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City police step up visa overstay crackdown

49 foreigners identified, 12 deported

- Special drive launched by Hyderabad Police, FRRO and local units
- 49 foreign nationals identified for alleged visa violations
- 12 deported; proceedings against others underway
- Landlords, hotels told to verify documents and report violations



Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct 3



Hyderabad City Police have intensified a special drive against foreign nationals allegedly overstaying or violating visa conditions, identifying 49 persons since August 31.

The operation by the Special Branch's Foreigners Monitoring Cell, FRRO, local police and IT Cell has so far resulted in 12 deportations, while proceedings against the remaining persons are underway.

Tolichowki accounted for 30 cases, followed by Langar Houz and Mehdiapatnam with six each, Rajendranagar three, and Banjara Hills, Saifabad and Gudimalkapur one or two each.

Police said verification also uncovered alleged cases involving counterfeit currency, drugs, cheating and other offences. Some overstaying student-visa holders were allegedly working as hospital intermediaries, while certain foreign women were linked to alleged prostitution-related activities.

Police advised landlords, hotels and guest houses to verify passports and visas, maintain mandatory records and promptly report suspected overstaying, forged documents or unlawful activities.

Revanth directs officials to frame child online safety plan

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 3

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday directed officials to prepare a comprehensive Child Online Safety Framework to protect children from cyber-crimes and ensure access to justice.

Addressing the National Legal Services Authority's South Zone Regional Conference in Hyderabad, Revanth said the framework would be prepared in consultation with the Telangana High Court and Telangana State Legal Services Authority. He urged par-



ents to remain actively involved in their children's online activities and familiarise themselves with cyber safety measures.

The Chief Minister highlighted Telangana's Bharosa centres, Child Friendly Court, SHE-Bharosa Cyber Labs and

and the School Education Department.

Revanth also launched the TGSLSA Freedom from Bonded Labour - Legal Aid, Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-integration Scheme, 2026, aimed at simplifying reporting of bonded labour cases and creating awareness of workers' rights.

He said technology and artificial intelligence had brought benefits but also increased children's exposure to misinformation and cyber threats, stressing the need to prevent online crimes and ensure justice for affected children.

Navpreet Singh sent to 10-day police custody

IANs News New Delhi, Oct 3

A Delhi court on Saturday remanded alleged international drug trafficker Navpreet Singh to 10 days of police custody after he was deported from Turkey and brought back to India.

Singh was produced before the Rouse Avenue Court in connection with a major narcotics case. Police sought his custody to question him about the alleged international drug network and identify other accused and its wider links. The defence opposed the remand, arguing that Singh's statement had already been recorded. Investigators allege that Singh operated from Turkey under the identity "Navab Virk" and facilitated the trafficking of heroin and methamphetamine from Afghanistan to India. His name surfaced in a 2021 Delhi narcotics case involving the alleged recovery of around 355.5 kg of heroin. Union Home Minister Amit Shah described his deportation as a major success and said the Centre was committed to dismantling narco-cartels.



Five Indians rescued after tanker hit by projectile



IANs News Muscat/ New Delhi, Oct 3

Five Indian nationals aboard Kuwait-flagged tanker MT Kazimah III were safely rescued after the vessel was struck by a projectile in the Strait of Hormuz, the Ministry

of External Affairs said on Saturday. The Indian Embassy in Oman coordinated the rescue, with all five seafarers shifted ashore safely. The MEA thanked Omani authorities for their assistance.

The development comes days after an attack on commer-

cial vessel MV Cape Dao off Oman left one Indian seafarer dead and 19 others rescued. The MEA has expressed concern over continuing attacks on commercial shipping in the region and called for dialogue, de-escalation and restoration of safe navigation.

CBI chargesheets RCom, executives in LIC case

IANs News New Delhi, Oct 3

The CBI has chargesheeted Reliance Communications Ltd (RCom) and three senior executives in an alleged fraud case involving LIC's ₹1,500-crore investment in the company. The chargesheet names Reliance ADA Group executives Amitabh Jhunjhunwala

and Vishwas Joshi, and former LIC Chief Investment Officer P. Venugopal. They face charges of alleged conspiracy, cheating and criminal breach of trust, besides offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The CBI alleged that LIC subscribed to RCom's non-convertible debentures in 2012 based on misrepresentations.

Four women killed as bus overturns on Ananthagiri ghat road

Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct 3

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

the fastest fifty by an Indian against Pakistan in T20Is before Tilak Varma produced a blazing late assault as India overcame a sluggish surface to post 211/6 in 20 overs.

Abhishek reached his fifty in just 20 deliveries, bettering his own 24-ball effort against Pakistan in Dubai in 2025, while Tilak followed with a 21-ball fifty as the duo took India through contrasting phases of the innings.

Abhishek eventually made 61 off 28 balls, with three fours and seven sixes, while Tilak and Shivam Dube added 62 runs for the sixth wicket to give India a strong finish.

Lone warrior Hasan Nawaz kept Pakistan alive with his unbeaten 96 off 51 deliveries but it wasn't enough as India clinched a dominant 19 runs victory to defend their gold medal in the Asian Games men's cricket final match at Korogi Sports Park on Saturday.

Spin duo of Washington Sundar and Axar Patel clinched two wickets each as Shivam Dube in the later part of the run chase clinched two dominant wicket too to help India beat Pakistan.

Earlier, Abhishek Sharma smashed

Asian Games: All-round India beat Pakistan by 19 runs to clinch gold



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Election Commission Responsible for Protecting Right to Vote, Says Wanaparthi MLA

Munsif News Bureau
Wanaparthi,Oct.3 :

Wanaparthi MLA Thoodi Megha Reddy said the Election Commission has a responsibility to protect citizens’ right to vote and demanded that Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar take moral responsibility and resign. He also demanded the restoration of deleted names of eligible voters.

Addressing a press conference, Megha Reddy said the Election Commission should work with full responsibility to protect the right to vote, which is the foundation of democracy.

He said the Commission should not favour any political party and should be accountable only to the Constitution and the people of the country.

He said voting was the most powerful right of an ordinary citizen in a democracy and protecting this right was the fundamental responsibility of the Election Commission.

The MLA urged the Central Government and the Election Commission to consider the objections raised by opposition parties regarding the appointment of Election Commissioners and the electoral process. He also called for strengthening the independence of the Election Commission and said not even a single eligible voter should be unfairly removed from the electoral rolls.

Megha Reddy said steps should be taken to ensure justice for

every eligible person who had lost the right to vote. He also strongly objected to the revision of electoral rolls being undertaken under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process.

He demanded that eligible voters should not face any difficulties during the process and that the names of eligible voters who had been removed from the rolls should be verified and restored immediately.

Megha Reddy said there should be complete transparency in the revision of electoral rolls. Every person whose name was removed should be informed of the reason and given an opportunity to raise objections.

He called for special measures to ensure that poor and ordinary people, migrant workers, labourers, senior citizens and other sections of society did not face any difficulties in exercising their right to vote.

In view of objections raised by opposition parties over the functioning of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, MLA Thoodi Megha Reddy demanded that he resign immediately. He urged the Central Government to take immediate steps to restore public confidence in the Election Commission. He said transparency, impartiality and credibility were of utmost importance in the electoral system and that there should be no scope for doubts in an electoral process that determines the future of governments elected by

the people’s votes.

The MLA announced that the INDIA bloc would continue its fight on behalf of the people on issues including restoration of the names of eligible voters, cancellation of the SIR process and protection of the independence of the Election Commission.

“The right to vote is the people’s right, and protecting it is our collective responsibility. We will fight at every level to safeguard democracy,” he said.

CPI Town Secretary Ramesh, CPI(M) District Secretary Pota Anjaneyulu, Abdul Jabbar, D. Kurumaiah, AIMIM District President Abdul Rahim, Telangana Jana Samithi District President Abdul Qadir Pasha, Babu Goud, Ganesh.



Wanaparthi MLA Thoodi Megha Reddy said the Election Commission has a responsibility to protect citizens’ right to vote and demanded that Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar take moral responsibility and resign. He also demanded the restoration of deleted names of eligible voters.

Women’s Empowerment Key to Viksit Bharat: NRR

NSS
Hyderabad,Oct.3 :

BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao on Saturday said the women’s empowerment was essential to achieving Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision

of “Viksit Bharat”. Speaking at the ‘Angan Milan’ service programme organised here at Mallapur under the ‘Seva Sankalp Abhiyan’, Rao highlighted the Centre’s initiatives for women’s welfare, including the “Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao” scheme.

He said the government was implementing various programmes to improve nutrition and healthcare for pregnant women, lactating mothers and children, stressing that a healthy nation depended on the well-being of mothers and children.

Journalists hold postcard protest in Narayanpet, seek Cashless Health Cards

Munsif News Bureau
Narayanpet, Oct 3 :

Journalists staged a postcard protest at Narayanpet district headquarters, demanding health and medical security for journalists who highlight public issues before the government and society through their writings.

The journalists demanded that, on the lines of government employees, health cards providing cashless medical treatment at government and private hospitals be issued to all working journalists.

Following the appeal of Telangana Media Academy



State President and former chairman Allam Narayana and State General Secretary Maruthi Sagar, journalists participated in the postcard protest at the Narayanpet district headquarters and various mandals on Friday.

At the district headquarters,

journalists took out a rally from the Municipal Park and raised slogans demanding health cards for journalists. On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, they garlanded the statue of Mahatma Gandhi and paid floral tributes to the Father of the Nation.

Mega Job Fair Organised in Kagaznagar, Over 5,000 Job Opportunities Offered

Munsif News Bureau
Kagaznagar,Oct.3:

A grand mega job fair was organised at Patel Gardens in Kagaznagar under the aegis of Praja Bandhu Foundation, on the special initiative of Sirpur MLA Dr. Palvai Harish Babu, with the objective of providing wider and better employment opportunities to educated and unemployed youth of the Sirpur Assembly constituency.

More than 50 reputed companies from various sectors participated in the job fair and offered over 5,000 employment opportunities, while more than 1,000 candidates registered for the event.



