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1 INDIAN AMONG THE DEAD

Two Killed, Eight Injured in Attack on Saudi Arabia's Dammam Airport

A late-night attack on King Fahd International Airport in Dammam has left a Saudi citizen and an Indian national dead, with two other Indian nationals among the injured. India has condemned the strike.

What we know

- **Responsibility:** Reports available on October 22 did not establish a claim of responsibility for this attack. Inter-library loan and international loan
- **Drone interceptions:** The Saudi-led coalition said it intercepted four drones over the Eastern Province, according to Saudi Gazette.
- **Earlier strikes:** The same airport was attacked on October 11. Yemen's Houthis group had claimed strikes on Dammam airport and on Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport around that time.

DAMMAM, Oct 22:

An attack on King Fahd International Airport in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province on the evening of Wednesday, October 21, has killed two people and injured eight, the General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) said. GACA first reported one death, then raised the toll to two on Thursday, saying the dead were a Saudi citizen and an Indian resident. The injured include Saudi, Indian, Yemeni, Nepali and Bangladeshi nationals, with injuries ranging from minor to critical. All were taken to hospitals. GACA said damage is still

being assessed, but airport operations have resumed and air traffic has returned to normal.

US orders staff out

On Wednesday, the US State Department ordered non-emergency government employees and their families to leave Saudi Arabia. Spokesperson Tommy Pigott said "Iranian-supported Houthis have increasingly engaged in hostilities against Saudi Arabia," citing attacks on civilian airports and other critical infrastructure. Pigott said the order covers Saudi Arabia only. He rejected



reports that a wider Gulf evacuation was being prepared. The order was announced on the same day as the Dammam attack, so it was not a response to it.

The attack adds to growing concern over the safety of civilian aviation in the Gulf. Further updates are expected from GACA as the damage assessment continues.

Travelers will face heightened security and rising regional travel risks.

About 3,000 Stranded Umrah Pilgrims Back in India, MEA Says; Others Await Return

What the MEA said

About 3,000 stranded pilgrims returned on available flights. More than 10,000 other pilgrims, who held bookings on those flights, also returned in the same period. The Indian Embassy in Riyadh and the Consulate General in Jeddah are working with airlines and tour operators to bring back the rest. The ministry said 24-7 control rooms have been set up.

Munsif Desk New Delhi, Oct 22:

About 3,000 stranded Indian Umrah pilgrims returned from Saudi Arabia over the past week, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Thursday, 22 October. The figure covers the past week. It does not mean 3,000 people arrived today. The announcement followed Wednesday's attack on King Fahd International Airport in Dammam. Saudi civil aviation authorities said it killed two people, one of them an Indian resident, and injured eight, including two Indians.

HELPLINES FOR INDIANS IN SAUDI ARABIA

► **Embassy, Riyadh:** +966-554412016; +966-542126784. Toll-free 8002471234 (calls from within Saudi Arabia only). WhatsApp +966-536216082.

► **Consulate, Jeddah:** +966-12-2614093; +966-556122301. WhatsApp +966-536209704.

QUESTION STILL OPEN:

AIMIM president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi

said about 4,000 pilgrims were stranded in Makkah and Madinah after IndiGo, Akasa Air and Air India flights were cancelled. He posted:

"The Indian pilgrims have been abandoned by their travel agents."

The MEA has not confirmed that figure or the allegation. It has not said how many pilgrims still need help, with which airlines or where. It has also not said who bears the cost of extra accommodation, replacement flights and communication when packages are disrupted.

TWO TELANGANA OFFICERS ARRESTED IN ₹39.17-LAKH BRIBERY CASE

Hyderabad, Oct 22:

Telangana's Anti-Corruption Bureau arrested Project Officer Satish Reddy and Technical Officer Raju of the PMKSY 2.0 Bhagirathipet project in Jayashankar Bhupalpally district in an alleged ₹39.17-lakh bribery case.

According to the ACB's account reported by Hyderabad Mail, a contractor accused the officers of demanding payments to process bills and allot additional works. He alleged that refusal would result in pending bills being withheld and further works denied.

The bureau said verification indicated that ₹39,17,000 had been transferred to bank and UPI accounts allegedly specified by the accused. The contractor submitted bank statements and WhatsApp records supporting his complaint.

The fee is ₹125 for more than three or all subjects and ₹110 for up to three subjects. Vocational candidates must pay an additional ₹60 over the ₹125 academic examination fee.

Late-fee payment windows

Students missing the ordinary payment window can pay during these periods in 2026:

November 18–December 1: Additional late fee of ₹50.
December 3–14:

Additional late fee of ₹200.

December 16–28: Additional late fee of ₹500.

The October 22 announcement concerns fee payments; it does not provide the subject-wise examination timetable. Schools should communicate the ordinary payment window clearly to help families avoid penalties. Official updates can be checked on the Directorate of Government Examinations website.

Cyclone Possible, Say Forecasters

Low-Pressure Area Likely Over Bay of Bengal Around October 23

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) expects a new low-pressure area to form over the Bay of Bengal around October 23. Whether it becomes a cyclone, and how it would affect Telangana, is still unclear.

Hyderabad, Oct 22:

A cyclonic circulation over the North Andaman Sea is expected to move west-northwestwards. Under its influence, a low-pressure area is likely to form over the southeast and adjoining east-central Bay of Bengal around October 23, according to the IMD's October 21 bulletin.

Another low-pressure area lies over the southwest Bay of Bengal and the adjoining Tamil Nadu coast. Its circulation extends up to 5.8 km above sea level, and the IMD does not expect it to intensify significantly.

CYCLONE CHANCES:

The Chennai Meteorological Centre said the new system could strengthen and become a cyclonic storm after it



forms. It said it was not expected to directly affect Tamil Nadu.

A private forecast cited by Telangana Tribune predicts a cyclonic storm by October 26, possibly a severe one. It says eastern Telangana districts would see the main effects and other parts only light rain.

The IMD has taken a more cautious view and has not yet confirmed a cyclone or a landfall.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR TELANGANA:

The IMD's bulletins do not yet give a date for rain linked to this system. Hyderabad Meteorological Centre had forecast rain for parts of Telangana over the three days from October 21. The northeast monsoon began over south India on October 15 and has been bringing rain to the region.

Residents, especially in eastern districts, are advised to follow IMD bulletins, as forecasts can change quickly.

Cabinet Panel to Examine Mudiraj Inclusion in BC-A: Revanth Reddy

Welfare measures cited by the Chief Minister

- Six kilograms of fine rice each for 3.48 crore people; free household electricity up to 200 units for 55 lakh families.
- Rajiv Aarogyasri coverage increased from ₹2 lakh to ₹10 lakh; Rythu Bharosa support from ₹10,000 to ₹12,000.
- Loans up to ₹2 lakh waived for over 25 lakh farmers; eight lakh Indiramma houses sanctioned.
- Over ₹14,000 crore spent on free RTC travel for women; free agricultural electricity, Shaadi Mubarak and Kalyana Lakshmi continued.

Munsif Desk

Hyderabad, October 22:

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said a Cabinet Sub-Committee would examine shifting the Mudiraj community from Backward Classes (BC)-D to BC-A, using caste-survey data and consultations with legal experts and officials before a Cabinet decision.

Speaking at government-organised celebrations of Panduga Sayanna's 174th birth anniversary at Ravindra Bharati, he recalled earlier court setbacks over inadequate data. He directed Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar to discuss Gangaputra concerns about the proposed change.

Reddy invited corrections to survey omissions, linking accurate counts to



justice in education, employment and livelihoods. He cited Scheduled Caste (SC) sub-categorisation as resolving a four-decade demand.

He announced statues of Sayanna and Doddi Komurayya near Tank Bund, praised the Palamuru warrior's resistance to zamindars, jagirdars and landlords, and sought history textbook recognition. He offered floral tributes and released commemorative songs. He said Sayanna's

legacy survived in village folk songs.

He also recalled Sarvayi Pappanna Goud, Konda Lakshman Babuji, Jyothirao Phule and Chakali Ailamma, saying their sacrifices deserved historical recognition.

Ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar and Vakiti Srihari, Legislative Council Deputy Chairman Dr. Banda Prakash, MPs Anil Kumar Yadav and Eatala Rajender, and adviser V. Hanumantha Rao attended.

Girl, 4, Dies After Falling into Pushkarini at Yadagirigutta Temple

Yadadri, Oct 22:

A four-year-old girl died after she slipped into the pushkarini of the Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple at Yadagirigutta on Wednesday evening, October 21, 2026, while her family was bathing there.

According to the details available, Praveen Kumar, a resident of Badangpet in the Saroor Nagar area of Rangareddy district, had visited the temple with his family that day. At around 6 pm, the family was bathing in the pushkarini near the Kalyana Katta. His younger daughter, Shivalingam Aadhya, was playing near the steps when she slipped and fell into the water. She could not swim and drowned.

Family members and others at the spot pulled her out and rushed her to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bibinagar. Doctors there declared her dead at 8.32 pm.

Yadagirigutta police registered a case and began an investigation. After a postmortem examination at the Government Hospital in Bhongir, the body was handed over to the family. The parents were inconsolable over the loss of their young daughter.

Wife Allegedly Kills Husband with Lover's Help in Uttar Pradesh

Baghpat, Oct 22:

Police in Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat district have taken a woman, Urmila, and her alleged lover, Sikandar, into custody over the murder of her husband, Pramod, whose body was found in a field.

According to reports, Sikandar, who ran a mechanic shop from the couple's house, allegedly developed an extramarital relationship with Urmila. The two allegedly conspired to kill Pramod so Urmila could elope with Sikandar to Dehradun. Urmila allegedly lured Pramod to a field and offered him alcohol, which Sikandar allegedly laced with intoxicating substances before attacking him with a liquor bottle.

Investigators suspect Urmila advised Sikandar over WhatsApp on avoiding CCTV cameras. Police grew suspicious during questioning and reportedly found evidence of her alleged involvement. The investigation continues.

Telangana SSC Exam Fee Payments Open October 30

HYDERABAD, Oct 22:

Students appearing for Telangana's March 2027 SSC, OSSC and vocational public examinations can pay their examination fees through their school headmaster from October 30 to November 16, 2026,

without a late fee.

The School Education Department released the schedule on October 22. Director of Government Examinations K. Lingaiah said it covered regular and once-failed candidates.

