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DISPLACED FAMILIES FACE DEADLY CRISIS

Five Killed as Rain-Soaked Embankment Buries Gaza Tents

UN warns of exhausted shelter supplies as thousands of displaced families face unsafe conditions and further flooding

Munsif News Desk, GAZA:

Five displaced Palestinians, including three children and two women, were killed when a rain-soaked sand embankment collapsed onto tents near Deir al-Balah late Sunday, Gaza's Civil Defence reported. Reuters, citing medics, reported four deaths and six injuries; the differing casualty figures have not been reconciled.

The disaster highlighted the danger facing families living beside unstable ground as heavy rains flooded camps across Gaza.

The United Nations said more than 26,000 households had sought assistance by November 8, with over 6,000 shelters reportedly destroyed and another 17,400 damaged.



Around 1.4 million Palestinians are living in tents or makeshift shelters, many lacking adequate drainage and protection from winter storms.

UN agencies warned that stocks of tents, tarpaulins and blankets inside Gaza were almost exhausted, although more than 150,000 tents were awaiting entry. They said Israeli approvals and additional funding were urgently needed for shelter supplies, pumps and heavy machinery.

Flooding also damaged health facilities and disrupted medical services. Humanitarian agencies called for safer displacement sites and stronger emergency protection before further rainfall places more families at risk this winter.

Cancer Medicine Prices Slashed Across India From November 9

679 brands see cuts exceeding 50%; government estimates annual consumer savings of Rs.3,540.38 crore

New Delhi: Revised maximum retail prices for 1,364 anti-cancer formulations came into effect nationwide on Monday, providing financial relief to patients undergoing expensive cancer treatment.

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) said 85 pharmaceutical companies reported revised prices covering 121 drugs.

Of these, 679 brands recorded reductions exceeding 50%, with the highest cut reaching 96.45%.

The government expects annual consumer savings of Rs.3,540.38 crore following restrictions on trade margins for 137 cancer drugs.

Chemists and hospital pharmacies, including those in Hyderabad, cannot charge above revised prices.

Patients should verify medicine prices through the NPPA website or Pharma Sahi Daam app.

Complaints about overcharging can be registered through the Pharma Jan Samadhan portal or helpline 1800-111-255

IN BRIEF

Owaisi Seeks Fair Food Safety Inspections

Owaisi urges food safety officials to issue improvement notices before strict action, while calling on Hyderabad hotel owners to maintain hygiene and comply with regulations. P8

₹25,000 Crore Development Projects

Amit Shah highlights ₹25,000 crore worth of completed projects in Gandhinagar over seven years, pledging greener infrastructure, improved connectivity and signal-free travel. P4

India, Saudi Arabia Strengthen Haj 2027

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju praises Saudi Arabia's commitment to pilgrims' welfare, reaffirming bilateral cooperation for a safe, comfortable and successful Haj 2027. P5

First Bangladeshi to Reach 7,000 Test Runs

Veteran Mushfiqur Rahim becomes Bangladesh's first cricketer to score 7,000 Test runs, achieving the historic milestone against West Indies in Sylhet. P7

Modi, Zelenskyy Discuss Ukraine's Peace talk

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Monday ahead of US-Russia-Ukraine peace talks scheduled in Abu Dhabi on November 10–11.

Modi reiterated India's support for resolving the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy.

Zelenskyy said India was ready to mediate in establishing Black Sea grain-export corridors, vital for global food security.

However, India's official statement did not announce any formal mediation agreement. Both leaders also discussed strengthening bilateral cooperation.



Telangana Issues Census 2027 Schedule; Online Enumeration From Jan 10

Door-to-door population enumeration begins January 25; revision exercise scheduled for March

Hyderabad: The Telangana government on Monday issued GO Ms No.155, formally notifying the schedule for Census 2027 across the State.

Residents can complete online self-enumeration from January 10 to 24, 2027, followed by house-to-house population enumeration from January 25 to February 28.

A revisional round will be conducted from March 1 to 5 to verify and update census records. The official reference date is midnight on March 1, 2027.

The State order implements the Union Home Ministry's notification issued on October 30.

The online option allows households to submit their details before enumerators begin field visits.

Authorities will need to ensure adequate language assistance, data privacy safeguards and support for residents without internet access, particularly in underserved urban settlements and remote villages.

Hyderabad Water Board Orders Godavari Link Ready by November 15

Hyd: Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) Managing Director K. Ashok Reddy on Monday directed officials to complete the Godavari pipeline connection at Ghanpur by November 15.

The project aims to bring an additional 40 million gallons per day (MGD) of drinking water to Hyderabad amid declining supplies from Singur-Manjeera reservoirs.

Inspecting the works, Ashok Reddy ordered round-the-clock construction in three shifts, simultaneous pipeline laying from both ends and immediate road-crossing works with safety precautions.

He directed officials to coordinate with Mission Bhagiratha and Forest Department authorities for additional manpower and machinery.

The alternative supply will prioritise areas dependent on Singur-Manjeera water.

Officials were instructed to monitor progress daily and resolve technical problems. Actual water supply will depend on successful completion and commissioning of the pipeline connection.

Hyderabad Firecracker Injury Toll Rises to 191

Hyd: At least 191 people suffered firecracker-related eye and burn injuries during Diwali celebrations, according to hospital figures available Monday evening, up from an earlier tally of 179.

LV Prasad Eye Institute reported 102 cases, while Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital treated 74 patients, including 37 children. Osmania General Hospital handled 14 minor injuries.

Doctors reported six cases of complete vision loss, with several patients requiring surgery. Some victims were bystanders rather than people lighting crackers.

Telangana Fire Services received 122 festival-related distress calls, including 49 from Hyderabad.

Doctors urged parents to supervise children, maintain safe distances and seek immediate specialist treatment for eye injuries. The incidents also highlighted concerns about fireworks safety awareness and enforcement.

Drone Attack Halts Major Iraqi Gas Field

Baghdad: Production at Iraq's Khor Mor gas field remained suspended on Monday following a suspected drone attack late Sunday, disrupting electricity supplies across the Kurdistan region.

Operator Dana Gas confirmed that the attack caused a fire, which was subsequently extinguished. No employees were injured, while damage assessments continued.

Kurdistan's Electricity Ministry said the shutdown initially affected approximately 2,800 megawatts of generating capacity, causing widespread power shortages.

Authorities activated hydropower stations and alternative fuel-based plants to maintain essential services, particularly hospitals and water treatment facilities.

Iraqi Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi ordered a joint investigation with Kurdish authorities to identify those responsible.

Officials said restoring normal electricity supplies depended on resuming gas production at the facility.

Delhi Chokes on Toxic Smog; Air Quality Turns Severe

New Delhi: Delhi experienced severe post-Diwali pollution on Monday, with thick smog covering several areas and raising serious health concerns.

The Central Pollution Control Board recorded an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 370 at 9 am, classified as very poor. Several monitoring stations crossed 400, entering the severe category.

Jahangirpuri, Burari and Rohini reported particularly high pollution levels following overnight firecracker use.

Freshly released monitoring data showed PM2.5 concentrations reaching 3,744 micrograms per cubic metre at Mundka, over 60 times the national daily standard. Some readings had initially been missing from official records.

Firecrackers worsened pollution already caused by vehicle emissions, construction dust and agricultural burning, while weak winds trapped pollutants.

Authorities had earlier imposed emergency restrictions under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP).

UN Warns 2026 Among Four Hottest Years on Record

Antalya: The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) warned Monday that 2026 is on course to rank among the four warmest years ever recorded, highlighting growing threats to public health, agriculture and water supplies.

Its climate assessment, released as COP31 opened in Turkey, found global temperatures from January to September averaged 1.47°C above pre-industrial levels. The WMO said the past 12 years were the warmest on record, while ocean heat and sea levels reached unprecedented highs.

An intensifying El Niño could further increase temperatures and trigger severe heatwaves, droughts and heavy rainfall into 2027.

The findings have serious implications for India, including Telangana, where water conservation, reservoir management and heatwave preparedness remain important concerns.

Experts stressed the need for improved urban cooling, protection of outdoor workers & stronger early-warning systems. The WMO urged governments to strengthen climate monitoring and preparedness to protect vulnerable communities from increasingly dangerous weather conditions.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves.

Governance, development, welfare and districts shaping the State.

Shabbir Ali Calls for El Niño Drinking Water Contingency Measures



Mohd Baleegh Ahmed, Nizamabad:

Telangana Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir held a review meeting with officials of various departments at the District Collectorate in Nizamabad to assess the progress of development and welfare programmes in the city.

Additional Collectors (Revenue and Local Bodies), DRO, RDO, Municipal Commissioner and officials from various departments attended the meeting.

During the meeting, Shabbir Ali conducted a detailed review of the ongoing construction of Indiramma houses, drinking water supply, construction of water tanks under the AMRUT scheme and various civic issues affecting the city.

Speaking on the occasion, Mohammed Ali Shabbir cautioned that the El Niño effect could lead to increased temperatures and drinking water shortages in the coming days. He urged officials to remain alert and take precautionary measures well in advance.

He directed the officials to prepare a comprehensive action plan to ensure that people do not face drinking water problems and make alternative water supply arrangements wherever necessary.

He stressed the need to ensure equitable and uninterrupted drinking water supply to all areas of the city.

He made it clear that the construction of water tanks under the AMRUT scheme should be expedited and completed within the stipulated deadlines. He stressed that there should be no compromise on construction quality. He said the completion of these works would further strengthen the drinking water supply system in the city.

Naidu Thanks NDA Cadres for Local Poll Victory

Munsif Desk, Amravati:

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday thanked cadres and leaders of the TDP, Janasena and BJP for their collective efforts in securing the NDA coalition's victory in the local body elections.

Addressing a media conference here, the TDP supremo said even those who were denied election tickets had upheld coalition dharma and worked for the alliance's success.