Addressing the mega job fair, Sirpur MLA Dr. Palvai Harish Babu said that in the present competitive era, academic qualifications alone were not sufficient for success. Skills, professional expertise, practical experience, self-confidence and a passion for

continuous learning were equally essential. He said such job fairs provide local youth with an effective platform to directly interact with representatives of reputed companies, attend interviews and explore employment opportunities.

He advised youngsters to identify their abilities, further develop their skills and make the best use of the opportunities available to them.

The MLA said youth were valuable assets of the country and society, and if their abilities were provided with the right direction and suitable opportunities, they could not only build a better future for themselves but also make a significant contribution to economic and social development.

The mega job fair, held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., witnessed the participation of thousands of educated youth from various parts of the Sirpur Assembly constituency as well as neighbouring areas.

Telangana Gurukul student scales 6,027-metre Mount Tarang-2

Hyderabad, Oct.3 (NSS): Demonstrating that determination, discipline and perseverance can help overcome even the most formidable challenges, Telangana Gurukul student Islavath Banni has achieved a notable feat by scaling Mount Tarang-2, a 6,027-metre (19,774-foot) peak in Himachal Pradesh. Banni, a final-year B.Com student of the Telangana Gurukul Tribal Welfare Residential Degree College (TGTWRDC), Kamareddy, successfully reached the summit on September 22 and returned safely to the college on September 30.



Gadwal District Superintendent of Police T. Srinivas Rao, IPS, conducted a surprise inspection of the Gadwal Rural Police Station on Saturday. During the inspection, the SP reviewed the surroundings of the station, reception area, station writer, technical team, beat books, General Diary and the functioning of the CCTNS.

Modern Computer Systems for Urdu Computer Training Centres in AP; Supply Completed to All

Munsif News Bureau
Nandyal Oct. 3 :

Six Urdu Computer Training Centres (CTCs) in Andhra Pradesh are being developed as Model Computer Training Centres through the special initiative of Academy Chairman Mohammed Farooq Shibli.

According to details, a project initiated by Andhra Pradesh State Urdu Academy (APSUA) Chairman Mohammed Farooq Shibli to equip Urdu Computer Training Centres (CTCs) across the state with modern technology has reached an important stage.

The initiative aims to provide youth with better computer training, digital skills and technical knowledge required for employment opportunities.

As part of the initiative, the Urdu Academy has completed the process of supplying modern computer systems to Urdu CTCs across the state.

The purchase of the required computer systems for all CTCs, along with their transportation and distribution to the respective centres, has also been completed. Under the action plan formulated by Farooq Shibli, CTCs at Kurnool, Nandyal, Mangalagiri, Visakhapatnam, Guntur and Madanapalle are

being specially developed as Model Computer Training Centres. Each of these six Model CTCs has been provided with 12 to 15 modern computer systems, while other CTCs across the state have been equipped with eight to 10 computer systems, depending on their requirements.

As part of the modernisation programme, the newly installed computer systems at the Nandyal CTC will be inaugurated by Minority Welfare Minister N.M.D. Farooq and Andhra Pradesh State Urdu Academy Chairman Mohammed Farooq Shibli.

Gadwal SP T. Srinivas Rao Conducts Surprise Inspection of Rural Police

Munsif News Bureau
Gadwal, Oct.3 :

Gadwal District Superintendent of Police T. Srinivas Rao, IPS, conducted a surprise inspection of the Gadwal Rural Police Station on Saturday. During the inspection, the SP reviewed the surroundings of the station, reception area, station writer, technical team, beat books, General Diary and the functioning of the CCTNS. He directed the staff to complete online work within the stipulated time and ensure that no work remained pending. The SP enquired about the staff deployed on duty at the station,

patrolling by Blue Colts, patrol vehicles and maintenance of beats. He instructed the personnel to maintain continuous patrolling within the police station limits and take effective measures to prevent thefts and other crimes.

He directed the Blue Colts and patrol vehicles to conduct 24x7 patrolling and instructed the staff to immediately reach the spot and resolve issues whenever information was received through Dial 112.

To prevent road accidents, the SP advised the police to conduct extensive checks against drunk driving and take appropriate action against violators.

Gitam Faculty Member Awarded Ph.d. For Ai-Based Diabetes Prediction

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 3 :

GITAM Deemed to be University, Hyderabad, has congratulated Dr. Santosh Kumar Bejugam on being awarded a Ph.D. in Electronics and Communication Engineering for his research on artificial intelligence-based diabetes prediction.

Dr. Santosh Kumar conducted his doctoral research under the guidance of Dr. V. Jyothi, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engineering (EECE), GITAM.

His thesis, titled “Diabetic prediction using Hybrid deep ensemble network for patient support”, focuses on developing an intelligent framework for early prediction of diabetes risk.

The research proposes a Hybrid Deep Ensemble Framework combining advanced data preprocessing, feature optimisation and multiple deep-learning techniques, including 1D-CNN, LSTM and Extreme Learning Machine (ELM). The framework is designed to address challenges such as missing data, outliers, feature redundancy and model overfitting.

A key component of the study is an optimised Serial Cascaded Convolutional Ensemble Network (SCCEN), which combines complementary learning approaches to identify complex patterns in patient data.

According to the university, the proposed framework

achieved an experimental prediction accuracy of approximately 98.98 per cent, indicating its potential for early risk identification and AI-enabled patient support.

The research could provide a foundation for future applications in clinical decision support, wearable healthcare technologies and smart healthcare systems, with potential applications in personalised healthcare.

Prof. D.S. Rao, Pro Vice-Chancellor; D.V.V.S.R. Varma, Resident Director; and Prof. Prasantha R. Mudimela, Head, Department of EECE, congratulated Dr. Santosh Kumar on his achievement and wished him success in his future research endeavours. (NSS)

33 KV Power Substation to be Built at Baloor (J) in Aurad (B) at a Cost of 9.20 Crore: Prabhu B. Chavan

NSS
Hyderabad Oct 3 :

MLA and former minister Prabhu B. Chavan said a 33 KV power substation would be constructed at Baloor (J) village in Aurad (B) taluk at a cost of ₹9.20 crore, and the project is currently at the tender stage.

In a statement issued in this regard, he said, “I have been continuously working with a commitment to bring industries to the Aurad constituency and create local employment opportunities for its youth. I am working to provide the required infrastructure, including

roads, water and electricity, for the establishment and smooth functioning of industries. At the same time, adequate power supply should be ensured for farmers in Baloor (J).” He said a 220 KV power substation had already been constructed at Nagora (B), and power infrastructure was being developed in phases to ensure adequate and quality electricity supply to all parts of the constituency.

A CIPET centre has been sanctioned at Baloor (J) with the objective of providing skill development training to the youth of the constituency and creating employment opportunities locally.

Congress Govt Ignoring Public Issues, alleges BRS Vemulawada in-Charge

Munsif News Bureau
Rajanna Sircilla, Oct.3 :

BRS Vemulawada constituency in-charge Chalmeda Lakshmi Narasimha Rao alleged that the Congress government was resorting to “diversion politics” to divert public attention from its failure to fulfil promises made to the people and address their problems. He made the allegations while addressing a press conference in Vemulawada on Saturday. A report published on October 3 also records his criticism of the government over the pending issues of Mid Manair oustees.

He alleged that Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Aadi Srinivas had failed to work effectively at the grassroots level to resolve people’s problems and was instead making false allegations against the BRS.

Chalmeda said Congress leaders had, before the elections, stayed overnight in submerged villages including Sankepalli and promised compensation of ₹5.04 lakh to the Mid Manair project oustees. However, he alleged that after coming to power, the Congress leaders remained silent on the issue in the Assembly, describing it as a betrayal of the affected people.

He questioned the status of the promise to establish cottage industries for unemployed youth and women.

He also alleged that the Congress government was deliberately neglecting the Aqua Hub initiated during the previous BRS regime with the objective of providing employment to thousands of poor people and workers.

Chalmeda dismissed as baseless the allegations that BRS leaders had encroached upon around

8,000 acres of land. He said that despite seeking information under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, officials did not have adequate details in this regard.

A report on his October 3 press conference likewise says he demanded that the government make public complete details relating to the allegations concerning around 8,000 acres.

He criticised the government for halting the reconstruction works of the Sri Rajarajeshwara Swamy Temple in Vemulawada and alleged that instead of utilising the sanctioned funds, the authorities were delaying the works in the name of issuing Government Orders (GOs). Chalmeda demanded that steps be taken to fill the Malkapet reservoir, along with tanks, through the Mid Manair project to address the difficulties faced by farmers during the summer.

Grand Bathukamma celebrations from Oct 10 to 18: CS

NSS
Hyderabad,Oct.3:

Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju said elaborate arrangements were being made to celebrate Bathukamma, the unique floral festival of Telangana culture, in a grand manner from October 10 to 18.

Sanjay Jaju held a high-level review meeting at the Secretariat on Saturday to

review arrangements for the celebrations. Secretaries of various departments and senior police officials attended the meeting. The Chief Secretary said the Saddula

Bathukamma celebrations would be organised on Tank Bund on October 18 on a grand scale, with thousands of women expected to participate. From 4 pm on October

18, thousands of women carrying Bathukammas would take part in a procession from the Amaraveerula Smaraka Kendram (Martyrs’ Memorial), opposite the

Secretariat, to Tank Bund. Hundreds of artists would also participate in the procession and showcase various traditional art forms.

Public representatives

would attend the celebrations at a special stage being set up on Tank Bund, he said.

In view of the festivities, Jaju directed officials to install Bathukamma displays

at major junctions across the city to create a festive atmosphere. He also instructed the concerned departments to decorate all major government offices in the city.



Common Pass to ease daily travel burden on commuters: Azharuddin

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.3:

Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin said the newly introduced RTC-Metro Common Pass would greatly benefit the common people by making daily travel more

convenient and easing the burden on commuters. Azharuddin said the initiative reflected the Congress government's commitment to the welfare of the common man under the guidance and vision of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. He travelled by an RTC

bus and Metro Rail on Saturday using the common pass purchased along with Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Transport Minister Ponnampalabhar, Labour Minister Vivek Venkataswamy and senior officials. The Minister said the fa-

cility would benefit lakhs of commuters in the coming days and urged people to make full use of the common pass. He also appreciated the efforts of the Transport Minister, department officials and all those involved in making the initiative a reality.



