



CM Revanth Reddy Focuses on Warangal's Development

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AISA chief Neha Bora appears before SEM Court in Delhi

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Indian-American Saritha Komatireddy wins New York Post backing

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BAY OF BENGAL WEATHER SYSTEM INTENSIFIES

Odisha Orders School Closures as Cyclone Threat Grows

Five southern districts suspend classes on October 28–29; officials told to prepare shelters and protect medical services

Highlights

- Collectors elsewhere can decide closures according to local conditions.
- Rescue teams on alert; patients and pregnant women prioritised.
- Fishermen warned against entering coastal waters on October 27–28.

BHUBANESWAR, Oct 24:

Odisha on Saturday ordered schools, colleges and Anganwadi centres in five southern districts to remain closed on October 28 and 29, while directing officials to prepare for evacuations and maintain essential medical care ahead of a possible cyclone.

The closures cover Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput and Malkangiri. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi reviewed preparations and instructed district administrations to identify vulnerable areas and keep cyclone and flood shelters ready.

The India Meteorological Department's 6 p.m. fishermen's bulletin described the system as a well-marked low-pressure area,

based on observations at 2.30 p.m. It forecast intensification into a deep depression on October 25 and a cyclonic storm by October 26 morning.

The system is expected to approach the Andhra Pradesh coast around October 28 morning. Cyclone formation and coastal crossing remain forecasts, with the precise landfall location still uncertain.

Authorities have placed 60 Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force teams, 17 National Disaster Response Force teams and 225 fire-service teams on alert. Officials have been directed to prioritise moving patients and pregnant women to healthcare fa-

cilities and stock essential medicines, medical kits and anti-snake venom.

Engineering departments have been asked to prepare for clearing fallen trees and restoring damaged services. Farmers are to receive warnings about harvesting and safely storing crops.

Fishermen should avoid waters along and off the Andhra Pradesh–Odisha coasts on October 27–28, IMD said. The reviewed preparedness reports did not establish village-level shelter readiness, available evacuation vehicles or whether warnings had reached every remote settlement.



Telangana Seeks Faster Release of Central Scheme Funds

Chief Secretary orders departments to clear procedural requirements and assign responsibility for follow-up

Review covers expenditure reports, onboarding and nodal-account closures.

Scheme progress will be tracked through the CM Dashboard.

Unresolved matters will be raised with Union government officials.

(IANS) Hyderabad, Oct 24:

Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju on Saturday directed Telangana's departmental secretaries to take coordinated, time-bound action to secure eligible assistance under Centrally Sponsored Schemes, focusing on pending paperwork and compliance requirements.

At a Secretariat review, he examined scheme implementation, expenditure reporting, onboarding requirements and closure of Single Nodal Agency accounts. Departments were told to identify unresolved issues and complete formalities needed for release of Central funds. The review covered Agriculture,

Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Education and Scholarships, Home, Rural Water Supply, Housing, Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Transport, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, among others.

Jaju reviewed the department-wise position of funds sought from the Centre and pending procedural requirements. He asked secretaries to ensure administrative gaps did not cause avoidable delays in obtaining or using eligible assistance. Acting on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's directions, departments must conduct their own reviews and monitor progress through the CM Review mechanism and

CM Dashboard, with responsibility for each pending matter clearly assigned.

Jaju asked officials to coordinate with relevant additional secretaries in the Union government. Where necessary, his office would send formal communications, and he said he would personally raise issues with concerned Union secretaries in New Delhi. The instructions focus on securing funds and ensuring effective utilisation across development and welfare programmes.

No amounts, breakdown, deadlines or fresh sanctions were disclosed; resolving requirements remains the task, with no proof funds reached the State.

Telangana Plans Leather Industry Centre in Gachibowli

Munsif Desk Hyderabad, Oct 24:

Telangana plans a 3.5-acre Common Facility Centre in Gachibowli under a hub-and-spoke model to help leather artisans with design, product development and branding, Minister D. Sridhar Babu said.

Encouraging Scheduled Caste youth entrepreneurship is a central goal.

Officials also reviewed proposed eco-friendly tanneries at Rukmapur, expected to create about 1,000 jobs—a government projection.

Flatted plug-and-play factory complexes are planned at Jammikunta and Armoor.

Sridhar Babu ordered an inspection of land previously allotted to LIDCAP. Project costs, completion dates, application procedures, user charges and environmental or pollution-control details were not announced.

Telangana. These figures were his estimates; an updated official count of those still awaiting return was not established.

Kunamneni said some pilgrims had faced difficulties for 15–20 days and alleged that travel agents had failed to arrange their return journeys. Many belonged to poor and middle-class families unable to afford costly alternative tickets, he said.

The appeal comes amid continuing efforts by Indian diplomatic

missions to coordinate travel. In an October 22 update, the Ministry of External Affairs said about 3,000 previously stranded Umrah pilgrims had returned on available flights over the preceding week.

That figure was separate from more than 10,000 other Umrah pilgrims who returned on their booked flights during the same period. It should not be subtracted from Kunamneni's estimate without matching the reporting periods and groups involved.

US Cuts Embassy Staffing Amid Reported Iranian Plots

Intelligence warning raises concerns for American personnel abroad as regional tensions deepen

WASHINGTON, Oct 24:

The United States is reducing staffing at embassies in Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates after intelligence warned of increased Iranian efforts to target American personnel. The missions remain open under restricted operations, with departures not compulsory in those four countries, according to the Associated Press.

An October 23 memorandum from Director of National Intelligence Jay Clayton to Secretary of State Marco Rubio said alleged Iranian plots against Americans had reached "advanced stages" in the Middle East and other countries. CIA Director John Ratcliffe also received the memo, which Reuters reviewed. Rubio is secretary of state, not defence secretary as stated in the supplied account.

The warning remains an intelligence assess-



ment. The publicly reported document does not identify intended victims, suspected planners or specific locations. Clayton urged wider sharing of relevant intelligence with potentially affected American personnel.

Separately, the State Department's current Saudi Arabia advisory confirms an order for non-emergency government employees and their families to leave because of safety risks. This is not a general repatriation order covering all American citizens. The advisory urges travellers to reconsider visit-

ing and warns of missile and drone threats from Iran and the Iran-backed Houthis.

US officials told Reuters that both Houthi attacks and alleged Iranian plots were influencing staffing decisions. The reviewed reports did not provide an Iranian response to the specific memorandum.

President Donald Trump raised the possibility of further military action on Friday while also leaving room for an agreement. His remarks did not announce a confirmed attack timetable. US officials denied that the embassy reductions were tied to prospective new strikes.

UK Urges Households to Keep Three Days' Emergency Supplies

'BE READY' CAMPAIGN PROMOTES PRACTICAL PREPARATION FOR WEATHER AND CYBER DISRUPTIONS WITH PURCHASES SPREAD OVER TIME

- Keep nine litres of drinking water per person for three days.
- Store cash in case electronic payments or ATMs fail.
- Eligible households can register for additional support during utility outages.

Munsif Desk LONDON, October 24:

The British government has urged households to prepare for temporary disruption to essential services through its "Be Ready" campaign, recommending enough basic supplies to manage for three days.

The Cabinet Office launched the three-year campaign on October 22. It updates preparedness advice available since May 2024 and is a public-awareness initiative, rather than an announcement declaring a nationwide emergency. Its purpose is to help families cope while emergency services prioritise people needing greater assistance.

The guidance covers interruptions to water, electricity, phones and internet services. Severe weather, wildfires and cyberattacks are among the risks behind the preparedness drive. Prime



Minister Andy Burnham reinforced the message on October 23, calling for a more proactive approach to emergencies during discussions on wildfire response.

The official checklist recommends bottled water and long-lasting food that does not require refrigeration or cooking. Households should also consider torches, spare batteries, blankets, warm clothing, a battery-powered or wind-up FM radio and a charged power bank.

Cash can help if digital payments become unavailable. Other suggested

essentials include medicines, first-aid supplies, hygiene products, copies of important documents and written emergency contacts. Families should account for babies, pets and individual medical needs.

Officials advise checking existing supplies and buying missing items gradually during normal shopping trips, rather than purchasing everything immediately. Supplies should be reviewed every six months.

Eligible residents should join utility support registers and regularly check vulnerable neighbours.

Jamia Moves Classes Online Amid Students' Union Protests

NEW DELHI, Oct 24:

Jamia Millia Islamia shifted all university classes online indefinitely and closed its two libraries on Saturday, citing student safety amid protests demanding restoration of the students' union, last elected in 2005.

Five students on hunger strike since October 12 seek an official election schedule, withdrawal of disciplinary actions, and removal of the chief proctor and security adviser.

Although officials formed a committee to draft a union constitution, Saturday's talks escalated when protesters alleged staff tried to dismantle tents and hospitalise strikers, claims the administration denied.

The notice provides no reopening date and leaves internet access and study space concerns unresolved.

ED Searches Seven Premises in ₹326-Crore Fraud Probe

(IANS) HYDERABAD, Oct 24:

The Enforcement Directorate searched seven premises linked to Kanakadhara Ventures Pvt. Ltd. and its directors in a money-laundering probe into an alleged ₹326.49-crore loss to a bank consortium.

The Hyderabad Zonal Office conducted Friday's searches under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act at the company's registered office, directors' residences and premises tied to individuals and entities allegedly used to divert funds.

Officials seized documents, digital devices and financial records and recovered ₹15 lakh in unaccounted cash; properties and investments were identified.

The case stems from a December 8, 2022, CBI FIR following a Punjab National Bank complaint, invoking IPC provisions on conspiracy, cheating and forgery, plus the Prevention of Corruption Act. Lenders included PNB, IDBI, Union Bank, Andhra Bank and Bank of Baroda.

Investigators allege misuse of guarantees and letters of credit, fabricated steel-purchase invoices and transport records, and undisclosed accounts outside the consortium.

Further investigation is underway; no arrests were announced.

CPI Seeks Urgent Return of Stranded Umrah Pilgrims

HYDERABAD, Oct 24:

CPI Telangana secretary and Kothagudem MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao has urged the Centre and the State government to arrange the early return of Indian Umrah pilgrims facing

flight disruptions in Saudi Arabia.