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NHM Employees' Indefinite Strike Enters 10th Day; Protesters Demand Regularisation



Munsif News Bureau Rajana Sircilla, Oct. 22:

The indefinite strike launched by National Health Mission (NHM) employees demanding the fulfilment of their legitimate demands entered its tenth day on Thursday. Under the leadership of the NHM Joint Action Committee

(JAC), employees staged a unique protest at Dharna Chowk in front of the District Collectorate. Holding placards in their hands, the protesters stood on one leg and raised slogans against the government. Women employees expressed their disappointment over the government's failure

to respond despite their peaceful protest continuing for the past ten days. They demanded the immediate regularisation of their services and the sanction of 180 days of paid maternity leave for women employees. Their other demands include a 5 per cent increment, implementation of the Pay

Revision Commission (PRC), comprehensive health insurance and job security. The protesters appealed to the government to give up its rigid stance and invite them for talks immediately. They warned that the agitation would be intensified if their demands continued to be ignored.

Durgam Shekhar Extends 10,000 Financial Aid to Boy Injured in Stray Dog Attack

Munsif News Bureau Adilabad, Oct. 22:

Durgam Shekhar, State Vice-Chairman of the TPCC SC Department, has extended financial assistance of ₹10,000 to a poor Dalit boy who was seriously injured in a stray dog attack at Prabuddha Nagar Colony in Indravelli mandal of Adilabad district. Shekhar said the financial assistance was provided to help shift the injured child to a hospital in Hyderabad for better medical treatment. The boy, identified as Sangharsh, is the son of Gaikwad Sachin, a resident of Prabuddha Nagar Colony. Belonging to a financially disadvantaged family, Sachin was facing difficulties in arranging



the funds required to take his son to Hyderabad for treatment after the child was seriously injured in an attack by street dogs. Durgam Shekhar said the

issue would be brought to the notice of district officials, local MLA Vedma Bojju Patel and the district in-charge minister. He urged the authorities to take immediate steps to relocate stray dogs from residential areas to ensure the safety of children and other residents. The injured boy's parents, family members and residents of Prabuddha Nagar Colony thanked Shekhar for extending timely financial assistance. District Media Coordinator Mekala Jitender, Ambedkar Association President Sonkamble Jitender, former president Manohar, DCC Secretary Masood Bhai, Uttam Suryavanshi, Madhusudhu Mahendra, Aade Raghu and other local residents were present on the occasion.

Nizamabad Collector Directs Officials to Prepare Action Plan to Tackle Possible El Niño

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct. 22:

District Collector Ila Tripathi has directed officials of various departments to prepare a comprehensive action plan and implement it effectively to prevent potential drinking water and power supply problems in the coming months in view of the possible effects of El Niño. She stressed the need to create widespread awareness among farmers at the village level to discourage paddy cultivation during the Yasangi (Rabi) season and encourage alternative crops based on water availability.

On Thursday, the Collector held a review meeting with officials of various departments at the Integrated District Collectorate Complex to discuss the possible effects of El Niño and the measures required to address the anticipated challenges. She called for advance planning based on projected conditions and emphasised coordination among all departments. Collector Ila Tripathi said adequate water availability for paddy cultivation during the Yasangi season could not be guaranteed. Therefore, farmers should be

advised to avoid paddy cultivation, she said. She instructed officials of the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments to provide detailed information to farmers about alternative crops that require less water and have shorter cultivation periods. Farmers should be encouraged to cultivate alternative crops such as maize, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables and oil palm. Meetings should be organised at the village level to educate farmers about available water resources and the prevailing groundwater situation, she said. The Collector cautioned that cultivating paddy without as-

sessing water availability could result in financial losses for farmers. She directed officials to educate farmers in advance about suitable alternative crops and their cultivation practices. The Collector instructed officials to prepare a comprehensive village-wise action plan covering the next eight to ten months, taking into account the specific requirements of each village. The plan should include drinking water requirements, water availability for irrigation, groundwater levels, electricity consumption, cultivation of alternative crops and water conservation measures.



District Collector Ila Tripathi has directed officials of various departments to prepare a comprehensive action plan and implement it effectively to prevent potential drinking water and power supply problems in the coming months in view of the possible effects of El Niño.

Water Scarcity Likely Due to Deficient Rainfall; Precautionary Measures Needed

Munsif News Bureau Jangaon, Oct. 22:

Concerns are being raised over the possibility of water scarcity in the coming days due to a deficit in rainfall in some parts of the state this year. Rainfall is a major source of natural water, and any shortfall can directly affect agriculture, ponds, irrigation and groundwater levels. If timely measures are not taken, farmers as well as the general public may face water-related problems. The reduced rainfall may affect water levels in several ponds and reservoirs across the district, while groundwater levels could also decline. This may have an impact on agricultural activities and the availability of drinking water.

Experts and concerned officials stress the need to use existing water resources carefully and in a planned manner. Unnecessary consumption and wastage of water in households, agriculture and other sectors must be prevented. Farmers have also been advised to adopt efficient irrigation methods that can cover larger areas with less water. Senior district officials are focusing on promoting crops and vegetables that require less water. Farmers are being encouraged to cultivate gourds, pulses and other low-water vegetables. Special attention is also being given to moringa and mushroom cultivation. Officials emphasise that

farmers must be encouraged to adopt alternative crops that consume less water to achieve better yields despite lited water resources. In addition, ponds, wells and other water bodies need to be monitored regularly, along with groundwater levels. Special attention should be given to cleaning ponds, rainwater harvesting, water storage and measures to improve groundwater levels. The public has also been urged to consider water a precious gift from Almighty Allah and avoid its unnecessary use. Preventing water wastage at homes, farms and other places is the responsibility of every citizen. Conserving water today can help avert serious shortages in the future.

New Govt Hospital in Suryapet Likely to Be Inaugurated Soon

Suryapet, Oct 22 The newly constructed Government General Hospital at the Suryapet district headquarters is expected to be inaugurated soon, according to reports. An image of the modern hospital building, established under the Telangana government, has surfaced on social media, generating optimism among the public. With the launch of the new Government General Hospital, residents of Suryapet district are expected to gain access to improved medical facilities and better-quality healthcare services.

MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, Collector Ila Tripathi at the Jayanti Celebrations

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct. 22:

The courage, bravery and daring shown by Panduga Sayanna for the oppressed, downtrodden and weaker sections is an inspiration to all, said State Legislative Council Member Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud and Collector Ila Tripathi. The 174th Jayanti of Panduga Sayanna was officially celebrated on Thursday at the main conference hall of the Nizamabad Integrated District Offices Complex under the aegis of the Backward Classes Welfare Department as per government orders. While MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud attended as the chief guest, Collector Ila Tripathi, City Mayor K. Uma Rani, former MLC Mynampally



Hanmanth Rao, State Urdu Academy Chairman Taher Bin Hamdan, State Agriculture Commission Member Gadugu Gangadhar and others participated and paid rich tributes by garlanding the portrait of Panduga Sayanna. Speaking on this occasion, MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud praised Panduga Sayanna as a hero who, not as an individual

but as a great power, fought heroically against the atrocities of the landlords and doras of that time. He said that Sayanna's bravery in standing on the side of the people and fighting against social inequalities and injustices will remain eternal in the history of Telangana, and that he is revered not only by the Mudiraj community but by all sections.

Majlis Delegation Meets Karimnagar District Minority Welfare Officer

Munsif News Bureau Kagaznagar, Oct. 22:

A delegation led by Town Majlis President Mohammed Atif, popularly known as Atifina, met District Minority Welfare Officer Mohammed Jalaluddin Akbar at the District Minority Welfare Office in Karimnagar. The visit was held under the directions of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president and Hyderabad MP Barrister Asaduddin Owaisi. , under the supervision of Karimnagar district in-charge Yasir Arafat.



Collector Garima Agrawal has paid special attention to improving educational standards in government schools, residential educational institutions and Anganwadi centres. She reviewed the implementation of the common nutritional menu at the ground level and instructed officials to have meals with students to assess the quality of food being served.

Section 163 BNSS to Be Enforced Near CBRT Examination Centre in Nizamabad

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad, Oct. 22:

Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, has announced that the police department 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), formerly Section 144 of the Cr.P.C., will be enforced in the vicinity of the Computer Based Recruitment Test (CBRT) examination centre from October 24 to 26, 2026, to ensure the peaceful conduct of the examinations. The examination centre is located at A.V. Enterprises, Munnuru Kapu Sangam, Bypass

Road, Arsapally, Nizamabad. The examinations will be conducted in two sessions: from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Commissioner stated that the police department had made stringent security arrangements at the examination centre. Section 163 BNSS will remain in force in the surrounding areas from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on each examination day. As part of the restrictions, gatherings of more than two persons within a 100-metre radius of the examination centre will be prohibited. Instructions have

also been issued to the owners of nearby internet centres, photocopy shops and stationery shops to keep their establishments closed from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the examination period, from October 24 to 26. Sai Chaitanya said special police bandobast would be deployed at the examination centre to ensure the smooth conduct of the tests. Police personnel will also keep a close watch on suspicious persons and activities. He warned that legal action would be initiated against those violating the restrictions.

Dr. Palvai Harish Babu Attends Traditional 'Alai Balai' Programme in Hyderabad

Munsif News Bureau Kagaznagar, Oct. 22:

Sirpur MLA Dr. Palvai Harish Babu attended the traditional 'Alai Balai' programme held at Nampally Exhibition Grounds in Hyderabad under the patronage of former Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya on Wednesday. On the occasion, he extended heartfelt Vijayadashami (Dasara) greetings to the people of Telangana. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Palvai Harish Babu said the annual Alai Balai programme organised by Bandaru Dattatreya during Dasara re-

flected Telangana's rich culture, traditions, unity and spirit of brotherhood. He noted that the programme transcends political affiliations, caste and religious differences, serving as an excellent example of mutual solidarity, tolerance and social harmony among the people of Telangana. He further stated that traditional celebrations such as Alai Balai play a significant role in fostering love, harmony and unity among people. Such events strengthen interpersonal relationships and preserve Telangana's distinctive cultural identity, he added.

Water Scarcity Likely Due to Deficient Rainfall; Precautionary Measures Needed

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Concerns are being raised over the possibility of water scarcity in the coming days

due to a deficit in rainfall in some parts of the state this year. Rainfall is a major source of natural water, and any shortfall can directly affect agriculture,

ponds, irrigation and groundwater levels. If timely measures are not taken, farmers as well as the general public may face water-related problems.

The reduced rainfall may affect water levels in several ponds and reservoirs across the district, while groundwater levels could also decline. This may have an

impact on agricultural activities and the availability of drinking water. Experts and concerned officials stress the need to use

existing water resources carefully and in a planned manner. Unnecessary consumption and wastage of water in households, agriculture and other sectors

must be prevented. Farmers have also been advised to adopt efficient irrigation methods that can cover larger areas with less water.