Telangana Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin has welcomed the launch of the Metro RTC Common Pass, calling it an important step towards a more convenient, efficient and integrated public transport system in Hyderabad. The common pass was launched on Friday by Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka at Praja Bhavan. The initiative brings Hyderabad Metro Rail and TGSRTC city bus services under a common travel system.

Amit Shah cancels Telangana visit

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.3:

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has abruptly cancelled his scheduled visit to Telangana due to urgent, high-level meetings con-

vened in New Delhi. Shah was slated to arrive on Sunday to attend a series of official and private engagements, including an event in Karimnagar and a programme in

Brahmanapally village, Toopran mandal (Medak district). He was also expected to meet with key state BJP leaders in Hyderabad during the trip. The last-minute

postponement leaves local authorities empty-handed after extensive security arrangements and administrative preparations were already finalised across the venue locations. (NSS)



Hanamkonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai said that senior citizens are a guiding force and a beacon of direction for society. She urged people not to consider elderly parents and family members a burden, but to care for them with responsibility and respect. On the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons, a programme was organised at the Collectorate Conference Hall by the Department of Women, Children, Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens Welfare, in collaboration with the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). The programme was presided over by District Welfare Officer M. Vishwaj. Collector Chahat Bajpai inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Addressing the gathering, the Collector said it was the responsibility of every individual to ensure proper care of senior citizens who had spent their lives shouldering family responsibilities.

Govt invokes RR Act against defaulting rice millers; orders asset

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.3:

The Telangana Civil Supplies department has launched an aggressive enforcement drive under the Revenue Recovery (RR) Act to reclaim government dues from defaulting rice millers, issuing a strict ultimatum: deliver custom milled rice (CMR) or face asset seizure. Led by M. Stephen Ravendra, Commissioner of Civil Supplies & Ex-Officio Principal Secretary, the department is initiating an intensive

legal and tactical training program starting October 5 at the Dr. MCRHRD Institute. The initiative aims to equip frontline officers across the state with the tools needed to execute swift, legally sound asset seizures. Under updated protocols targeting millers who fail to deliver CMR or misappropriate paddy procured at Minimum Support Price (MSP), joint physical verifications will trigger immediate Show Cause Notices with a strict seven-day response window.

GOVERNOR CALLS FOR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN PAPER INDUSTRY

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.3:

Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla has called upon the paper industry to adopt modern technology, recycling and eco-friendly production practices while balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability and social responsibility. Addressing the 65th Annual General Meeting and Conference-2026 of the Federation of Paper Traders Association of India, hosted by

the Telangana Paper Merchants Association at Novotel HICC here on Saturday, the Governor said paper continued to play an important role in education, publishing, printing and packaging despite rapid technological changes. He stressed the importance of innovation, digitalisation, energy efficiency and responsible use of resources to strengthen the industry. He urged the trade bodies to encourage young entrepreneurs and contribute to education, healthcare and skill development.

Namaz-e-Istisqa to Be Offered in Nizamabad on Sunday

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad,Oct.3:

Namaz-e-Istisqa will be offered at Eidgah Jadeed, Qila, Nizamabad, at 10 a.m. on Sunday, October 4, with an appeal made to Muslims to participate in the special prayer seeking blessed rainfall. Addressing the media at Eidgah Jadeed, Eidgah and Graveyard Committee Nizamabad President Abdul Rahmaan Bazarra and General Secretary Ahmed Abdul Haleem said Namaz-e-Istisqa was being organised for the second time



in view of deficient rainfall and drought-like conditions prevailing in the state. The Namaz, followed by a collective Dua, will be held at Eidgah Jadeed, Qila, Shanti

Nagar, Nizamabad. The prayer will be led by Hazrat Mufti Saeed Akbar, Imam and Khateeb of Jama Masjid, Nizamabad. The Eidgah Committee president and mem-

bers appealed to Muslims to participate in the gathering along with elders and children. They requested worshippers to perform wudu before arriving and bring their own prayer mats. They said seeking the mercy of Allah Almighty through sincerity, humility and collective prayer during such circumstances was in accordance with the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). The committee expressed hope that Allah Almighty would accept the collective Dua and bless the region with beneficial rainfall.

65 Mathematics Teachers Trained in Digital Learning

Munsif News Bureau Kagaznagar,Oct.3:

A two-day Divisional-Level Capacity Building and Orientation Programme on "A Book on Digital Learning" was conducted for Mathematics teachers teaching Classes VI to X at Fatima Convent High School, Kagaznagar. The programme was organised with the objective of strengthening teachers' digital teaching competencies and equipping them with innovative technology-based methods to make Mathematics teaching more interactive, engaging and student-centred. Vasala Prabhakar, Mandal Educational Officer (MEO), Kagaznagar, served as the Course In-charge. Abid Ali, Planning Coordinator; Katakam Madhukar, District Science Officer; Koyyada Srinivas, Chief Monitoring Officer; and Sister Vinsha Flory, Principal, Fatima Convent High School, attended the programme as chief guests. Kasam Santosh, Bairam Shyam Sundar, Vinkare Prashanth and Gade Uma Rani served as Resource Persons and imparted training on various

aspects of digital learning and technology-enabled Mathematics education. Addressing the participants, Vasala Prabhakar, MEO, Kagaznagar, emphasised the importance of effectively integrating digital resources into classroom teaching in the present technological era. He said that appropriate use of digital tools can make Mathematics simpler, more interesting and easier for students to understand. He urged teachers to gain practical knowledge through "A Book on Digital Learning" and effectively implement digital teaching strategies in their classrooms. The training sessions covered digital tools and resources, technology integration in the teaching-learning process, and innovative approaches to Mathematics education. The Resource Persons also provided practical guidance on using technology to create a more engaging and student-centred learning environment. The chief guests appreciated the initiative and expressed confidence that the orientation would enhance the digital pedagogical skills of Mathematics teachers and contribute to improved learning outcomes among students.



Revenue officials conducted a surprise inspection at Sri Anjaneya Rice Mill in Kalur village of Kuntala mandal on Friday and found a major discrepancy between the paddy stock recorded in official records and the quantity available at the mill. According to official records, the mill was supposed to have 1,11,000 bags of paddy, equivalent to 4,440 metric tonnes. However, during the inspection, officials found only 18,000 bags, or 720 metric tonnes, of paddy. This revealed a shortage of 93,000 bags, equivalent to 3,720 metric tonnes.

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.3:

The Congress government in Telangana has renewed its focus on completing the Gouravelli irrigation project, originally initiated during the Congress regime in undivided Andhra Pradesh, with Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy directing the officials to resolve pending approvals, land acquisition and

rehabilitation issues through a time-bound action plan. Chairing a review meeting at the Secretariat here on Saturday, Uttam Kumar Reddy stressed the need to convert the substantial investment already made in the project into irrigation benefits for farmers across its intended ayacut of 1.06 lakh acres. Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnampalabhar, along with senior officials from the Irrigation and Revenue

Departments, participated in the review. The meeting focused on co-ordinated efforts to complete the Congress-era project. Uttam directed officials to prepare a clear work schedule, expedite eligible compensation claims and immediately bring financial, administrative and legal bottlenecks to the government's notice. The Gouravelli reservoir in Akkannapet mandal of Siddipet district is part of the Indiramma

PPA CEO REVIEWS POLAVARAM WORKS, STRESSES CAUTION AMID RAINS

NSS Polavaram, Oct.3:

Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) CEO Sanjeev Vohra on Saturday directed the officials and the construction agency to exercise utmost caution while executing the Earth-cum-Rock Fill (ECRF) dam works at the Polavaram project, particularly in view of recent rainfall. Vohra inspected the ECRF dam construction area on Friday night and reviewed the strength of the works completed so far. He also had a road roller operated at the site to assess the condition of the completed works

and expressed satisfaction with the progress. He inspected Gaps 1 and 2 and G-Hill on foot and reviewed ongoing filling works. With the gaps being progressively filled with rock, soil and sand, he instructed officials to ensure regular compaction using road rollers to maintain the required strength and stability. Earlier, Vohra held a review meeting with Water Resources Department officials at the project office. Officials and representatives of Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited (MEIL), the executing

agency, briefed him on the progress of various works. Vohra directed officials to ensure that the project was completed within the stipulated schedule and assured them that the Union government would extend all necessary support. He said both the Centre and State governments were committed to completing the project. He asked officials and the construction agency to immediately bring any difficulties encountered during construction to his notice for necessary action.

GOURAVELLI PROJECT GETS RENEWED PUSH FOR COMPLETION

Flood Flow Canal project linked to the Sriram Sagar Project. The original construction agreement was signed in May 2008. The reservoir capacity was subsequently enhanced from 1.410 TMC to 8.230 TMC, with a supplementary agreement for the expanded works signed in December 2017. However, the expansion could not progress as envisaged due to pending approvals and statutory clearances. Reservoir works are now

nearly 98 percent complete, but environmental clearance, the remaining land acquisition and rehabilitation obligations, besides canal and distributary works, need to be addressed before the project can deliver its full irrigation benefits. Uttam emphasised that completing the reservoir alone would not be sufficient and that the canal and distributary network must also be made functional to carry water to

agricultural fields. He directed officials to utilise the budgetary provision available during the current financial year to ensure timely progress. The total expenditure on the project has so far reached Rs.1,343.59 crore, including Rs 886.76 crore on works, including price escalation, and Rs 456.83 crore towards land acquisition and rehabilitation. A further Rs.114.389 crore is required for completion, officials added.



At a Glance

3 Die After Touching Live Wire in Bihar Field

IANSS
Patna, Oct. 3

Three villagers, including a couple, died after allegedly coming into contact with a live electric wire laid across a paddy field in Sitamarhi’s Bairgania block early Saturday, officials said. Three others suffered serious burns. The victims had entered the field while searching for a missing buffalo. Police and electricity officials are investigating.