In a statement reported by NSS on Saturday, he said around 4,000 pilgrims were stranded in Mecca, Medina and Jeddah, including an estimated 500–600 from

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Gadwal District Collector Rizwan Basha Shaik advised students to attend school regularly and follow a planned study schedule to excel academically and secure good results in the Class 10 examinations. The Collector visited the ZPHS school at Revally in Dharur mandal on Saturday and interacted with Class 10 students to assess their academic progress. Addressing the students, he stressed the need to pay special attention to subjects in which they were lagging behind, particularly Mathematics and Science, and practise them regularly.

Special Training Programme for Armed Police Personnel on New Criminal Laws

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad , Oct. 24:

Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS, has launched a special training programme to familiarise armed police personnel under the Warangal Police Commissionerate with the new criminal laws, in accordance with the directions of Telangana State DGP C.V. Anand. Under the initiative, a total of 971 personnel from the Armed Police Wing, ranging from constables to commandants, will be trained. The personnel have been divided into 20 batches, with one batch scheduled to undergo training each day at the Commissionerate Police Training Centre in Madikonda. The training programme for the first batch commenced on Saturday. The personnel were briefed on various aspects of the new criminal laws under the supervision of Police Training Centre Vice-Principal and ACP Ramana Babu. The training covers the new

criminal laws, procedures for registering First Information Reports (FIRs), precautions to be taken while arresting accused persons, methods of collecting evidence at crime scenes and key aspects of criminal investigation. Other important topics include managing protest dharnas, preventive arrests, different categories of offences and their classification, crimes against women, laws relating to terrorism, cybercrime and the powers vested in the police during criminal investigations.

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BHARAT GAURAV TRAIN BEGINS AYODHYA-KASHI SPIRITUAL TOUR FROM SEC

Hyderabad, Oct.24 (NSS): The 58th Bharat Gaurav tourist train began its 10-day “Punya Kshetra Yatra” from Secunderabad on October 24, offering pilgrims a spiritual journey covering Ayodhya, Kashi and Baidyanath Dham, among other destinations. The train was flagged off by Dr. R. Gopalakrishnan, Divisional Railway Manager, Secunderabad Division; P. Raj Kumar, Group General Manager, IRCTC; and A. Sridhar, Chief Public Relations Officer, South Central Railway.

CM Revanth Reddy Takes Special Interest in Warangal's Development

Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct. 24:

Fulfilling his promise to give Warangal a prominent place in urban development after Hyderabad, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has granted administrative approval for five major development projects estimated to cost ₹382 crore. Expressing happiness over the government’s approval of the projects under the Kakatiya Urban Development Authority (KUDA), its Chairperson Gundu Sudharani conveyed her heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Minister on behalf of KUDA and the people of Warangal. Sudharani said the approval reflected the government’s commitment to preserving Warangal’s historical grandeur and cultural heritage while equipping the city with modern infrastructure. She said the projects would accelerate the city’s development and further strengthen its historical identity. She explained that the five major projects approved under KUDA’s supervision include the restoration of the moats surrounding Warangal Fort, development of Hanamkonda Central Plaza, construction of an Integrated Bus Terminal-cum-Commercial Complex, development works around the historic Thousand Pillar Temple (Veyyi Sthambhala Gudi), and establishment of a Musical Garden. Upon completion, these projects are expected to bring significant changes to Warangal’s urban landscape and provide modern amenities to residents. The KUDA Chairperson expressed confidence that the

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Collector Ila Tripathi Inspects CBT Examination Centre in Nizamabad

Munsif News Bureau Nizamabad , Oct. 24:

District Collector Ila Tripathi conducted a surprise inspection of the computer-based test (CBT) examination centre at AV Enterprises, located at Asrapally in the district headquarters, where the Telangana Public Service Commission conducted the recruitment examination for the posts of Assistant Scientist in the Pollution Control Board on Saturday. During the inspection, the Collector closely examined the arrangements and procedures for conducting the examination and enquired about the attendance of candidates. She checked whether the CCTV cameras were functioning properly and sought details from the organisers regarding any difficulties encountered in recording candidates’ biometric attendance.



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Self-Employment Empowers Women Economically

Munsif News Bureau Rajanna Sircilla, Oct. 24:

Women should acquire training in various vocational skills and achieve financial stability through self-employment, said Pratima Foundation organisers Dr. Chinnamaneeni Deepa and Dr. Chinnamaneeni Vikas. A valedictory programme was held to mark the successful completion of a free tailoring

training course jointly organised by the Pratima Foundation and GMR Varalakshmi Foundation at Chandragiri village in Vemulawada Urban Mandal of Rajanna Sircilla district. Dr. Deepa and Dr. Vikas attended the programme as chief guests and presented certificates of appreciation to women who had successfully completed the 60-day training course.

Addressing the gathering, they said the free training classes were being conducted with the noble objective of enabling women to become self-reliant and contribute to their families’ economic progress. They explained that women were being provided free training in tailoring, front-office operations, home health aide services and earbud

manufacturing. Unemployed youth were also being offered free, quality vocational training in air-conditioning, solar technology and banking. They urged young men and women to make full use of these opportunities, enhance their employment prospects and become financially self-reliant. Village Sarpanch Matta Sanjana Mahesh.

Achieve Excellence Through Quality Medical Services: Collector Garima Agrawal

Munsif News Bureau Rajanna Sircilla , Oct. 24:

Medical students entering the profession should work with dedication, honesty and determination to provide quality healthcare services and achieve excellence in their careers, said Rajanna Sircilla District Collector Garima Agrawal. The Collector attended the White Coat Ceremony held at the Government Medical College in the district headquarters on Saturday as the chief guest, while District Superintendent of Police Mahesh B. Geetha participated as the guest of honour. The ceremony commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries, who later distributed white coats to the students and congratulated them. The organisers felicitated the Collector and the SP by presenting them with shawls.



er distributed white coats to the students and congratulated them. The organisers felicitated the Collector and the SP by presenting them with shawls. Addressing the gathering, Collector Garima Agrawal said education and healthcare play a vital role in the development of society. She noted that students get the valuable opportunity to pursue medical education only after working hard and qualifying in the NEET examination.

Adilabad Congress Leader B Deshpande to Join BRS

Munsif News Bureau Adilabad , Oct. 24:

Bhargav Deshpande, former District Congress Committee (DCC) President of Adilabad and a senior leader, has officially announced his decision

to join the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). He stated that his decision is rooted in safeguarding the public interests of Adilabad, the aspirations of Telangana’s youth, and the self-respect of party workers. Addressing a press conference

at the Somajiguda Press Club in Hyderabad on October 24, Bhargav Deshpande elaborated on his political journey and the reasons behind his departure from the Congress party. He stated that he will work towards the state’s development

and the resolution of public issues under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). On this occasion, he expressed complete confidence in KCR’s leadership and recalled his longstanding relationship with BRS leader K.T. Rama Rao.



Revenue officials in Warangal district are visiting various areas to review the progress of land resurvey works and ensure that the process is completed in an organised, transparent and effective manner. As part of this initiative, Warangal Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) Soma and Warangal Tahsildar Srikanth visited Kothapet village on Friday and inspected the ongoing land resurvey works.

30.17 Crore Market Complex Remains Non-Functional

Munsif News Bureau Suryapet , Oct. 24:

The modern Integrated Vegetable and Non-Vegetable Market Complex in Suryapet, constructed at a cost of ₹30.17 crore, continues to remain non-functional. Meanwhile, the sale and purchase of vegetables along the roadside at the old agricultural market are continuing as usual. The failure to put the newly constructed market complex into use despite the expenditure of crores of rupees has raised several questions among the public. The modern market

complex was built to provide better trading facilities for vendors and the public. However, vegetable trading continues at the old agricultural market. While the new building remains vacant, vendors are still selling vegetables along the roadside at the existing market. Why the Delay in Making the Market Operational? Questions are being raised over why the new market complex has not been fully utilised despite an investment of ₹30.17 crore in its construction. The reasons behind the delay in making

the facility operational and the steps taken by the concerned authorities so far have also come under scrutiny. The public has urged the authorities to intervene immediately, take the necessary steps to make the market complex functional and facilitate the relocation of traders to the new premises. They said that putting the facility into operation would help fulfil the purpose for which public funds were spent and provide better trading facilities to vendors and the public.

Narayankhed MLA, DCC Chief Greet CM Revanth Reddy on Dussehra

Munsif News Bureau Narayankhed, Oct. 24:

Narayankhed MLA Dr. P. Sanjeeva Reddy and Sangareddy District Congress Committee (DCC) President P. Chandrasekar Reddy paid a courtesy visit to Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy in Hyderabad on Friday. During the meeting, they presented the Chief Minister with a shawl and a bouquet and extended their Dussehra greetings. Subsequently, MLA Dr. P.

Sanjeeva Reddy held detailed discussions with the Chief Minister on key development works and public issues concerning the Narayankhed Assembly constituency. A representation was submitted requesting the government to sanction special funds for the development of infrastructure, irrigation facilities, drinking water supply, road expansion, education and healthcare in the backward Narayankhed region. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy responded positively to their request.

Three Revenue Officials Suspended in Huzurnagar Over Alleged Land Irregularities

Munsif News Bureau Suryapet, Oct. 24:

Suryapet District Collector Tejas Nand Lal Pawar has ordered the suspension of three

revenue officials in Huzurnagar over allegations of irregularities in land transactions and negligence in the discharge of official duties.

The suspended officials are Huzurnagar Tahsildar B. Kavitha, Revenue Inspector Kasham Sharif and Village Administrative Officer (GPO)

S.K. Jani Pasha. The action was taken pending a departmental inquiry. Probe into Irregularities in Survey Numbers 458 and 281

According to preliminary investigations, alleged irregularities were detected in land transactions involving Survey Nos. 458 and 281 in

Huzurnagar village and mandal. The district administration initiated action based on a report submitted by the Huzurnagar Revenue Divisional Officer

(RDO). The inquiry alleged that action had been taken in matters relating to land associated with the Nagarjuna Sagar Project

(NSP) irrigation canals and lands covered under the Land Reforms Act without thoroughly examining old revenue records.



Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) president Y. S. Sharmila Reddy paid a courtesy call on Telangana Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin on Saturday and invited him to attend her daughter's wedding. During the meeting, the two leaders exchanged pleasantries and held a brief interaction. Azharuddin conveyed his heartfelt wishes to Sharmila Reddy and her family on the occasion and assured her that he would attend the wedding ceremony.