Senior district officials are focusing on promoting crops and vegetables that require less water. Farmers are being encouraged to cultivate gourds.



TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud paid tributes to tribal revolutionary Komuram Bheem on his birth anniversary, recalling his historic struggle for tribal rights under the Nizam's rule.

Tummala calls for timely cotton procurement, MSP for farmers

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Minister for Agriculture, Marketing, Handlooms and Textiles Tummala Nageswara Rao has directed officials to open cotton procurement centres for the 2026-27 kharif marketing season on the lines of the previous year and ensure that farmers receive the minimum support price (MSP) for their produce.

During a review meeting with Marketing department officials at the Secretariat on Thursday, the Minister reviewed cotton cultivation and production estimates, prevailing market prices, procurement arrangements by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and facilities being provided to farmers.

Tummala Nageswara Rao said ensuring remunerative prices for cotton farmers,

avoiding delays in procurement and taking timely measures in line with prevailing market conditions were among the government's priorities.

Officials informed the Minister that cotton had been cultivated on 48.20 lakh acres across Telangana during the current kharif season, with production estimated at 29.43 lakh metric tonnes. In the previous season, cotton was cultivated on 50.73 lakh acres, yielding

28.33 lakh metric tonnes.

Expressing concern over the possibility of a decline in cotton production due to adverse weather conditions, including the impact of El Niño across the country, the Minister stressed the need for efficient management of the procurement process in the State.

The Union government has fixed the MSP for cotton at Rs. 8,667 per quintal for the 2026-27 kharif marketing season.

Tummala calls for timely cotton procurement, MSP for farmers

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) President Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Monday urged the Telangana government to immediately construct a 93-meter cofferdam near the Kannepalli pump house to divert Pranahita River waters and relieve farmers facing severe drought.

Speaking after inspecting water levels at the Kannepalli site alongside party leaders, Kavitha presented a technical proposal indicating the temporary dam could be built within 45 days at an estimated cost of ₹25 crore.

Kavitha noted that despite widespread drought across the state, nearly two thousand million cubic feet (TMC) of water continues to flow



through the Pranahita daily.

She argued that harnessing this flow would provide critical irrigation relief and urged the administration to complete construction by

November.

Presenting a detailed PowerPoint plan, Kavitha offered to share technical blueprints with state engineers and accepted that experts

could modify the design as needed. She urged the state government not to delay relief by using ongoing issues at the Medigadda barrage as an excuse.

BJP ACCUSES CONG GOVT OF NEGLECTING TRIBAL ISSUES

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao on Thursday accused the Congress government of neglecting tribal welfare and demanded immediate action on unresolved issues, particularly those concerning Podu lands.

Speaking after paying tributes to tribal freedom fighter Komaram Bheem on his birth anniversary here at the BJP state office, Rao said the government should address the problems of tribal communities instead



of making promises during elections.

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy, party MPs, MLAs and other leaders also paid floral tributes to Komaram Bheem, raising slogans honouring his legacy.

Rao recalled Komaram Bheem's struggle against the Nizam's rule under the slogan "Jal, Jungle, Zameen" (Water, Forest, Land), which symbolised the fight for tribal rights, land and freedom. He said Bheem's ideals continued to inspire Telangana's movements and the wider struggle for tribal empowerment.

Dhanak Bazaar Organised at Urdu University to Promote Women Artisans

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Dhanak Bazaar was organised at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) in collaboration with the MANUU Women's Association (MAK) and Safa. Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan, Vice-Chancellor of MANUU, inaugurated the bazaar and appreciated the initiatives aimed at encouraging women entrepreneurs and promoting local talent. The event was organised to provide a platform for women to promote their businesses and entrepreneurial activities. The bazaar was organised under the supervision of Mrs. Arshaya Hasan, President of the MANUU Women's Association, and Ms. Rubena Nafees Fatima, Director and Founder-President of Safa. At the inaugural programme, Prof. Waqarun Nisa, General Secretary of the MANUU Women's Association, welcomed the gathering, while Prof. Fareeda Siddiqui, Vice-President, proposed the



vote of thanks. Dr. Mohsina Anjum Ansari conducted the proceedings. On the occasion, the Vice-Chancellor also launched the web page of the MANUU Women's Association (MAK), devel-

oped by Ms. Nida Yasmeen, Secretary (Publicity), MAK.

Dhanak Bazaar featured stalls displaying handicrafts, traditional products, food items and cultural goods prepared by women. People

from various walks of life visited the exhibition, while a large number of visitors purchased the diverse products, encouraging and supporting women entrepreneurs and artisans.

KISHAN REDDY TO VISIT AUSTRALIA TO BOOST CRITICAL MINERALS COOPERATION

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Union Coal and Mines Minister G. Kishan Reddy will visit Australia from October 25 to 30 to strengthen bilateral cooperation in mining, critical minerals, advanced technologies and mineral processing.

During the six-day visit, Reddy will hold discussions with Australian government representatives, mining companies, research institutions and industry leaders in Sydney and Melbourne.

The talks will focus on securing critical mineral supplies for India's growing industrial and clean energy needs, attracting investments in domestic mining projects, promoting joint research and advancing exploration, technology trans-



fer and skill development.

The minister will arrive in Sydney on October 25 and inaugurate the Sydney office of NMDC on October 26, followed by a review of the company's activities. He will also participate in the International Mining and Resources Conference and Expo (IMARC) 2026 and deliver a keynote address on

global opportunities.

On October 27, Reddy is scheduled to meet Australian Resources and Northern Australia Minister Madeleine King and inaugurate the India Pavilion at IMARC.

He will also interact with major Australian mining company Bravus and a mining delegation from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

KOMURAM BHEEM'S FIGHT FOR TRIBAL RIGHTS REMAINS AN INSPIRATION: TPCC CHIEF

Nizamabad, Oct.22 (NSS): TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud paid tributes to tribal revolutionary Komuram Bheem on his birth anniversary, recalling his historic struggle for tribal rights under the Nizam's rule.

Goud hailed Bheem's "Jal, Jangal, Zameen" (Water, Forest, Land) slogan as a powerful call for tribal dignity and rights. He said the Congress government was prioritising tribal welfare, forest rights, education, healthcare, employment and economic empowerment, and urged people to carry Bheem's ideals forward.

Palamuru leaders urge Uttam to halt water diversion to Dindi project

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Representatives from Palamuru district on Thursday urged Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy to stop diverting water from Palamuru to the Dindi project, warning that the move could adversely affect the Palamuru ayacut.

Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, MP Mallu Ravi, district MLAs, Legislative Council Chairman Gutha Sukhender Reddy and former minister K. Jana Reddy, among others, met Uttam Kumar Reddy and held discussions with him for nearly one-and-a-half hours.

They apprised the Minister of the problems associated with the Dindi project and



urged him to explore an alternative route to supply water to the project instead of drawing it from Yedula.

Clarifying that they were not opposed to supplying water to the Dindi project, the representatives said diverting

water from Yedula would affect irrigation in the Palamuru ayacut.

Uttam Kumar Reddy assured them that he would discuss the issue with officials and take a decision acceptable to all stakeholders.

BRS ACCEPTS MINISTER JUPALLY'S CHALLENGE ON LAMURU-RANGA REDDY PROJECT

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Former Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy and former MLA Beeram Harshavardhan Reddy on Thursday inspected the Tundu dam near Kudikilla in Nagarkurnool district. On the occasion, Niranjan Reddy said water had reached the dam and stopped there. He asserted that removing the dam gates would allow the water to flow further and challenged those who had doubts about the number of days the water would flow to obtain an estimate.

He recalled that five reservoirs with a combined capacity of 70 TMC had been constructed during the previous BRS government and that 27,000 acres of land had been



acquired. He said surge pools, pump houses, motors and power lines had been completed at a cost of Rs.35,000 crore. He added that 31 km of twin tunnels had been excavated as part of the project.

Niranjan Reddy asserted that water could be transferred to the reservoirs through the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme. He said

that if the Congress government was unable to complete the task, it should hand over the project to the BRS. Declaring his confidence in the scheme, he vowed that if water could not be transferred, he would cut his tongue and never speak about the issue again.

Accepting the challenge posed by State Minister Jupally Krishna Rao.

DUSSEHRA RETURN RUSH TRIGGERS TRAFFIC



NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 22:

Heavy traffic congestion was reported at Choutuppal on the Hyderabad-Vijayawada Highway on Thursday as the people returning to the city after Dussehra holidays.

The ongoing flyover construction at Choutuppal has forced the vehicles onto the service road, which struggled to handle the heavy

rush. Vehicles moved at a snail's pace, prompting police to reach the spot and regulate traffic.

Traffic snarls were also reported at Dilsukhnagar due to a heavy influx of vehicles, with RTC and private buses stranded along the LB Nagar-Dilsukhnagar stretch. Commuters faced difficulties reaching their destinations as police worked to ease the congestion.



At a Glance

Rajasthan: 2 die, 5 sustain injuries in Jaipur gold jewellery factory fire

IANSS
Jaipur, Oct. 22



Two workers died and five others were hospitalised after a fire broke out at a gold jewellery manufacturing factory in Jaipur’s Sitapura Industrial Area around 5 pm on Thursday, officials said. The two workers reportedly died of suffocation at the spot, while five others lost consciousness and were taken to hospital. Their condition was said to be serious. Police personnel and fire brigade teams rushed to the factory after receiving information about the blaze. Rescue operations were launched, and firefighters eventually brought the fire under control. The bodies were kept in a mortuary, officials said. The cause of the fire has not been established. Police are investigating the incident, while details about the deceased workers and damage remain awaited in Jaipur.

Bihar govt orders redeployment of 3 SP and 54 DSP-rank officers

IANSS
Patna, Oct. 22

The Bihar Home Department on Thursday ordered the redeployment of three SPs and 54 DSP-rank officers across Police Headquarters, Special Branch, CID, Vigilance and the Bihar Police Academy. Aparajit, a 2020-batch IPS officer, has been appointed SP (Law and Order), Patna. Mukul Kumar Ranjan will be SP (Rural), Samastipur, while Alok Kumar has been posted as SP (Rural), Bhagalpur. Other officers have been assigned to Prohibition and State Narcotics Control Bureau, vigilance units, armed police battalions and the academy. The redeployment affects units across Bihar.

HM Amit Shah launches projects worth Rs 8,941 crore to revive Yamuna in Delhi

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 22

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of projects worth Rs 8,941 crore related to the rejuvenation of the Yamuna in Delhi, reiterating the government’s commitment to purify the river by 2029.

