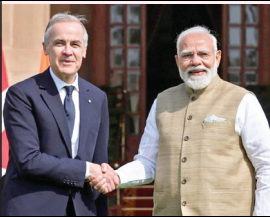




Land Resurvey Can Resolve Farmers' Disputes: Nirmal Collector

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Modi, Carney Agree to Strengthen India-Canada Ties

Nation, Page 4



Putin wants peace more than Zelensky: Trump

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Mendis to Begin Test Captaincy on Pakistan Tour

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Conserve water, cooperate with govt: Chief Secretary

Hyderabad plans additional 60 MGD supply; Mallannasagar pipeline expected to add 20 MGD from November



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Tuesday urged Hyderabad residents to conserve water, assuring adequate drinking water supply despite the anticipated

impact of El Niño.

Chairing a review meeting at the Secretariat, Jaju directed officials to optimise available resources and ensure uninterrupted supply across GHMC, Malkajgiri and Cyberabad municipal corporation limits.

The Hyderabad Core Area currently draws around 560 million gallons per day (MGD) from Osman Sagar, Himayat Sagar, Manjeera, Krishna and Godavari sources. An additional 60 MGD is planned, including 15 MGD from Krishna,

- Hyderabad Core Area currently draws around 560 MGD from five sources.
- Additional 60 MGD planned through Krishna, Mission Bhagiratha and twin reservoirs.
- Mallannasagar pipeline expected to provide another 20 MGD.
- Apartments urged to use treated wastewater for non-domestic purposes.

40 MGD through Mission Bhagiratha and 5 MGD from the twin reservoirs.

Officials said the pipeline project to bring water from Mallannasagar to Hyderabad was expected to be completed in November, adding another 20 MGD to the city's supply.

Jaju also directed gated communities and apartment complexes to operate sewage treatment plants at full capacity and encourage the use of treated wastewater for gardening, vehicle washing and other non-domestic purposes.

Telangana releases Rs 204.40 crore in SC scholarships

32,976 students to benefit in 2026-27

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

Telangana has released ₹204.44 crore in post-matric scholarships for 32,976 Scheduled Caste students for 2026-27, Welfare Minister Adhuri Lakshman Kumar said on Tuesday.

The State contributed ₹101.44 crore and the Centre ₹102.96 crore. The Minister said financial assistance remained a priority to ensure that economic constraints did not hinder students' higher education.

He said applications received from educational institutions were being scrutinised regularly and directed officials to ensure timely processing and disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

Congress vows to continue ECI stir; four FIRs filed over INDIA bloc march

IANs News
New Delhi, Oct 13

The Congress on Tuesday vowed to continue its agitation against the Election Commission of India (ECI) until justice is delivered and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar resigns, even as police registered four FIRs over the INDIA bloc's march to the Supreme Court and legal action was sought over a deleted social media post targeting the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

Congress leaders claimed that the large turnout during Monday's protest reflected growing public concern over alleged electoral irregularities and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. MP Pramod Tiwari said the INDIA bloc remained united in defending democracy and voting rights, while MP Imran Masood described the gathering as unprecedented in his political career.

Uttar Pradesh Congress president Aradhana Mishra Mona alleged that more than 13.5 crore names had been deleted from electoral rolls under the SIR exercise, questioning the impact on citizens'



voting rights. Congress spokesperson Surendra Rajput said the party would continue its campaign against alleged "vote chori" and expressed hope that the Supreme Court would deliver justice.

Delhi Police registered four FIRs in connection with the march for alleged violations of Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). Two cases were registered at Tilak Marg police station and one each at Mandir Marg and Barakhamba police stations, according to police sources.

Separately, the Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit registered more than four FIRs against social media handles allegedly circulating mislead-

ing information and attempting to create unrest. Sources said around 500 posts had been taken down. They alleged that some accounts operating from Pakistan circulated false claims of deaths during an October 10 protest, while some users allegedly posed as Indians to spread misleading content.

Meanwhile, advocate Vineet Jindal approached CJI Surya Kant seeking consideration of suo motu criminal contempt proceedings over a now-deleted post by the Congress Kerala unit calling for the CJI's resignation. Jindal also sought examination of the reported protest and slogan-shouting at the Supreme Court premises, including whether security restrictions were breached or court proceedings obstructed.

The advocate urged the preservation and examination of CCTV footage, access records and security deployment details before any conclusion was drawn. The Supreme Court Bar Association and the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association had separately expressed concern over remarks calling for the CJI's resignation.

J&K Waqf chief denies move for uniform Friday sermons

IANs News
Srinagar, Oct 13

Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board Chairperson Darakhshan Andrabi on Tuesday denied reports that the Board had made uniform Friday sermons mandatory in its affiliated mosques, asserting that religious scholars and preachers were free to choose their topics.

She said no order had been issued and clarified that a proposed core committee would comprise religious scholars, without her involvement. The initiative aimed to address social issues such as drug abuse, suicide, family problems and mental health concerns, she added.

The clarification came after Chief Minister Omar Abdullah criticised the reported move, calling it an unacceptable attempt by the BJP to interfere in Muslim religious affairs. The proposal had also drawn opposition from political and religious leaders.



UP CEO rejects report on 85,854 voter deletions

IANs News
Lucknow, Oct 13

Uttar Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer Navdeep Rinwa's office on Tuesday rejected as "misleading" a media report alleging that 85,854 Form-7 applications for voter deletion were generated without valid reasons during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR).

The CEO's office said the claims that officials were forced to sign deletion forms without justification were incorrect. It maintained that the process involved identifying discrepancies, issuing written notices, conducting



hearings and scrutinising evidence before passing final deletion orders. The office said pending cases were decided after March 6 in accordance with established procedures and urged the public to rely on official sources.

The controversy comes amid Opposition allegations of bias and deliberate voter deletions during

the SIR in poll-bound Uttar Pradesh. Earlier this month, the CEO's office also rejected a media report alleging irregularities in the addition of over 16 lakh voters, stating that the forms had been collected during the enumeration phase before publication of the draft electoral roll on January 6, 2026.

SC stays defamation trial against Rahul Gandhi

IANs News
New Delhi, Oct 13

The Supreme Court on Tuesday stayed trial court proceedings in a defamation case against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his alleged derogatory remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Apareesh Kumar Singh issued notices to the Maharashtra government and the complainant, seeking responses within four weeks.

The case stems from alleged remarks, including "Choro Ke Sardar" and "Commander-in-Thief", made by Gandhi at a Rajasthan rally in September 2018. The Bombay High Court had rejected his plea to quash the proceedings on September 8.

Saudi-Houthi tensions escalate; Indian Embassy issues advisory

IANs News
Riyadh, Oct 13

Saudi Arabia's escalating conflict with Yemen's Houthi group has prompted the Indian Embassy to advise nationals to stay indoors during aerial attacks, as the coalition announced a planned operation in Sanaa and Tehran offered to facilitate dialogue.

The Houthis claimed a fresh ballistic missile strike on Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport and a drone attack on an airbase in Khamis Mushait. The Saudi-led coalition said it intercepted the missile and destroyed three drones north of Riyadh. It also warned civilians to evacuate a site in Houthi-held Sanaa ahead of a "special operation."

The Embassy opened a 24x7 control room and urged Indians to follow local authorities' instructions, avoid sharing videos or unverified news, and check flight updates with airlines. Four Indians injured in the October 10 airport attack remain in intensive care, four are in general wards and three have been discharged. Indian national Mohammed Yousuf Ali, who died in the attack, was buried in Riyadh on October 12.

Meanwhile, Iran reiterated its readiness to facilitate dialogue between Saudi Arabia and the Houthis amid growing regional concerns. Saudi authorities said the October 10 airport attack killed 12 people and injured 309.



158 refugees get Indian citizenship in Gujarat

IANs News
Ahmedabad, Oct 13

Ahead of Diwali, 158 people who migrated to India from neighbouring countries received Indian citizenship certificates at a ceremony in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. Of them, 126 were granted citizenship under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), while 32 received certificates through the District Collector's Office.

Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi presented the certificates at

an event organised by the district administration, saying the move would bring joy and a secure future to families who had faced religious persecution in neighbouring countries, particularly Pakistan.

Sanghavi thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for introducing the CAA and criticised its opponents for overlooking the hardships faced by refugee families.

Gujarat officials said more than 1,500 people had received citizenship under the initiative so far. Ahmedabad district alone issued certificates to over 1,200 applicants between 2017 and 2025, leading the country in the initiative, according to the district administration.



Medak DCC President Anjaneyulu Goud Participates in Congress Protest Rally in Delhi

Munsif News Bureau Medak, Oct. 13:

The Congress party organised a massive protest rally in New Delhi, demanding the resignation of Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, following a call by the All India Congress Committee (AICC). Medak District Congress Committee President Anjaneyulu Goud participated in the protest along with Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee

(TPCC) President and MLC Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, state ministers, Members of Parliament, MLAs, former Malkajgiri MLA Mynampally Hanumantha Rao and Medak MLA Mynampally Rohith Rao. During the protest, Congress leaders stressed the need to ensure transparency in the electoral system and safeguard the fundamental values of democracy. Expressing con-

cerns over the functioning of the Election Commission, they demanded the immediate resignation of Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. The protesters raised slogans and called for greater transparency and accountability in the electoral process. Congress leaders said elections were fundamental to a democratic system and maintaining public confidence in the electoral process was essential. They stressed that transpar-

ency, impartiality and accountability must be ensured in the conduct of elections to strengthen public trust in democratic institutions. Through the rally, the Congress party sought to highlight its concerns and demands regarding the electoral system at the national level. The leaders emphasised that public confidence in the electoral process must remain a priority to preserve the credibility of democratic institutions.

20 Arrested, Including Sarpanch, for Attacking Police Personnel on Duty in Adilabad

Munsif News Bureau Adilabad, Oct. 13:

Police have arrested 20 people in connection with an attack on a police team that visited Y. Pet village under the jurisdiction of Sirikonda Police Station in Adilabad district to investigate a ganja case. Adilabad District Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan, IPS, said seven accused were arrested on Monday, while another 13 were taken into custody on Tuesday. Five police personnel were injured in the incident, and a government police vehicle was damaged. Addressing a press con-

ference at the local Police Armed Reserve headquarters on Tuesday, the SP said that on the morning of October 10, a police team comprising Achooda Circle Inspector C.H. Ramesh, Constable Bathula Shiva Prasad and three other personnel had travelled to Y. Pet village in an official vehicle to investigate a ganja case registered under Crime No. 90/2026 at Sirikonda Police Station under the NDPS Act. After arresting one of the accused in the ganja case and sending him to judicial custody, a group of people allegedly attacked the police team. According to the police complaint, the attackers

pelted stones at the police vehicle and assaulted the personnel with sticks, leaving them injured. They allegedly took the policemen by force to the Sarpanch's house and confined them there. The accused also threatened to kill the personnel and damaged the official police vehicle and a government-issued phone. Police further stated that another mobile phone and a CD file related to Crime No. 79/2026 were allegedly snatched during the incident. Constable Bathula Shiva Prasad suffered a fracture to his left hand, while Circle Inspector C.H. Ramesh sustained injuries to his shoulder and back.

