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Cyclone Murasu: Warangal Collector Warns Low-Lying Areas
Statewatch, Page 3



India Leads Growth, Poverty Reduction: PM Modi
Nation, Page 4



Trump Threatens Sweeping Vetoes if Democrats Win Congress
Horizons, Page 5



India Face New Zealand in World Cup Build-Up
Sports, Page 7

IN BRIEF

US Strikes Iran Amid Diplomatic Talks

US officials reportedly confirm limited strikes on Qeshm Island as Trump keeps diplomatic options open and Iran warns of retaliation. P5

Rice Trade Crackdown: 11 FIRs Registered

Inspections across Hyderabad and Rangareddy expose alleged short-weighing, inflated prices and PDS rice diversion; 18 trading entities face legal action. P8

Revanth Pushes Cleaner, Congestion-Free Hyderabad

CM orders daily garbage collection, expansion of recycled water tankers and plans for signal-free roads to tackle Hyderabad's civic challenges. P8

Collector Orders Faster Navodaya Campus Construction

Nizamabad Collector Ila Tripathi directs timely completion of Kaligote Navodaya campus, ensuring quality infrastructure, student safety and essential facilities. P4

Glenn Maxwell Bids Farewell to International Cricket

Australian all-rounder retires after 14 years, two ODI World Cup triumphs and unforgettable performances, but will continue playing in the Big Bash League. P7

Cyclone Murasu Crosses Andhra Coast, Causes Widespread Damage

Thousands evacuated as 120 kmph winds uproot trees, damage power networks and inundate coastal villages.

Munsif Desk, Amravati:

Severe Cyclonic Storm Murasu unleashed widespread destruction across coastal Andhra Pradesh on Tuesday, uprooting thousands of trees, damaging electricity networks, inundating agricultural fields and disrupting transport as authorities launched relief and restoration operations.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) confirmed that the cyclone crossed the coast near Ongole in Prakasam district between 3:30 AM and 5:30 AM, with sustained winds of 100–110 kmph, gusting to 120 kmph.

Prakasam, Bapatla, Palnadu and Guntur districts reported significant damage. Hundreds of electricity poles were uprooted, fishing boats were damaged, and fallen trees blocked roads. Power outages and communication disruptions compounded difficulties for residents.

Heavy rainfall flooded low-lying areas. Kothapatnam in Prakasam district recorded 16.4 cm of rain, followed by Naguluppalapadu with 11.4 cm and Chirala in Bapatla district with 10 cm.

Thousands of people were moved to safer locations as disaster response teams assisted evacuation and relief efforts. Authorities prioritised clearing roads, restoring electricity and reaching vulnerable coastal communities.

By Tuesday afternoon, Murasu had weakened into a cyclonic storm while moving north-northwestwards. At 2:30 PM, it was centred about 40 km west-northwest of Bapatla, with winds of 80–90 kmph, gusting to 100 kmph. Further weakening into a deep depression was forecast by midnight. India Meteorological Department+1

Authorities warned that rainfall and strong winds could continue despite the cyclone weakening. Fishermen were advised against entering the sea until Wednesday morning.

Officials continued assessing damage to houses, crops, fishing equipment and public infrastructure.

The number of households awaiting electricity restoration, total agricultural losses and compensation requirements remained unconfirmed. Restoring essential services, reopening blocked roads and ensuring safe access to affected villages remained the immediate priorities.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 120 kmph Wind Gusts
- Thousands of Trees Uprooted
- Electricity Networks Badly Damaged
- Fishing Boats Suffer Damage
- Coastal Farmland Underwater

Supreme Court Sets January 21 Hearing on Waqf Act

Petitioners get fresh opportunity to challenge disputed provisions; earlier interim protections remain in force.

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday scheduled January 21, 2027, for hearing constitutional challenges to the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, while directing all parties to complete their pleadings by December 31.

A bench comprising Justices M.M. Sundresh and P.B. Varale also permitted applicants previously treated as intervenors to file independent writ petitions within two weeks.

The decision allows wider consideration of objections concerning Waqf property rights, institutional administration and community representation. Around 135 petitions had earlier been converted into intervention applications.

The court's September 2025 interim order remains significant. It suspended the five-year Islam-practice requirement pending appropriate rules and stayed provisions empowering officials to alter Waqf property records following government ownership inquiries.



US Strikes Iran's Qeshm Island, Raising Hormuz Tensions

Washington: Limited US strikes raise fresh tensions over security in the Strait of Hormuz. American forces carried out limited strikes on Iran's Qeshm Island in the strategically important Strait of Hormuz on Monday, according to US officials speaking anonymously.

One official described the operation as defensive, targeting Iranian forces allegedly using surface-to-air missiles against American military assets.

Another said the strikes did not signal a return to major combat operations.

Iranian state media reported several explosions on the island, while the Pentagon referred questions to US Central Command, which had not publicly confirmed the operation.

Casualties and damage remained unverified. The incident raised concerns over regional security, shipping routes and global energy supplies.

Telangana Renews Maharashtra Talks on Tummidihatti Barrage

Revanth Reddy seeks fresh talks with Maharashtra over land submergence and proposed increase in barrage height.

Hyd: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday directed irrigation officials to continue negotiations with Maharashtra over the proposed Tummidihatti barrage, offering compensation for lands likely to be submerged.

At a review meeting attended by Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, he instructed officials to prepare detailed submergence reports and share existing agreements and technical documents with Maharashtra.

Telangana also expressed willingness to deposit compensation funds in a joint account and allow Maharashtra to conduct an independent submergence survey. The state proposes increasing the barrage's water level from 148 to 152 metres to improve irrigation capacity.

The project aims to support irrigation across 5.85 lakh acres in seven districts. However, Maharashtra's concerns over land submergence and environmental implications remain unresolved. No final interstate agreement or construction clearance has been announced.

Telangana Orders Survey of Ten Lakh Acres in Dispute

Joint exercise across 35 constituencies aims to resolve decades-old revenue and forest land conflicts affecting farmers.

Hyderabad: Telangana Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has ordered a joint survey of over 10 lakh acres involved in long-standing disputes between the Revenue and Forest Departments.

The exercise covers nearly 35 Assembly constituencies, particularly in the erstwhile Adilabad, Khammam, Warangal and Mahabubnagar districts.

During Monday's review meeting, the minister directed officials to use modern technology and scientific methods to identify boundaries and reconcile conflicting land records.

Joint committees at district and mandal levels will coordinate surveys, while disputes requiring policy decisions will be referred to the state government.

The minister stressed that farmers and landowners should not suffer because of departmental disagreements.

However, the government has not announced a detailed survey timetable or procedures for objections and appeals. The survey itself will not automatically determine ownership or settle individual property claims.

Hyderabad Airport Records 442 Wildlife Strikes Since 2023

Hyd: Rajiv Gandhi International Airport recorded 442 wildlife strikes between January 2023 and August 2026, raising concerns over aircraft safety and waste management around the airport.

According to Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) data obtained through an RTI application, incidents increased from 101 in 2023 to 114 in 2024 and 133 in 2025. Another 94 were recorded through August 2026.

Birds, bats, rabbits and reptiles were among the wildlife involved. Of the reported incidents, 276 occurred during landing or approach.

An IndiGo aircraft recently suffered minor damage following a bird strike but landed safely. Airport authorities have introduced wildlife surveillance, protective fencing, insect traps and vegetation management.

However, roadside garbage dumping around Shamshabad remains a concern.



Every Deleted Vote Must Be Accounted For: Uttam Kumar Reddy

Hyderabad: Telangana Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy demanded accountability over alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

He said deleting eligible voters' names without proper justification threatened democratic rights and demanded written explanations, fair hearings and immediate restoration of wrongly removed names. The Minister urged the Election Commission to investigate allegations transparently and ensure citizens did not suffer because of administrative errors.

Praising Rahul Gandhi's campaign for voting rights and efforts to unite INDIA bloc parties, Uttam expressed confidence in his leadership and potential to become Prime Minister.

He vowed to continue opposing wrongful voter exclusions.

Food Prices Bite Harder as Inflation Fears Mount

New Delhi: Rising prices of grains, chicken, milk and other essentials are putting fresh pressure on household budgets, particularly among lower- and middle-income families. India's food inflation reached 7.74% in September, while overall retail inflation stood at 5.54%, according to official data.

Poor monsoon rainfall and water shortages have threatened winter crop planting, raising concerns over future supplies of wheat, pulses and vegetables

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves
Governance, development, welfare and districts shaping the State

Warangal Collector Urges Residents in Low-Lying Areas to Remain Alert as Cyclone Murasu Threatens Heavy Rain



24-hour control room set up at District Collectorate; toll-free helpline 1800 425 3424 made available for emergency assistance

Munsif News Bureau
Warangal, Nov 03:

In view of weather warnings issued by the Meteorological Department over the possible impact of Cyclone Murasu, Warangal District Collector Dr Satya Sharda has directed officials to take precautionary measures to ensure public safety.

During a late-night teleconference with senior district officials, the Collector reviewed preparedness measures to tackle the possibility of heavy rainfall and its impact on the district.

She urged residents of low-lying areas to remain alert, warning that heavy rain could cause flooding in vulnerable locations. Officials were instructed to identify flood-prone areas in advance and put necessary safety arrangements in place.

The Collector also directed authorities to restrict public movement near tanks, water bodies, streams, drains and other rainwater channels.

She stressed the need for continuous monitoring of water levels and weather conditions to respond promptly to emergencies.

Emphasising coordination among departments, Dr Sharda asked officials to remain on high alert and ensure the availability of staff and emergency services round the clock.

A special control room has been established at the District Collectorate to provide 24-hour assistance.

Residents can contact the toll-free number 1800 425 3424 to report emergencies or seek help.

The Collector appealed to people to monitor weather and flood conditions, avoid unnecessary travel during heavy rainfall and strictly follow advisories issued by the district administration. She directed officials to give top priority to protecting lives and property.

Heart-Like Organs Found Near Mahabubabad Bypass

Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

Organs resembling a human heart and liver were found lying on the roadside near Chinna Vangara bypass in Mahabubabad district, triggering panic among local residents.

After noticing the organs, locals immediately alerted the police. A police team rushed to the spot and examined the organs found along the roadside.

Police are investigating whether the organs belong to a human or an animal. The possibility of a crime, including murder, is also being examined in case they turn out to be human organs. Officials are gathering details and further information is expected after a thorough examination to establish their identity and origin.

Naini Rajender Reddy Calls for Kakatiya University Development, Seeks Support for Sarvotham Reddy



Munsif News Bureau
Warangal, Nov 03:

Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy said the state government was giving priority to the development of Kakatiya University and resolving issues faced by its employees and students. He appealed to graduates to support Congress candidate Ram Reddy Sarvotham Reddy in the Graduate MLC elections.

He was speaking at an interaction meeting with university employees, students and intellectuals at Kakatiya University. Graduate MLC candidate Sarvotham Reddy, MLAs Revoor Prakash Reddy, K.R. Nagaraju and Gandra Satyanarayana Rao, MLC Baswaraju Saraiah and other prominent leaders attended.

