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Kavitha Urges Pm Modi To Save 60 Lakh Drought-Hit Farmers Of Telangana

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 4



Telangana Rakshana Sena chief K. Kavitha on Sunday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene in the severe drought situation in Telangana and extend support to nearly 60 lakh affected farmers. Kavitha criticised the Congress government for allegedly failing to address the drought and said Telangana had not been declared drought-hit despite the situation in neighbouring states such as

TRS chief seeks 24-hour free power, blames state government for inaction amid severe drought

Maharashtra and Karnataka. She appealed to the Centre to extend assistance to the state and provide free power to farmers. “Our CM has given up. I request the PM, kindly help us out,” she said, attributing the drought to the impact of Super El-Nino. She said 24-hour free power could help protect farmers and described the situation as a matter of “life and death.” Kavitha also criticised demands for resignations over examination paper leaks and calls for the resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner, arguing that individual exits would not address systemic problems. She called for structural reforms, greater accountability and an independent

- Kavitha claims nearly 60 lakh farmers are affected by drought conditions in Telangana.
- She urges PM Modi to extend central support and provide free power to farmers.
- She accuses the state government of failing to declare drought-hit areas and seek Union assistance.
- On election and exam controversies, she calls for structural reforms instead of individual resignations.

testing system, and said paper ballots could offer a better solution for elections.

Owaisi alleges Form 7 misuse to delete Muslim voters

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 4



Hyderabad MP and AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi has alleged that Form 7 applications are being misused during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Telangana to target Muslim voters. Owaisi claimed that attempts were being made to remove names of Muslim voters in areas including Musheerabad and Goshamahal. He urged the Election Commission and Telangana election authorities to scrutinise every Form 7 application and verify the identity of those seeking deletion. He warned that genuine voters should not be removed from the electoral rolls on the basis of false or unauthenticated applications and said his party would not remain silent if such deletions were attempted. The allegations have triggered a political dispute, with the Telangana BJP rejecting Owaisi's claims and asking him to produce evidence before the appropriate legal authorities. The controversy comes amid the ongoing SIR exercise and concerns over Form 7 applications, which are used to object to the inclusion or seek deletion of names from electoral rolls.

Mahabubabad woman dies in road accident in US

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 4



A 31-year-old woman from Mahabubabad district, Daram Supriya, died in a road accident in Missouri, USA, on Sunday, leaving her family and relatives in shock. Supriya, a native of Maripeda mandal headquarters, had been living in Missouri in connection with her employment. According to information available, the car in which she was travelling was struck from behind by a truck at around 2 a.m. (IST) on Sunday. The impact was severe and Supriya died at the spot. Another Indian woman travelling in the car reportedly sustained serious injuries and was shifted for medical treat-

ment. News of Supriya's death reached her family in Mahabubabad, where her husband, Kodumuri Ranjith, and her in-laws, Kodumuri Venkateshwarlu and Radhika, reside at Veerabhadra Apartments. Further details regarding the accident and arrangements for bringing the deceased's body back to Telangana were awaited.

Kerala orders fresh Vigilance probe into 2006 case linked to CEC Gyanesh Kumar

Inquiry to examine alleged irregularities in KSTP project and claims of interference in earlier probe



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IANs News Thiruvananthapuram, Oct 4

Kerala Home Minister Ramesh Chennithala on Sunday ordered a fresh Vigilance inquiry into allegations linked to Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's tenure as the state's Public Works Department Secretary, following a petition by Congress leader Malayinkeezhu Venugopal. The case dates back to 2006 and concerns Malaysian civil engineer Lee See Been, who

died by suicide in Kuala Lumpur after returning from Kerala. Lee was associated with the PATIBEL consortium involved in upgrading MC Road under the Kerala State Transport Project (KSTP). The engineer's purported suicide note reportedly mentioned Kumar, who was PWD Secretary at the time. The allegations also concern alleged irregularities in the project and claims that external pressure affected an initial Vigilance inquiry conducted in 2006. The Home Department

has sought all relevant files from the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (VACB) to examine how the earlier inquiry was handled and whether it was influenced by external factors. The Vigilance Director has been directed to conduct a detailed inquiry into the allegations and take appropriate action based on the findings. The reported reference to Kumar in the purported suicide note remains an allegation requiring investigation, and the fresh probe does not establish any wrongdoing by him.

AP to achieve 100% housing for poor by 2029: Naidu

IANs News Amaravati, Oct 4

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday said the state government was committed to providing housing to every poor family by 2029. Naidu, along with Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, laid the foundation for 3 lakh houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) 2.0 at Burripalem in Guntur district. He said the Centre had initially sanctioned 75,000 houses under the regular quota but increased the allocation to 3 lakh following the state's request. Naidu said Chouhan had agreed to sanction another 3 lakh houses after completion of the current batch, followed by an additional 3 lakh next year, taking the total allocation to 9 lakh houses. The Chief Minister accused the previous government of mismanaging the



housing programme between 2019 and 2024, alleging that six lakh houses were cancelled and several beneficiaries were allotted unsuitable sites. He said the present government was committed to providing quality houses and resolving pending land and housing issues. As part of the initiative, 3D concrete printing technology will be introduced on a pilot basis at Burripalem. Naidu said houses built using the technology could remain significantly cooler indoors and, after successful trials, construction of 5,000 such houses would be taken up across the state.

Nation honours 1971 war hero Nirmaljit

IANs News New Delhi, Oct 4



The Indian Air Force on Sunday paid tribute to Param Vir Chakra awardee Flight Lieutenant Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon, with the second edition of the 'Sekhon Indian Air Force Marathon' held in New Delhi and several other cities. Air Force Chief A.P. Singh participated in the marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, where 21-km, 10-km and 5-km races were organised in memory of the 1971 war hero. Similar events were held in Chandigarh, Guwahati, Jodhpur and other parts of the country. Sekhon, the only Indian Air Force officer to receive the Param Vir Chakra, laid down his life while defending Srinagar airfield during the 1971 India-Pakistan war. On December 14, 1971, he engaged Pakistani fighter aircraft in a heroic aerial battle and shot down a Sabre jet before making the supreme sacrifice. The marathon, organised for the second consecutive year, sought to honour Sekhon's courage, patriotism and sacrifice, with thousands of participants joining the tribute across the country.

Sridhar Babu lays foundation for Rs 400-cr mega dairy plant

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 4

Telangana IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu on Sunday laid the foundation stone for Sabar Dairy's ₹400-crore Mega Integrated Dairy Plant at Urja Industrial Park in Toopran, Medak district. The state-of-the-art facility will initially process five lakh litres of milk per day and directly benefit nearly 10,000 local dairy farmers, besides creating around 350 direct jobs. It will manufacture a range of products, including packaged milk, curd, paneer, ice cream, lassi, ghee, buttermilk and bakery items. Sridhar Babu said the project would strengthen the linkages between rural milk producers,



organised procurement networks, modern processing systems and urban markets. Sabar Dairy, which entered Telangana in 2015, currently procures more than one lakh litres of milk daily from local farmers.

The Minister said the project reflected growing investor confidence in Telangana's industrial ecosystem and highlighted the farmer-centric cooperative model under which a major share of consumer spending

reaches milk producers. Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, Telangana Minister G. Vivek Venkataswamy, Medak MP Raghunandan Rao and other elected representatives attended the ceremony.

Harish targets Congress over minority welfare

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 4

BRS leader T. Harish Rao on Sunday accused the Congress government of failing to fulfil its election promises to minorities, alleging that the promised ₹4,000-crore minority budget had not been implemented. Addressing a rights convention in Gajwel, he claimed the minority welfare budget was now around ₹1,300 crore against ₹1,800 crore under the previous BRS government. He also alleged sharp cuts in overseas scholarships for minority students and prolonged salary delays at the Minority Finance Corporation and Urdu Academy. Harish Rao urged the government to honour its welfare commitments to minorities, farmers, women and project-affected families without further delay.

Iran rejects military, sanctions-based solution to US conflict: FM

IANs News Tehran, Oct 4

Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi on Sunday said there was no military or sanctions-based solution to the conflict with the US and stressed that diplomacy was the only way to end the hostilities. Addressing ambassadors and representatives of international organisations in Tehran, Araghchi said Iran remained committed to a diplomatic solution while warning that its response would be stronger if its adver-



saries again chose military confrontation. He said Iran had presented a seven-day proposal during the UN General Assembly under which the Strait of Hormuz could be reopened within seven days if the plan was accepted. Tehran, he added, remained prepared for diplomacy while also maintaining its right to defend itself. Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump said the conflict with Iran would end “very quickly” and predicted that oil prices would fall sharply once the war was over.



STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves

Governance, development, welfare and districts shaping the State

Police Raid Pan Shops in Mudhole, Warn Against Tobacco Sales to Minors



**Munsif News Bureau
Mudhole, Oct. 4 :**

Police intensified surveillance at pan shops in Mudhole and conducted surprise inspections at several shops on Saturday night. A police team led by Mudhole

SI Bitla Prasees inspected several pan shops and checked the items being sold there.

The police issued necessary instructions to shop owners and operators, strictly warning them against selling cigarettes, gutka and other tobacco products to

minors. Police officials directed shopkeepers to comply with the law and refrain from prohibited activities. SI Bitla Prasees made it clear that any anti-social or illegal activities under the guise of running pan shops would not be tolerated.

Strict Action Warned Against Drying Soybean on Roads

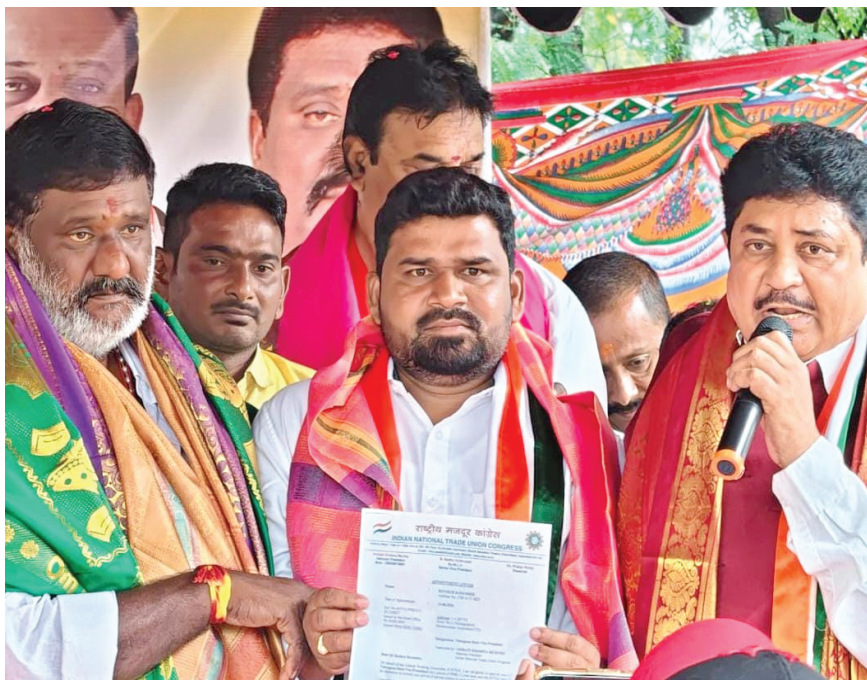
**Munsif News Bureau
Mudhole, Oct. 4 :**

Mudhole Circle Inspector Ravinder Naik warned that strict action would be taken against those drying soybean crops on roads and causing a risk of accidents. While inspecting various roads within the local circle limits, CI Ravinder Naik reviewed the soybean crop being dried on roads. He directed farmers to dry harvested soybean in fields, vacant spaces or other safe locations instead of spreading it on roads. He said crops spread across roads,

particularly at night, are not easily visible to motorists, increasing the risk of accidents. Vehicles may also go out of control while attempting to avoid the crop spread on the roads.

