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THE MUNSIF

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Doctor Among Five Arrested in Dating-App Robberies
Statewatch, Page 8



PM Modi Congratulates Top 10 Mann Ki Baat Winners
Nation, Page 4



Prince William, Princess Catherine Arrive in Mumbai
Horizons, Page 5



Jay Shah Reappointed Unopposed as ICC Chair
Sports, Page 7

IN BRIEF

Supreme Court Grants Bail in Bilkis Case

Supreme Court suspends sentences of two convicts pending appeals, citing prolonged imprisonment and one appellant's disability.
P4

Imran Khan Appeals to Pakistan's Judges

Imran Khan seeks enforcement of court orders and medical care for himself and Bushra Bibi, alleging deteriorating health.
P5

Hyderabad Water Board Prepares for Summer Water Deficit

Water Board projects a possible 100 MGD shortfall in 2027 and plans additional Godavari and Krishna supplies.
P8

Hyderabad Driverless Transit Corridors

Proposals include Raidurg–Kukatpally & three additional routes, but construction, financing & final approvals remain pending.
P8

Sachin Plays Cricket With Royal Couple

Sachin Tendulkar joins Prince William and Princess Kate for gully cricket in Mumbai during their three-day India visit.
P7

Wholesale Inflation Surges to 12.29% as Fuel Costs Soar

Fuel prices jump 32.84%, increasing transport and household costs

New Delhi, (Munsif Desk): India's wholesale inflation climbed to 12.29% in October from 11.39% in September, driven mainly by rising fuel and power prices, according to provisional data released by the Commerce Ministry on Monday.

Fuel and power inflation surged to 32.84% from 25.85%, while primary articles recorded 9.24% inflation. Manufactured products registered 9.54%, slightly below September's 9.76%.

Higher energy and raw material costs could increase transportation, manufacturing and distribution expenses, placing additional pressure on small businesses and traders.

Economists caution that prolonged wholesale price increases may eventually affect household expenses if businesses pass higher costs to consumers. However, wholesale inflation does not directly measure retail prices.

Separately, consumer inflation reached 6.09% in October, exceeding the Reserve Bank of India's 6% upper tolerance limit.

With wholesale inflation reaching its highest level under the current index series, sustained energy price pressures could complicate efforts to control the cost of essential goods.

Cyclone Akvan Forms in Bay of Bengal; Andhra Coast on Orange Alert

IMD predicts November 20 landfall with winds up to 145 kmph; heavy rain warning for Telangana

HYD (Munsf Desk):

Cyclonic Storm Akvan formed over the Bay of Bengal on Monday, prompting the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to issue an orange cyclone alert for Andhra Pradesh and adjoining southern Odisha coastal areas.

According to IMD's 10 PM bulletin, the cyclone is expected to intensify into a severe cyclonic storm on Tuesday and become very severe by Thursday. It is forecast to cross the Andhra Pradesh-Yanam coast between Nellore and Tuni around noon on November 20, with sustained winds of 120–130 kmph, gusting to 145 kmph.



The weather department warned of extremely heavy rainfall in coastal Andhra Pradesh on November 19 and 20. Storm surges reaching two metres could inundate low-lying areas of Prakasam, Bapatla, Krishna, West Godavari, Konaseema and Kakinada districts.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu directed officials to take precautionary measures, deploy NDRF and SDRF teams in advance and prepare for possible electricity disruptions. Fishermen have been advised against venturing into affected waters.

Eastern Telangana may experience heavy to very heavy rainfall on November 20, followed by isolated heavy rainfall on November 21. Authorities are monitoring the cyclone's movement, with its projected landfall subject to change.

Two More Bombs Found Near Rajasthan Railway

One live device defused; recovery raises fresh concerns over passenger safety

Jaipur, (Munsif Desk): Rajasthan Police on Monday recovered two suspected explosive devices near the Ramsinghpur–Anupgarh railway track, raising fresh concerns over railway security following the November 3 explosion.

The devices were discovered near a shrine after two arrested suspects reportedly disclosed that they had planted explosives in the area on October 12–13.