Naini Rajender Reddy said proposals for the university's overall development had been submitted to the government and its issues raised in the Assembly. He added that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was expected to visit the university before November 19. He described Sarvotham Reddy as an educated candidate capable of effectively representing education-related issues.

Other leaders highlighted the need to fill vacant posts, address the problems of contract and outsourcing employees and improve university infrastructure. They also referred to the government's plans for developing Warangal through better roads, bridges and an airport.

Sarvotham Reddy said he was a gold medallist from Kakatiya University and held two master's degrees from the United States. He said he had travelled nearly 14,000 kilometres since his candidature was announced, meeting graduates and understanding their concerns.

Highlighting staff shortages, he said only 77 employees were working against 489 sanctioned regular posts, leaving 332 vacancies. He assured that he would raise the issues of university employees, students and teaching staff independently if elected to the Legislative Council. He also recalled the public service of his father, Tiger Damodar Reddy, and sought graduates' support.

Mahesh Kumar Goud Questions BJP Silence Over Alleged Voter List Irregularities

Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud criticised the BJP for its silence over concerns regarding the deletion of eligible voters' names during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. He said the Election Commission must ensure that no eligible citizen is deprived of the right to vote.

Reacting to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Hyderabad, he questioned the BJP's 'Save the Nation, Save Democracy' campaign, saying the party should first respond to allegations of irregularities in electoral rolls. He said Amit Shah should have explained the Centre's contribution to Telangana before addressing a public meeting.

Mahesh Kumar Goud sought answers on central funds, employment, farmers' welfare, the Kazipet Railway Coach Factory, Bayyaram Steel Plant, national project status for irrigation schemes and Telangana's share in central taxes and grants. Alleging discrimination against the State in fund allocation, he demanded a white paper on financial assistance provided by the Centre.

Rejecting the BJP's allegations over 'RR Tax', he claimed that the party was trying to occupy the political space left by the weakening BRS and alleged an understanding between the two parties. He also questioned the BJP's prospects in the next general elections and criticised the previous BRS government for increasing the State's debt and promoting family-based politics.

CEO Directs Collectors to Ensure Transparent Completion of SIR-2026

Munsif News Bureau
Medak, Nov 03:



Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy has directed all District Collectors and election officials to complete the Special Intensive Revision (SIR-2026) of electoral rolls transparently and in accordance with Election Commission guidelines.

During a video conference with District Collectors, District Election Officers and other officials, he reviewed the progress of the revision process, pending matters and preparations for publication of the final electoral rolls. Medak Collector Pratima Singh participated from the Integrated District Offices Complex.

The CEO instructed officials to carefully verify details of voters listed under the Absent, Shifted and Dead (ASD) category and ensure that no eligible voter was deleted without proper verification and supporting evidence. He stressed that reasons for every proposed deletion must be documented and objections and explanations submitted by voters duly considered.

He also directed officials to expedite applications received under Forms 6, 7 and 8 relating to new enrolments, objections to entries and corrections or changes in voter details. All decisions must be supported by written, reasoned orders, while notices, service records and verification documents should be properly maintained.

Sudarshan Reddy said voters issued notices must be given a fair opportunity to submit their explanations. He directed officials to complete the notice issuance, verification and disposal of claims and objections by November 26, 2026, ahead of the publication of the final electoral rolls on November 30.

Medak Student Wins State-Level Best Parliamentarian Award

Munsif News Bureau
Medak, Nov 03:



District Collector Pratima Singh congratulated and felicitated Aarti Chandra, a student of Telangana Model School in Shankarampet-R mandal, for winning the Best Parliamentarian Award at a state-level Mock Parliament programme.

A total of 66 students from 33 districts participated in the event held at the SCERT Godavari Auditorium in Hyderabad. Aarti represented Medak district as Deputy Speaker and secured the top position by demonstrating an excellent understanding of democratic principles and parliamentary procedures.

She received the award from State Samagra Shiksha Joint Director Madan Mohan at the award presentation ceremony. Felicitating her at her chamber, the Collector said such programmes help develop awareness of democracy and parliamentary practices among students and prepare them for future leadership roles.

She encouraged Aarti to continue working hard and aim for a state-level top rank in the Class 10 examinations. The Collector also felicitated her guide teacher and PGT Lingamiah, the school principal, and social forum representatives Narsimhulu and Ravi Babu for their contribution to her achievement.

District Education Officer Raju, AMO Sudarshan Murthy, teachers and others were present.

Nirmal Collector Reviews School Facilities During Surprise Visit to Mudhole

Munsif News Bureau
Mudhole, Nov 03:



Nirmal District Collector Bhuvnesh Mishra has urged teachers to focus on the academic progress of every student in government schools and make continuous efforts to provide quality education.

On Tuesday, the Collector made a surprise visit to the Mandal Parishad Primary School in Mudhole and reviewed its academic activities and administrative arrangements. He inspected the school premises and directed officials to take necessary steps to demolish the dilapidated building. He said efforts would be made to construct additional classrooms in its place.

The Collector also enquired about the number of students and teachers. Interacting with Class V students, he advised them to attend school regularly and encourage their classmates who were absent to come to school. He explained simple methods of solving mathematics problems, asked students to solve questions and conducted an exercise in reading English words in reverse order.

Impressed by the students' intelligence and abilities, he encouraged them and distributed pens as prizes to several students. He also expressed satisfaction with the teaching methods and students' academic performance, urging teachers to continue their efforts with the same dedication.

District Medical and Health Officer Bhojana, Tahsildar Srilatha, MPDO Lok Kumar, DLPO Lakshman, Sarpanch Shabana Begum Ijazuddin and other officials and staff were present.

3,500 Quintals of Paddy Damaged in Karimnagar

Munsif News Bureau
Karimnagar, Nov 03:

Around 3,500 quintals of paddy brought by farmers for sale were damaged due to heavy rain at the agricultural market yard in Gopalraopet village of Ramadugu mandal in Karimnagar district. The affected farmers expressed deep concern over the losses and urged the authorities to provide justice and take steps to compensate them for the damaged paddy.

Alleged Encroachments on Karimnagar Main Market Land Raise Concern

Munsif News Bureau
Karimnagar, Nov 03:

Allegations of illegal constructions on municipal land at Karimnagar Main Market have raised concerns over the protection of government property.

Local corporator Sardar Ravinder Singh alleged that around 2 acres and 18 guntas of land in the area belonged to the Karimnagar Municipal Corporation, but unauthorised constructions were being raised on portions of the property. He urged the concerned municipal authorities to conduct a comprehensive survey, verify the original land records and establish the ownership of the disputed portions.

He also demanded that strict legal action be initiated against those found responsible for encroaching upon municipal land and that the corporation's property be protected.

AIMIM Distributes Salar-e-Millat SSC Model Test Papers Among Narayankhed Students



Munsif News Bureau
Narayankhed, Nov 03:

AIMIM Karwan MLA and Sangareddy district incharge Kausar Mohiuddin, along with Narayankhed AIMIM president Advocate Mueed Patel, distributed SSC All-in-One model test papers among Class X students at ZPGHS Girls School in Narayankhed.

The model papers were provided by the Salar-e-Millat Education Trust as part of its annual initiative. Addressing the students, Kausar Mohiuddin expressed happiness over their performance in SSC examinations and said the initiative aimed to provide better educational opportunities to Urdu-medium students and help them build a bright future.

He urged students to pursue their studies with dedication and hard work to achieve success and reach higher positions in life.

Former Nanal Nagar corporator Mohammed Nasiruddin, AIMIM leaders Shaik Amjad, Mujeeb Khan, Habeeb Abdullah, Shaik Fayyaz and Ahad Patel, Headmaster Yadava Reddy, teachers Mohammed Mannan and Mohammed Pasha, other staff members and a large number of students were present.

The programme was organised to motivate students ahead of the SSC examinations and help them prepare effectively through the model test papers.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Speaks

People, civic issues, communities and developments from across Telangana

Nizamabad Collector Orders Speedy Completion of JNV Campus Works

Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Nov 03:



Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi on Tuesday inspected the construction site of the new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya campus at Kaligote in Jakranpally mandal and directed officials to speed up the works while maintaining quality standards.

The Collector reviewed the progress of construction and assessed the facilities being developed for the institution. She enquired about the work completed so far and asked officials whether they were facing any hurdles. Officials informed her that all necessary permissions, including those from the Forest Department, had been obtained and that there were no major issues.

Stressing the importance of completing the prestigious educational institution within the stipulated time, she said all facilities required by students must be ensured. She examined the blueprints for classrooms, dormitories, a dining hall, a library, separate hostel buildings for boys and girls, and staff quarters.

She instructed engineering officials to ensure proper accommodation and teaching facilities for students, teachers and other staff. Local revenue officials were directed to issue necessary permissions without delay for the storage of sand and morrum required for construction, in accordance with the rules.

The Collector also stressed that drinking water under Mission Bhagiratha, road connectivity and electricity should be provided on time. She directed officials to construct a compound wall, giving priority to the safety of students.

Armur Sub-Collector Abhigyan Malviya was instructed to visit the site at least once every two to three weeks and submit progress reports. Concerned officials accompanied the Collector during the inspection.

Telangana Commercial Taxes Revenue Rises 22% in October

Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

Telangana's Commercial Taxes Department recorded a 22 per cent increase in overall revenue in October compared to the corresponding month last year, driven mainly by higher GST and VAT collections.

GST revenue stood at Rs 4,593 crore in October, up 17 per cent from Rs 3,914 crore in the same month last year. VAT collections, largely from petroleum products, increased by 31 per cent to Rs 3,065 crore from Rs 2,342 crore, registering a rise of Rs 723 crore. Professional tax revenue also increased by five per cent, from Rs 76 crore to Rs 80 crore. The department's total revenue rose to Rs 7,738 crore in October from Rs 6,332 crore a year ago, marking an increase of Rs 1,406 crore. During April-October of the current financial year, overall revenue reached Rs 52,113 crore, up Rs 7,515 crore or 17 per cent compared to the corresponding period last year.

An official said a special drive launched in July to curb tax evasion had yielded positive results. Around 1,000 fake registrations were cancelled and two persons were arrested as part of the campaign. The department was also taking steps to recover arrears, identify reasons for revenue shortfalls and prevent tax evasion.

With the creation of additional divisions, efforts to identify tax evasion and revenue leakages had been accelerated. State GST officials were also monitoring businesses under the jurisdiction of Central GST authorities to prevent losses to the State's revenue.

Telangana's Commercial Taxes Department recorded a 22 per cent revenue growth in October, collecting Rs 7,738 crore against Rs 6,332 crore last year, mainly due to higher GST and VAT collections.

CEO Announces Fresh Voter List Schedule for Two Graduates' Constituencies



Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy said the Election Commission of India had announced the schedule for the de novo preparation of electoral rolls for the Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda and Mahabubnagar-Rangareddy-Hyderabad Graduates' constituencies.

