News that Matters. Stories that Inform.

Estd. 1976

THE MUNSIF

منصف

Tuesday, November 3, 2026 | Published from Hyderabad | English Daily | VOL: 50 | ISSUE: 68 | PAGES 8 | PRICE: ₹7

ARFATH TOURS Since 1997
HAJ & UMRAH GROUP
PURANI HAVELI, HYDERABAD - (TS) INDIA
LEAD CHGOS
HAJ 2027 Rs.6,50,000/-
AVAILABLE DIFFERENT PACKAGES
15 DAYS, 22 DAYS & 30 DAYS
(1448 Hijri) INTERESTED AAZMEEN PLEASE CONTACT
Ph: 8686633846 / 9392644008



Former MLA Seeks More Indiramma Houses for Mudhole

Statewatch, Page 3



PM Announces 2 Lakh Aid for Electrocution Victims' Families

Nation, Page 4



Trump's Congressional Grip at Stake in US Midterms

Horizons, Page 5



Pant Faces Another Fitness Test Before New Zealand Series

Sports, Page 7

IN BRIEF

Shah Challenges Rahul to Electoral Roll Debate

At a Hyderabad rally, Amit Shah challenged Rahul Gandhi to debate electoral roll revision in Parliament, offering a special session and accusing Congress of obstruction. P8

Revanth Orders Cleaner Roads, Smoother Traffic

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy ordered daily waste collection, expanded treated-water use and plans for underpasses and elevated corridors to ease Hyderabad's traffic congestion. P8

US Proposes Stricter Work Visa Extension Reviews

A US proposal would end deference to prior work visa approvals, potentially increasing scrutiny for Indian professionals seeking extensions; public comments close November 13. P5

Congress Fields Lohani Against Puri

Congress nominated Rajkumar Lohani against Hardeep Singh Puri for MP's Rajya Sabha by-election; BJP holds a decisive Assembly majority. P4

Pakistan Fined After Tri-Series Triumph

Pakistan were fined five per cent of their match fees for a slow over-rate during their tri-series final victory over Sri Lanka in Lahore. P7

Three Telangana Districts Under Red Alert

IMD warns of extremely heavy rain as Cyclone Murasu approaches

Hyderabad, Nov 2: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned of extremely heavy rainfall in parts of Telangana as Severe Cyclonic Storm Murasu approaches the Andhra Pradesh coast. Nalgonda and Nagarkurnool districts have been placed under a red alert, with extremely heavy rainfall likely at isolated places on Tuesday, according to the latest district-wise warning.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall is also forecast in Suryapet, Mahabubnagar and Wanaparthy districts. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds of 50–60 kmph, with gusts reaching 70 kmph, are likely in several southern districts.

Hyderabad remains under a yellow warning, with moderate to heavy rain or thundershowers possible. Residents have been advised to remain alert, particularly in low-lying areas and locations vulnerable to waterlogging.

The IMD has forecast rainfall activity across Telangana until November 4. District administrations have been urged to monitor vulnerable settlements, streams and drainage channels, take precautions against flooding and ensure public safety. Motorists should exercise caution on waterlogged roads and avoid crossing overflowing streams.

AT A GLANCE

- Red alert for Nalgonda and Nagarkurnool.
- Orange alert covers three other districts.
- Hyderabad may receive moderate to heavy rainfall.

SEVERE CYCLONIC STORM THREATENS COASTAL DISTRICTS

Murasu Nears Andhra Coast, Evacuations Underway

Authorities shift thousands to shelters as 19 flights are cancelled; IMD warns of winds reaching 120 kmph.

Amaravati, Nov 2:

Severe Cyclonic Storm Murasu is approaching the Andhra Pradesh coast, prompting evacuations, emergency preparations and disruption to air travel. Around 2,000 people have been evacuated from vulnerable coastal areas, while authorities are planning to shift nearly 30,000 people to safer locations, according to the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA).



The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that the storm will cross the south Andhra coast between Nellore and Narsapur, close to Ongole, between 11.30 pm on Monday and 4 am on Tuesday. Wind speeds are expected to reach 100–110 kmph, with gusts up to 120 kmph

The IMD has also warned of a storm surge of around 1.5–2 metres above astronomical tide levels, which could inundate low-lying coastal areas, particularly in Bapatla, Krishna and Prakasam districts.

At least 19 domestic flights were cancelled across Vijayawada, Tirupati and Visakhapatnam airports on Monday.

Meanwhile, the State Health Department has kept 1,688 medical teams, 116 relief camps and 13,165 emergency beds ready. Ambulances and mobile medical units have also been placed on standby. Pregnant women nearing delivery are being shifted to hospitals.

Authorities face the immediate challenge of ensuring that vulnerable residents reach safe shelters and receive uninterrupted medical and essential services. **(Munsif Desk)**

INDIA Bloc Rally Raises Electoral Rights Concerns

Participants highlight unemployment, inflation and social justice alongside voting rights

New Delhi, November 2:
By: Dr. Shujath Ali Sufi

The INDIA bloc's 'Vote Bachao, Desh Bachao' rally at Ramlila Maidan on Sunday brought together political workers, students, farmers and citizens from different states, highlighting concerns over electoral rights, unemployment, inflation and social justice.

Participants expressed fears that voter-list revisions could exclude eligible citizens, particularly those facing difficulties with documentation and official procedures.

Farmers raised concerns over rising agricultural costs and fair prices, while young people highlighted unemployment and education.

Women and marginalised communities also raised issues of safety and representation.

Opposition leaders demanded the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The Election Commission maintains that the exercise aims to remove duplicate and ineligible entries.

The BJP dismissed the protest as politically motivated. The rally brought electoral accountability and wider livelihood concerns into the same public debate.

Delhi-NCR Tightens Pollution Curbs as Air Quality Worsens

AQI reaches 324 as stronger anti-pollution measures take effect

New Delhi, Nov 2: The Commission for Air Quality Management on Monday invoked Stage II of the Graded Response Action Plan across Delhi-NCR with immediate effect after Delhi's AQI reached 324, in the "very poor" category. Existing Stage I measures remain in force. Agencies must intensify road sweeping, water sprinkling, construction-site inspections and action against waste burning. Stricter industrial and vehicle-emission checks and increased public transport services are also prescribed. Resident welfare associations have been directed to provide electric heaters for security, sanitation and support staff to discourage biomass burning. CAQM said implementation and air quality would be reviewed regularly.



Ponnam Hits Out at Amit Shah Over Hyderabad Visit

Telangana Minister questions Shah's silence on bifurcation promises and raises concerns over voter deletions.

Hyderabad, Nov 2: Telangana Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Monday accused Union Home Minister Amit Shah of using his Hyderabad visit to target Congress instead of addressing Telangana's pending bifurcation assurances.

Ponnam questioned the Centre's funding to Telangana and alleged that its policies favoured major corporate groups. On the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), he said Congress supported removing ineligible voters but opposed deletion of genuine voters, particularly from SC, ST, BC and minority communities.

He demanded evidence of foreign nationals removed and deported, and called for a special Parliament discussion. He also challenged the BJP to explain its unfulfilled election promises, while highlighting State welfare schemes and rising prices.



Israeli Strikes Kill Eight Palestinians Despite Gaza Ceasefire

Gaza, Nov 2: Israeli airstrikes killed at least eight Palestinians, including a child, across Gaza on Sunday, despite the ceasefire in force since Oct 2025. Five people, including police officers, were killed in an attack in al-Mawasi, west of Khan Younis, while three, including a child, died in Gaza City. Six others were injured in the northern attack, hospital officials said.

Israel said it had targeted militants in Khan Younis. Gaza's Health Ministry reported that the overall death toll since the war began in October 2023 had reached 74,609 by Monday, including 1,593 deaths since the ceasefire.



India Signs ₹53,866 Crore Contracts for Eight Warships

New Delhi, Nov 2: The Defence Ministry on Monday signed contracts worth ₹53,866.50 crore for eight next-generation corvettes, committing substantial investment to naval capability and domestic shipbuilding. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers will build five vessels and Goa Shipyard three, using indigenous Indian Navy designs. The competitively selected public-sector shipyards will construct warships equipped for anti-submarine warfare, coastal defence and maritime surveillance.

The ministry projects 72 lakh person-days of shipyard employment and 460 lakh in ancillary industries and MSMEs over ten years. These are employment estimates, not realised jobs. The announcement did not specify delivery milestones, domestic equipment percentages or cost-escalation safeguards.

Supreme Court Rejects Nehru's Plea Against Jobs-Scam FIR

New Delhi, Nov 2: The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed former Tamil Nadu minister K. N. Nehru's challenge to a Madras High Court direction for an FIR in an alleged ₹634-crore cash-for-jobs case.

Justices Dipankar Datta and Sheel Nagu found no grounds to interfere, leaving the investigation direction intact. The allegations concern recruitment in the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department during Nehru's tenure.

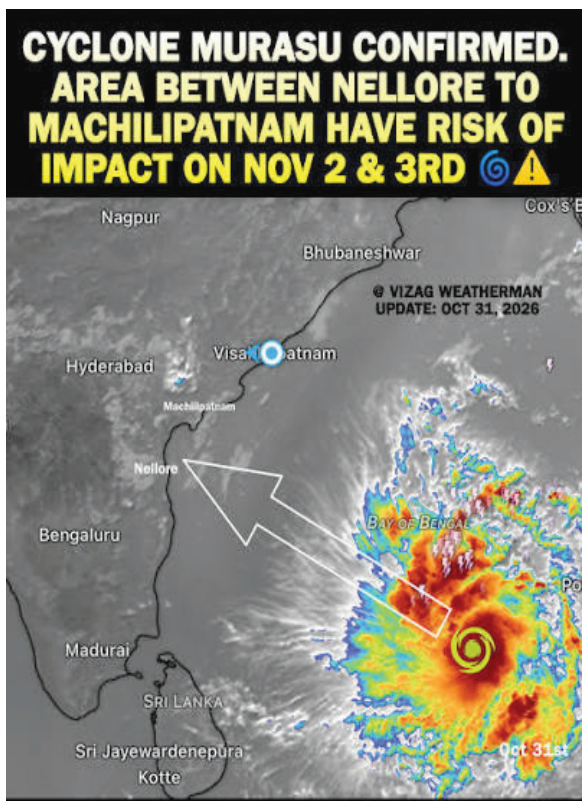
Nehru had argued that he lacked an effective hearing. The High Court clarified that ordering an investigation did not establish guilt and that he could present his defence during proceedings.

Telangana Makes 2.5-Hour Road Safety Course Mandatory

Hyd, Nov 2: Telangana has made a 2.5-hour online road safety course compulsory for learner's licence holders before they can book a permanent driving test. Applicants must log in using their LLR number and date of birth, verify through an OTP and complete face recognition. The course consists of six modules featuring more than 120 videos covering 62 road rules and defensive driving practices. Short assessments follow the lessons. The programme is available in Telugu, English, Hindi and Urdu. Applicants can pause and resume sessions, with progress saved. Certificates are linked to LLR records and are required to book driving test slots. The rollout follows a pilot programme.

Supreme Court Agrees to Hear Azam's Arrest Challenge

New Delhi, Nov 2: Chief Justice Surya Kant on Monday agreed to list Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan's challenge to his Enforcement Directorate arrest during the week. Khan also challenged the November 1 judicial-remand order and sought interim release. No release order or ruling on the arrest's legality was issued. The ED arrested Khan on October 31, shortly after his release on bail in the separate dual PAN-card case. A Ghaziabad court subsequently remanded him to 14 days' judicial custody.



Cyclone Murasu: Naidu directs officials to complete restoration works within 48 hours

Amaravati, Nov 2: NSS

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday directed the administration to remain fully alert in view of cyclone Murasu, which is set to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast tonight.

The Chief Minister conducted a review meeting on cyclone preparedness with senior officials and district collectors at the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) Centre in the Secretariat.

