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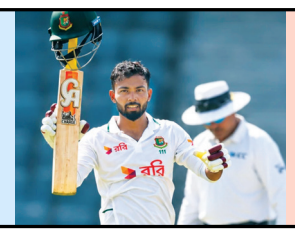
Warangal Police Warn Drunk School Bus Drivers of Action
Statewatch, Page 3



PM Modi Extends Diwali Greetings
Nation, Page 4



Trump Offers Democrats Talks on Immigration, Taxes
Horizons, Page 5



Towhid Hridoy Smashes Record 242 Against West Indies
Sports, Page 7

IN BRIEF

Cyclone Murasu Causes ₹1,919 Crore Losses

AP reports eight deaths and crop damage across 1.4 lakh hectares. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu orders urgent relief and restoration. P2

Centre Rejects Excess Ethanol Claims

Petroleum Ministry says all 56 Karnataka petrol samples met E20 standards, rejecting excessive ethanol blending claims. P4

Kiren Rijiju Visits Jeddah's Floating Mosque

Union Minister visits historic Al Rahmah Mosque during Saudi trip for Haj 2027 conference and bilateral talks on Indian pilgrims' arrangements. P5

Telangana Moves to Strengthen Fire Safety Laws

Telangana's Proposed fire safety amendments impose stricter penalties, including three-year imprisonment and ₹5 lakh fines for negligence causing death. P8

India Edge New Zealand in Rain-Hit ODI

India clinch four-run DLS victory despite batting collapse. Gurnoor Brar's four wickets secure 2-0 series lead over New Zealand. P7

Iran Removes 2,000-Km Missile Range Limit

Revolutionary Guard announces policy shift but provides no evidence of operational missiles exceeding previous restrictions.

Tehran (Munsif Desk): Iran's Revolutionary Guard announced on Saturday that it had lifted its self-imposed 2,000-kilometre limit on ballistic missile ranges, signalling a significant policy shift amid heightened tensions with the United States and Israel.

Speaking at a Tehran news conference, Revolutionary Guard spokesman Brigadier General Hossein Mohebbi confirmed that the restriction was no longer applicable. However, he provided no evidence that Iran currently possesses operational missiles exceeding the previous limit.

The announcement followed Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei's warning that threats against Iran would receive responses without geographical restrictions.

Iran's existing missile range already covers much of the Middle East, including the Arabian Peninsula, alongside parts of southeastern Europe.

While the declaration signals an expanded military posture, its practical implications remain uncertain without demonstrated longer-range capabilities.

The development adds to regional security concerns, particularly for Gulf countries, international shipping and energy markets, with potential implications for India's economic interests and expatriate communities.

Over 20,500 SIR Hearings Pending in Hyderabad

Goshamahal and Secunderabad Cantonment account for 76% of unresolved cases despite nearly complete notice delivery.

Munsif News Desk, Hyderabad:

Despite nearly complete distribution of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) notices, 20,559 cases remain pending for hearings in Hyderabad district, raising concerns over timely verification and protection of eligible voters' electoral rights.

District Election Officer and GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan disclosed the figures during an all-party meeting at GHMC headquarters on Saturday.

Goshamahal recorded the highest pendency with 8,720 cases, followed by Secunderabad Cantonment with 6,918. Together, these constituencies account for approximately 76 per cent of unresolved cases.

Bahadurpura reported 2,306 pending cases, Khairatabad 1,398, Sanathnagar 725, Secunderabad 471 and Karwan 21.

Eight constituencies — Musheerabad, Malakpet, Amberpet, Jubilee Hills, Nampally, Charminar, Chandrayangutta and Yakutpura — reported zero pendency.

Of the 12,54,917 notices generated, officials said 12,54,400 had been delivered, achieving 99.96 per cent coverage. Documents were collected or hearings attended in 12,33,841 cases.

The notices covered 5,82,217 cases involving unmatched electoral records and 6,72,700 involving identified anomalies.

While notice distribution has progressed substantially, the concentration of pending cases highlights the importance of completing verification and ensuring affected voters receive fair decisions.

Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharsan Reddy has directed officials to examine supporting documents carefully and issue reasoned orders wherever applications are rejected.

AT A GLANCE

- Eight constituencies report zero
- Only 517 notices remain undelivered.
- Final electoral rolls due November 30.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission has provided another opportunity for eligible voters omitted under the Absent, Shifted, Dead and Duplicate categories to seek inclusion. The additional verification process is scheduled for completion by November 21.

The revised final electoral roll publication date is November 30. Affected voters can approach their Booth Level Officer or contact helpline 1950 for assistance.

Gaza Rains Flood 70,000 Tents, Deepen Humanitarian Crisis

Displaced Palestinian families face harsh winter conditions amid critical supply shortages.

Gaza: Heavy rainfall flooded displacement camps across Gaza on Saturday, leaving thousands of Palestinian families struggling with damaged shelters, soaked bedding and worsening cold weather.

Gaza's Hamas-run government media office said at least 70,000 tents were flooded within 12 hours, although the figure remains independently unverified.

Civil defence officials reported more than 1,500 distress calls and warned that fuel shortages and damaged equipment were restricting emergency operations. Collapsing walls also caused injuries.

The United Nations had already identified an urgent need for approximately 121,000 additional tents before winter. Occupied Palestinian TerritoryPalestinian authorities accused Israel of restricting shelter materials. Israel's aid coordination agency did not directly address the allegation but said additional sewage-pumping vehicles had entered Gaza.



Russian Missile Barrage Disrupts Kyiv's Power Supply

Kyiv: Russian missiles and drones struck Ukraine overnight, severely damaging electricity infrastructure serving Kyiv and surrounding regions as falling temperatures increased risks for civilians.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russia launched 36 ballistic missiles and 172 drones. Ukrainian authorities reported at least two deaths and around a dozen injuries nationwide.

The Northern Bridge across the Dnipro River was damaged and closed, while electricity disruptions affected water and heating supplies.

Energy officials confirmed damage to substations transmitting power from two nuclear plants.

Emergency repairs were underway, but restoration timelines remained uncertain. Moscow said it targeted military-related, energy and transport facilities.

Five Arrested in Telangana Dharani Scam Probe

CID investigates suspected unauthorised changes to land ownership records following statewide searches.

Hyderabad (Munsif Desk): Telangana's Crime Investigation Department (CID) arrested five more persons in connection with alleged irregularities in the Dharani land records portal, taking the total arrests to nine.

Fifteen Crime Investigation Department teams searched premises linked to portal developers, operators and document writers across seven districts, including Hyderabad, Rangareddy and Medchal.

The five accused were produced before a court in Sangareddy district and remanded to judicial custody.

Investigators are examining suspected unauthorised logins and manipulation of land ownership records, using digital evidence gathered during a forensic audit.

The investigation raises concerns about landowners' rights, safeguards against unauthorised changes and procedures for correcting disputed records.

Telangana Govt Sanctions 4.5 Lakh new Aasara Pensions

Chief Minister to distribute sanction letters in Kodangal on Sunday; payments to begin this month.

HYD: The Telangana government has sanctioned 4.5 lakh new Cheyutha (Aasara) pensions ahead of Diwali, extending financial assistance to eligible beneficiaries across the state.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will formally launch the distribution of sanction letters in his Kodangal Assembly constituency on Sunday, November 8. Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka) will attend the programme.

The newly approved beneficiaries include widows, single women, persons with disabilities, handloom weavers and toddy tappers.

The Chief Minister will personally hand over sanction letters to selected recipients during the launch ceremony.

Across other districts, ministers, public representatives and government officials will distribute letters to beneficiaries.

Officials said pension payments for all newly sanctioned beneficiaries would commence in November, strengthening financial support for economically vulnerable households.

New Zealand Election Leaves Coalition Majority Uncertain

National-led bloc projected 67 seats. Majority requires 66 in 130-seat.

Wellington: New Zealand's general election produced an exceptionally close preliminary result on Saturday, leaving the next government's composition uncertain.

With approximately 97 per cent of results counted, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon's National Party and allies ACT and New Zealand First were projected to secure 67 seats.

Labour leader Chris Hipkins had not conceded defeat. Labour, the Greens and Te Pāti Māori were projected to hold 56 seats, while the Opportunity Party secured seven.

Hundreds of thousands of special votes remain uncounted and could change seat allocations. Official results are scheduled for November 27.



Hyderabad Police Warn Against Fake Paytm Diwali Gift Messages

HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar warned citizens on Saturday against fraudulent WhatsApp messages promising ₹1,000 as a Paytm Diwali gift. He said cybercriminals were circulating suspicious links alongside misleading claims that users had successfully received the money.

The commissioner advised people not to click unknown links, disclose banking details, passwords or OTPs, or forward unverified messages. Citizens should verify promotional offers through Paytm's official website or authorised channels. Victims of cyber fraud should immediately contact helpline 1930 or register complaints at cybercrime.gov.in to seek assistance and prevent further financial losses.

Two Arrested, 60 Kg Marijuana Seized

Hyderabad: LB Nagar Special Operations Team and Pocharam police arrested two men near Annojiguda in Ghatkesar on Saturday, seizing 60 kg of marijuana valued at ₹30 lakh.

Police identified the accused as Mohammed Amer, 28, and Mohammed Imran Uddin, 35.

Investigators said the consignment was being transported from Odisha to Mumbai through Hyd, concealed behind the car's rear seat.

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

Murasu damages crops across 1.4 lakh hectares in AP



Munsif Desk, Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Friday said the damage caused by Cyclone Murasu was estimated at Rs 1,919 crore, according to preliminary assessments.

Naidu reviewed the post-cyclone situation with officials late on Thursday and directed them to expedite relief and restoration work.

He stressed the need to ensure uninterrupted electricity and drinking water supply and repair damaged roads, while ensuring that farmers and residents faced no hardship following two consecutive cyclones — Arnab and Murasu.

"We will visit cyclone-affected areas in Bapatla and Guntur districts to assess the damage caused by Cyclone Murasu. Preliminary estimates have put the state's losses at around Rs 1,918.5 crore," Naidu said in an official press release late on Thursday.