District-Level Committee Constituted to Tackle El Niño Conditions in Nizamabad

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad , Oct. 24:

District Collector Ila Tripathi has issued orders constituting a District-Level Monitoring Committee to effectively address the possible impact of El Niño conditions, amid concerns over a potential rainfall deficit and drought-like situations in Nizamabad district.

The Additional Collector (Revenue) will serve as the Chairman of the committee,

while the District Agriculture Officer will act as the Member-Convener. Sub-Collectors, Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs), the District Irrigation Officer, the Superintending Engineer of Mission Bhagiratha, the Superintending Engineer of NPDCL, the District Animal Husbandry Officer, the District Medical and Health Officer, the District Panchayat Officer, Tahsildars, Mandal Parishad Development Officers (MPDOs) and Municipal Commissioners

will serve as members. Collector Ila Tripathi stated that the committee would continuously monitor drought conditions, strengthen coordination among various departments and closely review the implementation of drought mitigation plans. The committee will conduct weekly reviews of rainfall deficits, groundwater levels and water storage in reservoirs. It will also visit affected villages, assess ground-level conditions, prepare action plans and monitor

the implementation of drought mitigation measures through the concerned departments. Special attention will be given to crop diversification, drinking water supply, fodder availability for livestock and uninterrupted power supply, among other essential requirements. The Collector further stated that field visits would be undertaken in mandals likely to be affected by drought to facilitate the implementation of immediate preventive measures.

PM Rahat Scheme to Improve Emergency Care for Accident Victims: CS Jaju

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad , Oct. 24:

State Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju has stressed the need for effective implementation of the PM Rahat scheme to ensure timely and quality medical treatment for road accident victims. On Saturday, the Chief Secretary held a review meeting through video conference with District Collectors and senior officials of the concerned departments to assess the implementation of the PM Rahat (Prime Minister Road Accident Victims Hospitalisation and Assured Treatment) scheme. The meeting discussed the

provision of emergency medical care to road accident victims, coordination between government and private hospitals, and the process of releasing funds for treatment. Sanjay Jaju stated that under the scheme, eligible victims in police-approved cases could receive cashless treatment of up to ₹1.5 lakh. He emphasised that accident victims should be shifted to hospitals immediately to ensure prompt medical attention. He underlined the importance of the Golden Hour—the critical period immediately following an accident—and called for swift action to save lives during this time.

For effective implementation of the scheme, the Chief Secretary advised District Collectors to coordinate with Road Safety Committees and involve District Informatics Officers. He directed officials to utilise the TMS 2.0 portal for accident prevention measures and transparent recording of victim details. He also instructed officials to ensure a foolproof system for directly settling treatment expenses with hospitals through the General Insurance mechanism. Stressing the importance of public awareness, he called for widespread dissemination of information about the scheme and directed

Collectors to periodically review its implementation in their respective districts. Following the video conference, Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi issued several instructions to the officials concerned. She stressed that the PM Rahat scheme should be implemented effectively in the district to ensure immediate medical assistance to road accident victims and save lives. She directed the concerned departments to respond promptly upon receiving information about accidents and ensure that treatment is not delayed or denied due to a lack of cash or information about the victim.



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Azharuddin shares cricketing tips with budding cricketers

NSS
Hyderabad , Oct. 24:

Taking time out of his busy schedule, Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin on Saturday interacted with young and aspiring cricketers at the Mir Ali Cricket Academy in Hyderabad, sharing valuable insights from his illustrious cricketing career.

During his visit, the Minister interacted with the budding players and offered practical tips on batting, bowling, and various aspects of the game. He shared his experience and guided the youngsters on improving their techniques, decision-making, and overall performance on the field. The young cricketers were enthusiastic about learning

from the legendary former Indian captain. They actively participated in the interaction, raised questions, and sought guidance on tackling different types of bowling and adopting effective batting techniques. They also expressed their gratitude to the minister for taking the time to share his knowledge and experience.

Emphasising the importance of quick decision-making, presence of mind, and technical skills, Azharuddin said these qualities play a crucial role not only on the cricket field but also in everyday life. He also demonstrated various batting and bowling techniques, giving the young players an opportunity to learn directly from his experience.

Three mandals to get 150 crore for drought mitigation

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 24:

The Telangana government will implement permanent drought mitigation measures across three high-vulnerability mandals with an outlay of ₹150 crore, aimed at safeguarding local communities and farmers against recurring dry spells, Revenue, Housing, and I&PR Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy announced on Saturday.

Reviewing project blue-

prints with senior officials from the Agriculture and Disaster Management departments at the State Secretariat, the Minister underscored the necessity of establishing a long-term, climate-resilient agricultural framework for the state. Discussions centered on crafting a targeted action plan, securing sustainable interventions for drought-prone belts, and ensuring optimal fund deployment.

Under the pilot proj-

ect, Midjil mandal (Mahabubnagar district), Uppunuthala mandal (Nagarkurnool district), and Makthal mandal (Narayanpet district) have been selected for comprehensive structural and agricultural relief measures. The Agriculture department will function as the primary nodal agency for execution, operating under the direct oversight of the Disaster Management Department.

To ensure ground-level

efficiency and community participation, the Minister instructed officials to monitor closely with local elected representatives and form dedicated monitoring committees at both the village and mandal levels. The multi-pronged initiative is designed to stabilise rural income streams, raise living standards, and mitigate the financial strain on farming communities during periods of severe rainfall deficit.

Aruna Demands Dindi Project Cancellation, Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Project Completion

NSS
Hyderabad, Oct. 24:

Mahabubnagar BJP MP DK Aruna has demanded the immediate cancellation of the Dindi Lift Irrigation Project, alleging that it would deprive Palamuru farmers of their rightful share of water. She insisted that every drop of Srisailem backwater allocated for the region should be utilised for Palamuru.

Addressing a media conference here at the BJP state office, Aruna demanded that the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy project be completed according to its original Jurala-based design under GO 72. She accused Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of re-

viving a proposal that could divert water through the Dindi Lift Project at the expense of farmers in the united Mahabubnagar district. Aruna alleged that the previous BRS government, led by former chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao, had shifted the project's approach from Jurala to the Srisailem backwaters at Narlapur in 2015 and subsequently issued GOs 105 and 107 to facilitate the proposed diversion of 0.5 TMC of water per day towards the Dindi Lift Project. She claimed that farmers and local representatives had opposed the move and stalled the works.

She argued that alternative projects, including Puttagandi Lift, SLBC (AMR) and Nakkalagandi, could address the fluoride problem in Devarakonda and Munugode areas of Nalgonda district without affecting Palamuru lands. She questioned the silence of Congress ministers and MLAs over the proposed canal network, which she claimed would affect more than 30 villages and stretch across nearly 60 km in the district. Accusing the Congress government of betraying Palamuru farmers, Aruna said Revanth Reddy owed his political rise to the people of the region but was

now pursuing decisions detrimental to their interests. She warned that people would hold Congress representatives accountable if they failed to defend the district's irrigation needs. Aruna also expressed concern over the condition of the Nettekpadu, Bhima, Kalwakurthy, Koil Sagar and Palamuru-Ranga Reddy projects. She alleged that reservoirs had not been adequately desilted or repaired despite the government being in power for nearly three years. She further claimed that the allocations of 15.9 TMC under the RDS and 17.84 TMC under Jurala were not being fully utilised.



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District Judge Stresses Proper Maintenance of Medical Records

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad , Oct. 24:

District Judge G.V.N. Bharatalakshmi attended the programme as the chief guest. District Collector Ila Tripathi, Additional DCP Shubham Nagrale and other dignitaries also participated. The District Judge, the Collector and other speakers offered important guidance on doctors' rights and their legal responsibilities while providing medical services. The seminar focused on the Health Care Professionals and Clinical Establishments (Prevention of Violence) Act, 2025, the proper maintenance of medical records, their legal significance and their evidential

value in judicial proceedings. Participants were informed that medical professionals could protect the rights of both doctors and patients by complying with legal provisions, maintaining accurate records and discharging their professional responsibilities efficiently. The importance of preserving authentic medical documentation and ensuring its availability whenever required in legal proceedings was also highlighted. The speakers explained that doctors have an important role to play as partners in the judicial system and that proper documentation and adherence to legal procedures would help facilitate the

administration of justice. Second Additional District Judge S. Narayana, Fourth Additional District Judge D. Durgaprasad, District Legal Services Authority Secretary and Senior Civil Judge Neelima Muddasani, Trainee Collector Suresh, Bar Association General Secretary N. Subhash Reddy, District Medical and Health Officer Dr. Rajashree, Indian Medical Association District Branch President Dr. A. Vishal, District Coordinator of Hospital Services (DCHS) Dr. Srinivas Prasad, State Medical Council District In-charge and Assistant Professor Dr. Deepak Rathod.

For police personnel from Constable to Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) level, the topic was "What Kind of Services Do People Expect from the Police in a Democratic System?" For Sub-Inspectors (SIs) and officers of higher ranks, the topic was "Efforts to Be Made by the Police to Earn Appreciation from Citizens." The competitions aimed to encourage participants to reflect on the role of the police in a democratic society, public expectations of law enforcement and the measures needed to strengthen public trust and improve police-citizen relations.



Taking time out of his busy schedule, Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin on Saturday interacted with young and aspiring cricketers at the Mir Ali Cricket Academy in Hyderabad, sharing valuable insights from his illustrious cricketing career.

IIIT-H Opens MSIT Admissions for January 2027

Hyderabad, Oct.24 (NSS): The International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H) has opened applications for the January 2027 cohort of its revamped Master of Science in Information Technology (MSIT) programme, combining computing foundations, applied AI research, entrepreneurship and industry experi-

ence. Developed by the Consortium of Institutions of Higher Learning (CIHL) in collaboration with IIIT-H's Centre for Educational Technology and Learning Sciences (CETLS), the four-semester, full-time residential programme will focus on practical, technology-driven learning.



AISA chief Neha Bora appears before SEM Court in Delhi

IANSS
New Delhi , Oct 24:

All India Students’ Association (AISA) president Neha Bora appeared before the Special Executive Magistrate (SEM) Court at Mandir Marg Police Station here on Saturday, a day after the Delhi High Court rejected her plea challenging a notice requiring her to furnish a personal bond of Rs 10,000 with one surety to maintain peace during an inquiry.