He stressed the need for robust measures to prevent any loss of life or property.

Naidu asked officials to remain fully alert as moderate to heavy rainfall is expected in the South Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema districts. He stated that the impact of cyclone Murasu on the Andhra Pradesh coast was likely to be relatively limited. Forecasts indicated that wind speeds and rainfall intensity were also expected to be lower than those associated with cyclone Arnab, which crossed the coast last week.

The Chief Minister stated that normalcy had been restored to a large extent in areas affected by cyclone Arnab. He recalled that precautionary arrangements had been made from Srikakulam to Bapatla to tackle cyclone Arnab and directed officials to effectively manage the impact of cyclone Murasu as well.

Officials informed the Chief Minister that 31,000 electricity poles had been dispatched to the field from Srikakulam to Krishna district. They estimated that around 8,000 electricity poles in the South Coastal and Rayalaseema districts could be affected by winds associated with cyclone Murasu.

Another 1,000 personnel were arriving from Chennai to assist in power restoration work. Naidu directed officials to deploy them across various districts, including Nellore and Prakasam.

Officials informed the Chief Minister that Palnadu district was expected to receive the highest rainfall, at around 30 cm, followed by Prakasam with 24 cm and Markapuram with 19 cm. Krishna and Guntur districts could receive up to 9 cm of rainfall each. Eluru and Nellore were also likely to receive around 9 cm each.

The Chief Minister called for special attention to water management.

He directed officials to fill tanks and reservoirs in Guntur, Bapatla, Palnadu, Prakasam, Nellore and Markapuram districts, which have been experiencing a rainfall deficit. He also instructed them to formulate an action plan to store water in reservoirs across the South Coastal and Rayalaseema basins.

Naidu directed officials to pay special attention to the safety of 6,800 tanks across the six districts likely to be affected by cyclone Murasu. He called for the activation of Water Users Associations and stressed the need to monitor the condition of tanks with public participation. He instructed officials to utilise the works undertaken under the Jaladhara programme and ensure that no tank breaches occurred. He also directed officials to take preventive measures to avoid crop inundation due to silt accumulation in drains.

AP orders repoll at 13 polling stations after rigging

Amaravati Nov 2: Munsif Desk

Repolling was on in a few polling stations in seven Urban Local Bodies in Andhra Pradesh on Monday. The State Election Commission (SEC) ordered the re-poll in 13 polling stations spread across seven Urban Local Bodies in five district, following complaints of massive rigging during the voting held on Sunday.

Re-polling was being held in eight polling stations in YSR Kadapa district, two in Palnadu district and one each in Anantapur, Tirupati and Prakasam districts.

Re-poll was being conducted in four stations of Pulivendula Municipality, three polling stations of Jammalamadugu Municipality and one polling centre of Kadapa Municipal Corporation.

Tight security arrangements have been made in these Urban Local Bodies to ensure peaceful, free and fair polling. State Election Commissioner, Anil Chandra Punetha, ordered re-poll in four polling stations of four wards in Pulivendula Municipality, where booth capturing had taken place on Sunday. He said the election process in the polling stations was vitiated and thereby deprived the voters of the right to exercise their franchise.

After taking all material circumstances into account, the State Election Commission in exercise of the powers conferred under Article 243A of the Constitution of India read with Section 343 (2) (a) of the AP Municipalities Act, 1965 and all other enabling provisions,

Ensure Quality Food is Served as per Menu: Rajanna Sircilla Collector Garima Agrawal

Rajanna Sircilla, Nov 2: Munsif Desk

District Collector Garima Agrawal has directed officials to ensure that students are provided with quality food strictly in accordance with the prescribed menu.

On Monday, Collector Garima Agrawal conducted a surprise inspection of the Tribal Residential Educational Institution (Girijan Ashram School) located at Konaraopet Mandal headquarters in Rajanna Sircilla district.



During the inspection, she first examined the attendance registers of officials and staff. She also enquired about the strength of the students and checked their attendance registers. On the occasion, the Collector inspected the menu chart and checked the quality of rice, pulses and other food items stored in the kitchen's godown. She also reviewed the preparation of the day's meals in accordance with the prescribed menu. Interacting with the students, she enquired about the menu, quality of food and other facilities being provided at the hostel.

Speaking on the occasion, Collector Garima Agrawal instructed the officials to provide students with nutritious and quality food as per the menu, in accordance with the state government's guidelines. She also directed them to maintain cleanliness in the hostel premises.

Farmer Seriously Injured in Wild Boar Attack

Amaravati Nov 2: Munsif Desk

A farmer, Gandla Poshanna, belonging to Bodapalli village in Kagaznagar mandal, was seriously injured after being attacked by a large herd of wild boars.

According to details, Poshanna had gone to his agricultural field early in the morning as usual to carry out farming activities when a herd of hundreds of wild boars suddenly arrived and attacked him, leaving him severely injured.

On witnessing the incident, local residents immediately intervened, raised an alarm and drove away the wild boars, thereby saving the farmer's life.

The injured farmer was immediately shifted by local residents to the Government Hospital in Kagaznagar, where he is currently undergoing treatment under the supervision of doctors.

The incident has triggered fear and concern among villagers and farmers. Expressing serious concern over the increasing attacks by wild animals on people working in agricultural fields, farmers urged the concerned authorities to take effective measures to protect their lives and property.

CMR diversion cases put Congress leaders under scrutiny in othagudem, Mulugu

Mulugu, Nov 2: Musif Desk

The booking of cases against Congress leaders in the diversion of custom milled rice (CMR) cases in Kothagudem and Mulugu districts has been raising many eyebrows.

In Kothagudem the three-town police have registered a case against a key Congress party leader, Alla Murali Gopalakrishna, who is said to be the follower of Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, for diverting custom milled rice worth Rs 6.90 crore.

According to sources, on October 28 a team led by Civil Supplies Corporation district manager, Trinath Babu conducted an inspection at Srija Rice Merchants, a rice mill owned by Murali and partner, Anjanamma at Medarabasti, Kothagudem.

It was said that around 2,600 metric tonnes of paddy was handed over to the rice mill, which was required to process it and hand over the rice to the government. The officials during inspection found that nearly 1750 metric tonnes of rice was missing. Upon finding the rice missing the civil supplies officials lodged a complaint with the three-town police, who registered a case under relevant sections against Murali; his partner and initiated an investigation.

B.Arch Student Samiya Fatima Takes Unique Initiative to Develop Pocharam as a Tourist Destination

Medak, Nov 2: Munsif Desk



In a unique initiative aimed at developing the Pocharam region of Medak district into a distinctive multi-tourism destination, Samiya Fatima, a Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch) student of Aurora Design Academy, Hyderabad, has undertaken an important research project.

In this connection, she met Medak District Collector Pratima Singh IAS and presented details of her thesis titled 'Pocharam – Multi-Tourism Destination'. She also sought government support for her research work. Samiya Fatima, daughter of Syed Aamir Mohiuddin and a resident of Azampura, Medak, is studying the natural environment, cultural heritage, tourism potential and livelihood opportunities of local communities in the Pocharam region as part of her research project. Her study will also examine existing tourism facilities, infrastructure, ongoing developmental works, the boundaries of the Wildlife Sanctuary, Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) regulations and legal restrictions relating to the reservoir.

On the occasion, District Collector Pratima Singh IAS appreciated the student's academic and research initiative and expressed happiness over her efforts. Samiya Fatima also sought the cooperation of the concerned government departments in obtaining essential information, maps and official records for her research.

The primary objective of the project is to promote eco-friendly tourism while preserving Pocharam's natural beauty and local identity. It also seeks to present a comprehensive vision for sustainable development through the active participation of local communities.

AP JAC SEEKS 12th PRC REPORT WITHIN SIX MONTHS

Amaravati, Nov 2: Munsif Desk

AP JAC Amaravati has urged 12th Pay Revision Commission (PRC) commissioner Dinesh Kumar to submit the commission's report to the Andhra Pradesh government within six months instead of the stipulated one year.

A delegation led by AP JAC Amaravati Chairman Bopparaju Venkateswarlu and Secretary General Palisetti Damodara Rao met the Commissioner at the State Secretariat on Monday and highlighted the financial concerns of government employees, teachers and pensioners.

The leaders said the delay in constituting the commission and pending arrears of the 11th PRC had already affected employees' financial interests.

Cyclone Arnab: Farmers Urged to Postpone Paddy Harvesting

Medak, Nov 2: Munsif Desk



District Collector Pratima Singh has urged the public and farmers to remain vigilant in view of Cyclone Arnab and advised farmers to temporarily postpone paddy harvesting.

Officials of All Departments Directed to Remain Available in Their Respective Mandals

In view of the ongoing rainfall in Medak district due to the impact of Cyclone Arnab, District Collector Pratima Singh has issued important instructions to the public, farmers and officials of the concerned departments to remain alert.

In a statement, the Collector said that, following the Meteorological Department's forecast of rainfall under the influence of the cyclone, officials of all concerned departments must maintain constant vigilance and remain prepared to deal with any emergency situation.

She instructed Agriculture Department officials to keep farmers informed about advance weather forecasts and guide them on necessary precautionary measures to protect their crops from damage.

The Collector advised farmers to postpone paddy harvesting for the time being and pay special attention to protecting both harvested crops and paddy standing in the fields.

She said that to prevent paddy from getting wet due to rainfall, the harvested produce should be properly covered with tarpaulins and kept safe. Necessary precautions should also be taken to protect paddy stored in open spaces and threshing yards.

District Collector Pratima Singh further directed officials to remain available in their respective mandals and continuously monitor the situation. She instructed them to respond immediately in the event of any emergency and provide necessary assistance and support to the public. The Collector made it clear that all concerned departments must work in coordination and remain prepared to take precautionary and relief measures to prevent crop losses and ensure that the public does not face any inconvenience.

Opens Special Rice Outlet at Government-Approved Prices

Nizamabad, Nov 2: Munsif Desk

District Collector Ila Tripathi has made it clear that strict legal action will be taken against traders selling rice at prices higher than the prescribed rates. She directed traders and rice merchants to sell rice strictly in accordance with the maximum prices fixed by the government and refrain from imposing any additional financial burden on the public. With the objective of making rice available to consumers at government-prescribed prices, District Collector Ila Tripathi inaugurated a new rice sales outlet established by Gajanan Rice Mill Industries near Gandhi Gunj Kaman, Goshal Road, in Nizamabad city on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector appreciated Gajanan Industries for its initiative to sell various varieties of rice, including BPT and HMT, at prices even lower than those fixed by the government.

Commending the management for its efforts, she said traders and business establishments should demonstrate social responsibility under the prevailing circumstances and extend their cooperation in making rice available to the public at reasonable prices.

The Collector said that special attention was being paid to rice prices in view of the prevailing market situation arising from the impact of El Niño. The government had also issued clear instructions in this regard.



District Collector Ila Tripathi has made it clear that strict legal action will be taken against traders selling rice at prices higher than the prescribed rates. She directed traders and rice merchants to sell rice strictly in accordance with the maximum prices fixed by the government and refrain from imposing any additional financial burden on the public.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Speaks

People, civic issues, communities and developments from across Telangana

Malkajgiri SOT foils murder plot, arrests five

Hyderabad: Nov 2: NSS

The Malkajgiri SOT, along with local police, has foiled an alleged murder conspiracy and arrested five persons who were reportedly planning to kill a man named Arfaj in revenge for the murder of their associate in Uppal on Monday.

The arrested persons were identified as T Thanay Kumar alias Kanna, Shaik Akbar, Aditya Kumar Thakur, Dudani Laxman Singh alias Sonu and Vadtya Venkatesh alias Nani.

Police said the suspects were nabbed in the early hours, when discussing their plan at an open place near the Musi River, behind Uppal Shilparamam.

