyderabad (Kachiguda), organised the “Tiranga Ahimsa Car Rally” on Friday to mark Gandhi Jayanti, the birth anniversary of Puja Acharya Gyanchandra Ji Maharaj, Lal Bahadur

Shastri Jayanti and the United Nations International Day of Non-Violence.

The 23-km peace drive featured a disciplined convoy of more than 200 cars decorated with the Indian National Flag and Jain religious flags. Over 1,200 participants from different sections of society, including women and senior citizens, took part in the rally, turning the event into a colourful expression of community participation

and national solidarity.

The rally sought to highlight the shared values of Ahimsa, peace and harmony while promoting a sense of national pride and social unity. Organisers said the initiative was aimed at spreading the message of non-violence and encouraging people from different communities to come together for a common cause.

A special luxury-car “Jolly Ride” was also organised for orphan chil-

dren as part of the event, adding a humanitarian dimension to the peace drive. The initiative provided the children an opportunity to participate in the celebrations and enjoy the rally.

With the Tricolour and Jain flags displayed across the convoy, the rally presented a strong visual message of peace, unity and coexistence, while commemorating the important national and spiritual occasions associated with the day.

DRI Seizes Elephant Tusks, Three Held in Hyderabad

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

DRI officials seized four elephant tusks weighing around 17 kg and arrested three persons in Banjara Hills for allegedly attempting to sell ivory. Carved ivory items were also recovered and seized under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

The arrested persons are being questioned to trace the source of the ivory and ascertain whether a larger wildlife smuggling network is involved.

Dr K Laxman Felicitates TSCS Staff as Voluntary Blood Donation Camps Reach 4,000 Milestone

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

The Thalassemia and Sick Cell Society (TSCS), Hyderabad, marked the completion of 4,000 voluntary blood donation camps on National Voluntary Blood Donation Day and felicitated its Blood Bank and Blood Donation Camp staff for their dedicated service.

Rajya Sabha MP Dr K. Laxman was the chief guest at the felicitation ceremony held at the TSCS premises in Shivrampally. He appreciated the organisation's



efforts in promoting voluntary blood donation and supporting patients requiring regular transfusions, and urged more people to come forward to donate blood regularly.

TSCS President Dr Chandrakant Agrawal thanked blood donors,

volunteers, staff and supporters for their contribution towards achieving the milestone. Dr Suman Jain, Chief Medical Research Officer and Secretary, TSCS, Joint Secretary Aleem Baig and Vice-President Ratnavali were among those present.

Salama Hospital Inaugurated at Sun City



Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

Salama Hospital, established under the aegis of Musliamat Trust in collaboration with Al Shifa Hospital, was inaugurated at Sun City on October 2. Padma Shri Dr Manjula Anagani inaugurated the hospital, while Dr Arjumand Sultana attended the programme as the guest of honour.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Manjula Anagani stressed the importance of giving special attention to women's health, observing

that the health of women is closely linked to the overall health of society. She emphasised the need to promote greater awareness about women's healthcare and encourage timely medical check-ups and screening.

Dr Zahra Taiba, Managing Director of Salama Hospital, welcomed the guests and spoke about the hospital's focus on women's healthcare. She announced plans to organise health awareness programmes and screening camps for women, with the aim of promoting early detection and providing timely medical guidance and care.

Car Crashes Into Tree in Banjara Hills, 20-Year-Old Driver Injured

A Mahindra Scorpio (AP09 CE2415) allegedly travelling at high speed crashed into a roadside tree on Road No. 1 in Banjara Hills late Thursday night. The 20-year-old driver, Roop, sustained minor injuries.

Panjagutta police reached the spot after locals alerted them and inspected the vehicle. Police suspect the driver may have been under the influence of alcohol and are investigating the cause of the accident.

Qul Welfare Society Holds Free Medical Camp in Chintalmet

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

Qul Welfare Society, in collaboration with Zoi Hospital, Attapur, organised a free mega medical check-up camp and medicine distribution drive at Chintalmet, Attapur, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

The camp provided free consultations, diagnostic checks, dental screenings and prescribed medicines to local residents, including senior citizens, women and children. A team of doctors from Zoi Hospital, including Dr Ranachetak from Internal Medicine, Dr Raheem Unnisa from Pediatrics and



Senior Dental Surgeon Dr Mohammed Imran Ali, attended to patients.