During the hearing on Saturday, the Delhi Police, following the orders of the High Court, provided Bora with copies of the documents on the basis of which a show-cause notice was issued to her over apprehensions of a breach of peace.

The SEM Court had earlier issued a notice to Neha Bora asking why she should not be directed to execute a personal bond to maintain peace. The proceedings were initiated under provisions of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

The next hearing in the case has been scheduled for October 28, when the AISA chief is also required to submit her formal response to



the notice.

Speaking to reporters earlier in the day, Bora said that she won’t sign any peace bond, adding that they would challenge the notice further following the dismissal of her plea by the Delhi High Court.

“We are not going to sign the bond,” she said.

The matter is linked to the October 16 ‘Tiranga Assembly’ protest, called by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP). Neha Bora, CJP chief Abhijeet Dipke and several others were detained ahead of the protest for violating police restrictions.

The protest, which was called at the Central Park in Delhi’s Connaught Place, had not received

permission from the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

Subsequently, on October 17, the SEM issued a notice to Neha Bora and initiated proceedings requiring her to maintain peace by furnishing a personal bond of Rs 10,000 along with one surety. Bora challenged the notice in the Delhi High Court, which dismissed her petition.

At the same time, the court directed that all documents relied upon in the proceedings be made available to her.

The High Court also instructed the SEM to carefully consider all facts and materials on record before passing any final order in the matter.

Shivakumar gives green signal to Golden Chariot special train in K'taka



IANSS
Ranchi , Oct 24:

Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Saturday gave the green signal to the revival and promotion of the luxury Golden Chariot tourist train to boost tourism, generate employment and showcase the state’s heritage.

He said the initiative would promote destinations such as Hampi, Mysuru, Belur, Coorg and the coastal region. The government is also planning new tourist circuits, including ‘Jewels of South’, connecting destinations across southern India, and a four-day package titled ‘Dreams of Karnataka’.

Shivakumar said discounted off-season fares were being considered to make luxury train travel accessible to ordinary tourists. The train accommodates around

80 passengers and offers facilities including two restaurants, a spa, a gym and overnight accommodation.

Developed in collaboration with the Karnataka Tourism Department, Indian Railways and IRCTC, the service is expected to benefit local businesses, including hotels, and generate economic activity around tourist destinations. Officials will finalise suitable routes in consultation with railway authorities.

Shivakumar said the government would work closely with railway officials to expand the train’s routes without affecting regular passenger services. He thanked railway authorities for their support and expressed confidence that the initiative would attract more tourists and strengthen Karnataka’s tourism sector.

BJP workers will make mission Jharkhand a success, just like in Bengal: Nitin Nabin

IANSS
Ranchi , Oct 24:

BJP President Nitin Nabin on Saturday expressed confidence that the party would replicate its organisational success in Jharkhand, just like it did in West Bengal.

Addressing a meeting of the BJP Jharkhand State Working Committee in Ranchi, he said the party is committed to ensuring that the “saffron flag flies from the panchayat level to Parliament.”

Drawing a parallel with West Bengal, Nabin said BJP workers worked tirelessly to strengthen the party’s base in the state and now is the time for “Mission Jharkhand”.

He urged party workers to speed up efforts to expand the party’s reach and strengthen its grassroots presence.

Praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s leadership, Nabin said the country is fortunate to have a leader who has not only provided a new direction to the BJP and India but also enhanced the nation’s standing globally.

He said 1.4 billion Indians placed their hopes,



aspirations and trust in the Prime Minister.

He alleged that certain forces within the country, as well as elements operating from abroad, are attempting to obstruct India’s rapid progress and development. However, he asserted that the people of India continued to stand firmly with PM Modi. Launching a sharp attack on the Congress and the opposition, Nabin accused Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party of promoting disorder and undermining constitutional institutions. He said those invoking the Constitution today should remember history. Congress, in the past, had weakened constitutional values through the imposition of the Emergency and President’s Rule in states, he said. He further alleged that the Congress governed the country according to the

interests of a single family rather than the principles of the Constitution.

Nabin also claimed that Rahul Gandhi and the Congress are functioning as a “toolkit” for anti-national and foreign forces. Citing Bihar as an example, he said Congress leaders levelled allegations of irregularities during the voter list revision exercise but failed to file claims or objections in any district.

Nabin said he regretted that Jharkhand, a state where he had spent a significant part of his life and which he described as his birthplace, was currently not governed by the BJP.

He said BJP workers have already taken to the streets and are determined to end an “oppressive system” and establish a welfare-oriented BJP government in the state.

Prices of fruits, vegetables soar in Bengal retail markets ahead of Kojagori Laxmi Puja



IANSS
Chennai , Oct 24:

Prices of fruits, vegetables and puja essentials have risen sharply across West Bengal ahead of Kojagori Laxmi Puja on Sunday, putting an additional burden on middle-class families. Many households are reportedly cutting down on their festive purchases due to the high costs.

Prices of traditional offerings have also increased, with paddy ears costing ₹5 per piece against ₹1–2 last year, while a 5-gram packet of

grains is priced at ₹20. Among vegetables, brinjal costs ₹100 per kg, parwal ₹80, cauliflower ₹70–80 per piece and green chillies ₹120 per kg. Potatoes remain stable at ₹15 per kg. Fruit prices have also climbed, with premium apples and grapes selling at ₹200 per kg and pomegranates at ₹250 per kg. Pineapples cost ₹80 each, while a pair of premium bananas is priced at ₹20.

The steep rise in prices has affected both Kolkata and markets across the state, making festive preparations more expensive for families.

TN govt steps up rain safeguards for paddy, orders district control rooms

IANSS
Chennai , Oct 24:

The Tamil Nadu government on Saturday ordered precautionary measures to protect paddy crops and harvested grain from rain damage and prevent waterlogging in agricultural fields.

Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Minister Vinoth directed officials to identify flood-prone fields, inspect vulnerable areas and strengthen district-level control rooms to coordinate emergency operations and assist farmers.

Officials have been instructed to protect standing paddy ready for harvest and secure harvested grain



at government procurement centres with protective coverings. Wherever possible, stocks should be shifted to safer storage facilities.

The government has also directed officials to clear obstructions in irrigation canals and drain-

age channels to ensure the smooth flow of rainwater. Agricultural Engineering Department teams have been asked to keep tractors, pumps and other equipment ready to drain excess water from affected fields. Agriculture, Horticulture and Agricultural

Engineering departments will coordinate with local bodies to implement preventive measures. In areas affected by crop damage, inspection teams must assess losses promptly and submit detailed reports with photographs and GPS coordinates.

The minister urged officials to expedite damage assessments, facilitate eligible farmers in obtaining relief under government schemes and maintain close coordination as weather conditions change. Authorities have also been instructed to ensure the safety of personnel involved in field inspections and emergency operations.

Cyclone threat looms over Bay of Bengal, heavy rain alert for south Bengal from Wednesday

IANSS
Kolkata , Oct 24:

A possible cyclone over the Bay of Bengal has prompted the Meteorological Department to issue a warning of heavy rain, thunderstorms and strong winds across several districts of West Bengal from Wednesday.

The system, which developed as a low-pressure area on Friday, is expected to intensify into a depression and may develop into a cyclone by Monday. It is likely to move towards the coastal areas of north Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha.

Kolkata and adjoining districts may experience thunderstorms and winds

of 30–40 kmph, while South 24 Parganas and East Midnapore are likely to receive heavy rain. Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the sea from Tuesday as winds may reach 50 kmph, with gusts of up to 60 kmph. Parts of North Bengal may also receive heavy rainfall later in the week.

Meanwhile, Kolkata recorded a minimum temperature of 23.1 degrees Celsius on Saturday morning, which was 0.1 degrees above normal. The maximum temperature on Friday stood at 32.2 degrees Celsius, around 0.5 degrees above the seasonal average, according to the Regional Meteorological Centre.

Man arrested for cheating Delhi Police Constable of Rs 24 Lakh in investment scam

IANSS
New Delhi , Oct 24:

Delhi Police have arrested a 26-year-old man for allegedly cheating a woman constable of approximately ₹24 lakh by luring her into an investment scam. The accused, Vikrant Kumar alias Vicky Tomar, hails from Vazidpur village in Uttar Pradesh’s Baghpat district.

According to police, the accused contacted Constable Shiwani on Instagram, claiming to seek guidance on joining Delhi Police through the sports quota. Their conversation later shifted to WhatsApp, where he allegedly portrayed himself as a prominent cricket personality and persuaded her to invest money by promising high returns.



Police said the woman transferred her savings, took a personal loan of ₹12 lakh and borrowed money from acquaintances. Of the total amount, around ₹8 lakh was allegedly transferred to bank accounts linked to the online betting platform 1x.com.

The case also includes allegations of sexual misconduct. Police alleged that during an in-person meeting, the accused touched the woman’s waist inappropriately. Investigators are tracing

the money trail and examining whether other people were targeted through a similar modus operandi.

Delhi Police have arrested 26-year-old Vikrant Kumar alias Vicky Tomar for allegedly cheating a woman constable of around ₹24 lakh in an investment scam. Police said he contacted her through Instagram, gained her trust and promised high returns on investments. The woman reportedly used her savings, took a personal loan and borrowed money from acquaintances. Around ₹8 lakh was allegedly transferred to accounts linked to an online betting platform. Police are investigating the financial transactions and a separate allegation of inappropriate physical contact.

India’s intentions not right, Pakistan saving Kashmiris: Farooq Abdullah

IANSS
Chennai , Oct 24:

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday alleged that the Indian government’s intentions towards Kashmiris were not right and claimed that Pakistan’s diplomatic efforts were helping raise the Kashmir issue at international forums.

Addressing a party workers’ convention in Baramulla, Abdullah criticised the administration over pending health-sector files at Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha’s office. He said medical students in Jammu and Kashmir were required to serve for two years in hospitals or pay ₹40

lakh, alleging that a related file had been pending for over a year.

He also alleged that medical institutions had lost their earlier powers to decide on equipment purchases and doctor appointments. Questioning the administration’s functioning, he urged people to raise their voices for their rights and called on those in power to correct their approach.