According to police, the suspects were followers of Dasari Surender alias Suri, who was allegedly murdered by Arfaj in July 2026. After Arfaj was recently released from jail, they allegedly conspired to eliminate him in retaliation.

Police said two of the suspects transferred Rs 35,000 to another suspect, Aditya Kumar Thakur, who allegedly procured two pistols and bullets from Bihar for Rs 30,000 and brought them to Hyderabad to execute the murder plan.

Officials seized two country-made pistols, eight bullets, three knives, and vehicles from them.

Ranjal Mandal Ward Members' Forum Formed; Syed Ismail Elected President

Ranjal, Nov 2: NSS

The Ranjal Mandal Ward Members' Forum was formed, with Syed Ismail elected as its president. M. Dharmanna and Ramesh Naveen were appointed as vice-presidents, while Srikanth was named general secretary, Quddus joint secretary and Sirajuddin honorary president.

The programme was held at Sultan Farm House under the chairmanship of Vikar Pasha, Vice-President of the Telangana State Upa Sarpanch Forum. District in-charge president of Ward Members, Sailu, Ranjal Mandal Upa Sarpanch Forum president Charan Singh, and ward members Shabbir and Shahbaz were among those present. A large number of Upa Sarpanches and ward members, along with Gram Panchayat committee members, attended the meeting.

Former MLA Seeks More Indiramma Houses for Mudhole Constituency

Mudhole, Nov 2: Munsif Desk

Former Mudhole MLA G. Vittal Reddy met State Housing and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and submitted a detailed representation highlighting key issues faced by the people of Mudhole Assembly constituency.

During the meeting, he appealed to the Minister to sanction additional Indiramma houses in accordance with the population and requirements of the constituency.

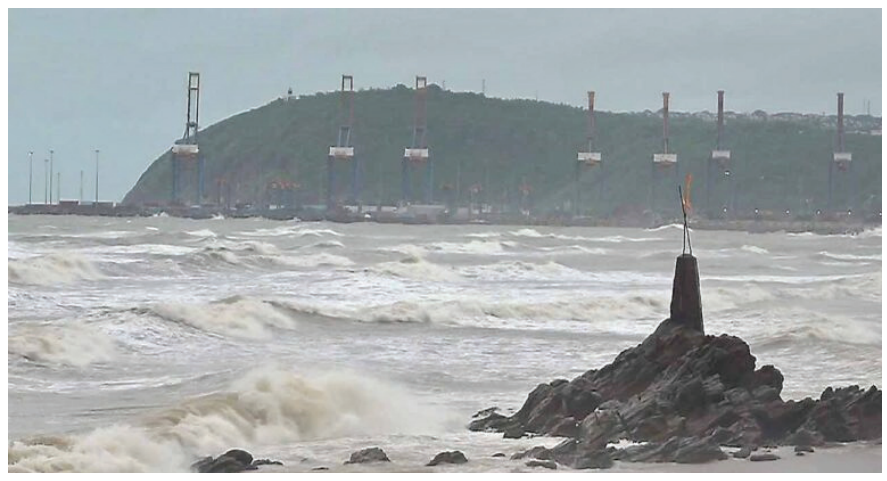
He stated that three mandals in the constituency had already been declared drought-affected and conveyed the gratitude of the people to the government and the concerned Ministers for the decision. At the same time, he urged the government to extend drought-affected status to the remaining five mandals — Basar, Tanur, Mudhole, Lokeswaram and Narsapur (G) — so that farmers and residents in these areas could also benefit from government assistance and welfare facilities. The former MLA also raised an important land-related issue, referring to the assurance given by Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and District In-charge Minister Jupally Krishna Rao during a review meeting held recently at Nirmal.



He explained that in certain villages of Tanur mandal and other mandals, restrictions had been imposed on the transfer of remaining land within particular survey numbers, even after one acre had been purchased by individuals from Punjab.

Cyclone Murasu to make landfall near Nellore, Narasapur tonight

Amaravati: Nov 2: Munsif Desk



Severe cyclonic storm Murasu is expected to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast between Nellore and Narasapur in the intervening night of November 2 and 3, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

Under the influence of cyclone Murasu, the Met department has forecast light to moderate rain or thundershowers at several places across Andhra Pradesh.

"The severe cyclonic storm Murasu is very likely to move northwestwards and cross the south Andhra Pradesh coast as a severe cyclonic storm, with a wind speed of 100 to 110 kmph and gusting up to 120 kmph, between Nellore and Narasapur, to the south of Ongole, between 11.30 pm today and 4 am tomorrow, November 3," the Met department said in an official release.

At 5.30 pm on Monday, the weather system lay centred over the west-central Bay of Bengal, about 80 km east-northeast of Nellore, 80 km east-southeast of Kavali, 110 km southeast of Ongole, 140 km south of Bapatla, 170 km south-southeast of Machilipatnam, 170 km northeast of Tirupati and 190 km north-northeast of Numgambakkam in Chennai.

After moving north-northwestwards at a speed of 12 kmph during the six hours up to 5.30 pm, the weather system is likely to continue moving slowly in the same direction.

"Storm surge of about 1.5 to 2 metres above the astronomical tide is very likely to inundate low-lying areas of South Coastal Andhra Pradesh during landfall. The maximum surge is expected over Bapatla and also over Krishna and Prakasam districts," the weather department said.

Ministers Inaugurate Expanded 500-Bed KIMS in Anantapur

Anantapur, Nov 2: NSS



KIMS Saveera Hospital, Anantapur, marked a major milestone in regional healthcare today with the formal inauguration of its expanded 500-bed facility, specialized medical blocks, and a major assistive technology initiative. The event was graced by Chief Guests Sri Satya Kumar Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Family Welfare and Medical Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, and Sri Payyavula Keshav, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Planning, Commercial Taxes and Legislative Affairs, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

The expansion doubles the hospital's original 250-bed capacity to 500 beds, significantly strengthening clinical infrastructure to meet the growing healthcare demands of Anantapur and the wider Rayalaseema region. By bringing advanced clinical capabilities under one roof, KIMS Saveera aims to reduce the necessity for local patients to travel to larger metros like Bengaluru and Hyderabad for complex, specialized treatments.

Commending the initiative, Sri Satya Kumar Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for Health, Family Welfare and Medical Education, stated, "Strengthening healthcare infrastructure across Rayalaseema is a top priority for our government. The expansion of KIMS Saveera Hospital into a 500-bed tertiary care center, equipped with advanced radiation, surgical, and diagnostic oncology facilities, brings super-specialized medical care directly to the people of Anantapur. Facilities like these ensure that quality healthcare is decentralized, eliminating the stress and expense for local families of traveling to distant metro cities for critical treatments."

Telangana High Court seeks additional affidavit in Damagundam radar PIL

Hyderabad, Nov 2: NSS

Hyderabad: A Division Bench comprising Acting Chief Justice P Sam Koshy and Justice Suddala Chalapathi Rao of the Telangana High Court on Monday directed the Special Government Pleader to file an additional affidavit in a Public Interest Litigation challenging the proposed establishment of an Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) radar project in the ecologically sensitive Damagundam Reserve Forest.

The Court passed the direction in the PIL filed by Damagundam Forest Protection JAC (Save Damagundam), questioning the allotment of forest land for the proposed project and seeking its cancellation on environmental grounds.

The petitioners have sought a direction to the authorities to withdraw the decision allotting the land to the project proponent and cancel G.O. Ms No. 21 dated September 3, 2014.

They contend that the establishment of the ELF radar project in the fragile forest ecosystem would cause irreparable environmental damage. The petitioners have also sought a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment through an expert agency or committee, along with an assessment of the traditional knowledge, socio-economic and cultural aspects of the local communities dependent on the forest.

Dundra Seeks Separate Union Ministry for BCs and OBC Census

Hyderabad, Nov.2 (NSS): As Union Home Minister Amit Shah joins the Maha Padayatra in Hyderabad to highlight the need to protect democracy and constitutional institutions, a pertinent question confronts the BJP leadership: what is its commitment to the long-pending demands of the Backward Classes (BCs)?

While defending democracy is important, BC leaders argue that social justice and equal representation are equally vital to strengthening democratic institutions. They have sought clarity from Amit Shah on the demand for a separate Union Ministry for BCs, a distinct OBC column in the 2027 Census and fair representation in education, employment and political institutions. Raising these questions, Dundra Kumara Swamy, National President of the National BC Dal and Chairman of the BC Reservations Achievement Coordination Joint Action Committee, called upon the Union Government to spell out its position and explain the concrete measures taken to address the concerns of BC communities.

He questioned the absence of a distinct OBC column in the proposed Census framework and sought a clear roadmap for effective implementation of reservations and wider opportunities for Backward Classes.

Harish Rao demands 15 more days of Jurala water for crops



Wanaparthy: Nov 2 (NSS):

BRS Legislature Party Deputy Floor Leader T Harish Rao on Monday demanded that the Congress government operate all five motors of the Kalwakurthy Lift Irrigation Project round the clock and release water from the Jurala project for another 15 days to save standing crops. He urged the government to take immediate measures to complete the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme and fill the Karivena and Vattem reservoirs.

He demanded compensation for crop losses across 25 lakh acres due to drought conditions, apart from the immediate release of Rythu Bharosa assistance for the ensuing Yasangi season, enhanced employment guarantee workdays for agricultural labourers and workers dependent on farm operations, and payment of the promised Rs 12,000 under the Indiramma Atmiya Bharosa scheme to eligible agricultural labourers.

Addressing a public meeting with farmers after inspecting withered paddy fields in Alwala village of Peddamandadi mandal in Wanaparthy district, Harish Rao accused the Congress government of triggering an agrarian crisis in Palamuru by failing to utilise available Krishna River water. He said crops had dried up despite substantial inflows into the Srisailam and Jurala projects.

He said around 250 acres had dried up in the village alone. He said farmers were left in distress at a critical harvesting stage despite water being available in the reservoirs.

Blaming the ruling Congress for causing the drought rather than natural conditions, he said the Srisailam project had received 221 TMCft of water and the Jurala project about 252 TMCft. However, he said the government had failed to operate the Kalwakurthy project motors in time and that the project, which could have lifted 50 TMCft, had lifted only 18 TMCft this season.

TMRIS Schools of Excellence Inaugurated in Nizamabad

Nizamabad, Nov 2: Mohd Baleegh Ahmed

As per the orders of Secretary TMRIS and Minority Welfare B. Shafiullah, a grand inauguration of School of Excellence (SOE) for Class VIII was held today in 21 schools of TMRIS across the state. In this context, in Nizamabad district under TMRIS Nizamabad, the School of Excellence (SOE) for Class VIII has been started for boys at Telangana Minority Residential School Boys 1, Nagaram, Nizamabad and for girls at Telangana Minority Residential School Girls 3, Nizamabad, Dharmapuri, Arsapally, Nizamabad.

On this occasion, commitment was expressed to provide quality education to students and prepare them for competitive examinations.

Mohammad Abdul Baseer, RLC, TMRIS Nizamabad, while addressing the inaugural ceremony, said that the establishment of SOE School of Excellence is an important step towards honing the educational abilities of students, promoting science and creative thinking, and preparing them for future challenges.



NATION | India's Politics, Policies & People.

Politics, economy, society and developments shaping the na-

At a Glance

IndiGo CEO upbeat on Q3 outlook despite rising fuel costs

IANS
New Delhi, Nov. 2

IndiGo CEO Willie Walsh is optimistic about the airline's October-December performance, citing robust bookings and strong travel demand despite rising airfares.

"The picture for the third quarter remains positive," Walsh told NDTV Profit.

However, he flagged a sharp rise in fuel expenses, which increased 67.2 per cent to Rs 9,966.8 crore in the September quarter. IndiGo reported a consolidated net loss of Rs 1,879.1 crore, against Rs 2,582 crore a year earlier.

Walsh said higher fuel costs could force further fare increases but described the pressure as temporary. He also reiterated that IndiGo remained committed to its long-term growth strategy and aircraft orders.