Police cordoned off the location, restricted public movement and alerted railway authorities. Bomb disposal personnel subsequently neutralised the threat. One device was reportedly live, while the other was inactive.

The accused, Mahakdeep Kaur and Devendra Singh, were arrested in Punjab on November 14. The earlier explosion occurred approximately 45 minutes after a passenger train passed, leaving a two-foot-deep crater between the tracks.

Investigators suspect the accused acted on instructions from Pakistan-based handlers, although these allegations remain under investigation.

The discovery has highlighted the need for wider security inspections along vulnerable railway corridors to protect passengers.

Oil Tankers Catch Fire Amid Hormuz Shipping Threats

Dubai: Maritime security concerns intensified in the Strait of Hormuz on Monday after Iranian naval authorities reported that three oil tankers struck mines and caught fire.

Iran's navy said one tanker was immobilised east of the strait, while the Revolutionary Guards claimed two others encountered mines along a southern shipping route. These claims remain independently unverified.

Separately, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations reported that a projectile struck another tanker, causing an engine-room fire. All crew members were accounted for, with no casualties reported.

The incidents have raised concerns over shipping safety, insurance premiums and global oil supplies.

For India, prolonged disruptions in this vital energy corridor could increase crude oil import costs, freight charges and transportation expenses, potentially affecting domestic fuel prices.



Supreme Court Awards ₹30 Lakh to Man Jailed Seven Years After Acquittal

Court highlights serious administrative failures and calls for digital systems to prevent wrongful detention

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday awarded ₹30 lakh compensation to a Chhattisgarh man who remained imprisoned for more than seven years after being acquitted in a murder case, describing his detention as a serious violation of personal liberty.

A bench of Justices Augustine George Masih and Sanjeev Sachdeva ruled that Devilal Gond's continued imprisonment reflected administrative negligence and poor coordination between judicial and prison authorities.

Gond was acquitted by the Chhattisgarh High Court on January 20, 2018, but remained in prison until May 19, 2025, because the acquittal order was not effectively communicated to jail officials.

The Court increased compensation from the ₹2 lakh earlier awarded by the High Court and directed the Chhattisgarh government to pay ₹30 lakh within four weeks.

It noted that Gond lost valuable years of his youth, employment opportunities and personal freedom because of institutional failures.

Highlighting the absence of comprehensive legislation governing compensation for wrongful incarceration, the Court urged stronger safeguards.

It also asked all High Courts to consider establishing integrated digital systems connecting courts, prisons, police and prosecution authorities to ensure timely communication and implementation of release orders.

The judgment reinforces constitutional protections under Article 21 and the State's responsibility for unlawful detention.



Supreme Court Clears Lulu's Hyderabad Resolution Plan

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday upheld the validity of proceedings approving Lulu International Shopping Malls' resolution plan for Hyderabad-based Manjeera Retail Holdings, dismissing challenges filed beyond the statutory deadline. **Appeals dismissed as time-barred;** commercial unit buyers' objections remain unexamined.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Sanjeev Sachdeva ruled that appeals under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code must be filed within 30 days, with a maximum 15-day extension.

Three purchasers of commercial units in Manjeera Mall challenged the plan, alleging their payments were wrongly classified as customer advances instead of financial creditor claims.

The appeals were filed on May 11, 2025, one day beyond the permissible 45-day period.

The Court overturned the appellate tribunal's decision allowing the delay, leaving the Hyderabad NCLT's March 2025 approval undisturbed.

Lulu said it had invested ₱271.52 crore in implementing the plan, which received unanimous creditor approval. The purchasers' substantive objections were not decided, highlighting the strict deadlines governing insolvency appeals.

Bahrain Sentences 64 to Life in Iran-Linked Terror Case

Shiite clerics among those convicted; rights groups raise serious concerns over trial fairness

Manama: Bahrain's High Criminal Court on Monday sentenced 64 defendants to life imprisonment and five others to 15 years over allegations of involvement in a terrorist organisation linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guards.

The Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy said 60 defendants were Shiite clerics. Prominent religious leader Sheikh Isa Qassim, who lives in Iran, was among those sentenced to life imprisonment.