Abdullah further urged National Conference workers to remain loyal to the party regardless of whether it was in government, stressing that its strength depended on the sincerity and dedication of its members rather than positions of power.

Abdullah alleged that the administration was neglecting important issues affect-



ing the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He called for timely decisions on health-care matters and urged the authorities to address the concerns of medical students and hospitals.

He also appealed to National Conference workers to remain committed to the party and its principles, irrespective of whether it was in power. He said the party’s strength lay in the dedication of its workers and encouraged people to stand up for their rights.



Trump calls Iran war costs 'small price to pay'

IAN S
Washington , Oct 24:

US President Donald Trump has acknowledged that the war with Iran has driven up oil prices and added to the financial pressures facing American households, but defended the economic consequences as a necessary price for preventing Tehran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

In an interview with Florida television station WINK-TV, Trump said he had anticipated an increase in energy prices when he decided to launch military operations against Iran. He insisted that the conflict would end soon and predicted that petrol prices would fall rapidly.

His remarks came as Americans prepared for the November 3 midterm elections, with the cost of living emerging as a major political issue and Republicans fighting to retain control of Congress. "You know, it's a small price to pay for taking a nuclear weapon away from Iran, which is a very evil country," Trump said when asked about the financial burden on con-



sumers.

The President was responding to a question from WINK-TV anchor Claire Galt, who pointed out that Americans continued to face high grocery bills and that petrol prices in southwest Florida had reached an average of \$4.18 a gallon.

Trump acknowledged that beef prices remained elevated and that oil prices had risen because of the conflict.

"Beef's a little bit high and it's coming down," he said, adding that cattle production meant prices could take longer to adjust.

Turning to energy, Trump said he had expected the increase but considered military action unavoidable.

"We had it very low and I knew that would happen, but it was a choice," he said. The President maintained that Iran posed an unacceptable nuclear threat and argued that previous American administrations should have acted earlier. "Number one state sponsor of terror, they can't have a nuclear weapon. Iran cannot have a nuclear weapon. So, I'm honored to have done it," he said.

Trump offered no specific timetable for ending the conflict but suggested that a negotiated settlement was not the only possible outcome. "I see it ending soon. I see it ending one way or another, through agreement or otherwise," he said.

The remarks left open the possibility of further

military action even as the administration sought to reassure Americans about the economic consequences of the war.

At a separate Republican campaign rally in Fort Myers, Trump returned to the subject and said his administration had weighed the likely economic impact before proceeding with military operations.

He recalled seeing petrol prices of \$1.85 and \$1.95 a gallon during a visit to Iowa before the military campaign.

Trump said he subsequently told senior administration officials that preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons had to take priority.

He also claimed that oil shipments through the Strait of Hormuz had increased despite the conflict. "Tremendous amounts of oil are coming through the Hormuz Strait, more than we actually had before the war, which is pretty amazing," he said in the television interview.

The President attributed the movement of oil shipments to American military operations and the US Navy's presence in the region. His claims about shipping volumes were not independently verified in the supplied material.

Nepal Ex-President Calls for Trilateral Climate Cooperation

IAN S
New York , Oct 24:

Former Nepal President Bidya Devi Bhandari urged Nepal, India and China to cooperate on climate change and ensure climate justice for vulnerable nations. She stressed the need for stronger regional coordination and international support.

Pacific Ocean Temperatures Cross 30°C Mark for First Time Amid El Niño Effect

IAN S
Washington , Oct 24:

Pacific Ocean surface temperatures have reached unprecedented levels, with daytime temperatures in the central equatorial Pacific crossing the 30°C mark for the first time in recorded data. According to a report by India Today, the temperature reached 30°C on October 22, based on information from the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

El Niño is a natural climate phenomenon in which sea surface waters in the central and eastern tropical Pacific become warmer than normal. It can alter winds, cloud movement and rainfall patterns, affecting weather conditions across the world. While some regions may face droughts and extreme heat, others could experience heavy rainfall and



flooding.

The World Meteorological Organization has indicated that El Niño could strengthen between October and December 2026, potentially reaching its peak by December. The Niño 3.4 index, used to monitor the phenomenon, has recorded significant temperature differences from normal levels, with the WMO projecting a rise to 3.7°C above normal during October–December.

India could also experi-

ence the effects of the developing weather pattern. The 2026 southwest monsoon ended with rainfall 13 per cent below normal, while the India Meteorological Department has forecast below-normal rainfall across much of the country between October and December. However, the southern peninsula may receive normal rainfall overall, with regional variations expected. Experts caution that El Niño is not the only factor determining India's weather.

Tsunami Warnings Issued After Strong Earthquakes Near Vanuatu

IAN S
Port Vila , Oct 24:

Port Vila, Oct. 24: Two strong earthquakes measuring 6.9 and 6.3 magnitude struck off the coast of the Pacific island nation of Vanuatu on Saturday, prompting tsunami warnings for coastal areas within 300 kilometres of the epicentre. No immediate reports of casualties or property damage were available.

According to the US Geological Survey (USGS), the first earth-

quake, measuring 6.9 magnitude, occurred at 12.31 pm near West Sola, followed by a second tremor of 6.3 magnitude. The earthquake struck at a depth of around 10 kilometres in waters off northwestern Vanuatu.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center warned that tsunami waves could affect coastal areas within 300 kilometres of the epicentre, with Vanuatu facing a significant potential impact. Residents in vulnerable coastal areas were advised to remain

alert and follow instructions and updates issued by authorities.

Experts said Australia was not under a tsunami threat from the earthquakes. Vanuatu lies along the Pacific Ring of Fire, a seismically active zone known for frequent earthquakes and volcanic activity. Other Pacific island nations, including Fiji and Tonga, are also located in this region, where undersea earthquakes can trigger potentially dangerous tsunami waves.

Compulsory State News in China Schools Sparks Indoctrination Debate

IAN S
New York , Oct 24:

A reported school timetable in China's Hainan Province has sparked debate over political indoctrination, with students allegedly required to watch state broadcaster CCTV's Xinwen Lianbo news programme for 30 minutes every evening.

According to Sri Lanka's Daily Mirror, students at Haikou No. 4 Secondary School reportedly watch the programme from 7 pm to 7.30 pm before starting their evening study sessions.

The practice has sparked debate over political messaging and patriotic education in China's schools.

Indian-American Saritha Komatireddy wins New York Post backing against Letitia James

IAN S
New York , Oct 24:

Indian-American Republican Saritha Komatireddy, who is challenging New York Attorney General Letitia James, has received the endorsement of the New York Post editorial board as early voting began in the state on Saturday. The newspaper praised Komatireddy's prosecutorial experience and her commitment to tackling crime, fraud and corruption.

Komatireddy, 41, previously worked as a federal prosecutor in Brooklyn, handling cases involving terrorism, cybercrime, drug trafficking, money laundering and public corruption. She has criticised James over pub-



lic safety, claiming that New Yorkers feel less safe under her leadership. James's campaign has dismissed the support for Komatireddy and questioned her ability to protect residents.

An internal poll promoted by Komatireddy's campaign showed James leading by 50.7 per cent to 44.7 per cent among likely voters, although

Komatireddy led among respondents who watched the candidates' debate. James, a Democrat first elected in 2018, gained national attention for her civil fraud case against President Donald Trump and his company. New York's general election is scheduled for November 3, with early voting running from October 24 to November 1.

Iranian Speaker Qalibaf unable to attend BRICS Parliamentary Forum in New Delhi

IAN S
New York , Oct 24:

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf will be unable to attend the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in New Delhi on October 26–27 due to "certain unforeseen circumstances," the Iranian Embassy announced on Saturday.

However, an Iranian parliamentary delegation will participate in the meeting, reaffirming Tehran's commitment to active engagement with BRICS member countries. The delegation will also hold discussions to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation,

particularly in parliamentary affairs.

Hosted by the Indian Parliament under India's chairship, the forum will focus on the theme "Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development." Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said the event would bring together parliamentary leaders from BRICS member and partner countries, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi scheduled to attend and interact with visiting delegates.

The two-day forum will discuss institutional resilience, human-centred innovation in artificial intelligence and digital technologies, global governance, and sustainable



and inclusive development.

The programme will include four high-level sessions on strengthening institutions, responsible use of emerging technologies, parlia-

mentary cooperation in global governance, and sustainable development. Delegates are also scheduled to visit the Indian Parliament and participate in cultural activities in New Delhi.

Four Pilots Killed as Two Philippine Military Training Aircraft Collide Mid-Air



IAN S
Manila , Oct 24:

Four pilots were killed after two SF-260 military training aircraft of the Philippine Air Force collided mid-air near Fernando Air Base in Batangas province, south of Manila, on Friday.

Following the collision, both aircraft crashed within the air base area, killing all four pilots on board. Rescue teams rushed to the crash site and recovered the bodies. The incident has raised serious concerns about flight safety and operational procedures during military training exercises.

In the aftermath of the tragedy, the Philippine Air Force temporarily ground-

ed its SF-260 aircraft fleet as a precautionary measure. An investigation has been launched to establish the exact cause of the collision and determine the circumstances that led to the fatal accident.

The SF-260 is used by the Philippine Air Force for training pilots. The latest incident has once again drawn attention to the safety record of the aircraft, which has been involved in previous fatal crashes. In May this year, two pilots were killed when an SF-260 aircraft crashed, while a similar incident in 2023 also claimed the lives of two pilots.

Authorities are expected to examine the aircraft, flight records and other relevant evidence as part of the

investigation. The findings will help determine whether the collision resulted from a technical malfunction, an operational issue or other factors. Further details are expected as the investigation progresses.

The fatal accident is likely to prompt a closer review of the Philippine Air Force's training and flight coordination protocols. Investigators will seek to establish how the two aircraft came into contact while operating near the air base and whether any warning signs were missed before the collision. The grounding of the SF-260 fleet is expected to remain in place until the authorities assess the available safety information and decide on the next course of action.

Two Most-Wanted Indian Gangsters Arrested in the United States



IAN S
Manila , Oct 24:

Two wanted Indian gangsters, Himanshu Bhao and Neeraj Faridpuria, were arrested in Las Vegas on October 22 following information provided by the Haryana Special Task Force, with assistance from US immigration authorities. Both face multiple cases involving murder and organised crime. The Haryana STF is coordinating with US authorities to facilitate their deportation to India.