Illegal firecracker warehouse worth Rs 50 lakh sealed in Nalanda

IANS
Patna, Nov. 2

The Nalanda district administration sealed an illegal firecracker warehouse stocked with goods worth around Rs 50 lakh during a late-night raid near Neku Miyan Fatak in Biharsharif on Sunday.

The raid was conducted under SDO Kislay Srivastava's supervision. The warehouse reportedly belongs to Omprakash Prasad, who fled the spot. SHO Ranjeet Kumar Rajak said an FIR had been registered and police were searching for the accused. The administration warned of strict action against illegal firecracker storage and sale ahead of Diwali.

PM Modi announces Rs 2 lakh ex-gratia for kin of 8 labourers killed in Rajasthan electrocution incident

IANS
New Delhi, Nov. 2



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed grief over the deaths of eight labourers who were electrocuted while working on a road construction project in Chapoli village of Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district.

He also announced an ex gratia payment of Rs 2 lakh from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) for the next of kin of each deceased.

PMO India took to X to express condolences to the bereaved families and wish a speedy recovery to those injured in the incident.

"Saddened by the loss of lives due to a mishap in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. My condolences to the bereaved families. May the injured recover at the earliest. An ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of each of those who lost their lives. The injured would be given Rs. 50,000," he said.

Meanwhile, eight laborers were killed, and several others sustained burn injuries after being electrocuted while working on a road construction project in Chapoli village of Rajasthan's Jhunjhunu district on Monday, police said.

According to police, the incident occurred when a machine being used to mix gravel during road construction came into contact with an overhead high-tension electricity line. The electric current spread through the machinery, striking the labourers working at the site.

Udaipurwati Station House Officer (SHO) Rampal confirmed the incident and said the labourers were electrocuted after the machine came into contact with the high-voltage power line. Following the accident, the injured were taken for medical treatment.

The incident triggered anger among local residents, who gathered at the site and staged a protest. Villagers expressed their outrage over the deaths and demanded accountability from those responsible for ensuring safety at the construction site.

Police and other authorities reached the spot following the incident. Further details regarding the identities of the deceased, the condition of the injured and the circumstances leading to the accident are awaited.

Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma expressed condolences and said, "The news of the untimely demise of labourers due to electrocution in the accident that occurred in Jhunjhunu is heartbreaking. Instructions have been issued to the concerned officials to ensure proper treatment for the injured, provide immediate all possible assistance to the affected families, and investigate the incident. I pray to God that the departed souls attain a place at His divine feet, the injured recover health soon, and the bereaved families find the strength to bear this immense sorrow."

Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said, "The tragic and heart-wrenching deaths of several labourers due to electrocution in Chhapoli, Udaipurwati, Jhunjhunu, are extremely sorrowful and poignant. A thorough investigation of this entire incident is essential to determine how this accident occurred during road construction and who is responsible for these deaths. One cannot help but feel anguished thinking about the unimaginable grief that must be passing over the families who have lost their loved ones in this mishap. The government must ensure that appropriate compensation and every possible assistance is provided to the families of the deceased. May God grant a place to the departed souls at His divine feet and bestow strength upon the bereaved families to endure this unbearable sorrow."

RAJASTHAN: TWO CARS CATCH FIRE NEAR POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN JAIPUR

IANS
Jaipur, Nov. 2



Two cars were severely damaged after catching fire near the Rajasthan Police Headquarters (PHQ) in Jaipur on Monday morning. No casualties were reported in the incident, which occurred around 11 am near Gate No. 4 of the headquarters.

The fire initially broke out in a Mahindra Thar, with smoke billowing from the SUV before it was engulfed in flames. A white Tata Harrier parked nearby also caught fire.

Police personnel working inside the headquarters rushed out after noticing the flames. People gathered at the spot and alerted the Fire Department. Fire tenders soon reached the location and brought the blaze under control.

According to police, the Mahindra Thar belongs to Shubham, an employee of a nationalised bank, who purchased the SUV during Dhanteras in 2022. The Tata Harrier belongs to Rahul, who also works at a government bank and purchased the vehicle in 2025. Both cars sustained severe damage.

A short circuit is suspected to have triggered the fire, but the exact cause is yet to be established.

ACP (Ashok Nagar) Poonam said the Mahindra Thar caught fire for unknown reasons while parked outside Gate No. 4. A white car parked nearby was also engulfed in the flames. She confirmed that fire tenders brought the situation under control and no one was injured.

The Jyoti Nagar police station is investigating the incident to determine the exact cause of the fire.

The incident triggered panic in the area, particularly because of its proximity to the state Police Headquarters. Other vehicle owners hurriedly moved their cars to safer locations, fearing that the fire might spread. Videos of the burning vehicles recorded by people at the scene subsequently drew attention to the incident.

Gujarat installs 9.08 lakh rooftop solar systems, achieves 90% of target

IANS
Gandhinagar, Nov. 2



Gujarat has installed 9.08 lakh rooftop solar systems under the Centre's PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, achieving 90 per cent of its target of 10 lakh residential installations by March 2027, officials said on Monday.

The installations have a combined capacity of 3,408 MW, making Gujarat the country's leading state under the scheme. It accounts for 18.21 per cent of India's total installed rooftop solar capacity.

The state government, led by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, is offering financial assistance and regulatory concessions to encourage households to adopt solar energy. Residential consumers installing systems of up to 6 kW receive Rs 2,950 towards regulatory charges. Network strengthening charges and net metering agreements have also been waived.

SC and ST households installing systems of up to 2.18 kWp need to contribute only five per cent of the prescribed cost, while other consumers pay 10 per cent. The state government bears the remaining benchmark cost after central assistance and consumer contributions.

Households can also sell surplus electricity to the grid without banking charges.

Gujarat's total renewable energy capacity stood at 55,511.46 MW as of September 30, accounting for 18.55 per cent of India's overall capacity. Solar power contributed 36,234.55 MW, while wind energy accounted for 17,043.76 MW.

Congress fields Rajkumar Lohani against Hardeep Puri for RS poll in MP

IANS
Bhopal, Nov. 2



The Congress on Monday fielded Rajkumar Lohani for the Rajya Sabha by-election in Madhya Pradesh, setting up a contest against BJP nominee and Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri.

Congress MLA and Deputy Leader of Opposition Hemant Katare proposed Lohani's candidature as he filed his nomination papers on the last day of the nomination process. Bhopal North MLA Atif Aqeel and several party workers accompanied him to the Assembly. However, no senior Congress leaders were present.

The BJP has nominated Puri, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, for the seat. He filed his nomination on October 31 in the presence of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, state BJP president Hemant Khandelwal and other senior leaders.

The by-election was necessitated by the resignation of Union Minister of State L. Murugan from the Rajya Sabha on October 14. His term was due to end on April 2, 2030. He resigned to focus on strengthening the BJP in Tamil Nadu.

Puri's existing Rajya Sabha term from Uttar Pradesh is scheduled to end on November 25.

The effective strength of the 230-member Madhya Pradesh Assembly for the election stands at 229. The BJP has 164 MLAs, while the Congress has considerably fewer members, giving the ruling party a clear numerical advantage.

According to the Election Commission's schedule, scrutiny of nominations will take place on November 3, while candidates can withdraw their papers until November 5. Polling, if required, will be held on November 12 from 9 am to 4 pm, followed by counting at 5 pm. The election process will conclude by November 16.

Madhya Pradesh has 11 Rajya Sabha seats, of which the BJP holds eight and the Congress two, while one seat is vacant.

RAHUL OR AKHILESH COULD BECOME PM, PREDICTS AWADHESH PRASAD

IANS
New Delhi, Nov. 2



Samajwadi Party MP Awadhesh Prasad on Monday asserted that the INDIA bloc would form the next government at the Centre, saying either Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, of the Congress or his own party's chief Akhilesh Yadav could become Prime Minister, with the final decision to be taken by the Opposition alliance after winning the election.

Reacting to Union Minister Pralhad Joshi's remark that the Opposition would continue holding mock Parliament sessions for the next 30 years and that Gandhi would remain a "mock Prime Minister", Prasad said political change was inevitable.

Speaking to IANS, Prasad said: "Look, when the winds of change begin to blow, and change is the law of nature, transformation is inevitable. There will certainly be a change, and the INDIA bloc will have a Prime Minister. Whoever the INDIA bloc chooses as its leader will become the Prime Minister. It could be Rahul Gandhi Yadav. However, the final decision on this will be taken by the INDIA bloc after winning the election."

The veteran leader also rejected suggestions of differences within the Opposition alliance, asserting that its constituents remained united despite the Bharatiya Janata Party's criticism.

"There is no rift among the members of the INDIA bloc. There is unity among the INDIA bloc. The purpose for which the members have come together is a major one; there is unity and harmony among the people of the INDIA bloc, which baffles the Bharatiya Janata Party," he said.

Referring to the INDIA bloc's rally held at Ramlila Maidan on Sunday, the SP MP described the gathering as historic and said it reflected public support for political change.

"A historic crowd gathered at Ramlila Maidan. This crowd did not belong to any one party, individual or section of society; it represented the voice of the entire nation and its people," Prasad said.

"It was the voice of change. The rally was not organised against anyone or with the intention of causing harm to anyone; rather, it turned into a mega rally. There was not even room to stand on the ground, which was completely packed. There was a huge crowd on the roads as well," he added.

Prasad said the rally was also aimed at protecting the voting rights of Dalits and safeguarding reservation.

"The rally was for the Dalits for whose voting rights Baba Saheb Ambedkar fought. The rally was to fight for protecting reservation. If the BJP thinks that there was no heavy crowd, then why is the BJP concerned?" he asked.

Aavin proposes Rs 5 per litre milk price hike, awaits govt approval

IANS
Chennai, Nov. 2



Tamil Nadu's cooperative milk supplier Aavin has proposed a Rs 5 per litre increase in retail milk prices, citing financial pressure on its operations and difficulties faced by milk outlet operators. The proposal is awaiting State government approval.

According to Aavin sources, Rs 4 of the proposed hike would go to the cooperative, while the remaining Re 1 would benefit outlet operators.

Aavin procures around 35 lakh litres of milk daily, with sales in Chennai alone accounting for approximately 15 lakh litres. Currently, a 500 ml orange milk packet costs Rs 30, while green and purple packets are priced at Rs 24 and the blue packet at Rs 20.

Outlet operators receive a commission of just 75 paise per packet, which they say is insufficient to meet electricity bills, rent and other expenses. Sources said some newly opened outlets had shut down within months due to financial difficulties.

Aavin also faces rising demand from hotels, tea shops and sweet shops, which prefer its relatively lower-priced milk over private brands selling at more than Rs 75 per litre. This sometimes results in shortages at retail outlets for household consumers.

Aavin sources said the proposed revision was intended to address financial concerns affecting farmers, the cooperative and its retail network. The recent increase in procurement prices had provided relief to farmers, but outlet operators and the cooperative continued to face difficulties.

The sources also pointed to Karnataka's recent milk price increases of up to Rs 8 per litre, saying Tamil Nadu's proposed revision was lower.

The Rs 5 increase will be implemented only after government approval. Existing retail prices will continue until a final decision is taken.

At a Glance



Jeffries keeps Trump impeachment option open

IANS
Washington, Nov. 2

US House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries has refused to rule out impeaching President Donald Trump if Democrats win control of the House in Tuesday's midterm elections.

Speaking to ABC News, Jeffries said his party was focused on tackling the cost of living but stressed the need for Congress to act as a check on the executive branch.

Democrats are also planning investigations into Trump and his administration, including his family's business and cryptocurrency interests. The White House has denied conflicts of interest.

Trump was impeached twice during his first term but acquitted by the Senate on both occasions.

Democrats need a net gain of three seats to secure a House majority. If they win, Jeffries could become the first Black Speaker of the House.