Telangana HC reserves verdict on Amrapali's cadre allocation

Hyderabad, Oct. 13 (NSS): The Telangana High Court has reserved its verdict on a petition filed by IAS officer Amrapali challenging the Centre's decision on her cadre allocation. The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) had set aside the Centre's proceedings allocating Amrapali to the Andhra Pradesh cadre and directed that she be allocated to the Telangana cadre. The High Court had subsequently stayed the tribunal's order. After the High Court's interim order, Amrapali approached the same court challenging the decision. A division bench heard arguments in the matter and reserved its verdict.

Martyrs' families deserve lasting support: Telangana Governor

Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

Governor of Telangana Shiv Pratap Shukla said the sacrifice of soldiers who laid down their lives for the nation was immeasurable and that supporting their families was a collective responsibility of the government and society. The Governor was the chief guest at the Amar Shaheed Family Honouring Programme organised by Samarpan at National Public School, Deoria, Uttar Pradesh. He paid tribute to the martyrs and called for sustained support for their families, particularly in education and welfare. Shukla also unveiled the statue of late Pandit Krishna Dev Tripathi, founder of Krishak Intermediate College at Vishunpur, appreciating his contribution to rural education. He later participated in the Rudra Maha Yagna organised by Chillupar MLA Rajesh Tripathi at Muktipath, Barhalganj, Gorakhpur.



Police have arrested 20 people in connection with an attack on a police team that visited Y. Pet village under the jurisdiction of Sirikonda Police Station in Adilabad district to investigate a ganja case. Adilabad District Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan, IPS, said seven accused were arrested on Monday, while another 13 were taken into custody on Tuesday.

Expedite Construction of Warangal Bus Station: Gundla Sudharani

Munsif News Bureau Warangal, Oct. 13:

KUDA Chairperson Gundla Sudharani has directed officials to expedite the construction and development works of the Warangal bus station to ensure its early completion. She, along with Hanamkonda District Collector and KUDA

Vice-Chairperson Chahat Bajpai, conducted a detailed inspection of the ongoing construction works and reviewed the progress of the project. During the visit, they examined the construction plan and sought details from representatives of the construction agency regarding the current status and progress of the works.

Gundla Sudharani directed officials to ensure that construction activities were carried out at a faster pace so that the project could be completed as soon as possible. Hanamkonda Collector and KUDA Vice-Chairperson Chahat Bajpai instructed officials to deploy additional workers to speed up the construction.



As part of the BRS party's 10 Years of Development celebrations, party leaders, led by former state minister Jogu Ramanna, visited the IT Tower located at the Adilabad district headquarters. On the occasion, they highlighted the development works undertaken in the district during the previous ten-year BRS government, including irrigation projects, education, healthcare, transport, farmers' welfare and the provision of basic amenities in rural and urban areas.

Congress Government Negligent in Operationalising IT Tower: Former Minister

Munsif News Bureau Adilabad, Oct. 13:

As part of the BRS party's 10 Years of Development celebrations, party leaders, led by former state minister Jogu Ramanna, visited the IT Tower located at the Adilabad district headquarters. On the occasion, they highlighted the development works undertaken in the district during the previous ten-year BRS government, including irrigation projects, education, healthcare, transport, farmers' welfare and the provision of basic amenities in rural and urban areas. Speaking during the visit, Jogu Ramanna said the previous BRS government had prioritised irrigation projects, drinking water, education, healthcare, roads, infra-

structure and employment opportunities for youth. He stated that the IT Tower had been completed on three acres of land at an estimated cost of ₹40 crore to promote the IT sector in the district and provide employment opportunities to local youth. Ramanna alleged that the present Congress government was showing negligence in inaugurating the IT Tower and commencing its operations. He urged the local MP and MLA to pay special attention to creating employment opportunities for young people. Instead of focusing only on projects that generate commissions, the government should immediately make the IT Tower operational, as it could help improve the future of unemployed youth, he said.

According to Jogu Ramanna, the full-scale functioning of the IT Tower could generate approximately 2,000 job opportunities for local youth. He said the issue had been raised several times with the State IT Minister and letters had also been submitted, but the government's failure to take appropriate action was regrettable. He further stated that the BRS government had focused on providing drinking water to villages, irrigation facilities to farmers, transport services, higher education and welfare schemes during its tenure. Claiming that people continued to remember the development achieved in the district over the previous decade under K. Chandrashekar Rao's leadership.



Revenue Additional Collector J.L.B. Hari Priya, along with Trainee Assistant Collector Sai Shivani, pected the ongoing land survey works in Chekerlapally village of Hanwada mandal. AD for Survey and Land Records Ashok and Hanwada Tahsildar were also present. After reviewing the progress of the survey, Additional Collector Hari Priya interacted with villagers and explained that, in accordance with government orders, a resurvey programme was being implemented in selected villages across the district.

Dr. Palvai Harish Babu Urges ESIC to Construct a New 30-Bed ESI Hospital in Kagaznagar

Munsif News Bureau Kagaznagar, Oct. 13:

Sirpur MLA Dr. Palvai Harish Babu has urged the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) to construct a new, modern 30-bed ESI hospital in Kagaznagar, citing the dilapidated condition of the existing hospital building and the need to provide improved healthcare facilities to workers and their families in the region. On Tuesday, Dr. Palvai Harish Babu met ESIC Director General Ashok Kumar Singh and Medical Commissioner Dr. Srinivasan at Panchdeep Bhavan in New Delhi to discuss the urgent need for a new ESI hospital in Kagaznagar. During the meeting, the MLA submitted a letter written by Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy to the ESIC authorities, drawing their attention to the deteriorating condition of the existing ESI hospital and requesting the construction of a modern replacement facility. Dr. Harish Babu urged the authorities to demolish the existing dilapidated building and construct a new 30-bed ESI hospital in Kagaznagar. He also requested that the proposed hospital be operated under the direct administration of ESIC, a central government organisation, to ensure the effective delivery of quality medical services.

Land Resurvey Can Provide Permanent Solution to Farmers' Land Disputes: Nirmal Collector

Munsif News Bureau Mudhole, Oct. 13:

Nirmal District Collector Bhavesh Mishra said that land resurvey would help resolve farmers' land-related problems and provide a permanent solution to land disputes. The Collector made these remarks on Tuesday while conducting a field-level inspection of the ongoing land resurvey process in Tanur Mandal. During the inspection, he obtained details from the concerned officials regarding the progress of the survey and the

work completed so far. He directed officials to inform all concerned farmers in advance before conducting the resurvey and ensure that land measurements were carried out in their presence. This, he said, would help prevent disputes and ensure transparency throughout the process. The Collector also instructed the survey team to discharge its duties responsibly and complete the resurvey within the stipulated timeframe. ater, interacting with farmers, Bhavesh Mishra said that the



government was undertaking land measurements and resurvey operations with the objective of resolving land-related issues permanently.

He advised farmers and landowners to remain available during the survey and provide officials with all relevant details regarding their landholdings.

QR Code-Based Smart Ration Cards to Ensure Transparency in Welfare Schemes: Congress Leaders

Munsif News Bureau Balkonda, Oct. 13:

Motat Mandal Congress Party Vice-President Pandam Srinivas, Congress Party Secretary Syed Arshad and Motat Town Congress Party Secretary Mohammed Jamal said that the government's primary objective was to ensure the transparent delivery of welfare scheme benefits to poor and middle-class families and provide them with basic amenities. They stated that the state government was distributing secure, tamper-proof, QR code-based smart ration cards to improve public convenience and ensure

greater transparency in the delivery of welfare benefits. Speaking on the occasion, Motat Mandal Congress Party Vice-President Pandam Srinivas said that the technologically advanced smart ration cards would help deliver government welfare benefits to eligible beneficiaries more transparently while reducing the scope for irregularities. He expressed happiness over the introduction of smart ration cards alongside the implementation of various welfare programmes, stating that providing these cards to eligible beneficiaries would bring them greater

reassurance. He added that the government was working to ensure that people did not face difficulties in accessing basic amenities and public services. The technology-enabled cards would facilitate the transparent delivery of welfare benefits to deserving beneficiaries. He further stated that smart ration cards would play an important role in implementing the state government's six guarantee schemes and strengthening public governance. Motat Mandal Congress Party Secretary Syed Arshad said that



the state government was providing six kilograms of fine rice per month to every eligible individual holding a ration card.

Strong Security Essential for Banks and ATMs: Ramagundam CP Amber Kishore Jha

NSS Nizamabad, Oct. 13:

Ramagundam (Munsif News Bureau): Ramagundam Police Commissioner Amber Kishore Jha has directed officials to main-

tain stringent security standards and coordinate with the police to prevent crimes at banks and ATMs under the Ramagundam Police Commissionerate. On Monday, the CP held a security review meeting at the

Commissionerate office with ACPs and inspectors from the Peddapalli and Mancherla zones, along with representatives of various banks. Speaking on the occasion, he revealed that the Peddapalli zone

has 109 banks and 79 ATMs, while the Mancherla zone has 109 banks and 89 ATM centres. Pointing out that security audits had identified substandard CCTV cameras and a shortage of security guards at certain

locations, he stressed the need to strengthen security arrangements at all banks and ATMs. He suggested that round-the-clock security guards, high-quality CCTV cameras, alarm systems and metal detectors at

entrances should be made mandatory at every bank and ATM. The Commissioner said that if the local police were informed in advance about cash replenishment at ATMs, Blue Colts and patrol vehicle personnel

could be alerted to strengthen security during the process. He also advised banks to install digital video recorders (DVRs) in secure, concealed locations to prevent criminals from disabling CCTV cameras or steal-

ing the recording equipment. Directing bank staff and security guards to remain constantly vigilant, he warned that banks could be particularly vulnerable to criminal activity during holidays.



District Principal Judge V. Sarada Devi stated that Telangana's tradition of arranging naturally available flowers into Bathukamma and worshipping it as a manifestation of the Goddess reflects the state's rich cultural heritage and deep-rooted connection with nature. On Tuesday, she participated in the Bathukamma celebrations organised at the Superintendent of Police (SP) Office in the district headquarters, along with District Collector K. Hariitha, Judicial First-Class Magistrate Anantha Lakshmi, SP Nithika Pant and District Forest Officer Balamani. The officials enthusiastically participated in the traditional Bathukamma celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, District Collector K. Hariitha said that the Bathukamma festival holds a special place in Telangana's cultural heritage.

CARE Hospitals HITEC City receives JCI accreditation

Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

Care Hospitals, HITEC City, on Tuesday announced that it has received accreditation from the Joint Commission International (JCI) after undergoing rigorous, independent evaluation to prove that its clinical, operational, and administrative practices meet strict international benchmarks. Since JCI is internationally recognised, accreditation serves as an instant trust signal for international patients, medical value travelers, and global insurance providers. The JCI accreditation follows a comprehensive assessment of the hospital's clinical and operational practices.