"I sincerely thank the cadres and leaders of all three alliance parties for their hard work and sacrifices. We held extensive discussions on seat-sharing and ensured opportunities for candidates from different communities in proportion to their population," Naidu said.

He said the elections had ushered in a new political trend, with candidates from diverse backgrounds, including those without significant political experience, winning local body positions across Andhra Pradesh.

The Chief Minister acknowledged the sacrifices made by leaders and cadres during seat-sharing and said their contributions would be recognised.

Naidu said the people's mandate reflected their appreciation of the NDA coalition government's efforts, adding that a larger majority brought greater responsibility.

Elected representatives must remain cautious and serve the people, he said.

"We are not rulers but public servants. We will correct ourselves wherever mistakes have occurred and move forward. We have no reservations about reviewing our shortcomings," Naidu said.

Despite the coalition's overall victory across the state, he expressed concern over its defeats in some constituencies, including Anantapur.

He also expressed disappointment over the results in agency areas despite development initiatives, including taking Araku coffee to international markets and undertaking planned development in the region.

Naidu said the party would examine whether inducements had influenced voters in agency areas and analyse claims that religious conversions had affected voting patterns. He warned that strict action could follow.



Naidu said money had not influenced the elections and expressed hope that the trend would continue. He congratulated all the winners, noting their increased responsibility towards the people and their constituencies.



A programme to distribute clothes among sanitation workers serving the Kagaznagar Municipality was organised under the supervision of Ward No. 1 Councillor Taj Baba on the occasion of Diwali, with the aim of sharing festive joy and recognising their valuable services.

15 Grievances at Nizamabad Prajavani

Munsif Desk, Kagaznagar:

A programme to distribute clothes among sanitation workers serving the Kagaznagar Municipality was organised under the supervision of Ward No. 1 Councillor Taj Baba on the occasion of Diwali, with the aim of sharing festive joy and recognising their valuable services. Adilabad United District MLC Dande Vittal and the Municipal Chairperson distributed clothes among the sanitation workers during the programme.

On the occasion, the leaders extended Diwali greetings to the sanitation workers and highlighted their crucial role in keeping the city clean and healthy. They said that sanitation workers discharge their duties with dedication and commitment.

15 Complaints Received at Nizamabad Police Prajavani

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed, Nizamabad:

Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, received 15 complaints from the public during the Prajavani programme held at the District Police Headquarters on Monday.



During the programme, the Commissioner personally listened to the grievances of complainants who had arrived from various parts of the district and issued necessary instructions to the concerned officials to resolve their problems in accordance with the law.

For the prompt redressal of grievances, he contacted the Sub-Inspectors and Circle Inspectors of the respective police stations over the phone and discussed the status of the complaints. He also offered suggestions and directed them to take appropriate steps for their resolution.

Speaking on the occasion, Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya said the District Police Department was committed to maintaining peace and security while ensuring that people could access police services without fear, intermediaries or recommendations.

He said the objective was to bring the police closer to the public by enabling citizens to approach the department directly and get their grievances addressed in accordance with the law.

He further stated that public grievances were being received directly and addressed through the Prajavani programme conducted every Monday.

Public Hearing On Public Issues Of Nizamabad, 59 Complaints Received In Prajavani

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed, Nizamabad:

Giving top priority to the resolution of public issues in the district,Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi directed the concerned officials to take effective measures to resolve the complaints received under the Prajavani programme at the earliest by reviewing them.

According to details, during the Prajavani programme held on Monday in the Conference Hall of the Integrated District Office Complex (IDOC) in Nizamabad, a total of 59 complaints and applications related to various issues were submitted by the public.

Applicants who came from different areas of the district apprised District Collector Ila Tripathi, besides Additional Collectors Raj Goud and Bhujanga Rao, Trainee Collector Suresh, Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dilip Kumar, Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Officer Saya Goud and DRDO Sayanna, of their complaints and handed over written applications to them. On this occasion, District Collector Ila Tripathi clearly directed the officials that the applications received from the public should not be kept pending, but by continuously reviewing each complaint, immediate resolution should be ensured through the concerned department.



Villagers Block Road Over Karkheli Tank Water

Munsif Desk, Dharmabad:

Dharmabad: Residents of four villages in Dharmabad mandal have staged a road blockade at Karkheli Chowk, demanding the release of water into Karkheli tank to address the drinking water shortage affecting people and livestock.

Due to inadequate rainfall this year, the Malguzari tank serving Karkheli, Babalgaon, Pangri and Juni villages is on the verge of drying up. As a result, an acute shortage of drinking water has emerged for both residents and cattle. Since the Isapur Dam is located close to the area, villagers demanded that water be released into Karkheli tank.

Residents of the four villages staged a road blockade for nearly three hours. The protest was called off following instructions from District Collector Rahul Kardile and an assurance from Kiran Hebate, representative of the Tehsildar, that water would be released into Karkheli tank shortly.

NCP youth leader Kailash Bhau Gorthekar played a key role in organising the agitation.



It is reported that village tanks are drying up due to the lack of water. Owing to the rocky and hilly geographical terrain of the region, farmers are able to cultivate only Kharif crops. Water released into the tank is also supplied to other neighbouring villages.

Raghunath Tekulwar, a youth leader from Karkheli village, had submitted a written representation to District Collector Rahul Kardile on October 29, urging him to release reservoir water into the tank. However, the demand was reportedly overlooked during the reservoir-related works. Subsequently.

Mulugu Officials Urged to Resolve Public Grievances Promptly

Munsif Desk, Mulugu :

Additional Collectors C.H. Mahender Ji and M. Sampath Rao directed officials of the concerned departments to thoroughly examine public grievances and petitions received during the Prajavani programme and take necessary steps to resolve them in accordance with rules and regulations. They made it clear that negligence or delays in addressing public grievances would not be tolerated.

During the weekly Prajavani programme held at the Integrated Collectorate in Mulugu district on Monday, people from various parts of the district submitted petitions highlighting their grievances to the Additional Collectors. They interacted with the applicants, enquired about their problems and reviewed the petitions. On the occasion, the Additional Collectors instructed officials to accord top priority to resolving public grievances and immediately forward the petitions to the concerned departments for necessary action. They directed officials to conduct field-level inspections wherever required, undertake thorough investigations and take appropriate decisions based on facts. They further instructed that no petition should be kept pending unnecessarily and that applicants should be informed about the action taken on their grievances to ensure transparency.

A total of 19 petitions were received during the Prajavani programme. Of these, 10 pertained to land-related issues, two sought sanction of Indiramma houses, two concerned pensions, one was related to employment and four pertained to

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

Farmers' Welfare Top Priority: MLA Nagaraju

(NSS), Wardhannapet:

Wardhannapet MLA and retired IPS officer K.R. Nagaraju stated that the State Government is taking special initiatives to ensure the welfare of farmers and promote the overall development of the agricultural sector.

On Monday, MLA K.R. Nagaraju and Warangal District Collector Dr. Satya Sharada participated in the live telecast of the Mega Rythu Mela programme organised by the State Government. The programme was watched through video conferencing by the MLA, the Collector and farmers at the Rythu Vedika in Wardhannapet.

The Mega Rythu Mela was inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at Kodangal. During the programme, various initiatives relating to farmers' welfare, modern agricultural practices, the use of advanced technology in farming and the assistance and support being extended by the government to farmers were explained in detail.

Police Sports Meet Closing Ceremony Arrangements Reviewed



Mohd Baleegh Ahmed, Nizamabad:

Elaborate arrangements are being made by the Police Department for the successful conduct of the closing ceremony of the 5th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet-2026 in Nizamabad district.

As part of the preparations, a team of coaches from the IG Sports Department, representing various sporting disciplines, is closely supervising the arrangements at the ground level.

The preparations cover Water Sports, Athletics, Cycling, Cross Country, Swimming, Archery and other sporting events.

The coaches are inspecting various aspects, including sports grounds, equipment, technical facilities, security arrangements and the conduct of competitions.

Necessary improvements are being made based on their suggestions and recommendations to ensure smooth conduct of all events. On Monday, the team of coaches from the IG Sports Department paid a courtesy visit to Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, at the Police Commissionerate office.

During the meeting, the Commissioner reviewed the arrangements for the sporting events and called upon the officials to work in close coordination to ensure that there were no shortcomings in any discipline.

Revanth Reddy promises to transform Telangana into top-performing State

(NSS) Hyderabad,

CM A. Revanth Reddy on Monday declared it his duty to transform Telangana into the country's top-performing state, highlighting fiscal discipline and upcoming public outreach programmes.

Addressing a public meeting at Lagcherla in his Kodangal Assembly constituency, Revanth Reddy announced that the Congress government will launch a mass outreach drive titled 'Praja Balam' following the Sankranti festival.

urged citizens to unite against the looming economic and agricultural challenges posed by the El Niño phenomenon.

"We will create a tsunami of public support, and whether it is (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi or any 'KD', they will be swept away," Revanth Reddy asserted, in an apparent jab at the Prime Minister and BRS president K. Chandrashekar Rao.

Addressing working journalists directly, the Chief Minister assured them that their pending grievances would be addressed under his personal oversight.

Targeting the previous administration, Revanth Reddy claimed he had not taken a single day off since assuming office, contrasting his tenure with that of former CM K. Chandrashekar Rao.

He alleged that the BRS government accumulated ₱8.11 lakh crore in debt over 10 years before KCR "confined himself to his farmhouse."

FGG OPPOSES Rs.1,108 CR MUSI TEMPLE PROJECT

(NSS) Hyderabad,

The Forum for Good Governance (FGG) has urged the Musi Riverfront Development Corporation Limited (MRDCL) to reconsider the proposed expenditure of Rs.1,108.27 crore on the development of Sri Omkareshwara Swamy Temple complex, stating that it is a misplaced priority amid the State's precarious financial position. In a letter to the Chairperson of the MRDCL Board of Directors, Forum president M. Padmanabha Reddy objected to the huge allocation sanctioned through G.O. Rt. No. 928, dated October 7, 2026, subject to the Board's approval.