Afghan crackdown on substandard medicines

IANS
Kabul, Nov. 2

Afghan authorities destroyed 1,000 tonnes of expired and substandard medicines and cosmetics seized in Kandahar province over 18 months.

The goods, worth over $20 million, were held at border crossings, Kandahar Customs chief Mawlawi Mansoorul Haq Zakir said.

In October, authorities destroyed 142 tonnes of expired medicines and food in Balkh too. In September, the Health Ministry reported destroying 1,290 tonnes of expired, substandard and illegal medicines, food and health products collected from Kabul and other provinces.

Trump's grip on Congress at stake as Americans vote in midterms on Tuesday

IANS
Washington, Nov. 2



Americans vote on Tuesday in midterm elections that will determine whether President Donald Trump retains Republican control of Congress for the final two years of his term or faces a Democratic majority with powers to investigate his administration.

Republicans enter election day with majorities in both chambers. In the House, Speaker Mike Johnson has 218 Republicans and one independent, Kevin Kiley of California, against 214 Democrats, with two seats vacant. Democrats need a net gain of three seats to reach 218, ABC News reported.

The Senate is split 53-47. Democrats need four seats to make Chuck Schumer majority leader, while Senate Majority Leader John Thune can lose three seats and retain control with Vice President JD Vance's tie-breaking vote. Thirty-five Senate seats are being contested, 22 held by Republicans.

The Cook Political Report rates seven Senate races as toss-ups: Alaska, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Ohio and Texas. Six are held by Republicans and one by Democrats. "We see Democrats as the slight favorites," Cook said on October 30. It projected a Democratic gain of 12 to 25 House seats, potentially taking their strength to 240. Sabato's Crystal Ball gave Democrats a Senate edge.

The RealClearPolling average of the generic congressional ballot on Sunday put Democrats ahead 51 per cent to 43 per cent, Newsweek reported. The Silver Bulletin average showed a lead of about nine points. Trump's approval rating was around 37 per cent in the horserace. report average.

The Silver Bulletin forecast gave Democrats about a 95 per cent chance of retaking the House and said they had a meaningful Senate edge. The Economist's model put their chances of flipping the Senate at 55 per cent and the House at about 95 per cent.

Since 1946, presidents with approval ratings below 50 per cent have seen their parties lose an average of 36 House seats in midterms, against 14 seats for presidents above that mark, according to Gallup.

Ten states have redrawn congressional maps since summer 2025, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Texas's new map could give Republicans up to five more seats, while California's voter-approved Proposition 50 makes five seats more favourable to Democrats, according to Ballotpedia. Missouri's new map is on hold pending a referendum.

A Democratic House would give committee chairs scope to investigate the Trump administration and provide leverage over government funding, including money for the war with Iran. A Democratic Senate would give Schumer's party control over confirmations of judges and Cabinet nominees.

The Senate map poses a challenge for Democrats because several contests are in states Trump won, some by double-digit margins. Winning the House but falling short in the Senate would leave Republicans in charge of confirmations.

At least 57 Indian American candidates are on Tuesday's ballot.

Polls close in the first states at 6 p.m. Eastern time. Results in races, including Alaska's ranked-choice count and California's slow count, could take days.

Iran says Strait of Hormuz can be reopened in two days if US meets its demands

IANS
Tehran, Nov. 2



Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said on Monday that if the United States meets Iran's "legitimate" demands, it will be possible to reopen the Strait of Hormuz within two days.

At a weekly press conference in Tehran, Baghaei said the basis for any indirect interaction between Iran and the United States through mediators remains the seven-day plan proposed by Tehran in September, adding Iran has reduced the period for implementing the plan to two days based on its good faith.

He noted, "We have announced that if Iran's demands are met, the possibility will exist to restore security to the Strait of Hormuz and start the negotiation process in a short period of time," stressing that all these depend on the American side's decision on how to proceed regarding the future of the process, Xinhua News Agency reported.

Baghaei said Iran has articulated its demands "clearly, reasonably, and logically," underlining that unless the United States ends its anti-Iran naval blockade and addresses Tehran's "legitimate" demands, no agreement will be reached and the Strait of Hormuz will not be reopened or s ecured.

Iran conveyed the seven-day plan containing its conditions for ending the war and reopening the Strait of Hormuz to the United States through mediators on the sidelines of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly in New York on September 22, following which Tehran and Washington have reportedly continued exchanging messages on the proposal.

On February 28, Israel and the United States launched joint attacks on Tehran and other Iranian cities. Iran responded with waves of missile and drone attacks targeting Israel and US bases and assets in the region, and tightened its grip on the Strait of Hormuz.

The Strait of Hormuz links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. It is one of the world's most important energy corridors, carrying oil and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports from major Gulf producers to international markets.

SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT URGES VOTERS TO TURN OUT FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

IANS
Cape Town, Nov. 2



The South African government has urged the country's 29.2 million registered voters to participate in the 2026 Local Government Elections on November 4.

In a statement, Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Velenkosini Hlabisa called on voters to make their voices heard, saying citizen participation was essential for accountable local government.

"I urge you not to underestimate the power of your vote. A stronger local government begins with active citizen participation," Hlabisa said. He said voting allowed communities to shape municipal leadership and ensure local authorities remained accountable.

He added that local government decisions affected public services, neighbourhood development and the quality of life of future generations. The next term's success would depend on elected leaders as well as community participation and oversight, Xinhua news agency reported.

Hlabisa also urged more than 2.65 million voters approved for special voting to cast their ballots on Monday and Tuesday. Electoral Commission officials will visit homes and designated stations.

Deputy National Police Commissioner Tebello Mosikili said security personnel had been deployed to monitor developments, gather intelligence and coordinate responses. Addressing the media in Pretoria on Sunday night, she said deployments would be based on risk levels at voting stations.

High-risk areas in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng would receive tactical support.

Mosikili, co-chairperson of the National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure, warned that law enforcement would maintain a zero-tolerance policy towards illegal activity.

"No individual or organisation has the right to obstruct voting stations, threaten electoral officials, intimidate voters, or undermine another person's democratic rights," she said. She added that marches, demonstrations and illegal gatherings would not be permitted on voting day.

She urged media organisations to verify information before publication and asked the public not to circulate unverified reports or use social media to incite violence.

US rule on H-1B extensions would hit Indians hardest, shows USCIS data as comment window closes

IANS
Washington, Nov. 2



A Trump administration proposal to end deference to earlier approvals when H-1B and L-1 workers seek extensions could disproportionately affect Indian professionals, who account for nearly four in five H-1B approvals for continuing employment, according to US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) data.

The public comment period on the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) proposal, "Removing Deference to Prior USCIS Determinations of Eligibility", closes on November 13. Published in the Federal Register on October 14, it is listed under DHS Docket No. USCIS-2026-0529.

The proposal would remove the rule requiring officers to generally defer to an earlier approval involving the same parties and facts, unless there was a material error, change or new adverse information. It would cover all Form I-129 petitions, including H-1B, L-1, O-1, TN, E and P workers.

USCIS approved 399,000 H-1B petitions in fiscal 2024, with 71 per cent of beneficiaries born in India, its annual report to Congress said. Of around 258,000 approvals for continuing employment, including extensions, 203,000, or 79 per cent, went to Indian-born workers.

DHS said H-1B petitions account for more than 75 per cent of all Form I-129 filings. It estimated that 208,000 petitions could be affected. Removing deference could increase requests for evidence by three percentage points, or roughly 6,000 additional requests a year.

Petitions receiving such requests took an average of 64 days longer to process over the last four fiscal years, the notice said. DHS estimated the added cost to petitioners at about $134,000.

The department argued that the existing policy "effectively shifts the burden from the petitioner to the USCIS officer to justify departing from a prior approval". It cited site-visit data showing combined non-compliance and fraud at about 22 per cent of H-1B extension sites visited in fiscal 2022-2025, against 17 per cent in fiscal 2018-2020.

DHS said the proposal would not stop officers from considering earlier approvals, but would remove the requirement to begin from a position of deference. It acknowledged that employers and workers "may have made career and/or personal plans in the United States" based on expectations of continued employment and lawful stay.

The deference policy was introduced in 2004, rescinded in 2017, reinstated in 2021 and written into regulation in 2024.

All nine on board killed in Florida Learjet crash

IANS
Florida, Nov. 2

All nine people aboard a Learjet 60 were killed when the business jet crashed into a residential area in Palm Beach County, Florida, on Sunday, US Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said.

The aircraft came down near Cresthaven at about 12.50 pm local time after departing Austin-Bergstrom International Airport in Texas for North Eleuthera Airport in the Bahamas, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

Duffy described the crash as a "horrific tragedy" and said the FAA would support the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which is leading the investigation. The victims have not been identified.

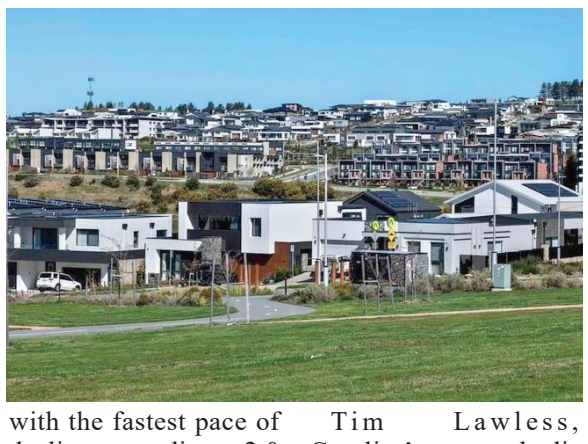
Florida Governor Ron DeSantis called the impact "cataclysmic". He said there were no reports of deaths or injuries among people on the ground.

The crash scattered debris near Military Trail. County officials said about 600 nearby residents could require temporary accommodation, with two shelters on standby.

CNN, citing air traffic control recordings, reported that the pilots mentioned icing, turbulence and precipitation shortly before the aircraft entered a steep descent. Investigators have not determined whether weather contributed to the crash. The NTSB is examining evidence.

Australian house prices fall for 7th consecutive month

IANS
Canberra, Nov. 2



Australian house prices fell for the seventh consecutive month in October as the downturn reached the fastest pace in 40 years, according to new data.

Property data firm Cotality said on Monday that the national median house price fell by 1.2 per cent in October, taking the downturn into a seventh consecutive month.

It said that the national price has declined by 6.7 per cent from its March peak, wiping 63,400 Australian dollars (about 44,565 US dollars) in value off the median Australian dwelling.

Cotality said that the pace of decline in national home values is now tracking at the fastest pace over the last 40 years, reports Xinhua news agency.

The monthly fall was driven by a 1.4 per cent decline in the median capital city house price, accelerating from a 1.2 per cent fall in September.

Brisbane overtook Sydney as the capital with the fastest pace of decline, recording a 2.0 per cent drop in median house prices in October.

On a quarterly basis, Cotality said median prices across all capitals declined by 4.5 per cent.

Tim Lawless, Cotality's research director, attributed the downturn to an array of headwinds, including interest rate hikes, persistently low confidence, cost-of-living pressures and a move by the federal government to wind back tax concessions for property investors.

The Reserve Bank of Australia's Monetary Policy Board at the end of September voted to raise the cash rate target by 0.25 percentage points for the fourth time in 2026 to a 15-year high of 4.6 per cent.

The board will meet again to consider the key interest rate over Monday and Tuesday, with all four major banks predicting a fifth rise to an 18-year high of 4.85 per cent.

PERSPECTIVE | Beyond the Headlines. Context. Clarity. Consequence.

Polio continues to haunt Pakistan despite nationwide campaigns; 8th case reported in 2026



Pakistan's failure to eradicate polio continues as the country reported its eighth polio case of 2026 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, exposing persistent gaps in vaccination coverage despite repeated campaigns, a report has said.