Speaking at the event, HM Shah said as soon as our party’s government was formed in Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called a major meeting and placed his vision of purifying the Yamuna before the Delhi government and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

In such a short time, we have achieved more than 40 per cent success, he said.

The Union Minister said that 10 projects were inaugurated and 33 projects were initiated on Thursday.

He said that through the schemes started at a total cost of Rs 8,941 crore, several lakh litres of water will be purified and flow into the Yamuna.

Projects related to several areas of Delhi were inaugurated, and the foundation stones were also laid for the upgradation of existing STPs and the installation of new STPs, he said.

A decentralised STP pumping station has also been set up, and work has begun to connect sewer lines to households, he



said.

“We are taking forward sewer rehabilitation, tapping and drainage work,” said the Home Minister, expressing confidence in purifying the Yamuna before May 2029.

On this occasion, Delhi Lieutenant Governor T.S. Sandhu and Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, along with several other dignitaries, were present.

The Union Home Minister said that some political parties only indulge in the politics of excuses.

Taking aim at the Aam Aadmi Party-led previous government, HM Shah said, “Previous governments in Delhi used to make excuses that they did not get any help. He said that we have answers to every claim of theirs, but those answers will be given to them after their government in Punjab goes.”

“The previous government in Delhi did nothing except seize power in the name of protests and indulge in corruption. They played politics in the name of garbage mountains, but our government

has worked to bring those garbage mountains down. In two years, gardens will come up in place of these garbage mountains,” he said.

The Union Home Minister said that the Rekha Gupta government in Delhi, with the help of PM Modi’s government at the Centre, has cleared 2.17 crore metric tonnes of garbage and freed 100 acres of land from waste.

The garbage mountains at Okhla and Bhalswa have been reduced by 30 to 40 metres; the one at Ghazipur has come down by 10 to 15 metres, he said.

The Union Minister said that the previous governments did not do any work for the purification of the Yamuna.

“Our government has today carried out world-class works such as Asita East, Bansera and Vasudev Ghat at Sarai Kale Khan and ITO. We have prepared a three-year action plan to provide sewerage connections to every household in Delhi so that dirty water can be drained out, and we will also ensure that pure drinking water reaches every home,” he said.

Fadnavis stresses financial viability of water projects

IANSS
Mumbai, Oct. 22

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Thursday stressed the need to secure land, right-of-way and statutory clearances in advance to ensure the viability and sustainability of water projects.

Speaking at a review meeting on the state’s urban infrastructure and water projects with a World Bank and International Finance Corporation (IFC) delegation, he said cooperation with the World Bank was important not only for financial assistance but also for institutional reforms and technology. Fadnavis said projects

selected for financing must be ready for implementation, as land issues and other hurdles often delay work by one to two years after approval. Smaller cities had a strong demand for such infrastructure, and pooling resources and coordinating across institutions could reduce financing costs.

He noted that electricity was a major operating expense for water projects, with unaffordable power bills often creating bottlenecks. Solar energy, battery storage and modern technology should be considered at the planning stage to lower costs and improve sustainability.

The Chief Minister

also called for identifying industrial and other users of treated wastewater as part of project planning. Reuse would help generate demand for recycled water and enable partial recovery of project investments. Existing policies on supplying treated water to industrial zones and power plants should be updated to encourage greater reuse, he said.

Although the timelines presented at the meeting were ambitious, Fadnavis said they could be met through planning and coordination among agencies. Successful completion of the initial phase, he added, would pave the way for wider implementation.

MODI SAYS GLOBAL ORDER HAS FAILED TO KEEP PACE WITH CHANGING WORLD

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 22

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the global order and its institutions had failed to evolve in step with a rapidly changing world, creating a widening gap between present realities and outdated decision-making systems.

Addressing the NDTV World Summit in New Delhi, Modi described the current period as a transition, a “world between orders”. He raised two key questions: why the global order was shifting and the old system was struggling to address today’s challenges, and what role India should play in the changing landscape.

Explaining the shift, Modi said it was natural and inevitable. The lessons of the Second World War showed that an international order



based solely on power and self-interest could not endure, he said. Dialogue, cooperation and the peaceful resolution of disputes were essential principles that had led to the creation of the United Nations.

The world, however, had undergone profound changes. Aspirations had evolved, new economic forces and powers had emerged,

and technology had transformed society, economies and the very nature of power. Countries that were not part of the original global order were now asserting their place on the world stage, he said.

“The question is, has the global order kept pace with these changes? The answer is no,” Modi said.

While acknowledging the historic role of the United Nations and other international institutions, he said their limitations in addressing contemporary challenges had become evident. New powers were rising, more voices were demanding inclusion, and emerging problems required fresh solutions.

When global realities change but decision-making mechanisms remain unchanged, a disconnect develops between the evolving international situation and the systems meant to govern it, Modi said. This, he added, was what the world was witnessing today.

His remarks reiterated India’s call to reform global institutions to make them more representative, inclusive and responsive to the needs of the 21st century for all people everywhere.

VIRENDRA KUMAR STRESSES SAFETY, DIGNITY OF SANITATION WORKERS

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 22

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Virendra Kumar on Thursday reviewed measures to improve sanitation workers’ welfare, rehabilitation, working conditions, occupational safety, and socio-economic empowerment.

Addressing a meeting of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK), Kumar stressed the need for suitable training to upgrade workers’ skills, promote safe practices and help them carry out sanitation-related tasks with dignity and security.

The meeting reaffirmed the Centre’s commitment to workers’ welfare and rehabilitation, with a focus on safe working conditions, mechanisation and effective implementation of welfare measures.

Kumar called for wider awareness of the Ministry’s National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) Scheme to ensure that more eligible beneficiaries across the country could access its benefits.

He emphasised that eligible workers should receive appropriate mechanised equipment and personal protective equipment

(PPE) kits to reduce occupational risks and eliminate unsafe sanitation practices. Their distribution, he said, must be accompanied by proper use, regular maintenance and periodic monitoring to ensure the equipment remains effective.

The Minister also stressed strict implementation of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, and the associated rules.

He urged the NCSK to continue protecting sanitation workers’ rights and dignity and coordinate with the authorities con-



cerned to ensure welfare measures and government schemes reach all eligible beneficiaries nationwide.

The meeting was attended by NCSK Chairperson Bhagwat Prasad Makwana and members Manoj Kumar Balmiki, Ravi Ramu Kalose and Sushma Gaudiyal. The Ministry’s concerned Joint Secretaries were also present in person.

Gujarat Air Ambulance Completes 98 Missions, Transports 50 Sets of Organs

IANSS
Gandhinagar, Oct. 22



Gujarat’s government-operated air ambulance service has completed 98 missions since its launch in 2022, including 48 patient transfers and 50 flights transporting human organs for transplantation, officials said to date.

Operated round the clock by the Civil Aviation Department and Gujarat State Aviation

Infrastructure Company Limited (GUJSAIL), the service offers subsidised air medical transport across India.

Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi, who holds the Civil Aviation portfolio, said the initiative had become part of the state’s emergency response system.

Launched under Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, the service uses a dedicated Beechcraft King Air B200 aircraft, registered as VT-GUJ. It can carry doctors, medical personnel and equipment according to the patient’s condition, urgency, distance and destination.

Of the 98 missions, 48 involved moving patients needing urgent or specialised treatment, including advanced surgery and critical care. The other 50 transported human organs, which must reach transplant teams within limited timeframes.

The service works with 108 Emergency Services, GUJSAIL’s Flight Operations Department, medical teams, pilots, airport authorities, ground transport teams and receiving hospitals. Cases may be referred by 108 or booked directly by hospitals. Teams coordinate transfers to minimise delays overall.

Subject to operational, weather and safety requirements, the aircraft can use airports and suitable airstrips, including those without conventional air traffic control services. This may help patients in remote areas reduce road travel to major airports. The air ambulance complements, rather than replaces, road ambulance services.

The government has fixed subsidised charges at Rs 50,000 for patients from Gujarat and Rs 65,000 for those from outside the state. When a hospital books the service, the charge is Rs 55,000, according to the state government.

Dwarka to Get `92.70-Crore Krishna Museum With Nine Galleries

IANSS
Dwarka, Oct. 22

A Rs. 92.70-crore museum dedicated to Lord Krishna is being developed in Gujarat’s Dwarka, with nine galleries on his life, teachings and the Bhagavad Gita.

Located 1.6 km from the Dwarkadhish Temple, the Shri Krishna Museum will combine traditional exhibits with audio-visual presentations, interactive displays and 3D projection mapping.

Officials said the project is being developed under Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and



Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi, in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s “Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi” approach.

The galleries will cover Krishna’s birth and childhood, episodes from Gokul and Vrindavan, the lifting

of Govardhan Hill, the subduing of Kaliya and the Raas Leela. They will also depict his journey to Mathura, the killing of Kansa, the establishment of Dwarka and his role in the Mahabharata through sculptures, paintings and replicas.

Features will include touchscreen kiosks, motion-sensor experiences, thematic lighting, soundscapes and multimedia projections. The site will also have landscaped grounds, a lotus pond, a light-and-sound show and an amphitheatre.

Visitor facilities will include accessibility provisions, a café, souvenir shop and parking.

Dwarka, a Char Dham destination, attracts devotees and tourists from India and abroad. The museum is expected to complement temple visits and support tourism businesses.

ED seizes properties worth Rs 1.66 crore in land investment fraud

IANSS
New Delhi, Oct. 22

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached properties worth Rs 1.66 crore in an alleged land investment fraud involving Shanthi Swaroup Satija and others, ED said.

The ED’s Delhi Zonal Office-II issued the order on Wednesday under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The land at Village Dhani Gaikani, Virat Nagar tehsil, Jaipur district, Rajasthan, is



held by Ganesham Build Developers and its director, Anil Kumar Sharma.

Provisional Attachment Order No. 24/2026 represents the equivalent value of proceeds of crime allegedly

transferred to and held by the company and Sharma.

The probe is based on 10 FIRs registered by Delhi Police and investigated by its Economic Offences Wing under Sections 420 and 120B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

The ED said Satija, through Sampatti Trading and Developers and Sampatti Developers, allegedly lured investors into schemes and land projects by promising monthly returns of 2-3

per cent. Some investors received returns initially, but payments later stopped and several did not recover their principal.

Funds from entities controlled by Satija were transferred to Ganesham Build Developers Pvt Ltd and Sharma to buy land in Rajasthan, the agency said. As the proceeds of crime had been dissipated, properties of equivalent value were attached to safeguard the amount under the PMLA too.



At a Glance

UAE minister of state Nusseibeh enters deadlocked race for UN head

United Nations, Oct. 22

The UAE has nominated Minister of State Lana Nusseibeh for UN secretary-general, making her the eighth candidate to succeed Antonio Guterres, whose term ends on December 31.