At least eight people have died in cyclone-related incidents, officials said.

According to the preliminary assessment, agricultural crops were damaged across 1.4 lakh hectares, affecting over 1.8 lakh farmers. Horticultural crops suffered damage across 6,749 hectares, impacting 12,586 farmers.

The cyclone also damaged 983 houses, 346 boats and 220 fishing nets.

Officials informed the Chief Minister that an accurate assessment of crop losses would take another 48 to 72 hours after floodwaters receded.

Under the Andhra Pradesh Central Power Distribution Company Ltd (APCPDCL), 871 of the 1,103 affected 11-kV feeders have been restored, while 1,493 of the 3,946 damaged electricity poles have been repaired.

Rajgopal Reddy Demands Equal Funds for All

Munsif Desk, Nalgonda: Congress MLA from Munugode Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy has urged the State government to ensure equal allocation of funds to all constituencies, particularly underdeveloped areas such as Munugode. His demand comes after Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy laying foundation stone for development works worth Rs.9,000 crore in Kodangal.

"It is not my intention to suggest that development projects should not be sanctioned for Kodangal. But what sin have the people of Munugode committed? Why are we not receiving any funds?" Rajgopal Reddy asked.

The Munugode MLA was speaking at the retirement function of Sunkari Biksham Goud, former State president of the Progressive Recognized Teachers' union and headmaster of the MPP School in Munugode.

Addressing the gathering, Rajgopal Reddy said the Chief Minister and his Cabinet colleagues should treat all constituencies equally.

"You (Revanth Reddy) became Chief Minister through a stroke of good fortune.

I do not find fault with that. There is a strong desire to develop Munugode constituency, which suffers from the highest levels of fluoride contamination," he said. The Congress MLA said he had approached both the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka several times, seeking funds and development projects for Munugode.

I urge the government to recognise the needs of Munugode and other underdeveloped constituencies. Justice should be done to such constituencies," Rajgopal Reddy said.

He also said corruption was deeply entrenched in society. "If a leader is ethical, they can provide ethical administration to society.

If leaders engage in corruption, the poor in society will not receive justice," he stressed.

Rajgopal Reddy said the Congress was a party that stood for the poor, marginalised communities and weaker sections.

SSC Topper Lakshman Naik Felicitated by MLA Yennam

Mahbubnagar, Munsif Desk : Mahabubnagar MLA Yennam Srinivas Reddy felicitated Lakshman Naik, a meritorious student of Zilla Parishad High School (ZPHS), Veypoor, Hanwada Mandal, for securing the highest marks at the mandal level in the SSC examinations for the academic year 2025–2026. At a special ceremony held at the MLA's camp office, Srinivas Reddy presented the student with a shawl and congratulated him on his outstanding academic achievement.

On the occasion, the MLA presented Lakshman Naik with a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 and a special certificate of appreciation on behalf of Shriram Life Insurance. Expressing happiness and pride over the remarkable academic performance of the students of ZPHS Veypoor during the academic year 2025–2026.



The Military College of Electronics & Mechanical Engineering (MCEME), Secunderabad, organised an award distribution ceremony for 56 Officer Cadets of TES-48 and TES-50 courses at its Cadets Training Wing (CTW) here on Saturday.

Muslims Oppose Transfer of Raichur Waqf Land to Private Trust

Munsif Desk, Raichur: Muslims in Raichur have expressed serious concern over the alleged transfer of ownership of 1 acre and 11 guntas of Waqf land, comprising the historic religious institution Madrasa Sirajul Uloom, Masjid Noor Shah and a marriage hall located adjacent to the shrine of Syed Nooruddin Shah Qadri (RA), at Zaheerabad Circle in the heart of the city, to a private trust. Akbar Nagandi, a member of the District Waqf Properties Protection Committee, has demanded restoration of the land's Waqf status and stringent action against those allegedly involved in the transfer.

Addressing media persons at the Press Club, Akbar Nagandi alleged that the highly valuable Waqf property situated in the heart of the city had been fraudulently shown as agricultural land through forged documents and transferred in the name of Al-Kareem Education and Charitable Trust. According to him, the transaction was reportedly carried out around three months ago at the Sub-Registrar's Office in neighbouring Sarwar taluk instead of the Raichur Sub-Registrar's Office.

Expedite Khila Warangal Moat Development Works: Gundu



Munsif Desk, Hanamkunda Chairperson Gundu Sudharani has directed officials to expedite the development works of the moat at historic Khila Warangal and complete them within the stipulated time frame. On Friday evening, Sudharani, accompanied by KUDA officials, inspected the proposed development works of the Inner and Outer Moats at Khila Warangal. During the inspection, she enquired about the progress of the works completed so far and the activities yet to be taken up.

She also reviewed measures to accelerate the development activities and discussed a comprehensive action plan for their speedy completion. Speaking on the occasion, the KUDA Chairperson emphasised the need to complete the moat development works at the earliest. She instructed officials to plan and execute the remaining works systematically, keeping future requirements in view.

She further directed them to take all necessary measures to ensure that the works were completed within the prescribed deadlines without any delay.

Warangal Police Warn of Strict Action Against Drunk School Bus Drivers



Munsif Desk, Warangale: Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS, has warned that stringent legal action will be taken against drivers found operating school buses and vans under the influence of alcohol.

She directed school managements and drivers to discharge their duties responsibly, keeping students' safety as their top priority.

The Commissioner stated that driving after consuming alcohol or indulging in rash and negligent driving while on duty would invite strict legal action. She instructed all school managements to procure breathalyser devices and conduct daily alcohol tests on drivers before allowing them to operate school buses and vans. Only those testing negative for alcohol should be permitted to transport students.

She also directed school authorities to regularly verify drivers' qualifications, driving licences and vehicle fitness certificates to ensure the safety of students.

Following her instructions, Kazipet Traffic Police conducted drunk-driving checks on Thursday under the supervision of Traffic Additional DCP Rayala Prabhu Prabhakar Rao and Traffic ACP T. Satyanarayana.



Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS, visited the stall and purchased various handmade products prepared by the specially-abled students.

Warangal CP Supports Specially-Abled Students by Buying Handmade Products

Munsif Desk, Warangale: Students of Mallikamba Manovikas Kendra, located at Balasamudram in Hanumakonda, organised a special stall at the Hanumakonda Police Headquarters in association with the centre's founder, Ramaleela, and Executive Committee member Kalyan.

Warangal Police Commissioner N. Swetha, IPS, visited the stall and purchased various handmade products prepared by the specially-abled students.

She appreciated their creativity, skills and dedication, and encouraged them to continue showcasing their talents.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner said that encouraging specially-abled students and recognising their abilities would boost their self-confidence and motivate them towards greater independence. She appreciated their efforts in preparing and displaying a variety of handmade products.

Later, she distributed sweets to the students and extended Diwali greetings.

Nizamabad District Collector Visits EVM Godown

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed , Nizamabad: Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi, along with Additional Collector Rajagoud, visited the EVM godown located at Vinayaknagar in the district headquarters on Saturday. She conducted a field visit as part of the routine inspection process. She inspected the seals put on the EVM godown.

Youth Congress Seeks Tax Waiver for Drought-Hit Degloor

Munsif Desk, Degloor : Youth Congress Degloor city president Vikas Nirbhage has demanded a complete waiver of water tax (Nal Patti) and property tax for all residents of the city in view of the severe drought situation.

In a written memorandum submitted to the Nanded District Collector and the Chief Officer of the Municipal Council, he highlighted the financial difficulties being faced by residents due to the drought.

The memorandum stated that farmers, labourers and middle-class families across Degloor had been severely affected by the drought. Due to declining incomes, many residents were finding it difficult to pay water bills and property taxes.

Key Demands of Youth Congress:

Complete waiver of house/property tax and water tax for all residents during the financial year 2026–27.

100 per cent waiver of previous penalties and interest on water bills and property taxes, along with interest applicable for the current financial year.

Immediate placement of the matter before the Municipal Council's general body meeting and adoption of a resolution with the consent of all councillors.

Preparation of the necessary proposal in accordance with government rules and regulations, as per the directions of the Nanded District Collector, and forwarding it to the competent authority for approval.

The memorandum further urged the authorities to initiate the necessary action in accordance with the District Collector's directions.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Speaks.

People, civic issues, communities and developments from across Telangana.

Narsinga Rao's appointment to boost Velama community welfare: Vivek

Munsif Desk, Adilabad: Minister for Labour, Employment, Training, Factories, and Mines Dr. Gaddam Vivek Venkataswamy expressed confidence that Juvvadi Narsinga Rao, the newly appointed first Chairman of the Telangana Velama Corporation, will lead efforts toward the social and economic advancement of the community.

Speaking at a Velama community gathering in Hakimpet on Saturday, the Minister commended the Juvvadi family's long-standing tradition of public service. He specifically recalled the contributions and regional development initiatives of former MLA, the late Juvvadi Ratnakar Rao.

Dr. Vivek Venkataswamy highlighted the dedication of Narsinga Rao and his brother, Krishna Rao, noting their consistent accessibility to the public. Expressing satisfaction over Narsinga Rao's appointment, the Minister urged him to fulfill his duties effectively and meet the expectations of the people.

MUSEUM INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR THREE-MONTH INTERNSHIP PROG

NSS, Hyderabad: H.E.H. Nizam's Museum at Purani Haveli has invited applications from eligible candidates for its three-month internship programme (5th Batch), offering practical exposure to museum studies, heritage management and curatorial practices.

Museum Curator Dr. P. Suresh, in a statement, said the programme would provide hands-on training in museum documentation, exhibition planning, conservation, preservation, administration, education and marketing. Postgraduates in History, Archaeology, Museology, Fine Arts, Literature, Heritage Studies and related disciplines, besides heritage enthusiasts, are eligible to apply.

The maximum age limit is 35 years.

The last date for applications is November 9, followed by interviews on November 10. For details, contact 9299653666.