Youth electrocuted in Mahabubabad's Dornakal

NSS Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

Mahabubabad: Tension prevailed briefly at Bodrai Thanda in Dornakal mandal of Mahabubabad district on Tuesday after a 26-year-old youth died of electrocution. The deceased, Daramsoth Akhil, a resident of Malliahkunta Thanda, reportedly fell from a neem tree after suffering an electric shock when he came into contact with live wires while trimming its branches.

Public is disgusted due to Opposition parties' theatrics

NSS New Delhi, Oct. 13:

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Tuesday claimed that the public was disgusted by the theatrics staged by the Congress party and its allies in Delhi over the past week under the guise of protests. He alleged that the Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi, the Congress party, the Communists and other opposition parties were misusing the democratic rights guaranteed by the Constitution to create anarchy in the country.

Addressing a press conference, he said that they were attempting to tarnish the nation's reputation and added that they were the opposition leaders were behaving in a truly deplorable manner in the name of democracy and added that Rahul Gandhi had forgotten his stature and stooped



to a very low level while noting that the people of the country are observing this. "In the past, they staged high drama in Parliament demanding the Lok Sabha Speaker's resignation only to become a laughingstock. Later, they demanded the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. Now, they are speaking irresponsibly, declaring Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Amit Shah, Ajit Doval and the RSS Chief as their targets.

They claim their goal is to topple the Modi government. There is nothing wrong with an opposition party harboring such an ambition. However, it is atrocious to abandon ethical values and act in a way that undermines the country's constitutional institutions to achieve that end. Now, because verdicts have not gone in their favor, they are even demanding that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court step down.

Telangana becomes first state in India to establish a dedicated MSE facilitation council for Startups: K. Madhukar Babu

NSS Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI), in association with the MSME Development Office (MSME-DFO), Hyderabad, organised an awareness programme on the MSME Development (Amendments) Bill, 2026, at FTCCI Surana Auditorium, Hyderabad, on Tuesday.

The programme focused on key

amendments relating to delayed payments, compliance requirements, dispute resolution and their implications for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). K. Madhukar Babu, Joint Director (MSME), Department of Industries, Government of Telangana, attended as the Special Guest. He said the amendments introduce mechanisms to address delayed payments, provide defined timelines for mediation and arbitration, facilitate recovery of dues and enable access to finance

through TREDS platforms. He further stated that Telangana has seven Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Councils (MSEFCs), including one exclusively dedicated to startups. He noted that Telangana is the first state in India to establish a Facilitation Council exclusively for startups. Dr. Gaddam Sudarshan, Founder & CEO, Shasrith Infotech Pvt. Ltd. and State Head at German University of Digital Science, AP & TG addressed par-

596 crore profit share for Singareni workers

NSS Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

The Telangana government has announced a festive bonanza for Singareni coal mine workers on the occasion of Dasara. Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka announced that each permanent employee of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) would receive an average profit-sharing amount of ₹1,53,912.

Addressing a media con-

ference at Praja Bhavan on Tuesday, along with IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, the Deputy Chief Minister said that 38,737 permanent employees would benefit from the decision. In addition, 29,717 contract workers would receive a bonus of ₹5,500 each. Bhatti Vikramarka said the government had decided to distribute 34 per cent of Singareni's profits among workers, continuing the practice followed in previous years. The company earned

a net profit of ₹1,754 crore this year, of which ₹596 crore would be distributed among workers as their profit share. He emphasised that the government was equally committed to the welfare of permanent employees and contract workers. The government had paid a bonus of ₹5,500 to contract workers last year and had decided to continue the same amount this year.

The Deputy Chief Minister said the government was determined to fulfil the long-cherished dream of Singareni

employees and workers to own houses. He said the Singareni management had been directed to expedite the process of issuing house-site pattas to eligible beneficiaries for the remaining approximately 1,250 acres under Government Order No. 76. The Deputy Chief Minister said officials had been instructed to complete the pending formalities relating to approximately 250-300 dependent employment orders within the next 15 days and issue appointment orders to eligible candidates.



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Govt to attach assets of rice millers defaulting on CMR

NSS Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

Striking directly at defaulting rice millers, the Telangana Civil Supplies department has invoked the stringent Revenue Recovery (RR) Act to attach assets and auction machinery of millers withholding Custom Milled Rice (CMR) or paddy. Addressing field officers during an intensive legal and tactical training session on Tuesday, M. Stephen Ravendra, Commissioner of Civil Supplies & Ex-Officio Principal Secretary, issued firm directives to Deputy Tahsildars (DTs).

He assured officers across three batches of complete systematic protection to perform their enforcement duties strictly and without fear. To enforce compliance, the department has integrated tech-

nology into its operations with the newly launched Physical Verification (PV) mobile app. Field teams will conduct surprise stock checks every Wednesday to catch defaulters off-guard and assemble airtight legal cases supported by digital evidence while adhering to the principles of natural justice. Following the training, practical mock tests were conducted to prepare officers for field execution. The department's training program will next extend to District Civil Supplies Officers (DCSOs) and District Managers (DMs) to ensure unified state-wide enforcement. Reaffirming its commitment to safeguarding the public treasury, the department reiterated that every paisa owed will be recovered—whether through cash, paddy, or rice—and any attempt to defraud the system will face swift action under the RR Act.



The Congress party organised a massive protest rally in New Delhi, demanding the resignation of Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, following a call by the All India Congress Committee (AICC). Medak District Congress Committee President Anjaneyulu Goud participated in the protest along with Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, state ministers, Members of Parliament, MLAs, former Malkajigiri MLA Mynampally Hanumantha Rao and Medak MLA Mynampally Rohith Rao.

Land Resurvey Must Be Error-Free: Additional Collector Raja Goud

Musif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct. 13:

Additional Collector Raja Goud has directed officials to conduct the land resurvey in a foolproof manner, strictly adhering to prescribed norms and ensuring that farmers do not face any difficulties. In view of the ongoing resurvey programme, the Additional

Collector participated in a Gram Sabha held at Velgatur village in Mendora mandal on Tuesday. He said the government was undertaking the resurvey programme on a priority basis to provide a permanent solution to land disputes. He noted that the initiative would help resolve issues relating to land boundaries. Raja Goud instructed officials to

inform the concerned farmers before conducting the survey and ensure that the process was carried out in their presence. As the survey was being conducted using technical equipment, he stressed the need to take all necessary precautions to ensure accuracy and prevent errors while recording land boundary details. Local officials and farmers participated in the Gram Sabha.

Singareni Collieries Workers' Union (AITUC) holds protest at Vidyut Soudha

NSS Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

The Singareni Collieries Workers' Union (AITUC) has sounded the bugle of protest under the banner "Chalo Hyderabad" due to the government's indifference regarding the accumulation of the Singareni's outstanding dues, which have reached Rs. 59,000 crores.

The union warned that if the dues are not released immediately, it would halt coal supplies to Genco and Transco. It made it clear that, if necessary,

the workers would stage protests at the coal mines themselves and bring production to a standstill. A massive protest was held on Tuesday in front of Vidyut Soudha in Hyderabad under the aegis of the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union (AITUC), demanding the immediate payment of the Rs. 59,000 crores owed to the company. T he Workers from all the 12 Singareni operational areas arrived in large numbers to participate in the demonstra-

tion. Speaking on the occasion, Union President Vasireddy Sitaramaiah expressed deep concern, stating that the accumulation of thousands of crores in dues had forced the company to incur debt just to pay the workers' wages and had led to a shortage of the funds for purchasing even basic safety equipment. He pointed out that the upcoming Dasara and Diwali festivals were being affected by the non-payment of the bonuses due to the workers.

Families of two brain-dead men donate organs under Jeevandan

Musif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct. 13:

The family members of two brain-dead persons, a 39-year-old businessman Pavan Kumar Jaju from Kamareddy and 25-year-old Dasari Reshikesh, an IT employee and a resident of Bholakpur, have donated the organs of the deceased to needy patients under State-run Jeevandan organ donation initiative.

On October 7, Pavan Kumar Jaju complained of a severe headache at his home and later suffered a severe brain haemorrhage and was admitted to the ICU at a local private hospital. Later, he was shifted to a private hospital in Hyderabad, where his health condition did not improve and he was declared brain dead on October 13. His wife, Sonali Jaju, gave consent to donate his organs, in-

cluding kidneys, liver, and lungs, to needy patients. On October 10, Dasari Reshikesh was travelling on his two-wheeler when he met with a road traffic accident near Musheerabad and was shifted to a private hospital. After emergency treatment, he was declared brain dead on October 12. His father, Dasari Munesh, made the heartfelt decision to donate his kidneys and liver to three patients in need.

IJA Seeks Seating Facility for Journalists at Muzaffarpur Collectorate

Munsif News Bureau Muzaffarpur, Oct. 13:

A meeting of journalists was organised under the banner of the Indian Journalists Association at Apo Park in the Muzaffarpur Collectorate complex to discuss various issues faced by media professionals. The meeting was presided over by the association's district president, Manjay Kumar. The journalists discussed their working conditions and other professional concerns. They also submitted a memorandum to District Magistrate Kumar Gaurav, demanding suitable seating and discussion

facilities for journalists within the Collectorate premises. Santosh Kumar, senior vice-president of the Indian Journalists Association in Bihar and a senior journalist, attended the meeting as the chief guest. Newly appointed office-bearers of the Muzaffarpur unit were presented with identity cards. Following the meeting, the journalists jointly submitted a signed memorandum to the District Magistrate, urging the administration to provide an appropriate space where journalists could sit and discuss issues within the Collectorate complex.



Elephant suspected to have died of electrocution in MP's Shahdol

IANSS
Bhopal, Oct. 13

A 15-year-old male elephant was found dead in a field in Madhya Pradesh's Shahdol district on Tuesday, with preliminary reports suggesting electrocution near a borewell, officials said.

The carcass was found in Ward No. 7 of Chandoli village in the Bansagari area, under Devalond police station limits. Forest Department and police teams reached the spot and launched an investigation.

Officials are examining how electricity may have reached the field and whether an electrical fault or another factor caused the suspected electrocution. The exact cause of death and any possible negligence will be established after the investigation.

"The circumstances surrounding the elephant's death are being investigated. The cause of death and other details will be clear after the necessary examination," a Forest Department official said.

Wildlife activist Ajay Dubey alleged on X that responsibility had not been fixed for earlier incidents involving the electrocution of an elephant and a tiger. He demanded a high-level probe and strict action against officials found negligent.

The incident comes a day after villagers in Sejhari village, under Jagmal panchayat in the Bansagar area, reported that a herd of elephants had damaged crops and mud houses.

Elephant herds have been moving through the forested and hilly areas around Devalond and Bansagar for years. More than a dozen elephants are reportedly roaming in the region, but officials have yet to confirm whether the dead elephant belonged to this herd.

Villagers gathered at the site after learning of the death. Further details are awaited as the investigation continues.

PM MODI AND CARNEY AGREE TO BUILD ON POSITIVE MOMENTUM IN INDIA-CANADA TIES

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 13

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney on Tuesday held a telephonic conversation and agreed to build on the positive momentum in India-Canada ties while working towards concrete outcomes across key areas.