November 1, 2026, has been fixed as the qualifying date. The last date for submitting applications in Form 18 is November 6, while draft electoral rolls will be published on November 25. Claims and objections can be filed from November 25 to December 10, and the final electoral rolls will be published on December 30.

Clarifying doubts among voters, the CEO said Form 18 applications could also be submitted during the claims and objections period from November 25 to December 10. Applications can further be filed from the date of final publication on December 30 until the last date for filing nominations for the respective graduates' constituencies.

Livestock Corporation Chairman Warns Harish Rao Against Making Allegations

Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

Livestock Corporation chairman Charan Kaushik Yadav has cautioned BRS leader Harish Rao to exercise restraint while making remarks against Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and the Congress. He said Harish Rao would face a strong response if he made false statements, while people would take his views seriously if he

spoke on the basis of facts. Charan Kaushik Yadav alleged that the Kaleshwaram project was taken up instead of constructing the Pranahita-Chevella project at Tummidihatti, resulting in drought conditions in Adilabad. He also alleged that the Kaleshwaram and Kalwakurthy projects were pursued for political reasons and accused the previous BRS government of making misleading claims about the progress of the Palamuru project.

He further alleged that the KCR family benefited from commissions in the name of irrigation projects, while the people of Telangana suffered. He said the Revanth Reddy government was taking necessary measures to tackle the impact of El Niño and implementing special measures in 111 drought-affected mandals.



Questioning the Centre's response to the severe drought in Telangana, he asked why the State had not received assistance. He also questioned why Harish Rao had not raised the issue during Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Telangana. Charan Kaushik Yadav urged the BRS leader to present facts rather than make allegations.

Dasoju Sravan Alleges Government Failure in Tackling Drought in Telangana

Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

BRS MLC Dr Dasoju Sravan accused the Telangana government of failing to tackle drought conditions, alleging that water-dependent industries were facing closure due to water shortages. Addressing a media conference at Telangana Bhavan on Tuesday, he claimed that Andhra Pradesh had secured 750 TMC of Godavari water and 50 TMC of Krishna water.

Criticising Amit Shah's Hyderabad visit, he questioned why the Union Home Minister had not addressed Telangana's drought situation. He also accused the Congress and BJP of indulging in political drama and demanded a CBI probe into the alleged 'RR Tax'. Sravan further alleged that the Centre was protecting Chief Minister Revanth Reddy despite corruption allegations and criticised the State police administration.

Health Minister Reviews Hospital Construction, Cancer Care Facilities

Munsif News Desk
Hyderabad, Nov 03:

State Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha has directed officials to speed up the construction of government hospitals and strengthen cancer treatment facilities across Telangana.

At a review meeting in Jubilee Hills, officials informed him that construction of nine hospital buildings had been completed, 14 more would be ready by December and another 11 by March 2027. The Minister directed officials to install medical equipment and furniture in completed buildings and make them operational immediately. He also instructed them to complete all ongoing works by the end of next year.

The Minister said the government aimed to provide at least 90 per cent of medical services within respective districts. He highlighted recent recruitment of doctors, nurses and technicians, including 1,616 specialist doctors, and directed hospital authorities to ensure quality treatment and make advance arrangements for water and electricity in view of the El Niño impact.

In a separate meeting, he reviewed cancer treatment services at MNJ and NIMS hospitals and district chemotherapy centres. Stressing early screening and improved treatment, he called for strengthening cancer identification and record-keeping following the government's decision to declare cancer a notifiable disease and launch a cancer registry and portal. Senior health officials and cancer specialist Dr Nori Dattatreyudu attended the meetings.

Nizamabad Trust to Provide Scholarships to 25 Meritorious Muslim Students



Munsif News Bureau
Nizamabad, Nov 03:

The Peoples Welfare Educational Trust, Hyderabad, has announced scholarships for economically disadvantaged Muslim students studying in Class VIII in Nizamabad. The initiative was discussed at a consultative meeting held at Knowledge Park International School on Bodhan Road, attended by prominent educationists and intellectuals.

Dr Usman, a noted principal and agricultural scientist from Hyderabad, attended as the chief guest and explained that 25 students would be selected every year for scholarships of Rs 5,000 each. Students from both Urdu and English-medium government and private schools will be eligible. Selection will be based on a written examination.

Hafeezuddin Yunus, another guest from Hyderabad, said the initiative was not merely an examination but an important step towards the educational advancement of children. He added that plans were being made to organise career development programmes with the support of local leaders and well-wishers.

Knowledge Park International School Director Syed Mujeeb Ali stressed the need to encourage talented and hardworking students from economically weaker sections, particularly those studying in Urdu-medium schools. Journalist Ahmed Ali Khan assured his support, observing that investment in education was a guarantee of a brighter future for the community.

Ijazullah Khan said talented children needed proper guidance, while Faseehuddin offered suggestions for conducting the screening test successfully. Yusuf Ali Ansari spoke about the present condition of private schools. Syed Ahmed Bukhari, correspondent of Mahwar, welcomed the initiative. Abdul Hafeez, Ahmed Abdul Haleem, Telangana Jamaat-e-Islami Hind secretary, and Abdul Rahman Dawoodi, assistant professor and city nazim of Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, Nizamabad, also shared their views.

The date of the written examination and further details will be announced later.

Medak POCSO Court Sentences Man to Three Years' Rigorous Imprisonment



Munsif News Bureau
Medak, Nov 03:

A fast-track POCSO court in Medak has sentenced a 25-year-old man, Golla Madhu, to three years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs. 20,000 for sexually harassing a minor girl and attacking her brother with a stone.

According to District Superintendent of Police D.V. Srinivas Rao, the incident occurred in November 2024 when the 16-year-old girl was walking towards an IKP centre. Madhu allegedly caught hold of her hand, pulled her and made inappropriate advances. When she raised an alarm, he let her go. After the girl's brother questioned Madhu about the incident, the accused allegedly attacked him on the head with a stone, causing injuries.

Based on a complaint from the family, Shankarampet-R police registered a case and investigated the matter. The police collected evidence and submitted it before the court. Special Public Prosecutor M. Balia presented the case, following which Fast Track POCSO Court Judge R.M. Subhavalli sentenced the accused to three years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 20,000.

The SP appreciated the efforts of the investigating officer SI A. Narayana, the public prosecutor and other police personnel involved in securing the conviction. He reiterated that strict action would be taken against those harassing women and minor girls and urged victims to approach the police without fear.

Gadwal Collector Calls for Transparent Land Resurvey, Advises Farmers on Dry Crops

Munsif News Bureau
Gadwal, Nov 03:



District Collector Rizwan Basha Shaik said the government was undertaking a comprehensive land resurvey to protect government lands and resolve land disputes. He stressed that the process must be conducted transparently and in accordance with prescribed rules.

On Tuesday, the Collector inspected the resurvey work on the outskirts of Jalpuram village in Manopad mandal. He directed officials to conduct surveys impartially in the presence of both parties concerned to avoid disputes over boundaries and prevent inconvenience to neighbouring farmers. Village sarpanches were asked to cooperate with the survey teams and coordinate with officials to address any doubts. He also advised officials to make effective use of licensed surveyors.

Farmers from nearby villages met the Collector and raised various issues. In view of the weak rainfall due to the El Niño effect, he advised farmers to focus on dry crops during the Rabi season. He said the limited water available in the district's reservoirs would have to be preserved for drinking water needs until the next monsoon, leaving little possibility of releasing water for irrigation. Farmers were advised to cultivate crops only if they had access to well water and avoid cultivation if no water facility was available.

The Collector also encouraged farmers to utilise employment guarantee works and consider dairy farming as an additional source of income. During his inspection of the nearby RDS canal, he cautioned farmers against depending on Tungabhadra water for cultivation, as the available water was limited.

He said works worth Rs 1 crore could be taken up in every gram panchayat under the employment guarantee programme. Officials were directed to undertake water conservation activities on a large scale under the Jalaseeri programme of the VB-G RAM G scheme, including farm ponds and other water-harvesting structures. He said farmers and labourers could benefit by making full use of employment guarantee works, particularly when agricultural activities were limited.

The Collector further instructed officials to remove thorny bushes along canals and take up desilting of distributary and feeder channels under the employment guarantee programme.

Sarpanch Nandini, Surveyor AD Nooka Raju, Tahsildar Mansoor Ali Siddiqui, Deputy Tahsildar Ramulu, RI Gururaju, Surveyor Aliyath and others accompanied the Collector.

NATION | India's Politics, Policies & People.

Politics, economy, society and developments shaping the na-

At a Glance

Delhi Destroys 4,500 kg of Unsafe Food Stock in Two Months

IANS
New Delhi , Nov. 3

Delhi Health Minister Pankaj Kumar Singh on Tuesday directed the Food Safety Department to intensify inspections after more than 4,500 kg of unsafe food stock was destroyed in two months in Delhi.

The stock included 3,440 kg of khoya, chaap and makhan, 658 kg of paneer and 139 kg of expired products, a government statement said. The department collected 429 samples: 307 enforcement and 122 surveillance samples.

Checks were conducted in Hastsal, Vikaspuri, Budella, Najafgarh, Bhogal and Shiv Vihar, with Delhi Police teams involved. Special drives targeted paneer, khoya, ghee, sweet manufacturers, dairies and fast-food units.

Singh called for year-round vigilance, timely sampling and laboratory tests, and strict action against violations. He said food adulteration would not be tolerated.

Supreme Court Questions States' Delay on Prison Discrimination

Senior officials face possible summons as court demands compliance with orders against caste-based discrimination.

Munsif Desk
New Delhi, Nov. 3

The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed serious concern over 23 states and Union Territories failing to submit information on measures against discrimination in prisons.

Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Manmohan gave authorities a final opportunity to respond, warning that chief secretaries and senior officials could face personal summons.

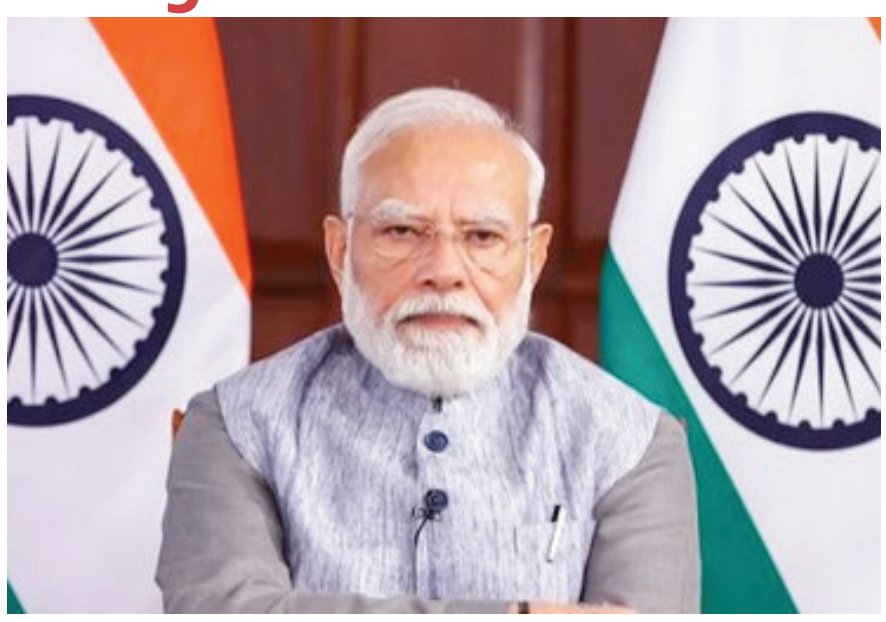
The case follows the October 2024 judgment prohibiting caste-based segregation and discriminatory prison rules.