Pointing out that the government had already earmarked Rs.1,000 crore for the upcoming Godavari Pushkaralu, Reddy said another Rs.2,500 crore had been announced for temple development, including Rs.2,000 crore for temples along the Godavari, Rs.276 crore for Bhadrachalam Temple and Rs.354 crore for Gnana Saraswati Temple at Basar. He also noted that nearly Rs.800 crore had been spent on the Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara. Questioning the allocation of such massive public funds for religious activities in a secular country, the Forum said healthcare, education and infrastructure deserved greater financial priority.

TTD 2027 CALENDARS AND DIARIES AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE BOOKING

(NSS) Tirumala,

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams(TTD) has provided an online booking facility for its 2027 calendars and diaries through its official website: https://ttdevasthanams.ap.gov.in.

They are also available at 12 TTD publication sales counters in Tirupati, Tirumala and Tiruchanoor, and TTD Information Centres in Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Chennai, Vellore, Bengaluru, New Delhi and Mumbai.

TTD appeals to devotees to make use of this facility and book online or purchase the calendars and diaries at the nearest TTD sales centre.

GHMC Launches Month-Long Special Sanitation Drive in Hyderabad

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has launched a month-long special sanitation drive from November 9 to December 5, 2026, with the objective of making the city cleaner and greener.

The campaign will focus on improving sanitation, ensuring effective solid waste management, strengthening garbage collection and disposal systems, and maintaining cleanliness on roads and public spaces.

GHMC aims to bring significant improvements through coordinated efforts and greater public participation. Citizens have been urged not to litter public places, segregate household waste and ensure its responsible disposal.

The campaign assumes significance in view of recurring drainage and waterlogging issues in Hyderabad.



Pledge to Protect Urdu and Secure Its Legitimate Rights: TRS

(NSS), Hyderabad:

On the occasion of World Urdu Day, the Muslim Minority Wing of the Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) organised a grand programme at the party headquarters in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.

The programme was presided over by State President of the Muslim Minority Wing, Mohammed Sohaib. A large number of TRS leaders and party workers participated in the event, expressing their deep love and commitment to the Urdu language.

Addressing the gathering, Mohammed Sohaib said that Urdu is not merely a language but a beautiful symbol of India's civilisation, culture, history and composite Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb.

He said Urdu had played an unforgettable role in the freedom movement and made significant contributions to literature, journalism, poetry, education and national integration.

MLA Sudheer Reddy Accuses CM of Wasting Godavari Water



(NSS), Hyderabad:

BRS MLA Devi Reddy Sudheer Reddy has accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of pushing Telangana towards drought by refusing to lift Godavari water for political reasons.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Monday, Sudheer Reddy claimed that nearly 21,000 cusecs of water was flowing wastefully near the Medigadda barrage when he visited the Kannepalli pump house. He said nearly 2 TMC of water could potentially be lifted.

He maintained that there was no problem at the Kannepalli pump house and that the structural issue was confined to a crack near Medigadda. He also cited earlier NDSA assessments, claiming that Sundilla was found to be safe and that the authority had indicated the possibility of lifting water. Questioning the government's reluctance, he pointed out that nearly 10 lakh cusecs of floodwater flowed through Medigadda on August 1 this year and eventually drained into the sea.

Abdullah Sohail Says Congress has no Moral Right to Celebrate Education Day

(NSS), Hyderabad:

Senior BRS leader Shaik Abdullah Sohail accused the Congress government of neglecting minority education and failing to honour its 2023 election promises.

He questioned the government's moral right to celebrate National Education Day on November 11 while scholarships and fee reimbursement dues remained pending. He alleged that the Abdul Kalam Taufa-e-Taleem scheme, which promised financial assistance ranging from Rs.10,000 for students completing Class 10, Rs.15,000 at the Intermediate level, Rs.25,000 for graduation, Rs.One lakh for post graduate education and Rs.5 lakh for M.Phil and PhD studies, had not been implemented.

He also criticised delays in overseas scholarships, declining enrolment in minority residential schools and the failure to conduct a special DSC for Urdu-medium teachers. Sohail demanded immediate implementation of the promised scheme, clearance of pending dues, release of overseas scholarship funds and filling of vacancies in minority educational institutions.



BRS Demands Financial Assistance for Farmers in Drought-Hit Mandals

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) has demanded financial assistance for farmers in drought-affected mandals, accusing Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of aggravating drought conditions in Telangana by refusing to utilise the available Godavari water through the Kaleshwaram project. The party alleged that the Chief Minister was unwilling to give political credit to former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, who had initiated the project.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, BRS MLA D. Sudheer Reddy alleged that the government had failed to take steps to operate the pumps and provide relief to farmers. He said that around 20,000 cusecs of water was currently flowing near Kannipelli and urged the government to utilise the available water.

Referring to the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) report, he claimed that water could be lifted from Kannipelli. He said the available water could have been utilised for 80 to 120 days, but alleged that the government was using the NDSA as an excuse to keep the pumps idle.

He questioned why police prevented BRS leaders from entering the Kannipelli Pump House during their visit. Citing the Devadula, Sitarama and Pattiseema projects, he argued that water could be lifted even without barrages. He also claimed that the Devadula pumps had been shut down for only a day or two.

NATION | India's Politics, Policies & People.

Politics, economy, society and developments shaping the nation.

At a Glance



Three Killed in Siwan Bike Collision on Diwali Night

(IANS) Patna, Three young men were killed and two injured when two motorcycles collided near Jhulapur village in Bihar's Siwan district on Diwali night, police said.

The accident occurred Sunday under Mufassil police station limits. Two victims died at the scene, while Golu Kumar died during treatment at Siwan Sadar Hospital. The deceased were Golu and Mukesh Mahto of Siwan, and Sanish Kumar of Gopalganj. The injured are being treated.

Relatives alleged that an ambulance was delayed despite calls to the 102 service. The hospital had not responded. Police have begun an investigation. Details are awaited.

Firecrackers Trigger Pollution Spike in Mumbai

(IANS) Mumbai, Mumbai's air quality was better on Diwali than last year, but firecracker emissions triggered a sharp pollution spike, leaving several areas smog-covered.

The city's AQI was 132 on Sunday, against 188 in 2025. Andheri's PM2.5 level surged from 42 at 8 pm to 597 by 10 pm. Malad recorded 606, while Chembur's PM10 reached 480.

By Monday morning, Bandra Reclamation and Kala Nagar recorded an AQI of 231, in the 'poor' category. Sea breezes had helped disperse pollutants during the afternoon.

Delhi's AQI also reached 373 late Sunday, in the 'very poor' category. Noida's AQI: 319 late Sunday too.

PM MODI TO ADDRESS KISAN TAK BHARAT AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE IN DELHI



(IANS) New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will deliver the plenary address at the Kisan Tak Bharat Agriculture Conference 2026, scheduled to be held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on November 11 and 12.

Organised by the India Today Group and presented by Mahindra Tractors, the two-day conference will be held under the theme "Smart Kisan, Viksit Bharat". It is expected to bring together around 2,000 farmers from across the country, along with policymakers, diplomats, industry leaders and agricultural scientists, to discuss the future of Indian agriculture.

The discussions will focus on growth, resilience and emerging opportunities in the sector, including the use of next-generation agricultural technology. Key areas will include precision farming, artificial intelligence-driven resource management and climate-resilient crop varieties.

The programme will also feature discussions on agricultural innovation and enterprise, highlighting farmers and women entrepreneurs who have combined traditional knowledge with modern practices to improve livelihoods and create opportunities in rural India. Around 20 farmers from different parts of the country are expected to share their experiences of resilience and success. Folk music performances will showcase rural India's cultural traditions.

Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister JP Nadda, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, and Union Food Processing Industries Minister Chirag Paswan will attend the conference.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini are also scheduled to participate.

The conference comes as agriculture remains a major source of employment in India, accounting for approximately 46 per cent of the workforce. Citing the Government of India's Economic Survey 2025-26, the organisers said foodgrain production had reached a record 357.73 million tonnes. Sessions will examine how the country can convert this production strength into higher farmer incomes, smoother supply chains and greater opportunities in global markets.

India Today Group Chairman and Editor-in-Chief Aroon Purie said agriculture was India's biggest profession and its future shaped the country's destiny. He said the conference would bring farmers' ideas into dialogue with global science, policy and industry to promote technology-enabled prosperity.

India Today Group Vice Chairperson and Executive Editor-in-Chief Kalli Purie said the platform would bring grassroots voices to national and global attention. She said empowering farmers was central to the vision of a "Viksit Bharat".

The organisers said farmers' experiences would be central to the discussions, which will explore how innovation can support sustainable growth across the agricultural value chain in India.

Rs 25,000 crore projects completed in my constituency: HM Amit Shah



(IANS) Ahmedabad, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said development projects worth Rs 25,000 crore had been completed in the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency over the past seven years. He aimed to make it a "green and developed" constituency.

Addressing a gathering in Ahmedabad, Shah further said projects worth Rs 1,400 crore were being inaugurated or launched. Around Rs 1,100 crore worth of works were linked to the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, while projects worth Rs 400 crore involved the Roads and Buildings Department and the Union government.

The programme included 30 projects worth Rs 1,024 crore for inauguration or foundation laying. The ISKCON-Sanand Elevated Corridor, built at an estimated cost of Rs 464 crore, was inaugurated.

Shah said the development was part of efforts to improve civic infrastructure. "Our target is to realise the vision of a green Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency and a developed Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency," he said.