Noida Supernova Death: Victim Identified

IANSS
Guwahati, Oct. 3

A 29-year-old Gurugram resident, Sambhav Jain, was identified as the man who died after falling from the Supernova Spira building in Sector 94, police said. The incident occurred around 11.30 a.m. His family has been informed and the body sent for post-mortem. Police are collecting evidence and investigating circumstances surrounding the death. Police investigation is underway.

TAMIL NADU TO SEEK CENTRE’S CLEARANCE FOR RAMESWARAM AIRPORT

IANSS
Chennai, Oct. 3

The Tamil Nadu government is preparing to seek the Centre’s approval for a proposed airport at Manikaneri in Ramanathapuram district, aimed at improving connectivity to Rameswaram and supporting tourism and the regional economy. The Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) has decided to apply to the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation for site clearance, the initial approval required to establish an airport at the selected location.

The proposed airport is planned on around 600 acres at Manikaneri. The site was finalised in January after an Airports Authority of India (AAI) team inspected potential locations. Rameswaram attracts tourists and pilgrims visiting the Ramanathaswamy temple, Dhanushkodi, Arichalmunai and the memorial of former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. Visitors currently depend mainly on road and rail transport. The State government announced the airport proposal

in 2025, citing the need to improve connectivity, encourage economic activity and support tourism around Rameswaram. Five locations Palankulam, Devipattinam, Kumbaram, Kalari and Manikaneri were initially considered. Kumbaram and Manikaneri were later shortlisted. An AAI team assessed both sites at the State government’s request, after which Manikaneri was selected. The government has allowed the project to proceed, and land acquisition is under way. TIDCO’s application

to the Civil Aviation Ministry is the next step in securing approval. The development comes after the State government recently cancelled the proposed second airport at Parandur in Kancheepuram district. Despite that decision, the government has permitted the Manikaneri project to continue. The proposed airport is expected to provide an additional transport option for travellers to Rameswaram. However, the available information does not specify the project cost, construction schedule or date for flight operations.

UPI CHARGES MAY NOT RISE SHARPLY DESPITE MDR, SAYS NEELKANTH MISHRA

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 3

Allowing Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions is unlikely to result in a large-scale increase in charges because of intense competition in the payments ecosystem, World Bank Group Executive Director Neelkanth Mishra said on Saturday. Speaking to IANS on the sidelines of the 5th Kautilya Economic Conclave in New Delhi, Mishra said allowing MDR



would serve as an enabling provision in a free and competitive market. “It is an enabling provision. Look, this is a free market,” he said, adding that there were different ways to address concerns over financial firms, banks or payment aggregators raising charges simultaneously.

Mishra said he did not expect MDR to lead to a significant increase in fees, noting that some firms had remained viable even when they could not charge MDR. On the global economic outlook, he identified rapidly rising interest rates as the biggest risk facing financial markets.

Higher risk-free rates, he said, could depress asset values and expose vulnerabilities in leveraged positions and collateral-backed lending. On India’s exposure to global risks amid elevated oil prices, higher bond yields and geopolitical uncertainty, Mishra said the risks were significant but noted that countries with high debt-to-GDP ratios could be more vulnerable than India. He said financial markets were becoming “a bit jittery” and added that India needed to remain alert to external shocks.

Vote Chor, Gaddi Chhod



Congress workers protest outside Borivali station, demanding CEC Gyanesh Kumar’s removal and raising the “Vote Chor, Gaddi Chhod” slogan.. Photo from ‘X’.

NAYARA ENERGY INCREASES PETROL PRICES BY ` 5 PER LITRE, DIESEL RATES HIKED BY ` 3

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 3

Private fuel retailer Nayara Energy has increased petrol prices by Rs 5 per litre and diesel prices by Rs 3 per litre across its nationwide network as rising global crude oil and fuel product prices continue to pressure retail margins, effective from Saturday, according to industry sources. The revised rates at Nayara’s more than 7,000 fuel stations mark the company’s latest attempt to narrow the gap between retail fuel prices and higher procurement costs amid a sustained increase in international energy prices. However, this is the second such revision by Nayara this year so far. Earlier in March, the company had raised petrol and diesel prices by similar amounts following supply disruptions

linked to tensions in West Asia, but rolled back the increase in July after crude prices eased. The latest increase comes at a time when state-owned fuel retailers, which account for more than 90 per cent of India’s over 104,000 petrol pumps have largely maintained stable retail prices despite fluctuations in global crude markets. Earlier this week, the government said private fuel retailers should not restrict sales of petrol and

diesel. Apart from that, state-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) had hiked commercial LPG rates by Rs 62.50 per 19-kg cylinder effective from October. However, prices of domestic LPG are kept unchanged at Rs 942. In addition, aviation turbine fuel (ATF) prices were also increased by Rs 16 per litre. ATF prices for domestic airlines surged to Rs 137 per litre from Rs 121 per litre. However, the latest hike

follows an increase of Rs 6.28 per litre or 5.46 per cent in September and Rs 5 per litre in August. Notably, commercial LPG prices were increased by Rs 62.50 per 19-kg cylinder following a Rs 9.50 increase in September after rates were cut by Rs 192 in August and Rs 183.50 in July. Between February and June, rates rose by Rs 1,373 per 19-kg cylinder, from Rs 1,740.50 to Rs 3,113.50, before falling in July and August.



PUNE AIRPORT DRUG BUST: 1.243 KG SUSPECTED HASHISH SEIZED FROM PASSENGER

IANSS
Pune, Oct. 3



Customs officials seized 1.243 kg of suspected cannabis extract (hashish), valued at around Rs 1 crore, from a woman passenger arriving from Bangkok at Pune International Airport, officials said.

The passenger arrived on Air India Express flight IX-241 on the evening of October 1 and was intercepted by the Air Intelligence Unit (AIU), Pune Customs and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Pune Regional Unit, following behavioural profiling and screening of her check-in baggage. During a search conducted under procedures prescribed by the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, officials found the suspected narcotic concealed inside

three cosmetic jars. Two were labelled “Rice & Yolk Hair Treatment” and the third “Body Scrub”. Officials found a waxy, semi-solid substance with a strong odour inside the containers. A preliminary test using a Narcotic Drug Field Testing Kit returned positive for cannabis, they said. The 1.243 kg substance was seized under the NDPS Act. The passenger was arrested and further investigation is underway to determine the source and

intended destination of the contraband. In a separate case on September 4, Customs AIU officials at Lucknow airport seized 1.677 kg of hydroponic weed, valued at around Rs 2 crore, from passenger Anvar Ali, who had arrived from Muscat. The FRRO had detained him for questioning after an analysis of Advance Passenger Information System data showed he had travelled from Bangkok to Oman before flying to Lucknow. Further probe continues now.

Military Power Increasingly Centred on Aerospace Domain: IAF Chief

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 3

Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh on Saturday said military power is increasingly concentrated around the aerospace domain, with recent conflicts highlighting air power as the cutting edge of military strength.

Speaking at a press conference ahead of Air Force Day, Singh said a strong military was essential for a nation’s comprehensive national power and to prevent vulnerability to coercion. “Military power becomes the ultimate, and without adequate military power, any state remains



vulnerable to coercion,” the IAF chief said. He said recent conflicts had shown air power emerging as a key instrument for nations seeking to achieve their objectives. Advanced fighter aircraft, long-range precision weapons, integrated air command and control systems and unmanned aerial

systems, he added, reflected the growing importance of the aerospace domain. Singh also said India could finalise the much-awaited Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) deal during the current financial year if the process proceeds as planned. Price negotiations and other key issues are underway. India cleared a proposal in February to procure 114 Rafale fighter jets from France under a government-to-government framework. The estimated Rs 3.25 lakh-crore acquisition is aimed at strengthening the Indian Air Force’s combat capability.

Man Found Dead in Car: Patna

IANSS
Patna, Oct. 3

A man was found dead inside a car near Jamuna Palace in Patna’s Rajiv Nagar area on Saturday, police said. A possible gunshot injury was suspected, and a firearm and a spent cartridge were reportedly found inside the vehicle. Police have not determined whether it was suicide, homicide or accidental firing. CCTV footage, forensic examination and post-mortem findings will help establish the circumstances at the site.

At a Glance

Flydubai cockpit attack called 'terrorist act'

IANSS
Abu Dhabi, Oct. 3



UAE prosecutors have confirmed that the co-pilot of a Dubai-Tel Aviv flydubai flight attacked Indian pilot Captain Smit Machchhar with a crash axe during the September 30 flight, describing the incident as a “terrorist attack”.

According to WAM, Attorney-General Hamad Saif Al Shamsi said co-pilot Hamam Al Hamami attacked Machchhar inside the cockpit and attempted to take control.

Machchhar fought back and opened the cockpit door, allowing passengers and crew to overpower the attacker.

The aircraft made an emergency landing in Tabuk, Saudi Arabia, with two pilots on board.

The UAE formed an investigation team to examine the incident, including terrorist links. Authorities probe Al Hamami’s background.

Cuba opens market to foreign firms

IANSS
Havana, Oct. 3

Cuba has expanded foreign companies’ access to its wholesome market and allowed local commercial offices to hire workers directly under new rules aimed at boosting foreign investment and trade.

The rules, published in the Official Gazette, allow foreign company branches in Cuba to import, export and distribute goods wholesale within the country.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Investment Deborah Rivas said the changes would give foreign suppliers more direct access to the Cuban market and reduce intermediaries, potentially lowering prices.

The measures also extend to foreign commercial offices the option to hire workers directly or through employment agencies. Cuban legal entities can seek authorisation to import and export directly through the Foreign Trade Single Window.

US VISA BONDS APPLY TO 50 COUNTRIES, INDIA EXCLUDED

IANSS
Washington, Oct. 3

The United States has listed 50 countries whose nationals are subject to visa bonds of up to \$20,000 for business and tourist visas, with India excluded from the requirement but Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal among the South Asian countries covered.