States must report changes to prison regulations and the establishment of district-level Boards of Visitors.

The next hearing is scheduled for January 13, 2027. Telangana's compliance status remains unconfirmed.

India is fastest growing economy, also reducer of poverty, says PM Modi after inaugurating Pune Metro Line 3

IANS
Pune, Nov. 3



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said India was the world's fastest-growing economy and was reducing poverty at a rapid pace, as he virtually inaugurated Pune Metro Line 3 and laid the foundation stone for the city's second-phase metro network.

Modi said India was attracting global attention for its economic growth despite challenges. Citing a recent World Bank report, he said 50 crore people had been lifted out of extreme poverty. He added that funds earlier lost through leakages were now reaching beneficiaries directly, while public money was being invested in infrastructure to create jobs.

The Prime Minister inaugurated the 23.2-km elevated Pink Line connecting Maan/Hinjewadi, Pune's IT hub, with Shivajinagar District Court station. Built under the public-private partnership (PPP) model at a cost of more than Rs 8,300 crore, the corridor is expected to reduce travel time and ease traffic congestion.

Modi said the line would be operated entirely by women train operators, with 30 per cent of its electricity requirement met through solar power.

He also laid the foundation stone for Pune Metro Phase II, estimated to cost around Rs 13,500 crore. The expansion will connect residential and commercial areas, including Kharadi, Wagholi, Hadapsar, Swargate and Khadakwasla.

Recalling that he had laid the foundation stone for the first phase, Modi said the new corridor would improve access to Hinjewadi, while the proposed lines would strengthen links between older and newer parts of Pune.

He said metro expansion in tier-1 and tier-2 cities was essential to address urbanisation, improve ease of living. Integrated hubs connecting metro stations with bus terminals and railway stations would make travel more convenient, he added.

Describing Pune as a centre for IT, automobiles, pharmaceuticals, startups, innovation and manufacturing, Modi said better metro connectivity would boost the city's development, competitiveness and quality of life.

Modi said metro services, which operated in five cities before 2014, were now available in 26 cities. The network, he said, had grown from 248 km in 2014 to nearly 1,200 km, with more than one crore passengers travelling daily. He described India as having the world's third-largest metro network.

He also referred to the Rs 1 lakh crore Urban Challenge Fund to develop smaller cities as growth hubs, and called for cooperation between local bodies and the private sector.

Referring to drought conditions in Maharashtra due to scanty rainfall, Modi assured the state of the Centre's assistance in tackling the situation.

BANARAS WILL SMILE WHEN BJP IS GONE, TAUNTS AKHILESH YADAV; PROMISES METRO CONNECTIVITY IN VARANASI

IANS
Varanasi, Nov. 3



Samajwadi Party (SP) national president Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday thanked the voters of Graduates and Teachers' constituencies for ensuring a resounding victory of party nominees and promised to build a metro network in the holy city if his party returns to power in the state in the upcoming polls in 2027.

This was the SP supremo's first visit to the city after the recent Legislative Council elections, which resulted in a drubbing for the BJP candidates, despite Varanasi being the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Lok Sabha constituency.

After arriving in Varanasi today, he took a caustic jibe at the ruling party, stating that Banaras will smile only when the BJP is gone.

In a further swipe, he said that the people of Kashi delivered a message of 'double defeat' to the BJP in the Legislative Council (MLC) elections.

"Those who spoke of a double engine and double-speed development have been handed double defeat and double zero by the people of Banaras," he told the scribes mockingly.

The former UP CM also questioned the 'lawlessness' under BJP and raised an alarm over the potholed and waterlogged roads, questioning the sad state of affairs under the BJP government.

He also shared pictures of Kashi roads inundated with rainwater, apparently during his visit to the city and called out the BJP's promise of world-class development.

"If couldn't turn it into Kyoto, could have just put up a photo of Kyoto instead", he commented in a jeering post.

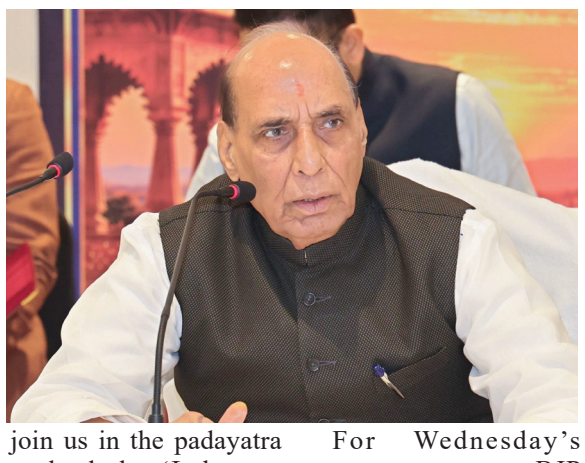
Speaking to reporters at the airport, he said that the victory of SP leaders Ashutosh Sinha and Lal Bihari Yadav in the Legislative Council elections has exposed the reality behind the BJP's tall claims and stated that their duplicity will be more visible in days to come.

Earlier, on his arrival in Kashi, his first after the stupendous victory for SP nominees in MLC elections, Akhilesh Yadav was given a grand welcome by party workers and supporters at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport.

A large number of workers, supporters and volunteers assembled at the airport to give him a red carpet welcome and also shout slogans, lauding his leadership.

Rajnath Singh to lead BJP's 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' march in Bhopal tomorrow

IANS
Bhopal, Nov. 3



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will lead the Bharatiya Janata Party's 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' padayatra in Bhopal on Wednesday, as the party steps up its campaign against the Congress over its stand on democratic institutions and constitutional processes, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said on Tuesday.

Singh's participation will mark the third major programme under the campaign in Madhya Pradesh after similar demonstrations in Indore and Jabalpur.

The Bhopal programme is expected to bring together senior BJP leaders, party workers and supporters from different parts of the state.

Welcoming the Defence Minister's visit, CM Yadav said Rajnath Singh would join the padayatra and lead the campaign in the state capital.

"Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is coming to Bhopal tomorrow to join us in the padayatra to lead the 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' campaign. On behalf of the state, I welcome and greet him," the Chief Minister said.

Notably, the central leadership of the ruling BJP has launched the campaign to counter the Congress's criticism of the Election Commission and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

In Madhya Pradesh, the campaign was held in Jabalpur on November 2 and before it in Indore on October 30, where the BJP organised large public marches with the participation of senior Union Ministers and party leaders from the state.

For Wednesday's programme, state BJP president Hemant Khandelwal and other senior party leaders have prepared an elaborate plan for the Bhopal padayatra, including arrangements for the participation of party workers and supporters from different areas. The state leadership is coordinating preparations to ensure the participation of leaders and organisational representatives in the programme.

Elaborate traffic and parking arrangements have been put in place for the event scheduled at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday at Atal Path, TT Nagar locality, in the capital town of Bhopal.

GUJARAT: 38 FAKE DOCTORS DETECTED IN 15-DAY STATEWIDE DRIVE, FIRS FILED AGAINST 35

IANS
Gandhinagar, Nov. 3

The Gujarat Health Department has identified 38 suspected fake doctors during a 15-day statewide crackdown on unauthorised medical practitioners, with FIRs registered against 35 of them, Minister Praful Pansheriya said on Tuesday.

The drive involved 298 teams formed by the department, which conducted inspections across all districts in coordination with local police, Crime Branch and Special Operations Group (SOG).

The operation was carried out under the supervision of Additional Chief Secretary (Health) Rajiv Topno and Health Commissioner Ratankanvar Gadhvi Charan.

Rajkot reported the highest number of cases, with 17 suspected fake doctors identified, followed by Surat with nine, Gir Somnath with three and Surendranagar with two.

"The remaining cases were reported from other areas, with one each, taking the total number of FIRs registered to 35," the minister said.

Pansheriya said district-level committees had also been constituted under earlier government directives to identify and take action against people practising medicine without recognised qualifications.

The committees use information from local informers to identify suspected practitioners and conduct raids.

The committees comprise the Taluka Health Officer, Medical Health Officer, police sub-inspector and head constable of the concerned area, a multipurpose health supervisor, a senior clerk from the taluka health office and the talati-cum-mantri of the village or area.

During the drive, officials also found that some suspected practitioners had shut their clinics and dispensaries and fled before the joint teams could reach them.

"The Health Department and police have continued searches and surveillance to trace them and initiate legal action," Pansheriya said.

He added that the campaign would continue after Diwali and the festive period, and appealed to citizens, non-governmental organisations and local representatives to report anyone suspected of practising medicine illegally without a recognised degree.

Complaints can be made to the nearest primary health centre (PHC), community health centre (CHC), police station or SOG.

The minister also urged people to seek treatment only from registered practitioners holding recognised qualifications, including MBBS, Ayurveda, Homoeopathy or other government-approved medical courses.

"Government hospitals, CHCs and PHCs provide free treatment, medicines and laboratory diagnostic tests," he said, adding that treatment by unqualified practitioners could cause permanent harm to patients and put their lives at risk.

BANK OF BARODA EX-MANAGER SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS IN JAIL IN CBI BRIBERY CASE

IANS
Lucknow, Nov. 3



A CBI court in Lucknow has convicted and sentenced former Bank of Baroda branch manager Subodh Kumar Rastogi to four years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 30,000 in a bribery case dating back to 2015, an official statement said on Tuesday.

According to the statement, Rastogi, who was serving as the Branch Manager of Bank of Baroda's Balrampur branch in Uttar Pradesh at the time of the offence, was found guilty of demanding and accepting illegal gratification from a borrower. The court delivered its judgment on November 2 after completing the trial.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had registered the case against Rastogi on October 26, 2015, based on a complaint filed by a businessman who had secured a loan of Rs 5 lakh from the bank for the expansion of his solar lights business.

The complainant alleged that while disbursing Rs 1.25 lakh as a term loan, the branch manager collected around Rs 25,000 under the pretext of chartered accountant fees, stamp paper charges and file processing expenses, the CBI said in the statement.

It was further alleged that after a cash credit limit of Rs 3.75 lakh was sanctioned, Rastogi demanded an additional bribe of Rs 25,000 and threatened to close the borrower's account if the payment was not made.

Acting on the complaint, the CBI laid a trap and caught the accused red-handed while allegedly accepting Rs 10,000 as illegal gratification from the complainant.

Following the investigation, the agency filed a charge sheet against Rastogi on December 18, 2015.

After examining the evidence and hearing the case from both sides, the court found him guilty and awarded the sentence, bringing the decade-old corruption case to a close.