The four-km-long corridor connects ISKCON Junction to Sanand Flyover on the Sarkhej-Gandhinagar Highway. Shah recalled that motorcycle journeys between Sarkhej and Gandhinagar used to take around two-and-a-half hours because of traffic and signals.

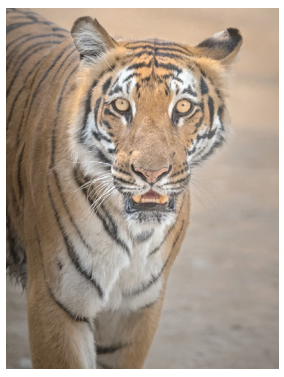
He said elevated roads would eventually allow commuters to travel between the two places without stopping at signals. "Three years from now, I am telling the people of Ahmedabad that they will be able to reach Gandhinagar from Sarkhej without encountering a single traffic signal," he said.

Shah referred to housing work at Ramapir no Tekro, where more than 1,100 houses had been inaugurated in two sectors. He said the redevelopment effort would improve living conditions and access to essential facilities for slum residents.

He highlighted the Jaspur water treatment plant and drainage, sewage treatment and stormwater management projects. The programme included a 30 MW solar power project, smart schools and urban health centres.

Shah said infrastructure development should keep pace with population growth. He thanked residents and congratulated housing beneficiaries.

Royal Bengal tigress again escapes from Buxa Tiger Reserve in north Bengal



(IANS) Kolkata, A Royal Bengal tigress, Rani, has escaped again from Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal's Alipurduar district, less than five days after being brought back from Assam, Forest Department officials said on Monday. A search operation is under way and a red alert has been issued.

The three-year-old tigress was brought from Bihar's Valmiki Tiger Reserve and airlifted to Hasimara Air Force Base on September 30 before being moved to Buxa. The relocation was part of a plan to strengthen the tiger population in north Bengal.

After being released into the forest on October 5, Rani crossed the Sankosh River and reached Assam's Raimona National Park later that month.

She was brought back on November 3 following a joint operation by the West Bengal and Assam Forest Departments in Kokrajhar district. The tigress was tranquillised with the help of three elephants and taken back to Alipurduar.

Officials said she escaped from her enclosure again on Sunday afternoon.

Search teams are combing the area.

Rahul Gandhi challenges PM Modi again for debate on 'Dimagi Naxals', anti-national charges



(IANS) New Delhi, Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday renewed his challenge to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a public debate regarding allegations of being 'Dimagi Naxals' and anti-nationals controlled by foreign entities.

In a post on X, LoP Rahul Gandhi wrote, "He called us Naxals. My challenge stands. Let him debate me on who is anti-national and who is controlled by foreign forces. Any time, any place. My guarantee: after the debate, the PM won't have the guts to stand in front of a single jawan again."

The social media post by LoP Rahul Gandhi was addressed to CRPF jawans.

Earlier, interacting with CRPF personnel in Chhattisgarh on Sunday, PM Modi said that the elimination of Naxalism (Maoism) is not the final destination and that the country still faces the challenge of countering 'Dimagi Naxals' who have taken control of several organisations.

In a veiled attack on LoP Rahul Gandhi and other INDIA bloc parties which have been questioning the integrity of institutions like the ECI, the PM said, "Even today, they are inciting people against the country's Constitution and democracy. These 'Dimagi Naxals' have also infiltrated several political parties and different organisations. We must identify them, defeat them and ensure the security of the nation."

Interacting with security forces personnel in Bastar, on the occasion of Diwali, the Prime Minister emphasised that recent victories must serve as a foundation for greater national ambitions.

"Today's achievements inspire us, but this is not the end of the journey -- I repeat, this is not the end," PM Modi said.

He described the successes against Naxalism and poverty as a launchpad for a new ascent — one that would help realise the dreams generations of Indians have cherished for centuries.

These, he said, are the dreams of the freedom fighters who made countless sacrifices for independence, the valiant soldiers who laid down their lives for Mother India at the borders, and the brave personnel who gave their lives in the fight against Naxalism and terrorism.

PM Modi expressed confidence in the country's ability to fulfil every resolve it undertakes. He cited past commitments that were successfully delivered: the abrogation of Article 370 in Kashmir, the construction of toilets in every household, and the expansion of the vaccination drive.

"Therefore, today, as we speak of eradicating poverty, building a drug-free India, creating a Viksit Bharat and fostering an Atmanirbhar Bharat — rest assured, the nation will achieve these goals as well," he said

42 Burn Cases Reported at AIIMS During Diwali, 11 Seriously Injured

(IANS) New Delhi, AIIMS Delhi treated 42 patients for burn injuries caused by firecrackers and other fire-related incidents during Diwali, including 11 who suffered serious burns, according to data released by its Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Burns Surgery on Monday.

Dr Maneesh Singhal, the department head, said 31 patients had minor injuries and 11 sustained serious burns. Four of the seriously injured patients are in the Intensive Care Unit, while seven are being treated in general wards.

Six children below the age of 10 suffered burns. An eight-year-old child sustained burns over 45 per cent of the body and is in serious condition. Twelve cases were reported among those aged 10 to 18, while 22 patients were in the 18-60 age group. One person above 60 also suffered serious burns.

Five patients have undergone surgery. Eight patients remain admitted at AIIMS, including one in serious condition. The hospital said 37 injuries were caused by firecrackers and two by potash. A 13-year-old was among those injured by potash.

Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital recorded 135 Diwali-related burn cases on November 7 and 8. Officials said 129 were caused by firecrackers and six by diyas. Thirty-five children with firecracker burns were treated as outpatients, while one child required admission.

The hospital had set aside 20 beds for patients with festive burn injuries. Seven such patients are currently admitted, officials said. Doctors said many injuries involved the hands, highlighting the risks of handling firecrackers.

Separately, a 10-year-old boy died after a firecracker exploded in his hand while he was bursting it outside his house in Delhi's Narela area on Sunday night, November 8, police said.

The figures point to the pressure on emergency and specialised burn-care services during Diwali, with children and young people among those injured in Delhi.

Srinagar ED attaches 11 properties worth Rs 10 crore in central job scheme fraud

(IANS) Srinagar, The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 11 properties worth Rs 10.63 crore in Srinagar and Bandipora in connection with alleged irregularities in the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), an official said on Monday.

The ED's Srinagar Zonal Office attached the buildings and plots under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The properties were allegedly held by suppliers-cum-brokers and a bank officer suspected of involvement in the misuse of the Central government-funded scheme.

The investigation followed two FIRs registered by the CBI's Anti-Corruption Branch in Srinagar. The cases alleged that borrowers, officials of J&K Bank's Sumbal and Gamud Gadkhud branches, brokers and others conspired to cheat the bank and misappropriate loan funds.

According to the ED, loans were obtained using dummy borrowers and fake invoices issued in the names of non-existent firms. A fresh FIR was registered by the CBI's ACB in June 2026.

A survey of the two J&K Bank branches under Section 16 of the PMLA found that 270 term-loan accounts and an equal number of working-capital accounts linked to PMEGP had turned non-performing assets. The NPA amount was about Rs 32 crore, the ED said.

The agency alleged that loan proceeds were routed through multiple bank accounts and part was used to construct or renovate properties held in family members' names. It said Hilal Ahmad Wani and others played a major role in fraudulently obtaining loans with the alleged help of bank officials.

The ED said it had traced proceeds of crime worth Rs 11.37 crore. A substantial portion had been siphoned off, it added. The 11 assets were attached under Section 5(1) of the PMLA to safeguard the alleged proceeds alone.

Man Killed, Woman Seriously Injured as Car Crashes into Australian Medical Centre



(IANS) Sydney, A 63-year-old man was killed and his partner seriously injured after a car crashed into a medical centre in Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia, on Monday.

Queensland Police Service Chief Inspector Grant Marcus said the vehicle crashed into the medical centre shortly after 10 am (local time), striking several people inside.

The man, who was in the waiting room, sustained critical injuries and died shortly afterwards. His 63-year-old partner was rushed to hospital with life-threatening injuries, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The 71-year-old woman driving the car was also taken to hospital with injuries that were not considered serious.

Marcus said investigators were examining whether speeding or a mechanical fault contributed to the crash. However, preliminary indications suggested that the incident was not deliberate.

In a separate incident on November 4, two truck drivers, aged 56 and 33, died after their vehicles collided head-on and caught fire on a regional highway about 110 km east of Perth in Western Australia's Wheatbelt region.

Emergency services, including firefighters, four ambulances and an emergency helicopter, were deployed to the scene. Both drivers died from critical injuries.

Western Australia Police Minister Reece Whitby described the incident as a serious crash and expressed concern over reckless driving and speeding. He urged motorists to act responsibly, warning that road safety ultimately depended on individual behaviour.

TRUMP SAYS RENEWED STRIKES ON IRAN 'HIGHLY UNLIKELY' IF TALKS PROGRESS



(IANS) Washington, President Donald Trump said that renewed military strikes on Iran were "highly unlikely" as long as negotiations made progress, but did not rule out further military actions.

In a phone interview with CNN, Trump claimed on Sunday that the United States had already dealt a severe blow to Iran and that further military action was "highly unlikely" to be necessary.

"It depends on whether or not they sign a very strong agreement," Trump noted, referring to Iran's nuclear program and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

The president also claimed that the United States had identified potential infrastructure targets in Iran, including power plants and bridges, and could destroy 38 bridges in an hour, Xinhua news agency reported.

"Most likely it will not be necessary," Trump reiterated. "They want to make a deal so badly."

Earlier Trump said that Washington was talking to Iran, as his administration imposed sanctions on eight Canadian businesses accused of helping Tehran move money through cryptocurrency networks.

"We're talking to Iran. We have been," Trump told reporters before departing the White House.

The president portrayed the military situation as favourable to the United States and said the Strait of Hormuz was opening.