Ravinder Naik made it clear that legal action would be initiated against those responsible for causing accidents by drying crops on roads.

He appealed to farmers not to spread their produce on roads and to cooperate with the police in ensuring the safety of commuters and motorists.



The Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) has made several appointments to various posts with the objective of further strengthening and activating the organisation. As part of the exercise, Congress leader Kethur Surender, from the Zaheerabad Assembly constituency, has been appointed Telangana State Vice-President of INTUC, giving him representation at the state level.

CCTV Cameras Essential in All Sectors of Society in the Modern Era: Nizamabad CP

**Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Oct 4 :**

Nizamabad Police Commissioner Sai Chaitanya said that CCTV cameras have become essential in today's technologically advanced era to help prevent and detect crimes.

He said modern technology is being increasingly used to curb crime, with CCTV cameras playing a crucial role. In the past, several incidents of theft, assaults and fraud took place without the knowledge of the victims. In many cases, it was difficult to recover stolen property, while identifying those involved in as-

saults was also a major challenge. However, modern technology has made it possible to effectively deal with such situations, he said.

The Commissioner noted that Nizamabad city has witnessed considerable growth, with crowded areas, commercial and business complexes, cinema theatres, jewellery shops, clothing stores, educational institutions, colleges, universities and apartment complexes increasing significantly. He said genuine development is possible only when society is safe and free from crime. He pointed out that crimes continue to occur somewhere every day



and stressed the need for preventive measures as well as effective detection of offenders. Installing CCTV cameras in residential areas, commercial establishments and on roads can help prevent crimes to a considerable extent,

he said.

Sai Chaitanya appealed to people to contribute a small amount towards installing CCTV cameras in their respective localities as part of their responsibility towards society.

Kalwakurthy MLA Kasireddy Narayan Reddy Distributes CMRF Cheques and LOC Documents

**Munsif News Bureau
Kalwakurthy, Oct 4:**

Kalwakurthy MLA Kasireddy Narayan Reddy handed over Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques and Letters of Credit (LOC) documents to beneficiaries at his residence.

He also attended the inaugural programme of Ravi Kumar Goud at Orpally village in Midjil mandal of Nagarkurnool district and released a brochure. Malkajgiri MP Eatala Rajender, MLA Deverakonda Sudhir Reddy and several other dignitaries attended the programme. Later, MLA Kasireddy Narayan



Reddy flagged off buses arriving from Kadthal mandal of the Kalwakurthy Assembly constituency and inaugurated an OBC meeting organised at the man-

dal headquarters. Subsequently, at Thalakondapally Junction, the MLA flagged off a rally of OBC leaders and workers from Thalakondapally mandal. Mandal

presidents, public representatives, Congress party leaders, workers and a large number of Congress family members participated in the programme.



In view of the shortage of rainfall in Mahbubnagar and the possibility of water scarcity in the coming days, Salat-ul-Istisqa (prayer for rain) was organised by people belonging to all Islamic schools of thought on Friday. Later, Salat-ul-Istisqa was offered under the leadership of Allama Maulana Ahmed Saadat Ali Shah Chishti. Following the prayer, the Maulana made an emotional supplication for rain, forgiveness for the Ummah, and peace, prosperity and blessings for the city and the country. The atmosphere became deeply emotional during the prayers, with several people seen in tears.

Salat-ul-Istisqa Held in Mahbubnagar by People from All Islamic Schools of Thought

**Munsif News Bureau
Mahbubnagar Oct. 4 :**

In view of the shortage of rainfall in Mahbubnagar and the possibility of water scarcity in the coming days, Salat-ul-Istisqa (prayer for rain) was organised by people belonging to all Islamic schools of thought on Friday. The spiritual gathering was held at the Heera Model School ground on Bhoopur Road in Mahbubnagar, with a large number of people from different sections of the city participating.

Addressing the gathering, renowned Islamic scholar Allama Maulana Ahmed Saadat Ali

Shah Chishti urged Muslims to repent, seek forgiveness, turn towards Allah and introspect on their deeds. He emphasised the importance of offering humble and sincere prayers before Allah Almighty for the blessing of rain. Later, Salat-ul-Istisqa was offered under the leadership of Allama Maulana Ahmed Saadat Ali Shah Chishti. Following the prayer, the Maulana made an emotional supplication for rain, forgiveness for the Ummah, and peace, prosperity and blessings for the city and the country. The atmosphere became deeply emotional during the prayers, with several people seen in

tears.

Amir-e-Ahle Sunnat and Pir-e-Tariqat Hazrat Syed Abdul Razzaq Shah Qadri, Sajjadah Nashin of the shrine of Syed Mardan Ali Shah Qadri, along with several prominent personalities of Mahbubnagar, Ulama, Imams, social and religious representatives and a large number of people were present.

The Salat-ul-Istisqa programme served as an example of unity and harmony among people belonging to different Islamic schools of thought, as they came together to pray to Allah Almighty for the blessing of rain.



Electoral Rolls Observer and Director of the State Municipal Administration and Town Planning Department T.K. Sridevi stressed the need for collective efforts to prepare the final electoral rolls, ensuring that every eligible voter is able to exercise their franchise.

Four-year-old dies after falling into water tank in Khammam

**Munsif News Bureau
Khammam, Oct. 4 :**

A four-year-old boy died after falling into a water tank at an under-construction

house at Prakash Nagar Kummari Bazaar area in Khammam city on Sunday.

According to sources, the boy, S Gagan, had gone out

to play in the morning. When the boy went missing his parents Umarani and Sai, along with other family members, searched the neighborhood.

Dental Specialist Dr. Sonika.

The doctors examined the participants and offered useful advice on preventive measures, treatment and maintaining good health.

Motorcycle Theft Suspect Arrested by Police Posing as Fake Customer

**Munsif News Bureau
Deglur, Oct. 4 :**

Deglur police, as part of a special drive, arrested a motorcycle theft suspect based on credible information following a well-planned operation. Police recovered 10 stolen motorcycles worth approximately Rs. 4.10 lakh from his possession. Police had received information that some persons were planning to visit Khanapur village to sell motorcycles allegedly stolen from Naigaon Bazaar and surrounding areas at low prices.

After verifying the information, the Deglur Crime Branch team laid a trap at Khanapur Phata on the directions of Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Deglur Kiran Popatghat.

As part of the operation, a police official posed as a fake customer and approached the suspect near a tree at Khanapur Phata. At around 8.30 p.m., two persons arrived at the spot on a motorcycle.

As negotiations began between the decoy customer and the suspects over the sale of the stolen motorcycle, police suddenly intervened and launched the operation.

During the raid, Tukaram alias Balu Gangadhar Giri, 25, a resident of Takal village in Naigaon Bazaar taluka, was arrested. His accomplice, Shivkumar Hanmant Kanhade, 28, a resident of Begadnour, Naigaon, managed to escape under the cover of darkness.

During interrogation, the arrested suspect reportedly disclosed that he had concealed the stolen motorcycles in the MIDC-Nanded area and at other locations. Police subsequently visited the locations and recovered all the vehicles.

The operation was successfully carried out under the guidance of SDPO Kiran Popatghat by Deglur Probationary DSP Vaibhav Parod, PSI Hanmant Shinde and their team members Ashok Ghome, Namdev Shirode and Om Prakash Dedewar.

Socially Active Ganesh Mandals Honoured in Deglur

**Munsif News Bureau
Deglur, Oct. 4 :**

Ganesh Utsav is a symbol of social unity and discipline, and Ganesh mandals in the taluka demonstrated this through their activities, police officials said.

During Ganesh Utsav 2026, Deglur Police honoured mandals that contributed towards maintaining peace, law and order and promoting social awareness by presenting them with certificates of appreciation.

The police administration selected the mandals after assessing their performance in both urban and rural areas. Key criteria included DJ-free processions, ensuring that traffic was not disrupted, cleanliness and participation in social activities.

In the urban area, Shri Chintamani Ganesh Mandal of Bandhara Road secured the first position. Led by president Santosh Patel, the mandal conveyed a social message through its decoration and tableau.

Shri Diwansh Mandal of Sai Nagar secured the second position, while Arya Vaishya Ganesh Mandal of Nageshwar Temple, Talab Peth, stood third.

Rural Mandal from Lakkha Honoured

In the rural category, Shri Sarvajani Ganesh Mandal of Lakshya village secured the first position, bringing recognition to the village.

Under the leadership of president Omkar Mangarode, the mandal conveyed a message of unity among villagers.

Strict Implementation of SIR for Transparent Electoral Rolls

**Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Oct. 4 :**

Electoral Rolls Observer and Director of the State Municipal Administration and Town Planning Department T.K. Sridevi stressed the need for collective efforts to prepare the final electoral rolls, ensuring that every eligible voter is able to exercise their franchise.

She said voting is an important component of a democratic system and called for strict implementation of the electoral roll revision process so that no eligible voter is left out and there is no place for ineligible persons in the rolls.

On Saturday, she inspected Polling Station No. 39 at Mamidipally and Polling Station No. 88 in Armur Assembly constituency,

along with Armur Municipal Chairperson G. Lahari, Additional Collector V. Bhujanga Rao and Armur Sub-Collector Abhigyan Malviya. She closely reviewed the implementation of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and the procedure for recording details in the relevant registers. She sought information on the number of notices issued, hearings completed, the verification process, certificates obtained, unmapped voters and voters listed under discrepancies. She also obtained further details from BLOs Ram Shankar and Pravalika.

The Electoral Rolls Observer expressed satisfaction over the proper recording of all details related to the SIR process.

Later, T.K. Sridevi conducted a review meeting with Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of the Armur, Nizamabad Urban, Nizamabad Rural, Bodhan, Balkonda and Banswada Assembly constituencies, along with representatives of recognised political parties, at the conference hall of the Integrated Collectorate Offices Complex.

During the meeting, she obtained constituency-wise details regarding the SIR process from the EROs. Observing that the number of unmapped and discrepant voters was relatively high in Nizamabad Urban and some other constituencies, she directed the officials to submit a comprehensive category-wise report explaining the reasons.

Bhavan in the town on Sunday. Kagaznagar DSP Waheeduddin inaugurated the camp by cutting the ribbon. A team of specialist doctors from various medical disci-

plines, led by Medilife MD Physician Dr. Chetan Chauhan of Mancherla, examined patients free of cost and provided necessary medical advice and guidance.