The State Department published an updated list Friday of countries whose nationals are required to post bonds if they are otherwise found eligible for B1/B2 visas.

Under the programme, an applicant travelling on a passport issued by one of the listed countries must post a bond of \$10,000, \$15,000 or \$20,000. The amount is determined by a consular officer during the visa interview, according to the State Department.

The requirement does not apply to Indian passport holders.

Bangladesh and Nepal have been subject to the requirement since January 21, while Bhutan has been covered since January 1, according to the State Department list.



The list also includes several countries in Africa, the Caribbean, Central Asia and the Pacific.

The State Department said the programme operates under Section 221(g) (3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which allows a consular officer to require a bond before issuing a visa.

The current programme was established under a final rule that took effect on August 3. The department said countries are identified using B1/B2 visa overstay rates contained in the Department of Homeland Security’s Entry/Exit Overstay

Report.

Applicants subject to the requirement must also submit DHS Form I-352 and agree to the terms of the bond through Pay.gov, the Treasury Department’s online payment platform.

The State Department cautioned applicants against making payments before receiving instructions from a consular officer.

“Applicants should submit Form I-352 to post a bond only after a consular officer directs them to do so,” the department said.

A bond can be paid by the visa applicant or a third party, including a

friend, relative or business associate. The person who posts the money will receive the refund if the bond conditions are met.

The State Department also stressed that payment of a bond does not guarantee that a visa will be issued.

Travellers who have posted a visa bond face additional restrictions on how they enter and leave the United States.

They must use commercial airports, including Customs and Border Protection preclearance locations. They cannot use charter aircraft, general aviation, land crossings or seaports for entry or departure under the terms of the programme.

Possible violations are referred to US Citizenship and Immigration Services for a determination on whether the bond has been breached.

The visa-bond programme is aimed at addressing overstays by visitors entering the United States on temporary business and tourist visas. The government uses DHS overstay data in determining which nationalities are subject to the requirement.

Dubai Crown Prince Meets Captain Machchhar, Calls Him a Symbol of Courage

IANSS
Abu Dhabi, Oct. 3

Dubai Crown Prince and UAE Deputy Prime Minister Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum on Saturday visited Indian flydubai pilot Captain Smit Machchhar at a hospital and praised his actions during a midair attack on Flight FZ1073.

“During a visit to Captain Smit Machchhar... the flydubai pilot who embodied the highest degrees of courage, responsibility, and care for human life,” Hamdan wrote on X after the meeting.

He said Machchhar had the full appreciation and praise of the UAE leadership and described him as part of the story of the nation.

The Indian Embassy in the UAE said Machchhar was recovering well and continuing to receive medical care.

The mission said it was in touch with his family and local authorities and thanked the UAE government for the treatment being provided.

Machchhar was injured



on Wednesday when the Dubai-to-Tel Aviv flight was attacked inside the cockpit. According to UAE authorities, the co-pilot attacked the captain while the aircraft was in flight and attempted to take control of the plane.

Despite being seriously wounded, Machchhar managed to open the cockpit door. Passengers and crew members then entered the cockpit and helped overpower the attacker. Other pilots on board subsequently took control of the aircraft, which was diverted to Tabuk in northwestern Saudi Arabia and landed safely.

The UAE Attorney General has said the co-pilot attempted to

carry out a terrorist act. Investigations are continuing into the circumstances, motive and any possible links.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Machchhar by video call on Friday and praised his courage, presence of mind and composure during the incident.

Modi also wished the injured pilot a speedy recovery. The incident involved 174 passengers and eight crew members, according to reports.

Machchhar was later transferred to the UAE for further treatment. The flight was diverted to Saudi Arabia after the cockpit attack was brought under control by passengers.

UN ALLOCATES \$160 MILLION FOR HUMANITARIAN AID IN 12 COUNTRIES, REGIONS

IANSS
United Nations, Oct. 3

The United Nations has released \$160 million in emergency funding to provide life-saving assistance to people facing severe humanitarian needs in 12 regions, UN humanitarian officials said.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said on Friday

that \$150 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund would support Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Cuba, Mali, Niger, the occupied Palestinian territory, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Yemen.

An additional \$10 million has been allocated to address urgent needs of people with disabilities in the 12 emergencies and

make aid more accessible.

The funding is part of a broader UN effort to reach 87 million people facing the most severe humanitarian needs this year, OCHA said.

“Today’s new funding will help us get aid to people who might otherwise be left behind,” UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Tom Fletcher

said.

“Money alone won’t get us there,” Fletcher said, calling on leaders to exercise political will to open access, remove obstacles and help aid agencies reach people at risk.

Fletcher has called for urgent diplomatic action in 10 emergencies to help reach 11 million people prioritised for assistance this year.

BANGLADESH’S AI PUSH SPARKS CONCERNS OVER RISING CRIME

IANSS
Dhaka, Oct. 3

Bangladesh is facing concerns over Artificial Intelligence (AI) misuse, with school students reportedly using AI-generated sexualised images to harass female students, according to a Daily Sun report.

The report said the trend emerged before telecom companies made AI platforms

available for as little as Tk 71 per month, including ChatGPT, Claude, DeepSeek, Grok and Gemini.

Daily Sun’s Nurjahan Khan questioned whether Bangladesh has safeguards to address AI-related risks, as law enforcement faces challenges involving teen gang violence, child kidnappings and abuse of children and women.

Citing the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics’ Literacy Assessment Survey 2023, Khan said nearly half of children aged 7-14 could not read and comprehend a simple story, while about 40 per cent of adults remained illiterate.

She warned that generative AI could facilitate disinformation and make misleading content more persuasive, arguing that wider access should be

accompanied by regulation.

Khan called for laws governing AI use, restrictions for vulnerable groups and assessment of its costs before access.

She said Bangladesh could not ignore AI while pursuing economic ambitions, but technological expansion needed education, regulation and safeguards.

162 journalists attacked, threatened, harassed in last three months: Bangladesh

IANSS
Dhaka, Oct. 3

At least 162 journalists in Bangladesh faced attacks, threats, harassment and legal harassment in 112 separate incidents while carrying out their professional duties between July and September, according to a monitoring report by the Media Initiative for Development (MID).

The report, released on Friday, said August recorded the highest number of incidents. In July, 50 journalists were affected in 39

incidents across the nation. The figure rose in August to 67 journalists in 44 incidents, a 12.8 per cent increase in incidents from the previous month.

In September, 45 journalists were affected in 29 incidents. Physical attacks and death threats were among the main forms of intimidation recorded by MID. Death threats accounted for 48.7 per cent of reported incidents in July, while physical attacks made up 28.2 per cent.

Physical attacks rose sharply in August, ac-

counting for 63.6 per cent of incidents. In September, physical attacks and threats each accounted for 37.9 per cent. The report said the three months also saw shootings, attacks on journalists’ homes and offices, legal cases and abductions.

Print journalists, particularly those working in the field and outside major cities, were the most affected. Of the 162 journalists targeted, 89 worked for daily newspapers, 53 for television channels and 20 for online news outlets.

The incidents were reported in more than 30 districts, with Dhaka, Chittagong, Sirajganj, Barisal and Sylhet recording comparatively higher numbers of attacks and harassment.

MID also expressed concern over limited legal action. It said formal cases remained low during the period.

MID Executive Director Rashedul Hasan said violence against journalists was a direct attack on press freedom. He called for impartial and swift investigations now.

NINE INJURED AFTER CAR CRASHES INTO CROWD IN SYDNEY

IANSS
Sydney, Oct. 3

Nine people have been injured after a car crashed into a crowd north of Sydney on Saturday morning, triggering a major emergency response.

A police statement said that emergency services were called to reports that a vehicle had struck people in a crowd in the city of Newcastle, 110 km north of Sydney, around 9:30 a.m. local time on

Saturday, with multiple people injured and a large emergency response underway.

Sydney newspaper The Daily Telegraph reported that nine people were injured, including two who were in critical condition, two who were seriously injured and five who suffered minor injuries.

The newspaper reported that the critical patients were an infant girl who went into cardiac arrest and a man who suffered multiple

leg fractures.

Police said that the driver of the vehicle was arrested at the scene, Xinhua news agency reported.

According to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, the crowd had gathered to farewell the local team, the Newcastle Knights, as they travelled to Sydney to play in the National Rugby League grand final on Sunday night.

Chris Minns, premier of the state of New South Wales, described

the incident as heart-breaking.

“My thoughts are with the families and friends of loved ones who have been involved or injured in the crash,” he said.

“We’ve seen how this grand final has brought Newcastle together, and I hope the whole community remains united as we continue to respond.”

The Newcastle Knights said in a post on social media that the team bus was diverted from the planned route due to a major incident.



Hyderabad's Unending Summer: El Niño, Our Concrete, and the Water We Squandered

By: Mohd Abdul Jaleel
Editor-in-chief

A city cannot blame climate alone when it has systematically weakened the natural systems that once protected it from heat, drought and floods. It is October, yet Hyderabad is still struggling to cool down, with nights feeling like summer afternoons. Parched soil, falling groundwater levels and growing dependence on water tankers are becoming an increasingly familiar reality for residents. There is a warning both in the air and beneath the ground.

The World Meteorological Organization says El Niño is firmly established and expected to intensify, with a near-100 per cent likelihood of persisting through February 2027. The WMO has also cautioned that a very strong El Niño can alter rainfall and temperature patterns, although the severity of its impact varies from region to region.

For Hyderabad, the warning is already visible in groundwater data. According to the latest state El Niño bulletin,

Telangana's average groundwater level fell from 7.52 metres below ground level to 11.24 metres by the end of September. Hyderabad's average groundwater level stood at 10.01 metres below ground level in September and is projected to reach 14.05 metres in October.

But Hyderabad's water crisis is not simply a story about El Niño. While the weather phenomenon may have increased the risks, the city has spent decades weakening its own natural defences. Lakes and tanks that once captured rainwater and replenished groundwater have been encroached upon or surrounded by concrete. Natural drainage channels have been narrowed or blocked, while open soil has disappeared beneath roads, parking areas and buildings.