"We've beaten Iran. We are doing very well with Iran," he said.

Asked for his message to Iran, Trump combined his claim of military success with an indication that diplomatic contacts were continuing.

His comments came on the same day that the Treasury Department announced sanctions against eight Canada-based money services businesses under Operation Economic Outcast.

Treasury accused the companies of exchanging Iranian rials and other currencies for digital assets to facilitate international transactions involving Iran. It said many had dealt with sanctioned Iranian cryptocurrency exchanges or addresses associated with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

More than eight months after the United States and Israel launched strikes on Iran, Trump has repeatedly sent mixed signals about his willingness to end the conflict. Washington and Tehran remain at a stalemate, with little significant progress in diplomatic efforts.

Iran's Army says 'violating' oil tanker hit mines in Hormuz Strait



(IANS) Tehran, The navy of Iran's Army announced that a "violating" oil tanker caught fire after hitting naval mines east of the Strait of Hormuz.

In a statement on the army's website, the navy said on Sunday the oil tanker had turned off its identification systems and was transiting the "forbidden" region east of the strait when it hit the mines.

It warned that the Strait of Hormuz will remain closed to vessels unless all threats are lifted, Xinhua news agency reported.

Earlier in the day, the navy of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said an oil tanker caught fire within the preceding hours after colliding with naval mines in the "unauthorized" route of the Strait of Hormuz.

In a statement on the IRGC's official news outlet Sepah News, the navy said the explosion caused a massive fire on the vessel, which was the third oil tanker to hit naval mines in the strait's "unauthorized" route since the beginning of the day.

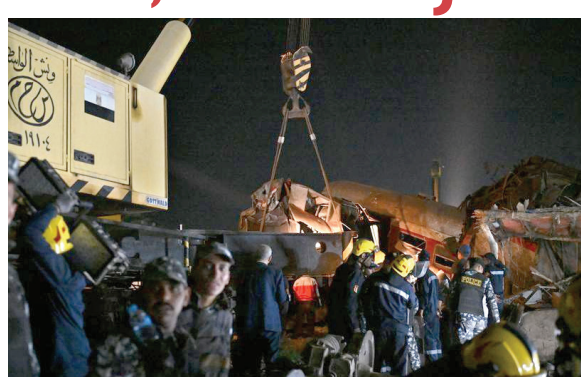
Meanwhile, US Central Command (CENTCOM) said on social media platform X that its forces had disabled a commercial vessel in the Gulf of Oman after its civilian crew "ignored repeated warnings and attempted to violate the naval blockade against Iran multiple times."

"A US military aircraft fired precision munitions at the stern of St. Kitts-flagged M/V Huda, disabling the ship after CENTCOM forces directed the crew to abandon targeted spaces. The cargo vessel tried to depart regional waters after visiting an Iranian port," it added.

Since July, US forces have redirected 147 commercial vessels and disabled five merchant ships that refused to comply with the blockade, CENTCOM said.

Iran tightened its grip on the strait on February 28, barring safe passage of vessels belonging to or affiliated with Israel and the United States following their joint strikes on Iranian territory. The United States has also imposed a naval blockade against the country.

Death toll from Egypt's train collision rises to 7, with 112 injured



(IANS) Cairo, The death toll from Sunday's collision between two trains in Egypt's Giza governorate has risen to seven, with 112 others injured, Egypt's Ministry of Health and Population said.

The ministry said in a statement that 45 patients had been discharged after their conditions improved and they received the necessary treatment, while seven others were expected to be discharged soon. The remaining injured were continuing to receive treatment under medical observation, Xinhua news agency reported.

Earlier in the day, the ministry said in another statement that 72 ambulances took part in rescue and evacuation operations, with the injured transferred to multiple hospitals in Giza and nearby Beni Suef governorate.

Health Minister Khaled Abdel Ghaffar ordered health facilities in both governorates to raise readiness and provide all necessary medical and emergency support to the injured, according to the statement.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi said on the social media platform Facebook that he was closely following developments, extended his condolences to the families of those killed and wished the injured a speedy recovery.

Sisi said he had directed state agencies to provide medical care, swiftly investigate the accident, and hold anyone found responsible for negligence accountable.

The Egyptian National Railways Authority said in an earlier statement that the accident occurred between Kafr Ammar and Al-Raqqa stations when a train on the Giza-Fayoum route hit the rear of another on the Cairo-Aswan route.

Emergency teams and cranes were dispatched to clear the site and move the remaining carriages to restore services in both directions as quickly as possible, the authority said.

Egypt's railway network has long faced problems of outdated equipment and poor management, leading to frequent accidents. The country's deadliest rail disaster occurred in 2002, when a fire on a Cairo-Luxor train in Giza's Ayyat district killed over 380 people.

Kiren Rijiju Thanks Saudi Arabia for Supporting Haj Pilgrims, Reaffirms Cooperation for 2027



(IANS) Riyadh, Union Minister for Parliamentary and Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju conveyed India's appreciation for Saudi Arabia's continued commitment to the welfare of the Haj pilgrims, the Indian Consulate General in Jeddah said on Monday. He further reaffirmed the strong India-Saudi partnership and their shared commitment to ensuring a successful Haj 2027.

According to the Indian mission, Rijiju made the remarks at the Ministerial Conference chaired by Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al Rabiah, Saudi's Minister of Haj and Umrah.

He also attended the inaugural ceremony of the 6th Haj Conference and Exhibition in Saudi Arabia's Jeddah, along with Indian Consul General in Jeddah Fahad Suri and Joint Secretary (Haj) Mohammad Afzal.

Rijiju further joined other visiting Ministers in an interaction with Prince Saud bin Mishaal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Deputy Governor of the Mecca region.

Following his engagements in Jeddah, Rijiju took to X and posted: "Strengthening the India–Saudi Arabia partnership with a shared commitment to the welfare of pilgrims & the successful conduct of Haj 2027. Along with the Consul General of India in Jeddah, Shri Fahad Suri & JS (Haj), Shri Mohd. Afzal, attended the inaugural ceremony of the 6th Haj Conference & Exhibition 2027 in Jeddah, KSA. Participated in the Official Meeting of Heads of Delegation chaired by H.E. Dr. Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al Rabiah, Minister of Haj and Umrah, KSA."

On Saturday, Rijiju attended an official dinner reception hosted by Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al Rabiah.

"Grateful for the warm hospitality & the opportunity to engage with dignitaries, reaffirming our shared commitment to serving pilgrims & enhancing the Haj experience," Rijiju posted on X.

The Union Minister also visited the iconic Al Rahmah Mosque in Jeddah, widely known as the Floating Mosque, a historic landmark reflecting Saudi Arabia's rich Islamic heritage and architectural grandeur.

Sharing a glimpse of his visit, in a post on X, Rijiju said, "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."

Rijiju arrived in Jeddah on Friday to attend the 6th Haj Conference and Exhibition 2027, participate in signing the bilateral Haj agreement with Saudi Arabia, and review preparations to ensure a safe and comfortable Haj journey for Indian pilgrims next year.

RUBIO SAYS LITTLE PROGRESS IN DIPLOMACY WITH IRAN



(IANS) Washington, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Sunday said diplomatic efforts to end the US-Iran conflict had made little progress, describing Iran's demands as "unacceptable" and unrealistic.

Speaking to reporters in Florida before leaving for France to attend a Group of Seven (G7) Foreign Ministers' meeting, Rubio said there was no sign of an imminent breakthrough, while reiterating that the Trump administration preferred a diplomatic solution.

US President Donald Trump, in an interview with CNN, said renewed large-scale military strikes against Iran were "highly unlikely" if negotiations continued to make progress, but did not rule out further military action.

Trump said any agreement would depend on Iran accepting strict conditions concerning its nuclear programme and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.

Meanwhile, the US Central Command announced the formation of Task Force Iron Gate, comprising around 20 military and civilian personnel, to coordinate efforts to disrupt the movement of advanced weapons and other materials across Iran's borders.

Trump claimed the task force was operational and, alongside the US naval blockade, had significantly restricted movement into and out of Iran. He also said Washington had identified potential targets, including power plants and bridges, but maintained that further strikes would probably not be necessary if a deal was reached.

French President Emmanuel Macron to visit Cambodia on November 14-16

(IANS) Paris, French President Emmanuel Macron will undertake a state visit to Cambodia from November 14 to 16 at the invitation of Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni, Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced on Monday.

The visit will coincide with Macron's participation in the 20th Francophonie Summit in Phnom Penh.

During his stay, Macron will meet King Sihamoni at the Royal Palace and hold bilateral talks with Senate President Hun Sen and Prime Minister Hun Manet. Several agreements covering the economy, investment, culture and defence are expected to be signed to strengthen cooperation between the two countries.

Macron will also join the Cambodian King in Siem Reap province to preside over the closing ceremony of the renovation project at the ancient Western Mebon Temple in the Angkor Archaeological Park.

According to the ministry, this will be the first state visit to Cambodia by a French president since Francois Mitterrand's visit in 1993.

France and Cambodia share longstanding historical and cultural ties, strengthened by their common Francophone links and France's development assistance following the 1991 Paris agreements. The Cambodian community in France also contributes to maintaining these relations.

However, France has previously expressed concerns over the absence of a credible opposition in Cambodia's 2018 and 2023 elections and called for greater democratic freedoms. It has also urged dialogue and respect for international law during the Cambodia-Thailand conflict.

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

With over 2.62 lakh startups, India ranks among world's top 3



The National Entrepreneurship Day, observed on November 9, highlights the growing role of entrepreneurship in India as the country has become the world's third-largest startup ecosystem with over 2.62 lakh government-recognised startups that are creating employment and expanding opportunities for youth, according to an official statement issued on Monday.

The government has recognised over 55,200 startups during FY 2025-26- the highest number of startups recognised in a single year since 2016. The shift from job seekers to job creators reflects India's growing entrepreneurial spirit, the statement said.