The camp was held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Specialists who rendered their services included Cardiologist Dr. Surender, Pulmonologist Dr. Kumaraswamy Koutam,

Urologist Dr. Abhinay Kumar, Orthopaedic Specialist Dr. Sridhar, Gynaecologist Dr. Prasanna Kumari, General Surgeon Dr. Chandrabose, Radiologist Dr. S. Srinivas and

**Munsif News Bureau
Kagaznagar, Oct 4:**

A free medical camp was successfully organised by the Kagaznagar Merchants Association at Agrasen

Free Medical Camp Held in Kagaznagar



Earthmover operator killed as soil mound caves in during excavation in Khammam

NSS Khammam,Oct.4:

An earthmover operator died after being buried beneath a mass of soil that collapsed on his vehicle at Vennavalli hillock located between Pedda Korukondi and Vennavalli villages in

Kallur mandal, Khammam district. The incident occurred when the deceased, Ravi Kumar, a resident of Chillakallu in NTR district, Andhra Pradesh was excavating soil to load it into a tipper truck late on Saturday night. The soil, along with

heavy boulders, suddenly collapsed, trapping the operator inside the cabin. Upon receiving information from locals, SI Haritha reached the spot engaged three earthmovers to rescue the operator, but after extracting him from the soil he was found dead.

According to locals, soil excavation and transport work has been ongoing at Vennavalli hillock for the past few months for Khanapuram Gannavaram highway works. It was suspected that deep excavation could have led to the incident.

Mahabubabad woman dies in road accident in US

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Supriya, a married woman from Maripeda mandal headquarters, had been residing in Missouri in connection with her employment. According to information available, the car

in which Supriya was travelling was hit from behind by a truck at around 2 a.m. (IST) on Sunday. She died on the spot, while another Indian woman travelling in the car reportedly sustained

serious injuries. Supriya’s husband, Kodumuri Ranjith, and her in-laws, Kodumuri Venkateshwarlu and Radhika, reside at Veerabhadra Apartments in Mahabubabad town. (NSS)



A high-level delegation led by Telangana Roads & Buildings (R&B) Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy will represent the State at the two-day national workshop, Chintan Shivir–2026, starting Monday at Ekta Nagar near the Statue of Unity in Gujarat. Organised by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways under the chairmanship of Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, the workshop will focus on PM Gati Shakti and strengthening Centre-State coordination on key infrastructure projects. R&B Ministers and senior officials from across the country are expected to attend the five sessions scheduled over October 5 and 6.

Mysterious stones falling on houses leave Anantapur village

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.4:

A strange incident has left residents of Appajipet village in Pamidi mandal of Anantapur district in panic, with stones reportedly falling on houses at night for the past week. Following a complaint from the villagers, the police deployed four constables to patrol the area for two days. However, the mystery deepened when

stones reportedly fell on houses even as around 20 local youths and the police were inspecting the nearby hill. The villagers remain worried and are unable to determine where or how the stones are being thrown. They have urged the authorities to investigate the incident thoroughly, identify the source of the stone attacks and take steps to ensure their safety.

GOVERNOR CALLS FOR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN PAPER INDUSTRY

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.4:

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.

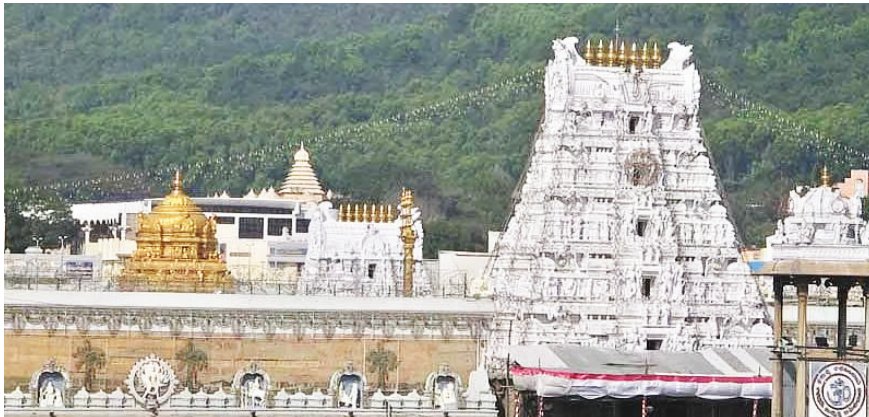


The dairy sector in Telangana received a major boost as IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu laid the foundation stone for Sabar Dairy’s (Amul) ₹400-crore Mega Integrated Dairy Plant at the Urja Industrial Park in Toopran, Medak district. The state-of-the-art facility will start with an initial milk processing capacity of 5 lakh litres per day (LLPD) and is set to directly benefit nearly 10,000 local dairy farmers while creating approximately 350 direct jobs.

Heavy rush of devotees in Tirumala amid holidays and Peratasi month

Munsif News Bureau Tirumala,Oct.4:

Tirumala is witnessing a heavy rush of devotees due to a series of holidays coinciding with the month of Peratasi. On Saturday, the Vaikuntam Queue Complex-1 and 2 and the Narayanagiri sheds were filled with devotees. The queue extended for about five kilometres along the ring road, reaching the Octopus Junction and Pachikalva Gangamma Temple. The heavy rush has resulted in an increased waiting time for devotees. Meanwhile, devotees waiting at the Octopus building for all-day darshan are facing dif-



ficulties due to the heat during the afternoon. Earlier, TTD had installed sheet sheds along this route when the pilgrim rush was high. However, the sheds were removed after the crowds decreased. With the rush increasing

again and temperatures remaining high, devotees are facing inconvenience. Officials said the waiting time for all-day darshan was around 18 hours. On Friday, 78,445 devotees

had darshan of Srivari, while the hundi collections stood at Rs. 4.30 crore. According to officials, around 2.9 crore devotees had visited Tirumala till September this year.

Komatireddy leads high-level team to national infra summit

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.4:

A high-level delegation led by Telangana Roads & Buildings (R&B) Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy will represent the State at the two-day national workshop, Chintan Shivir–2026, starting Monday at Ekta Nagar near the Statue of Unity in Gujarat. Organised by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways under the chairmanship of Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, the workshop will focus on PM Gati Shakti and s infrastructure projects.



R&B Ministers and senior officials from across the country are expected to attend the five sessions scheduled over October 5 and 6. Accompanying the Minister are R&B Special

Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, Chief Engineers B.V. Rao, Dharma Reddy, Vasanth Naik, and other senior officials. On the sidelines of the summit, Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy

will hold bilateral talks with Union Minister Nitin Gadkari to press for Centre support on crucial Telangana road networks. Key agenda items include the Regional Ring Road (RRR), the expansion of National Highway 65, the LB Nagar double-decker elevated corridor, and the proposed Bharat Future City–Amaravati Greenfield Highway. Following directions from Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, the delegation aims to expedite clearances and funding allocations for the State’s major infrastructure initiatives. (NSS)

Declare drought-hit mandals immediately: Kavitha

Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad,Oct.4:

Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) president K. Kavitha on Sunday demanded that the State government immediately declare drought-affected mandals across Telangana, pointing to a severe drop in groundwater levels. Addressing reporters at the TRS party office, Kavitha claimed groundwater levels across the State have plunged by 20 feet. She criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, stating that despite performing a Varuna Yagam for rain, the administration has failed to address

the worsening crisis. Kavitha further alleged that rural areas are facing severe power shortages, receiving no more than six hours of electricity daily. Challenging the Chief Minister to join her on a visit to his native village of Kondareddyypalli, she offered to demonstrate the extent of the power cuts firsthand. Kavitha urged the Chief Minister to ensure uninterrupted power supply to farmers immediately and questioned why major irrigation projects along the Krishna and Godavari rivers remain unfilled despite abundant water flow. (NSS)



Race to Win Foundation founder Y. Gopi Rao and other guests attended the Deccan Derby 2026 at Hyderabad Race Club, Malakpet, on Sunday. During the event, the Race to Win Foundation Gala, scheduled to be held in March 2027, was also announced. The gala aims to promote support and awareness for the rehabilitation and lifelong care of retired racehorses.

Kishan Reddy congratulates Toopran farmers

NSS Hyderabad, Oct.4:

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Sunday addressed a gathering at the groundbreaking ceremony for the dairy plant in Toopran. He extended his special congratulations to all especially to the farmers of the region on the occasion of the groundbreaking ceremony for the dairy plant. “This event is not merely a groundbreaking ceremony for a dairy plant but it serves as a guiding light for the economic future of Telangana’s dairy

farmers and for the farmers across all villages. This dairy plant is being established with an investment of approximately ₹400 crore by utilizing Amul’s state-of-the-art technology. The project is moving forward with the goal of completing construction within the next 18 months and creating employment opportunities for women and the youth. Value addition will increase through the collection of milk from local farmers and subsequent processing,” he said. He noted that Instead of exporting the collected milk raw to other regions, a wide vari-

ety of products such as milk, curd, buttermilk, lassi, paneer, ice cream and ghee would be manufactured right here. He said that “Amul” was synonymous with trust and added that this initiative aims to instill that same confidence in the farmers. “When we think of farmers, we usually associate them only with crops like paddy, chili, and cottonz. However, a farmer can sustain a livelihood through the dairy industry regardless of whether they own land. In the future, the milk will be brought to Toopran from various regions.

Owaisi alleges misuse of Form 7 to delete Muslim voters in Telangana

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.4:

Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi has alleged that attempts are being made to delete Muslim voters from the electoral rolls by misusing Form 7 applications during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of elec-

toral rolls in Telangana. Owaisi on Sunday alleged that large-scale attempts were underway to delete Muslim votes in the Musheerabad and Goshamahall areas. He warned that they would not remain silent if genuine voters were removed from the electoral rolls.

NSS Hyderabad,Oct.4:

The Telangana BJP on Sunday asked AIMIM president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi to stop resorting to political rhetoric against the Election Commission of India (ECI) and take the legal route if he genuinely possesses evidence of irregularities in the electoral process. Reacting strongly to Owaisi’s allegations that BJP and Sangh

Parivar workers were allegedly filing Form 7 applications to get genuine voters’ names deleted, BJP State Chief Spokesperson and Media In-charge N. V. Subash said a person with a legal background should know that serious allegations against a Constitutional authority cannot be established through public statements alone. “If Owaisi has concrete evidence of electoral malpractice, what is stopping him from ap-

proaching the appropriate judicial forum? Why make allegations in public and stop there? Let him place the evidence before the competent authorities and seek appropriate legal action,” Subash said. Owaisi had alleged that printed Form 7 applications were being submitted with the names of persons sought to be deleted, while allegedly leaving out the details of those filing the applications. He had urged the ECI, the

Telangana Chief Electoral Officer and District Electoral Officers to take note of the issue. Subash said there was nothing wrong with seeking scrutiny of the functioning of a Constitutional institution in a democracy, but repeatedly casting aspersions on the integrity of the electoral process without producing evidence is a different matter altogether. “Whenever political fortunes turn against them, the same old

vocabulary returns—“vote chori”, ‘Form 7 misuse’, ‘Samvidhan khatre mein’ and so on. Elections cannot be reduced to a process where everything is acceptable when one wins, but the entire system becomes suspect when one loses,” he said. He pointed out that the ECI has been conducting elections involving hundreds of millions of voters and continuously updating electoral rolls as new voters become eligible.