BRS Demands Probe into CM's Family Businesses, Financial Deals

(NSS) Hyderabad, BRS spokesperson Dr. Manne Krishank has demanded a transparent investigation by the Union Government into the business interests, financial dealings and alleged irregularities involving companies linked to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's family. Addressing the media here on Saturday, Krishank questioned how members of the Chief Minister's family, who allegedly faced loan defaults, had expanded their business interests across corporate education, healthcare, automobile showrooms, aerospace and defence.

He cited loan recovery notices issued to Anumula Kondal Reddy and referred to an Income Tax Appellate Tribunal order dated November 26, 2025, which, according to him, recorded a submission regarding Kondal Reddy's medical condition, including dissociative amnesia and treatment at Medicover Hospital. Krishank questioned the circumstances surrounding the submission and demanded clarity on the reported allotment of government land worth nearly Rs.200 crore to Tesseract Aerospace and Defence.

He also sought details of businesses allegedly linked to the Chief Minister's family, including MindVault Ventures, Swachh Bio, Tesseract Aerospace and Defence, Medicover, Geetha Hyundai and Maxbien Pharma. He questioned the reported Rs.1,000-crore agreement involving Swachh Bio and sought clarification on land registrations allegedly involving assigned lands and properties covered under Section 22A.

Raising concerns over the growth of "RR Corporation", Krishank questioned the financial structure of its real estate projects in Kokapet.

Seethakka calls for eco-tourism development in Mulugu



(NSS) Hyderabad, Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development D. Anasuya (Seethakka) has called for developing tourism in Mulugu district while safeguarding its dense forests and natural resources to create sustainable livelihoods for local Adivasi and tribal youth.

Speaking at a special meeting at the district Collectorate on Saturday with Jayesh Ranjan, who recently assumed charge as Special Chief Secretary of the Forest and Environment department, the Minister emphasised that eco-tourism must prioritise environmental conservation. Highlighting the district's waterfalls, streams, and scenic landscapes, Seethakka urged officials to formulate development plans tailored to Mulugu's unique topography.

Police crack ventilator theft at Adilabad RIMS, two held

(NSS) Hyderabad, Police have cracked the theft of ventilators from the RIMS Hospital in Adilabad and arrested two persons in connection with the case.

According to Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan, the accused were identified as Sajjan Basant Mote and Madan Kondareddy, both natives of Maharashtra. Following registration of a case, police launched an investigation and tracked down the accused. Police seized five ventilators, Rs. 1 lakh in cash, a car and a motorcycle from their possession.

Nizamabad Police Tighten Traffic Measures for Diwali

Mohd Baleeg Ahmed, Nizamabad



The Nizamabad Police Commissionerate has put in place special traffic management and security arrangements across Nizamabad, Armoor and Bodhan divisions in view of the Diwali festival to ensure that the public faces no traffic congestion or inconvenience.

Special police bandobast has been deployed at busy markets, main roads, shopping areas and commercial complexes witnessing heavy festive crowds.

She Teams have also been pressed into service for continuous surveillance. Special arrangements have been made to ensure public safety, women's security and smooth traffic regulation.

As part of these measures, Nizamabad Police Commissioner Sai Chaitanya, IPS, personally visited major crowded areas of Nizamabad city on Saturday and reviewed the situation on the ground.

He inspected Gandhi Chowk, Devi Road and the flyover bridges, and deployed special traffic teams in areas witnessing heavy public movement.

CELEBRATE DIWALI SAFELY; DIAL 112 IN EMERGENCIES: TGICCC

(NSS) Hyderabad, The Telangana Integrated Command and Control Centre (TGICCC) in Banjara Hills has urged people to celebrate Diwali safely and responsibly, cautioning against fire hazards, injuries and electrical short circuits caused by firecrackers and decorative lighting.

The centre advised citizens to immediately dial 112 in case of fire, accidents or any other emergency.

The Telangana Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) operates round the clock, coordinating emergency assistance from police, fire and medical services. Prompt reporting can help save lives and minimise property damage.

Kishan Reddy Attends Yadava Sadar Celebrations

(NSS) Hyderabad, Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy on Saturday participated in the Sadar celebrations organised by the Yadava community at Cheppal Bazaar on the occasion of Diwali.



He watched the spectacular bullock cart parade and enthusiastically joined the procession, holding the decorated headdress of a bullock cart. Kishan Reddy said Sadar, a unique Hyderabad tradition celebrated since the Nizam era, reflected the rich cultural heritage of the Yadava community.

He said that he had been attending the celebrations regularly for the past 30 years. Highlighting the special attraction this year, he said a magnificent bull named 'Baahubali' had been specially brought from Kerala.

He invited people from Hyderabad and surrounding areas to attend the grand procession on the evening of November 10 at Narayanguda.

The procession will begin from the residence of late Parashuram Yadav at Chappal Bazaar.

Sravan Alleges ₹100-Cr Gurukul Supply Scam

Hyderabad (NSS):

BRS MLC Dr. Dasoju Sravan Kumar has accused the Revanth Reddy government of undermining democratic institutions, harassing political opponents and jeopardising the livelihoods of handloom weavers through alleged irregularities in the procurement of materials for Gurukul institutions.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan here on Saturday, Sravan alleged that the government was using the police machinery to suppress dissent by filing false cases against opposition leaders.

He cited the case of former Sheep and Goat Development Corporation chairman Dudimetla Balaraju Yadav, claiming that the police had attempted to implicate him in false SC/ST Atrocities cases.

He said the BRS legal team had secured bail for him and warned police officials against acting under political pressure.

Alleging a scam exceeding Rs.100 crore in the procurement of bed sheets and carpets for Gurukul students, Sravan claimed that quality handloom products had been sidelined in favour of recycled and substandard materials supplied by private companies based in Gujarat, including Mafatlal.

He alleged that products costing around Rs.150 were being procured at prices exceeding Rs.400, resulting in a huge burden on public funds.

Questioning Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's defence of the quality of the supplies in the Assembly, Sravan challenged him to use the same materials for his own family.

The BRS leader also accused the government of depriving Telangana handloom weavers of procurement opportunities by diverting a substantial share of tenders away from the Telangana State Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society (TSCO) to private companies.

Woman, two daughters die after jumping into Pakala Lake

(NSS) Hyderabad, A woman allegedly died by suicide along with her two daughters by jumping into Pakala Lake in Khanapuram mandal of Warangal district on Saturday. On receiving information, police rushed to the spot and retrieved the bodies from the lake. The deceased were identified as Mamatha and her two daughters, residents of Yelkurthi Haveli village in Geesugonda mandal.

Preliminary information suggested that family disputes may have driven the woman to take the extreme step. Police have registered a case and launched an investigation into the incident.

Singareni CMD Directs Officials to Boost Coal Production at Naini Mine

NSS, Hyderabad: Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) Chairman and Managing Director Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti has directed officials to take all necessary measures to increase coal production at the Naini Coal Block in Odisha in accordance with the annual targets.

He particularly stressed the need to accelerate overburden removal to facilitate higher coal production. On Saturday evening, he conducted a special review meeting on Naini mine operations with the company's Directors and concerned General Managers.

In view of the anticipated El Niño conditions and their possible impact on the state's power requirements, the CMD said that at least 20,000 tonnes of coal must be transported daily from the Naini mine to Telangana. He directed officials to take special measures to ensure higher production and uninterrupted transportation of coal.

He observed that increasing overburden removal would create opportunities for enhancing coal production and instructed officials to take immediate steps in this direction.

During the meeting, Naini Mine General Manager Vaidya briefed the CMD on the current status of coal production, transportation, overburden removal and other mining activities.

Dr. Jyoti directed officials to ensure all necessary arrangements for the smooth and uninterrupted transportation of coal to Telangana.

Director (Operations) L.V. Suryanarayana, Director (Projects and Planning) K. Venkateswarlu.



NATION | India's Politics, Policies & People.

Politics, economy, society and developments shaping the nation.

At a Glance



Fire guts over 50 slum houses in Jabalpur, several families left homeless

Jabalpur

A fire destroyed over 50 hutments in Ghazi Nagar near Lema Garden in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, early Saturday, leaving several families homeless, officials said. The blaze broke out around 2 am and spread rapidly. Eight to nine fire engines and water tankers were deployed.

Firefighters and police brought it largely under control. Deputy Superintendent of Police Akhilesh Gour said no casualties had been reported. Around 40-50 families lived in the settlement. The cause remains unknown at present. IANS

J&K: Wildlife Protection Dept captures four wild bears in south Kashmir

Srinagar

The Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife Protection Department captured four black bears after they entered habitations in south Kashmir, officials said.

A 500-kg male bear was tranquillised at Bachoo Sagam in Anantnag's Kokernag area. Three others were caught in cages at Ashmaqum by the Seer Wildlife Control Room.

The Wildlife South Division Bijbehara carried out the operation and captured the four bears alive. They will be kept under observation before release into their natural habitat, officials said.

Authorities urged residents to be cautious, secure garbage and livestock, and report bear sightings to wildlife control rooms. IANS

BJP TO CELEBRATE LK ADVANI'S 100TH BIRTHDAY WITH SPECIAL EVENT AT PARTY HEADQUARTERS

New Delhi



The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will organise a special programme at its Central Office on November 8 to mark the 100th birthday of veteran party leader and former Deputy Prime Minister, Bharat Ratna Lal Krishna Advani.

The programme, coinciding with the auspicious occasion of Diwali, will be attended by BJP National President Nitin Nabin, Advani's daughter Pratibha Advani, Union Minister and senior BJP leader Piyush Goyal, along with several other senior party leaders.

The event will commemorate Advani's inspirational life, his dedication to the nation, his contribution to the party organisation and his long journey in public service.

According to the programme details shared by the party, the celebrations will begin at 10 a.m. with a puja and havan. This will be followed by a special 20-minute video presentation highlighting significant moments from Advani's life and excerpts from some of his prominent speeches.

Videos featuring senior leaders sharing their experiences and reflecting on Advani's contributions to the party and the nation will also be screened during the programme.