Startups have been able to create more than 25 lakh jobs up to October 2026. The number of startups recognised increased by 51.6 per cent year-on-year in FY 2025-26 compared to FY 2024-25, while direct jobs created rose by 36.1 per cent during the same period, according to the statement.

Besides, more than 1.07 lakh recognised startups have at least one woman director or partner, accounting for around 48 per cent of total recognised startups as on March 2026.

Recognising the importance of entrepreneurship in India's development journey, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship was established on November 9, 2014 and the day is observed as National Entrepreneurship Day.

Government initiatives such as Startup India, Fund of Funds for Startups, CGSS, SISFS, Atal Innovation Mission, and the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) support innovation, access to finance, mentorship and enterprise creation. Nearly half of recognised startups originate from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, alongside expanding rural entrepreneurship, which reflects the inclusive economic growth that is taking place in the country. India has made significant strides in building a supportive environment for aspiring entrepreneurs. This progress holds particular significance for a nation where nearly 65 per cent of the population is under 35. Recognising the potential of this demographic dividend, the government has undertaken a range of initiatives to empower young Indians across fields including entrepreneurship. Notably, startups are present across all States and Union Territories. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, and Gujarat have emerged as leading regions in terms of the number of recognised startups and direct employment generation as on March 31, 2026.

Through the government's policy support and innovation-focused initiatives, easier access to finance, and digital platforms, entrepreneurship continues to expand across India.

TRAI aims to boost interconnection framework, seamless communication across telecom networks



The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Monday released the Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026, introducing a framework for port charges for Internet Protocol (IP)-based interconnection to boost telecom interconnection and support seamless communication across networks.

The statement from the Ministry of Communications said the new regulations, effective from January 1, 2027, supplement the existing framework applicable to E1/Time Division Multiplexing (TDM)-based interconnection ports and align the regulatory regime with technological advancements and sectoral developments.

"Interconnection in telecommunications refers to the technical, operational, and commercial arrangements that connect two or more telecom networks, allowing telecommunications traffic to flow between them and enabling users of different service providers to communicate seamlessly," the statement said.

TRAI initiated a review of the regulatory framework through a Pre-Consultation Paper to ensure that the existing regulatory framework governing interconnection matters remains relevant, transparent, and conducive to efficient interconnection between service providers.

Under the amended framework, the definition of a port has been revised to include both legacy E1 ports with a capacity of 2.048 Mbps and IP ports, with bandwidth measured in Mbps or Gbps.

The regulations prescribe annual ceiling charges of Rs 5.6 lakh for a 1 Gbps IP port and Rs 42.3 lakh for a 10 Gbps IP port.

The regulation also increased flexibility in interconnection arrangements. Interconnection providers and seekers may mutually agree to charges below the prescribed ceilings. They may also mutually agree to IP-port capacities other than 1 Gbps and 10 Gbps, with charges determined transparently using the same methodology as for 1 Gbps and 10 Gbps ports.

Section 11(1)(b) of the TRAI Act, 1997 empowers TRAI to prescribe the terms and conditions of interconnection between service providers, and to ensure technical compatibility and effective interconnection between different service providers, the statement noted. The Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) Regulation, 2001 prescribes the charges payable by an interconnection seeker to an interconnection provider for terminating interconnection links at its point of interconnection.

Hyderabad Commissioner urges banks to be vigilant in view of AI-driven attacks



Hyderabad Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar on Monday urged banks and financial institutions to strengthen their cybersecurity systems in view of increasingly complex cybersecurity incidents being frequently reported.

"Entities handling citizen finances and data—including Banks, Financial Institutions, Quick Commerce, and Mobility Platforms—are requested to strengthen their cybersecurity systems, processes, and manpower against evolving AI-assisted attacks and hacker syndicates," he said. The Police Commissioner emphasised that all third-party systems, services, and modules handling confidential data must be treated on par with core applications, with stringent quality norms implemented across the ecosystem. This is crucial for the safety of citizens' finances and overall well-being, he said.

In a statement, Sajjanar asked banks, financial institutions and other entities not to compromise on cybersecurity and stay extra vigilant amidst AI-driven attacks.

In the current climate, where international cybercriminal gangs are launching sophisticated attacks using cutting-edge technology, the Commissioner emphasised that organisations handling citizens' financial transactions and sensitive data must remain highly vigilant.

He urged banks, financial institutions, quick-commerce platforms, and mobility service providers to immediately strengthen both their cybersecurity infrastructure and their pool of expert human resources.

He called for the development of proactive strategies to counter emerging challenges, including attacks powered by Artificial Intelligence and threats posed by foreign hackers.

Commissioner Sajjanar further pointed out that many Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) rely on third-party modules and API services to manage customer personal information and payment processing.

He stressed that these supporting systems must be treated with the same level of scrutiny as core applications, and that the highest security standards must be implemented across them.

Cybercriminals are currently leveraging AI agents to easily identify vulnerabilities within the networks of financial institutions.

They are specifically exploiting weaknesses such as outdated software, misconfigured internet systems, and technical loopholes in customer grievance portals. There is growing concern that these criminals use automated fund disbursement systems and payment APIs to divert crores of rupees into "mule" accounts in the blink of an eye—often wiping out digital records entirely to leave no trace for law enforcement, he said.

"To counter this emerging cyber threat, financial institutions must immediately implement key defensive measures. This includes removing obsolete APIs—such as those once created for testing purposes but left behind—from their systems. Furthermore, it is essential to ensure robust security for critical fund-disbursement systems, keep all software regularly updated, and conduct daily, rigorous security reviews of internet-facing customer portals. Institutions should also establish specific thresholds to flag unusually rapid or large-value transactions and ensure that the details of all beneficiaries are thoroughly verified," the Police Commissioner said. He advised that, before funds are credited to accounts, a full-scale KYC (Know Your Customer) process must be completed and approval from senior officials must be obtained. Furthermore, to ensure preparedness against potential cyberattacks, IT and cybersecurity teams should work in coordination to conduct frequent "Red Team" mock drills.

Organisations must adhere to the highest security standards to ensure that not even the slightest vulnerability arises within their digital systems; such proactive preventive measures are crucial for safeguarding the financial security of citizens.

Govt extends deepsea oil, gas block bidding deadline to Dec 10

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
सत्यमेव जयते



The government has extended the deadline for submitting bids for deepwater and ultra-deepwater oil and gas exploration blocks under its 10th and 11th Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) rounds to December 10, marking the seventh postponement for OALP-X and the third for OALP-XI.

The latest extension gives prospective investors nearly a month more to assess the offshore acreage on offer amid efforts to attract investment into India's technically challenging deepwater exploration sector.

The Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, has revised the bidding deadline for deepwater and ultra-deepwater blocks in OALP-X and OALP-XI to December 10.

While the government did not specify the reason for the extension, multiple media reports suggested that it could be linked to the government's Rs 84,084-crore Samudra Manthan National Offshore Exploration Scheme, whose operating guidelines were released on October 22.

The scheme provides government support of up to 50 per cent of eligible deepwater exploration drilling costs, subject to a ceiling of Rs 675 crore per well.

The extension would give companies more time to evaluate the financial support framework and the economics of the blocks.

OALP-X was launched in 2025 with 25 blocks covering around 1.83 lakh sq km across 13 sedimentary basins.

The round includes six onshore, six shallow-water, one deepwater and 12 ultra-deepwater blocks.

Of the total acreage, 19 blocks are offshore, including 13 deepwater and ultra-deepwater blocks covering about 1.24 lakh sq km.

Bidding for onshore and shallow-water blocks closed in June, while the deadline for deepwater and ultra-deepwater acreage was extended several times from July 2025.

It was earlier set for November 15 before being pushed to December 10.

OALP-XI was launched in March this year with 21 blocks covering 80,234.49 sq km across 11 sedimentary basins. It comprises 12 onshore, four shallow-water, one deepwater and four ultra-deepwater blocks.

Nine blocks are offshore, covering around 45,296 sq km.

Karnataka E20 row: Centre rejects claims of excess ethanol blending in petrol, questions testing

The Centre on Saturday rejected claims of excessive ethanol blending in petrol at certain retail outlets in Karnataka, while questioning the sampling and testing methodology adopted by the state and saying all 56 samples tested in the state under a nationwide quality monitoring exercise complied with prescribed E20 specifications.

The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) said the three public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) -- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) -- had clarified that the reported claims of 26-31 per cent ethanol blending were not supported by tests conducted under prescribed statutory and technical procedures.

E20 petrol supplied by the three companies across the country, including Karnataka, conforms to IS 17021, the Bureau of Indian Standards specification for ethanol-blended motor gasoline, the ministry said in a statement.

It further noted that the OMCs had raised concerns over the sampling procedure and testing methodology adopted during the October 2026 exercise.

"The Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005, issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, read with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) 2024, prescribes a defined procedure for sampling, retention, testing and communication of results," according to the ministry. Under the prescribed procedure, six one-litre samples are to be drawn, with two handed over to the dealer, two retained by the oil company or department and two sent to a designated laboratory. The government also said that samples collected during the September 2026 exercise were routed through the State Level Coordinator to designated OMC laboratories and tested for the required ality parameters.

However, the subsequent October exercise reportedly involved samples drawn without the participation of OMC representatives.

The companies have also not received the corresponding retention samples, complete outlet-wise details or laboratory reports, despite seeking these through the State Level Coordinator, it said.

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Sports action, cinema, & OTT.

Smriti Mandhana to lead defending champions Maharashtra in Senior Women's T20 Super League



(IANS) Pune, India skipper Smriti Mandhana will captain defending champions Maharashtra in the Super League stage of the Senior Women's T20 Trophy, with Tejal Hasabnis named as her vice-captain in a 16-member squad announced by the Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) on Monday.