Prosecutors accused the defendants of plotting to overthrow the government, raising unauthorised funds and using religious institutions to promote allegiance to Iran's leadership.

The court also ordered confiscation of more than eight million Bahraini dinars and imposed fines on some defendants.

Human-rights organisations alleged torture, coerced confessions and restrictions on access to evidence, questioning the fairness of the proceedings.

Bahraini prosecutors maintained that legal safeguards were respected and defence lawyers participated in hearings. The verdicts can be appealed.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves.

Governance, development, welfare and districts shaping the State.

Cyclone 'Akwan' set to intensify; Chennai faces very heavy rain on Nov 18-19

Munsif Desk, Chennai:

Cyclone 'Akwan', likely to form over the Bay of Bengal on Monday, may intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by Tuesday, the Chennai meteorological department said, forecasting heavy to very heavy rainfall in Chennai and neighbouring districts during the coming days.

In its weather bulletin, the department said the system would gather strength over the next two days and move northwestwards towards the Andhra Pradesh coast.

The forecast also pointed to a cyclonic circulation persisting over the southeast Arabian Sea off the Kerala coast.

Under the influence of these weather systems, isolated places across northern coastal Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Karaikal are likely to receive moderate rainfall on Monday. Light rain is expected at one or two places in southern Tamil Nadu. Rainfall is forecast to intensify from Tuesday, with heavy showers likely at isolated places in Chennai, Tiruvallur and Chengalpattu districts.

These three districts are also expected to receive very heavy rainfall on November 18 and 19, making Wednesday and Thursday the main period of concern in the forecast.

The department has additionally predicted heavy rainfall on Wednesday in Kancheepuram, Ranipet, Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Cuddalore and Mayiladuthurai districts, as well as Puducherry.

The warning extends the area of expected heavy rainfall beyond Chennai and its neighbouring districts to several other parts of northern Tamil Nadu. The forecast indicates a progression from isolated moderate showers along the northern coast on Monday to heavier rainfall from Tuesday.

Chennai, Tiruvallur and Chengalpattu feature in both the heavy rainfall forecast for Tuesday and the very heavy rainfall outlook for the following two days. Alongside the rainfall forecast, the department issued a warning for fishermen, citing the possibility of winds reaching 60 km per hour.

Fishermen have been advised against venturing into the sea along the north Tamil Nadu coast, the southwest Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea.

The marine warning covers waters where strong winds are expected as the weather system develops over the Bay of Bengal.

It accompanies the rainfall alerts issued for coastal and adjoining districts during the same period.

Children's public hearing held to address their grievances



Munsif Desk, Gadwal:

Gadwal District Collector Rizwan Basha Shaik said that the special Children's Public Hearing would help identify and address issues faced by children. A Children's Public Hearing programme was organised by the Department of Women Development and Child Welfare at the IDOC Meeting Hall on Monday, alongside the regular Prajavani public grievance redressal programme, as part of the Children's Day week celebrations.

Addressing the gathering, the Collector said that petitions had been received highlighting various issues in government schools, including the need for additional classrooms, playgrounds, toilets, filling up of vacant teacher posts and other basic facilities. He assured that the issues would be brought to the notice of the concerned authorities and necessary steps would be taken to resolve them.

He further stated that 73 applications received during the District Public Grievance Redressal programme held every Monday were still pending and directed officials to resolve them without delay. He said that a total of 40 petitions relating to various departments had been received during the programme this week.

Later, the Collector reviewed departmental activities with district officials and informed them that the Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme would be launched on November 19.

CMRF a strong support for the poor: MLA A Srinivas

Munsif Desk, Rajanna Circilla:



Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Adi Srinivas said that the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) is proving to be a strong source of support for poor and middle-class families during difficult times.

On Monday, Adi Srinivas distributed Chief Minister's Relief Fund cheques worth ₹17.40 lakh among 60 eligible beneficiaries from Vemulawada town at the MLA Camp Office in Vemulawada, Rajanna Sircilla district.

Speaking on the occasion, he said the CMRF was providing significant financial assistance to poor families facing financial difficulties while undergoing medical treatment for various illnesses. He stated that the government stands firmly with economically weaker sections who struggle to afford medical treatment due to financial constraints and is extending support to ease their hardships.