"Had a warm and productive conversation with Prime Minister Mark Carney. We agreed to build on the positive momentum in India-Canada ties and work towards concrete outcomes across key areas of our Strategic Partnership, including trade, energy, technology, security and people-to-people ties," PM Modi wrote on X after the phone call.

"Together, India and Canada are contributing towards a more stable and prosperous world," he added.

Earlier in the day, Canadian High Commissioner to India, Christopher Cooter, termed the chemistry between Prime Minister Modi and his Canadian counterpart as "excellent" and said that the two nations never had as "good a relationship" as



it is right now.

In an exclusive interview with IANS ahead of Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand's official visit to India, Cooter spoke about the recent engagements between the leadership of both countries, including meetings between External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar and Anand. He also talked about the upcoming visit of Canada's Trade Minister Maninder Sidhu.

"I think it is fair to say that we never had as good a relationship as we have right now. Starting at the highest level, the chemistry between our two Prime Ministers is excellent.

They have met four times in just over a year. Officials are also meeting regularly. We recently had our National Security Advisor here for discussions with his Indian counterpart, and our Foreign Minister is coming here.

This will be her 10th meeting with India's External Affairs Minister over the past year," the Canadian High Commissioner told IANS.

"Our Trade Minister will also visit next week, leading a delegation of 300 Canadian business representatives. I believe this is the largest trade delegation we have ever taken anywhere, certainly to India.

They will be here for

a week, going to several cities in southern India. We have got dialogues on energy, migration and defence, and we expect a defence-related visit in the near future.

We had at least six other ministers visiting India over the past year. Our Prime Minister of course came here in March. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to come to Canada in early December.

At that point, we are hoping to sign our first Free Trade Agreement during that visit. Which if we can do it, it will happen at light speed, because we only really began to negotiate this in March of this year," he added.

'Rahul Gandhi has lost his mental balance': Ravi Kishan

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 13

BJP MP Ravi Kishan sharply criticised the Opposition parties' ongoing protests against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and stated that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has 'lost his mental balance'.

Speaking to reporters in Chhattisgarh, Ravi Kishan said, "Rahul Gandhi, as you can see in recent visuals, seems to have lost his mental balance. They are resorting to physical violence. The day before yesterday, there was a fight involving shoes and slippers in Uttar Pradesh during a clash over the state party president. Akhilesh Yadav and the Samajwadi Party are also involved. Since they are unable to defeat PM Modi and the BJP, they are now trying to hijack things."

Highlighting the inconvenience caused to the public due to recent protests in the national capital, he said, "For 65

years, the Congress party has exploited this country. They want India to go back 65 years. They are trying to hijack things and cause inconvenience to the people in Delhi. Someone travelling in an ambulance with a sick



person is being inconvenienced, and someone else is unable to get to work. They are not even asking the public what it wants. The people want PM Modi and this government, under which India is progressing so well..."

Kisan further mentioned that when the Opposition loses elections, they make such allegations against EVMs and elections.

"Gyanesh Kumar came in 2025. I want to ask Rahul Gandhi, wherever you won elections, there were no problems, but when you lose, suddenly you start questioning the EVM, alleging vote theft. When you fear losing, then you do such drama, ask people what they want -- they want BJP. Youth

is satisfied with BJP; you are trying to hijack a few youngsters," he said.

Opposition leaders have alleged irregularities in the SIR exercise and raised concerns over the electoral rolls, while the BJP has defended the process and accused the Congress of politicising the issue.

Earlier, the INDIA bloc leaders had also sought an appointment with Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant to discuss their concerns. However, the CJI declined their request and advised them to approach the court through a petition in accordance with the established legal procedure.

Following this, Gandhi led a protest march of the INDIA bloc leaders towards the apex court on Monday.

TWO ARRESTED WITH 317 KG OF GANJA WORTH ` 3.17 CRORE IN BENGALURU

IANSS
Bengaluru, Oct. 13

The Kumbalgodu police have arrested two persons from Kerala for allegedly transporting 317 kg of ganja from Odisha to Kerala via Bengaluru and seized the contraband along with a car.

The seized ganja is valued at Rs 1.78 crore, while its estimated market value is Rs 3.17 crore, police said.

Acting on credible information received on October 11 that a large quantity of ganja was being transported from Odisha to Kerala through Bengaluru in a car, the police registered a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

On October 12, a police team intercepted the car near Eidgah Ground at Kanbipura when it was proceeding towards Kerala and apprehended the two occupants.

During interrogation, the accused allegedly revealed that they had travelled from Kerala to Bengaluru on October 6 and hired a



self-drive rental car in R.T. Nagar. They then went to Odisha, where they allegedly purchased ganja at a low price from an unidentified person.

According to the police, the accused intended to transport the contraband through Bengaluru to Kumaramanagalam in Kerala and sell it to customers at a higher price.

The two men allegedly returned to Bengaluru on October 11 and stayed overnight at a hotel in Bommasandra. The following day, they were intercepted by the Kumbalgodu police while travelling towards Kerala.

A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of ap-

proximately 317 kg of ganja, which was seized along with the car.

Police said efforts were underway to identify those involved in procuring and transporting the contraband, as well as others who assisted in its sale. The investigation is in progress.

The operation was carried out under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner of Police, South-West Division, Soumyalatha S.K., and the supervision of Assistant Commissioner of Police, Kengeri Sub-Division, Satyavati K.S.

A team led by Kumbalgodu Police Inspector Kumar apprehended the accused and seized the contraband.

'United in fight against EC, Centre': INDIA bloc leaders after Rahul hosts tea meet

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 13

INDIA bloc leaders on Tuesday vowed to remain united in their fight against the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the BJP government over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls and "vote theft".

At a joint press conference following a tea meeting hosted by Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi at his residence, the Opposition leaders pledged to intensify their campaign for the "restoration" of democracy. Student activists and civil society members also attended the gathering.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge praised the large turnout at Monday's protest march, saying INDIA bloc leaders had taken people's concerns seriously.

"Rarely have people

taken to the streets in such large numbers," he said.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav said the alliance was united in defending democracy and would make any sacrifices required.

He alleged that the government's fear was evident from the decision to bar protests at Jantar Mantar, a traditional demonstration venue. Those who had attempted to hijack constitutional institutions would not be able to escape accountability, he said.

NCP (SP) MP Supriya Sule said the bloc stood firmly together, adding that the Constitution had been undermined and was under threat. She said the fight would continue.

TMC MP Sagarika Ghose accused the Election Commission of undermining free and fair elections. She said such elections would not be possible as long as the commission



continued under Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

The press conference followed the tea meeting at Gandhi's residence on 5, Sunehri Bagh Road. Announcing the gathering after Monday's street protests, Gandhi had vowed that the movement to protect democracy would continue.

Addressing the media on Tuesday, Gandhi said democratic processes and

constitutional institutions were under threat under the current regime. He described the INDIA bloc's main objective as restoring democracy.

"Democracy has been destroyed in this country. The election system has been destroyed. The Constitution has been torn up and thrown away. We are fighting together to restore democratic rule, genuinely democratic rule, in the country," he said.

ED Files Chargesheet in ` 932.54-Crore Nexa Evergreen Investment Fraud

IANSS
Jaipur, Oct. 13



The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a chargesheet before a Special Court under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in Jaipur in the Rs 932.54-crore Nexa Evergreen investment fraud, official said.

The ED filed the chargesheet on October

7 under Sections 44 and 45 of the PMLA, 2002, against Subhash Chandra Bijroniya, also known as Subhash Chandra Bijarnia, and others.

About Rs 2,676 crore was collected from investors through the Nexa Evergreen Group between 2019 and 2023, the ED said. Company software data showed that 47,664 investors received less than they had invested, leaving a shortfall of Rs 932.54 crore.

The probe followed multiple FIRs and chargesheets filed by Rajasthan Police. The ED alleged that investors were told their money would be invested in land development and plotting projects at Dholera Smart

City, Gujarat, and were promised assured weekly returns of 3 per cent for 60 weeks.

The ED alleged that Ranveer Singh, alias Ranveer Bijarnia, and Subhash Chandra Bijroniya controlled the operation and floated companies, LLPs, partnership firms and proprietorship concerns in the names of associates and investors. Their entities and bank accounts were allegedly used to collect funds, pay earlier investors in a Ponzi-style arrangement and buy properties, concealing the proceeds' source and ownership.

In June 2025, the ED searched 25 premises in Jaipur, Sikar, Jhunjhunu

and Ahmedabad. It seized Rs 2.05 crore in cash and froze Rs 15.31 crore in bank and cryptocurrency accounts.

Subhash Chandra Bijroniya was arrested on August 10, 2026, under Section 19 of the PMLA and is in judicial custody.

On October 6, 2026, the agency attached 69 immovable properties and balances in 26 bank accounts and term deposits valued at Rs 34.91 crore. These included land and plots in Dholera and Dhandhuka, Gujarat, flats in Ahmedabad and Sikar, and a 45 per cent stake in a resort company in Calangute, Goa.

The ED said assets worth about Rs 52 crore had been seized, frozen or attached.

NO DOUBLE STANDARDS ON RIGHT TO PROTEST, SAYS CM SHIVAKUMAR

IANSS
Bengaluru, Oct. 13

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday said there would be no double standards in upholding the right to peaceful protest, saying the state could not demand that right in Delhi while denying it to people in Bengaluru.

Reacting to Monday's incident involving protesters and media personnel, Shivakumar said he had sought a detailed report on the circumstances leading to police action.



"If there has been any unnecessary use of force or excess, accountability will follow," he said.

He said disagreement with the Election Commission, the state government or him personally could not deprive anyone of the right to express views peacefully. Karnataka, he added,

must uphold the same democratic standards it expected from the rest of the country.

Home Minister Priyank Kharge also said the handling of protesters by Bengaluru Police would be reviewed. He said he had instructed police to ensure that peaceful demonstrations were not disrupted.

"The right to peaceful protest is fundamental to our democracy. It must be respected, protected and never suppressed," Kharge said, urging protesters to cooperate with police and inform authorities in advance to safe-

guard their own safety and the rights of others.

He said the authorities' responsibility extended beyond maintaining law and order to ensuring that citizens could express dissent freely, peacefully and without fear.

Bengaluru Police detained and removed protesters near K.R. Circle on October 12 after they gathered without prior permission to march towards the Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer's office.

The review is expected to clarify the circumstances surrounding the police action.



At a Glance

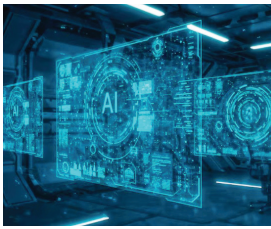
Sudden severe storms cause widespread damage in Australia

IANSA
Canberra, Oct. 13



Storms hit Central Australia on Monday, bringing heavy rain, hail and winds nearing 100 kmph. Fallen trees and powerlines damaged roads and roofs in Alice Springs, cutting power to around 9,000 properties. Some outages could last four days, authorities said. Crews will be sent from Darwin to help restore electricity. Residents were warned to avoid fallen powerlines as more storms could develop Tuesday.