The Security Council remains deadlocked: all seven existing candidates received negative votes from at least two permanent members in the latest poll. Nusseibeh needs support from all five permanent members to win.

She said in her vision statement that the UN should be present where it can add value, including near conflict zones and where agreements can be reached. The UAE has faced Iranian attacks during the war following US and Israeli strikes on Iran.

Nusseibeh served as the UAE's UN representative until 2024. Calls are growing for a woman to lead the UN for the first time at the UN.

Indian green-card holders face slowing US citizenship approvals

Washington, Oct. 22

US citizenship approvals are slowing, with pending applications exceeding 813,000 in August, official data reviewed by IANS showed.

US Citizenship and Immigration Services approved 15,349 applications in August, down from 18,439 in June. Pending cases rose from 744,412 in June to 813,453 in August; 513,462 waited over six months. Average processing time was 12.7 months.

India was the second-largest birthplace group among new US citizens in fiscal 2024, with 49,700 Indians naturalised. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal criticised the slowdown on X. USCIS gave no reasons.

Kathmandu condemns drone attack on Saudi oil field that killed Nepali national

Kathmandu, Oct. 22

Nepal has condemned an attack targeting Saudi Aramco's Shaybah oil field that killed a Nepali and a Filipino national after debris from an intercepted drone fell near the facility.

In a social media post on Thursday, Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated its condemnation of attacks on civilians and critical infrastructure. It called for disputes to be resolved

US DECLARES 'CYBER WARFARE' ON SCAM CENTRES AS SENIORS LOSE \$7.7 BN



Washington, Oct. 22

The Trump administration is, for the first time, turning offensive cyber weapons on foreign scam centres, top officials have said, as Homeland Security disclosed that Americans over 60 lost \$7.7 billion to cybercrime in 2025 and the Secret Service reported recovering thousands of child abuse videos.

"With the executive order that you signed, for the first time ever, we are using offensive cyber capabilities to dismantle, disrupt, and disable these foreign scam centres. That has never been done before," White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller told President Donald Trump at a White House roundtable on cybercrime and scams on Wednesday.

"So you have effectively declared cyber warfare against the cyber criminals, and that is saving the pensions, the life savings, the retirement accounts, the earnings of countless American citizens," Miller said.

Secretary of War Pete Hegseth said the depart-

ment brought "CyberCom and NSA, and the exquisite capabilities" to the effort. "We're feeding our deep intelligence and tracking data on overseas cyber networks directly to the National Coordination Center and Homeland Security Task Force," he said.

"We've also seen there's a very clear connection between transnational cyber syndicates and enemy militaries and how they fund themselves," Hegseth said, without naming any country.

Trump said his August national security memorandum unleashed private sector "tools and resources" to "undertake offensive and defensive actions to stop the hackers". Officials did not say which scam centres had been hit or where.

Miller cast the campaign alongside Trump's trade agenda, speaking of "entire foreign economies that are propped up on stealing from American seniors". "America is not a pile of treasure for other countries and other people and other scammers all around the world to loot for themselves," he

said.

Older Americans were described as the main targets. "When you get into what is going on, the elderly population, over 60, as just in 2025 through cybercrimes, lost 7.7 billion in their income," Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin said. "That's retirements that are completely wiped away."

Miller described the "grandparent scam". "Your grandmother, your grandfather, your parents, they get a phone call saying a loved one has been arrested, wired \$10,000 right away to get them out of jail, except nobody was arrested, nobody's in jail, and the money goes to a foreign scam centre," he said.

"We want to protect our seniors because the seniors almost more than anybody are really victims of what we're talking about today," Trump said. He advised victims to "seek out help from trusted family members".

Mullin also detailed action against online child exploitation. "Underneath Secret Service alone, they have recovered 14,600

child abuse videos, as the First Lady has so eloquently said, take it down, and over 35,600 images," he said.

He highlighted the Homeland Security Investigations campaign "Know to Protect", which he said was "educating families on how to protect themselves from digital extortion". "Behind every statistic is a human life," Mullin said.

Trump said the administration was "aggressively confronting the sexual extortion rackets that have wrecked the lives of too many young people, and in some cases even tragically led victims to take their own lives". He credited First Lady Melania Trump, "who led a successful bipartisan effort to pass the Take It Down Act".

Attorney General Todd Blanche said: "We're also meeting the serious threat of sextortion head-on."

"By taking on these cyber criminals on offence and defence, we watch out for our warriors, we watch out for American citizens, and we secure the homeland," Hegseth said.

US TARGETS LAWYERS BEHIND IRAN'S SHADOW FLEET

Washington, Oct. 22

The United States has sanctioned a law firm, shipping agents and vessel operators accused of helping Iran conceal ship ownership and transport oil and other commodities.

The Treasury Department on Wednesday targeted Panama- and Greece-based law firm Karnakis and Karnakis, five people associated with it, maritime businesses in Singapore and Dubai, and nine vessels.

Treasury said the firm registered shipping companies whose vessels carried hundreds of mil-

lions of dollars' worth of Iranian petroleum, petrochemicals and steel. It alleged employees acted as company directors and officers to conceal the vessels' owners.

"If you are supporting the Iranian regime, we will find you and sanction you," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said.

Treasury designated Roxette Maritime Shipping and Trading S.A., which it said manages seven Panama-flagged cargo vessels: Anemos, Gloris, Pride, Destiny, Flamingo 1, Harmony and Prince. Anemos, Gloris and Pride transported Iranian petrochemicals and steel

during the past year, it said.

Singapore-based Amigoz Singapore PTE. Ltd. was sanctioned over its alleged role in services for Iranian oil shipments. Dubai-based Whales Shipping Line LLC was accused of acting as an agent for a sanctioned business involved in buying Iranian petrochemicals and doing business with Amigoz. Two UAE-flagged support vessels owned by Whales, Whales Diamond and Whales Pearl, were blocked.

The sanctions freeze designated parties' property within US jurisdiction and generally prohibit US persons from

transactions involving it, unless authorised or exempt. Treasury warned foreign financial institutions could face restrictions on access to US correspondent banks.

State Department spokesman Tommy Pigott urged governments, port authorities, flag registries and businesses to watch for signs of sanctions evasion. The measures were imposed under Executive Order 13902 and form part of Operation Economic Outcast, announced by Bessent on August 24 to disrupt networks and financial channels Iran uses to export commodities and evade sanctions.

Unacceptable, stupid: Macron hits back at Trump's remarks on France protests

Paris, Oct. 22



French President Emmanuel Macron has accused foreign leaders, including those "on the other side of the Atlantic", of attempting to exploit France's tense social climate for political gain following a weekend of violence and unrest.

Protests in France over soaring living costs have attracted international attention.

US President Donald Trump has blamed immigration for the unrest sweeping parts of Europe, warning that France and Italy risk further instability unless their governments tighten border controls, even as French authorities have attributed much of the recent violence to radical groups amid protests over education and rising living costs.

Macron said there had been "foreign manipulation of information in the aftermath" of the looting reported in Paris and other French cities over the weekend. He criticised the comments made by several foreign leaders in response to the situation, describing them as both unacceptable and foolish.

"And that has led to comments that are as stupid, from many people, including foreign leaders," Macron said.

When a reporter asked whether he was referring

specifically to Trump, the French President replied, "Among others".

Macron also rejected Trump's assertion that France was being overrun by migrants and Islamists, describing the claim as "completely false".

He pointed to the circulation of AI-generated images portraying incidents that had never taken place in the country, arguing that such content was contributing to the spread of misleading narratives about the unrest.

"AI-generated images depicting scenes that never actually happened in France. We've had people claiming that we were invaded by hordes of migrants and Islamists, which is completely false," he said.

Meanwhile, French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot said his office was prepared to provide the countries concerned with the necessary clarifications to prevent the further circulation of inaccurate

information.

He said the assistance would help them avoid spreading or amplifying false claims on social media.

Macron also expressed frustration with those criticising France during the current situation, suggesting that their remarks reflected a lack of goodwill towards the country.

"The fact is, all the people who are speaking ill of our country right now are people who don't love our country," Macron said. "So those people really bother me."

"When I see leaders who are in the middle of election campaigns, whether in the region or on the other side of the Atlantic - who sometimes naively repeat AI-generated content or spread narratives that certain circles are clearly trying to promote about what happened in France - they're using our country for their own political campaigns... And we don't need that," Macron said.

SAVED 14 INDIANS IN RED SEA AFTER YACHT ATTACKED BY SAUDI ARABIA, CLAIM HOUTHIS

Sanaa, Oct. 22

Yemen's Houthis on Thursday claimed their forces were rescuing 14 Indian nationals after Saudi Arabia targeted an Indian yacht near Zuqar Island in the southern Red Sea. The claim has not been independently verified.

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree said the information was preliminary and that further details would follow. In a post on X, he accused Saudi Arabia of threatening international navigation through the alleged attack.

The claim came a day after an Indian national was among two people killed in an attack on

King Fahd International Airport in Dammam, Saudi Arabia, while two other Indians were injured, the Indian Embassy said on Thursday.

The embassy said Saudi authorities had informed it of the casualties. It was seeking further details and contacting the affected families, while expressing condolences to the deceased and wishing the injured a speedy recovery.

India on Thursday condemned attacks on civilian and energy infrastructure in Saudi Arabia, including King Fahd International Airport and Saudi Aramco's Shaybah oil field in the Eastern Province on October 21. The Ministry of External

Affairs said the attacks had caused civilian deaths and injuries and must stop immediately.

India expressed solidarity with Saudi Arabia in safeguarding its sovereignty and said it hoped peace and normalcy would return to the region soon. The Houthis, meanwhile, accused Saudi forces of carrying out air and missile strikes across Yemeni provinces this week. The MEA said attacks on civilian and critical infrastructure were "completely unacceptable" and called for an immediate halt. It said India stood with Saudi Arabia and hoped stability would return soon. No independent confirmation followed.

7.0 magnitude earthquake strikes Tibet, weeks after devastating flash floods

New Delhi, Oct. 22

A 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck Tibet at around 8.03 p.m. on Thursday, according to India's National Centre for Seismology (NCS), renewing concerns in a region recovering from flash floods.

The quake occurred at a depth of 173 km, with its epicentre about 400 km from Lhasa, the Tibetan capital.

Tibet recorded a magnitude 5.0 earthquake on



September 3 at a depth of around 14 km. In January 2025, a 6.8-magnitude quake, according to China's earthquake monitoring agency, killed more than 120 people and injured hundreds.