A report by Geo News highlighted the latest case in a 13-month-old girl from Union Council Janbaz-B in Tehsil Bara. The case is the second from Khyber District this year and the sixth from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa alone, underscoring that children remain at risk, it added. Officials admitted that environmental surveillance in the Peshawar Block, comprising Khyber and Peshawar districts, continues to show positive detections, indicating active virus circulation and a continuing threat to children's health, according to the report.

However, the Pakistan Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) has launched a case investigation and is evaluating a response to prevent further transmission, including targeted vaccination and routine immunisation support. "In 2026 so far, Pakistan has already implemented four large-scale polio campaigns, protecting more than 45 million children multiple times, alongside smaller targeted campaigns to administer oral and injectable vaccines in high-risk areas, including the Peshawar Block," the report said. It further noted that a subnational campaign in September reportedly covered over 29.3 million children.

The next round is scheduled from November 2 to 8 to cover nearly 24 million children in 97 districts, including Khyber.

Pakistan has reduced polio cases by 99.8 per cent from an estimated 20,000 in the early 1990s to 31 in 2025 but continues to report fresh cases.

Of the eight cases this year, six are from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, four from southern KP alone, and two from Sindh, according to Geo News.

Polio is a highly contagious, incurable disease that can cause lifelong paralysis and death, preventable only through vaccination.

Varanasi: e-bike sharing service launched under 'Fit India' initiative to promote fitness

An e-bike sharing service was launched in Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi district on Monday, under which e-bikes and bicycles would be made available to the public for rent across 18 dedicated stations in the city.

The initiative, launched under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Fit India' initiative, is aimed at promoting fitness among the city residents and promoting eco-friendly urban transport, in line with the Prime Minister's vision for green mobility.

The Varanasi Municipal Corporation and Smart City have drawn up a complete blueprint for the project, which will be rolled out in two phases.

Under the system, eco-friendly mobility, e-bikes and bicycles, will be available at designated locations, accessible via a QR-code-based payment system.

The first phase covers Sigra, Sarnath, Kachhari, and the Cantonment area, with plans to expand to other parts of the city. According to Varanasi Municipal Commissioner Himanshu Nagpal, the public bike-sharing system will include dedicated bike stands, where both e-bikes and regular bicycles are stationed.

He explained that users can access an e-bike simply by scanning a QR code located at the bike stand.

Given that large vehicles cannot navigate Varanasi's narrow lanes, these smaller bikes and bicycles will offer a convenient way to travel through them and will prove beneficial for tourists visiting the city.

The usage charges have been kept affordable. Bike stands are being set up in key public areas across the city, each equipped with 10 to 15 e-bikes and regular bicycles. All the vehicles are fitted with GPS trackers. Anyone can use them by scanning the QR code and paying a nominal fee.

The initiative aims to encourage people to opt for bicycles and e-bikes instead of private motor vehicles, promoting better health while making it easier to navigate Kashi's narrow streets.

Following the success of this initial phase, the service will be extended to other areas, including those with wider roads.

Notably, thousands of tourists arrive in Kashi daily to attend the Ganga Aarti, visit the ghats, and enjoy boat rides. In recent years, there has been a surge in tourism, with approximately 4 to 5 lakh people now visiting Kashi every day.

SC permits green crackers in Delhi-NCR, limits bursting to Nov 7-8, complete ban from Nov 9

The Supreme Court has permitted the sale and use of certified green crackers in Delhi-NCR for a limited period ahead of and on Diwali, while issuing a series of directions to regulate their manufacture, storage, sale and bursting, and directing that the complete ban on firecrackers be restored from November 9.

A Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Prasanna B. Varale allowed the sale of CSIR-NEERI-approved green crackers from November 2 to November 6, subject to stringent safeguards to prevent conventional firecrackers from being sold under their guise.

The Justice Sundresh-led Bench permitted the bursting of firecrackers only between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on November 7 and 8.

The apex court directed that there will be no bursting of fireworks within a 300-metre radius of hospitals, nursing homes, primary and district health centres, old-age homes, educational institutions, and notified silence zones.

These areas will be declared 'No-Cracker Zones' and appropriately marked and publicised.

Laying down detailed safeguards for manufacturers and traders, the Supreme Court directed that only manufacturers possessing valid certifications from CSIR-NEERI and PESO would be permitted to manufacture approved green crackers during the specified period.

The top court also prohibited the manufacture and sale of firecrackers joined in series, commonly known as 'ladis', and garlands, reiterating that crackers containing barium or those not approved by CSIR-NEERI would not be permitted.

Further, each box must carry a product-specific QR code issued for the particular product and batch, displaying details of the manufacturer, NEERI registration, PESO/DM licence, formulation and test certificate.

In a significant relief to traders, the Justice Sundresh-led Bench directed that licences of traders whose licences had been cancelled would be restored temporarily from November 4 to November 6 to facilitate the sale of approved green crackers procured from CSIR-NEERI-certified manufacturers.

However, such licences would be immediately cancelled again if the traders were found violating the directions.

The apex court directed the authorities to mandate all firecracker manufacturers and traders in Delhi-NCR to furnish a substantial monetary security, which would be forfeited immediately in case of any violation of its directions.

The District Collectors or Commissioners, in consultation with the District Superintendents of Police concerned, have been directed to identify designated locations across the National Capital Region (NCR) for the sale of green crackers.

Sale at any other location, including through online platforms, has been prohibited.

The Supreme Court also directed the authorities to check vehicles entering Delhi-NCR to prevent the movement of illegal and conventional firecrackers.

Further, police authorities, in coordination with the district administration, have been directed to constitute patrolling teams to monitor designated sale locations. The teams would be required to familiarise themselves with approved green cracker products and their QR codes, conduct regular inspections and immediately confiscate illegal or conventional firecrackers.

The bench directed that prosecutions be initiated against offending manufacturers and traders, with random checks of QR codes to verify their authenticity.

On the environmental monitoring front, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), in consultation with State Pollution Control Boards and their regional offices in NCR districts, has been directed to prepare daily air quality reports for the pre-Diwali period from November 2 to 6, Diwali on November 7 and 8, and the post-Diwali period from November 9 to 30.

The Supreme Court also ordered the authorities to undertake post-festival measures, including clearing and proper disposal of solid waste and cleaning highly polluted areas through water sprinklers, among other possible measures.

The state authorities, including the Delhi government, have been asked to notify and publicise their measures, including the Winter Action Plan 2026, Air Pollution Mitigation Plan 2026 and CAQM Annual Action Plan, through leading newspapers and news channels.

The apex court also directed the Education Department Secretaries of all NCR states to sensitise schoolchildren about the impact of pollution, particularly during festivals.

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has been asked to use its audio systems to disseminate awareness messages. The top court further directed the state machineries in Delhi-NCR to file affidavits detailing the steps taken to implement its directions, including the security deposits, designated sale locations, enforcement measures and prosecutions initiated against violators.

Millions in Bangladesh can't afford to pay for healthcare

Millions of people in Bangladesh cannot afford health care. The cost of blood pressure tests, a month's diabetes medicine or a journey to the nearest hospital can become a financial burden that many families struggle to bear, according to a report in Dhaka-based The Daily Star.



The report cites a new World Health Organisation (WHO) report, published on October 20, which reveals a troubling reality that where people live, how much they earn and how far they have studied can determine their chances of staying healthy and receiving treatment. In Bangladesh, diseases such as diabetes, cancer and heart disease account for approximately 71 per cent of all deaths. Meanwhile, patients pay 79.31 per cent of healthcare costs directly from their own pockets, according to World Bank figures cited in the source material.

The WHO report, examining inequalities within countries worldwide, highlights how disadvantaged communities face greater risks from heart disease, cancer, diabetes and long-term breathing problems. They also encounter more obstacles in getting tested, diagnosed and treated.

The WHO findings reveal that poorer communities often struggle to access basic healthcare. People living in rural areas may have fewer opportunities to check and treat high blood pressure, while disadvantaged women are less likely to receive screening for cervical cancer.

The Daily Star report points out that simply telling people to eat better, exercise more or visit doctors regularly cannot solve problems rooted in poverty and limited access.

Experts emphasise that preventing disease is only half the battle. Ensuring affordable and continuous treatment is equally important.

For Bangladesh, this means making blood pressure and diabetes checks more accessible, keeping essential medicines available and strengthening healthcare services closer to communities, according to the report.

'No recognised medical degree': Nine fake doctors held in Gujarat

As many as nine fake doctors were apprehended during simultaneous raids on clinics in the Dindoli area of Surat on Thursday, with the police and health department seizing medicines, injections, syrups and medical equipment worth around Rs 95,000, officials said on Thursday.



The raids were conducted jointly by the Surat City Special Operations Group (SOG) and teams from the District Health Department after dummy patients were sent to the clinics to verify information that individuals without recognised medical qualifications were treating patients.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (SOG) Rajdeepsinh Nakum told IANS that the operation had been planned in coordination with the office of the Chief District Health Officer, Dr Anil Patel.

"Raids were planned from the morning by the SOG and the Chief District Health Officer's team. Several locations were raided simultaneously, and nine bogus doctors were apprehended," Nakum said.

He said the accused had different educational backgrounds, including schooling up to Classes 10 and 12, a Bachelor of Arts degree and training in electropathy.

However, they were allegedly practising as doctors without the required recognised medical qualifications.

"Some of them were earning Rs 2,500 to Rs 3,500 a day and were practising as bogus doctors. The SOG and Health Department teams carried out an intensive operation and apprehended all of them," he added.

According to the police, the accused were identified as Rohit Patil, Parmanand Patel, Aartidevi Maurya, Mahesh Rajput, Kamalaprasad Gond, Sopan Patil, Manoharlala Kumawat, Dinesh Bharti and Kishor Vishwas.

The police said Patil had allegedly been running Mauli Clinic in Navagam of Dindoli for three years and had previously worked as a compounder at a hospital in Sangamner.

He was also arrested in Aurangabad of Maharashtra, in 2024 in a case involving the alleged sale of fake pregnancy medicines.

Patel had allegedly operated Manisha Clinic for five years, while Maurya, who had studied for a Bachelor of Arts degree, had run Aashi Clinic for one-and-a-half years.

She had previously worked as a nurse at Amardeep Hospital in Godadara of Surat for five years, according to the police. Rajput had allegedly run Maya Clinic for eight years, while Gond had operated Krishna Clinic for 10 years.

Gond had reportedly worked as a compounder at a hospital in Uttar Pradesh. Sopan Patil had allegedly operated Shree Sai Clinic for seven years and had studied electropathy.

Kumawat, who had studied pharmacy, had reportedly run Shree Radhekrishna Clinic for six months. Bharti had allegedly operated Sahgar Clinic for three years, while Vishwas had run Sadguru Sant Kripal Clinic for six years.

Both had studied up to Class 12 and had previously worked at other clinics or hospitals. The police said the accused had allegedly earned between Rs 1,000 and Rs 3,500 a day through their practices.

The raids followed instructions from Surat Police Commissioner Wabang Jamir to identify clinics being run by people without medical degrees or on the basis of allegedly fabricated qualifications.

SOG teams, acting under the supervision of DCP Nakum and the supervision of Police Inspector A.S. Sonara, conducted checks across the city before verifying the information about the Dindoli clinics.

The seized material was valued at Rs 95,138. Cases have been registered against the nine accused at Dindoli police station.

"The District Health Department will initiate separate proceedings under the Clinical Establishments Act," officials said.

Growing financial strain leads to salary cuts, debt burden in China's healthcare system

China's healthcare system is facing mounting financial pressures, evident by rising hospital debt burdens, delayed wage payments, salary reductions and growing public dissatisfaction, a report has said.

The report from Myanmar-based Ayeyarwady Times said that hospitals across several provinces have reported delayed salaries, reduced bonuses, staff cuts and, in some cases, complete suspension of operations.

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has for decades projected its healthcare system as a symbol of state capacity and social stability, yet the sector, even public hospitals, once considered among the safest institutions in the country is under severe strain, the report said.