The result is a troubling paradox: Hyderabad can face flooding during intense rainfall and water scarcity months later. Every lake that disappears means the loss of a natural storage reservoir, while every open patch of land covered with concrete represents a lost opportunity



for groundwater recharge.

Hyderabad's rapid apartment growth has further intensified the pressure on water resources. Large residential complexes consume enormous quantities of water while much of their plots are covered with concrete. Rainwater is often channelled into storm drains instead of being allowed to recharge

the ground. However, an apartment complex in Manikonda that reportedly spent nearly ₹90,000 on tankers last summer has eliminated its tanker dependence after installing rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge measures, including the reuse of RO reject water.

Such examples should not remain isolated suc-

cess stories. They could become a model for residential communities across Hyderabad. The first priority should be to make rainwater harvesting genuinely functional rather than treating it as a box-ticking exercise. Every apartment, commercial building, school and government office should have scientifically de-

signed rooftop harvesting and groundwater recharge systems. Existing recharge pits should be regularly audited and desilted before every monsoon. New roads and parking areas should incorporate permeable surfaces wherever technically feasible. Hyderabad should also move towards community-level water budgeting, with apartment

associations monitoring how much water they consume, how much groundwater they extract, how much rainwater they capture and how much treated wastewater they can reuse.

A city facing water stress cannot afford to waste treated wastewater. Recycled water should be expanded for landscaping, construction, road cleaning, industrial applications and other non-potable uses. The greater the use of recycled water, the lower the pressure on drinking-water sources and groundwater.

Protecting Hyderabad's remaining lakes must also become a water-security priority rather than merely an environmental slogan. The city needs systematic protection of lake catchments, feeder channels, full-tank levels and buffer zones. The Musi and its tributaries cannot be treated as isolated stretches of polluted water; their entire catchment is part of Hyderabad's wider water system. Water security and heat management must go together. Hyderabad needs more native trees, shaded pedestrian corridors, green public spaces and

cool-roof technologies. Large paved areas should be redesigned wherever possible to reduce heat absorption. Schools, hospitals, bus stops and other public facilities should be prioritised for shade and heat protection.

El Niño will eventually weaken, but Hyderabad's underlying water vulnerability will remain unless the city changes how it captures, consumes, recycles and protects water. The answer is not simply one more reservoir, a larger tanker fleet or another emergency borewell. The city needs a wider water ethic: catch every possible drop, recharge groundwater, reuse treated water, protect every lake, restore natural drainage, plant and preserve trees, and make every building part of the solution.

Hyderabad cannot control El Niño, but it can control how vulnerable it makes itself. The unending heat should therefore be treated not merely as a weather warning but as a civic wake-up call. Before the wells run dry, Hyderabad must learn to stop letting its precious rainwater simply run away.

Noel Tata demands video, minutes of N. Chandrasekaran reappointment meeting

Noel Tata, Chairman of Tata Trusts, has written to the Tata Sons Board questioning the procedures followed at its September board meeting that reappointed N Chandrasekaran as executive chairman, a report said, citing people familiar with the matter.

Noel asked the board for the minutes, the video recording of the meeting, and questioned post facto legal opinions and the basis on which they were sought, according to NDTV Profit.

Noel, in an email dated September 30, said Chandrasekaran's reappointment was not listed on the meeting agenda and was instead raised under a "Debrief by NRC" head.

He had previously denied any resolution being passed at the September 17 board

meeting.

Tata Trusts, the group's majority shareholder, has described the board resolution reappointing Chandrasekaran for a third term as "illegal" and a "legal nullity."

The strongly worded statement from the trust said that Noel, also a nominee director on the Tata Sons board, voted against the reappointment during the highly charged meeting.

Tata Sons had cited legal opinions from former Chief Justice of India Uday Umesh Lalit and former Supreme Court judge BN Srikrishna supporting its decision to reappoint N Chandrasekaran as executive chairman for another five-year term.

Both judges described the resolution as "validly



passed" as the casting vote satisfied Article 121's requirements when directors appointed under Article 104(B) were equally divided, the reports said.

Tata Trusts maintained that both nominee directors needed to support the reappointment and cited the opinion from former Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud as supporting its position.

Tata Sons' Articles of Association, particularly

provisions governing nominee directors and the chairman's casting vote formed the basis of the dispute. Venu Srinivasan, the other Tata Trusts nominee director supported Chandrasekaran's reappointment while Chandrasekaran recused himself as independent director Harish Manwani presided over the discussion.

The resolution was passed through the presiding chairman's casting vote.

India stays confident as world faces diesel crunch

India will continue to honour its diesel export commitments despite global fuel disruptions, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, citing the country's expanding refining capacity.

India's refining capacity stands at around 267 MTPA and is expected to reach 290 MTPA within a year, with a target of 320 MTPA by 2030-32. Puri said none of India's 107,000 fuel outlets ran dry despite recent disruptions.

Meanwhile, a possible US diesel export ban could push UK inflation close to 5 per cent, while G7 nations plan to release up to 100 million barrels of diesel and oil over the next four months to ease market pressures.

US diesel export ban could push UK inflation near 5 pc



The global economy is once again facing a difficult combination of energy uncertainty, rising fuel prices and persistent inflationary pressures. The latest warning from economists over a possible US ban on diesel exports highlights how quickly a disruption in energy supplies can spread beyond fuel stations and affect transport, industry, supply chains and household budgets. In Britain, average diesel prices have already crossed £2 per litre for the first time, raising fresh concerns about the economic impact of any further supply shock.

Economists have warned that a prolonged US ban on diesel exports could push British inflation close to 5 per cent. If diesel prices rise towards £3 per litre, the consequences could be particularly severe for households and businesses. Britain is heavily dependent on imported diesel, making it more vulnerable to disruptions in international supplies. A sudden loss of a significant share of diesel imports would leave transport operators and industries with little room to absorb the additional costs.

The immediate impact is already being felt by motorists. Britain's motoring organisation RAC has said that average diesel prices have crossed £2 per litre. Filling a 55-litre tank now costs around £32 more than it did before the conflict in the Middle East began. For millions of households and businesses already dealing with higher living costs, such increases can quickly become a serious financial burden.

The problem, however, goes far beyond private motorists. Diesel remains essential to trucking, freight movement and several industrial activities, while demand from trains and heavy transport is unlikely to fall rapidly even if supplies become tighter. RSM UK chief economist Thomas Pugh has warned that a prolonged US diesel ban could add around 0.5 percentage points to UK infla-

tion, including the indirect impact of higher fuel costs filtering through supply chains. Businesses facing increased transportation and production costs would eventually have to pass at least part of those expenses on to consumers.

The possibility of a US export ban has emerged amid growing international efforts to stabilise energy markets. Reports suggest that G7 countries are planning to release up to 100 million barrels of diesel and oil from reserves over the next four months to ease market pressures. The announcement has already contributed to lower European diesel and Brent crude futures. Releasing strategic stocks can provide temporary relief, but it cannot by itself resolve the deeper vulnerabilities created by dependence on imported energy.

The situation also demonstrates how closely energy security is linked to international politics. The US administration has indicated that it could restrict diesel exports unless European countries release their own stockpiles to help contain prices. For Britain, which relies heavily on imports, any prolonged disruption could have particularly serious consequences. The issue therefore goes beyond market prices and raises wider questions about energy security, strategic reserves and the resilience of national supply chains.

British consumers could face an even more difficult winter if several inflationary pressures arrive at the same time. Gas and electricity bills are forecast to rise sharply in January 2027, potentially pushing inflation above 4 per cent. If higher household energy bills coincide with expensive diesel and rising transportation costs, families could face another squeeze on disposable income. Small businesses and industries would also have to contend with higher operating costs.

Dog Bites and Scratches Can Be Dangerous, Immediate Treatment Essential

A dog bite or scratch may appear minor, but it should never be ignored because of the risk of rabies. Rabies affects the central nervous system and is almost always fatal once symptoms appear. However, it can be prevented through immediate first aid, vaccination and necessary treatment. Around 99 per cent of human rabies cases worldwide are transmitted by dogs. WHO estimates that India records around 91 lakh animal-bite incidents every year, with more than three-fourths caused by dogs.

After a dog bite, the wound should be washed thoroughly with soap and running water for at least 15 minutes. An io-

dine-containing solution may be used if available. Chilli powder, plant extracts, acids, alkalis or other harmful substances should never be applied. Even a small wound requires prompt medical attention at a healthcare centre or anti-rabies clinic. Not every contact with an animal requires vaccination. Touching or feeding an animal, or being licked on intact skin, is generally not considered exposure. However, scratches, abrasions, bites that break the skin, or saliva contacting broken skin, the eyes or mouth require immediate medical advice.

Rabies vaccination and, when necessary, rabies immunoglobulin should

be given as advised by a doctor. Previously vaccinated people generally do not require immunoglobulin.

A healthy-looking dog does not completely rule out rabies. If available, the animal may be observed for 10 days under expert supervision, but treatment should not be delayed.

Dog bites can also cause infections and damage to muscles, nerves and other tissues, requiring tetanus vaccination, antibiotics or stitches in some cases.

The key steps are to wash the wound for at least 15 minutes, avoid home remedies and seek medical help immediately.





Asian Games: Abhishek Sharma completes 400 T20 sixes, surpasses Gayle in twin records



Nisshin, Oct. 03:

India opener Abhishek Sharma reached two significant milestones during his explosive 61-run knock against Pakistan in the men's cricket gold medal clash at the Asian Games here on Saturday.

Abhishek produced a stunning 28-ball 61, smashing seven sixes and three fours. In the process, the left-hander completed 400 sixes in T20 cricket, becoming the second-fastest player to reach the landmark in terms of balls faced. The Indian opener needed just 3,513 balls to hit his 400th six, surpassing West Indies legend Chris Gayle, who had reached the milestone in 3,557 deliveries.