Storms also hit South Australia on Sunday bringing hail and damaging winds. The State Emergency Service received over 100 calls, mainly about fallen trees. More than 7,000 customers lost power; 1,872 remained affected by 15 outages on Monday afternoon.



AI Boom Splits Global Economy: IMF

IANSA
Washington, Oct. 13

The AI boom is boosting chip-producing economies, while energy importers face rising costs, the IMF said.

Taiwan's growth is forecast at 10.7 per cent in 2026 and South Korea's at 3.3 per cent, driven by semiconductor demand. Vietnam and Malaysia are projected to grow 8.4 per cent and 5.2 per cent.

Taiwan and South Korea account for 62 per cent of net trade in AI computing hardware, while China and the US represent 75 per cent of net imports.

Energy importers face higher bills and weaker demand. India is an exception, with growth driven by domestic demand and services.

The IMF warned AI productivity gains could slow investment and hit technology stocks.

PUTIN WANTS PEACE MORE THAN ZELENSKY: TRUMP

IANSA
Washington, Oct. 13

US President Donald Trump said Russian President Vladimir Putin appeared more willing than Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to reach a peace deal, despite questions over whether Moscow had accepted a ceasefire covering energy infrastructure.

"I think, actually, Putin wants to make a deal more than Zelensky," Trump told reporters at the White House before leaving for a political rally in Ohio.

Reporters asked Trump about continued Russian strikes on Ukraine and whether Moscow had agreed to his proposal to halt attacks on energy facilities. Trump maintained that both countries supported the initiative, although a reporter noted that Putin had not publicly committed to it.

"I think they both support it. I think they want to make a deal, but they don't know how. But we're going to get them to make a deal," he said.

Asked how he would persuade Putin to honour the proposed ceasefire, Trump again stressed the need to secure Zelensky's



agreement.

"Well, I think what's happening is he wants to make a deal, and we have to get Zelensky to want to make a deal," the President said.

When a reporter challenged his earlier assertion that Russia and Ukraine had already agreed to a truce, Trump stood by his account.

"Well, they agreed, you know why? Because I said you agree, that's why. They agreed because I said they agreed and that thing has to get settled," he said.

Trump gave no details of a formal understanding between the countries or explained how any arrangement would be monitored and enforced.

Asked about reports that Russia had violated the ceasefire in overnight

attacks, Trump said he needed to examine the circumstances.

"I'm not sure about that and we'll take a look," he said.

He later suggested that violations had occurred on both sides. "Well, I'd have to look at it and see because there's been violations on both sides," he said.

Trump also cited what he described as mounting casualties, saying the continued loss of life made a negotiated settlement urgent.

"This month, they lost 32,000 people in that war, and it's ridiculous. So, they have to get together and get it done," he said.

He repeated the figure, describing those killed as predominantly young soldiers, but did not identify

IMF FLAGS IMPACT OF US-CHINA TARIFF WAR

IANSA
Washington, Oct. 13

US and Chinese tariffs have reduced bilateral trade, but businesses have cushioned the impact by redirecting exports to other markets, particularly in Asia, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said.

In its October 2026 World Economic Outlook released Tuesday, the IMF said Chinese exports to the US fell 22 per cent between February 2025 and January 2026, while American exports to China declined 25 per cent. The fall reduced China's total export growth by 3.3 percentage points and US export growth by 1.7 points.

Both countries increased shipments to third markets, keeping exports within about one percentage point of pre-tariff trends. By January 2026, Chinese exports outside the US were 4.7 percentage points above their earlier trend, while US exports beyond China were 2.6



points higher.

The IMF estimated Chinese exports of tariff-hit products to alternative markets rose by an amount equal to 52 per cent of trade at risk. After adjusting for growth that might have occurred anyway, 39 per cent was attributable to trade diversion. For US goods hit by Chinese retaliatory tariffs, the figures were 17 per cent and 7 per cent.

The Fund said the gap partly reflected China's greater pre-tariff dependence on the US, which accounted for 15 per cent of Chinese exports,

compared with China's 7 per cent share of US exports.

Asian economies absorbed about half of re-directed trade, followed by the European Union with nearly one-fifth. Asia received the largest share of diverted trade.

The IMF said companies had shown flexibility but warned protectionism could raise costs, duplicate production facilities and reduce supply-chain efficiency. It projected world trade growth to slow from 5 per cent in 2025 to 4.6 per cent in 2026, before rising to 4.7 per cent in 2027.

US, UK DISCUSS IRAN, HORMUZ SECURITY

IANSA
Washington, Oct. 13

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and British Foreign Secretary Ed Miliband discussed security in the Strait of Hormuz, Iran's actions and efforts to stabilise global energy markets during a telephone conversation, the US State Department said.

The two officials also discussed efforts to end the Russia-Ukraine conflict through negotiations, according to an official readout.

Rubio and Miliband "reiterated their shared commitment to safeguarding transit in the Strait of Hormuz and the importance of holding Iran to account for its actions," State Department spokesman Tommy Pigott said.

The talks came amid concerns over regional security and the potential impact of instability in the Gulf on international shipping and energy supplies. The Strait of Hormuz is a strategically important waterway

US moves to end H-1B extension 'deference', finalises end of automatic work-permit renewals

IANSA
Washington, Oct. 13

The Trump administration has proposed ending a policy that generally gives deference to H-1B and other skilled foreign workers seeking visa extensions, while finalising a separate rule ending automatic work-permit renewals for H-4 spouses and other eligible immigrants.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) posted both measures for public inspection on Tuesday. They are due to appear in the Federal Register on Wednesday. Indians, who account for a large share of H-1B visa holders and H-4 work-permit holders, are expected to be among those affected.

The proposed rule would remove a provision under which USCIS generally defers to earlier approvals when the facts of an extension petition remain unchanged. DHS said this could allow er-



roneous or fraudulent petitions to go undetected. The public will have 30 days after publication to comment.

DHS cited site-visit data showing non-compliance and/or fraud rates of 22.39 per cent in H-1B extension cases visited during fiscal 2022-2025, compared with 16.77 per cent in fiscal 2018-2020. For L-1A extensions, the rates were 24.46 per cent and 18.37 per cent, respectively.

Separately, DHS finalised an interim rule issued on October 30, 2025, ending automatic extensions of employment authorisation documents (EADs) for certain applicants who filed renewals on time. The final rule takes effect upon publication.

Previously, some work permits remained valid for up to 540 days while renewals were pending.

Advocates for H-4 spouses warned that long processing times could cause work gaps, loss of health insurance and financial hardship. DHS said the rule does not change dependants' eligibility to apply for work authorisation, but acknowledged some may face temporary lapses in permission to work.

DHS estimated 20,000 to 33,000 EADs could lapse during an 18-month period beginning in May 2027. It projected \$138.1 million in lost productivity and \$312.1 million in potential labour-turnover costs, affecting about 1,700 to 2,800 employers.



linking the Persian Gulf with international shipping routes.

The passage is particularly important for major Asian energy consumers, including India, which relies on maritime routes for substantial portions of its crude oil and liquefied natural gas imports. A prolonged disruption could affect global energy prices, transport costs and supply chains.

The State Department did not announce new restrictions, naval deployments or operational arrangements following Monday's conversation.

Rubio and Miliband also discussed cooperation to protect American assets in Britain. The officials emphasised "continued collaboration to secure U.S. assets in the United Kingdom," Pigott said.

The readout did not identify the facilities involved or provide details of any specific threat.

The officials also addressed the wider economic effects of international conflicts, including the need for stability in energy markets.

"Secretary Rubio reaffirmed the value of

our close partnership to stabilize global energy markets while also bringing the Russia-Ukraine conflict to an end through a negotiated settlement," Pigott said.

The statement linked transatlantic energy cooperation with diplomatic efforts to end the war in Ukraine.

The conversation took place on the same day US President Donald Trump renewed his call for Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to reach an agreement. Speaking to reporters before leaving the White House for Ohio, Trump said both leaders needed to end the fighting and reiterated his belief that a negotiated settlement was possible.

The State Department readout did not say whether Rubio and Miliband discussed Trump's latest comments or any specific ceasefire arrangement.

Further details of the call were not made public.

Cambodian PM Calls for Stronger Action Against Climate Threats

IANSA
Phnom Penh, Oct. 13

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet has urged authorities to prioritise disaster management and strengthen resources to address climate risks.

In a message marking National Disaster Management Day, coinciding with ASEAN Day for Disaster Management and the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, Hun Manet warned that

disaster risks were becoming more complex.

"Climate change, rapid urbanisation, and environmental degradation pose serious threats to sustainable social and economic development," he said.

Cambodia faces extreme weather, including erratic rainfall, strong winds, lightning, riverbank collapses, infectious diseases and fires, Xinhua reported.

Hun Manet directed authorities to prioritise flood and drought man-

agement, upgrade local water infrastructure and monitor households.

He urged families to prepare emergency plans and kits containing clean water, dry food, medicine, a radio and important documents. Residents should reinforce homes against wind and lightning and protect children, older people, persons with disabilities and pregnant women during emergencies.

He called for investment in resilient housing

for vulnerable families, stronger social safety nets, safe shelter and timely access to disaster-risk information.

According to the National Committee for Disaster Management, heavy rain last month flooded parts of 10 provinces, affecting nearly 60,000 families. About 5,000 families were evacuated. Floodwaters inundated around 52,000 homes and damaged more than 72,000 hectares of rice paddies.

Magnitude-6.3 Quake Hits Panama Amid Ongoing Seismic

IANSA
Panama City, Oct. 13

A magnitude-6.3 earthquake struck Panama on Monday, with its epicentre 32 km southwest of Sona in western Veraguas province, the Geosciences Institute of the University of Panama said in a preliminary report.

The quake occurred at 6:20 p. local time (2320 GMT), at a depth of 10 km. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, Xinhua news agency reported.

It followed a magni-

tude-5.0 earthquake on October 11, the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences said. That tremor struck at 1711 GMT, at a depth of 10 km.

Panama declared a state of emergency on Saturday to coordinate relief for communities affected by a stronger earthquake on Friday.

Presidency Minister Juan Carlos Orillac said the declaration would keep government agencies on standby and ensure resources were available. President Jose Raul Mulino had ordered a commission to coordinate



relief operations, manage resources and address community needs, Orillac said.

Donation collection centres have been set up, including one at Omar Park in Panama City.

The magnitude-7.5 earthquake struck at 12:56 p.m. local time Friday, with

its epicentre about 39 km northwest of Tonosi in Los Santos province. It damaged homes, schools, health facilities, roads and public buildings in several areas.

Authorities continue to assess the damage and coordinate emergency response efforts.

Coimbatore leads TN in GPS installation on mineral transport trucks



Coimbatore has emerged as the leading district in Tamil Nadu in fitting mineral transport trucks with Global Positioning System (GPS) devices, with 4,200 vehicles equipped so far ahead of the state government’s October 31 deadline for mandatory installation.

The district has around 7,000 trucks engaged in transporting minerals, including stones, gravel and red soil. With devices installed in 60 per cent of these vehicles, officials

are stepping up efforts to ensure that the remaining trucks comply before the deadline.