Public hospitals are suffering from declining revenues after years of aggressive expansion along with reduction in traditional income streams, primarily due to policy failures and entrenched corruption.

During China's period of rapid economic growth, many hospitals invested aggressively in new facilities and medical equipment, often financed through borrowing. Public hospital debt nearly quadrupled between 2011 and 2021, while slower economic growth, declining local government revenues and property market weakness added to the stress.

Accountability about project viability often took a back seat to bureaucratic targets. "Local officials were incentivised to pursue visible infrastructure projects rather than long-term sustainability," the report said.

"China's healthcare sector has long faced allegations of corruption involving government officials, hospital administrators, pharmaceutical companies and procurement networks," it added.

Corruption embedded at the top, inevitably trickled down through the bureaucracy as senior officials manipulated procurement contracts and hospital administrators pursued prestige projects. Mid-level managers prioritised political loyalty over efficient governance to secure promotions in their career.

Studies showed that population aging is placing enormous pressure on the financial sustainability of China's social health insurance funds. China's medical insurance system is under threat as the number of working-age contributors grows very slowly.

ARENA | Sport. Screen. Culture.

Sports action, cinema, OTT, celebrities and popular culture.

RISHABH PANT TO UNDERGO ANOTHER FITNESS TEST BEFORE NEW ZEALAND SERIES AFTER FAILING ONE

New Delhi, Nov. 2:



India wicketkeeper batter Rishabh Pant will have the chance to prove his fitness once more as the batter is set to undertake another test before he can leave for New Zealand ahead of the Test series.

Pant suffered a side strain during the Irani Cup match while leading Rest of India and Jammu and Kashmir. He has been at the BCCI CoE for around 10 days and failed a fitness test on Sunday.

As per a report in Cricinfo, he will take another fitness test in two days before he is cleared to play in New Zealand. If he manages to clear the test this time around, he will be joining the Indian A side for the third multi-day game against New Zealand A, which begins on November 7 in Lincoln.

Pant was named in India A's squad for the three four-day games, which were preparatory matches for the visiting side. However, his availability was subject to fitness clearance. The wicketkeeper batter was ruled out of the first two matches due to his recovery, with Kumar Kushagra named his replacement. Captain Dhruv Jurel kept the wickets in the first two matches as Kushagra did not get to play.

Pant was also named in India's squads for the two-match Test series against the Blackcaps, which begins on November 19; however, his participation in the series was also subject to fitness clearance.

The same report also added that India speedster Jasprit Bumrah has left for New Zealand and is likely to play the third multi-day game against New Zealand A to prepare for the Test series. Bumrah was rested for India's white-ball series against the West Indies at home and the away T20I and ODI series against New Zealand.

This was due to the BCCI wanting to keep their talisman pacer in a cotton wool ahead of the New Zealand Test series, which is considered to be an important one for India's chances for the World Test Championship final.

He has not played an international since the Asian Games final, where India opted to send their full-strength side. He was training at the BCCI CoE last week ahead of a ready-for-play routine before leaving for New Zealand.



Raju surprised by Kuldeep's T20I omission

New Delhi, Nov. 2:

Former India spinner Venkatapathy Raju was surprised Kuldeep Yadav did not play in any of the five T20Is against New Zealand and urged the team to give him more chances before the 2027 ODI World Cup.

Raju said regular games would improve Kuldeep's experience. He also said Axar Patel needed to regain his bowling variations and have the wicket-taking spin partner.

Raju also urged Rohit and Kohli to play regularly.

DIANA GRACE WINS GOLD AND TWO BRONZE MEDALS AT CBSE NATIONALS



Telangana, Nov. 2:

Telangana Chilkamukku Diana Grace, U-19 Age Group Cliched a Gold Medal in The Individual apparatus Beam, and 2 Bronze Medal at the CBSE National Gymnastic Championship 2026 at SNBP Internationa School Rahatani, Sinhgadh Sports Complex, Pune, From 26 to 31st October 2026.

U-19 Years Individual apparatus Beam:

★ First place Telangana-Chilkamukku Diana Grace Score:9.45
★ Second place Assam-Aarohi Koundal Score:9.15
★ Third Place Maharashtra- Keya Prashanth Score:9.10

U-19 Years Uneven bar

★ First place Karnataka-Shaivi Pinalkumar Dave Score:8.40
★ Second place Karnataka- Devisha Chowdary Score:7.90
★ Third place Telangana-Chilkamukku Diana Grace Score:7.25

U-19 Yaers All around champions

★ First Place Karnataka-Shaivi Pinalkumar Dave Score:37.60
★ Second place Karnataka- Maheeksha Mahesh Polas Score:36.10
★ Third place Telangana-Chilkamukku Diana Grace Score:34.05

This is DIANA GRACE of Class 11 studying at Cornerstone School representing it from the past five consecutive times as a National Medalist in Gymnastics.

Gymnastics has been an important part of my journey, teaching me discipline, dedication, perseverance, and the importance of hard work.

This year at the CBSE NATIONALS 2026 held at the SNBP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL RAHATANI, SINHGADH SPORTS COMPLEX, PUNE on 31-10-2026, I proudly secured a Bronze Medal in the All-Around Championship, a Gold Medal in the Individual Beam event, and a Bronze Medal in the Uneven Bars event.

These achievements reflect my continuous efforts, determination, and passion for the sport. I believe every competition is an opportunity to learn, grow, and push my limits.

I aspire to continue representing my school with pride, achieve greater milestones, and make my mark in the world of gymnastics.

I offer my sincere gratitude to the LORD for showing his immense blessing on me, my PARENTS who always supported me in every circumstance and for their hard work done for me, and nevertheless my coach SRI SAI SIR for his exceptional guidance and for always having my back and to all the other coaches.

Thanking from my bottom of my heart SHARMILA MAM(Director), SOLOMON SIR(Chairman), SHILPA MAM(Principal) and the entire school management for always being by my side since years. Lastly I thank all the people who had played a very important role in my life and to the ones who encouraged me……..

Pakistan fined for slow over-rate in tri-series final against Sri Lanka

Dubai, Nov. 2:



Pakistan have been fined five per cent of their match fee for maintaining a slow over-rate in the ODI Tri-Series final against Sri Lanka in Lahore.

Jeff Crowe of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees imposed the sanction after Pakistan were found to be one over short of the required quota within the stipulated time, even after time allowances were considered.

Pakistan captain Shaheen Shah Afridi pleaded guilty and accepted the penalty, avoiding a formal hearing. On-field umpires Ahsan Raza and Wayne Knights, third umpire Sharfuddoula Ibne Shahid and fourth umpire Rashid Riaz levelled the charge.

Under Article 2.22 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, teams are fined five per cent of their players' match fees for every over short of the minimum over-rate, after applicable time allowances.

The fine followed Pakistan's thrilling three-wicket victory over Sri Lanka, which secured the tri-series title before the home crowd. Chasing 326, Pakistan reached 329 for seven with nine balls to spare.

Fakhar Zaman led the chase with 127 off 99 balls, his 12th ODI century. Saad Baig made 74 off 75 deliveries, helping Pakistan recover from the early dismissals of Maaz Sadaqat and Babar Azam.

After Zaman's dismissal, Arafat Minhas struck 61 off 31 balls, hitting four sixes and four boundaries. Shaheen sealed the win with a six.

Earlier, Kamindu Mendis scored 131 and Pavan Rathnayake made 77 as Sri Lanka posted 325 for eight. Their efforts were not enough to prevent Pakistan from lifting the trophy. The match officials reported the breach after the innings, and the captain accepted responsibility on behalf of the team.

ALIKHIL TO LEAD AFGHANISTAN A IN RISING STARS CUP



Kabul, Nov. 2:

Wicketkeeper-batter Ikram Alikhil will captain Afghanistan A in the Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha, November 19-29. The Afghanistan Cricket Board named a 15-member squad and three reserves.

The squad includes Ijaz Ahmadzai, AM Ghazanfar, Darwish Rasooli, Hassan Eisakhil, Qais Ahmad and Bilal Sami. Mohammad Ishaq is the second wicketkeeper. Ahmadzai earned selection after scoring half-centuries in the first two T20Is against Zimbabwe.

Afghanistan A are in Pool A with Sri Lanka A, Bangladesh A and Hong Kong, China. They open against Sri Lanka A on November 19, meet Bangladesh A on November 21 and face Hong Kong, China on November 23. The top two teams in each group advance to the semi-finals.

The semi-finals are set for November 26 and 27, with the final on November 29. Afghanistan A finished third in their group last year and missed the knockouts.

Reserves: Abdullah Tarakhil, Khalid Taniwal and Izharulhaq Naveed.

Juhi Chawla wishes 'the King for the world' Shah Rukh on his birthday: Lots and lots of love

Mumbai, Nov. 2:



Actress Juhi Chawla wished her 'friend, co-star and business partner' Shah Rukh Khan on his birthday.

In a lovely wish for SRK, Juhi said that despite being 'The King for the world', Shah Rukh remains one of the most generous and humble people for those who are close to him.

Sharing a couple of photos of the two over the years, Juhi wrote on her official handle, "Happpyyy Birthhddaaayy ShahRukh ..!! @iamsrk Friend, co-star, business partner and someone with whom I have laughed, celebrated and shared so many memories over the years..!! (sic)."

She added, "The King for the world, but for those who know you, still one of the most generous and humble people around..!! Lots and lots of love from all of us, always.. Jay, Juhi, Jahnavi, Arjun."

During their cinematic journey together, Shah Rukh and Juhi have worked together in several projects that are still enjoyed by movie buffs, including 'Raju Ban Gaya Gentleman (1992)', 'Darr (1993)', 'Ram Jaane (1995)', 'Duplicate (1998), 'Yes Boss (1997), 'Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani (2000), and 'One 2 Ka 4 (2001)'.

Meanwhile, celebrating Shah Rukh Khan's 61st birthday on Monday, the makers of his next, 'King' released the primary track from his highly awaited actioner, 'Tu Mil Jaaye', which has been picturized on SRK and Deepika Padukone.

Arijit Singh has crooned the romantic number that also includes Ed Sheeran's distinct rap style. Composer duo Sachin-Jigar has scored the melodious tune, the lyrics for which have been provided by Kumaar. Piyush-Shazia have choreographed the graceful moves for 'Tu Mil Jaaye'.

The Siddharth Anand's directorial has been jointly backed by Red Chillies Entertainment and Marflix Pictures.

With Shah Rukh leading the cast, 'King' also includes Suhana Khan, Abhishek Bachchan, Jaideep Ahlawat, Abhay Verma, and Arshad Warsi in crucial roles, along with others.

'King' is scheduled for a theatrical release on December 24th this year.

SHANAYA KAPOOR ON HAVING A WORKING BIRTHDAY: A NICE WAY TO BEGIN ANOTHER YEAR

Mumbai, Nov. 2:



Actress Shanaya Kapoor will be having a working birthday this year. She will be spending her special day promoting her upcoming series 'Student of the Year: After Dark', along with juggling her other work commitments.

Talking about working on her birthday, Shanaya said that although she would love to spend some time with her family, she feels working is a nice way of entering a new year.

Speaking about this, Shanaya shared, "I think there is something really special about being busy doing what you love, especially on your birthday. Of course, I would love to spend some time with my family and friends, but I am genuinely excited about everything happening professionally right now. It feels like a nice way to begin another year."

Actress Kareena Kapoor cheered Shanaya for her upcoming show, 'Student of the Year: After Dark', as she penned a lovely wish for her on her birthday.

Bebo wrote on her Insta Stories, "Happy birthday to the lovely Shanaya. Good luck for your new show... Looks too good. (sic)".

Sonam Kapoor added, "Happy happy birthday, darling... wishing you the best year ahead! So excited for all that's coming your way, especially Student of the Year: After Dark! Love ya!"