He further said that the people's government is committed to the welfare of the poor and is taking steps to ensure that the benefits of various government welfare schemes reach all eligible beneficiaries. He added that the government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is giving special priority to public health and welfare.

BANDI SANJAY DEMANDS REGULARISATION OF NHM EMPLOYEES

Munsif Desk, Karimnagar:

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar has urged the Telangana government to fulfil its promises and immediately regularise the contract and outsourcing employees working under the National Health Mission (NHM). He also demanded payment of full wages withheld during the employees' strike, warning that he would lead an agitation if their demands were not addressed.

A delegation of NHM employees led by JAC president Ramesh met Bandi Sanjay at his residence in Karimnagar on Monday and submitted a memorandum outlining their demands.

Govt to return mortgaged house pattas to 7 lakh

(NSS), Hyderabad:

The Telangana government has decided to return the house pattas and possession certificates that were mortgaged by beneficiaries of housing schemes implemented in the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh. In a statement issued on Monday, Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the move would benefit around seven lakh families across the State.

Prior to the formation of Telangana, state housing schemes were funded through a mix of government subsidies.

Demand for immediate repair and reconstruction of dilapidated road

Munsif Desk, Kagaznagar:

Durgam Ratnakar submitted a memorandum to Adilabad erstwhile district MLC Dande Vittal and Sirpur MLA Dr Palvai Harish Babu, urging them to take immediate steps for repairing the badly damaged road at Venkatraopet village in Sirpur (T) mandal of Komaram Bheem Asifabad district and ensure the construction of a new road as a permanent solution.

On the occasion, Ratnakar pointed out that the village road had deteriorated severely, with large potholes at several places, causing considerable inconvenience to local residents, farmers, students and motorists on a daily basis.

He said that two-wheeler riders were particularly vulnerable to accidents while travelling on the road.

The situation becomes even more serious during the rainy season.

He appealed to MLC Dande Vittal and MLA Dr Palvai Harish Babu to take special interest in the matter, hold discussions with the concerned officials, inspect the road and initiate repair works immediately.

He also urged them to sanction the necessary funds for the construction of a new road to provide permanent relief to the villagers from their long-standing problem.

Ratnakar said the memorandum was submitted with the objective of promoting village development and resolving public grievances.

Former BRS mandal president Aslam Bin Abdullah, Pansa Lakshman.

Lakshman and other residents of Venkatraopet were present on the occasion.

Collector seeks speedy redressal of Prajavani petitions



Munsif Desk, Hanamkonda:

Hanamkonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai directed officials concerned to take immediate steps to resolve petitions received from the public during the Prajavani grievance redressal programme and ensure that no application remains pending.

The Collector received petitions from the public during the Prajavani programme held at the conference hall of the Hanamkonda District Collectorate on Monday, in the presence of district-level officials from various departments.

Speaking on the occasion, she stressed that every petition received during Prajavani should be treated as a priority and resolved at the earliest. She instructed officials of the respective departments to initiate necessary action promptly and ensure that applications relating to their departments are not kept pending.

Collector seeks prompt redressal of children's grievances

Munsif Desk, Rajanna Sircilla,:

Rajanna Sircilla District Collector Garima Agarwal directed officials concerned to take necessary steps to address issues faced by children and ensure the protection of their rights.



As part of the Children's Rights Week celebrations organised by the Telangana State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (TGSCPCR), a special Children's Prajavani programme was conducted alongside the regular Prajavani at the Integrated District Collectorate Complex on Monday.

On the occasion of Children's Day, the District Collector wrote and signed a message on a specially installed board, stating, "Children, you are our future. Soar to greater heights; we are with you."

District Collector Garima Agarwal and Telangana State Commission for Protection of Child Rights member Maripally Chandana received petitions directly from children. The representations included requests for pensions for persons with disabilities, construction of additional classrooms, provision of basic facilities in educational institutions, Indiramma houses and admission to residential educational institutions.

The Collector forwarded the petitions to officials of the concerned departments and instructed them to take necessary measures to resolve the issues.