Himanshu Bhao, whose full name is Himanshu Ritolia, allegedly obtained a passport under the name Himanshu Sigroha. A rival of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, he is wanted in

Haryana and Delhi in cases involving murder, kidnapping and criminal intimidation. He is also suspected of having links with criminal networks in Portugal and other gangs.

Neeraj Faridpuria, a native of Haryana's Palwal district, reportedly faces 25 criminal cases. Arrested in 2012, he was sentenced to life imprisonment in a murder case in 2015 but granted bail in 2019. His name has also surfaced in the murder of Congress spokesperson Vikas Chaudhary.

He allegedly fled to Canada via Dubai before moving to the US, where he reportedly worked with Bhao. Faridpuria has also been linked to the firing incident outside YouTuber Elvish Yadav's residence.

The Middle-Class Squeeze:

Inflation, Joblessness and a Harder Life across India and also in Hyderabad



By **Mohammed Abdul Jaleel**
Editor-in-Chief, The Munsif Daily

India’s middle class is under quiet siege. Official growth numbers look strong, yet household budgets tell a different story. Commodity prices keep climbing, salaries struggle to keep pace, and job security has become fragile. In cities like Hyderabad, the pressure is visible every day—in the vegetable market, at the petrol pump, and in the anxious conversations of auto drivers and shop assistants.

Soaring Prices Hit Every Kitchen

Retail inflation has risen sharply, with food prices leading the charge. Vegetables, pulses, sugar and cooking oil have all moved higher. In Hyderabad, fine rice that once cost around **₹45 a kilogram** has touched nearly **₹80 in open markets**. Families that earlier spent **₹10,000–12,000 a month on groceries** now find the same basket costs significantly more. Transport costs compound the problem: higher diesel and petrol prices push up the cost of everything that moves—vegetables, milk, and even the auto ride home.

Daily-Wage Earners Feel the Sharpest Pain

Auto-rickshaw drivers in Hyderabad complain that fuel costs have risen while passenger numbers have not. Small shop workers and daily-wage labourers face the same squeeze: **higher living costs and fewer steady hours**. Many of these workers live hand-to-mouth. When vegetable prices jump or school fees rise, there is no buffer. The middle class that employs them also feels the strain and cuts back on discretionary spending, creating a vicious circle.

Albania: Where Islam, History & Culture Come Together

From historic mosques and UNESCO-listed towns to mountain landscapes and Mediterranean shores, Albania offers a distinctive blend of faith, heritage and natural beauty.

By **Dr. Shujaat Ali Sufi**
(VeteranJournalist)

Albania, a beautiful country in southeastern Europe, holds a special place in the history and culture of the Balkan region. Known for its breathtaking mountains, crystal-clear beaches, historic mosques, ancient castles and rich cultural heritage, Albania is a country where the past and the present exist in remarkable harmony. For many people, Albania is particularly interesting because of its substantial Muslim population. It is one of the European countries where Islam has played an important role in shaping society, architecture, traditions and cultural identity. However, Albania’s story is not limited to religion alone. It is also a story of independence, national identity, cultural diversity, resilience and peaceful coexistence. Albania is situated on the Balkan Peninsula in south-eastern Europe. It shares borders with Montenegro to the northwest, Kosovo to the northeast, North Macedonia to the east and Greece to the south. The Adriatic Sea lies to its west, while the Ionian Sea embraces its southwestern coastline. The capital city of Albania is Tirana, which is also the country’s largest urban centre. Albania covers an area of approximately 28,748 square kilometres and has a resident population of around 2.4 to 2.8 million, depending on the population estimate and counting method used. A significant Albanian diaspora also lives in other European countries and around the world. The official language is Albanian. The country is known for its beautiful landscapes, welcoming atmosphere, historical monuments and distinctive blend of Balkan, Mediterranean and Ottoman influences. Albania is frequently described as a country where approximately 70 per cent of the population is Muslim. This figure has appeared in older estimates and historical accounts. However, the country’s 2023 census, published by the Albanian statistical authorities, provides a more recent picture. According to the census, approximately 45.9 per cent of the population identified as Muslim, while around 4.8 per cent identified with the Bektashi religious tradi-

tion. Together, these groups account for approximately 50.7 per cent of the population, although the Bektashi tradition is distinct and should be understood separately when discussing religious affiliation. These figures remind us of the importance of using reliable and up-to-date statistics when describing the religious composition of a country. Albania is also home to Catholic and Orthodox Christian communities, as well as people who identify with no religious affiliation. The history of Islam in Albania is closely connected with the Ottoman period. Ottoman influence expanded across the region from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries onwards, and Islam gradually became the faith of a substantial part of the population. During this period, mosques, bridges, markets, educational institutions and other architectural landmarks were established. Many of these structures survive today, bearing witness to the historical and cultural influences that shaped Albanian society. Islamic architecture in Albania reflects a fascinating combination of Ottoman design and local Balkan traditions. Historic mosques, elegant minarets and traditional urban neighbourhoods offer glimpses into centuries of cultural development. At the same time, Christian communities have played an equally significant role in the country’s historical journey. The coexistence of Muslim, Catholic and Orthodox Christian traditions has contributed to Albania’s distinctive cultural character. One of Albania’s most celebrated religious landmarks is the Et’hem Bey Mosque in Tirana. Located near the central Skanderbeg Square, the mosque is renowned for its beautiful decorative paintings, elegant architecture and historical significance. Its interior ornamentation and artistic details make it an important example of the country’s Islamic heritage. The mosque also stands as a reminder of the historical presence of Islam in the heart of modern Albania. Tirana itself presents a fascinating contrast. Modern buildings, lively cafés, shopping streets and contemporary European lifestyles exist alongside historic religious monuments and traditional architecture. This combination gives the city a distinctive character and

Global Job Losses and the AI Shadow--

The pain is not limited to India. Across the world, white-collar hiring has slowed, and AI is accelerating the trend. Entry-level and mid-level roles in **IT, customer service and administration** are being automated. Even the United States, long seen as the land of opportunity, is grappling with stubborn inflation, elevated living costs and a tightening job market in several sectors. New jobs are not appearing at the pace needed to absorb graduates. India’s eight million new graduates each year face a particularly harsh reality:

Degrees no longer guarantee stable middle-class employment.

War Clouds Over West Asia

Geopolitics is adding another layer of risk. The United States and Israel appear to be preparing for a possible further phase of confrontation with Iran. Any escalation would disrupt oil supplies through the **Strait of Hormuz**, drive crude prices higher still, and send fresh inflationary waves across Asia. India, which imports the bulk of its oil, would feel the impact immediately through:

- ▶ Fuel prices
- ▶ Fertiliser costs
- ▶ Overall inflation

 Countries like India have little control over these distant conflicts, yet ordinary citizens pay the price at the pump and in the kitchen.

Don't Ignore Free Rice at the Ration Shop

One practical relief remains available and must not be overlooked. Fine rice is distributed free in Telangana through the public distribution system. Middle-class and poorer families should claim their full entitlement every month. Many households casually take a few hundred rupees in cash instead of the rice itself. That short-term decision hands the rice to dealers who divert it into the open market and sell it at retail rates. The same grain that the state provides free then reappears at **₹70–80 a kilo**. Collecting the rice protects the family budget and starves the black market.

In times of high prices, this is not charity—it is basic financial sense.

The middle class is not starving, but it is steadily being priced out of comfort.

The middle class is not starving, but it is steadily being priced out of comfort as relentless inflation and stagnant salaries quietly erode household budgets. Despite strong official growth numbers, families in cities like Hyderabad face soaring living costs, where fine rice has nearly doubled to ₹80 a kilogram and rising fuel prices inflate standard ₹10,000 to ₹12,000 monthly grocery baskets. Compounded by fragile job security, AI automation, and global economic risks, a university degree no longer guarantees stability. Consequently, households are forced to abandon discretionary spending, carefully ration kitchen essentials, and replace everyday financial ease with anxious, strict caution.

Preserve Money, Prepare for Uncertainty

In this environment, the only sensible response is caution. Unnecessary spending—frequent dining out, impulse purchases and status consumption—must be curtailed. **Priorities for Household Budgets**

- ▶ Build emergency savings.
- ▶ Clear high-interest debt.
- ▶ Master modern technology.
- ▶ Cut unnecessary spending.
- ▶ Treat free or subsidised ration rice as non-negotiable.

 The global economy is entering a period of higher risk: energy shocks, technological disruption of jobs, and geopolitical instability. Those who preserve cash and keep expenses lean will weather the coming months better than those who continue as if nothing has changed.

Hyderabad’s streets still bustle, but the strain is real.

Inflation is not an abstract statistic: it is the difference between a full grocery bag and a carefully rationed one.

The middle class and the working poor must act now—**claim every entitlement, cut waste, and stay ready for harder times.**



makes it an appealing destination for visitors interested in both history and modern urban life. Berat is among the most beautiful and historically significant cities in Albania. Often associated with its distinctive rows of windows overlooking the hillsides, it is sometimes described as the “City of a Thousand Windows.” Situated along the Osum River, Berat is famous for its white Ottoman-era houses, narrow stone streets, historic castle and remarkable architectural heritage. Walking through its old neighbourhoods offers visitors a glimpse into the country’s rich past. The city is also notable for its religious diversity. Historic mosques and churches stand as reminders of the different communities that have contributed to its development over the centuries. Berat’s historic centre has been recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, making it an important destination for anyone interested in architecture, history and cultural preservation. Another remarkable destination is Gjirokastër, often called the “Stone City.” Its traditional stone-roofed houses, cobbled streets, historic bazaar and imposing castle create an atmosphere that seems to transport visitors into another era. Many of the city’s historic houses reflect architectural traditions that developed during the Ottoman period. The old town has also been included on UNESCO’s World Heritage List. Gjirokastër demonstrates that a nation’s cultural her-

itage is not preserved only in its religious buildings. It also survives in homes, marketplaces, local customs, traditional crafts and the everyday lives of its people. Together, Berat and Gjirokastër represent Albania’s extraordinary ability to preserve its architectural identity while adapting to the demands of modern life. Albania is not merely a country of historic monuments and religious landmarks. It is also a destination of exceptional natural beauty. The Albanian Riviera, stretching along the Ionian Sea, is famous for its turquoise waters, picturesque beaches, coastal villages and dramatic mountain scenery. Ksamil, Dhërmi and Himarë are among the places that attract visitors looking for tranquillity and beautiful landscapes. The coastline offers opportunities for swimming, boating, photography and relaxation. Beyond the beaches, Albania has spectacular mountains, lakes, forests and valleys that appeal to nature lovers and adventure enthusiasts. Its relatively compact size allows visitors to experience historic towns, mountain landscapes and Mediterranean beaches within a single trip. This diversity has helped Albania emerge as an increasingly popular European tourism destination. One of Albania’s most noteworthy social characteristics is its tradition of religious diversity. Muslim, Catholic, Orthodox Christian and Bektashi communities have all contributed to the country’s cultural and social development.