The initiative assumes significance because Coimbatore shares a border with Kerala and serves as a route for transporting mineral resources into the neighbouring state. There are 13 check posts along the Coimbatore-Kerala border, where authorities are working to curb the illegal movement of minerals.

The Mineral Resources

Department, the Revenue Department and the police are jointly taking enforcement measures against unauthorised transportation. Mandatory GPS installation forms part of the state government’s efforts to strengthen oversight of vehicles carrying mineral resources.

Under the government’s directive, trucks transporting minerals across Tamil Nadu must be fitted with GPS devices by October 31. Authorities have warned that action will be

taken against those failing to meet the requirement within the stipulated period.

Coimbatore’s progress places it ahead of other districts in the number of mineral transport vehicles fitted with tracking devices.

According to the information provided, some districts have as many as 12,000 trucks engaged in mineral transportation, but only around 2,000 have installed GPS equipment.

A district government

official said discussions had been held with owners of trucks carrying gravel, red soil and other minerals to accelerate installation and ensure compliance with the government’s order.

“Truck owners have been instructed to speed up the installation process. So far, 4,200 vehicles have been fitted with GPS devices,” the official said.

Steps were being taken to complete installation in the remaining vehicles by the end of the month, the official added.

The immediate focus is on bringing the roughly 2,800 trucks yet to install the equipment into compliance. Discussions with vehicle owners are intended to maintain the pace of installation as the deadline approaches.

With a substantial mineral transport fleet and multiple border checkpoints, Coimbatore remains a key district in the enforcement drive. Officials are pursuing installation alongside co-ordinated action by the departments responsible for checking illegal mineral transportation across the border.

Govt targets to train over 6 lakh rural youth via RSETIs



A training target of 6.35 lakh rural youth has been given to the Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) in the country for the current financial year, which is more than the training target fixed for 2025-26, according to the government.

In a significant step towards strengthening rural entrepreneurship and promoting sustainable livelihood opportunities, the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Academy of RUDSETI (NAR).

The aim is to establish uniform training standards, ensure quality administration and facilitate systematic capacity building across RSETIs in the country.

According to an official statement, a key focus of the partnership will be to improve candidate registration through Kaushal Panjee and Aadhaar-based face authentication through

the Aadhaar Enabled Biometric Attendance System (AEBAS), while enhancing the quality and relevance of training delivered through RSETIs.

This will include the implementation of National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF)-aligned new-age courses, the adoption of industry-benchmarked training aids and equipment, and the delivery of core Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) courses as notified by MoRD. The partnership will also strengthen Training of Trainers (ToT), assessment and certification of trainees and trainers through the Unified Rural Self Employment Portal (kaushal.rural.gov.in), and compliance with the Common Norms notified by the Ministry. The MoU marks an important step towards strengthening the RSETI ecosystem through improved training quality, institutional capacity, digital governance and outcome-oriented monitoring.

By reinforcing the link between skill develop-

ment, entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihoods, the partnership seeks to enhance the capacity of rural youth to establish viable enterprises and contribute to inclusive rural economic growth, said the statement.

The MoU exchange took place in the presence of Rohit Kansal, Secretary, Department of Rural Development. It marks an important step towards reinforcing the RSETI ecosystem and strengthening its role in rural skill development, entrepreneurship promotion and livelihood generation.

The initiative is expected to improve access to structured skill training for rural youth and equip them with the practical knowledge needed to start and manage their own businesses. Through standardised training, digital monitoring and stronger certification systems, the partnership aims to improve training outcomes and help young people become self-reliant while creating employment opportunities in rural areas.

Robotic Thyroid Surgery: Benefits, Limitations and Who Can Benefit



Advances in medical technology have made thyroid surgery more precise, offering selected patients an alternative

to conventional procedures. Robotic thyroid surgery is gaining attention among those concerned about visible neck scars, post-operative discomfort and recovery time. However, it is not suitable for everyone, and the choice of procedure depends on the patient’s condition.

Conventional thyroid surgery involves an incision at the front of the neck to remove part or all of the thyroid gland. In selected cases, robotic surgery allows surgeons to access the gland through less visible areas, such as the armpit or chest, potentially avoiding a visible neck scar. The robot does not operate independently; the surgeon controls the instruments throughout the procedure.

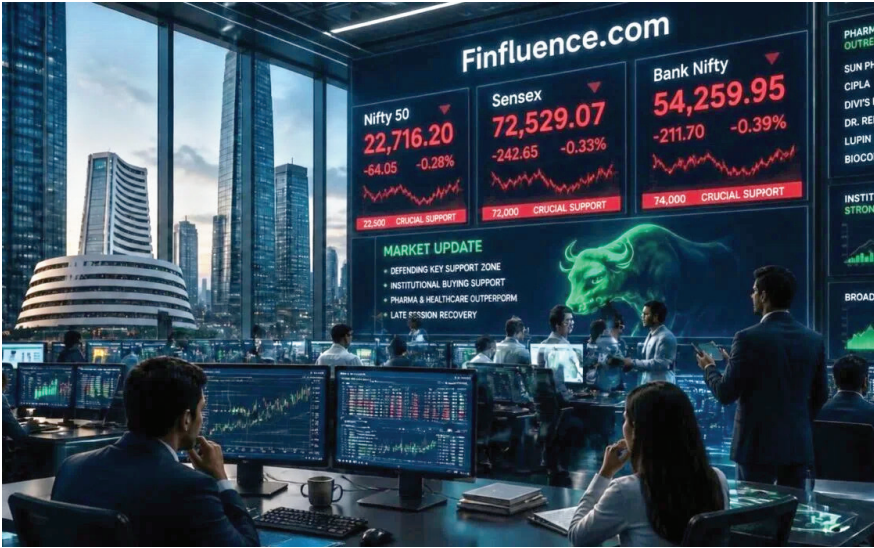
Robotic technology provides a magnified, three-dimensional view of the surgical area, helping surgeons identify delicate structures, including nerves responsible for voice function and parathyroid glands that regulate calcium levels. However, the procedure cannot eliminate all risks, such as voice changes or low calcium levels. Outcomes depend on the surgeon’s expertise and the complexity of the case. Not every thyroid condition requires surgery, and not every patient needing an operation is suitable for the robotic approach. Selected patients with benign thyroid conditions, thyroid enlargement or certain early-stage cancers may be considered after medical evaluation. Large goitres, advanced cancers involving surrounding tissues and complex cases may be better treated through conventional surgery. Recovery varies from patient to patient. Some may walk within hours and return home within a day or two, depending on their condition and the extent of surgery. Pain, swallowing discomfort and restrictions on neck movement may occur during recovery.

Avoiding a visible neck scar can be a cosmetic advantage, but it does not automatically make robotic surgery safer or more effective. The procedure may also involve higher costs and requires specialised equipment and experienced surgical teams.

Age alone does not determine eligibility. Patients should discuss the benefits, risks, limitations and costs of all suitable options with an experienced thyroid surgeon, including the surgeon’s expertise in robotic procedures and the likely outcomes in their particular case.

Robotic technology is an important development in thyroid surgery for carefully selected patients. Nevertheless, the priority remains the safe and complete treatment of the underlying condition. Choosing the most appropriate procedure for each patient is more important than opting for the latest technology.

Nifty likely to surge over 21 pc to reach 27,589 in 12 months



Indian equity market benchmark Nifty is expected to reach 27,589 within 12 months, up 21.42 per cent from Tuesday’s closing and 1.68 per cent higher from earlier expectation of 27,133, a report said, predicting that markets will remain volatile and potentially move lower before entering a consolidation phase.

The report from PL Capital said escalating geopolitical tensions, rising inflation, deficient monsoons and higher interest rates are likely to keep Indian equity markets under pressure in the near term.

“While domestic economic growth and corporate demand have remained resilient, the brokerage cautions that mounting macroeconomic headwinds could weigh on consumption, earnings and foreign investor flows,” the report noted.

Moreover, the headline index has declined 8.2

per cent over the past six weeks and is down 6 per cent year-to-date, the report said and added that a V-shaped recovery appears unlikely.

Nearly 13 per cent monsoon deficit, the likelihood of a very strong El Niño and rising commodity prices pose risks to inflation, rural demand and corporate earnings.

The water reservoirs also stood at 21 per cent lower than the levels last year, putting soil moisture and the coming Rabi crop season in danger.

The report forecasted 16.2 per cent sales growth and 14.7 per cent EBITDA growth in Q2FY27, excluding oil & gas. It maintained an overweight stance on capital goods, healthcare, banks, metals, diversified financials, telecom and ports.

Indian markets remained under pressure primarily due to continuous selling by foreign institutional investors (FIIs) on

account of fears relating to the effect of inadequate monsoon rains, rising cost of crude and agricultural commodities, high bond yields, and the growing Iran-US conflict, which has now spilled into the broader Middle East region.

“Higher global bond yields and relatively subdued dollar-adjusted returns are also likely to constrain foreign investor flows,” said Amnish Aggarwal, Co-Head – Institutional Equities, PL Capital.

The report urged investors to remain selective, focusing on companies with strong fundamentals and sectors supported by domestic investment and structural growth opportunities.

Notably, Sensex closed over 1,100 points or 1.54 per cent higher at 73,033.78, while Nifty settled at 22,721.95, an increase of 358.60 points or 1.6 per cent.

India’s rapid power demand sparks need for additional coal



India’s rapidly growing electricity demand could require the country to build substantially more coal-fired generation capacity than previously projected even as it maintains an aggressive renewable energy expansion programme, said Ghanshyam Prasad, chairman of the Central Electricity Authority of India, on Tuesday.

At an event organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce, the CEA head noted that demand trends may force planners to reassess the scale of coal capacity additions needed to ensure reliable electricity supplies over the coming decade.

Moreover, the country had projected last year that it would add 97 gigawatts (GW) of coal-fired power capacity by 2035, taking total installed coal capacity to about 307 GW.

However, stronger-than-expected growth in power consumption could push future requirements

significantly higher.

“Demand is growing and as demand grows we need stable sources of supply to meet that demand,” Prasad said.

According to him, additional coal-based capacity requirements could rise beyond earlier estimates, potentially reaching between 105 GW and 150 GW above current expansion plans.

The remarks highlight the challenge facing India as it seeks to balance surging electricity consumption with its long-term clean energy transition goals. While renewable energy capacity continues to grow rapidly, policymakers remain concerned about ensuring round-the-clock power availability and grid stability. Power demand has strengthened markedly this year with daily peak demand running around 45 GW to 50 GW higher than levels recorded a year earlier, Prasad said. In addition, reduced rainfall during the

monsoon season has also curbed hydropower generation, increasing reliance on thermal power plants to bridge supply gaps. The government data showed electricity shortages climbed to 560 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) in September which was the highest level since August 2023 despite higher output from coal-fired generating stations.

Coal-based electricity generation rose 13.3 per cent year-on-year in September, while hydropower generation declined by about 20 per cent compared with the same month last year. Prasad stressed that the renewed focus on coal should not be interpreted as a slowdown in India’s renewable energy ambitions.

Notably, India added roughly 50 GW of renewable energy capacity last year and is expected to continue commissioning more than 50 GW annually in the coming years, he said.