CASE FILED AFTER INDIGO DELHI-PUNE PASSENGER TRIES TO OPEN EXIT COVER

IANS
Pune, Nov. 3

A passenger travelling on an IndiGo flight from Delhi to Pune allegedly attempted to open the emergency door lever cover shortly after takeoff, triggering an alarm on the aircraft, police said on Tuesday.

Following the incident, an IndiGo crew member lodged a police complaint against the passenger. Police have registered a case and initiated an investigation.

The accused has been identified as Gaurav Satyendra Rautela, 33, a resident of Saswad in Pune district. He was travelling on IndiGo flight number 6E6884 and was seated in seat 19D, next to the emergency exit.



Senior Police Inspector Govind Pawar of the Airport Police Station told IANS that during preliminary questioning, the passenger claimed that he had tried to open the lever cover out of curiosity and was unaware that it was connected to the emergency door.

As soon as he touched the cover, an alarm sounded inside the aircraft, alerting the crew.

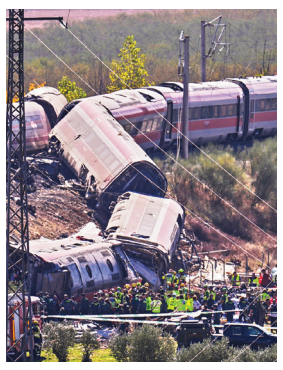
Pawar said that tampering with the emergency door mechanism could endanger the lives and safety of other passengers on board. He added that the alarm system is part of the aircraft's safety protocol and is designed to alert the crew in such situations.

The incident occurred around 12.45 a.m. on Monday, shortly after the flight took off from Delhi. The aircraft landed in Pune at around 2 a.m. Following the incident, IndiGo crew member Omkar Vinod Kulkarni lodged a complaint against the passenger.

Pawar also pointed out that a similar incident had occurred in 2024, following which police had registered a case.

Police have issued a notice to Rautela under Section 35(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). A case has also been registered against him under Section 125 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 25 of the Aircraft Act.

At a Glance



All 69 Victims of Spain Train Collision Identified

IANS
Madrid, Nov. 3

All 69 victims of the train collision in Urda, central Spain, have been identified, while 29 injured people remain hospitalised, authorities said.

The victims included 54 Spanish nationals and 15 foreigners: 40 men and 29 women, all adults. Fingerprint analysis identified 56 victims, while DNA testing identified 13. Families and consular offices have been informed.

Of the 110 patients initially admitted, 81 have been discharged. Nine of the 29 still hospitalised are in intensive care.

All carriages of the two trains, operated by Iryo and Renfe, have been removed from the tracks. Around 50 Civil Guard officers continue searching the accident site for human remains.

One Killed as Two Helicopters Collide in Nepal

IANS
Khatmandu, Nov. 3

One foreign national was killed and another person injured when Fishtail Air and Dynasty Air helicopters collided while landing at Pheriche Helipad in Nepal's Solukhumbu district at 8.15 am on Tuesday, an Armed Police Force officer said.

The injured person was airlifted to Lukla for treatment, local media reported. The identities of both people remain unconfirmed. Officials said the helicopters' rotor blades collided during landing. No fire broke out.

Police said the cause was not yet known and an investigation was under way. Further details, including the number of people aboard, were awaited.

US STRIKES IRAN'S QESHM ISLAND NEAR STRAIT OF HORMUZ



IANS
Tehran, Nov. 3

The United States attacked Iran's strategic Qeshm Island in the Strait of Hormuz, The Wall Street Journal reported, citing US officials.

The attacks, carried out on Monday (local time), were the latest in "a series of limited strikes Washington has secretly carried out against the country in recent weeks as President Trump touted the possibility of a diplomatic deal," the report said.

The United States has been conducting smaller-scale strikes against Iran for several weeks, with explosions reported on social media around Qeshm Island on Monday, according to the report.

Some US officials described the attacks as defensive operations aimed at preventing Iran from freely attacking commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, reports Xinhua news agency.

Unlike earlier in the conflict, the United States has not publicly announced the attacks, the report said. Washington has deliberately kept the campaign under wraps to avoid signalling any intention of resuming major combat operations, one US official was quoted as saying.

Trump said that he was "in no rush" to decide whether to resume military action against Iran. "One way or the other, we will do something, but there is no rush. We crippled them financially. They have no money, no gasoline, and their people are getting very tired of it," he said in a phone interview with Axios on Monday.

The US midterm elections are seen as a turning point for Trump as he decides whether to launch a major bombing campaign against Iran to try to bring the conflict to an end, Axios reported.

It added that the president appears to be pursuing two tracks simultaneously, allowing diplomatic efforts to continue while preparing to resume military action if he determines that a deal is out of reach.

"Oil Prices are dropping like a rock, down almost 10 US dollars a barrel, a record, because people feel that there will not be a war with Iran. Iran wants a settlement as soon as possible. It could happen," Trump wrote Monday in a post on Truth Social.

Iranian officials have warned that any new attack would trigger an unrestrained response. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, however, said Tehran remained willing to continue negotiations, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported.

TRUMP SAYS HE WILL 'VETO EVERYTHING' IF DEMOCRATS WIN CONGRESS

IANS
Washington, Nov. 3



President Donald Trump has said he will veto legislation if Democrats win control of Congress in Tuesday's midterm elections, and acknowledged that the Constitution bars him from seeking a third term, though he said he would "love to run again".

"I think we're going to do great. But if we didn't win, I veto everything. I'll be vetoing, vetoing," Trump told New York Post columnist Miranda Devine in an interview for the newspaper's "Pod Force One" podcast, released on Monday.

In a preview clip aired on Sunday, Trump said: "I guess I'll become Mr. Veto." He said that after "a month or two" of vetoes, Democrats would "come over and you make a deal".

Asked about a third term, Trump said: "I'd love to run again if I had the chance, but the language is very exacting. I would love to. They had a poll the other day where I'd beat everybody by so much. I'd have loved to run, but it's fine."

The 22nd Amendment to the US Constitution says no person shall be elected to the office of President more than twice. Trump, 80, won the presidency in 2016 and 2024.

"We have more than two years left. That's a long time. You can do a lot in that period of time, and you've seen the job we've done," he said.

Trump also said he was ready to issue pre-emptive pardons to people who worked for him if Democrats, after winning Congress, pursued investigations against them. "I would if I needed to, sure... I would not even think about it. I'd do it. I did it for J6," he said.

He dismissed polls showing Democrats ahead. "I think they're rigged. I think a lot of pollsters don't even send pollsters out," Trump said. "Maybe they don't poll Republicans, but I think we're gonna do pretty well. I do that based on the rallies."

Trump warned that if Democrats won the House, the Senate and later the White House, "our country is finished".

Most public polls have shown Democrats favoured to win the House. The final New York Times/Siena polls, released on Sunday, showed Democratic Senate candidates leading by five to 11 points in Kansas, Ohio, Maine, Texas and Michigan.

Under the Constitution, Congress can override a presidential veto only with a two-thirds vote in both the House and the Senate. Trump vetoed 10 bills in his first term.

YEMEN'S PLC CHIEF RESHUFFLES CABINET AMID BATTLEFIELD PRESSURE

IANS
Sanaa, Nov. 3



Yemen's Presidential Leadership Council (PLC) chief Rashad al-Alimi has reshuffled key cabinet and military posts as Houthi advances put government forces under growing pressure.

According to the government-run Saba news agency on Monday (local time), the reshuffle in Prime Minister Shaya al-Zindani's government appointed Salem al-Awlaki as information minister, Akram al-Amri as civil service and insurance minister, and Ahmed Saleh al-Awlaki as local administration minister.

Al-Alimi, who is also supreme commander of the armed forces, separately ordered changes to the high-ranking military leadership overseeing the Tur al-Bahah front in the southern province of Lahj, where government forces have been battling a Houthi push toward Aden.

The appointments come as fighting intensifies near the entrance to Tur al-Bahah district, about 80 km northwest of Aden, following recent Houthi advances through the mountainous Al-Maqatirah district in the same province. The push threatens strategic routes linking Aden and the southwestern province of Taiz and leading to the Bab al-Mandab Strait.

Meanwhile, the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen said in a statement on social media platform X on Monday that it had intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile and two drones launched by Yemen's Houthi group toward Saudi Arabia, without providing further details.

Recent weeks have seen escalating cross-border hostilities between the two sides, with Saudi strikes hitting Houthi-held areas in Yemen and the Houthis launching missiles and drones toward Saudi Arabia, reports Xinhua news agency.

Yemen has been mired in conflict since late 2014, when the Houthis seized Sanaa and much of northern Yemen, prompting a Saudi-led coalition to intervene in 2015 in support of the internationally recognised government.

SOUTH KOREAN POLICE PROBE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE DATA LEAK

IANS
Seoul, Nov. 3



South Korean Police said on Tuesday they have launched a formal investigation into the online leak of personal information belonging to 168 individuals, including President Lee Jae Myung, his wife and Cabinet ministers.

Earlier in June, a file titled "Passenger list (South Korea-Belgium)" was posted on a paid, security-related website, according to the Korean National Police Agency.

The file reportedly contained the personal information of 168 individuals, including Lee and his wife, key government officials, staff members of Cheong Wa Dae and the foreign ministry, members of the Presidential Security Service and journalists covering Cheong Wa Dae. The information is said to include their names in both Korean and English, affiliations, job titles, dates of birth, passport numbers, and passport issuance and expiration dates, Yonhap News Agency reported.

The website in question is a platform that allows users to scan files or web addresses for malicious code. Paid members and other users are reportedly able to download files uploaded to the platform.

After earlier opening a preliminary probe into the leak, police said they have switched to a formal criminal investigation.

Police suspect that the file, which contained information about individuals aboard the presidential aircraft during Lee's visits to Belgium, Italy and France in June, was uploaded to the platform in the process of being scanned for malicious code.

The file reportedly remained accessible for about five months after being uploaded on June 2, ahead of the presidential tour, but is now no longer accessible.

Cheong Wa Dae said it has taken responsive measures after becoming aware of the online information leak and the foreign ministry and other relevant agencies would carry out further actions.

The foreign ministry, which is also investigating the incident, separately reported the leak to the country's privacy watchdog on Tuesday.

An official at the Personal Information Protection Commission said the agency plans to verify details of the leak based on the report.

NORTH KOREA TESTS NEW CRUISE MISSILE WARHEAD AFTER CLUSTER BOMB TRIAL

IANS
Seoul, Nov. 3

North Korea has tested a "dispersal warhead" for a strategic cruise missile, state media reported on Tuesday, after cluster-bomb test.

The Missile Administration conducted the tests on Monday to assess the warhead's power and the missile's "vertical strike" capability, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said.

KCNA quoted the Warhead Institute as saying the warhead could destroy a target area of five to six hectares. The Cruise Missile System Institute said it had improved terminal manoeuvrability for vertical strikes, taking account of the target area's geographical features.

The Missile Administration director said developing weapons was urgent to defend the country and deter threats. The tests demonstrated North Korea's "practical combat power", he said.