Sindhu Storms Into French Open Final

IANs News
Paris, Oct 24

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu stormed into the women's singles final of the French Open 2026, defeating Japan's Hina Akechi 21-10, 20-22, 21-16 in a 73-minute semifinal on Saturday.

Sindhu will face world No. 1 and reigning world champion An Se Young of South Korea, who beat Japan's Nozomi Okuhara 21-12, 21-19, in Sunday's final.

The Indian dominated the opening game but lost a closely contested second before recovering in the decider. After Akechi moved ahead 16-15, Sindhu won six consecutive points to seal the match.

It will be Sindhu's second BWF



World Tour Super 750 final of the season, following her Japan Open triumph in July. She is yet to beat An Se Young in their 10 previous meetings.

"I have to give her a good fight, a tough fight. Every point matters. Tomorrow is a different day. I just have to go out there and give my best," Sindhu said ahead of the final.

Indian shuttler beats Hina Akechi in three games; faces world No. 1 An Se Young

MotoGP 2026:

Reigning world champion delivers stunning lap to claim pole by 1.494 seconds at Phillip Island

IANs News
Phillip Island (Australia), Oct 24

Reigning world champion Marc Marquez staged a sensational comeback from a crash to claim pole position in qualifying for the Australian MotoGP Grand Prix on Saturday, recording the biggest pole margin since the 2019 Czech GP.

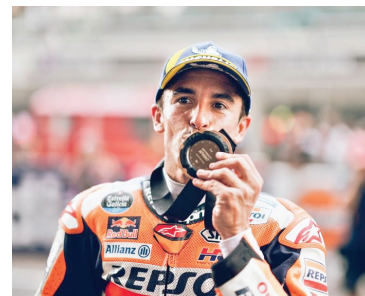
The Ducati Lenovo Team rider clocked 1:34.203 at the Phillip Island Grand Prix Circuit, finishing 1.494 seconds ahead of his rivals. Despite crashing at Turn 4 early in Q2 as rain returned,

Marquez Storms to Australian GP Pole After Crash

Marquez switched to his second bike and produced a remarkable lap in the challenging conditions.

Johann Zarco of Castrol Honda LCR initially held provisional pole, but Marquez unleashed a series of fast sectors to take the lead. His younger brother Alex Marquez of BK8 Gresini Racing MotoGP secured second place, while Zarco finished third, 1.503 seconds behind the pole-sitter.

Championship leader Jorge Martin of Aprilia Racing recovered to qualify on the second row after struggling early in Q2, while Marco Bezzecchi finished



sixth.

Marquez's performance underlined his speed and composure on the damp, drying circuit, setting up an exciting contest at Phillip Island as he looks to convert pole position into a strong result in the Australian Grand Prix.

India 'A' drawn with Pakistan 'A' in Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars, to open campaign against Nepal

IANs News
New Delhi, Oct 24

India A have been drawn alongside Pakistan A, Nepal and the UAE in Group B of the ACC Men's Asia Cup Rising Stars tournament, scheduled to be held in Doha from November 19 to 29.

India A will open their campaign against Nepal on November 20, followed by the UAE on November 24. Their much-anticipated clash against Pakistan A is scheduled for November 22, with all three matches set to begin at different local times.

Group A comprises Sri Lanka A, Bangladesh A, Afghanistan A and Hong Kong, China. The eight teams will compete in a round-robin format, with the top two from each



group advancing to the semifinals on November 26 and 27. The final will be played on November 29.

The Qatar Cricket Association will host the tournament, with matches scheduled at the West End International Cricket Stadium and the University of Doha for Science and Technology ground.

Nepal, Hong Kong, China and the UAE qual-

ified through the ACC Men's Premier Cup held in Malaysia in July. The three Associate teams will field their senior national sides, with matches involving Nepal or the UAE and Full Member A teams carrying official List A status.

Pakistan A, known as Pakistan Shaheens, won the previous edition in Doha, beating Bangladesh A in a Super Over in the final.

President Murmu Hails India's Record 114-Medal Haul at Asian Para Games

IANs News
New Delhi, Oct 24

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday congratulated India's para-athletes for their record 114-medal haul at the Asian Para Games 2026, saying their achievement reflected hard work, perseverance and self-belief.

In a post on X, she said their success would inspire young people to dream big and overcome challenges.

India finished the Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, with 30 gold, 35 silver and 49 bronze medals, surpassing its previous best of 111 medals at Hangzhou in 2023.

Two-time Paralympic champion Sumit Antil and para badminton player Nitesh Kumar were among the gold medallists on the final day. Nitesh defeated compatriot Pramod Bhagat 21-18, 21-16 in the men's singles SL3 final.

India also recorded world marks through Haney in the men's javelin F37/38 and Sandeep in the men's 400m T64. Para archer Harvinder Singh and debutant Vijay Sundi won men's recurve doubles gold, while shooter Mona Agarwal claimed gold with world and Games records in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions SH1.



President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday congratulated India's para-athletes for their record 114-medal haul at the Asian Para Games 2026, saying their achievement reflected hard work, perseverance and self-belief.

India Open FIFA U15 World Cup Campaign With 4-2 Win



IANs News
Baku, Oct 24

India began their campaign at the inaugural FIFA U15 World Cup and Festival Azerbaijan 2026 with a 4-2 win over Laos in their Group K opener on Saturday.

Captain Macdonnish Ngairangbam (7th minute) and R Lalremruatfela (11th) gave India an early lead, but Anavin Xayyasone pulled one back for Laos in the 12th minute. Souksavanh Siliseng equalised in the 24th minute before Lalremruatfela struck again in the

31st and Soumojit Sarkar added another two minutes later to seal victory.

India, coached by Bibiano Fernandes, will next face Cameroon and Grenada on Sunday before taking on Bahrain and Senegal on October 26. Results across the five matches will determine their performance tier for the tournament's second phase.

The inaugural competition features 189 national teams divided into 32 groups, with matches played in an eight-a-side format comprising two 20-minute halves.

Delhi Dynamites rally past Emperia Marathas to win Volleyball Champions League title

IANs News
Noida, Oct 24

Delhi Dynamites overturned an early setback to defeat Emperia Marathas 3-1 in the final of the Volleyball Champions League (VCL) at the Noida Indoor Stadium on Friday, securing the championship trophy and Rs 2 crore in prize money.

The Marathas took the opening set 25-22 to put Delhi on the back foot, but the Dynamites responded with three successive set victories to complete the comeback and claim the title. The runners-up received Rs 1 crore.

Delhi restored parity by winning the second set 25-19 before edging a fiercely contested third set 31-29. The closely fought exchange proved decisive, leaving the Dynamites just one set away from the championship.

With the momentum shifting in their favour, Delhi maintained their composure in the fourth set, winning 25-19 to seal the victory



and cap their campaign with a title-winning performance.

Shubham Choudhary was named Player of the Match for his contribution to the triumph, while SR. Sivarajan received the Impact Player of the Match award.

Reflecting on the comeback, Choudhary credited the team's unity and composure after falling behind in the final.

"Winning the Volleyball Champions League title is a special feeling for the entire team. After losing the first set, we

stayed united, trusted our preparation and focused on winning one point at a time. The third set was particularly important, and our belief in each other helped us turn the match around. This victory is the result of the team's hard work and collective effort."

The victory secured Delhi Dynamites the inaugural reward of Rs 2 crore for the champions, while Emperia Marathas had to settle for the runners-up prize of Rs 1 crore after being unable to sustain their early advantage.

'Whole India Believes in You': Gambhir's Message Inspired Tilak

IANs News
Christchurch, Oct 24

India vice-captain Tilak Varma revealed that head coach Gautam Gambhir and batting coach Sitanshu Kotak urged him to stay till the end and win the match, inspiring his unbeaten 51 in the thrilling second T20I against New Zealand at Hagley Oval on Saturday.

Tilak smashed 51 off 26 balls, while Nitish Kumar Reddy scored an unbeaten 26 off 13 deliveries as India chased down 181 with four wickets in hand and one ball to spare, taking a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

Recalling the coaches' advice, Tilak said they told him that the entire country believed in him and that he could win the game if he batted till the end.

India were struggling at 70/5 before Tilak and Naman Dhir, who scored

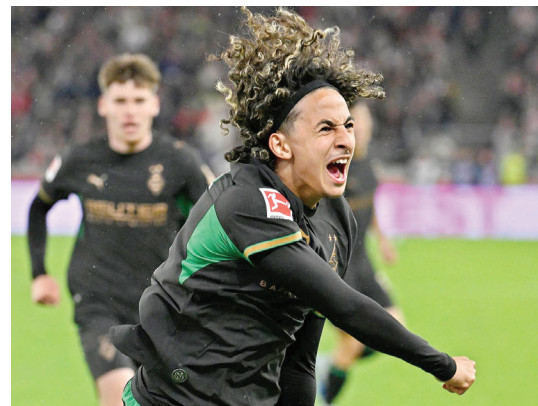
31 off 17 balls, added 42 runs for the sixth wicket. After Naman fell to New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner, Tilak and Nitish stitched an unbeaten 69-run stand to seal the victory.

Tilak said the pair focused on rotating the strike and running hard against the spinners on a slower surface, while waiting for opportunities to attack the fast bowlers.

Calling the finish a proud moment, he said he and fellow Hyderabad batter Nitish were delighted to guide India home under pressure. Tilak was named Player of the Match for his match-winning knock.