Talking about 'Student of the Year: After Dark', the show has been directed by Reema Maya and produced by Karan Johar.

Marking her OTT debut, the project will show Shanaya in a double role. It is set to premiere exclusively on JioHotstar on 13th November.

Over and above this, Shanaya's promising lineup also includes 'Zombie Reddy 2 – NXT LVL', which marks her Pan India debut. Directed by Suparn S. Varma and created by Prasanth Varma, the drama will also feature Teja Sajja and Upendra in pivotal roles, along with others.

'Let us safeguard democracy – let us end anarchism'

Rahul Gandhi Can Never Become Prime Minister: Amit Shah

At Hyderabad padayatra, Home Minister offers special Parliament session and accuses INDIA bloc of shielding infiltrators.

Highlights

- Amit Shah challenges Rahul Gandhi to debate SIR in Parliament.
- Shah accuses INDIA bloc of protecting infiltrators and opposing voter verification.
- Telangana Congress faces allegations over corruption and the controversial "RR Tax" claim.



Hyderabad, November 2:
Munsif Bureau

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday challenged Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to debate the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Parliament, saying the government was ready to convene a special session. Addressing the BJP's 'Save Democracy, Remove Anarchy' padayatra in Hyderabad, Shah accused the Congress-led INDIA bloc of protecting infiltrators and opposing the removal of bogus voter registrations. He claimed Rahul Gandhi could become Prime Minister only in a mock Parliament. Shah also accused Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of turning the State into a Congress funding source, alleging an 'RR Tax'. The march began at Basheerbagh and concluded at Moazzam Jahi Market, passing through Abids. BJP leaders G Kishan Reddy, Bandi Sanjay Kumar and N Ramchander Rao participated.

Revanth Reddy Pushes Clean, Traffic-Free Hyderabad

CM orders stricter waste collection, wider Green Tanker services and plans for signal-free corridors.

Hyderabad, Nov 2:
Munsif Desk

CM A Revanth Reddy on Monday directed officials to take steps to make Hyderabad cleaner and ease traffic congestion, stressing regular garbage clearance, drinking water conservation and improved road infrastructure.

During a review meeting with municipal officials at his Jubilee Hills residence, he instructed them to ensure daily door-to-door waste collection and continuous monitoring, warning against negligence. He also called for special arrangements to remove construction debris and better waste management in industrial areas.



The Chief Minister directed officials to stop using drinking water for construction, gardening and park maintenance, and promote treated wastewater supplied through Green Tankers. The service was launched on November 1, with reports citing 28 tankers linked to 19 sewage treatment plants, although a PTI report put the initial deployment at 21. He asked officials to expand the service across GHMC, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri limits.

On traffic, Revanth Reddy sought plans for underpasses and elevated corridors to create a signal-free system and reduce waiting times for commuters.

MP Vem Narender Reddy and senior municipal and HMDA officials attended the meeting.

Father Strangles Five-Year-Old Son to Death in Borabanda

Hyderabad, Nov 2:

A five-year-old boy, Vijay, was allegedly strangled to death at his home in Shilpinagar, Borabanda, on Sunday night.

Police identified the accused as Vidyasagar, 36, reportedly the mother's live-in partner, who allegedly fled after the incident. The boy's mother, Durga, returned from catering work on Monday morning and found him dead.

Police registered a murder case under Section 103(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and shifted the body for post-mortem examination. A search is underway for the accused.

Ponguleti Orders Joint Surveys to Settle Land Boundary Disputes

Hyd, Nov 2: Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has directed Revenue and Forest Department officials to conduct joint field surveys to resolve long-pending boundary disputes and protect farmers' interests.



At a review meeting held at the State Secretariat on Monday, the Minister called for district- and mandal-level committees with representatives from both departments to coordinate the exercise.

He instructed officials to use modern technology and scientific methods for accurate land demarcation and obtain the consent of local farmers and residents before beginning surveys.

Ponguleti stressed that the process should not cause inconvenience or financial loss to citizens.

He said the government's wider land reforms aim to ensure transparency and accuracy in land records and provide lasting solutions to disputes that have remained unresolved for decades.

Recent state plans also include technology-based resurvey using DGPS, rovers and GIS.

Telangana, AWS to Train One Lakh Students in AI

Government plans tie-up with Amazon Web Services; access to over 900 digital courses for one year

Hyderabad, November 2: The Telangana government will provide free training in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning, Cloud Computing and other emerging technologies to one lakh students across the State under a new initiative launched in partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS).

The Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK) and AWS signed an agreement on Monday at the State Secretariat in the presence of IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu.

The programme will cover students from 643 TASK-affiliated colleges, with no financial burden on students, colleges or the government.

Training will include AI, Cloud Computing, Data Engineering, Machine Learning and Generative AI.

Students will receive one-year free access to more than 900 AWS Skill Builder courses, hands-on learning, certification discount vouchers, industry interactions and hackathons.

Faculty training and job fairs for eligible programme completers are also planned to help students strengthen their skills and improve their employment opportunities.

CONGRESS CANDIDATE SEEKS EXTENSION OF GRADUATE VOTER

Hyd, Nov 2: Congress candidate Sama Ram Mohan Reddy has urged Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C Sudarshan Reddy to restore the CEO Telangana website and extend the deadline for graduate voter registration.

During a meeting on Monday, he submitted a representation stating that technical problems had made the portal inaccessible since Sunday, disrupting applications ahead of the November 6 deadline. He sought an extension equal to the period of the website outage to ensure eligible graduates are not deprived of registration.

Meanwhile, election authorities have clarified that Form-18 applications can also be submitted offline to designated officials or sent by post. No extension had been announced.

GUF, Japan Institute Sign Research Pact

Agreement targets cancer research, healthy ageing and AI-driven healthcare innovation.



Hyderabad, November 2: Hyderabad, November 2: Global University Foundation, branded as the Global Institute for Research and Innovation, has formalised a partnership with Japan's Systems Biology Institute through an agreement signed on November 1 during SBI President Hiroaki Kitano's visit. The collaboration, begun in August 2025, will focus on computational oncology, AI-based cognitive care for older adults, and multi-omics research into biological ageing. The partners plan academic exchanges, joint research, training and grant proposals to support GUF's research ecosystem in Hyderabad.

EIPL Enters South Hyderabad with Two Projects

Treasure Trove offers private estate-style homes, while Orbis is planned as a 10.5-acre apartment community in Tukkuguda.

Hyderabad, November 2: EIPL Group has expanded into South Hyderabad with two residential projects, Treasure Trove and Orbis, in Tukkuguda. Treasure Trove offers private villa-style estates, while Orbis is a 10.5-acre gated apartment community comprising 899 homes. The developer has also established a regional office in Tukkuguda to strengthen engagement with homebuyers and partners. The expansion builds on EIPL's residential portfolio in West Hyderabad and reflects its plans to establish a long-term presence in the southern corridor.



Student Organisations Stage Protest over LLB Student's Suicide

Hyderabad, November 2: Student organisations staged a protest outside the Government General Hospital on Monday, demanding a thorough investigation into the death of Dekkali Chandrakala, a 30-year-old second-year LLB student of Satavahana University. She was found hanging in her hostel room on Sunday. Protesters alleged negligence in hostel supervision and sought accountability from university authorities. They demanded ₹20 lakh compensation and a government job for one family member. Police assured them of a comprehensive investigation, following which the agitation was withdrawn. The post-mortem was completed and the body handed over to her parents. The exact circumstances remain under investigation.

Groundwater Levels Plunge to Alarming Levels in Ranga Reddy District

Hyderabad, November 2: Groundwater levels in Ranga Reddy district have declined sharply, raising concerns over summer water shortages.

The Groundwater Department's October 2026 report recorded an average depth of 12.75 metres below ground level, compared with 6.14 metres a year ago.

All 27 mandals recorded a year-on-year decline, while 19 received deficient rainfall. Of 84 monitored wells, 79 recorded falling levels and two showed improvement.

Separately, the government has classified 18 mandals as drought-affected, including five severely affected. Experts have called for borewell regulation and rainwater harvesting to conserve groundwater.

Expo concludes successfully in Hyderabad; Promotes Communal Harmony

Hyderabad, November 2: The three-day exhibition "Beyond The Divide – Countering Hate, Building Harmony", organised by Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, Greater Hyderabad, concluded at Nampally Exhibition Grounds on Sunday, attracting thousands of visitors. The exhibition showcased Muslim contributions to India's heritage through historical documents, interactive displays and 3D holographic presentations. It also addressed misconceptions about Islam and promoted communal harmony. At the concluding session, speakers, including Prof. Mohammed Salim Engineer and retired IAS officer Akunuri Murali, stressed mutual respect, constitutional values and peaceful coexistence.



Poultry Industry Seeks ₹110 Price Benchmark

Hyderabad, November 2: Poultry breeders and industry leaders from across India met at Novotel, Shamshabad, to discuss chicken price fluctuations and rising feed costs. The meeting, involving AIPBA, PIBCC and state associations, agreed to work towards a minimum live-chicken price benchmark of ₹110 per kg. Leaders attributed recent price declines largely to seasonal demand changes. They also sought duty-free imports of non-GMO maize to ease feed costs amid supply concerns. Rising maize prices, driven by weather-related crop pressures and ethanol demand, have affected poultry producers.

Army Recruitment Rally from Nov13

Hyd, Nov 2: The Indian Army will conduct an Agniveer recruitment rally from November 13 to 24 at GMC Balayogi Athletic Stadium, Gachibowli, for eligible candidates from all 33 districts of Telangana.

Recruitment will cover General Duty, Technical and Tradesman categories (10th and 8th pass). Candidates who have received admit cards must report with all original documents specified in the 2027 recruitment notification. The Army warned candidates against touts and agents promising selection for money, stating that recruitment is fully automated and merit-based.

Railways Announce 6,501 Vacancies for Inter & Graduate Candidates

Hyd, Nov 2: The Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) have announced 6,501 vacancies for intermediate and graduate candidates. These include 1,688 undergraduate and 3,548 graduate NTPC posts, along with 1,265 Station Master vacancies. Application deadlines are November 13 for undergraduate posts, November 6 for graduate NTPC posts and November 25 for Station Master positions. Selection involves computer-based examinations, followed by applicable skill or aptitude tests, document verification and medical examinations.

Two Engineering Students Drown in Malkaram Quarry

Hyd, Nov 2: Two engineering students, Rohit (18) and Sayan (18), drowned in a water-filled quarry pit at Malkaram in Jawahar Nagar on Sunday. The two, part of a group of five friends from Yapral, entered the water to retrieve plates that had slipped in while they were washing them after lunch. Their friends' rescue attempts failed. Jawahar Nagar police alerted the Disaster Response Force (DRF), whose personnel recovered both bodies after a search operation.

Hyderabad Egg Donation Racket: 43 Women Rescued

Hyd, Nov 2: Police have uncovered an alleged interstate illegal egg donation racket, rescuing 43 women and arresting nine people. The network, allegedly led by Amit Sharma, recruited financially vulnerable women from several states, promising ₹20,000 to ₹30,000 per donation cycle. Women were housed in rented premises before being referred to fertility centres. Police seized hormonal injections, medicines and documents during raids.

Printed by MOHAMMED ABDUL JALEEL **Published by** MOHAMMED ABDUL JALEEL on behalf of DERA LEASING & CONSTRUCTION COMPANY **Printed at** Dera Leasing Printing Press, H.No. 5-9-62, Khan Lateef Khan Estate, Opp. Fateh Maidan Club, Hyderabad, Telangana. 500001 **Published at** 1-8-588, Azamabad, Musheerabad, Hyderabad, Telangana – 500020. **Editor:** MOHAMMED ABDUL JALEEL
RNI No. 27675 | Ph: +91-9100600276 | Email: digital@munsifdaily.com, munsifdigital@gmail.com | Website: www.epaper.munsifdaily.com