The latest tremor comes weeks after an ice-rock

avalanche near the Nepal-Tibet border on August 26 triggered flash floods, destroying homes, roads and bridges and damaging hydropower projects. Thousands were reported missing.

In Nepal, at least 1,455 people were killed and 5,285 remained missing when authorities ended search and rescue operations. The country estimated that nearly \$5 billion would be needed for early recovery and rehabilitation.

On the Tibetan side,

Chinese state media reported 43 deaths and more than 500 people missing. Earlier reports put the number missing at 558, including 260 foreign nationals. The full extent of the damage remains difficult to verify independently because information from affected areas is limited.

Experts have warned that rising temperatures, retreating glaciers and extreme weather could increase disaster risks across the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF INDIA: Guarding the Written Word, Embracing the Spoken Word

Telangana media delegation briefed on a 190-year journey, a landmark digitisation drive and the newly opened Museum of Word

Based on PIB inputs | Zia Junaidi



Members of the Telangana media delegation at the National Library of India, Belvedere, Kolkata, during the PIB Hyderabad media tour. (Photo: PIB Hyderabad)

The library traces its origins to the Calcutta Public Library, established on March 21, 1836. In 1902, that library and the Imperial Secretariat Library were amalgamated to form the Imperial Library, which opened to the public in January 1903, according to the Ministry of Culture.

After Independence, the institution was renamed the National Library under the Imperial Library (Change of Name) Act, 1948. The then Union Education Minister, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, opened it to the public on February 1, 1953.

AT A GLANCE

- 1836: Calcutta Public Library established
- 1902: Imperial Library formed; opened to the public in 1903
- 1948: Renamed National Library
- 1953: Opened to the public at Belvedere
- 1954: Legal deposit law enacted (amended 1956)

A permanent repository

Under the Delivery of Books and Newspapers (Public Libraries) Act, 1954, the library is a permanent repository of books, newspapers and periodicals published in India. The 1956 amendment extended the law to periodicals, newspapers and maps.

Its services include:

- Reading, reference and bibliographical services
- Inter-library loan and international loan
- Microfilm and microfiche reading facilities
- Consultancy services

Collections for researchers

The delegation was told about the library’s role in preserving India’s multilingual literary and documentary heritage. Its holdings include books in Indian and foreign languages, rare books, manuscripts, maps, periodicals and newspapers, which serve researchers, scholars, students and book lovers.

A 2024 presentation by the library listed more than four million books and bound periodicals, 88,162 maps and over 3,231 manuscripts. Other published estimates are lower, at 2.2 to 2.5 million books.

Digitisation

According to the Ministry of Culture, around 80 lakh pages covering about 25,000 books have been digitised and made available through the Indian Culture portal. The effort aims to widen access to rare and fragile material.

Belvedere Estate

The library stands on the historic Belvedere Estate in Alipore, a campus of about 30 acres. Belvedere House, a heritage building, has been associated with the library since 1948.

The visit highlighted the continuing relevance of libraries in supporting research and learning. It was part of the five-day PIB Hyderabad media tour to Kolkata, which gives Telangana journalists first-hand exposure to national institutions, developmental initiatives and cultural and scientific establishments.

France Grapples With Public Anger and Record Debt After Violent Nationwide Protests

France is dealing with its worst unrest in years while its public finances face growing strain. Nationwide protests on October 17 over living costs and school conditions turned violent, weeks before a divided parliament takes up the 2027 budget.



By Dr. Shujath Ali Sufi
(Veteran Journalist)

Newspaper Commentary
October 2026

FRANCE AT A CROSSROADS: Political Paralysis, Economic Anxiety and a Crisis of Public Confidence

About 550,000 people took part across France, according to the authorities. Organisers put the figure at about 800,000. The demonstrations followed a month of student protests over teacher shortages and school conditions, with unions joining in. Most protesters were peaceful, but violent groups clashed with police, looted shops and attacked public buildings, including the town hall in Limoges.

Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez said several hundred shops suffered considerable damage. Later reports put arrests at nearly 2,400. Nuñez offered to resign, but President Emmanuel Macron declined and asked him to explain the planning and intelligence failures behind the violence.

In a televised address, Macron said, “Those who destroyed must pay.” He added that prefects and mayors would get powers to ban gatherings.

A MINORITY GOVT UNDER PRESSURE

Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu’s minority government presented the 2027 budget on October 1. It targets a deficit of 5% of GDP, down from 5.4% expected this year, through an effort of about €54 billion. That includes caps on pension indexation. The independent High Council of Public Finances has called the plan’s 1% growth assumption optimistic.

Budget fights have already cost France governments in December 2024 and September 2025. Reports differ on the date of the next major Assembly vote, and the presidential election is due in April–May 2027.

THE FISCAL BACKDROP

The IMF’s 2026 assessment, completed on July 17, urged “credible, growth-friendly, and expenditure-led” consolidation, with the deficit below 3% of GDP by 2029. Insee data released in late September showed debt rising further. The government expects interest payments of roughly €79 billion in 2026.

Spending cuts could deepen discontent among households already under pressure. Tax rises would weigh on workers and businesses. More borrowing would raise future costs. That is the choice facing the government as it tries to win back public confidence.

KEY NUMBERS

- ▶ **Debt in 2025:** 115.7% of GDP (IMF)
- ▶ **Deficit in 2025:** 5.1% of GDP (IMF)
- ▶ **Debt at end-June 2026:** about 119% of GDP, the highest since 1946 (Insee)
- ▶ **Government forecast:** debt of 119.3% in 2026 and 121.7% in 2027
- ▶ **EU reference values:** 60% for debt and 3% for the deficit

Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes: How the Two Differ, and What Is New in Care

How Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes differ in cause, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment, with India’s latest estimates, new ADA–EASD guidance and screening details.

By Dr. Abdul Mogni Siddiqui
(Senior Journalist)

Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes both raise blood glucose, but they differ in cause, prevention and treatment. The distinction matters in India, where an estimated 89.8 million adults aged 20–79 were living with diabetes in 2024, according to the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) Diabetes Atlas, 11th edition. This is an estimate for 2024, not a count of cases recorded in 2026.

About 43 per cent of those adults, roughly 38.6 million people, were undiagnosed, the Atlas estimates. India has the second-highest number of adults with diabetes after China. Worldwide, 589 million adults were living with diabetes, the IDF said when it released the Atlas on 7 April 2025. Most of them, about 90 per cent, have Type 2.

CAUSES, WITHOUT BLAME

Diet and lifestyle habits do not cause Type 1. Type 2 has several contributing factors: family history, increasing age, physical inactivity, overweight or obesity, and previous gestational diabetes. Blaming all diabetes on excess sugar is misleading.

WHEN TO SEEK HELP

Increased thirst, frequent urination, fatigue, blurred vision and unexplained weight loss need medical assessment. Type 2 can also cause no noticeable symptoms. Vomiting, abdominal pain, fruity-smelling breath or fast, deep breathing can signal diabetic ketoacidosis, a life-threatening emergency, particularly associated with Type 1. Seek emergency care.

HOW DIAGNOSIS WORKS

For non-pregnant people, diabetes is diagnosed when any of these is met:

- HbA1c of 6.5% or higher
- fasting plasma glucose of 126 mg/dL or higher
- two-hour glucose of 200 mg/dL or higher in an oral glucose tolerance test

Confirmation is generally needed unless symptoms are unequivocal. These tests establish diabetes but not its type, so doctors may use autoantibody and C-peptide tests when classification is uncertain.

WHAT IS NEW IN TREATMENT

On 2 October 2026, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and the European Association

for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) issued a joint consensus report on Type 2 diabetes management for non-pregnant adults, last updated in 2022. It shifts focus from glucose control alone to long-term management, including weight, psychological support and protection of the heart and kidneys. It advocates early use, potentially from diagnosis, of SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP-1-based therapies for organ protection. The ADA’s Rita Kalyani said the approach offers a chance of “sustained improvements in metabolic health, organ protection, weight and body composition management.”

Separately, the ADA’s 2026 Standards of Care now recommend continuous glucose monitoring at diagnosis and later for anyone who could benefit. These are options to be tailored by doctors, not self-directed treatment.

PREVENTION AND REMISSION

Regular activity, balanced eating, avoiding tobacco and a healthy weight can reduce Type 2 risk. For people with overweight at higher risk, losing about 5–7% of body weight can help prevent or delay on-

set. A practical activity target is around 150 minutes a week, adapted to health and ability.

Remission means HbA1c below 6.5% for at least three months without usual glucose-lowering medication. It is not a cure: monitoring must continue, and medicines should not be stopped without medical advice.

SCREENING IN INDIA

Ayushman Arogya Mandirs screen consenting adults aged 30 and above for Type 2 diabetes and four other non-communicable diseases. Union Health Minister J P Nadda said over 42 crore people were screened for hypertension and diabetes, with nearly five crore, about 11.9%, found to have diabetes.

These figures are not directly comparable with IDF estimates. Younger people with symptoms also need assessment.

THE KEY DIFFERENCES

- **Cause:** Type 1 involves immune destruction of insulin-producing cells; Type 2 involves insulin resistance and insufficient production.
- **Age:** Type 1 often starts young; Type 2 is more common in adults. Both can occur at any age.
- **Onset:** Type 1 symptoms often appear quickly; Type 2 may remain unnoticed for years.
- **Treatment:** Type 1 requires daily insulin. Type 2 uses lifestyle changes and medicines, sometimes insulin.
- **Prevention:** Diet and exercise are not established ways to prevent Type 1. Type 2 can often be prevented or delayed.



Anahat stuns Eight-time world champion ElSherbini



IANs News
REDWOOD CITY, Oct 22

India's Anahat Singh pulled off the biggest win of her career, defeating Egyptian eight-time world champion Nour ElSherbini in straight games to enter the quarterfinals of the Silicon Valley Open squash tournament in the US.

The 18-year-old world No. 15 defeated top seed and world No. 3 ElSherbini 11-8, 11-8, 11-7 in 30 minutes in the second round of the \$143,500 PSA Gold event.

"I've grown up watching every single match of hers. She is an inspiration to all squash players. I didn't expect it to go like this, but my game plan worked well," Anahat said after the

Indian teenager storms into Silicon Valley Open quarterfinals with biggest win of her career

victory.

The Indian, who recently became the first woman from the country to reach an Asian Games squash singles final, will face Egyptian world No. 14 Salma Hany in the quarterfinals.

Anahat won silver at the 2026 Asian Games, finishing runner-up to Malaysia's defending champion Sivasangari Subramaniam. Earlier this year, she also became the first Indian to win the girls' singles title at the World Junior Squash Championships, ending Egypt's 15-year dominance in the event.