“If there are genuine discrepancies, identify them, document them and challenge them through the prescribed mechanism. Political allegations cannot substitute for evidence or due process,” Subash said. He further noted that various challenges concerning the electoral process, including issues relating to Electronic Voting Machines and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), have already reached the judiciary.



At a Glance

BJP Picks Koel Mallick for Bengal RS Bypoll

IAN S
Kolkata, Oct. 4

The BJP on Sunday named Bengali actor and former Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha MP Koel Mallick as its candidate for the West Bengal Rajya Sabha bypoll on October 16. Mallick, whose birth name is Rukmini Mallick, resigned from the Upper House on July 16, months after the TMC nominated her and she took oath in April. Her resignation created the vacancy for which the bypoll has been announced.

The Election Commission has fixed October 16 for the bypoll, coinciding with Maha Sashthi, the opening day of Durga Puja. Mallick's nomination follows her exit from the TMC and comes after speculation that she could return to Parliament on a BJP ticket.

Mallick did not attend a parliamentary session during her brief tenure as a Rajya Sabha member.

BJP names 3 for Maharashtra MLC polls

IAN S
Mumbai, Oct. 4

The BJP announced three candidates for the Maharashtra Legislative Council polls on October 23.

Former MLA Sudhakar Kohale will contest from Nagpur Graduate, Dr Smita Jadhav, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Dr D Y Patil University, from Pune Graduate, and Kaustubh Gawade, CEO of Shri Swami Vivekanand Shikshan Sanstha, from Pune Teachers.

The BJP will contest three of the five seats, leaving Nagpur Teachers to Shiv Sena and Aurangabad Graduates to the NCP. Kohale will face Congress MLC Abhijit Wanjari, while Gawade will take on Congress' Jayant Asgaonkar.

The MVA is yet to name its Pune Graduate candidate. Polling is on October 23, with counting on October 27.

India, Canada to kick off 5th round of trade talks tomorrow



IAN S
New Delhi, Oct. 4

India and Canada will kick off the fifth round of negotiations for their proposed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in Ottawa on Monday as both sides aim to conclude the trade pact by the end of 2026.

The five-day round, led by the chief negotiators of the two countries, will continue till October 9. The previous round concluded in New Delhi on September 18, with officials now pushing for faster progress towards a final agreement.

The trade negotiations have gained additional momentum as Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to

visit Canada around December, when the two countries plan to conclude the final deal. Meanwhile, Canada's Trade Minister Maninder Sidhu is scheduled to visit New Delhi later this month with a 300-member business delegation.

Prime Minister Modi and his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney set a year-end target to complete the negotiations for the CEPA between the two countries and agreed to deepen bilateral collaboration in the energy and critical mineral sectors during their meeting in New Delhi in March this year.

The leaders expressed confidence that a comprehensive trade framework would serve as a

durable economic anchor for the partnership and support the shared aspiration of expanding bilateral trade to CAD 70 billion (Rs 4.65 lakh crore) by 2030, according to the joint statement issued after their summit.

India-Canada bilateral trade in goods stood at \$8.66 billion in 2024-25, while India's exports to the country touched \$4.22 billion.

Major items of India's exports to Canada include pharmaceutical products, machinery parts and mechanical appliances, iron & steel articles, electronic goods, organic chemicals, jewellery, gems & precious stones, garments and textiles, seafood, engineering

goods and auto parts. India's major imports from Canada include pulses, fertilisers, mineral fuels, wood pulp, gems & precious stones, aircraft parts, machinery parts, and iron and aluminium scrap.

India's IT sector is the main contributor to services exports to Canada.

PM Carney's visit to India set the tone for a marked improvement in diplomatic ties between the two countries that had hit rock bottom during his predecessor Justin Trudeau's tenure. The Trudeau government was seen to be encouraging Sikh extremists to pursue an anti-India agenda in Canada as part of their electoral politics.

INDIA BLOC VICTORY MATTERS MORE THAN SEAT COUNT, SAYS AKHILESH YADAV

IAN S
New Delhi, Oct. 4

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday said the INDIA bloc's victory should matter more than the number of seats secured by individual parties, as the SP and Congress prepare for seat-sharing discussions ahead of the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections.

In a post on X, Yadav said the alliance must remain focused on its larger objective and work together to defeat communalism and protect democracy, the Constitution and reservations.

"When the goal is clear, hand in hand we stand, When the gaze is fixed on the destination, the journey becomes easy!" he said.

"The big thing isn't how many seats the alliance gets or which seat goes to whom - the big thing is that we all must ensure that the victory belongs to the alliance.

Let us repeat again: It's not about the seats, it's about the victory," Yadav said. He said the victory would be bigger than any individual party and would represent a collective ef-



fort to prevent communalism from raising its head again and to protect democracy, the Constitution and reservations.

He also said the alliance should work to restore social harmony and promote the country's progress and prosperity.

Yadav's remarks come amid differences between the SP and Congress over seat-sharing for the 2027 Assembly polls. The two parties have yet to finalise a pre-poll arrangement, with the allocation of constituencies emerging as a key point of contention.

SP MP Shiv Pal Singh Patel had questioned the Congress' reported demand for 150 seats, saying the party should seek seats in proportion to its electoral strength and organisational presence in

Uttar Pradesh. Speaking to IANS, Patel said the Congress should consider its past electoral record before seeking more than 50 seats.

He also claimed that the SP's support had helped the Congress win seats in Madhya Pradesh and warned that fielding candidates from both parties in several constituencies could result in losses. Earlier, Yadav had criticised the BJP, saying its "biggest sorrow" was that the INDIA bloc was united.

His remarks came after BJP leaders criticised him for skipping an INDIA bloc meeting in New Delhi, though the SP was represented by other leaders. Unity remains central.

CM VIJAY HOLDS ROADSHOW IN DHARAPURAM FOR TVK CANDIDATE: TN BYPOLLS

IAN S
Dharapuram, Oct. 4

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) chief Vijay on Sunday held a roadshow in Dharapuram, seeking votes for party candidate Sathyabama ahead of Tuesday's Assembly bypoll.

Thousands of TVK workers and supporters gathered along the route as Vijay's campaign vehicle set off from Maruthi Nagar.

Sathyabama accompanied him in the vehicle as he appealed to voters to support her candidature. The roadshow was part of the TVK's campaign in the reserved Assembly constituency in Tiruppur district, where 22 candidates, including nominees of political parties and Independents, are contesting the October 6 election.

The constituency is witnessing a five-way contest involving the



TVK, DMK, AIADMK, Naam Tamilar Katchi (NTK) and the CPI.

With polling approaching, candidates and their supporters have intensified campaigning across the constituency. Vijay's appearance drew large numbers of party workers, who lined the roads as the campaign vehicle moved through Dharapuram.

The roadshow brought the TVK leader and its candidate together during the final phase of campaigning. Rival parties have also stepped up their outreach, with candidates and their supporters travelling across the constituency

and appealing to voters.

Leaders of the respective parties and their allies have joined the campaign as the contestants seek to maximise support before polling.

For the TVK, Sunday's roadshow provided a final major push for Sathyabama, with Vijay directly seeking votes for her.

The turnout reflected enthusiasm among party workers, while the final outcome will be decided by voters on Tuesday.

With 22 candidates in the fray, Dharapuram voters will choose from a field comprising party nominees and Independents as campaigning enters its final stretch.

'SCRAP SIR, BRING BACK BALLOTS': RAJ THACKERAY'S TWO DEMANDS

IAN S
Mumbai, Oct. 4

Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray on Sunday demanded the scrapping of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and a return to paper ballots, as he addressed the 'Garjana Morcha' in Mumbai against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and the Election Commission of India (ECI).

Raj Thackeray alleged that the SIR exercise was illegal and unconstitutional, citing views attributed to former Union Home Secretary R.K. Singh.

He said a Special Intensive Revision could be undertaken only in exceptional circumstances and for specific constituencies with written justification. He questioned alleged changes in electoral rolls

and asked who the voters removed during the SIR exercise were and on what grounds they had been disenfranchised.

He urged political parties to unite in seeking an immediate halt to the revision process. Thackeray also demanded that Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) be discontinued and elections be conducted through physical ballot papers.

He said this would help restore public confidence and ensure that the electoral mandate was transparent and legitimate.

He alleged that Maharashtra had seen an increase of 40 to 60 lakh voters within a short period after the Lok Sabha elections and questioned the Election Commission's handling of voter rolls. He accused the ECI of irregularities during the 2024 Lok Sabha and Assembly



elections, though the allegations remain unproven.

The MNS chief recalled that he had raised concerns over EVMs and voter lists since 2017-18 and said he had discussed the issue with opposition leaders including Sonia Gandhi and Mamata Banerjee.

The protest march, jointly led by Raj Thackeray and Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray, moved from

Metro Cinema to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation headquarters in South Mumbai.

Leaders and workers of Congress, NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar) and Left parties also participated. The opposition has demanded the resignation of CEC Gyanesh Kumar, escalating its campaign over the SIR exercise and alleged irregularities in the electoral process.

FOUR MISSING SCHOOL CHILDREN FOUND DEAD IN LAKE NEAR CHENNAI

IAN S
Chennai, Oct. 4

Four schoolchildren, who went missing from their homes here on Saturday, were found dead in Thiruneeermalai lake on Sunday, police said.

The victims, two boys and two girls, were friends who lived on Krishna Street in Lakshmiapuram, Chromepet.

Police identified them as K. Devadarshan, 12, D. Yuvanesh, 10, and Pooja and Khushi, both 13.

Devadarshan was a Class 7 student at a government school, while Pooja and Khushi studied in Class 8 at a government school. Yuvanesh attended Class 6 at a pri-

ivate school.

According to police, the children were last seen playing together near their houses on Saturday afternoon. They subsequently left the neighbourhood and failed to return home, prompting their families to begin looking for them.

The parents contacted relatives and friends and searched for the children before circulating their photographs in local WhatsApp groups. Residents were asked to pass on any information about their whereabouts.

With the searches yielding no leads and the children remaining untraceable late into the night, the parents of the

two boys lodged a missing persons complaint at Chromepet police station.

Police then alerted personnel at Tambaram, Egmore, and Chennai Central railway stations, as well as the Kelambakkam bus terminus, asking them to check whether the children had travelled outside the area.

The search ended in tragedy on Sunday when members of the public visiting Thiruneeermalai Periya Eri, near Lakshmiapuram, spotted four bodies floating in the water and informed the authorities.

Police and personnel from the Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services reached the lake and re-

trieved the bodies.

They were brought ashore, where family members identified the children. The bodies were subsequently sent to the mortuary at Tambaram District Government Hospital for post-mortem examinations.