The programme was organised by Qul Welfare Society representatives Nishat Hasan Mirza, Md Imran Khan and Mirza Aleem Baig, along with A. Gopi. Nursing staff coordi-

nated patient registrations, vital checks, clinical assistance and medicine distribution. The organisers said the society would continue conducting healthcare camps and other welfare initiatives across Hyderabad to support underprivileged communities.

Urdu Is a Sweet Language That Connects Hearts: V. Hanumantha Rao

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

Urdu is a sweet and beautiful language that connects hearts and promotes communal harmony, said V. Hanumantha Rao, Advisor to the Telangana Government on BC Welfare and Development. Addressing the Indira Gandhi Memorial International Mushaira “Qayam-e-Aman”, organised by Anjuman Mohibban-e-Urdu Telangana at

Ravindra Bharathi, he said Hyderabad symbolises Ganga-Jamuni tehzeeb and Urdu mushairas contribute to national integration. He appreciated Anjuman president and convenor Syed Muskin Ahmed for promoting Urdu through literary programmes. Cultural ambassador Ifitikhar Shareef said Urdu was gaining popularity in the United States, while Prof S.A. Shukoor described mushairas as an important part of India's

cultural heritage. The programme marked the 48-year literary journey of the Anjuman and featured poets from India and abroad, including Dubai, Kuwait and Moscow. Several poets recited their poetry, while humour poets Shahid Adaili, Waheed Pasha Qadri and Lateefuddin Lateef entertained the audience. The programme was conducted by Dr Sardar Saleem, with Muskin Ahmed felicitating poets and guests.

Quran is the Eternal Code of Life for Humanity: Dr Saber Pasha Quadri

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

The Holy Quran is not merely a scripture meant for recitation but an eternal source of guidance and a comprehensive code of life for humanity, said Maulana Mufti Dr Hafiz Mohammed Saber Pasha Quadri, Khateeb and Imam, Masjid Telangana State Haj House, Nampally.

Addressing a gathering at Haj House, he said the teachings of the Quran provide guidance in moral, social and spiritual matters and offer principles for peace, justice, human dignity, social harmony and unity. He said understanding and practically applying Quranic teachings was essential for the intellectual and spiritual uplift of the Muslim community.

Dr Saber Pasha Quadri said materialism, worldly greed and the pursuit of superficial success had weakened people's inclination towards studying and reflecting upon the Quran. He observed that sincere implementation of its teachings could help societies address



problems such as ignorance, poverty, moral decline, extremism and social discord.

Referring to the lives of Islamic saints, particularly Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya (RA), he said their biographies reflected detachment from worldly power and wealth. He noted that Islam does not prohibit wealth but teaches people to use it responsibly without allowing material possessions to dominate their hearts.

Speaking about love for the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, he said true love must be reflected in obedience to his teachings and adherence to his Sunnah. Quoting the

Quranic verse, “Follow me; Allah will love you,” he said the lives of the Companions demonstrated that genuine devotion was expressed through conduct, worship, sacrifice and service.

Dr Saber Pasha Quadri further said the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ restored humanity's awareness of its Creator and purpose of life through the message of Tawheed. He concluded that attachment to the Quran, adherence to the Sunnah, love of Allah and service to humanity provide a path towards individual reform, social harmony and moral upliftment.

Future City Police Pay Tribute to Gandhi and Shastri



Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 02:

Future City Police commemorated the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri at the Future City Police Headquarters in Ibrahimpatnam on Friday.

Senior police officials and personnel paid tributes to the two national leaders and recalled their lasting contribution to the nation. The programme highlighted Mahatma Gandhi's principles of truth, non-violence and peaceful public service, while remembering Lal Bahadur Shastri for his ideals of simplicity, disci-

pline, integrity and commitment to the nation. Officials said the values and principles upheld by both leaders continue to remain relevant in public life.

Addressing the gathering, senior officials observed that the lives of Gandhi and Shastri offer an important message to every public servant to perform their duties with honesty, discipline, responsibility and dedication. They said police personnel, in particular, have a responsibility to uphold integrity and remain committed to serving the people and society.

The programme was attended by CAR

Headquarters ACP Arun Kumar, RI Krishna, Admin RI Srinivas, CSW RI Suresh, RI Estates Laxman Rao, RI Stores Shekar and MT RI Subramanyam, along with RSIs and other CAR police personnel.

The occasion served as a reminder to the police personnel that genuine public service is built on values of integrity, duty, discipline and commitment to society. The officials said the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri would continue to inspire personnel in discharging their responsibilities towards the nation and the public.