However, the CEA chief noted that renewables alone cannot meet the country’s growing electricity needs without complementary sources of firm power. Expanding nuclear generation, pumped-storage hydropower and other balancing technologies will be crucial to maintaining grid reliability as renewable penetration increases.



Kusal Mendis to begin Test captaincy stint as Sri Lanka name squad for Pakistan tour

Colombo, Oct. 13:

Sri Lanka have named a 15-member squad for their two-Test tour of Pakistan in the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) 2025–2027 cycle, with Kusal Mendis set to take charge of the red-ball side for the first time.

The series will begin in Rawalpindi on November 9, before the teams move to Lahore for the second Test. The appointment marks another step in Mendis' growing leadership responsibilities, having already taken charge of Sri Lanka's white-ball teams earlier this year.

Pathum Nissanka has been included in the touring squad, but his availability for the opening Test will depend on his recovery and medical clearance. The batter will travel with the team only if he is declared fit ahead of the series.

The squad also features a maiden Test call-up for Anjala Bandara, who has earned his place in the 15-member group for the away assignment.

Mendis' elevation follows Dhananjaya de Silva's decision to step down as Test captain last week. De Silva had led Sri Lanka in



the format since January 2024 and cited the need to hand responsibility to the next generation.

"It's my genuine opinion that the mantle should go down to the next generation," de Silva said in a letter he sent to Sri Lanka's selection committee.

The Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) Selection Committee finalised Mendis' appointment at a meeting held at the board's headquarters on Thursday. The wicketkeeper-batter has considerable experience in the longest format, having played 75 Tests and scored 4,836 runs, including 10 centuries and 23 half-centuries.

Mendis was appointed Sri Lanka's white-ball captain in May, succeeding Charith Asalanka in the ODI role and Dasun

Shanaka in T20Is. His appointment as Test skipper now places him at the helm across all three international formats.

The Pakistan tour will provide Mendis with his first opportunity to lead the Test team in a competitive series, with Sri Lanka looking to make progress in the ongoing World Test Championship cycle.

Sri Lanka squad for Pakistan Tests: Kusal Mendis (c), Pathum Nissanka, Pasindu Sooriyabandara, Dinesh Chandimal, Kamindu Mendis, Sonal Dinusha, Dhananjaya de Silva, Anjala Bandara, Keshara Nuwantha, Prabath Jayasuriya, Milan Rathnayaka, Lahiru Kumara, Asitha Fernando, Dilshan Madushanka and Eshan Malinga.

CWC 2027 ticket demand crosses 15 million applications in 12 days



Dubai, Oct. 13:

The ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2027 has received more than 15 million ticket applications within 12 days of the ballot opening, highlighting the growing excitement for the tournament to be co-hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

According to the International Cricket Council (ICC), a total of 15,083,752 ticket applications have been submitted, with 4,423,417 ballot registrations from fans across 142 countries. Applications rose sharply from one million during the first week.

The 14th edition will return to Africa after 24 years and feature a new format. ICC Chief Executive Officer Sanjog Gupta said the overwhelming response reflected the

tournament's global popularity, the appeal of the host nations and promotional efforts by the ICC and its partners.

Fans can register for the ticket ballot until 11:59 pm Central Africa Time on November 21, 2026, exactly one year before the scheduled final at Johannesburg's Wanderers Stadium. The tournament is set to begin on October 2, 2027, with a three-team Super Series in Windhoek, Namibia, before matches are played across all three host nations.

The ICC said the ticket ballot offers fans worldwide an opportunity to be part of the prestigious tournament. The high number of applications within the initial days reflects strong international interest as the three host nations prepare to welcome cricket fans in 2027.

England announce squads for white-ball Australia series, rest key pacers for T20Is

New Delhi, Oct. 13:

England have announced their squads for the Australia white-ball series, resting Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Sonny Baker, Tom Banton, Jacob Bethell, Jordan Cox, Henry Crocombe, Sam Curran, Liam Dawson, Ben Duckett, Will Jacks, Jamie Overton, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Josh Tongue.

Archer and Jacob Bethell return for the ODIs as England prepare for the 2027 World Cup.

The T20I squad includes four uncapped players. Phil Salt returns in place of injured Jos Buttler, while Sam Curran and Luke Wood are also included.

England will play three ODIs from November 13, followed by five T20Is from November 21 to

December 2.

ODI squad:

Harry Brook (captain), Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Sonny Baker, Tom Banton, Jacob Bethell, Jordan Cox, Henry Crocombe, Sam Curran, Liam Dawson, Ben Duckett, Will Jacks, Jamie Overton, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Josh Tongue.

T20I squad:

Harry Brook (captain), Tom Banton, Jacob Bethell, James Coles, Jordan Cox, Henry Crocombe, Sam Curran, Liam Dawson, Aneurin Donald, Eddie Jack, Will Jacks, Jamie Overton, Adil Rashid, Thomas Rew, Phil Salt, Luke Wood.

Gill, Shafali claim ICC Player of the Month awards for September 2026



New Delhi, Oct. 13:

India's ODI and Test captain Shubman Gill and women's opener Shafali Verma have been named the ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for September, marking the third time India has won both awards in the same month.

Gill secured his fifth monthly honour, extending his record for the most wins in the men's category. His outstanding performance in the ODI series against the West Indies played a key role in the achievement. He scored 110 in the opening match as India registered an eight-wicket victory, before smashing 223 off just 133 balls in the second match. His double century powered India's

successful chase of a 406-run target, with the team winning by eight wickets and 39 balls to spare.

Gill said winning the award for the fifth time was a matter of pride. He thanked the selection panel and home fans for their support, adding that India were determined to improve their standards and build a strong team ahead of next year's ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in southern Africa.

Shafali Verma earned her second ICC Player of the Month award after playing a major role in India's victories at the Women's Asia Cup and the Asian Games. She finished as India's leading run-scorer in the Asia Cup, scoring 360 runs at a strike rate of 184.61 and taking six wickets.

She continued her

impressive form at the Asian Games, scoring an unbeaten 100 against Bangladesh in the semi-final and making 48 in the final against Sri Lanka. Shafali had previously won the award in November 2025 following her match-winning performance in the Women's World Cup final against South Africa.

Expressing happiness over the recognition, Shafali said contributing to India's triumphs at the Asia Cup and Asian Games made the award even more special. She also expressed excitement about upcoming international tournaments, including the ICC Women's Champions Trophy scheduled for February next year.

India opener Abhishek Sharma and Zimbabwe captain Sikandar Raza were also shortlisted in the men's category, while Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu and India spinner Sree Charani were nominated for the women's award.

India has now completed the monthly awards double for the third time. Jasprit Bumrah and Smriti Mandhana achieved the feat in June 2024, while Abhishek Sharma and Mandhana won the respective honours in September 2025.

Hazlewood surpasses Brett Lee in Test wicket-takers' list after career-best outing against SA

Durban, Oct. 13:

Australian fast bowler Josh Hazlewood surpassed former pacer Brett Lee in the list of Australia's leading Test wicket-takers after claiming a career-best six for 49 in the first Test against South Africa at Kingsmead on Tuesday.

Hazlewood's impressive performance helped Australia bowl out South Africa for 206 in the second innings and secure a 214-run victory. He finished the match with eight wickets, taking two in the first innings as well.

With 311 Test wickets, Hazlewood has become

Australia's sixth-highest wicket-taking fast bowler, moving past Lee, who claimed 310 wickets during his career. He is now eighth on Australia's overall list, led by legendary spinner Shane Warne with 708 wickets, followed by Nathan Lyon with 573.

Hazlewood also moved past several prominent bowlers, including Kemar Roach, Fred Trueman and Morne Morkel. He is level with Indian fast bowlers Ishant Sharma and Zaheer Khan on 311 wickets, with former Australian pacer Mitchell Johnson ahead on 313. On the final day, Hazlewood took four of

South Africa's last six wickets, including Wiaan Mulder and Marco Jansen, to seal Australia's memorable win. Hazlewood's match-winning spell proved decisive as Australia completed a convincing victory over South Africa. His ability to strike at crucial moments on the final day not only secured the win but also strengthened his position among the leading Test bowlers of his generation.

Hazlewood's six-wicket haul helped Australia beat South Africa by 214 runs, taking his Test tally to 311 wickets and moving him past Brett Lee.

Prithvi Shaw, Akriti Agarwal Reconcile After Calling Off Engagement

New Delhi, Oct. 13:

Indian cricketer Prithvi Shaw and actress Akriti Agarwal have reportedly reconciled less than a month after announcing their separation and calling off their engagement. The couple has decided to give their relationship another chance after resolving their differences through discussions.

Akriti had announced their breakup on September 17, surprising fans who had been looking forward to their wedding following their engagement in May. However, in a recent social media post, she revealed that they had spoken to each other, cleared up misunderstandings and decided to continue their relationship.

Explaining the reason behind her earlier decision, Akriti said she had given excessive importance to the opinions of people close to her while deciding to call off the engagement. She alleged that their comments about



Shaw and their relationship had influenced her, leading her to make the decision without discussing the matter with him directly.

Akriti accepted responsibility for the pain caused by her decision and said their subsequent conversation helped them understand each other better. She added that they had chosen to move forward together,

with love, trust and mutual understanding forming the foundation of their future. She also urged people to respect their decision to reunite and allow them to make choices about their personal lives.

The couple's engagement took place in May this year. Shaw had shared photographs of the occasion on social media, describing it

as his "perfect innings". The two were also spotted together at the wedding of Arjun Tendulkar. Their sudden announcement of separation in September had raised questions about the future of their relationship. The reconciliation has once again drawn attention from fans, with many expressing hope that the couple will eventually get married. Their latest decision suggests that they are willing to put their differences behind them and rebuild their relationship.

Meanwhile, Shaw continues to focus on his cricket career. Currently away from the Indian national team, the right-handed batter has been working to make an impact in domestic cricket. He has also returned to Delhi Capitals for the 19th season of the Indian Premier League and will be hoping to secure an opportunity in the upcoming campaign.

Sports Ministry approves 166 athletes for Aichi-Nagoya Para Asian Games



New Delhi, Oct. 13:

The Sports Ministry has approved a 275-member Indian contingent for the Para Asian Games, scheduled to be held in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, from October 18 to 24. A total of 45 nations will compete in 492 medal events across 18 sports.

India will field 166 athletes, comprising 111 men and 55 women, across 10 disciplines, along with 94 team officials and supporting staff and 15 contingent staff members. The contingent is smaller than the 309-athlete team sent to the previous edition due

to limited quotas available this time.

India had sent 123 athletes in para athletics to Hangzhou, but only 60 quotas were initially allocated by the Olympic Council of Asia for this edition. At the previous Games, India won 111 medals, including 29 gold, 31 silver and 51 bronze.

Paralympic medallists Pramod Bhagat in para badminton and Bhavina Patel in para table tennis have been named India's flagbearers for the opening ceremony. Para athletics has the largest representation with 62 athletes, followed by para badminton

with 28 and para swimming with 16.