Investigators are trying to establish how the children reached the lake and the circumstances in which they entered the water. Police suspect that they became trapped in slush and drowned. However, the sequence of events leading to their deaths has yet to be established.

Police enquiries into the circumstances surrounding the deaths are continuing.

COOCH BEHAR CLASH: CPI(M) BLAMES BJP FOR OFFICE VANDALISM

IAN S
Kolkata, Oct. 4

The CPI(M) has accused BJP workers of attacking and vandalising its party office in Jorpatki area of Mathabhanga No. I Block in Cooch Behar district, hours after the Left party held a protest march.

The CPI(M) said its Jorpatki Area Committee had organised the march at Golakganj Bazar on Saturday, demanding the removal and "punishment" of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, inclusion of eli-

gible voters in electoral rolls, payment to beneficiaries not covered under the Annapurna Yojana and steps to control rising prices.

The party alleged that after the march, workers gathered at the office before locking it.

A few hours later, the office was allegedly attacked and items inside were vandalised. CPI(M) district member Moksedul Islam alleged BJP workers were behind the attack and said a complaint would be filed.

He said attempts to intimidate party work-



ers would not force the CPI(M) to retreat. Police said no written complaint had been received and that an investigation would be conducted after a complaint is filed.

The BJP denied the allegation. District committee member and former Mandal No. 2 president

Rajib Sarkar said he had heard about the vandalism but maintained that no BJP worker was involved.

Sarkar rejected the CPI(M)'s allegations and said the BJP opposed such accusations. He said people had voted for the BJP to bring about change today.



At a Glance

Hundreds join India's Unity Run near Washington

IAN S Washington, Oct. 4

Hundreds of Indian Americans and friends of India gathered at Gravelly Point Park in Virginia for a Viksit Bharat Unity Run organised by the Indian Embassy, combining running, yoga and meditation.

The event near the Potomac River highlighted fitness, unity and community participation.

The Embassy said the gathering celebrated “fitness, unity and the wonderful spirit of our community”.

Participants spoke about the growing fitness culture in India and initiatives such as the Fit India Movement, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2019 to encourage physical activity and sport.

They also highlighted the growing popularity of yoga and investment in sports infrastructure, while pointing to India's improving performances in international sporting events.

Russian Drones Strike Indian Pharma Plant in Ukraine

IAN S Kyiv, Oct. 4

One person was killed and several others injured after a pharmaceutical plant belonging to India's Kusum group was damaged in Russian drone attacks in Ukraine's Sumy, media reports said.

The plant's main structure was destroyed, while the extent of casualties could change, officials said. Ukraine has faced Russian drone attacks for four consecutive days.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Russia launched 135 attack drones overnight, targeting Kyiv, Dnipro, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Sumy and Zaporizhzhia.

He said six people were injured in Dnipro and one person was killed. Zelensky said drones also struck the Pivnichnyi Bridge in Kyiv and a pharmaceutical warehouse in Sumy.

The Kusum group began operations in Ukraine in 1994 as a distributor of Indian medicines and later moved into manufacturing.

DATA CENTRES WILL GO TO CHINA IF US SAYS NO: DONALD TRUMP

IAN S Washington, Oct. 4

US President Donald Trump has warned that Artificial Intelligence (AI) data centres could move to China if the United States turns them away, while defending their expansion and backing measures aimed at preventing the facilities from increasing household electricity costs.

Trump made the remarks at a campaign rally in Vandalia, Ohio, on Saturday as he sought support for Republican Senator Jon Husted and Indian-American Republican gubernatorial candidate Vivek Ramaswamy ahead of the November 3 midterm elections.

Trump presented data centres as part of the technological competition between the US and China, saying America needs the computing infrastructure required to support increasingly powerful AI systems.

“We want them,” Trump said of data centres. “There's so much money to be made for Ohio. You can't just turn them off. They'll go to China.”



“We're beating China,” he added, arguing against policies that could drive investment in computing infrastructure overseas.

The remarks came as the growth of data centres has become a contentious issue in Ohio and elsewhere because of their enormous electricity requirements and concerns over their impact on consumers' power bills in the state.

Trump said his administration was taking “historic action” to ensure that large technology data centres “benefit local communities”.

He also endorsed the Ratepayer Protection Act pushed by Husted, saying the legislation would prevent data centres from

raising electricity costs for other consumers and require the facilities to bear the costs associated with their power requirements.

“I will sign this Ratepayer Protection Act into law immediately,” Trump said. The legislation, however, has not been enacted.

An attempt to advance the measure in the US Senate failed this week. Large-scale data centres have become increasingly important as technology companies expand computing capacity needed to train and operate AI models.

Their growth has created challenges for utilities, as some facilities require enormous amounts of electricity, potentially

requiring new generation capacity, transmission infrastructure and substations.

Trump's comments placed the issue within the administration's effort to compete with China in AI and what he has described as “super intelligence”.

The remarks came a day before the White House announced that the US and 16 other countries had endorsed the Kyoto Vision for a Golden Age of Science at an international science and technology gathering in Japan.

The declaration calls for expanded access to super-intelligence tools, scientific data, computing infrastructure and experimental facilities to accelerate scientific research.

Trump was in Ohio as part of a campaign push ahead of the midterm elections, where Republicans are seeking to retain control of Congress.

Husted, who was appointed to the Senate seat vacated when JD Vance became Vice-President, is seeking election to the seat against former Democratic Senator Sherrod Brown.

SAUDI AIRSTRIKES REPORTED ON YEMEN'S HOUTHI-HELD CAPITAL SANAA



IAN S Riyadh, Oct. 4

Loud explosions rocked Yemen's Houthi-held capital Sanaa, as the Houthi-run al-Masirah TV reported renewed Saudi airstrikes on the city.

A Sanaa resident, speaking to Xinhua on condition of anonymity, said warplanes could be heard overhead as powerful blasts echoed across the capital, rattling windows and shaking buildings, late on Saturday (local time).

“The blasts were so powerful that the ground shook beneath us,” the resident said. “It felt like an earthquake. Our windows were rattling, and the children woke up terrified.”

Local residents believed that the airstrikes targeted Houthi positions. Casualties were not immediately known.

Earlier on Saturday, the Houthis said they had launched ballistic missiles and drones at an Aramco facility in the Saudi capital Riyadh in retaliation for what they described as intensified Saudi strikes on Yemen.

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Sarea said that 60 air and missile strikes had hit Yemen over the previous 24 hours, reports Xinhua news agency.

Tensions between the Houthis and Saudi Arabia intensified after the group announced a maritime embargo against Saudi Arabia on July 20, followed by an escalation in cross-border missile and drone attacks and airstrikes.

The confrontation widened further in September amid fighting between the Houthis and Yemeni government forces, largely backed by Saudi Arabia. The Houthis captured the Red Sea port city of Mocha on Sept. 10 and strategically located Mayyun Island the following day.

Yemen's conflict began in late 2014, when the Houthis seized the capital Sanaa and much of northern Yemen, prompting a Saudi-led coalition to intervene in March 2015 in support of the internationally recognised Yemeni government.

Nepal moves to grant menstrual leave to women civil servants

IAN S Kathmandu, Oct. 4

The Nepali government has proposed granting menstrual leave to female civil servants by amending the Civil Service Act 1992.

The provision is included in the Bill to Amend and Consolidate Laws Relating to the Federal Civil Service, registered at the Federal Parliament Secretariat this week.

If enacted, Nepal would join a small group of countries with menstrual leave provisions for civil servants, including South Korea and Japan.

Under the bill, female employees would continue to receive casual, home, sick, study and extraordinary leave, along with menstrual, maternity, childbirth and maternity care leave.

However, the bill does not specify the conditions or number of days available under menstrual leave. The proposal comes as women's representation in Nepal's civil service has increased significantly over the past two decades.



A 2007 amendment to the Civil Service Act 1993 introduced a reservation system requiring 45 per cent of civil service positions to be allocated to underrepresented groups, with 33 per cent of those reserved positions earmarked for women.

According to the Nepali government's Economic Survey 2025-26, female employees accounted for 30 per cent of government workers across the three tiers of government registered with the Department of Civil Personnel Records by mid-March 2026, up

from about 8 per cent in 2008.

In India, the Central Civil Services leave framework does not provide a separate menstrual leave entitlement.

In March 2026, the Supreme Court declined to impose a nationwide menstrual-leave policy, while allowing the government to consider the issue after consultation.

Bihar and Odisha provide limited menstrual leave to government employees. The bill will now be deliberated in Parliament before any possible approval, with final details to be decided by lawmakers.

Iran IRGC targets seven ‘violating’ oil tankers in Hormuz in five days

IAN S Tehran, Oct. 4

The navy of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has targeted at least seven “violating” oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz over the past five days, semi-official Fars news agency reported.

The IRGC Navy targeted more than one oil tanker each day, despite US President Donald Trump's repeated claims

that the Strait of Hormuz was open and under US control, Fars reported.

Citing independent military observer MenchOsint, Fars said two oil tankers exploded in the strait on Friday — one at the waterway's entrance and another while exiting it.

MenchOsint also said two Kuwaiti tankers, AI FUNTAS and KAZIMAH III, and three UAE vessels, SINBAD, MERSIN PROSPERITY and AL RUWAIS, were

struck in the strait over the previous four days, Xinhua news agency reported.

Meanwhile, Trump said on Saturday that the war with Iran would end “very quickly” and predicted oil prices would fall sharply after the conflict.

“Iran will very soon be ending one way or the other,” Trump told reporters, claiming Iran had 301 per cent inflation, no money or currency, and that its military,

navy and air force had been defeated.

“When that ends, oil prices are going to drop like a rock,” he said.

Iran tightened its grip on the Strait of Hormuz on February 28, barring safe passage for vessels belonging to or affiliated with Israel and the United States following their joint strikes on Iranian territory.

The claims about the vessels and attacks could not yet be independently confirmed.



A view of vessels sailing through the Strait of Hormuz, a vital global energy corridor, amid heightened tensions in the region. Photo from: X

NO MILITARY OR SANCTIONS SOLUTION TO IRAN CONFLICT: ARAGHCHI

IAN S Tehran, Oct. 4

Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi on Sunday said there was no military or sanctions-based solution to the conflict with the US, insisting diplomacy was the only way to end the hostilities, local media reported.

Speaking to ambassadors and representatives of countries and international organisations, Araghchi said: “There is no military or sanctions-based solution.

Only a diplomatic solution can work and can help bring an end to the aggression against Iran.”

He expressed hope that the US would choose “wisdom and rationality” but said Iran was prepared if Washington opted for a military course, Tasnim News Agency reported.

Araghchi said Iran's delegation held meetings during the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly and presented a seven-day proposal aimed at resolving

disputes and reopening the Strait of Hormuz.

Under the proposal, the strait would be reopened within seven days if this plan is agreed to, he said. Araghchi said Iran had expressed readiness at the UNGA for a diplomatic solution while remaining committed to defending itself.

Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump said this war with Iran would end “very quickly” and predicted oil prices would fall sharply once the conflict was over.