Andre Russell re-

mains the fastest, having completed 400 T20 sixes in 3,027 balls. Fastest to 400 T20 sixes:

Andre Russell — 3,027 balls

Abhishek Sharma — 3,513

Chris Gayle — 3,557

Tim David — 3,803

Kieron Pollard — 3,944

Nicholas Pooran — 4,045

Evin Lewis — 4,072

Abhishek also achieved another major feat by completing 100 T20 sixes in 2026. He became the second-fastest player to hit 100 sixes in a calendar year, reaching the mark in just 651 balls. He went past Dewald Brevis and Chris Gayle, while Russell again holds the record for the fastest 100 sixes in a calendar year.

Fastest to 100 T20 sixes in a calendar year:

Andre Russell — 589 balls (2019)

Abhishek Sharma — 651 (2026)

Dewald Brevis — 653 (2025)

Chris Gayle — 724 (2016)

Karanbir Singh — 728 (2025)

India elected to bat first after winning the toss in the gold medal clash against Pakistan. The Indian team retained the same playing XI, with Arshdeep Singh, Yash

Thakur and Vipraj Nigam remaining on the bench. Pakistan, meanwhile, made one change to their playing XI, bringing in batting all-rounder Saad Masood in place of fast bowler Mohammad Wasim Jr.

'Joyous occasion for the nation': PM Modi praises Men's cricket team for gold medal

New Delhi, Oct. 03:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday congratulated the Indian men's cricket team for defending their gold medal at the Asian Games after a strong 19-run win over Pakistan in the Aichi-Nagoya Games final at the Karogi Sports Park in Nisshin.

Modi heaped praise on the team for their second straight gold, calling it a joyous occasion for the nation. "The gold comes to India yet again! Congratulations to our Men's Cricket Team on retaining their title at the Asian Games. This is indeed a joyous occasion for the nation. My best wishes to the team members for their future endeavours," a statement from the PMO India read.

Earlier, ICC chairman Jay Shah also congratulated the men's team for the win. "Nagoya and Japan have written a proud new chapter in cricket's history. Congratulations to Team India on a campaign worthy of this moment, and heartfelt thanks to every competing nation, to the Olympic Council of Asia and organ-

isers whose vision brought us here, and to the thousands of fans whose presence reminded us why cricket is so special anywhere in the world," Shah wrote on X.

Abhishek Sharma's breathtaking 61 off 28, Tilak Varma's unbeaten 51 off 22 and an all-round effort from

Washington Sundar,

Axar Patel and

Shivam Dube

helped

India clinch

back-to-

back Asian

Games gold

medals in

men's cricket as

they beat Pakistan

by 19 runs in a thrilling final.

India produced a brilliant, breathless and golden finish after posting 211/6, with Abhishek setting the tone with the fastest fifty by an Indian against Pakistan in T20Is before Tilak and Dube provided a late surge.

But Pakistan were not going down without a fight and were powered by a magnificent 96 off 51 from Hasan Nawaz. But India's spinners and all-rounders held their nerve in a frenzied finish, with Dube taking the wicket of Nawaz on the final ball to end Pakistan's innings at 192 for 6 and sending the Indian players into wild celebrations.

Asian Games: VVS Laxman hails India's back-to-back gold after Pakistan win

Nisshin, Oct. 03:

India head coach VVS Laxman described the team's successful Asian Games title defence as a "special" achievement after the men's cricket team beat Pakistan by 19 runs to win the gold medal in Nisshin, Japan on Saturday.

"It's definitely special, you know, to defend the gold medal. Two years back, we won in China, and again now. I feel really happy for the players, because it's definitely an honour, something different for our players. A lot of them have won the World Cup, but for many of them, this is the first time they're winning the gold medal. I'm sure it's a matter of great pride for all of them," Laxman told reporters.

Abhishek Sharma's breathtaking 61 off 28, Tilak Varma's unbeaten 51 off 22 and an all-round effort from Washington Sundar, Axar Patel and Shivam Dube helped India clinch back-to-back Asian



Games gold medals in men's cricket as they beat Pakistan by 19 runs in a thrilling final.

India produced a brilliant, breathless and golden finish after posting 211/6 in 20 overs, with Abhishek setting the tone with the fastest fifty by an Indian against Pakistan in T20Is before Tilak and Dube provided a late flourish.

"So, I feel really happy. I thought we really stuck together and played well. It was quite challenging since we came to Japan. You know, the rain followed us in Tokyo and then to the venue here. But overall, I think the team really played well, and I'm very happy with

the result," he said.

But Pakistan were not going down without a fight and were powered by a magnificent 96 off 51 from Hasan Nawaz. But India's spinners and all-rounders held their nerve in a frenzied finish, with Dube taking the wicket of Nawaz on the final ball to end Pakistan's innings at 192 for 6 and sending the Indian players into wild celebrations.

The Indian women's team had also won a gold after beating Sri Lanka in the final.

The victory gave India their second successive Asian Games gold medal in men's cricket, after they also finished on top in Hangzhou in 2023.

Asian Games: Neeraj beats compatriot Bommadevara to clinch recurve individual bronze

Nisshin, Oct. 03:

Indian archer Neeraj Chauhan defeated compatriot Dhiraj Bommadevara 6-4 in an all-Indian bronze medal playoff to win the men's individual recurve bronze at the Asian Games.

Dhiraj led 4-2 after three sets, but Neeraj produced three perfect 10s in the fourth set to level the contest. He then sealed bronze with a 9 and 10 on his final two arrows.

Both archers had earlier won medals in the mixed and team events.

Dhiraj also won a mixed silver, while Neeraj was part of the team that secured silver. Kumkum Mohod created history by becoming the first Indian woman to win an individual recurve gold at the Asian Games.

Antim Panghal settles for silver as India's Asian Games medal tally rises to 85



Nisshin, Oct. 03:

India's freestyle wrestlers continued their medal-winning run at the Asian Games on Saturday, with Antim Panghal clinching a silver medal in the women's 53kg category.

Her medal came shortly after Deepak Punia secured a historic bronze, taking India's overall medal tally to 85. Antim faced Japan's Moe Kiyou in the 53kg final but struggled to find her rhythm from the opening round.

The Japanese wrestler

maintained control throughout the bout, with Antim unable to mount a comeback as she went down 1-9 in a one-sided final.

The silver marks Antim's second Asian Games medal. She had won bronze at the Hangzhou Asian Games three years ago and improved her medal colour this time, although she missed out on the gold.

With Antim's silver and Punia's bronze, India's campaign in wrestling at the ongoing Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya concluded on a positive note.

Freer, grateful Kohli no longer 'overly intense' about achievements, says de Villiers



New Delhi, Oct. 03:

Former South Africa captain AB de Villiers believes Virat Kohli has entered a new phase of his career, playing with greater freedom and gratitude rather than focusing too much on milestones. He said Kohli appears more relaxed as he approaches the latter stages of his international career.

Kohli has scored 552 runs in eight ODIs in 2026 at an average of 78.85 and a strike rate of 118.20. He is currently the third-highest run-scorer in ODIs this year, behind Shubman Gill and Joe Root.

De Villiers said Kohli is now trusting his instincts more and playing aggressively from the start instead of overthinking the game. According to CricViz, Kohli has struck at 119 in his first

20 deliveries in ODIs this year, while hitting a six every 27.4 balls.

Kohli recently became only the second batter after Sachin Tendulkar to cross 15,000 ODI runs, reaching the landmark with an unbeaten 139 against the West Indies, his 55th ODI century.

De Villiers also backed Kohli and Rohit Sharma to remain part of India's plans for the 2027 ODI World Cup, citing their experience and leadership.

De Villiers said Kohli's experience remains a major asset for India, particularly in high-pressure matches. He added that Kohli's current approach allows him to play more naturally and make the most of his ability without being overly concerned about personal records.

Asian Games: India men defend hockey gold for first time with stellar 5-1 win, qualify for LA 2028



Kakamigahara, Oct.

India successfully defended their men's hockey gold medal at the Asian Games with a convincing 4-1 victory over Malaysia in the final at the Gifu Prefectural Green Stadium on Saturday.

Captain Harmanpreet Singh scored twice, while Jugraj Singh, Hardik Singh and Shilanand Lakra also found the net as India secured their fifth Asian Games hockey gold and a direct qualification spot for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

India started the final with attacking intent and took the lead in the 11th minute when captain Harmanpreet converted a penalty-corner dragflick. Malaysia quickly responded through Shello

Silverius, who scored from the left flank to make it 1-1 at the end of the first quarter. India regained the lead in the 23rd minute when Jugraj Singh successfully converted a penalty corner to make it 2-1 at half-time. The Indian team continued to dominate possession after the break and increased the pressure on Malaysia.

India earned a penalty stroke after the ball struck the body of a Malaysian defender, and Hardik Singh made no mistake from the spot to give India a 3-1 lead by the end of the third quarter.

Shilanand Lakra then added another goal in the 54th minute following a deflection, before Harmanpreet completed his brace from a penalty corner to seal a

comprehensive victory. India came into the final unbeaten, having won all five of their group-stage matches before defeating Pakistan 4-3 in a thrilling semifinal.

The Men in Blue had led 3-0 before Pakistan fought back to level the scores, but Abhishek's late strike sent India into the final. The triumph also created history as India successfully defended the Asian Games men's hockey title for the first time.

India had previously won gold in 1966, 1998, 2014 and 2022. It was also a historic Asian Games for Indian hockey as both the men's and women's teams won gold medals at the same edition, with the women defeating China in their final.

Shoaib Akhtar rules out joining PCB, says mother advised him to stay away from cricket politics

Lahore, Oct. 03:

Former Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar has dismissed recent reports that he could join the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) as chief selector or take up another key position in the near future. Reports had recently circulated on social media

and in mainstream media suggesting that Akhtar could be appointed to an important role in Pakistan cricket. However, the former pacer termed the reports speculative and clarified that he has no plans to take up any position in the PCB.

Speaking to PTV Sports, Akhtar said his mother had

advised him to stay away from cricket politics and the PCB, and he intends to follow her advice. He said he is currently on a visit to Houston and extended his best wishes to Pakistan cricket. Akhtar did not comment on reports that he recently met PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi.