Harry Brook Smashes Fastest-Ever ODI Double Century

IANs News
RAWALPINDI, Oct 22

England white-ball captain Harry Brook scripted history on Thursday, smashing the fastest-ever double century in One-Day International cricket during the Tri-series clash against Sri Lanka at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

Brook reached the 200-run mark in just 114 balls, surpassing India captain Shubman Gill's previous record of 117 balls, set against the West Indies earlier this year.

The England skipper hammered 202 off 116 deliveries, including 21 fours and 10 sixes, dismantling the Sri Lankan attack before being dis-

missed off the final ball of the innings.

Brook became the first England batter to score an ODI double century, surpassing Ben Stokes' previous national record of 182 against New Zealand in 2023. He also became only the second non-opener to achieve the feat, after Australia's Glenn Maxwell.

His explosive innings powered England to 429/4, their eighth ODI total above 400 and fourth-highest score in the format.

Fastest ODI double centuries (by balls):

- 114 – Harry Brook vs Sri Lanka, Rawalpindi, 2026
- 117 – Shubman Gill vs West Indies, Guwahati, 2026



- 126 – Ishan Kishan vs Bangladesh, Chattogram, 2022
- 128 – Glenn Maxwell vs Afghanistan, Mumbai, 2023
- 136 – P a t h u m Nissanka vs Afghanistan, Pallekele, 2024

Samson, Dhir power India to record T20I chase against New Zealand

IANs News
CHRISTCHURCH, Oct 22

Sanju Samson's explosive 67 and Naman Dhir's unbeaten 42 off just 15 balls powered India to their highest-ever successful T20I chase, beating New Zealand by four wickets in the opening match at Hagley Oval on Thursday.

Chasing 226, India reached 230/6 in 19.4 overs, with Dhir sealing the victory in dramatic fashion after smashing a boundary and a six in the final over. Captain Shreyas Iyer contributed 42 off 28 balls, while Samson struck eight fours and four sixes in his 33-ball knock.

Abhishek Sharma provided an aggressive start with 29 off 12 de-



liveries as India raced to 94/1 in the powerplay. However, New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner and Michael Bracewell triggered a middle-order wobble, leaving India at 122/4. Axar Patel added

24 before Iyer and Dhir revived the chase with crucial late hitting.

Earlier, Glenn Phillips struck an unbeaten 82 off 40 balls to lift New Zealand to 225/4. Finn Allen made 45, while

Bevon Jacobs contributed 31 as the hosts capitalised on India's expensive bowling and sloppy fielding.

Mayank Yadav, Arshdeep Singh and Axar Patel claimed one

Brief Scores: New Zealand 225/4 in 20 overs (Glenn Phillips 82 not out, Finn Allen 45; Mayank Yadav 1/40, Arshdeep Singh 1/45) lost to India 230/6 in 19.4 overs (Sanju Samson 67, Naman Dhir 42 not out; Michael Bracewell 2/37, Mitchell Santner 2/39) by four wickets.

wicket each, but none of the Indian bowlers conceded fewer than 10 runs an over. Bracewell and Santner took two wickets apiece for New Zealand.

The second match of the series will be played at the same venue on Saturday.

India overhaul 226-run target with two balls to spare, win opener by four wickets

Dilip Gavitt strikes second Gold as India secure 400m T47 Double

IANs News
NAGOYA, Oct 22

India continued their medal-winning run at the 2026 Asian Para Games, with Dilip Mahadu Gavitt clinching his second gold medal and compatriot Bhavikkumar Bharwad securing silver in the men's 400m T47 final at the Nagoya City Mizuho Park Athletic Stadium on Thursday.

Gavitt clocked 48.27 seconds to claim gold, while Bhavikkumar finished second in 49.31 seconds. Japan's Kakeru Ishida took bronze in 49.58 seconds.

The victory marked Gavitt's second gold at the Games, following his triumph in the men's 100m T47, where he clocked 10.69 seconds. His latest win took India's gold medal tally to 20.

Gavitt had also won the men's 400m T47 gold at the 2022 Asian Para Games, securing India's 100th medal at that edition. He subsequently reached the final of the event at the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

Hailing from Toran Dongari village near Nashik in Maharashtra, Gavitt lost his right arm below the elbow following a severe childhood injury. Despite the setback, he pursued his passion for running and developed into a leading Indian para-athlete under coach Vajinath Kale. India's double podium finish added to the country's strong showing in para athletics at the continental competition.



Real Madrid, Betis maintain perfect Champions League starts

IANs News
Madrid, Oct 22

Real Madrid continued their perfect start to the Champions League with a convincing 4-1 victory over RB Leipzig, while Real Betis defeated Feyenoord 1-0 to register their third consecutive win in the competition.

Real Madrid, preparing for Sunday's Clasico against Barcelona, overcame an early Leipzig threat before Bernardo Silva opened the scoring after goalkeeper Maarten Vandevoordt failed to deal with Arda Guler's effort.

Guler doubled the lead in the 52nd minute, finishing from close range after Kylian Mbappe's header. Mbappe added the third seven minutes from time with a clinical finish into the far corner.

Tidiam Gomis pulled one back for Leipzig before substitute Yan Diomande, who joined Madrid from the German club in the summer, struck a powerful volley in the 87th minute to complete the scoring.

Earlier, goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois kept Madrid in the contest with two important early saves.

At home, Real Betis secured a 1-0 win over Feyenoord, with captain Isco converting a 59th-minute penalty to extend Manuel Pellegrini's side's winning run to three matches.

The former Real Madrid midfielder became the first player to score in consecutive Champions League matches for Betis. Feyenoord threatened throughout the contest, but Gijvai Zechiel missed a key opportunity by firing over the bar.

IANs News
NAGOYA, Oct 22

India's Sheetal Devi and Toman Kumar clinched gold in the compound mixed team event at the 2026 Asian Para Games on Thursday, defeating Indonesia 151-148 to secure the country's first archery gold at the ongoing

competition.

The Indian duo, who won bronze at the World Championships, delivered a decisive performance to claim the title. The victory marked Sheetal's second medal at the Aichi-Nagoya Games, following her silver in the women's compound doubles with Payal Nag.

Sheetal also continued her re-

Dharmaraj Solairaj Defends Asian Para Games Gold with Record 7.15m Leap

IANs News
NAGOYA, Oct 22

India's Dharmaraj Solairaj defended his men's long jump title at the 2026 Asian Para Games on Thursday, setting a new Asian record with a leap of 7.15m in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

The 32-year-old Tamil Nadu athlete achieved the mark on his second attempt in the combined T44/T62/T64 final at Nagoya City Mizuho Park Athletic Stadium, earning 807 Raza points for his second successive gold medal.

Solairaj improved his previous Asian record of 7.08m, set at the 2025 World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi. He opened with 6.88m before producing the record-breaking jump, which proved decisive despite subsequent efforts

Tamil Nadu jumper sets new Asian record to claim second consecutive title in Nagoya



of 6.82m and 6.85m and two fouls.

Malaysia's Eddy Bernard secured silver with 740 points, while Japan's Yuma Tamaki took bronze with 726 points.

Solairaj had won gold at the 2023 Asian Para Games in Hangzhou with a 6.80m leap. Earlier this year, he also won the

combined T44/T64 long jump at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in New Delhi with an effort of 7.05m.

The latest victory further underlines his progress in the T64 classification, which includes athletes with lower-limb impairments who compete using running prostheses.

CM Vijay announces Rs 30 Lakh reward for para shuttler Manisha Ramadass

IANs News
Chennai, Oct 22

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay has announced a ₹30 lakh cash incentive for para badminton player Manisha Ramadass after she won bronze in the mixed doubles SL3-SU5 event at the 2026 Asian Para Games in Japan.

Manisha partnered Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat to secure the medal following a hard-fought semifinal against Indonesia's Lani Ratri Oktilla and Jikmat Ramdani.

In a message posted on his official X account, Vijay congratulated Manisha and the Indian contingent, praising the athlete's perseverance and hard work. He said her achievement would inspire



young para athletes to pursue their sporting ambitions with confidence and determination.

The Chief Minister said the state government's ₹30 lakh incentive was in recognition of her medal-winning performance and the pride she had brought to Tamil Nadu and the country.

Vijay also wished Manisha continued success in future competitions, expressing hope that she would add more laurels to India's sporting achievements.

India sweep Men's High Jump T63 Podium as Shailesh Kumar wins Gold

IANs News
NAGOYA, Oct 22

India achieved a podium sweep in the men's high jump T63 final at the 2026 Asian Para Games on Thursday, with Shailesh Kumar winning gold, Varun Bhati taking silver and Rahul claiming bronze.

Shailesh cleared 1.89 metres to secure the gold, while Varun registered 1.84m for silver. Rahul completed the Indian sweep with a personal-best jump of 1.81m.

It was India's third clean sweep at the Games, following Devender Kumar's gold-led sweep in the men's discus throw F44/64 and Sachin Khilari's top finish in the men's shot put F46.

India had also achieved a podium sweep in the men's high jump at the 2022 edition, underlining the country's strength in the event.

Iva Jovic Stuns Paolini on Ningbo Open Debut

IANs News
NINGBO, Oct 22

American teenager Iva Jovic defeated two-time Grand Slam finalist Jasmine Paolini 6-4, 6-3 on Thursday to reach the quarterfinals of the Ningbo Open on her tournament debut.

The fourth-seeded 18-year-old recovered from a 1-3 deficit in the opening set, breaking the Italian in the fifth and ninth games to take control. Jovic then broke Paolini four times in the second set to seal the round-of-16 victory.

The win levelled their head-to-head record at 2-2 and marked Jovic's second consecutive victory over Paolini, following her triumph at the Australian Open earlier this year.

Jovic has now reached seven quarterfinals this season and registered her 20th victory against a top-50 op-



ponent. The result also took her tour-level wins for the year to 42, making it her most successful season so far.

The American will next face either Alexandra Eala or Diana Shnaider. She has won all four of her previous encounters against the two potential opponents combined.

Jovic recently defended her Guadalajara Open title and reached the fourth round of the US Open for the first time, underlining her impressive progress this season.

for 1,402 points in the mixed team qualification, breaking the previous world record of 1,400, also held by India.

The reigning world champions and world No. 1 pair strengthened their credentials with the performance. Sheetal, the 2023 Asian Para Games women's compound individual champion.

Alai Balai bridges political divides, promotes harmony: Guv

Shukla calls for united fight against drugs, announces awareness programme at Osmania University

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Thursday described Alai Balai as a symbol of social harmony and Telangana’s cultural heritage, bringing people together beyond political differences.