The Ministry's latest notification includes the names of athletes and officials approved for participation in para badminton and para table tennis, adding details to the earlier clearances issued for eight disciplines.

The Indian team will aim to build on its strong performance at the previous edition and secure more medals in Japan. The Games will provide an important platform for Indian para-athletes to showcase their talent and compete against leading athletes from across Asia.

IPL Review Meeting Postponed, New Date Yet to Be Announced

New Delhi, Oct. 13:

The BCCI has postponed the IPL review meeting scheduled for October 15 ahead of the 20th season. The meeting was to be attended by franchise owners, media rights holders and representatives of state cricket associations. The board has not announced the reason for the postponement or a new date.

According to a Cricbuzz report, the postponement may be linked to a felicitation ceremony for medal winners of the 2026 Asian Games, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to attend in Delhi on October 15. Members of India's men's and women's cricket teams are also likely to participate.

The BCCI and IPL Governing Council may announce a new date for the review meeting in the next couple of days.

Centre clears LB Nagar-Hayathnagar elevated corridor

Gadkari backs key Telangana road projects; NH-65 expansion tenders in November, work from January 2027

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 13

The Centre has given its in-principle support to several major road infrastructure projects in Telangana, including the proposed LB Nagar-Hayathnagar elevated corridor, to ease congestion and improve connectivity.

Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, along with Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, MP Mallu Ravi, Government Whip Beerla Ilaiah and officials, met Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi on Tuesday to discuss highway expansions, bridges, elevated corridors and ropeways.

Gadkari approved the elevated corridor between LB Nagar and Hayathnagar and assured the delegation that tenders for the expansion of National Highway-65 would be completed in November, with construction expected to begin in January 2027.

He also agreed to the proposal for an iconic cable-stayed bridge across the Krishna River between Somasila and Sangameswar on



NH-167K. The bridge is expected to reduce the distance to Tirupati by about 80 km and cut travel time by nearly three hours.

On the proposed elevated corridor along the Hyderabad-Srisailem stretch of NH-765, Gadkari directed officials to prepare a fresh Detailed Project Report (DPR). He also approved five ropeways in Telangana under the Parvatmala scheme and three railway overbridges under Setu Bandhan.

The Union Minister responded positively to the proposed Hyderabad-Amaravati greenfield highway and requests to upgrade several State highways into national highways. He also directed officials to take necessary steps on 34 road projects proposed for Central assistance under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund (CRIF).

Komatireddy invited Gadkari to attend the Indian Road Congress, scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from November 19 to 22. The Union Minister responded positively to the invitation.

Hyderabad sizzles at 35°C as daytime temperatures rise

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 13

Senior BRS leader T. Harish Rao on Monday accused the Congress government of failing to address Telangana's agricultural crisis, power shortages and drought-like conditions, despite warnings about possible El Niño effects.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Harish Rao criticised the government for failing to take timely measures to protect farmers and agricultural workers. He also questioned the repeated postponement of a high-level meeting with farmers at Rythu Vedikas, which was initially scheduled for 11 a.m. with the Chief Minister.

He alleged that farmers were later informed that Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka would attend instead, while the Chief Minister was visiting Goa and Cabinet ministers were in Delhi.

Questioning the government's priorities and preparedness, Harish Rao asked whether the administration was taking farmers' concerns seriously amid the worsening agricultural situation.



Govt introduces high-security paper for Meeseva certificates



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

The Telangana government has introduced advanced security paper for Meeseva certificates to enhance document security, durability and reliability.

IT and Industries Minister D. Sridhar Babu launched the new-generation paper at Praja Bhavan on Tuesday in the presence of MLAs Raj Thakur and Vijay Ramana Rao, Electronic Service Delivery Commissioner T. Ravi Kiran, officials and representatives of printing agencies and service organisations.

The paper incorporates 15 advanced security features to prevent counterfeiting and unauthorised duplication. Details of the features have been withheld for security reasons.

Manufactured using specialised technology, the paper is designed to resist tearing, water damage and wear caused by routine handling, folding and long-term storage. Its improved durability is expected to help citizens preserve important certificates for years and reduce the need for lamination under normal conditions.

Speaking at the launch, Sridhar Babu said government-issued documents, including birth and death certificates and certificates required for education, employment and other official purposes, were essential throughout people's lives.

He said it was the government's responsibility to ensure that such documents remained secure, durable and reliable. The initiative reflects the state's efforts to use modern technology to improve public services while strengthening safeguards against forgery and counterfeiting.

Software engineer dies after fall from 30th floor

Munsif News Bureau
Hyderabad, Oct 13

A 29-year-old software engineer, identified as Bharat, died after falling from the 30th floor of Golf Edge Apartments in Nanakramguda, under Gachibowli police station limits. According to preliminary information, Bharat fell onto a car parked below.

Security personnel rushed him to a hospital, where he was declared dead due to severe injuries. Bharat was employed with a company in Bengaluru and had reportedly moved into the apartment complex just two days before the incident.

Following a complaint lodged by his relative, Kishor, Gachibowli police registered a case and launched an investigation.

The circumstances leading to the fall and the exact cause of the incident are yet to be established.

HC lawyers protest Rahul Gandhi's conduct

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

Advocates staged a protest at the Telangana High Court Bar Council gate on Tuesday, condemning Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's demonstration near the Supreme Court in New Delhi.

BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao joined the protest and accused the Congress of undermining public confidence in the judiciary. He said grievances should be raised through legal channels and asserted that no political leader was above the Constitution.

The protesting advocates raised slogans in support of the judiciary and called for the protection of constitutional institutions.

CPM seeks CM's intervention to end Osmania Hospital strike

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

CPM State Secretary John Wesley on Tuesday urged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to resolve issues at Osmania General Hospital and end the junior doctors' strike.

In an open letter, Wesley said thousands of poor patients from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring states depended on the hospital for free treatment but faced hardship due to staff shortages, inadequate infrastructure, poor sanitation and medicine scarcity.

He sought the release of pending Aarogyasri funds, alleging that delays over the past two years had disrupted supplies of medicines and equipment. He also flagged malfunctioning X-ray, MRI, CT scan and endoscopy machines, faulty emergency ventilators and shortages of orthopaedic implants and surgical supplies.

Wesley said patients were being forced to buy medicines from outside as hospital pharmacies lacked essential drugs. He urged the government to address the junior doctors' demands, repair critical equipment and ensure an uninterrupted supply of free medicines through TSMIDC.

Wesley said patients were being forced to buy medicines from outside as hospital pharmacies lacked essential drugs. He urged the government to address the junior doctors' demands, repair critical equipment and ensure an uninterrupted supply of free medicines through TSMIDC.

Voter deletions endanger democracy: Kunamneni



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

CPI State Secretary and MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao on Tuesday accused the BJP-led Centre of undermining democracy through alleged mass deletion of eligible voters and demanded the removal of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Addressing a press conference at Makhdoom Bhavan, he said every voter must be given notice and an opportunity to respond before deletion from electoral rolls. He urged the Election Commission to protect voting rights and restore public confidence in the electoral process.

Kunamneni also condemned restrictions on protests at Delhi's Jantar Mantar, calling for the protection of democratic rights and urging the judiciary to intervene against curbs on peaceful demonstrations.

Expressing concern over drought in Telangana, he said 315 mandals had been declared drought-affected and demanded immediate relief measures for farmers.

Govt is not offering any sense of security to people: SABITHA INDRA REDDY

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

Former Minister and BRS party MLA Sabitha Indra Reddy on Tuesday claimed that the state was currently under an administration that offers no sense of security to anyone. She said that it was shameful for the Congress government to declare its inability to provide irrigation water for crops or drinking water

for the people. She stated that former CM KCR had supported farmers in every possible way during his tenure.

She addressed a media conference at Telangana Bhavan in the city, noting that the state's administration has become chaotic. She alleged that state ministers were acting in a completely unrealistic manner, detached from the ground reality. She pointed out that immediately after coming to power, the Congress government cancelled the Metro rail expansion project and added that they speak of introducing a bullet train. She criticized the state government for forcibly acquiring the farmers' lands by classifying them as the government land. She said that Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had clarified that the alignment for the bullet train project had not yet been finalized.

Sabitha demanded that

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy explain as to why the lands of the farmers in Bahadur Guda were seized under police protection when the project's route remains undecided? She questioned as to whose interests were being served by these actions, asserting that the Chief Minister prioritizes his personal interests over the bullet train project. She expressed deep concern over the forced land acquisition

taking place across Ranga Reddy district. Claiming that the Farmers are being subjected to hardship through land acquisition without being informed of the purpose, She cited an incident that took place on Monday, where a farmer attempted suicide in protest against the forced land acquisition in Lagacharla. She expressed outrage that the Chief Minister was seizing thousands of acres and leaving the farmers destitute.

Cong appoints 77 observers for Graduate MLC polls

IANs News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

oversee graduate voter enrolment for the upcoming Legislative Council elections in two constituencies.

Of them, 43 will oversee enrolment in Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahabubnagar and 34 in Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's brother Anumula Thirupathi Reddy, Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, ministers and MPs are among the observers. Fresh electoral rolls are being prepared with November 1, 2026, as the qualifying date. Existing voters must also register afresh.

TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud has appointed 77 observers to oversee graduate voter enrolment for the upcoming Legislative Council elections in two constituencies.

Probe CM's landholdings too: RS Praveen Kumar

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

BRS general secretary RS Praveen Kumar has urged Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju to extend the inquiry into land issues to properties owned by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and other Congress leaders. In a letter to the Chief Secretary, Praveen Kumar enclosed details of the

Congress leaders' alleged landholdings along with supporting evidence, demanding that the committee conduct a comprehensive and impartial investigation without political bias.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Tuesday, the former IPS officer termed GO 134 unconstitutional and alleged that it violated Article 14, which guarantees equality before the law. He claimed that the order

selectively targeted BRS leaders because they had been questioning the government on various public issues.

Praveen Kumar also questioned the Assembly discussion held on September 16, alleging that it was one-sided and that BRS leaders were denied an opportunity to explain their position. He claimed that the government had prevented BRS members from participating in the proceedings, suspended them and subsequently discussed the land issue without hearing their arguments.

He further alleged that the ac-

Harish Rao opposes Rythu DISCOM, seeks withdrawal of GO 17

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 13

BRS leader T. Harish Rao on Tuesday demanded the withdrawal of GO 17 establishing a separate Rythu DISCOM, questioning its viability and benefits to farmers.



In a statement, the former minister said the government had ignored objections from political parties, electricity employees' unions, experts and farmers. He questioned the move when farmers were already facing power cuts and transformer failures.

Harish Rao sought a written assurance that the existing 24-hour free power supply would continue without any reduction. He also questioned how the proposed DISCOM could manage 30.63 lakh connections, including 30,60,861 agricultural connections and 512 lift irrigation schemes, with around 2,000 employees.

Flagging the maintenance of 6.15 lakh agricultural transformers and 2.51 lakh circuit kilometres of low-tension lines, he warned that staff shortages could affect services and demanded clarity on accountability and the organisation's financial viability.



tion was part of a deliberate attempt to silence the Opposition and prevent it from raising issues concerning the State.