Subsequently, Pratibha Advani and Union Minister Piyush Goyal will address the gathering and share their thoughts on the veteran leader's life and legacy.

BJP National President Nitin Nabin will then address the programme, recalling Advani's contributions to the nation and the party and highlighting his role in shaping the organisation over several decades.

The event will conclude with the distribution of prasad.

In its statement, the BJP said the party has always respected the contributions, ideas and dedicated service of its senior leaders, guiding figures and distinguished personalities.

The party emphasised that the lives and ideologies of such eminent leaders serve as a source of inspiration for future generations.

It also reiterated its commitment to preserving Advani's legacy and carrying forward his ideals and values.

Advani, one of the BJP's most prominent founding-era leaders, has played a significant role in the party's political and organisational journey over the decades. IANS

PM Modi extends Diwali greetings to citizens

New Delhi



Ahead of joining defence personnel to celebrate Diwali, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday extended greetings to all countrymen on the occasion of the festival of lights.

In a social media video titled "Have a great Diwali", the Prime Minister greeted citizens and informed them that he celebrates the festival enthusiastically every year and will do so this year as well.

"On the occasion of Diwali, the entire country is illuminated. The festival of lights symbolises our pledge against darkness," he said.

"May this festival bring happiness, well-being and prosperity for all. Just like you all, I also celebrate this festival with enthusiasm. Like every year, I will again be celebrating Diwali with our brave defence personnel. Once again, greetings to all of you on the occasion of Diwali," said PM Modi.

Earlier, PM Modi met Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan and extended greetings on the eve of Diwali.

The Vice President's office took to X to share information about the meeting. "Vice-President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan warmly received Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Uprashtrapati Bhawan today and exchanged Deepawali greetings," said the Vice President's office.

The Vice President later reached Ayodhya on Saturday to participate in Deepotsav 2026, said an official.

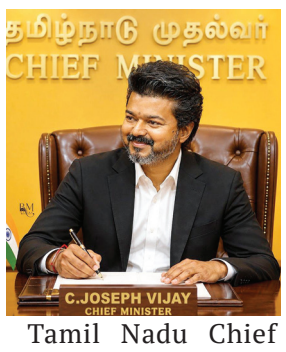
During his visit, the Vice President's schedule includes offering prayers at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple and participating in the symbolic coronation ceremony of Prabhu Shri Ram in Ayodhya. He will also felicitate revered saints on the occasion, the official said in a statement.

Ayodhya Deepotsav 2026 on Saturday will mark the 10th anniversary of the grand festival of lights ahead of Diwali on Sunday.

Organisers are aiming to light over 30 to 33 lakh earthen diyas across 56 ghats, including the primary centre at Ram Ki Paidi and the Saryu river banks, said a statement. IANS

C.M Vijay Sanctions Rs 2,000 Crore for Free Laptop Scheme

Chennai



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay has sanctioned Rs 2,000 crore for the Vetri Laptop Scheme to provide free laptops to students in government and government-aided institutions across the State.

Announced in the 2026–27 Budget, the scheme will cover first- and second-year undergraduate and diploma students enrolled during the academic year. Eligible courses include arts and science, engineering, polytechnic, ITI, medicine, veterinary science, fisheries, agriculture and law.

Third- and fourth-year professional course students who did not receive laptops in 2025–26 will also be covered. Engineering students will get higher-performance laptops with Intel Core i5 processors or equivalent technology.

The government order grants administrative approval and sets out guidelines. A steering committee headed by Vijay will oversee the programme. The Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu (ELCOT) will procure laptops meeting prescribed standards.

The government said the initiative aims to improve digital literacy, technical skills and access to educational resources for students from lower- and middle-income families for online learning use and job skills. IANS

Ghaziabad outpost blast: Delhi Police's Special Cell team reaches site; cops say investigating all angles

New Delhi



A Delhi Police Special Cell team reached the Vasundhara police outpost in Ghaziabad on Saturday to investigate Friday night's explosion. The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), dog squad, forensic experts and local police were also at the site.

Ghaziabad Police Commissioner J. Ravinder Goud said police received information about an explosion near the outpost's rear wall at 9 pm on Friday. A Sub-Inspector and a delivery worker were nearby, he said.

Police collected evidence, while the Bomb Disposal Squad, field unit and forensic team continued their examination. Goud said the cause of the blast had not been established and investigators were examining all possible angles. Findings would be clarified after reports were received, he added.

The explosion shattered windows and damaged air-conditioning units at the outpost. The blast caused panic in the nearby residential areas.

A 20-year-old food delivery worker, Vishal, was injured by glass fragments. He was taken to a private hospital in Delhi's Surya Nagar. Vishal, a resident of Arthala in Ghaziabad, was making a delivery when the blast occurred, police said.

The Special Cell joined the investigation as multiple agencies worked to determine the cause. Police said forensic examination and analysis of evidence would be necessary to establish the circumstances.

No police personnel were inside the outpost when the blast occurred, officials said. IANS

ATS, Forensic Teams Probe Explosion at Ghaziabad Police Outpost

GHAZIABAD: The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), dog squad and forensic teams on Saturday began investigating an explosion at the Vasundhara police outpost in Ghaziabad.

The blast on Friday night shattered windows and damaged air-conditioning units, officials said.

Police Commissioner J. Ravinder Goud visited the site. No personnel were inside the outpost when the explosion occurred.

A 20-year-old food delivery worker, Vishal, from Arthala, was injured by shattered glass. He was taken to a private hospital in Delhi's Surya Nagar.

BJP MLA Nand Kishor Gujar alleged that a terrorist organisation had claimed responsibility. The claim has not been independently verified.

He urged people to celebrate Diwali without fear.

Police said the cause remained unclear.

The bomb disposal squad and forensic experts examined the site.

Investigators are probing all possible angles.

Centre Rejects Karnataka's Excess Ethanol Claims, Says E20 Tests Meet Standards

New Delhi

The Centre rejected claims of excessive ethanol blending in Karnataka petrol, saying all 56 samples tested in the State under a nationwide exercise met E20 specifications.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum disputed reports of 26-31 per cent ethanol. They questioned the sampling and testing methods used in an October 2026 exercise, saying their representatives were absent and they had not received retention samples, outlet-wise details or laboratory reports.

Rules require six one-litre samples at each outlet: two for the dealer, two retained by the oil company or department and two sent to a designated laboratory. The ministry said third-party laboratory certificates lacked details of test methods, dilution procedures and reference materials, preventing independent verification.

In a nationwide exercise, 893 samples from 27 States and Union Territories were tested at refinery and oil company laboratories. All contained ethanol within the prescribed 19-21 per cent range. The 56 Karnataka samples recorded 19-20 per cent, averaging 19.30 per cent, the ministry said.

It questioned estimates of annual consumer mileage losses of Rs 62,000 crore and vehicle-repair costs of Rs 39,000 crore. It said mileage reductions varied by vehicle type and calibration, and a blanket 10 per cent loss assumption was not scientifically established.

Citing 30 crore two-wheelers and four crore four-wheelers using E20 for three years, the ministry said no breakdowns had been reported. It said the programme had saved Rs 1.97 lakh crore in foreign exchange since 2014-15 and supported farmers as well. IANS

Chawri Bazaar building collapse: Fourth body recovered ; rescue efforts ON

New Delhi

The death toll in the Chawri Bazaar building collapse in Delhi rose to four on Saturday after rescuers recovered another body from the debris at Sattara Gali, Ajmeri Gate, officials said. The deceased is yet to be identified.

The body was taken by ambulance to Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital for further procedures. Rescue operations continued at the site.

Earlier, rescuers recovered the body of Pankaj Sharma, 40, a resident of Hanuman Nagar in Bihar's Khagaria district. Officials said five people had so far been rescued or recovered from the debris: three dead and two injured. Both injured persons were treated and are stable.

The three-storey building, which was under construction, collapsed on Thursday. Authorities received information about the incident at 9.50 am from Gali Sitara, near Chawri Bazaar Metro Station. Delhi Police, the National Disaster Response Force, Delhi Fire Services and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi joined the rescue operation.

The operation began after the alert at 9.50 am on Thursday. Police, NDRF, fire services and civic teams have been working at the site to search the rubble and assist those affected. The search continues there.

Two bodies were recovered on Thursday, while an injured person was rescued and taken to hospital

Police said construction work at the building was illegal and the structure was unsafe. The Municipal Corporation suspended its junior engineer and assistant engineer, while an FIR was registered against the contractor.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said every possible effort was being made to rescue those trapped under the debris. She said an investigation was underway and strict action would be taken against those responsible. IANS



Nithya Raman faces council test after Los Angeles victory

Washington

Los Angeles Mayor-elect Nithya Raman must win City Council support to deliver promises on homelessness, housing and public services after most members backed her defeated rival, Karen Bass.

Thirteen of the council's other 14 members endorsed Bass. After her concession on Thursday, several said they were ready to work with Raman. The council approves the budget and confirms mayoral appointees.

"Disagreement is inevitable, but dysfunction is a choice," council budget committee chair Katy Yaroslavsky told LAist.

Raman has pledged to halve the number of people living in tents and encampments before the 2028 Olympics, triple annual housing construction and establish a film office to bring jobs back to Hollywood.

Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martínez cited affordability and renter protection as areas for cooperation. Homelessness committee chair Ysabel Jurado pledged support for affordable housing, safer streets and reliable services.

Yaroslavsky warned that Los Angeles faced a difficult budget period.

The city must choose Raman's successor in the 4th District. City Controller Kenneth Mejia, the only elected City Hall official to endorse her, is an ally. Raman has promised to let him audit city homelessness spending, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Raman entered the mayoral race in February after previously endorsing Bass. IANS

KIREN RIJIJU VISITS HISTORICAL RAHMAH MOSQUE IN SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh



Union Minister for Parliamentary and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju visited the historic Al Rahmah Mosque in Jeddah, popularly known as the Floating Mosque, during his visit to Saudi Arabia for the 6th Haj Conference and Exhibition 2027.