Addressing the ‘Datthanna Alai Balai’ programme organised by former Governor Bandaru Dattatreya and his daughter Vijayalakshmi at Nampally Exhibition Grounds, Shukla said ideological differences should not come in the way of mutual respect, friendship and cooperation. He appreciated Vijayalakshmi for carrying forward the tradition started by Dattatreya in 2005.

Calling for a collective fight against drug abuse, the Governor said the menace threatened the future of youth and could not be tackled by the police alone. Government agencies, educational institutions, social organisations and citizens must work together to achieve a drug-free India by 2029. He announced a drug-awareness programme at Osmania University on October 28, following a similar pledge-taking event involving around 15,000 students at LB Stadium.

Shukla also warned against



the growing threat of synthetic drugs and urged young people to uphold cultural traditions and contribute to nation-building.

Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria, former Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, former Governor C. Vidyasagar

Rao, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy and several public representatives and political leaders attended the programme. Dattatreya felicitated Shukla and his wife, Janaki Shukla, while dignitaries honoured achievers from various fields.

Govt committed to Mudiraju community’s welfare: Vakiti

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

Honoring historic personalities, upholding the dignity of marginalised communities, and translating social justice into governance are the core principles of the state government, Minister for Animal Husbandry Vakiti Srihari said.

Speaking at the 174th birth anniversary celebrations of Panduga Sayanna at Ravindra Bharathi on Thursday, the Minister reiterated the government’s commitment to the upliftment of the Mudiraju community in line with the legendary figure’s ideals.

Vakiti Srihari noted that the Congress government is actively bringing the contributions of historic leaders to light by officially hosting their birth



and death anniversaries a policy he said was neglected under the previous administration.

Emphasising that true social justice requires identifying caste-specific challenges and ensuring equitable opportunities based on socio-economic realities, Vakiti Srihari highlighted the state’s ongoing caste census conducted under the vision of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

Addressing key community demands, the Minister stated that the government possesses the resolve to evaluate shifting the Mudiraju community from the BC-D to the BC-A category. However, he emphasised that any policy change would be implemented responsibly to ensure it does not adversely affect the fishermen community currently listed under the BC-A category.

NAREDCO property show from Oct 30

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

NAREDCO Telangana will hold its 16th Property Show 2026 at HITEX Exhibition Centre from October 30 to November 1, showcasing apartments, villas, plots and commercial projects.

The three-day event will connect buyers with developers and banks, including SBI, Central Bank of India and IDBI Bank, to explore properties and home-loan options.

NAREDCO Telangana president Sreedhar Reddy Koppula and Secretary General R. Venkateswara Rao said the exhibition would help buyers compare projects and make informed property decisions.

TPCC Legal Cell Meet on October 24

The TPCC Legal Cell will hold its State Executive Meet at 10 a.m. on October 24 at Indira Bhavan, Nampally, under chairman Ponnam Ashok Goud. The meeting will discuss organisational strengthening, district-level coordination, constitutional awareness and access to legal aid. Ashok Goud urged district presidents, coordinators, advocates and members to attend.

Harish Rao slams CM over drought

BRS leader T. Harish Rao accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of failing to tackle drought, claiming crops on nearly 12 lakh acres had dried up. He said despite advance warnings, the government had not declared drought-hit areas or announced immediate relief for farmers facing heavy losses and water shortages.

Sameer questions Owaisi’s leadership model

Congress leader Mohammed Waliullah Sameer accused AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi of advocating independent Muslim leadership in Uttar Pradesh without expanding the same model across Telangana. Questioning AIMIM’s decision to contest only nine of 119 Assembly seats in 2023, Sameer called for greater opportunities for youth and women, with a focus on education, employment, healthcare and political representation.

Alai Balai promotes unity: Venkaiah

Former Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu said the Alai Balai festival promotes unity beyond political differences and urged people to preserve Indian culture and traditions. Addressing the celebrations at Nampally Exhibition Grounds, he stressed “unity in diversity” and harmony with nature.

Southern States unite against cybercrime, drugs and terrorism

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

Police chiefs and senior officials from southern States and Union Territories will meet in Hyderabad on Friday to strengthen coordination against cybercrime, drug trafficking, terrorism and other security threats.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will attend the Southern Regional Police Coordination Committee meeting at the Telangana Integrated Command and Control Centre in Banjara Hills.

Organised by Telangana Police, the meeting will bring together senior police officials from five

southern States, representatives of three Union Territories and central agencies, including the IB, CBI and NIA.

Discussions will cover organised crime, human trafficking, economic offences, criminal gangs, coastal security, the post-Maoist security situation and implementation of new criminal laws. Officials will also examine intelligence-sharing mechanisms, road safety and the use of artificial intelligence in policing.

DGP C.V. Anand said the meeting aimed to improve intelligence exchange, joint operations and coordinated investigations against crimes crossing State boundaries.

City to host Global Sickle Cell Congress

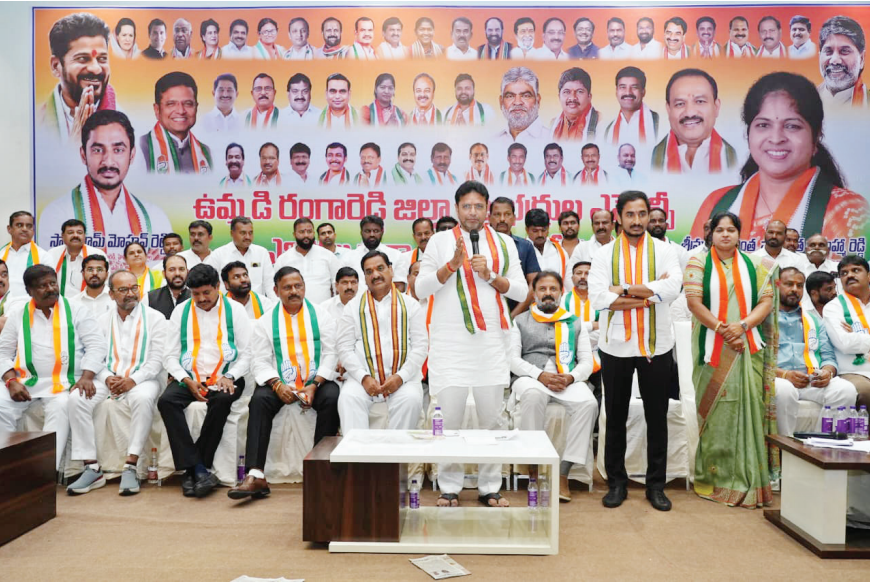


NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

Hyderabad will host the fourth GANSID Congress 2026 from October 23 to 25 at HICC, Novotel, Madhapur, with around 700 delegates from 27 countries expected to attend. The congress will bring together medical specialists, researchers, healthcare professionals and policymakers to discuss sickle cell disease, thalassemia and other inherited blood disorders.

GANSID CEO Lanre Tunji-Ajayi and Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Society (TSCS) Hyderabad president Dr. Chandrakant Agrawal announced the event at a press conference. TSCS, which supports more than 4,800 patients, is the local partner for the congress, aimed at strengthening international cooperation, awareness and patient care.

Babu urges Congress Cadre to intensify Graduate Voter enrolment



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu has urged Congress leaders and workers to prioritise graduate voter enrolment and launch a coordinated campaign ahead of the Hyderabad–Rangareddy–Mahabubnagar Graduates’ MLC elections.

Addressing a preparatory meeting at Mallika Gardens in Shamshabad on Thursday, he said the Congress should secure its highest victory margin from the erstwhile Rangareddy district. He stressed booth-level planning, coordination among party leaders and special enrolment drives to ensure that all eligible graduates registered as voters.

Sridhar Babu asked the cadre to highlight the State government’s development and welfare initiatives, job

recruitment and skill development programmes. He also called for effective public outreach and social media campaigns to counter criticism and alleged misinformation by the BRS and BJP.

He directed party workers to conduct enrolment drives across villages, mandals and urban local bodies, ensuring applications were completed accurately. Those performing well in enrolment and election campaigning would receive recognition within the party, he said.

MP Mallu Ravi, MLC Balmuri Venkat, MLAs Malreddy Ranga Reddy, Manohar Reddy and Ram Mohan Reddy, AICC Professionals Congress chairman Madhu Yaskhi, MLC candidate Sama Ram Mohan Reddy and other party leaders attended the meeting.

CCMB Finds Protein That Triggers Antiviral Defences



NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

CSIR-CCMB scientists have discovered how the human protein DZIP3 detects viral RNA and activates immune defences, opening avenues for developing broad-spectrum antiviral therapies.

Led by Dr. Santosh Chauhan, the study published in The EMBO Journal found that DZIP3 moves to mitochondria after detecting viral RNA, triggering Type I interferons that help stop viruses from multiplying. The pathway showed protection against SARS-CoV-2, Chikungunya and

Japanese encephalitis viruses. Researchers are now developing small-molecule drug candidates to enhance DZIP3 activity and strengthen natural antiviral responses. Dr. Rinku Sahu was the study’s first author. The research was funded by the Department of Biotechnology.

IASO-NCG Pact to Boost Cancer Surgery Training

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

The Indian Association of Surgical Oncology (IASO) and National Cancer Grid (NCG) have signed an MoU to expand specialised training, fellowships and mentorship for aspiring cancer surgeons. The partnership will promote advanced, minimally invasive and robotic surgery through joint training programmes, workshops, masterclasses and research collaborations.

Tata Memorial Hospital Director and NCG Convener Dr. C.S. Pramesh and IASO president Dr. T. Subramanyeshwar Rao said the initiative would strengthen surgical oncology education and improve cancer care nationwide.



Azharuddin seeks Graduate support for Congress in MLC polls

NSS News
Hyderabad, Oct 22

Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin has called upon graduates and youth in the Hyderabad–Rangareddy–Mahabubnagar constituency to support the Congress in the upcoming MLC elections by voting for the party’s candidate and strengthening the people’s government in Telangana.

Addressing a preparatory meeting for the MLC elections at Red Rose Function Hall here on Thursday, Azharuddin said the Congress government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, had taken several decisions in favour of youth and was providing them with great

er opportunities in the party and legislative institutions.

Emphasising the importance of the election, he urged party leaders and workers to begin preparations immediately, giving priority to enrolling all eligible graduates as voters.

Azharuddin said the Congress was committed to the welfare of all sections of society and stressed the need to effectively communicate the government’s initiatives and the party’s commitment to public welfare.

Expressing confidence in the party’s organisational strength, Azharuddin said the Congress had experienced leaders and a strong cadre, while the state government was making concerted efforts to develop Telangana.