Pyongyang has pledged to field various cluster warheads by year-end. It tested a cluster bomb for tactical ballistic missiles on Saturday.

Experts said the claimed vertical strike capability appeared aimed at hitting underground military facilities and tunnel entrances in South Korea, which are difficult to target horizontally or diagonally.

Shin Jong-woo, secretary-general of the Seoul-based Korea Defence and Security Forum, said the method could increase destructive power by allowing a missile to reach full speed before impact, using gravity.

South Korea's military said on Tuesday it remained ready to respond to North Korean provocations. Joint Chiefs of Staff spokesperson Capt. Jang Do-young said the military had precision-strike capabilities and relevant weapons systems, and maintained operational readiness.

US Midterm Forecast Projects Democrats Ahead in Key House, Senate Races

IANS
New Jersey, Nov. 3



A forecast brief issued by Psifos Advisory Group has projected Democratic candidates to lead in eight of 10 closely watched US election races, including five of seven Senate contests, both House races and the Georgia governor's race, as voting takes place in the midterm elections on Tuesday.

The Newark-based consultancy, a division of Gateway Group One, said Republicans were favoured in the remaining two Senate contests. Democrats were projected to lead in Texas, Ohio, North Carolina, Georgia and Michigan, while Republicans had the edge in Iowa and Florida.

The brief gives each race a call, the probability of an upset and the expected two-party vote share. In Iowa, Republican Ashley Hinson was projected to receive 51.3 per cent against Democrat Josh Turek. In Florida, Republican incumbent Ashley Moody was assigned 53 per cent against Angie Nixon.

Psifos said its model combines electoral fundamentals, polling data and analysis of online conversations across 12 platforms. Managing Partner Rahul Mehta said polls were weighted by quality, size and recency, with partisan lean taken into account. Online sentiment was treated as supporting evidence, not a substitute for votes.

Mehta said online data was excluded where activity was too one-sided for fair comparison. The group said it had set a test to assess whether hostile online campaigns affected candidates' vote shares, with predictions locked on November 2 and results to be evaluated after the election.

Managing Partner Kurus J Elavia said the methodology drew on 20 years of experience in digital democracy services. He acknowledged that the online-conversation component had no established track record. He cited limited polling in New Jersey's 7th district and no polling in Minnesota's 5th, noting that the brief disclosed these limitations.

The group said it would compare its forecasts with closely watched results after November 3.

PERSPECTIVE | Beyond the Headlines.

Context. Clarity. Consequence.

Govt proposes mandatory batch-release authorisation for drug manufacturers



The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Tuesday proposed changes to the Drugs Rules, 1945, aimed at enhancing accountability and traceability in pharmaceutical manufacturing by mandating the appointment of authorised personnel for batch release of drugs.

Under the proposed amendments, drug manufacturers seeking licences under the relevant provisions of the Drugs Rules, 1945, will be required to nominate a suitably qualified and experienced individual to undertake batch-release functions. Manufacturers will also have to maintain prescribed records related to the release of each batch and issue batch-release certificates in a specified format.

The ministry said the move seeks to address a regulatory gap in the existing framework.

While manufacturers are already required to provide details of competent technical staff responsible for manufacturing and testing activities, the current rules do not specifically require identification of the person authorised to approve batches for market release.

Batch release is a critical stage in the pharmaceutical manufacturing process, involving a comprehensive review of manufacturing records, quality control data and other relevant documentation before products are cleared for distribution.

The proposed amendments are intended to establish clear responsibility for batch-release decisions, improve traceability and strengthen oversight of product quality.

According to the ministry, the new requirements are expected to help drug manufacturers enhance compliance with applicable Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) while reinforcing the regulatory framework governing drug quality assurance.

The proposed amendments also introduce a formal format for a Batch Release Certificate, which would serve as documentary evidence that a batch has undergone the required review and meets prescribed quality standards before being released into the supply chain.

The Health Ministry has invited comments and suggestions from stakeholders and the public on the proposed amendments.

Objections or feedback can be submitted to the Under Secretary (Drugs Regulation), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, or sent via email to the designated address notified by the ministry. IANS

GEN Z PREFERS MORE TIME IN OFFICE THAN MILLENNIALS: REPORT



Generation Z employees prefer to work from the office an average of 3.4 days a week, more than millennial workers and slightly less than Generation X and Baby Boomers, a report said on Tuesday.

The report from Savills India said Gen Z office workers (those born between 1997 - 2012) also demand good Wi-Fi and to be located close to public transport connections, gyms and Pilates studios.

Generation Z deviated from the broader tendency for younger respondents to prefer fewer days in the office. Respondents across all generations currently report attending the office for approximately four days a week.

Younger millennials prefer to attend 3.2 days a week, compared with 3.3 days for older millennials. Generation X and Baby Boomers reported a preference for 3.5 office days a week.

Though Generation Z reported being in the office more frequently than older groups, the cohort still places significant value on work-life balance, with all Generation Z respondents saying this is 'moderately' or 'extremely' important, the report noted.

High-quality Wi-Fi is the most essential amenity across all age groups within the office, while public transport connections are more important to younger respondents, with access to meeting rooms ranking higher with age.

"As India's workforce evolves, organisations will need to consider how workplace design, reliable technology and connectivity can make office attendance more meaningful. Access to public transport and nearby lifestyle amenities will also be important considerations in shaping workplaces that respond to the expectations of younger employees," said Arvind Nandan, Managing Director, Research & Consulting, Savills India.

Generation Z respondents reported having the longest commutes, with 46 per cent travelling for 41 minutes or more, likely due to more affordable housing largely being located outside city centres.

Restaurants are the highest-rated local amenity across every age group in terms of

GOVT CAN SCRAP LTCG TAX WITH LIMITED FISCAL IMPACT: REPORT



The government could abolish long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax across investor categories even keeping its fiscal consolidation roadmap largely unaffected, as the resulting revenue loss is likely to be limited to Rs 40,000-50,000 crore in FY28, a report said on Tuesday.

The report from SBI Research estimated that eliminating LTCG tax would reduce government revenue by nearly 0.1-0.2 per cent of GDP, a level it said could be absorbed while keeping fiscal deficit targets broadly on track.

"We believe the government would be able to take this hit if hypothetically, the entire capital gains taxes were abolished," the report said.

It estimated LTCG collections at around Rs 1 lakh crore in FY26 and projected them to decline to Rs 40,000-50,000 crore in FY27.

Nearly Rs 1.3 lakh crore collected in FY25 reflected exceptional market conditions, as Indian equities delivered returns of around 30 per cent in the preceding year and prompted foreign investors to book gains.

However, the recent market environment is markedly different, with the Nifty's average return over the last three years at just 0.5 per cent and cumulative foreign institutional investor outflows at Rs 4.8 lakh crore.

The report also suggested changes to the broader capital gains tax structure and recommended raising the annual LTCG exemption threshold from Rs 1.25 lakh to Rs 2 lakh and linking it to inflation to provide more relief to retail investors.

The report also proposed lower tax rates for longer holding periods, suggesting that gains on investments held for two to three years could be taxed at 5 per cent, while assets held for over three years could attract zero LTCG tax.

It suggested that the existing 12.5 per cent rate could continue for investments held between one and two years.

"Term deposits, that have witnessed greater favor with savers with elevated rates attracting higher proportions, may witness a revenue foregone figure of Rs 10,500 crore if current tax treatment across maturity ladder is to be replaced by a simple flat 15 per cent rate across all maturity. Combined rev-

DISNEY EYES THOUSANDS OF JOB CUTS AS PART OF COST-SAVING OVERHAUL



Walt Disney Co. is considering a fresh round of workforce reductions as part of a broader effort to lower expenses with some managers being asked to identify annual cost savings of up to 20 per cent, according to multiple reports.

According to the reports, the decision comes as Chief Executive Officer Josh D'Amaro confronts a range of challenges facing the entertainment giant, including the increasing adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) across the industry, softer box office performance, heightened competition in the streaming market and slower growth in attendance at international theme parks.

The proposed restructuring would not affect all business units equally with some operations expected to shoulder a larger share of the reductions than others.

A portion of the savings generated through the initiative is expected to be redirected toward strategic growth areas, including film and television content, technology, theme park operations and Disney's expanding cruise business.

However, Disney did not immediately respond to requests for comment outside regular business hours, according to reports.

They did not specify the potential scale of the planned layoffs.

In addition, Disney employed approximately 231,000 people at the end of fiscal 2025.

The company has undertaken several rounds of workforce reductions in recent years as it sought to improve profitability and streamline operations.

Earlier in some reports in September said Disney cut several hundred positions across its human resources and technology divisions.

Earlier this year, the company reportedly eliminated around 1,000 jobs in April, following other workforce reductions in 2025.

Disney's cost-cutting efforts date back to a major restructuring programme launched under former CEO Bob Iger which included the elimination of about 7,000 roles and a target of $5.5 billion in savings.

The broader media and entertainment sector has also seen significant job reductions, with companies such as Netflix and Skydance which acquired Warner Bros.

Discovery earlier this year, implementing workforce cuts as they seek to manage costs and adapt to shifting industry dynamics.

Separately, US tech giant Amazon also has reportedly laid off around 250 employees in its devices and services division as the company aims to streamline operations and align staffing with product priorities.

The company confirmed the job cuts after employees were informed through early-morning emails and text messages, according to reports. IANS

INDIA'S POMEGRANATES, KIWI FRUIT EXPORTS HIT DUBAI MARKET



Fresh consignments of India's pomegranates and kiwi fruit exports have hit the Dubai market, opening new markets for the country's farmers, backed by the Centre's Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

APEDA has facilitated the export of 1.3 metric tonnes (MT) of Sinduri variety pomegranates from Himachal Pradesh's Kullu district and the trial export of 1.5 metric tonnes (MT) of kiwi from Arunachal Pradesh's Ziro to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), according to a Commerce Ministry statement issued on Tuesday.

The consignment of pomegranates, comprising 650 boxes of 2 kg each, was exported by Uttar Pradesh-based Amama Exports. The initiative connects local growers and a Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) with an exporter, creating opportunities for Himachal Pradesh's horticultural produce to access international markets. The pomegranates were sourced directly from local farmers and the Bhuntar FPO, which is associated with approximately 600 farmers. The Kullu district horticulture administration supported the initiative by facilitating procurement and coordination, the statement said.

The initiative demonstrates the role of direct procurement and collective participation through FPOs in strengthening market linkages for farmers. The export enabled participating farmers to achieve 50 per cent higher price realisation compared with the prevailing domestic market benchmark.

The Sinduri variety is among the pomegranate varieties grown in Himachal Pradesh, alongside Bhagwa and Kandhari. Known for its attractive red skin, juicy arils, and sweet-tart flavour, Sinduri pomegranates are suitable for fresh consumption and offer potential for export markets.

The trial export consignment of 1.5 metric tonnes (MT) of kiwi from Arunachal Pradesh successfully reached Dubai and was showcased at LuLu Hypermarket in Al Qusais. The initiative marks a step towards assessing the fruit's potential in international markets.