The mosque, located along the Red Sea coastline, is a prominent landmark known for its distinctive setting and architectural design. Rijiju shared photographs and details of the visit in a post on X on Saturday, describing it as a place of spiritual significance and architectural beauty that reflects Saudi Arabia's rich Islamic heritage.

"Visited the historic Al Rahmah Mosque in Jeddah, popularly known as the Floating Mosque, situated along the beautiful Red Sea coastline. A remarkable place of spiritual significance and architectural beauty, reflecting the rich Islamic heritage of Saudi Arabia," he said.

Rijiju arrived in Jeddah on Friday to attend the 6th Haj Conference and Exhibition 2027. During the visit, he is scheduled to participate in the signing of the bilateral Haj agreement with Saudi Arabia and review arrangements for Haj 2027, with a focus on ensuring a safe and comfortable journey for Indian pilgrims.

In another post on X, the Union Minister said he had been warmly received at the airport by Fahad Suri, Consul General of India in Jeddah. He said his engagements would focus on preparations for the forthcoming pilgrimage.

Preparations for Haj 2027 have been under review by Indian and Saudi officials. On October 4, India's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Vipul, met Abdulfattah bin Suleiman Al-Mashat, Saudi Arabia's Vice Minister of Hajj and Umrah, along with senior officials of the ministry.

The Consulate General of India in Jeddah said the two sides comprehensively reviewed preparations for Haj 2027 and discussed continued coordination between the Indian Haj Mission and the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

During the visit, Vipul, accompanied by Suri and Consul (Haj) Sadaf Choudhary, also inspected the Haj Terminal at Jeddah Airport and the Haramain High Speed Railway Station. The consulate said the facilities were important operational points for the arrival and onward movement of more than 100,000 Indian pilgrims travelling through the Haj Committee of India route.

The ambassador reviewed facilities, infrastructure and operational arrangements at both locations and interacted with officials about preparations for the forthcoming Haj, the consulate said. The review also covered arrangements for the arrival and onward movement of Indian Haj pilgrims, too. IANS

TRUMP OFFERS DEMOCRATS IMMIGRATION, TAX TALKS



US President Donald Trump has said he is open to working with Democrats on immigration, taxes and economic development following Republican losses in the November 3 midterm elections.

Asked which Democratic initiatives he might back, Trump said there were several areas for cooperation.

"I think a lot. I mean, I said before, immigration's one, tax cuts, or maybe certain things having to do with taxes to make it more convenient and better," he told reporters.

"A lot of economic development initiatives we can do. I think we can do a lot of things together," he added.

Trump said newly elected politicians wanted to meet him to discuss issues affecting their states. He mentioned Texas and South Carolina but did not identify the politicians or announce meetings.

He did not endorse specific legislation or outline the immigration changes and tax measures he would consider. He made no specific commitment on H-1B visas or employment-based green cards, issues of interest to Indian professionals and families.

Trump criticised Congress over stalled legislation and urged senators from both parties to act before the new Congress takes office. He accused Democrats of voting as a bloc and some Republicans of obstructing legislation, and called on Senate Republican leader John Thune to move measures forward.

Trump acknowledged that Republicans had suffered a bad election, citing Senate inaction and higher oil prices among the factors. He sought to distance himself from result, noting that he had not been on the ballot.

On the day of his remarks, Trump named Stephen Miller as his next White House chief of staff. He praised Miller's loyalty and rejected suggestions that the change reflected dissatisfaction with his team over the election outcome.

The November 3 midterm elections determined the membership of the next Congress, due to take office in January. Until then, the outgoing Congress remains responsible for legislation and Senate consideration of presidential nominations. IANS



TWO CHARGED OVER KAPIL SHARMA CAFÉ SHOOTING

Washington

Two men have been charged in connection with a shooting at comedian Kapil Sharma's café in Surrey, Canada, and a separate attack on a home that injured a woman, according to police and Canadian media reports.

The Canadian Press identified the business as Kap's Café, reporting that the date and location released by police matched the October 16, 2025, attack on the establishment.

British Columbia's Provincial Extortion Task Force announced the charges on Friday against Pardeep Singh and Saveer Khan, both 22. They were arrested in Surrey on November 1 and remain in custody.

Each faces two counts of reckless discharge of a firearm — one for each shooting. The charges have not been proven in court.

The café was closed when shots were fired, but two employees were inside. Neither was injured.

Four days earlier, on October 12, police had responded to gunfire at a home in the 13000 block of 103A Avenue, where a woman sustained injuries.

The extortion task force took over both investigations after identifying possible links between the attacks. Its officers worked with Surrey Police Service and British Columbia's Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit to make the arrests.

Chief Superintendent Duncan Pound, a senior RCMP officer in the Lower Mainland, said the charges followed more than a year of investigative work, including search warrants, judicial authorisations and analysis of evidence.

"We recognize and share the concerns these incidents created within the community," Pound said in the police statement.

He said the charges demonstrated cooperation among law enforcement agencies against extortion-related violence.

The announced charges concern the shootings. The available police account did not identify a specific extortion demand connected to either attack or establish the accused men's nationality.

Kap's Café had been targeted in two earlier shootings before the October 16 attack, Canadian Press reported. Videos filmed from the perspective of the shooters circulated widely on social media.

British Columbia established the RCMP-led Provincial Extortion Task Force in September 2025 to coordinate investigations across the province. IANS

UN COMMITTEE NOMINATES INDIAN CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT-DIPLOMAT TO BUDGET PANEL

United Nations



Indian diplomat Shivani Gupta, who is also a chartered accountant, has been nominated to the influential committee that advises the General Assembly on budgetary and administrative issues.

The General Assembly's Fifth Committee on Friday nominated her unopposed for one of the Asia-Pacific slots on the panel formally known as the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

The committee, which deals with budgets and administration, held a virtual election, as the General Assembly routinely approves appointments to the panel.

With the rare combination of experience in diplomacy and chartered accountancy, she will serve a three-year term starting next year.

"India's candidate, Ms. Shivani Gupta, has been elected to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (#ACABQ) for the term 2027–2029," the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations annnounced on X.

"A 21-member @UN entity where members work in their independent capacity, ACABQ provides independent expert review of budgets, administrative matters, and resource proposals to ensure accountability and efficiency in the utilization of Member States' contributions in support of UN's global work," it added.

Gupta, who recently joined India's UN mission as a first secretary, was an under secretary for East Asia at the External Affairs Ministry.

She had earlier worked at the Indian embassy in Beijing and at the diplomatic representation in Taiwan.

She had qualified as a chartered accountant before joining the foreign service in 2018.

"Her foundation as a Chartered Accountant has provided her with deep expertise in financial reporting, audit, governance, corporate governance, budgeting, risk management and institutional oversight, complementing her diplomatic work with analytical rigour and sound institutional management", according to her bio circulated to the General Assembly. IANS

Venezuelan National Held Near White House with Three Guns; Threatened Trump

Washington

A 30-year-old Venezuelan national was arrested near the White House after US Secret Service agents found three firearms and ammunition in a stolen vehicle. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said the suspect allegedly told officers that voices had instructed him to kill President Donald Trump.

The arrest took place shortly before midnight on Thursday, when an officer on patrol spotted a blue Ford F-150 pickup truck parked nearby, in DC. A criminal complaint filed in DC Superior Court said the officer approached the vehicle and asked the man whether he was safe and carrying weapons.

Identified as Ronny Yordrix Guanipa Chrinos, the suspect nodded when asked about weapons and made a finger-gun gesture. He later communicated with investigators through Google Translate.

He allegedly said someone had tried to kill him with a gun and that he had taken it from that person. He also directed officers to a brown bag in the vehicle. A search found an AR-15 rifle, two handguns and ammunition.

He appeared in court on Friday and remains in custody without bond, according to online court records.

DHS identified Guanipa-Chrinos as an undocumented immigrant who entered the US through Texas in March 2024. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has lodged an immigration detainer against him.

The arrest comes amid security concerns around the President. In April, Cole Tomas Allen was charged with attempted assassination of Trump over a shooting at the White House Correspondents' Dinner. IANS

MELAS TO MITHAI, DIWALI LIGHTS UP US, CANADA

Washington



Communities across the United States and Canada are celebrating Diwali with street fairs, cultural performances, food and fireworks ahead of the festival on Sunday, November 8.

In New York's Jackson Heights, the Indian Merchants' Association held a mela on November 1. New Jersey's Oak Tree Road hosted Ramlila and performances by Pandit Satya Narayan Charka.

Edison's Diwali festival at Papaianni Park on Saturday will feature diya lighting, dances, food stalls, chai and mehndi, followed by a drone and fireworks show. Jersey City will host Diwali Together 2026.

In the Chicago area, restaurants are offering menus, while the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Bartlett has scheduled a fireworks show. The BAPS mandir in Chino Hills, California, will hold a festival, followed by Annakut and Gujarati New Year celebrations.

San Francisco's Indian Restaurant Week runs until November 14. In Canada, Toronto's Gerrard India Bazaar will hold a mela, while India Rosa is organising celebrations in Montreal and Brossard.

Diwali, observed by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists, is known as the festival of lights. Lamps symbolise the triumph of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. IANS

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

COMMENTARY

SPECIAL ARTICLE | NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Bharat Ratna L.K. Advani Enters His 100th

PM Modi reflects on a veteran leader's journey from Partition through the Jana Sangh, BJP and Ram Janmabhoomi movement.



By: Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of

Shri Lal Krishna Advani enters the 100th year of his life on November 8. This year, his birthday coincides with the auspicious festival of Diwali. The occasion also comes as we commemorate 75 years of the Jana Sangh, the 125th birth anniversary of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the completion of 100 years of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

Very few personalities have lived through such diverse chapters of modern India's history. Born on November 8, 1927, in Karachi, Advani Ji experienced the painful consequences of Partition in 1947, when he had to leave behind his familiar surroundings in Sindh.