Revanth directs officials to expedite construction of major hospitals

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to expedite the construction of TIMS hospitals at LB Nagar and Alwal, the Warangal super-specialty hospital and the new Osmania General Hospital in Hyderabad.

The Chief Minister held a meeting with CMO officials on Saturday and issued several directives on the ground-level situation in the education and healthcare sectors across the state.

Revanth Reddy reviewed the progress of major hospital projects and directed Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju to identify staffing requirements, including doctors and support staff, and initiate the recruitment process to ensure that there is no shortage of personnel by the time the hospitals are completed.

The meeting also reviewed the procurement of state-of-the-art medical equipment and the availability of comprehensive medical services once the hospitals become operational.

To further strengthen the education sector, Revanth Reddy directed



officials to ensure that district Collectors undertake regular field visits.

He emphasised that Collectors and other officials should regularly visit government schools, social welfare hostels and hospitals.

The Chief Minister called for weekly district-level reviews of school facilities, vigilance against seasonal diseases and prompt completion of necessary repairs in schools.

CMO officials also briefed Revanth Reddy on the arrangements for the Telangana Global Summit-2026, scheduled to be held at Bharat Future City in December.

Stating that he would personally inspect the arrangements soon, the Chief Minister directed officials to prepare detailed plans covering the summit arrangements, guests and proposed investments.

MP Vem Narendar Reddy, Government Advisor Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju, DGP CV Anand, and senior CMO officials participated in the meeting.

Prakash Raj seeks CEC's resignation over SIR

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Actor Prakash Raj on Saturday demanded the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, alleging irregularities in the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Addressing a press conference at the Hyderabad Press Club, Prakash Raj alleged that more than 13 crore eligible voters had been deleted during the exercise, citing various reports. He said the revision should have been conducted with greater scrutiny and alleged that calls for wider verification



were ignored.

He questioned the Election Commission's decisions, referring to alleged voter-roll errors in Karnataka and the suspension of an Electoral Registration Officer in Goa over the alleged loss of 72 votes. He also questioned changes to the EC's app and alleged tampering with evidence related to the revision.

Tension in Chintalmet after social media posts

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Tension prevailed in Veeran Kunta, Chintalmet, after social media posts allegedly calling for people to gather in the area raised concerns over security near Masjid-e-Mohammadiya on Saturday.

Following the developments, police stepped up security around the mosque and deployed additional personnel in the locality as a precautionary measure. The situation was being closely monitored to prevent any untoward incident.

Bahadurpura MLA

Bhatti, Azharuddin review RTC-Metro Common Pass

Ministers travel by Metro and RTC bus, interact with commuters

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, along with Transport Minister Ponnamm Prabhakar and Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin, travelled by Metro Rail and TGSRTC bus on Saturday to review the implementation of the newly introduced RTC-Metro Common Pass.

The delegation boarded a Metro train at Begumpet and travelled to Jubilee Hills Check Post using the integrated pass before taking a TGSRTC bus to the Secretariat. During the journey, Bhatti interacted with commuters and sought their feedback on the convenience of the common ticketing system.

Commuters expressed satisfaction with the facility, saying it could simplify first- and last-mile connectivity, save travel time and reduce the burden of purchasing separate tickets.

Azharuddin said the common pass would greatly benefit lakhs of daily commuters by making



public transport more convenient and cost-effective. He urged people to make full use of the facility and appreciated the efforts of the Transport Department and officials in introducing the initiative.

Ponnamm Prabhakar said integrating the Metro and bus networks would help provide a seamless public transport system and contribute to easing traffic congestion in Hyderabad. Ministers Vivek Venkataswamy and Azharuddin, MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, MLAs Ganesh and Naveen Yadav

- Bhatti Vikramarka and Ponnamm Prabhakar travel using the integrated pass
- Facility enables seamless travel across Metro Rail and TGSRTC buses
- Commuters say the pass saves time and simplifies daily travel
- Azharuddin urges people to make full use of the facility

and senior officials accompanied the delegation.

Mangalhat police arrest rowdy-sheeter, seize knife

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Mangalhat Police arrested absconding rowdy-sheeter Md. Aleem, 39, during a surveillance operation on October 2 and seized a prohibited knife from his possession.

Police said Aleem was intercepted near Shankar Cafe while moving suspiciously during routine patrolling. A search led to the recovery of the knife, following which a case was registered under the relevant provisions of the Arms Act. He was arrested and produced before a court, which remanded him to judicial custody.

According to police, Aleem is a habitual offender with several cases, including murder, extortion, kidnapping for ransom, robbery, criminal intimidation, illegal arms possession and NDPS-related offences, registered at different Hyderabad police stations.

The operation was carried out by SI Anjaneyulu and constables Balakrishna and Govind. Police said surveillance of habitual offenders would continue.



Four held for posing as hijras, extorting motorists

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Jubilee Hills Police arrested four men for allegedly posing as hijras and forcibly demanding money from motorists and others in the city.

The case came to light after a video showed the group stopping the owner of a newly purchased BMW on Road No. 45, Jubilee Hills, and allegedly demanding ₹5,000 on August 21. Following the video, DGP C.V. Anand directed police to investigate.

Police examined around 500 CCTV cameras for nearly a month and traced the suspects' movements



from Jubilee Hills to Boduppal. With the assistance of Task Force personnel, they identified and detained the four at Boduppal.

The accused were identified as Ramesh, 40, Satyanarayana, 41, Ramesh, 42, and Yadagiri, 44, all residents

BJP slams Prakash Raj over remarks against CEC

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 3

The Telangana BJP on Saturday condemned actor and political commentator Prakash Raj over his purported remarks against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, accusing him of disrespecting a Constitutional institution.

In a purported video, Prakash Raj is seen referring to the ongoing agitation by the Cockroach Janta Party and some political parties, and saying that, following Ganesh Nimmaman, "the time has come to perform the Nimmaman of Gyanesh Kumar, the CEC."

BJP State chief spokesperson and media in-charge N. V. Subash, in a press statement, said Prakash Raj was free to criticise the Election Commission and its decisions, but comparing the CEC with an idol immersion was unacceptable. "Democracy demands debate, not derision", Subash said, adding that being a popular actor did not give anyone the licence to mock Constitutional authorities.

Reacting to Prakash Raj's criticism of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, Subash said objections should be backed by facts and evidence and pursued through appropriate legal and democratic forums.

BRS seeks ED probe into Revanth family business links



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 3

BRS leader Manne Krishank on Saturday demanded an ED probe into the alleged business interests, assets and financial transactions of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's family.

Speaking at Telangana Bhavan, Krishank questioned alleged links with Medicovert Hospitals, Maxbion Pharma, Sahrudaya Healthcare and Geetha Automotive, besides educational ventures. He sought scrutiny of ownership, investments, shareholdings, related-party transactions and sources of funds.

Krishank alleged that

₹13,000 crore in unaccounted money had been legitimised through Medicovert-related transactions and claimed the family had accumulated assets and business interests worth over ₹50,000 crore in two years. He demanded an independent investigation into the allegations.

He also questioned Geetha Automotive's Hyundai dealership interests and a school project involving Dumpa Sirisha and Revanth Reddy's daughter Anumula Nymisha Reddy.

Krishank said the BRS would submit documents on the allegations to the President, Prime Minister and senior Congress leaders and demanded an impartial investigation.

VH attacks BJP, RSS over OBC issues, voter rolls



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 3

Senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao on Saturday accused the BJP and RSS of opposing reservations for backward communities and alleged manipulation of voter rolls to benefit the ruling party.

Speaking at Gandhi Bhavan, Rao alleged that legitimate votes were being deleted and claimed the Centre was weakening the Constitution. He also demanded a separate OBC column in the ongoing Census to accurately record the community's population.

Rao announced a statewide campaign on OBC issues, beginning with a public meeting at Shamshabad on Sunday under Telangana OBC Commission Chairman Veerlapalli Shankar, with Congress MLAs and district presidents expected to participate.

Seven more held in Bollaram arms theft

Malkajgiri Police arrested seven more persons in the Bollaram Army weapons theft case, taking total arrests to eight.

The arrests followed questioning of retired Army Havildar and prime accused Upputholla Mallesh alias Raju. Three of those arrested are serving Army personnel who allegedly helped him steal weapons and ammunition from the Bollaram Army Kote and Magazine.

Police said Mallesh and his associates planned to sell the stolen weapons for use in robberies. The cache, including four AK-203 rifles, an INSAS rifle, six pistols and over 1,900 rounds, has been recovered.

Police said no terror or extremist links had been established so far. The accused were being produced before a court for judicial remand.

Auto unions call Hyderabad bandh over fares

The Mahatma Gandhi Telangana Auto Drivers JAC has called for a citywide auto bandh on November 2, rejecting the government's revised fares of ₹30 minimum and ₹14 per km. JAC convenor Mohd. Amanullah Khan demanded Bengaluru-level fares of ₹36 minimum and ₹18 per km, alleging that Transport Minister Ponnamm Prabhakar fixed the revised fares without consulting auto unions. The JAC also sought ₹10 lakh ex-gratia for the family of auto driver Mohd. Mukarram, who was allegedly killed at Vattepally on September 20.

DISHA panel reviews Hyderabad infrastructure, welfare works

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 3

The Hyderabad District DISHA Committee, chaired by Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, reviewed major in-

frastructure projects, public grievances and implementation of Central welfare schemes at a meeting in Tarnaka on Saturday.

Kishan Reddy said he would write to Chief Minister A.

Revanth Reddy seeking widening or reconstruction of the railway bridge between Balkampet Yellamma temple and Fatehnagar. Officials were also directed to expedite the Sanathnagar RUB and Ranigunj ROB works.

A joint inspection by railway, GHMC and traffic officials will examine measures to ease congestion at Bombay Hotel, including road widening and

box vents. The meeting also reviewed housing, with 480 houses planned in each Hyderabad constituency, besides action against alleged encroachments on government land and parks.

The committee also discussed new waste-processing plants, shifting polluting units from residential areas, e-waste recycling, the proposed city-wide stormwater drainage system and progress of 39 STPs.