The initiative, undertaken under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), seeks to promote and strengthen Arunachal Pradesh's kiwi sector under the branding initiative "Kiwi: USP of Arunachal Pradesh". Implemented in collaboration with the state government, the initiative aims to introduce the state's kiwis to international markets, assess consumer response and develop stronger market linkages to expand export opportunities for local growers.

Arunachal Pradesh's high-altitude growing conditions and natural environment support the cultivation of kiwi with distinctive fruit quality and flavour. The state's produce offers potential in premium domestic markets, export promotion and value-added products. The major varieties grown in the region include Hayward, Monty, Allison and Bruno, with the Hayward variety showing good demand in international markets.

The initiative also seeks to connect local kiwi growers with potential overseas markets, creating additional sales channels and opportunities for improved farmer returns through future shipments. The trial export is expected to provide a basis for assessing market response and identifying requirements for expanding the presence of Arunachal Pradesh kiwi in international markets. IANS

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1st ODI: New Zealand challenge awaits India as World Cup preparations heat up

Auckland, Nov. 03:

India's preparations for the ODI World Cup 2027 are now entering a crucial phase as they gear up for a five-match ODI series in New Zealand, starting Wednesday here at Eden Park.

India's first match in the 2027 World Cup is only a little more than 11 months away, and their ODI series in New Zealand could offer conditions similar to those they can expect in early summer in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia for the global showpiece.

This series is crucial for both teams' preparations, but both are missing some key personnel. India are without Jasprit Bumrah and Hardik Pandya, while the Kiwis will be without Rachin Ravindra and Mark Chapman, and Devon Conway will miss the first ODI with concussion.

Speaking after the recent West Indies ODI series, India's ODI and Test captain, Shubman Gill, stated that there was not "much time to experiment" and that he wanted the World Cup combination settled. India are still identifying their bowlers for the global showpiece, as only Jasprit Bumrah looks to be in top form. With Hardik also unavailable, India are left to keep experimenting in the middle order.

Speaking ahead of the first ODI against New Zealand, Gill admitted that the team is open to experimenting at No. 5 and No. 6, although the "top four is set". He highlighted that Axar Patel could be used as a floater, or that KL Rahul could even be moved to No. 5.

He also wanted the ODIs to have been played before the recently concluded T20Is so that India could have fielded their best-choice team for all five matches. The visitors have pulled out some of their first-choice Test players for the fourth and fifth ODIs to let them prepare for the Test matches.

Meanwhile, New Zealand will also be without Rachin and Chapman, both of whom have been ruled out of the series with injuries, while Conway has a concussion after colliding with Matt Henry during training. Both teams have also named separate squads for the first three ODIs and the remaining two matches to give the Test players time to prepare for



the Test series.

The ODI series will also be crucial for Rohit Sharma, who has not scored an ODI hundred in New Zealand before. As he has done in the past, he would like to have a few more strong innings under his belt.

The match will be played on a different pitch from the one that hosted the fourth T20I between these two teams recently, in which New Zealand scored 259 in their 20 overs. That could make for a much more competitive contest between bat and ball.

When: November 4, 2026, 7:30 AM
Where: Eden Park, Auckland
Where to watch: The match will be shown live on the Sony Sports Network channels on TV, and live streaming is available on the Sony LIV app and website.

Squads:

New Zealand: Henry Nicholls, Will Young, Tom Latham (w), Daryl Mitchell, Glenn Phillips, Michael Bracewell, Mitchell Santner (c), Matt Henry, Jacob Duffy, Nathan Smith, Matthew Fisher, Blair Tickner, Tim Seifert, Kyle Jamieson

India: Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill (c), Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul(w), Nitish Kumar Reddy, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Anshul Kamboj, Mohammed Siraj, Arshdeep Singh, Gurnoor Brar, Naman Dhir, Auqib Nabi, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan

Alex Marquez undergoes right shoulder surgery and begins recovery

New Delhi, Nov. 03:

Alex Marquez has undergone right shoulder surgery and will miss the upcoming Qatar Grand Prix. The Gresini Racing rider confirmed the development on Tuesday through a social media post from a hospital in Madrid.

The surgery involved removing plates and fixation material from his right collarbone and left hand, along with an arthroscopic procedure on his right shoulder. Marquez said the operation was successful and his recovery had begun at home.

The Spaniard has been struggling with shoulder problems since a crash in May and hopes to return for the Portugal GP on November 22.

Marquez recently finished third in the Malaysian Grand Prix behind his brother Marc Marquez and Pedro Acosta, but crashed out of the sprint race despite starting from pole position.

He is eighth in 2026 with 197 points, compared to his runner-up finish with 467 points in 2025.

Glenn Maxwell Retires from International Cricket

Australian all-rounder bids farewell after a remarkable 14-year career, having played a key role in two World Cup triumphs

Sydney, Nov. 03:



Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has announced his retirement from international cricket, bringing the curtain down on a distinguished 14-year career. The 38-year-old last represented Australia during the 2026 T20 World Cup match against Oman, where he claimed two wickets but did not get an opportunity to bat.

Maxwell featured in 149 One-Day Internationals (ODIs), 130 T20 Internationals and seven Test matches for Australia. He was also part of the Australian squads that won the ODI World Cups in 2015 and 2023. Known for his explosive batting and ability to change the course of a match, Maxwell remained a key member of the national side across formats for several years.

One of the defining moments of his career came during the 2023 ODI World Cup, when he produced a remarkable double century against Afghanistan, guiding Australia to a memorable victory. He scored 3,990 runs in ODIs at an impressive strike rate of 126.7, while his T20I tally stood at 2,897 runs. Maxwell scored 10 centuries across international formats and claimed 136 wickets.

Maxwell had announced his retirement from ODI cricket in 2025 but continued to remain available for Australia's T20I side, featuring in the 2026 T20 World Cup. He also scored five centuries in T20 Internationals, underlining his reputation as one of the most destructive batters in the shortest format.

Although his international career has come to an end, Maxwell is set to continue playing in the Big Bash League (BBL), with another season for the Melbourne Stars on the cards.

Unfortunate that Grace Harris has gone at base price: Abhinav Mukund



New Delhi, Nov. 03:

Former India cricketer Abhinav Mukund has expressed surprise over Australian all-rounder Grace Harris being picked by UP Warriorz at her base price in the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2027 auction, saying the amount does not reflect her actual value.

Mukund felt Harris was unfortunate to lose her place in a championship-winning side despite an impressive season, following the return of Australian star Ellyse Perry. He said franchises have largely settled their overseas combinations, making it difficult for players like Harris to find a place.

Speaking to JioStar, Mukund said Harris deserved more than her base price and could have attracted a higher bid if other teams had sufficient funds. He described her as a valuable acquisition for UP Warriorz and expected her to return to the middle order, where her aggressive batting could strengthen the team.

UP Warriorz have also signed Australian all-rounder Sophie Molineux at the auction. The franchise will now look to balance its overseas combination alongside established players such as Meg Lanning, Phoebe Litchfield and Sophie Ecclestone.

Mukund also noted that Molineux could have commanded a much higher price had more teams been in a position to bid for her.

Abdul Samad to lead Pakistan in Rising Stars Asia Cup; Sadaqat, Hasan included

Lahore, Nov. 03:

Pakistan have named their squad for the 50-over Asia Cup Rising Stars tournament, as Abdul Samad will be leading the 15-man squad for the event that gets underway on November 19 in Qatar.

Samad was recently seen in action during the Hong Kong Sixes, the Asian Games final against India and during a T20I against Sri Lanka last month. He leads the batting line-up, which has the likes of Maaz Sadaqat and Hasan Nawaz, Haider Ali, Shahzaib Khan, Farhan Yousuf and Shamyl Hussain.

Hasan recently made a comeback to Pakistan's ODI squad for the recent tri-series and had also scored 96 against India in the Asian Games final. The fast bowling attack features Mohammad Hasnain, Ahmed Daniyal, Akif Javed, and Sufyan Moqim. Hasnain made his ODI debut in 2019 but played the last of his 15 ODIs in February 2025. Meanwhile, Moqim was part of Pakistan's squad for the Rawalpindi leg of the tri-series.



The squad mostly has players who have played international cricket before but is nowhere close to the first-choice ODI team, as expected, with this being the Asia Cup Rising Stars tournament.

Pakistan are in Group B along with India A, UAE and Nepal. They will begin their campaign against the UAE on November 20, followed by their clash against India A on November 22, before they round up their group stage by facing Nepal on November 25.

Pakistan are the defending champions of both the 50-over and the T20 Asia Cup Rising Stars. They beat India A to win the 2023 50-over continental showpiece in Colombo and defeated Bangladesh A to lift the T20 title last year in Doha.

Pakistan squad for Rising Stars Asia Cup: Abdul Samad (capt), Ahmed Daniyal, Akif Javed, Danish Aziz, Farhan Yousaf, Haider Ali, Hasan Nawaz, Maaz Sadaqat, Mohammad Hasnain, Mohammad Imran, Rohail Nazir (wk), Saad Masood, Shahzaib Khan, Shamyl Hussain, Sufyan Moqim

Manu Bhaker to contest for ISSF Athletes Committee for 2026–2030 term

New Delhi, Nov. 03:



India's double Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker has been nominated as a candidate in the Pistol category for the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Athletes Committee elections for the 2026–2030 term.

The elections will be held during the ISSF World Championships in Doha from November 3 to 13. Bhaker is among 10 candidates competing for two elected positions in the Pistol category. Eligible athletes participating in the championships will be entitled to vote.

Bhaker said athletes should have a stronger voice in decisions shaping the future of their sport. Her priorities include greater stability in competition rules, improved prize money and commercial opportunities, stronger athlete welfare systems and better mental health support. She also aims to promote a secure and confidential mechanism for addressing athletes' grievances.

A key focus of her agenda is safeguarding the Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol event and ensuring its long-term place in the Olympic programme.

The ISSF Athletes Committee acts as a link between athletes and the sport's international governing body, representing their concerns on rules, competition conditions and welfare.

Bhaker created history at the Paris 2024 Olympics by becoming the first Indian athlete in independent India to win two medals at a single Olympic edition. She secured bronze in the women's 10m Air Pistol and the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event alongside Sarabjot Singh.

IPL 2027: Punjab Kings hold the edge in race to seal Hardik Pandya trade deal

New Delhi, Nov. 03:

Punjab Kings (PBKS) have emerged as the frontrunners to sign Hardik Pandya from Mumbai Indians (MI) ahead of the November 17 retention deadline for IPL 2027.