Despite these difficult circumstances, he rebuilt his life without allowing bitterness to define his outlook. His ability to begin afresh and overcome adversity became a defining feature of his personality.

The same determination was evident in his efforts to strengthen the Jana Sangh and later establish the foundations of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Key Milestones in Advani's Political

- **1927:** Born in Karachi, British India.
- **1947:** Migrated to India following Partition.
- **1970:** Began his parliamentary career.
- **1977:** Became Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting.
- **1990:** Led the Somnath-to-Ayodhya Rath Yatra.

Ideological Clarity and Organisational Leadership

Two qualities have always distinguished Advani Ji as a political leader.

The first is his ideological clarity and intellectual depth, reflected in his speeches, writings and political resolutions. The second is the courage with which he defended his convictions and challenged prevailing political narratives.

During his leadership of the BJP, the party witnessed remarkable political growth.

In the 1989 general elections, the Congress party's strength in the Lok Sabha declined to fewer than 200 seats. By 1996, the BJP had emerged as the single largest party in Parliament.

Advani Ji nurtured generations of political workers and provided the organisation with a strong foundation built around the principle of Nation Firs.

A Historic Partnership With Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Advani Ji began his organisational journey as an RSS pracharak, initially working in different parts of Rajasthan.

He subsequently moved to Delhi, where he began working closely with Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

It is rare for two towering political personalities to work together for decades with such mutual trust, cooperation and understanding.

Advani Ji and Atal Ji established an extraordinary example of political partnership that played a significant role in reshaping Indian politics.

In 1967, Advani Ji became Chairman of the Delhi Metropolitan Council, working alongside Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

His parliamentary career began in 1970, and over the following decades, he distinguished himself through his contributions in Parliament, as an opposition leader and in government.

Despite his parliamentary responsibilities, he maintained close contact with ordinary citizens and party workers throughout the countr.

Memories of the Gandhinagar Elections

The memories of the 1991 Lok Sabha elections remain vivid in my mind.

It was decided that Advani Ji would contest from two constituencies, one of them being Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

His association with Gujarat was longstanding. Following Partition, his father had settled in Kutch, and Advani Ji had previously represented Gujarat in the Rajya Sabha.

As someone associated with the BJP organisation, I had the privilege of assisting him with his nomination papers and election campaign.

The people of Gandhinagar repeatedly elected him to Parliament.

As a voter from Gandhinagar, I also had the privilege of voting for Advani Ji on several occasions.

His extraordinary dedication to his constituency and its people remains an example worthy of appreciation.

The Emergency and the Struggle for Democracy

The Emergency became a defining chapter in Advani Ji's political life.

He participated in the struggle to defend democracy and constitutional values during one of the most challenging periods in India's post-Independence history.

His experiences were documented in his book A Prisoner's Scrap-Book, which included reflections on the Emergency imposed in June 1975 and comparisons with developments in Nazi Germany in 1933.

When the Janata government came to power in 1977, Advani Ji became Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting.

He later served as Union Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, playing a significant role in shaping India's internal security and counterterrorism policies.

His administrative experience demonstrated that he was not merely an effective opposition leader but also a capable administrator.

The Ram Janmabhoomi Movement and Rath Yatra

One of the most historically significant chapters in Advani Ji's political journey was the Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya.

I consider myself fortunate to have been associated with the journey from its conceptual stage to its implementation.

My presence at Somnath when the Yatra began remains a particularly memorable experience.

Such journeys require immense physical endurance, discipline, continuous travel and an unwavering commitment to one's objectives.

Advani Ji demonstrated these qualities throughout the campaign.

The events surrounding his arrest in Bihar are still fresh in my memory. Subsequently, the BJP withdrew its support from the Chimanbhai Patel government in Gujarat.

The construction of the Ram Mandir remained one of the central objectives of our political movement.

Years later, the completion of the grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya represented, in my view, an important culmination of that long political and cultural journey.

L.K. Advani, born on November 8, 1927

Simplicity, Reading and Cultural Interests

Beyond political leadership, Advani Ji possesses several remarkable personal qualities.

His simplicity, discipline and commitment to ethical public life have always stood out.

He is an enthusiastic reader who studies newspapers with extraordinary attention to detail.

He also has a deep interest in cinema and theatre and has been a passionate film critic.

His appreciation of history and his desire to preserve historical experiences are reflected in his autobiography, My Country My Life.

Advani Ji has also maintained a strong emotional connection with Sindhi culture and heritage.

His efforts to popularise the Sindhu Darshan programme near Leh reflected this enduring cultural association.

I had the opportunity to participate in one such programme alongside Advani Ji and George Fernandes.

No account of Advani Ji's remarkable journey would be complete without acknowledging the role of his wife, Kamla Advani, who remained a constant source of strength and support throughout his demanding public life.

> **"Advani Ji has consistently demonstrated through his life the importance of integrity, ethical values and dedication in public service."**

A Remarkable Journey Deserving Recognition

Growing up in Karachi, Advani Ji may never have imagined the extraordinary direction his life would eventually take.

From the upheaval of Partition to decades of parliamentary service and political leadership, his journey has been closely connected with major developments in modern India's history.

In 2024, he was honoured with the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award, in recognition of his contributions to public life.

As Advani Ji enters the 100th year of his life, I wish him continued good health and happiness.

May he continue to inspire future generations with the same determination, dedication and commitment that have characterised his life.

> **His journey stands as a remarkable example of perseverance, ideological commitment, organisational leadership and a lifetime devoted to public service.**

L.K. Advani, born on November 8, 1927, turns 99 on November 8, 2026, entering his 100th year. The headline reflects this distinction accurately.

2nd ODI: India edge New Zealand by four runs in rain-hit game via DLS

Wellington, (IANS): India survived a dramatic batting collapse to register a thrilling four-run victory over New Zealand under the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method in the rain-affected second ODI in Wellington on Saturday.

Chasing a target of 135 runs, India were reduced to 113/7 in 26 overs when persistent rain forced the players off the field. India were three runs ahead of the DLS par score at that stage, and with no possibility of resuming the match, the visitors were declared winners by four runs.

New Zealand's fast bowlers made excellent use of the conditions to put India under pressure. Jacob Duffy and Kyle Jamieson claimed three wickets each. India suffered an early setback when captain Shubman Gill was dismissed for a golden duck in the opening over. Virat Kohli scored just seven runs, while Rohit Sharma contributed 23 before being dismissed.

Shreyas Iyer and KL Rahul attempted to rebuild the innings with a 39-run partnership for the fifth wicket. Iyer scored 30 off 46 balls, while Rahul remained unbeaten on 26. However, New Zealand continued to take wickets at regular intervals, leaving India struggling at 113/7 when rain returned.

Earlier, India's bowlers had restricted New Zealand to 134 runs in 41 overs. Gurnoor Brar was the standout performer, claiming a career-best four wickets for 30 runs. Anshul Kamboj picked up two wickets, while Auqib Nabi and Axar Patel also contributed with the ball.

For New Zealand, Daryl Mitchell top-scored with 55 runs off 104 balls, while Mitchell Santner made 31. Their 59-run partnership for the sixth wicket provided some resistance, but Brar broke the stand and went on to take four wickets to derail the hosts' innings.



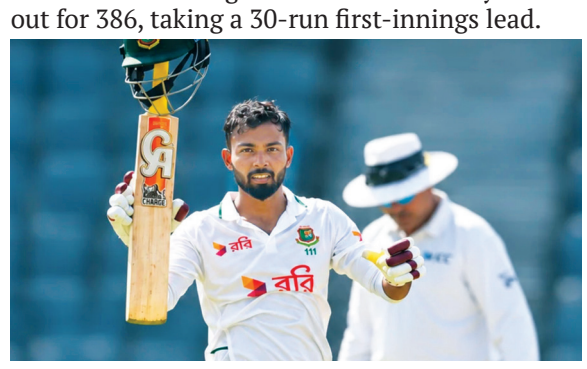
India were eventually bowled out for 134 in 41 overs in their first innings, before restricting New Zealand to the same total. In the chase, the visitors managed to stay ahead of the DLS par score when rain brought the contest to an end, handing India a narrow but

Towhid Hridoy Creates History with Record-Breaking 242 in Bangladesh's Second Test Against West Indies

Sylhet (IANS): Bangladesh batter Towhid Hridoy created history by scoring an unbeaten 242 against the West Indies in the second Test at Sylhet. He surpassed Mushfiqur Rahim's previous record of 219 not out, set against Zimbabwe in 2018.

Coming in at No. 4 with Bangladesh struggling at 51/3, the 25-year-old struck his maiden Test double century, becoming only the fourth Bangladeshi batter to achieve the feat. His 359-ball innings included 22 fours and 11 sixes.

Hridoy shared a 73-run stand with Mushfiqur Rahim and a 117-run partnership with Taijul Islam, who scored 22. Bangladesh were eventually bowled out for 386, taking a 30-run first-innings lead.



Hardik absent as Baroda announce Krunal Pandya-led SMAT squad

Baroda, (IANS): Star all-rounder Hardik Pandya has been left out of Baroda's 15-member squad for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy (SMAT), which begins on November 14. His brother Krunal Pandya will lead the side, which includes prominent players such as Jitesh Sharma, Deepak Hooda and Rasikh Salam.

Hardik has been struggling with a series of injuries since the IPL 2026 season. He last played an IPL match on May 24 and has spent considerable time at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru while recovering from back spasms. He was also withdrawn from India A's squad for the one-day series against Australia A in October due to a fresh shin injury.



India ODI and Test captain Shubman Gill recently indicated that Hardik would need to play domestic cricket before returning to the national team. Gill described him as a valuable all-rounder and expressed hope that he would regain fitness and return soon.

India head coach Gautam Gambhir also stressed the importance of Hardik and Jasprit Bumrah for the 2027 ODI World Cup in South Africa. He said Hardik needs sufficient match practice and rhythm before the major tournament, adding that players cannot enter a World Cup without adequate game time.

The Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy final will be played on December 6. India's upcoming white-ball assignments include an ODI series against Sri Lanka from December 13, followed by T20Is starting December 22. Hardik's availability for the T20I series remains uncertain.

Baroda Squad: Krunal Pandya (Captain), Atit Sheth (Vice-Captain), Deepak Hooda, Shivalik Sharma, Shashwat Rawat, Amit Passi, Jitesh Sharma, Bhanu Pania, Mahesh Pithiya, Parikshit Patidar, Hemant Punde, Raj Limbani, Rasik Dar, Dhruv B. Patel and Safvan Patel.

Cricket fraternity celebrates Mohammed Shami's Test career, pays tribute to veteran pacer after retirement

Nw Delhi, (IANS): The cricket fraternity came together to celebrate Mohammed Shami's contribution to Test cricket after the veteran India fast bowler announced his retirement from the longest format, with former teammates, cricketers and IPL franchises paying tribute to his remarkable career.

Shami, who established himself as one of India's most dependable fast bowlers across formats, leaves behind an impressive Test record of 229 wickets from 64 matches and 122 innings. His ability to extract movement off the seam, generate pace and deliver crucial breakthroughs made him a vital part of India's bowling attack over the years.

Former Bengal captain Manoj Tiwary, who had the opportunity to lead Shami at the domestic level, reflected on his experience of having the pacer in his bowling line-up and described him as a warrior.

""The red ball may no longer be in his hands, but the memories of his thunderbolts will forever remain in the hearts of cricket lovers. Some legends don't say goodbye; they simply become history." This what it meant to me When I was leading the bengal team and having Shami in the bowling line up. Warrior at heart," Tiwary wrote on X.

Former India pacer Munaf Patel also extended his wishes, expressing his hope of seeing Shami continue to represent the country in white-ball cricket. "You will be Missed in Whites Buddy, congratulations on your amazing carrer. See you soon in Blues @MdShami11," he wrote.

Former India opener Shikhar Dhawan kept his message brief, congratulating his former teammate on his achievements, while Ajinkya Rahane also acknowledged the fast bowler's outstanding career.

"Congrats brother for a great career," Dhawan said.

"Congratulations buddy on your fantastic career, well done," Rahane wrote.

Former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan highlighted one of Shami's biggest strengths, paying tribute to his ability to generate late movement and trouble batters with the red ball, as he commented on Shami's Instagram post saying, "Many congratulations on your wonderful red ball cricket. Your late movement with that cherry will be missed."

The tributes also came from Shami's former IPL associations, with Punjab Kings and Lucknow Super Giants celebrating the bowler's trademark skills and memorable performances.

"Lala, we'll miss that iconic seam position and the magic with the red cherry," PBKS commented.

"The red cherry will miss its favourite," LSG wrote.

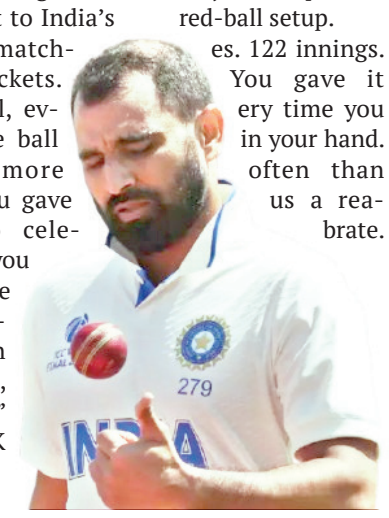
His LSG teammate Mohsin Khan also shared a personal message for the senior fast bowler. "Happy retirement bhaiya."

Among the most detailed tributes was that of renowned cricket commentator Harsha Bhogle, who reflected on Shami's mastery of seam bowling and his ability to create opportunities even when a match appeared to be drifting away.

"Just because it was inevitable doesn't make it less poignant. Shami delivered a red ball like few others before him could, his romance with the seam of a cricket ball is a story in itself. When the game seemed headed nowhere, he would cajole the seam into nipping one back, or leaving an unsuspecting batter. A player who bowled by the first principles of seam and swing bowling. Very well played Mohd Shami. Mazaa aa gaya.

Wish you the very best in white ball cricket and I hope you can impart the principles of bowling to many who would want to walk in your footsteps," Bhogle wrote. Chennai Super Kings also acknowledged the numbers behind Shami's contribution to Test cricket, highlighting the consistency and impact he brought to India's red-ball setup.

"64 matches. 229 wickets. 122 innings. You gave it your all, every time you had the ball in your hand. And more often than not, you gave us a reason to celebrate. Thank you for the memories in whites, Shami," CSK wrote.



Aamir Jamal Recalled as Pakistan Name Three Uncapped Players for Sri Lanka Test Series

Islamabad, (IANS): Pakistan have recalled pace-bowling all-rounder Aamir Jamal and included three uncapped players in their 16-member squad for the upcoming two-match Test series against Sri Lanka, beginning in Rawalpindi on Monday.



Batter Muhammad Tayyab Arif, 19-year-old fast bowler Ali Shabbir and seamer Saqib Khan have earned their maiden national call-ups. Meanwhile, Ali Usman and Abdullah Fazal have been released from the squad.

Jamal, who has played nine Tests, three ODIs and six T20Is for Pakistan, returns following impressive performances in domestic cricket. He was named Player of the Final in the President's Trophy Grade-I after taking seven wickets for 32 runs and scoring 55. He also impressed in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy, scoring 74 and 23 runs and claiming three wickets.

Tayyab has enjoyed an outstanding domestic season, scoring 727 runs in seven first-class matches at an average of 66.09, including three centuries. Young pacer Ali Shabbir has claimed 22 wickets in eight first-class matches, while Saqib Khan took 47 wickets in nine matches during the 2025-26 Quaid-e-Azam Trophy.

Babar Azam will continue to lead the Pakistan side. The first Test will begin at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, while the second match is scheduled to be played at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium from November 17 to 21.

Pakistan Squad: Babar Azam (Captain), Aamir Jamal, Ali Shabbir, Arafat Minhas, Azan Awais, Mohammad Abbas, Mohammad Ghazi Ghori (WK), Mohammad Suleman, Mohammad Taha, Muhammad Tayyab Arif, Razaullah, Saad Baig (WK), Salman Ali Agha, Sameer Minhas, Saqib Khan and Saud Shakeel.

Rajat Patidar to Lead Madhya Pradesh in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Madhav Tiwari Left Out

Indore (IANS): Rajat Patidar has been appointed captain of the Madhya Pradesh squad for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, beginning on November 14. However, all-rounder Madhav Tiwari has failed to find a place in the 15-member squad.

Madhya Pradesh have been placed in Elite Group C and will play their first four matches in New Chandigarh, followed by three games in Mohali.

Patidar, who led Royal Challengers Bengaluru to IPL titles in 2025 and 2026, may not be available for the entire group stage as he is scheduled to join India A for the Men's Rising Stars Asia Cup in Doha, Qatar, from November 19 to 29. He has been named vice-captain of the India A team led by Tilak Varma.

In Patidar's possible absence, batters Akshat Raghuwanshi, Harsh Gawli and Aniket Verma will have added responsibility. Meanwhile, Madhav Tiwari, who featured for Delhi Capitals in IPL 2026, has once again been overlooked.

The squad includes two wicketkeepers, Harsh Gawli and Apoorv Dwivedi, while India pacer Avesh Khan will lead the bowling attack. Kuldeep Sen has been left out due to an injury.

Madhya Pradesh will begin their campaign against Kerala on November 14, followed by matches against Assam, Tripura and Andhra. They will then face Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Puducherry in their remaining group fixtures.

Madhya Pradesh Squad: Rajat Patidar (Captain), Ankush Singh, Akshat Raghuwanshi, Harsh Gawli (WK), Aniket Verma, Ritik Tada, Apoorv Dwivedi (WK), Saransh Jain, Kumar Kartikeya Singh, Shivam Shukla, Shivang Kumar, Avesh Khan, Tripuresh Singh, Rahul Batham and Mangesh Yadav.

Top IPL Players Reportedly Demand Rs 40 Crore to Stay with Franchises from 2028



New Delhi, (IANS): Several top cricketers are reportedly demanding contracts worth Rs 40 crore to continue with their existing franchises ahead of the IPL 2028 mega auction, potentially creating fresh challenges for team managements.

Currently, the highest-ever IPL auction price is Rs 27 crore, paid to Rishabh Pant in the 2025 mega auction. However, the reported demand could become feasible if the BCCI increases the team purse from the existing Rs 120 crore to Rs 150 crore from 2028.

Under current rules, franchises cannot spend more than Rs 75 crore collectively on four or five retained marquee players. This limit is also expected to be revised if the overall purse increases.

The final decision will depend on the BCCI's policies regarding the team purse, player retention rules and the number of players allowed to be retained ahead of the mega auction.

The proposed increase in player salaries could significantly impact franchise strategies, as teams will have to balance retaining their star performers with building a competitive squad within the available budget. The reported demands are likely to make the 2028 mega auction an important talking point among franchises and cricket fans.

Hyderabad set to emerge as global hub for financial services: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad (NSS): Telangana is seeking to position Hyderabad as an international hub for fintech and global financial services by leveraging its strong technology ecosystem, IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu said.

Inaugurating the Hyderabad office of Singapore-based Artha Fintech at HITEC City on Saturday, the Minister said the State government was focused on strengthening its industrial and technology ecosystem to attract global companies and encourage them to expand their operations in Hyderabad.

He said the government was prioritising world-class digital infrastructure, research and development in advanced technologies, and the development of a skilled workforce to meet the evolving needs of the financial services industry.

While Hyderabad had already emerged as a leading global destination for IT and IT-enabled services, the State was now looking to build on this strong foundation to expand into emerging sectors such as fintech, digital banking and global financial services, he said.

As part of its Telangana Rising–2047 vision, the government was committed to making the State a preferred destination for global investments, innovation and emerging technologies. These initiatives would further enhance Hyderabad's position in the international financial services landscape, Sridhar Babu said.