Gladbach End Losing Streak With Comeback Win Over Stuttgart



IANs News
Berlin, Oct 24

Borussia Monchengladbach ended their six-match losing streak in the Bundesliga with a 3-2 comeback victory over VfB Stuttgart on Friday, securing their first points of the season and avoiding the prospect of becoming the first team in league history to open a campaign with seven consecutive defeats.

Stuttgart made a flying start, with Ermedin Demirovic firing home from distance in the fifth minute after receiving a pass from Dzenan Pejcinovic. Gladbach gradually gained control and equalised in the 38th minute when Joe Scally cleverly redirected Zento Uno's effort into the net with his heel.

The visitors nearly took the lead before half-time, but Stuttgart goalkeeper Dennis Seimen denied Florian Neuhaus, while Mohya struck the crossbar.

Gladbach continued to press after the break and went ahead in the 51st minute. Mohya beat two defenders with a skilful dribble before setting up Shuto Machino, who finished emphatically into the top corner.

Stuttgart coach Sebastian Hoeness responded with three substitutions, but Gladbach extended their advantage in the 66th minute. After Seimen failed to hold Mohya's low effort, Scally recovered the ball near the right post and lifted it back towards the attacker, who bundled it home from close range.

Demirovic headed in Jamie Leweling's cross in the 83rd minute to reduce the deficit and give Stuttgart hope of salvaging a point. However, Gladbach defended resolutely in the closing stages to secure a much-needed victory.



UP Warriorz Need Aggressive Indian Opener: Reema Malhotra

IANs News
New Delhi, Oct 24

Former India cricketer Reema Malhotra has urged UP Warriorz to sign an aggressive Indian opener and a middle-order power-hitter at the WPL 2027 auction in Kochi on October 28.

Having finished bottom of the standings in the last two seasons, Warriorz will enter the auction with the biggest purse of Rs 3.65

crore and seven slots to fill, including two overseas positions.

Reema said retained batter Pratika Rawal and former captain Meg Lanning have similar playing styles, making an attacking opener essential. With Phoebe Litchfield, Harleen Deol and Deepti Sharma also in the lineup, she stressed the need for a more aggressive start and another big hitter in the middle order.

She also recommended an Indian wicketkeeping option, identifying G. Kamalini as a potential target despite Litchfield's ability to keep wickets.

Reema called for stronger scouting and a settled core around Lanning, warning that frequent changes would undermine team stability. She cited Gujarat Giants as an example of a franchise that successfully addressed its shortcomings.

The WPL 2027 season is scheduled from January 14 to February 7.

BRS committed 'Historic Blunder' by abandoning Pranahita-Chevella: Uttam

Minister announces time-bound roadmap to rehabilitate three Kaleshwaram barrages

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday accused the previous BRS government of committing a “historic blunder” by abandoning the original Pranahita-Chevella project and redesigning it under the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS).

Addressing a media conference at the Secretariat, Uttam announced a time-bound roadmap for rehabilitating the Medigadda,

Annaram and Sundilla barrages, involving technical assessments, design approvals and execution milestones.

He said Telangana would have been better equipped to tackle the prevailing El Niño-induced drought had the original project, estimated at Rs. 38,000 crore, been completed as planned. He alleged that the redesign imposed a huge financial burden on the State without delivering the promised irrigation benefits.

The Minister also accused the previous regime of leaving critical

infrastructure incomplete while pushing the State into an unsustainable debt burden.

The government has engaged national and international experts to oversee the restoration of the three barrages, Uttam said, stressing that irrigation achievements must be assessed on technical facts and ground realities rather than political rhetoric.

Minister Vivek Venkataswamy, tunnel engineering expert Colonel Parikshit Mehra, Engineer-in-Chief Ramesh Babu and elected representatives attended the conference.



Ponnam lays foundation for Rs 3.22-Cr Uppal Bus Terminal

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Saturday laid the foundation stone for a modern bus terminal at the old Uppal depot site in Boduppal, at a cost of ₹3.22 crore.

The terminal, supported by the Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation,

will feature modern passenger amenities and is expected to handle around 1,053 bus trips daily, serving nearly one lakh passengers.

Ponnam directed officials to complete construction within 100 days. MLA Ch. Mallareddy, RTC Managing Director Nagireddy and other officials attended the programme.



BRS calls for door-to-door Graduate Voter registration drive

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

BRS deputy floor leader Talasani Srinivas Yadav on Saturday urged party workers to conduct door-to-door campaigns to register eligible graduates for the upcoming MLC elections in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Mahabubnagar districts.

Addressing party leaders at Telangana Bhavan, he called for constituency-level meetings over the weekend to meet the November 6 deadline. Graduates who completed their degrees by November 2023, including those registered in earlier elections, must apply afresh, he said.

Talasani said only 23,000 applications had been received in Hyderabad and announced that a BRS delegation would meet Election Commission officials on Monday over the registration process.



Ponguleti assures Journalists of House Sites

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Saturday assured journalists that the State government was preparing an action plan to fulfil their long-pending demand for house sites.

He said the government would identify suitable, habitable locations and ensure that allotments were free from legal complications that affected previous efforts.

The Minister urged journalists not to worry, stating that the government was committed to finding a permanent solution to their housing demand.



Sarath City Capital Mall Launches Rs 1-Crore Shopper Campaign

Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct 24

Sarath City Capital Mall on Friday launched its year-long 'Mall Banayega Crorepati' campaign, offering shoppers a chance to win ₹1 crore in cash, along with cars, sports bikes, electronics and other prizes.

Running from October 2026 to October 2027, the

campaign allows customers making purchases of at least ₹10,000 to enter lucky draws, subject to terms and conditions. Weekend quizzes and quarterly promotional events are also planned.

The launch coincided with the mall's Annual Retail Performance Awards 2026, which recognised retail achievements across 69 categories for 2025–26.

GDG Hyderabad DevFest Attracts 3,000 Developers



Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct 24

GDG Hyderabad's DevFest 2026 brought together over 3,000 developers, students and technology professionals at JRC Convention and Trade Fairs on Saturday.

The event featured four tracks on AI, cloud, DevOps and mobile innovation, with over 30 experts discussing technology trends.

A key highlight was the unveiling of Telangana's AI Minister, an AI avatar of IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu, developed by TensorGo using its HumAI platform under the guidance of IT Advisor Sai Krishna.

Sridhar Babu said Telangana aimed to become a global AI hub by empowering young innovators. The event also featured technology demonstrations and in-

Telangana's AI Minister avatar unveiled at annual tech event

dustry participation from Google for Developers, Logitech, Lyric AI, MetLife and MSI.

GDG Hyderabad, active for 13 years, has connected over 200,000 technology enthusiasts, organisers said.

Cyberabad SHE Teams Catch 28 in 185 Decoy Operations

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

Cyberabad SHE Teams conducted 185 decoy operations and caught 28 persons allegedly engaging in indecent acts in public places. Police registered 39 petty cases and counselled others.

The teams received 11 complaints from women, while the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit rescued two victims and arrested five accused in a case under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. Family Counselling and CDEW Centres helped reconcile 17 families facing marital disputes. Awareness programmes reached around 1,225 people, covering trafficking, harassment, child rights, cyberbullying and online fraud. Emergency helplines, including 181, 1098, Dial 100 and cyber-crime helpline 1930.

BRS threatens protest at CM's residence over water crisis

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

BRS legislators from Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts have threatened to stage a protest at Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's residence with city residents if the government fails to resume water lifting at the Kannepalli pump house to address Hyderabad's drinking water needs.

A BRS delegation, including MLAs Devireddy Sudheer Reddy, Madhavaram Krishna

Rao, K.P. Vivekanand Goud, Marri Rajashekar Reddy and Bandari Laxma Reddy, inspected the Kaleshwaram project facility.

The leaders alleged that over 750 TMC of Godavari water had flowed into the sea since June despite shortages in Hyderabad. They said lifting water from the project could replenish reservoirs and groundwater, while residents in several areas were receiving supplies only once every three days at low pressure.



Mangalhat Police arrest wanted Rowdy-Sheeteer, seize knife



Munsif News Bureau Hyderabad, Oct 24

Mangalhat police arrested wanted rowdy-sheeteer Abed Bin Khaleed alias Lalla, 36, at R.K. Pet Junction on October 23 and seized a knife and an unregistered Bajaj Pulsar motorcycle from him.

Police said he was wanted in two cases registered at Mangalhat and Asifnagar police stations, with a non-bailable warrant pending in another case. He had allegedly been involved in over 35 criminal cases since 2005 and had faced preventive detention three times.

He was absconding in an NDPS and Arms Act case registered this year. Police registered another Arms Act case and said he would be produced before a court for judicial remand.

40 Cases Booked for Mobile Phone Use While Driving

NSS News Hyderabad, Oct 24

Kulsumpura traffic police booked 40 motorists for using mobile phones while driving during a special enforcement drive at Rethi Bowli Junction on Saturday. Violators were counselled on road safety, and police urged motorists to avoid distracted driving to prevent accidents.

DRI Seizes Foreign Currency Worth Rs 1.56 Cr

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized foreign currency worth ₹1.56 crore from two passengers bound for Kuala Lumpur at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport and arrested them.

Acting on intelligence, officers recovered USD 66,600 and other currencies worth ₹63.62 lakh from a male passenger and USD 97,600 worth ₹91.94 lakh from a female passenger. The currency was concealed in their trolley bags. Both failed to produce documents proving lawful possession of the currency. The cash was seized under the Customs Act, 1962, and further investigation is underway.

Police Invoke PD Act against repeat Offender

Cyberabad Police have invoked the Preventive Detention (PD) Act against Nagaraju Raghu Varma, 29, accused of impersonating a police officer to cheat, kidnap, rob and extort victims.

Police said he was involved in 14 criminal cases between 2017 and 2026 and had previously been detained under the PD Act in 2021 and 2024. He allegedly resumed criminal activities after his release.

Following his arrest by Jagadgirigutta police in recent cases, he was lodged in Cherlapalli Central Prison under the PD Act.

Harish Rao Seeks Postponement of TGPSC AEE Exam

BRS leader T. Harish Rao has urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to postpone the TGPSC Assistant Executive Engineer (Civil) examination scheduled for November 6, citing a clash with the SSC Junior Engineer exam.

In an open letter, he said the overlap could deprive engineering candidates of the opportunity to appear for both tests. He noted that Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy had sought a review of the schedule on October 14 but no action had followed.