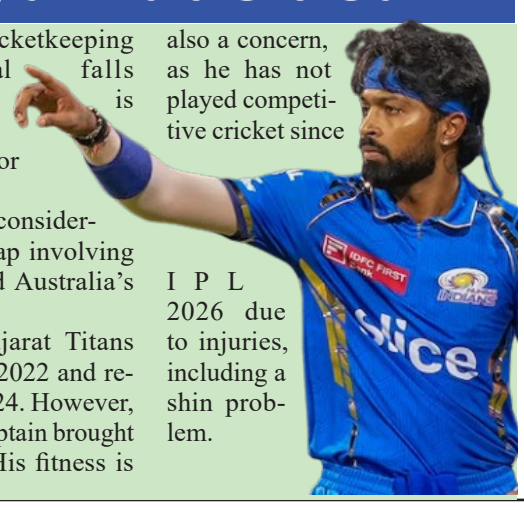
Kolkata Knight Riders, Rajasthan Royals and Lucknow Super Giants have also shown interest, but talks between PBKS and MI have reportedly advanced. Under the proposed deal, pacer Arshdeep Singh and wicketkeeper-batter Vishnu Vinod could move to MI in exchange for Pandya.

KKR's talks with MI stalled over the release of core players, while RR's proposed deal involving Yashasvi Jaiswal and Ravi Bishnoi has made little progress. LSG and Chennai Super Kings have also explored the possibility.

Pandya's arrival would strengthen the Shreyas Iyer-led PBKS, while MI would gain an experienced left-arm pacer and an additional wicketkeeping option. If the deal falls through, Pandya is reportedly willing to stay with MI for another season.

PBKS are also considering a separate swap involving Mohsin Khan and Australia's Marcus Stoinis.

Pandya led Gujarat Titans to the IPL title in 2022 and returned to MI in 2024. However, his tenure as MI captain brought limited success. His fitness is also a concern, as he has not played competitive cricket since IPL 2026 due to injuries, including a shin problem.



Afghanistan Rise to Sixth in ICC ODI Rankings, Surpass England and Sri Lanka

New Delhi, Nov. 03:



Afghanistan have reached a historic milestone in international cricket, climbing to sixth place in the latest ICC ODI rankings and moving ahead of former world champions England, Sri Lanka and West Indies.

The rise follows Afghanistan's dominant 4-0 victory over Ireland in their recently concluded ODI series. Since making their ODI debut in 2009, the Afghan team has steadily improved its performances on the international stage.

India continue to lead the ICC ODI rankings with 115 rating points, followed by New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan and Australia. Afghanistan occupy the sixth position, marking the highest-ever ranking in the team's ODI history.

RICE TRADE CRACKDOWN

RICE TRADE UNDER SCANNER: 11 FIRs, 18 Firms Face Action

Officials detect short-weight bags, inflated price labels and suspected diversion of ration rice across Hyderabad and Rangareddy.

Munsif News Desk, Hyderabad:

The Telangana Civil Supplies Department has registered 11 FIRs and initiated legal proceedings against 18 rice trading entities following inspections that uncovered alleged short-weighing, price manipulation and diversion of subsidised rice across Hyderabad and Rangareddy districts.

Acting on the directions of Civil Supplies Commissioner M. Stephen Raveendra, joint teams of the Enforcement Task Force and Legal Metrology Department inspected wholesale and retail establishments between October 29 and 31.

Officials found bags containing 25 kilograms of rice labelled as 26 kilograms, effectively charging customers for quantities they did not receive. Inspectors also detected inflated price stickers pasted over manufacturers' original maximum retail prices.



Several establishments allegedly operated without mandatory trade, GST, labour or FSSAI registrations. Suspected illegal storage and diversion of Public Distribution System (PDS) rice were also reported.

The FIRs were registered at Saroornagar, Jeedimetla and Alwal police stations. Officials said the violations were documented through photographs and videos. Prosecution under the Essential Commodities Act and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita could attract imprisonment of up to seven years, depending on the offences proved.

Separately, the government notified rice prices of ₹66, ₹74 and ₹79 per kilogram for three fine-rice categories, although traders reported difficulties obtaining stocks at compliant wholesale prices.

The available reports did not establish seizure quantities, individual FIR details or responses from accused traders.

Consumers can report suspected PDS irregularities through helpline 1967 or 1800-425-00333, retaining purchase receipts and packaging as evidence.

AT A GLANCE

- 18 trading entities face action
- 25kg labelled 26kg
- Original MRP stickers altered
- License violations detected
- PDS rice diversion suspected

Hyderabad Water Board Warns of Heavy Wastage Penalties

Fines up to ₹20,000 as Green Tankers deliver 11.07 lakh litres of recycled water for non-drinking purposes.

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

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.



₹6.78 Crore Fake Currency Factory Busted; Four Arrested

Hyd: Future City Police busted a counterfeit currency racket, arresting four persons and seizing fake ₹500 notes with a face value of ₹6.78 crore.

The arrests followed the interception of a car near Ramoji Film City on November 1.

Police subsequently raided a rented house in Kuntloor, recovering printers, a laptop, scanners and cutting machines allegedly used to produce counterfeit notes.

Investigators said the suspects also used forged police identity cards, walkie-talkies and a dummy pistol to intimidate and cheat victims.

Three more suspects remain absconding. Police are investigating the distribution network and whether counterfeit notes entered circulation.

Early Office Exits Amid Rain

Hyderabad: Cyberabad Traffic Police on Tuesday advised IT companies and other organisations to stagger employees' departures amid forecasts of moderate to heavy rainfall from November 3 to 5.

Companies have been asked to allow employees to leave in phases from 2 PM, preferably completing departures by 4 PM.

Work-from-home arrangements have also been recommended wherever feasible. The advisory aims to prevent severe traffic congestion, protect commuters and ensure uninterrupted movement of emergency vehicles.

Organisations should email their locations and proposed departure schedules to **cybtrcc@gmail.com** for traffic coordination.

Police clarified that these measures are advisory, not mandatory office closures.

No Silent Rejections: Poll Officials Told to Explain Voter Exclusions

Written reasons mandatory for rejected applications as officials tackle pending hearings, notices and voter registration forms across Hyderabad constituencies.

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharsan Reddy has directed election officials to issue written orders clearly explaining every rejection of voter applications during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). During a November 2 review, he instructed officials to verify supporting documents and clear pending Forms 6, 6A, 7 and 8.

Notice delivery delays were reported in Malakpet, Chandrayangutta, Sanathnagar and Amberpet, while hearings remained pending across 54 Assembly constituencies, including Goshamahal and Secunderabad Cantonment. The directions aim to ensure transparency and protect voters from unexplained rejection of applications.



Hyderabad Water Distruption Continues

Hyderabad Water Board completed repairs to major leakages in the century-old Gandipet conduit on Tuesday, ahead of Wednesday's 6 PM deadline.

The 36-hour shutdown affected Nampally, Mallepally, Red Hills, Asif Nagar, Ahmed Nagar, Domalguda and parts of Banjara Hills. Repairs were undertaken near Sabza Colony, Tolichowki and Manikonda.

Managing Director K. Ashok Reddy directed officials to ensure water supply restoration and arrange tankers wherever necessary.

Rotten Food, Pest Infestation at Sweet Shops ' Hygiene Lapses

Hyderabad: Food safety inspections across Hyderabad have exposed serious hygiene violations at sweet shops, prompting licence suspensions, closure orders and plans for wider enforcement.

Telangana Standards Authority for Food and Essential Drugs (TG-SAFE) detected rodent infestation, expired and mislabelled products, improper storage, dirty kitchens and licensing irregularities.

Earlier inspections covered establishments in Charminar, Falaknuma, Sanathnagar, Vanasthalipuram and Kattedan.

Officials suspended five food licences and seized or discarded 3,546.5 kg of food items worth ₹16.86 lakh.

TG-SAFE is now planning inspections of milk-product outlets and packaged-water units. Follow-up checks will determine compliance and further penalties.



TWO PATIENTS, ONE BED: Niloufer Hospital Survey Raises Concerns Over Patient Facilities

Survey exposes overcrowding, poor sanitation and alleged irregularities.

Hyd: A three-day survey at Niloufer Hospital has raised serious concerns over overcrowding, poor sanitation and alleged administrative irregularities.

The Progressive Youth League and Progressive Organisation of Women claimed pregnant women waited hours on chairs, while two or three patients sometimes shared a bed.

The October 27–29 survey also flagged overflowing toilets, inadequate drinking water and locked attendant rest facilities.

Activists alleged irregularities in medicine supplies, diagnostic services, outsourced appointments and expenditure.

Following a protest, the organisations submitted 12 demands to Superintendent Dr Vijay Kumar, seeking immediate improvements and an independent inquiry.

The allegations remain unverified, with no formal hospital response established.

HYDRAA Cracks Down on Illegal Water Trade

Hyd: HYDRAA sealed seven unauthorised borewells, demolished six water-storage sumps and seized tankers during a November 2 crackdown on illegal groundwater extraction in Tellapur, Sangareddy district.

Cases were registered against operators allegedly extracting groundwater for commercial sale without permission.

The operation followed complaints from residents concerned about declining groundwater levels, reckless tanker driving and threats to drinking water availability.

Officials said monitoring would continue to prevent unauthorised extraction. Residents welcomed the action but demanded permanent closure of illegal water supply operations near lakes and residential areas.

Graduate Voters Can Submit Form 18 After November 6

Election authorities clarify additional enrolment windows ahead of March 2027 Legislative Council polls.

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharshan Reddy on Tuesday clarified that eligible graduates can register as voters even after the initial November 6 deadline, addressing concerns over registration difficulties.

Applications through Form 18 will be accepted from November 25 to December 10 during the claims-and-objections period and again from December 30 until the last date for filing election nominations.

The clarification covers Mahabubnagar-Rangareddy-Hyderabad and Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Graduates' Constituencies.

Applicants must have completed graduation at least three years before November 1, 2026, and submit authenticated educational documents. Existing voters must also register afresh.

Applications can be submitted through Telangana CEO website or physically to designated election officials.

Draft electoral rolls will appear November 25, with final publication scheduled for December 30. Elections are due in March 2027.



Midnight Knife Attack Claims Life in Hyderabad's Old City

Another man critically injured; police investigate suspected personal rivalry.

Hyd: A 35-year-old man, identified as Syed Omer, was stabbed to death in Hafeez Babanagar under Kanchanbagh police limits around 3:45 AM on Tuesday.

Another man, Sayeed, sustained serious injuries while reportedly attempting to intervene and was hospitalised.

Police suspect a personal rivalry, while the victim's family alleged a possible property dispute.

Chandrayangutta ACP A. Sudhakar supervised the initial investigation. The body was shifted to Osmania General Hospital for postmortem.

Police are examining CCTV footage and questioning witnesses. Special teams have been formed to trace the attackers. No arrests were confirmed by Tuesday evening.

Shalibanda Clock Tower Crumbles, Heritage Safety

Hyd: A portion of the historic Shalibanda clock tower collapsed following rainfall early Saturday, raising serious concerns over public safety and heritage preservation in the Old City.

No injuries were reported, but residents warned that falling debris threatened pedestrians and traders along the busy road.



The century-old landmark, restored in 2023, had suffered extensive damage during a November 2025 showroom fire.

Residents alleged that authorities failed to undertake necessary repairs despite earlier inspections.

Heritage activists urged GHMC to conduct an immediate structural assessment and secure the damaged structure. Locals also raised concerns over its reported inclusion in Old City Metro land acquisition plans.

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