Speaking to reporters after arriving in Texas and later during a visit to a Peterbilt Motors facility in Denton, Trump said Iran faced a choice over how the conflict would end.

“Iran will very soon be ending one way or the other,” Trump said, claiming Iran had 301 per cent inflation, no money or currency, and that its military, navy and air force had been defeated.

“When that ends, oil prices are going to drop like a rock,” he said.

US URGES ETHIOPIA, ERITREA TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT AMID RISING TENSIONS

IAN S Washington, Oct. 4

The United States on Saturday urged Ethiopia and Eritrea to exercise “maximum restraint” amid rising cross-border tensions, warning that another conflict could trigger a new humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa.

State Department spokesman Tommy Pigott said the tensions could affect the broader region.

“Increasing cross-border tensions between

Ethiopia and Eritrea have the potential to affect the entire region,” Pigott said.

“The Horn of Africa cannot sustain another military conflict and humanitarian crisis.

A conflict jeopardizes ongoing US collaboration on shared interests with both countries,” he said.

Washington called on the two countries to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring states,

avoid actions that could escalate tensions and re-

turn to dialogue under their 2018 peace framework.

“Peace through dialogue is the only path toward sustainable security, economic growth, and prosperity,” Pigott said.

The appeal comes amid renewed fighting in Ethiopia's northern Tigray region and worsening relations between Addis Ababa and Asmara.

The State Department did not announce sanctions or other punitive measures, focusing in-

stead on de-escalation and dialogue.

Eritrea became independent from Ethiopia in 1993 after a prolonged struggle.

The countries fought a border war from 1998 to 2000 that killed tens of thousands and left relations frozen for years.

A diplomatic breakthrough came in 2018, when Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki restored relations and formally ended the state of war.

Know Your Legal Rights: From Police Complaints to Voter Protection and Property Disputes

By M.A. Mujeeb Advocate, Telangana High Court

Legal awareness plays a crucial role in protecting citizens from injustice and ensuring that their rights are not compromised. Several questions received from readers highlight common concerns relating to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, complaints against police officers, property disputes and compensation for the death of homemakers in road accidents. The following legal guidance addresses these issues in simple terms.

Can a Third Party File Form 7 Against a Voter? During the ongoing SIR exercise in Telangana, concerns have been raised about the possibility of unrelated persons filing Form 7 seeking deletion of a voter's name without the voter's knowledge. Legally, a third party can submit Form 7 raising an objection to the inclusion of a person's name in the draft electoral roll. However, merely filing the form does not automatically result in deletion.

The person submitting Form 7 must provide reasons and justify why the voter's name should be removed. The Election Commission's prescribed procedure requires verification before any deletion can take place. A voter's name cannot simply be removed without proper inquiry and a reasoned order. If a person knowingly makes a false declaration, legal action can also be initiated under Section 31 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Changes in SIR Notice and Hearing Procedure

The procedure relating to SIR notices in Telangana has also undergone changes. Notices are being delivered to voters at their residences by Booth Level Officers (BLOs), who will verify the required documents and upload them online from the voter's residence.

Around 92 lakh notices have been generated in Telangana, of which approximately 54 lakh cases have already been cleared, while action on around 38 lakh notices remains. The notices broadly include cases relating to unmapped voters and logical discrepancies.

Another important change is that a single family member can represent other members of the family and submit the required documents. According to the information provided by the Chief Electoral Officer, the claims and objections process will continue until October 7, disposal of notices is expected by November 5, and the final electoral roll is scheduled to be published on November 9.

Voters who have not yet received or resolved their notices should immediately contact their respective BLOs and complete the required process to ensure that their names remain in the final electoral roll.

Is a Declaration Required With Form 6?

There has also been considerable confusion over whether a declaration must accompany Form 6 for inclusion of a name in the electoral roll. The requirement depends on whether SIR is being conducted in the particular State.

In States where SIR is underway, Form 6 is required to be accompanied by the prescribed



declaration and one of the documents specified by the Election Commission. In States where SIR is not being conducted and the normal summary revision process is underway, the additional SIR declaration is not required. Applicants are required to submit the documents prescribed under the normal procedure.

Therefore, voters should not rely on rumours and should follow the procedure applicable to their State and the instructions issued by the Election Commission.

How Can a Complaint Be Filed Against a Police Officer?

A common concern is whether prior government permission is required before an FIR can be registered against a police officer or another government employee. The legal position explained here is that government permission is not required merely for seeking registration of an FIR.

If a police station refuses to register a complaint, the complainant can send a written complaint by registered post to the Superintendent of Police in a district or the Deputy Commissioner of Police in a city. The postal receipt and acknowledgement can then be used while approaching the competent court.

A petition seeking directions for registration of an FIR, earlier referred to under Section 156(3) of the CrPC and now corresponding to Section 173(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, can be filed before the court. Such a complaint is also commonly described as a private complaint.

Government sanction becomes relevant at the stage of prosecution in cases where the law requires prior sanction for filing a charge sheet against a public servant for acts connected with official duties. Section 218 of the BNSS deals with this aspect. Therefore, sanction for prosecution should not be confused with permission for registration of an FIR or for approaching the court.

What to Do in a Double Sale of Property?

Property disputes involving alleged double sale are another major source of litigation. If a

person purchased and registered a plot in 2001 and another individual claims to have purchased the same property in 2005, the earlier registered transaction assumes significant legal importance.

A registered sale deed is important evidence of the purchaser's title and transaction. In such circumstances, the affected owner should immediately take appropriate legal steps to protect possession and title and seek suitable relief from the competent court if necessary.

The legal position can differ depending on the facts, nature of the documents and the circumstances surrounding the subsequent transaction. Therefore, the original sale deed, registration records and other relevant property documents should be examined before initiating proceedings.

Compensation for Death of a Homemaker in an Accident

The question of compensation becomes particularly significant when a homemaker dies in a road accident, as there may be no conventional salary slip or income proof.

Traditionally, courts and Motor Accident Claims Tribunals have considered the notional income and economic value of household services while determining compensation. The legal assessment is not limited to the absence of a formal salary.

According to the legal guidance provided, recent judicial decisions have considered a monthly income of around ₹30,000 for determining compensation in appropriate cases involving the death of a homemaker, with periodic increases being considered for calculation purposes. However, the final compensation depends on the facts of each case, including the age of the deceased, number of dependants, applicable multiplier and other statutory components.

These issues demonstrate why citizens should be aware of the legal procedures available to them rather than relying on rumours or informal advice. Whether it concerns a voter's name, a police complaint, a property dispute or compensation following an accident, timely action and proper documentation remain essential for protecting one's legal rights.

Muslims Must Wake Up to the Call of Conscience

Silence in the face of injustice is not patience; true patience lies in standing firm for justice, principles and humanity through peaceful and responsible action



By Dr Shujaat Ali Suffi

Sheikh Saadi's timeless wisdom reminds us that if we fail to open our eyes today, we may be forced to open them tomorrow in the darkness of regret. As Ashfaq Ahmed observed, awakening is not merely the opening of one's eyes, but the awakening of one's conscience. This message has become increasingly relevant at a time when Muslims across the world face numerous social, economic and humanitarian challenges.

Whenever injustice, poverty, discrimination or a human tragedy occurs anywhere in the world, it naturally attracts our attention. We express concern, share messages on social media and engage in emotional discussions. Yet, in many cases, these emotions fail to translate into sustained and meaningful action. The Quran reminds us that Allah does not change the condition of a people until they change what is within themselves. (Surah Al-Ra'd: 11) The message is clear: before expecting change from others, we must examine our own conduct and responsibilities.

Islam does not teach a Muslim to remain concerned only with his or her own affairs. It places responsibilities towards family, neighbours, society and humanity. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught that when a person sees wrongdoing, it should be resisted according to one's ability; if that is not possible, it should be opposed through words, and at the very least rejected in the heart. (Sahih Muslim)

The Quran also calls upon believers to cooperate in righteousness and piety. (Surah Al-Ma'idah: 2) Therefore, if someone around us is hungry, sick, oppressed, deprived of education or in need of assistance, merely expressing sympathy is not enough. Where we have the ability, we must take practical steps to help.

Indifference, however, is not limited to remaining silent. Treating injustice as normal, considering every social problem someone else's responsibility, spreading unverified information and refusing to reflect on our collective shortcomings are also dangerous forms of indifference. The Quran commands believers to uphold justice, stating that justice is closer to righteousness. (Surah Al-Ma'idah: 8)

Helping the oppressed, verifying information, avoiding falsehood and raising a responsible voice against injustice are therefore both moral and social obligations.

But the answer to our problems cannot be found in criticism and emotional slogans alone. Reform must begin with ourselves. We need to strengthen moral values within our families, honesty in our businesses, cooperation within our communities, compassion for the vulnerable and courage to speak the truth. Paying the fees of a deserving student, visiting a sick or elderly neighbour, donating blood or regularly supporting a needy family may appear to be small acts, but consistent efforts of this kind can create meaningful social change.

Muslims today need not merely emotional reactions, but greater awareness, knowledge, character, unity, service and a sense of responsibility. We should ask ourselves whether we are doing our part for the change we expect from the world. The Quran states that believers are brothers. (Surah Al-Hujurat: 10) True brotherhood is not confined to words; it means sharing one another's difficulties, maintaining justice during disagreements and standing together when someone is in need.

At the same time, injustice cannot be answered with another injustice. If we are wronged, our demand must remain justice. Protest should be peaceful, a voice should be supported by reason, and demands should remain within the framework of law. Anger may make it easy to react, but standing firmly for one's rights through law, argument and patience requires greater strength and maturity.

Whether injustice is committed against an individual or a community, it deserves to be challenged. But that challenge should not be driven by hatred or revenge. It should be a demand for justice and a search for truth. We are not silent, but we are peaceful. We are not indifferent, but neither are we uncontrollable. We will not surrender our rights, but we will not deprive the innocent of their rights either.

This is the essence of patience and responsible citizenship. Bowing before injustice is not patience. True patience is to remain steadfast against injustice while preserving one's ethics, principles and humanity.

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) also taught believers to show mercy to those on earth so that mercy may be shown to them from above.

The condition of a community does not change through slogans alone. Change begins when individuals recognise their responsibilities and perform their share of the work with honesty, perseverance and sincerity. Parents are responsible for the upbringing of their children, teachers for guiding their students, traders for maintaining honesty in their dealings and citizens for contributing to the welfare of society. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught that every person is a guardian and will be questioned about those under their responsibility. (Sahih Bukhari, Sahih Muslim)

The real remedy for indifference is therefore not temporary emotion, but awakened conscience, strong character and continuous action. Young people must be taught that standing up for their rights through peaceful, lawful and principled means is a greater form of strength than an angry or violent reaction.

If we learn to recognise our responsibilities, share one another's pain and uphold justice even in times of disagreement, our collective weaknesses can gradually become a source of collective strength. The need of the hour is not merely to complain about circumstances, but to become responsible participants in creating a more just, compassionate and conscious society.