Telangana to Introduce Stricter Fire Safety Laws; Violators May Face Up to 3 Years in Jail

Proposed Amendments to Impose Stricter Penalties, Make Building Owners and Occupiers Jointly Accountable for Fire Safety



Hyderabad (NSS): TPCC official spokesperson Syed Nizamuddin has welcomed the State Cabinet's approval of amendments to the Telangana Fire Services Act, 1999, describing them as a crucial step towards preventing fire accidents and strengthening public safety.

Addressing a press conference at Gandhi Bhavan here, Nizamuddin praised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for initiating reforms to modernise the decades-old legislation, while accusing the previous BRS government of neglecting repeated demands for amendments.

Under the proposed changes, negligence resulting in death could attract up to three years' imprisonment and a fine of Rs.5 lakh. Other serious safety violations endangering human life or involving tampering with electrical safety seals could invite imprisonment of up to six months and a fine of Rs.1 lakh.

The amendments also propose making building owners and occupiers jointly responsible for fire safety equipment, empowering the Director-General of Fire Services to identify unsafe buildings and seal non-compliant premises, and extending safety regulations to smaller commercial and industrial establishments.

Further, he said Telangana recorded 8,861 fire incidents in 2025, claiming 163 lives and causing estimated property losses of nearly Rs.880 crore. Citing tragedies at Gulzar Houz, Pashamylaram and Bhoiguda, he stressed the urgent need for stronger enforcement and preventive measures.

He also welcomed the proposed Fire Prevention and Life Safety Fund, saying it would help modernise firefighting equipment, strengthen fire stations and improve emergency response.

Urging the government to expedite the remaining approval process, Nizamuddin said the reforms should prioritise prevention, accountability and protection of human lives.

Govt plans statewide scientific silo network to protect farmers: Uttam

Hyderabad (NSS): In a major push to prevent post-harvest losses and protect farmers from distress sales, the Telangana government plans to establish a State-wide network of scientific silos, Civil Supplies and Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy announced on Saturday.

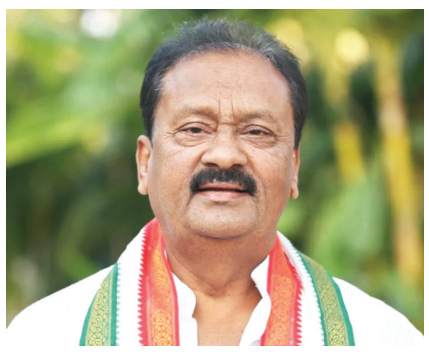
Presiding over a review meeting at the Secretariat, the Minister evaluated two financial and operational models to build modern storage infrastructure across key agricultural hubs. Under the first option, the Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation (TSCSC) will construct and operate silos directly by raising loans from financial institutions. Under the second option, private entrepreneurs will be incentivised to set up silos across 20 identified locations in the initial phase, backed by long-term rental guarantees from the Civil Supplies Corporation to ensure financial viability.

The initiative aims to modernise the State's grain storage, preserve paddy quality especially premium varieties and help farmers command higher market prices.



Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to fast-track the proposals, detailing financial liabilities, funding sources, and rental terms while securing institutional credit at competitive interest rates.

Shabbir Ali Criticises Demonetisation, Demands Accountability on Its 10th Anniversary



Hyderabad (NSS) : Senior Congress leader and Telangana Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir on Saturday termed demonetisation a disastrous economic experiment, alleging that the 2016 currency ban caused widespread hardship without achieving its stated objectives.

Marking the tenth anniversary of the November 8 decision, Shabbir Ali said the withdrawal of Rs.500 and Rs.1,000 notes had disrupted the livelihoods of farmers, daily-wage workers, small traders and businesses dependent on cash.

Citing RBI figures, he pointed out that 99.3% of the invalidated currency, worth approximately Rs.15.31 lakh crore, returned to the banking system, questioning the government's claims of eliminating black money and counterfeit currency.

He also referred to academic research indicating a decline in employment and economic activity following demonetisation, besides a short-term fall of around 16% in agricultural market trade values.

Questioning the economic benefits against the implementation costs, Shabbir Ali cited currency printing expenditure of Rs.7,965 crore during 2016-17. He further noted that currency in circulation had risen from Rs.17.77 lakh crore in November 2016 to over Rs.43 lakh crore by October 2026.

While acknowledging the expansion of digital payments, he said it could not justify the hardships caused by demonetisation. He demanded a comprehensive assessment from the Union Government on its impact on employment, agriculture, GDP, small businesses, tax compliance and black money recovery. "The people deserve transparent answers on the economic costs and measurable benefits of demonetisation", he said.

Revanth extends Diwali greetings, urges safe & eco-friendly celebrations



Hyderabad (NSS): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy extended his heartfelt Diwali greetings to the people of Telangana on Saturday, wishing for peace, hope, and prosperity across the state.

In his festival message, the Chief Minister stated that the state government is actively working to dispel darkness from people's lives by steering Telangana toward comprehensive development and all-round welfare.

Highlighting the spirit of the festival, Revanth Reddy noted that Diwali signifies the victory of good over evil and light over ignorance. He encouraged citizens to light up their homes and celebrate the occasion with joy and enthusiasm.

The Chief Minister also appealed to the public, particularly children and senior citizens, to prioritise environmental safety by taking precautions to avoid pollution and fire accidents during the

Kavitha pitches Godavari-Krishna link as permanent solution to Nalgonda water woes

Hyderabad (NSS) : Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha has said that linking the Godavari and Krishna rivers is the permanent solution to the water problems of erstwhile Nalgonda district.

During a PowerPoint presentation at Dindi reservoir on Saturday, she accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of misleading people of Mahabubnagar and Nalgonda districts with assurances of bringing water to Dindi from Edula.

Questioning the feasibility of the proposal, Kavitha said even two TMC of water could not be brought to Edula from the same project. She highlighted technical hurdles in diverting water from Edula to Dindi, including the increase in the minimum intake level from 800 feet to 820 feet.

She alleged that changes in the construction method of the Elluru pump house had created complications, while blasting operations damaged a pump at the Kalwakurthy pump house. She warned that constructing another pump house to draw an additional 0.6 TMC could pose risks to the Kalwakurthy and Palamuru pump houses.

Kavitha also questioned the selection of Edula as the source point without



fresh surveys or a government order. Admitting that the previous BRS government had also failed to complete key irrigation projects and made mistakes in identifying the source for the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy project, she apologised for being part of the then government.

She proposed linking the Godavari and Krishna rivers through the additional TMC allocation from Kaleshwaram and supplying water to the Dindi lift irrigation scheme through the Baswapur reservoir. She said the Baswapur reservoir was already 80 per cent complete and that finishing the remaining work would facilitate water supply to Dindi.

UVA Extends Educational Benefits Worth 40 Lakh to Nearly 180 Orphaned Students in Hyderabad



Hyderabad (NSS) : The United Volunteers Association (UVA) organised a scholarship distribution ceremony under its Orphan Education Project at the FTCCI–KLN Prasad Auditorium, Lakdikapul, Hyderabad, on Saturday, extending support to nearly 180 orphaned students from 30 educational institutions.

The association disbursed around ₹20 lakh directly towards tuition fees, while partner institutions contributed another ₹20 lakh through 50 per cent fee concessions, taking the total educational benefit to approximately ₹40 lakh.

The programme was held under the guidance of Dr Mufti Syed Shah Samiullah Hussaini and the leadership of UVA Founder Syed Shah Arifullah Hussaini. Zafar Hussaini served as Project Director.

Former DCP S.A. Huda, Telangana Information Commissioner-II Mohsina Parveen, ADCP Shameer and several other dignitaries attended the event. Speakers encouraged students to pursue higher education and stressed the importance of mentorship and guidance alongside financial assistance.Representatives of partner institutions were honoured with mementos for supporting the project. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Syed Shah Shujathullah Hussaini, National Coordinator and Chairman, UVA India.

UVA, serving humanity since 2014, invited volunteers to join its initiatives through WhatsApp at 9866524400.

The speakers urged the community and educational institutions to continue supporting orphaned children through scholarships, mentoring and career guidance, enabling them to overcome financial challenges and build a brighter future.

UVA representatives said the initiative aims to ensure that financial difficulties do not deprive orphaned children of quality education, and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting their academic growth through continued community participation.

Singareni CMD Directs Steps to Boost Coal Production at Odisha's Naini Mine

Hyderabad (NSS): Singareni Collieries Company Limited CMD Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti has directed officials to take all necessary measures to increase coal production at the Naini Coal Block in Odisha and achieve the annual targets.

During a review meeting at Singareni Bhavan on Saturday, he stressed the need to step up overburden removal to facilitate higher production. In view of the El Niño threat and possible impact on power requirements, he directed officials to ensure transportation of at least 20,000 tonnes of coal daily from Naini mine to Telangana.

Naini Mine General Manager Vaidya briefed the CMD on coal production, transportation and overburden removal activities. Dr. Jyoti instructed officials to ensure smooth transportation and take special measures to meet the required supply target.

Directors and senior officials from various departments attended the review meeting.



Fake iPhones and Apple Watches Sold as Genuine in Hyderabad; One Arrested

Hyderabad (NSS): Raidurgam Police arrested a 26-year-old man for allegedly cheating customers by selling counterfeit iPhones, Apple Watches and earbuds as genuine Apple products.

The accused, identified as Altamash, a native of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, was arrested on Saturday. He was allegedly selling fake and cloned electronic gadgets by passing them off as original products.

Police seized two iPhones, including one counterfeit handset, four counterfeit Apple Watches / smartwatches and seven fake earbuds from his possession.

Investigation revealed the involvement of another accused, Awais Khan, also from Ghaziabad, who is currently absconding. Police are making efforts to trace and arrest him.

The arrested accused was produced before the court and remanded to judicial custody. A case has been registered at Raidurgam Police Station.

The case was detected under the guidance of ACP Madhapur Division and supervision of the Raidurgam SHO.

Detective Inspector K. Rami Reddy and the crime staff were appreciated by the ACP for their efforts in cracking the case.

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