Smriti was unavailable for the league stage of the competition due to her leading India to white-ball series wins over Zimbabwe at home last month. After taking a short break post the completion of the series against Zimbabwe, Smriti will be back to state duties and help Maharashtra retain the title they won last season.

Experienced campaigners such as Devika Vaidya, Anuja Patil, Mukta Magre and Gautami Naik are present, while the specialist wicketkeepers are Shivali Shinde and Damini Bankar.

The eight sides that made the Super League have been divided into two groups of four. Maharashtra have been drawn in Group B alongside Andhra, Railways and Mumbai, while Karnataka, Baroda, Vidarbha and Delhi form Group A.

All matches of the Super League stage will be held in Ahmedabad, with the Gujarat College Cricket Ground 'A' and Ground 'B' of the Narendra Modi Stadium as the venues. Maharashtra will commence their Super League campaign against Andhra in the 9 a.m. fixture at the Gujarat College Cricket Ground 'A' on November 14.

They will then face heavyweights Railways at the Narendra Modi Stadium Ground 'B' at 11 a.m. on November 16. But undoubtedly the most keenly awaited clash for Maharashtra will be against Mumbai at the Gujarat College Cricket Ground 'A' at 1.30 p.m. on November 18.

Mumbai, who are expected to be led by India batter Jemimah Rodrigues, start their campaign against Railways on November 14 and play Andhra on November 16 before meeting Maharashtra.

With each team playing only three games, the margin for error is thin. Only the two group toppers will progress, and they will square off in the final to be played at the Narendra Modi Stadium Ground 'B' on November 20.

Maharashtra squad: Smriti Mandhana (captain), Tejal Hasabnis (vice-captain), Devika Vaidya, Mukta Magre, Anuja Patil, Shweta Mane, Shraddha Pokharkar, Dnyaneshwari Patil, Isha Pathare, Ishita Khale, Gautami Naik, Shivali Shinde (wicketkeeper), Bhakti Mirajkar, Isha Ghule, Damini Bankar (wicketkeeper), and Priyanka Ghodke.



Suryakumar Yadav appointed as Mumbai captain for Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy

(IANS) Mumbai, T20 World Cup-winning captain Suryakumar Yadav has been appointed Mumbai captain for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, the Mumbai Cricket Association announced on Monday.

Mumbai will begin their campaign against Hyderabad on November 14 in Kolkata. The squad also includes Shivam Dube, Shardul Thakur and Sarfaraz Khan.

State Police Sports and Games Meet 2026

Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya Takes Detailed Review Of Arrangements For Water Sports Competitions At Ali Sagar



Players' Safety Is Top Priority, Directs To Keep Rescue Boats, Life Jackets, Lifeguards And Medical Facilities Ready

(Mohammed Baleegh Ahmed) Nizambad, As part of the closing programme of the 5th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet 2026, Nizamabad Police Commissioner Mr. P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, today conducted a detailed inspection of the arrangements for the water sports competitions to be held at Ali Sagar.

On this occasion, the Police Commissioner, while reviewing the venue selected for holding the water sports competitions at Ali Sagar, minutely inspected the spread of water, depth, water capacity, suitable places for competitions and the facilities to be provided to the players.

He also reviewed the boats being prepared for the competitions, their performance, the places for launching the boats into the water, arrangements for parking them, and the routes being made for the players to access the boats. On this occasion, he directed the concerned officials that there should be no obstruction in the movement of boats during the competitions and all arrangements should be completed in an organised manner.

Special Attention To Players' Safety

The Police Commissioner made it clear that the safety of the players participating in the water sports competitions should be given top priority. Continuous watch should be kept on the water situation and security staff should be deployed as per requirement.

He directed that rescue boats, life jackets, lifeguards, trained swimmers and immediate medical aid facilities should be kept fully ready to deal with emergency situations, so that immediate action can be taken in case of any untoward incident.

Apart from this, he also directed to pay special attention to making proper arrangements for the movement of players, coaches, technical staff and officials at the competition venue, safety of spectators, vehicle parking, drinking water and other basic facilities.

Direction To All Departments To Work In Mutual Coordination

Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya said that to make the closing programme of the 5th Telangana State Police Sports and Games Meet 2026 extremely grand, organised and successful, officials of all concerned departments should work in mutual coordination.

He stressed on completing necessary advance measures to provide better facilities to the police players participating from various districts of the State and to conduct all competitions in a safe environment in a transparent and successful manner.

On this occasion of inspection, Bodhan ACP Mr. Srinivas, Bodhan Rural Circle Inspector Mr. Vijay Babu, Rudrur Circle Inspector Mr. Krishna, Bodhan SHO Mr. Venkat Narayana, Edapally Sub-Inspector Ms. Rama and concerned staff attached to the Sports Department were also present.

Mushfiqur Rahim becomes Bangladesh's first player to score 7000 Test runs



(IANS) Sylhet, Veteran wicketkeeper-batter Mushfiqur Rahm etched his name into the history books as he became the first cricketer from Bangladesh to complete 7000 runs in Test cricket during the 2nd match against the West Indies at Sylhet International Cricket Stadium here on Monday.

Mushfiqur, who missed the first Test of the two-match series, achieved the milestone during the second innings of the second match when he took a single off Roston Chase on Day 5 to get to nine during the second session.

The 39-year-old was already the first batter from his country to have completed 5000 and 6000 Test runs and now added another feather to his illustrious career.

He is 1747 runs ahead of Bangladesh's second-highest run-getter Mominul Haque (5293 runs) and 1906 runs clear of the now-retired Tamim Iqbal, who has 5134 runs in the format.

Coming into the match, he had 6957 runs to his name and needed 43 more to get to the milestone. Mushfiqur made 34 runs in the first innings when his team put up 386 in reply to the West Indies' 356.

The wicketkeeper-batter scored 49 in the second innings when the hosts were asked to chase 369 and made 184/4 before bad light forced early stumps on Day 5 as the match ended in a draw.

Coming to Mushfiqur, he is also the most-capped Test player for Bangladesh, having featured in 107 games. He is their only player to have played in over 100 Tests, with Mominul Haque second as he has played 82 matches in the format.

Mushfiqur made his Test debut in May 2005 against England at Lord's and has become a scoring machine for them. He has already retired from the ODIs and T20Is, but continues wearing the whites for them.

UAE NAME ESHA OZA-LED 14-MEMBER SQUAD FOR WOMEN'S EMERGING NATIONS TROPHY



(IANS) Dubai, Hosts UAE have named a 14-member squad, led by Esha Oza, for the ICC Women's Emerging Nations Trophy, beginning in Ajman on November 12.

The squad includes wicketkeeper Theertha Satish, Al Maseera Jahangir, Archara Supriya, Heena Hotchandani, Indhuja Nandakumar, Janani Thirukkumaran, Mehul Kulkarni, Rinitha Rajith, Samaira Dharnidharka, Simran Seth, Sashikala Silva, Suraksha Kotte and Uttara Iyer.

The tournament will mark the first major assignment for new head coach Oscar Nauhaus, who was appointed last month.

UAE are placed in Group A alongside Sri Lanka, Ireland, Scotland and Papua New Guinea. They will open their campaign against Ireland on November 13, followed by matches against Scotland on November 15, Sri Lanka on November 16 and Papua New Guinea on November 18.

The 10-team tournament will feature a Super Six stage from November 20 to 23, with the final scheduled for November 25.

Arbaaz Khan's wife Sshura Khan lauds step-son for setting high standards as a sibling



(IANS) Mumbai, Sshura Khan, the wife of Bollywood actor Arbaaz Khan has shared a heartfelt post for the actor's son Arhaan Khan on his 24th birthday.

On Monday, she took to her Instagram, and shared a series of pictures of her step-son, as she praised him humility, ethics, and high standards as a sibling.

She wrote in the caption, "In the years that I've known you, I've admired the wonderful son and incredible friend you are, but watching you as a big brother has been a whole new discovery...!! You've set the bar so high that Sipaara might never settle for anything less. She's one lucky little sister, and you're one in a million. All our love, always. Happy Birthday, Arhaan @iamarhaankhan".

Arhaan is Arbaaz Khan's only child from his first marriage with Malaika Arora. He studied filmmaking in the United States, and assisted Karan Johar on 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani'. He also launched a podcast, 'Dumb Biryani', featuring conversations with celebrities and family members.

Arbaaz Khan and Malaika announced their separation in March 2016 after nearly 19 years of marriage. Their divorce was finalised by the Bandra Family Court on May 11, 2017. Malaika subsequently spoke about how the decision to end the marriage attracted criticism, with some people calling her selfish, but maintained that she needed to prioritise her happiness.

While Malaika dated actor Arjun Kapoor, Arbaaz subsequently dated Giorgia Andriani before marrying celebrity make-up artiste Sshura Khan in an intimate nikah ceremony on December 24, 2023, at his sister Arpita Khan's Mumbai residence. The couple welcomed a daughter in October 2025.

NICK JONAS OPENS UP ABOUT HIS STRUGGLE WITH DIABETES IN OPEN LETTER



(IANS) Los Angeles, Singer-songwriter Nick Jonas has shared that he "resents" having diabetes after spending 21 years living with the condition.

The 34-year-old singer was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of 13, and he's now spoken up about his health issue in an open letter as part of National Diabetes Awareness Month.

He addressed his message to the condition itself which he described as his "old friend", as he shared, "Hello, old friend. How long has it been? 21 years. 21 years, and you haven't changed a bit ... It's funny how often we talk. Staring at my phone to see where my glucose is. Reaching for my pump to bolus because I'm about to eat something with 17 carbs. Those are just a couple of the hundreds of little decisions I make every week. Most people never notice them. But they add up to a real relationship, because that's what diabetes is. It's an ongoing conversation between your body, your mind and your devices".

The Jonas Brothers star said that his life changed after his diagnosis because of the condition's "unpredictability".