The time has come to move beyond words and turn our concern into constructive action. Every individual can contribute to positive change by protecting truth, helping the vulnerable, promoting education, supporting justice and maintaining peace and dignity in society. A community becomes strong not when it reacts with anger, but when it responds with wisdom, unity, courage and compassion. Let us therefore awaken our conscience, strengthen our character and fulfil our responsibilities so that our silence is never mistaken for indifference and our patience is never mistaken for weakness.

Everyone complains about the circumstances they face,

But the one who teaches patience is a different kind of human being.

AI is a game-changer, but fallout for job market needs deft handling

The rapid rise of artificial intelligence is seen as a game-changer, ushering in a new era with the technology's potential for unprecedented productivity gains through automated customer service and advanced medical diagnostics, to generative AI systems capable of producing text, code, and images within seconds - but history suggests that technological revolutions do not always translate immediately into broad-based social prosperity.

In fact, AI could potentially trigger a contemporary version of what economic historians call "Engels' Pause" -- a prolonged period in which productivity and wealth rise sharply while wages and living standards for ordinary workers stagnate, according to an article in India Narrative.

It cites the example of Britain's Industrial Revolution, which led to a massive jump in production

during the 19th century, but at the same time it took a long time for workers and ordinary people to improve their living conditions.

The article highlights that historically, industrial revolutions generated broad employment because they created entirely new industries that absorbed displaced workers. The textile revolution created factory jobs. The automobile industry generated millions of manufacturing and service-sector opportunities. The digital revolution created software engineering, e-commerce and platform economies. AI may also create new professions that are currently unimaginable. However, the transition period could still be painful and unequal.

The implications for developing economies such as India are especially complex. India has benefited enormously from labour-intensive service sectors including IT outsourcing,

business process management, and customer support operations. Many of these industries now face potential disruption from AI automation. Tasks involving basic coding, data entry, customer assistance, and document processing can increasingly be performed by AI systems at lower cost and greater speed, the article stated.

It further highlighted that at the same time, AI also presents major opportunities for India. It can improve agricultural productivity, healthcare delivery, logistics, education access and governance efficiency. Indian startups are actively integrating AI into sectors ranging from fintech to language technology. The challenge lies not in resisting AI adoption but in ensuring that productivity gains translate into widespread economic benefits rather than narrow corporate concentration.

The lessons of Engels' Pause become critically



relevant, it noted. During the Industrial Revolution, governments were initially slow to respond to worsening labour conditions and inequality. Only after decades of social unrest, unionisation, and political reform did industrial societies develop mechanisms such as labour protections, public education systems and social welfare policies.

The article contended that the AI era may require a comparable institutional re-

sponse. Policymakers must begin preparing for labour market transitions before disruption becomes socially destabilising. Investment in large-scale digital education and continuous reskilling programmes will become essential. Universities and vocational institutions must adapt rapidly to changing skill demands. Equally important is strengthening social safety nets for workers vulnerable to technological displacement.



Shai Hope Credits Dhoni's Advice After West Indies Pull Off Record Chase Against India

New Delhi, Oct. 04:

West Indies captain Shai Hope credited former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni's advice for helping him maintain composure during his match-winning knock of 162 not out against India in the third and final ODI.

Chasing a daunting target of 352, West Indies reached the total in 48.2 overs to register a five-wicket victory at the end of the series. India, however, clinched the three-match series 2-1. Hope led the chase from the front, smashing an unbeaten 162 off 143 balls, including 17 fours and three sixes. Aamir Jangoo contributed 67, while Keemo Paul scored 44.

Speaking after the match, Hope revealed that a piece of advice from Dhoni had helped him during the chase. Recalling his conversation with the former

India wicketkeeper-batter, Hope said Dhoni had told him, "You always have as much time as you think you have." The advice encouraged him to remain patient and break the massive target into smaller, manageable phases rather than becoming overwhelmed by the required run rate.

Hope's unbeaten 162 equalled Chris Gayle's record for the highest individual score by a West Indies batter while chasing in ODIs. Gayle had also scored 162 against England in 2019. Hope's innings is also the highest individual score in an ODI run chase against India, surpassing the previous mark of 160 scored by Sri Lanka's Tillakaratne Dilshan in Rajkot in 2009.

The West Indies captain also strengthened his record as an ODI wicketkeeper-captain, taking his tally to eight centuries in the format. He is now ahead



of former India captain MS Dhoni and South Africa's AB de Villiers, who each scored four ODI centuries as wicketkeeper-captains.

Hope has also joined an elite group of batters to reach 21 ODI centuries in the fewest innings. He achieved the feat in 152 innings, matching Quinton de Kock and David Warner.

Hashim Amla reached the milestone in 116 innings, while Virat Kohli did so in 138 innings.

Against India, Hope has now moved into joint second place for the most ODI centuries, with four. AB de Villiers leads the list with five, while New Zealand's Daryl Mitchell also has four centuries against India.

The victory also produced a new record for West Indies. Their successful chase of 352 became the

highest run chase in the history of ODI cricket for the Caribbean side, surpassing their previous best of 328 against Ireland in 2019. It was also the second-highest successful run chase against India in ODI history. Australia and South Africa jointly hold the record after chasing targets of 359 against India in Mohali in 2019 and Raipur in 2025 respectively.

Alcaraz reaches Tokyo semi-finals after Shapovalov retires

Tokyo, Oct. 04:

Top seed Carlos Alcaraz advanced to the semi-finals of the Japan Open on Sunday after Denis Shapovalov retired early in the second set of their quarter-final. The defending champion was leading 7-6(3), 2-1 after 82 minutes when Shapovalov ended his challenge due to a hip injury.

The opening set was highly competitive, with six breaks of serve. Shapovalov led 5-3 and had a set point at 5-4, but Alcaraz saved it with a drop shot before taking control in the tie-break. Alcaraz, who was broken three times in the set, praised his ability to fight back after each setback.

Shapovalov appeared to hurt his hip while chasing a forehand early in the second set. After receiving a



medical timeout, the former World No. 10 returned briefly but was unable to continue. "It's a shame that he had to pull out," Alcaraz said, adding that he hoped Shapovalov would be fit for the Shanghai event.

The victory extended Alcaraz's unbeaten run at the Tokyo ATP 500 event to eight matches. The 23-year-old won the title on his de-

but in 2025.

Alcaraz will face fellow Spaniard Jaume Munar in the semi-final. Munar, who entered as a qualifier, defeated Kyrian Jacquet 6-4, 6-2 and had earlier upset third seed Taylor Fritz. Alcaraz leads their ATP head-to-head 3-1, while Munar has risen 15 places to No. 49 in the latest ATP Live Rankings.

Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games declared closed



New Delhi, Oct. 04:

The Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games came to an end on Sunday after more than two weeks of intense sporting action, with the Olympic Council of Asia formally handing over the baton to Doha, which will host the 2030 edition. OCA President Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani declared the 20th Asian Games closed at the Mizuho Park Athletic Stadium.

Thousands of athletes,

officials and spectators gathered for the grand closing ceremony, held under the theme "One Asia". In his address, Al Thani said the Games had raised the standard for Asian sport and expressed hope that the spirit and aspirations created by the event would continue across the continent.

Shooter Neeru Dhandha was India's flagbearer at the closing ceremony after a memorable campaign. She was among India's standout performers, win-

ning two gold medals and a silver during the Games.

India finished fourth in the overall medal standings with 85 medals, comprising 21 gold, 27 silver and 37 bronze. The country's tally was 21 medals fewer than its record 106-medal haul at the previous Asian Games in Hangzhou, where India won 28 gold medals. Despite the lower overall tally, India retained its fourth-place position.

China topped the standings for the 12th consecutive edition with 341 medals, including 169 gold. Hosts Japan finished second with 269 medals, including 83 gold, while South Korea secured third place with 150 medals, including 39 gold.

India produced a strong finish to the Games, winning 11 gold medals in the final two days of competition. The late surge helped the country secure its place among the top four sporting nations in Asia.

'Vaibhav is a very silent guy, but destructive on the field': Shreyas Iyer



New Delhi, Oct. 04:

India T20I captain Shreyas Iyer believes young Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has the temperament and ability to make a significant impact in Indian cricket, but said the teenager's immediate development should not be reduced to conversations about his performances on the field.

Speaking ahead of India's five-match T20I series against the West Indies, Iyer said he has deliberately tried to build a personal connection with the youngster by speaking to him about life away from cricket.

Sooryavanshi remains part of India's squad as the side begins its preparations for the next T20 World Cup, but Iyer indicated that there is no need to rush the youngster into a bigger role. The captain pointed to the presence of India's established World Cup-winning openers while stressing that Sooryavanshi's opportunity will arrive in due course.

"I keep interacting with Vaibhav in terms of what he does outside the field, because everyone talks to him about cricket, and we know

how talented and gifted as an individual he is. So, just to talk about his lifestyle outside, that interaction, knowing about his family, what he does, what not, excites him more because he's more of himself when he talks about it.

"And a very silent guy, but on the field, is very destructive. So, that's like an irony when you look at him. He's a very charming, sweet guy to interact with and good to have him around the dressing room. And I know that his time will come, because we have been playing with World Cup-winning openers right now, and they deserve the time out there, and he's still in the 15. So definitely, when his time comes, he is going to dominate Indian cricket," Iyer told JioStar.

The captain also made it clear that the youngster's current position behind established openers should not be interpreted as a lack of faith in his ability. After leading the T20I side to an Asian Games gold, he will now be looking to carry the same momentum into the five games against the Windies to seal the series early on.

India U17 men share spoils with Myanmar in first friendly

New Delhi, Oct. 04:

India U17 men's football team drew 1-1 with Myanmar in the first friendly at StarCity Sports Club, Thanlyin, on Sunday. Myanmar took the lead through Aung Myat Thar in the 42nd minute,

before Dallalmon Gangte equalised from a penalty in the 73rd minute.

India pressed for a winner but Myanmar's defence held firm. The second friendly between the two teams will be played at the same venue on Wednesday.

Pakistan speedster Kainat Imtiaz announces retirement from international cricket

New Delhi, Oct. 04:

Pakistan fast bowler Kainat Imtiaz announced her retirement from international cricket, drawing the curtains on a 13-year career, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) confirmed on Sunday.

Kainat made her debut in 2010 in T20Is and her ODI debut in 2011. She played her last match in 2023. The right-arm speedster was a vital part of Pakistan's women's squads in their gold medal wins in the Asian Games cricket event in 2010 and 2014.

She was also with the Women in Green in the Commonwealth Games 2022 and also represented them in the 2017 ODI World Cup.

Kainat, 34, has switched hats recently as she has begun her career as a match referee in the PCB National Women's U19 T20 Tournament held in August and September. Her mother, Saleema Imtiaz also became the first Pakistani woman to be nominated to the ICC's International Development Panel in 2024.

Kainat played 19 ODIs and 21 T20Is for the Women in Green. She has 10 wickets in 16 ODI innings with a best haul of 3-49. She took eight wickets in 12 T20I innings with a best haul of 2-18.



She also used to chip in with the bat a bit, having made 134 runs in 13 ODI innings at an average of 11.16 with a best of 24. She made 137 runs in 17 T20I innings at 12.45 with a best of 29.

The speedster began her career in February 2007 when she played for Karachi Schools U17 in the PCB National Schools U17 Women's Championship. She went on to make her List A debut in March 2008 and her T20 debut in July that year.

Kainat won her first international cap in a T20I in 2010 during the ICC Women's Cricket Twenty20 Challenge against South Africa. She played her first ODI against Ireland in the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier in 2011.

Her last T20I came against Thailand in Sylhet during the Women's Asia Cup in October 2022, while Kainat last represented the Women in Green in the ODIs in January 2023 during Pakistan's tour of Australia.

Rishabh Pant Leads Rest of India to Record 30th Irani Cup Title



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there is no need to rush the youngster into a bigger role. The captain pointed to the presence of India's established World Cup-winning openers while stressing that Sooryavanshi's opportunity will arrive in due course.

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a very charming, sweet guy to interact with and good to have him around the dressing room. And I know that his time will come, because we have been playing with World Cup-winning openers right now, and they deserve the time out there, and he's still in the 15. So definitely, when his time comes, he is going to dominate Indian cricket," Iyer told JioStar.

The captain also made it clear that the youngster's current position behind established openers should not be interpreted as a lack of faith in his ability. After leading the T20I side to an Asian Games gold, he will now be looking to carry the same momentum into the five games against the Windies to seal the series early on.

West Indies ODI Series Ends: When Will Virat and Rohit Return?

New Delhi, Oct. 04:

India won the three-match ODI series against West Indies 2-1 despite losing the final match by five wickets. With the T20I series starting on October 6, fans will not see Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma in action immediately. Both are expected to return during India's upcoming tour of New Zealand.

India will play five T20Is, five ODIs and two Tests in New Zealand, with the tour beginning on October 22. The squad is yet to be announced, but Kohli and Rohit are expected to be selected for the ODI series after their impressive performances against West Indies.

Rohit scored 32, 101 and 92 in the three ODIs, while Kohli made 139*

and 29, along with a golden duck. Rohit has scored 437 runs in 14 ODIs in New Zealand, while Kohli has 596 runs from 13 matches, including a century and four half-centuries.

The five-match ODI series in New Zealand could therefore give fans another chance to watch the two Indian greats together in the 50-over format.

Youth join Nasha Mukta walkathon in Hyderabad

**IANS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

Hundreds of youngsters participated in the Nasha Mukta Yuva Walkathon organised in Hyderabad on Sunday by MY Bharat, Telangana, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, in collaboration with the National Service Scheme (NSS), to spread awareness about the harmful effects of substance abuse.

The walkathon began at the historic Charminar and concluded at Government City College after being flagged off by Rajya Sabha MP K. Laxman. The event conveyed a strong message on the need for collective efforts to

combat drug abuse and promote a healthy, responsible and drug-free society.

Addressing the participants, Laxman called upon young people to stay away from drugs and said a healthy and drug-free youth population was essential to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047. He noted that substance abuse affects not only individuals but also families and communities.

MY Bharat Telangana State Director Anvesh Chinthala urged youth to adopt healthy lifestyles and positive habits, while NCB Hyderabad Assistant Director Vishal V.R. stressed the importance of awareness and collective action in preventing

Youth rally from Charminar to City College sends strong message against drug abuse



substance abuse. The walkathon concluded with the National Anthem, with participants reaffirming their commitment to a Nasha Mukta Bharat.

OCTOPUS conducts anti-terror mock drill near Makkah Masjid

**Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

The elite OCTOPUS force, along with personnel from other security and emergency response agencies, conducted a joint anti-terror mock drill near Makkah Masjid and the Charminar area late Saturday night.

The exercise, held from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m., was aimed at assessing the preparedness of security agencies to respond to a simulated terror-related emergency. It also focused on improving inter-agency coordination, rapid response mechanisms and rescue and

evacuation operations in the densely populated area.

Security personnel carried out various response and rescue procedures as part of the drill. The exercise was conducted as a routine preparedness measure to identify operational gaps and enhance coordination during any potential emergency.

Officials clarified that there was no actual security threat or emergency in the area and urged citizens not to panic after seeing security personnel or emergency response activity. They said the visuals were related only to the mock drill.



Shabbir Ali seeks FIRs over alleged misuse of Form 7 applications

**NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

Advisor to the Telangana Government Mohammed Ali Shabbir has urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to order stringent action, including registration of FIRs, against the alleged misuse of Form 7 applications to seek deletion of genuine voters during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

In a letter to the Chief Minister on Sunday, Shabbir Ali expressed concern over reports of Form 7 applications being filed in bulk, including through pre-printed forms, seeking



deletion of eligible electors on grounds such as death, shifting of residence or duplicate enrolment.

He said minority voters were particularly apprehensive that their names could be targeted without their knowledge and urged the government to ensure that genuine voters were not removed from the electoral rolls through fraudulent applications.

Shabbir Ali cited a

TPCC complaint regarding around 30 Form 7 applications at Polling Booth No. 210 in Musheerabad. The applications were allegedly filed in the name of BJP booth-level agent S.V. Balachander alias Balu and sought deletion of Congress booth-level agent Mohammad Baba Sharfuddin, his family members and another household in Chikkadapally.

The Congress leader urged the Chief Minister to order a thorough inquiry into the alleged misuse of Form 7 applications and take stringent action against those found responsible.

KTR invited to address global healthcare summit in California

**NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

BRS working president and MLA K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) has been invited as the distinguished guest of honour at TALHealthFest 2026, an international healthcare summit to be held at the University of California, San Diego, on October 30.

The invitation was extended by Sai Gundavelli, CEO of the Touch-A-Life Foundation, which is organising the summit. The event will bring together healthcare professionals, industry leaders, researchers, policy-makers, technology innovators and organisations from across the world. KTR is expected to share his perspectives on healthcare, technology, innovation and global health access, while his participation is also aimed at strengthening India-US collaboration in these areas.

The organisers said the summit would provide a platform for discussions involving hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical technology companies, academia, patient advocacy groups, government representatives and medical tourism leaders.



Congress unable to accept Modi's third-term mandate: NRR

**NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao on Sunday accused the Congress of being unable to accept the people's mandate that returned Narendra Modi as Prime Minister for a third consecutive term.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP state headquarters, Rao said the Congress had faced defeats in several states and three consecutive Lok Sabha elections, yet its leadership had failed to accept the electorate's verdict. He alleged that the party continued to function with a "monarchical" mindset, believing that the Prime Minister's post belonged to the Nehru-Gandhi family.

Rao criticised Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's remarks questioning the credibility of elections, saying such



statements amounted to an insult to voters and Indian democracy. He also accused Rahul Gandhi and others of attempting to undermine public confidence in constitutional institutions, including the Supreme Court, the President's office and the Election Commission of India.

On the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process in Hyderabad, Rao rejected Congress allegations, saying voter deletions were carried out only after field-level verification of objections.

He clarified that submission of Form-7 does not automatically result in deletion and claimed that no BJP Booth Level Agents had submitted such applications.

Rao alleged that Congress praised the SIR process when it benefited the party in states such as Kerala but criticised it after facing electoral setbacks elsewhere. He said the BJP would continue to oppose what he termed attempts to undermine democratic institutions and vowed to politically fight the Congress.

Prayer for rain held at Amberpet Eidgah

**Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

A special Namaz-e-Istisqa (prayer for rain) was offered at the Amberpet Eidgah and Amber Shah Baba (RA) MCH playground, with people gathering to pray for rainfall.

A large number of devotees participated in the prayer and supplication. Some also brought their domestic animals as part of the traditional practice associated with the



prayer for rain. The gathering also witnessed a message of communal harmony, with Hindu community members planting saplings at the venue. The programme highlighted the importance of environmental protection and peaceful coexistence.

380 booked for drunk driving in Hyderabad



**Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

The Hyderabad Traffic Police booked 380 motorists for driving under the influence of alcohol during a two-day special drive conducted on October 2 and 3 as part of efforts to improve road safety.

Of the violators, 343 were two-wheeler riders, 12 were driving three-wheelers and 25 were four-wheeler and other vehicle drivers. The highest number of cases, 167, involved blood alcohol concentration (BAC)

levels of 51–100 mg/100 ml, followed by 80 cases in the 30–50 range and 77 cases in the 101–150 range.

The police also booked 39 cases with BAC levels of 151–200, 12 in the 201–250 range, two in the 251–300 range and three cases with levels above 300.

The Traffic Police said there would be zero tolerance towards drunk-driving violations and warned that such special drives would continue. Commuters were urged to cooperate with the police and refrain from driving after consuming alcohol.

IndiGo flight suffers bird strike at Shamshabad Airport

**NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

A major mishap was averted at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Shamshabad on Sunday after an IndiGo flight was hit by a bird shortly before landing.

IndiGo flight 6E352, arriving from Pune, suffered minor damage to its front section following the bird strike. However, the aircraft landed safely at the airport.

Following instructions from the pilot, a team of experts inspected the aircraft to assess the damage. The flight was scheduled to operate to Chandigarh, but the service was subsequently cancelled by officials.

Singeetham's demise an irreparable loss to cinema: CMs



**IANS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday condoled the death of legendary filmmaker Singeetham Srinivasa Rao, describing his demise as an irreparable loss to Telugu and Indian cinema.

Singeetham, 95, died at a Chennai hospital on October 3. Revanth Reddy said his innovative storytelling and experimentation had opened new paths in Telugu cinema, while Naidu hailed his pioneering contribution to filmmaking.

Former Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu recalled Singeetham's decades-long contribution and described him as an inspiration for younger generations. Former AP Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy also paid tribute, calling him a pioneer whose creativity continued to inspire generations.

Telangana bars, restaurants to shut over privilege cess

**NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

Bar and restaurant owners across Telangana have announced a statewide shutdown from Monday in protest against the government's proposed 'privilege cess', which they say would add significantly to their financial burden.

The Telangana State Bar and Restaurant Owners' Association said more than 1,200 bars and restaurants would remain closed as part of the protest. The association has also announced plans to stage a protest at the Excise Commissioner's office on October 5, demanding immediate withdrawal of the proposed cess.

Under the new proposal, an annual privilege



cess ranging from 8 to 20 per cent is to be collected from bars. Association president Damodar Goud said the move could impose an additional burden of around ₹30 lakh a year on each establishment. He said owners were already paying between ₹33 lakh and ₹56 lakh annually towards licence fees.

The association also raised concerns over the operation of permanent rooms at wine shops and the spread of unauthorised 'belt shops', alleging that these were affecting their business.

Congress afraid of Khairatabad bypoll: DK Aruna



**NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 4**

BJP MP D.K. Aruna on Sunday alleged that the Congress government was trying to delay the Khairatabad Assembly by-election fearing defeat. She challenged defected MLAs who had won on BRS tickets to resign and seek a fresh mandate if the Congress was confident of its governance. Aruna accused the Congress and BRS of having a "secret pact" and alleged that their policies had pushed Telangana into debt and stalled development. She expressed confidence that the BJP would win the Khairatabad seat.