He further mentioned, "I'd built my whole life around this unrealistic structure and belief that I was in control. You took that apart over the years, bit by bit. Part of me is grateful I learned that lesson. Part of me resents you for it. Full stop. There are days I wonder what life would feel like without you".

Nick confessed that while growing up he often didn't feel as if he "belonged" but he found a community among other diabetes sufferers.

He continued, "I always struggled to feel like I belonged anywhere. At school, I felt misunderstood. In most circles, for that matter. Through my childhood and youth, that was the theme. It wasn't until I started talking openly about life with type 1, and meeting other people who were living it too, that I finally felt like I belonged somewhere".

"I share my story for the 13-year-old who just got diagnosed and is lying in a hospital bed, scared to death. I want them to be able to look up and see someone out there living their dreams while managing all of this, every single day", he added.

Telangana Cracks Down On Rice Hoarding & Price Manipulation

Retailers advised to procure rice directly from millers; habitual offenders face action under PD Act

Hyderabad, (NSS):

The Telangana Civil Supplies Department has intensified its crackdown on rice hoarding, artificial shortages and unjustified price increases, warning traders of stringent action against market manipulation.

Director of Civil Supplies and Chief Rationing Officer G.V. Shyam Prasad Lal advised retailers facing shortages to approach District Civil Supplies Officers and procure rice directly from millers, bypassing wholesalers and middlemen.

The government has fixed maximum retail prices at Rs.66 per kg for BPT and KNM, Rs.74 for RNR and Telangana Sona, and Rs.79 for HMT and JSR varieties.

During statewide inspections from October 29 to November 5, enforcement teams conducted 1,141 checks and registered 55 cases, including 35 criminal cases. Legal Metrology officials separately conducted 1,545 inspections and booked 280 cases.

Officials detected irregularities, including 25-kg rice bags falsely labelled as 26 kg, replacement of original price tags with inflated rates, and suspected hoarding of Public Distribution System rice.

The department warned that habitual offenders could face action under the Preventive Detention (PD) Act, besides prosecution under applicable laws.

Authorities said inspections would continue to prevent overcharging, ensure fair pricing and protect consumers from exploitation.



Owaisi seeks fair enforcement of food safety norms for city eateries

Hyderabad, (NSS):

AIMIM President and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, along with a delegation from the Twin Cities Hotel Owners Association, met TG SAFE Commissioner Avinash Mohanty on Monday to address growing concerns regarding recent food safety inspections and enforcement drives across local eateries.

Speaking to reporters following the meeting, Owaisi stated that the delegation requested the Food Safety Department to strictly adhere to Section 32 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

He emphasised that authorities should issue Improvement Notices and allow hotel management a reasonable window to rectify minor deficiencies before initiating harsh actions, such as immediate suspensions.

While reaffirming that hotel owners remain committed to high hygiene standards and serving safe, quality food, the Hyderabad MP pointed out several operational constraints inherent to commercial kitchens.



He specifically highlighted practical difficulties during large-scale biryani preparation, the challenges of wearing gloves in extreme cooking heat, and traditional storage methods for fresh produce.

Simultaneously, Owaisi urged hotel and restaurant proprietors across the twin cities to maintain strict cleanliness standards and fully align with food safety regulations.



KTR slams government over Narender Reddy's arrest

Hyd: K.T. Rama Rao on Monday strongly condemned the arrest of former Kodangal MLA Patnam Narender Reddy, terming it a reflection of the State Govt's "authoritarian attitude."

Narender Reddy was taken into custody while traveling to attend the funeral of a party worker. Questioning the timing and intent of the action, KTR asked whether offering condolences to a family had become a crime under the current administration.

Asserting that the party would not be intimidated by what he called vindictive detentions, the BRS working president vowed to continue fighting on behalf of the public and party workers, while demanding Narender Reddy's immediate and unconditional release.

BRAOU Organises AI Training

Hyd (NSS): Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) has launched a six-half-day training programme titled "AI for Office Administration" for its employees, jointly organised by CSTD and COEL.

Inaugurating the programme, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani said AI could improve administrative efficiency, accuracy and productivity, but stressed the need to verify AI-generated information.

Registrar Dr. L. Vijaya Krishna Reddy highlighted AI's role in faster, transparent administration. CSTD Director Prof. K. Sridevi announced further training for non-teaching and technical staff.

Retired Telangana Treasury Deputy Director Sivakumar Reddy trained employees in note-file preparation and office procedures.

Sajjanar Warns Banks Against Rising AI-Powered Cyberattacks

Hyd Police Commissioner urges stronger security for financial transactions, third-party applications and customer data

Hyderabad: Hyderabad City Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Monday urged banks, financial institutions, quick-commerce companies and mobility platforms to strengthen cybersecurity systems against increasing threats from AI-powered cyberattacks and international hacking networks.

He warned that cybercriminals were exploiting outdated software, unpatched systems, unsecured payment interfaces and vulnerabilities in customer portals to access sensitive information and divert funds.

Sajjanar stressed that third-party applications and payment APIs used by non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) must receive the same security protection as core banking systems.

He cautioned that automated attacks could divert crores of rupees into mule accounts within seconds, sometimes leaving little digital evidence.

The Commissioner advised institutions to remove unused APIs, update software regularly, conduct daily security checks and monitor unusually rapid or high-value transactions.

He further recommended introducing special transaction-monitoring limits to detect unusually rapid and high-value transactions and ensuring thorough verification of beneficiaries before funds are transferred.

Sajjanar reiterated that organisations must follow the highest cybersecurity standards and ensure that even minor vulnerabilities in their digital infrastructure are addressed promptly. He said these preventive measures were essential to safeguarding citizens' financial interests and maintaining trust in digital transactions.

He advised cyber fraud victims and anyone noticing suspicious transactions to call 1930 or report incidents through cybercrime.gov.in.

Hyd Traffic Police Catch 578 Drunken Drivers In Two-Day Spl Drive

Hyd: Hyderabad Traffic Police caught 578 motorists driving under the influence of alcohol during a two-day special enforcement drive conducted on November 6 and 7.

Of the offenders, 495 were two-wheeler riders, 28 were three-wheeler drivers and 55 were four-wheeler and other vehicle drivers.

BAC readings revealed that 257 motorists recorded alcohol levels between 51 and 100, while 115 cases fell in the 30–50 range. Another 111 motorists registered levels of 101–150. In 95 cases, BAC levels exceeded 150, including five motorists who recorded readings above 300.

The Traffic Police reiterated their zero-tolerance policy towards drunk driving and said special enforcement drives would continue.

Congress Leader Launches Campaign to Save Hyderabad's Water

HYD: Congress leader Mohammed Waliullah Sameer launched the "Save 20%, Secure Hyderabad" campaign on Monday, urging residents to reduce water consumption by 20%.

Citing rainfall deficits of 24% in Telangana and 34% in Hyderabad, he warned of possible shortages during summer 2027. Singur-Manjeera supplies could decline by 100 MGD, leaving a 40–50 MGD shortfall.

Sameer welcomed Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's plans to arrange an additional 60 MGD.

The campaign initially covers seven Hyderabad constituencies. He urged Old City residents, educational institutions, traders and youth organisations to conserve water, repair leaks and prevent wastage.

60 eye injury cases reported at Sarojini Devi Hospital

HYD, (NSS): Diwali celebrations turned tragic for dozens in the city as firecracker-related accidents led to severe injuries, with at least two patients at risk of permanently losing their eyesight.

Hyderabad's premier eye care centre, Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital (SDEH), reported 60 outpatient (OP) cases till the latest update.

Hospital authorities confirmed that 10 victims are currently undergoing inpatient treatment, with eight severely injured patients shifted immediately to the operation theatre. Doctors stated that one patient suffered a complete eyeball rupture.

In a worrying trend, children account for nearly half of the casualties, with around 30 young victims registered for eye injuries so far. Innocent bystanders and pedestrians walking on the streets were also among those hit by stray misfiring crackers.

While SDEH is handling eye trauma, victims who sustained severe burn injuries are being transferred to Osmania General Hospital (OGH) for specialised medical care.



A boy with firecracker-related burn injuries receives medical attention at Sarojini Devi Eye Hospital in Hyderabad on Monday, following Diwali celebrations.

Photo by: Syed Omar

16 Arrested in Begum Bazaar Gambling Raid

Police search for 12 absconding suspects; commercial premises owners warned against illegal activities

Hyd: Goshamahal Police arrested 16 persons during a raid on an alleged illegal gambling operation at Dhanlakshmi Fish Godown in Begum Bazaar on Sunday.

Acting on information, police raided the premises around 12.20 am on November 8 and found suspects allegedly wagering money on 'Andar Bahar' and 'Teen Patti' in two adjoining rooms.

Police seized Rs.23,800 in cash, three sets of playing cards and four mobile phones, including an iPhone 15 Pro Max.

A case was registered under Sections 3 and 4 of the Telangana Gaming Act and Section 112(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

The arrested persons were produced before court on Monday. Police are searching for 12 other accused who remain absconding.

Police warned commercial premises owners against facilitating gambling and urged citizens to report illegal activities to nearby police stations or emergency helplines 100 and 112.

Keesara SI Caught Red-Handed for Rs.2 Lakh Bribe

Hyd: The population enumeration phase of the Census in Telangana will be conducted from January 25 to February 28, followed by a revision round from March 1 to 5, 2027.

The public will also have the option of self-enumeration, allowing individuals to submit their details through a dedicated mobile app or website between January 10 and 24.

The State government has issued orders in accordance with the Central government's Gazette notification. The first phase of the Census, covering house listing and housing enumeration, was completed across the State between May 11 and June 9, 2026.

Preparations for the second phase, involving population enumeration, are already underway. Preliminary meetings are being held, while the recruitment and training of personnel required for the exercise are in progress.



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