Speaking on the occasion, Garima Agarwal said that the problems faced by children would be brought to the attention of the respective departmental officials and appropriate steps would be taken to address them. She emphasised that the primary objective of the special Children's Prajavani was to ensure a better future for children, protect their rights and find solutions to the issues affecting them.

Child Welfare Committee Chairman Anjaiah, District Welfare Department official Lakshmi Rajam.

Operation chabutra conducted in Matwada, Inthezargunj

Munsif Desk, Warangal:

Warangal Police conducted a special drive, Operation Chabutra, in the limits of Matwada and Inthezargunj Police Stations on Saturday night, following the directions of Police Commissioner N. Shwetha, IPS, and under the supervision of Central Zone DCP Dhara Kavitha.

As part of the operation, eight special police teams were deployed to conduct extensive checks in several areas, including Rangampet, Auto Nagar, Ramannapet, Mandi Bazaar, Railway Station, Vegetable Market, Girmajipet, Lakshmipuram, Bus Stand, Venkataram Junction, Charbouli, Nizampura, Moosa Ali DMart area, LB Nagar, Shantinagar, Teachers Colony, Navayuga Colony, Kashibugga, Tilak Road, O City Road, Padmanagar Colony and Vivekananda Colony.

The teams conducted vehicle inspections, drunk-driving tests, verification of suspicious persons and special checks against public consumption of liquor.

Matwada Police Station Limits:

Seized 32 two-wheelers without valid vehicle documents. Registered nine cases against persons consuming liquor in public places. Booked 16 cases for drunk driving.

Registered three e-challan cases for rash and negligent driving.

Conducted raids on two belt shops and seized liquor stocks worth approximately ₹10,000.

Checked seven rowdy-sheeters and seven suspected persons.

Inthezargunj Police Station Limits:

Registered 30 cases relating to public drinking and e-challan violations. Booked 12 cases for drunk driving.

Registered five cases against persons driving without valid driving licences.



Detained 56 vehicles at the police station.

Checked four rowdy-sheeters and five suspected persons.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Speaks.

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

Flood of Complaints to Prajavani

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed
Nizamabad:

Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi directed officials to accord priority to the Prajavani grievance redressal programme and ensure the prompt resolution of public complaints.

A total of 154 petitions were received during the Prajavani programme held at the meeting hall of the Integrated District Offices Complex on Monday.

Complainants from various parts of the district submitted their grievances to the Collector and other senior officials, including Additional Collectors Raja Goud and Bhujanga Rao, Trainee Collector Suresh, Municipal Corporation Commissioner Dilip Kumar, ZP CEO Saya Goud and ACP Srisailam.

The Collector instructed officials to regularly review the petitions, initiate necessary action without keeping them pending and ensure their speedy resolution.

Officials from various departments participated in the programme.

Harish Rao seeks fulfilment of promises to siddipet people

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

Former Minister and BRS MLA T. Harish Rao has demanded that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy release the ₹1,070 crore sanctioned by the previous BRS government before setting foot in Siddipet during his proposed visit on November 19.

He alleged that the Congress government had withheld the funds after coming to power in 2023.

Speaking to reporters in Siddipet, Harish Rao also demanded that Revanth Reddy apologise to the people of Siddipet for failing to fulfil the promises made to them. Referring to the Chief Minister's speech ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Rao said the government had failed to waive farm loans of all eligible farmers.

Of the 43,000 farmers in the Siddipet Assembly constituency, only 20,000 had benefited from the loan waiver, he claimed.

He further alleged that the Congress government had failed to release the enhanced Rythu Bharosa assistance to farmers.

The former Minister urged the Chief Minister to release Rythu Bharosa funds for the Yasangi season and waive the pending loans of all remaining eligible farmers.

Naidu asks officials to monitor Bay of Bengal weather system

Munsif Desk Amaravati:

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Monday directed officials to take precautionary measures in view of a looming cyclone expected to affect the coastal regions of the State on November 20.

A deep depression over parts of the Bay of Bengal is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm by Monday evening, a severe cyclonic storm by November 17 and further into a very severe cyclonic storm near the Andhra Pradesh coast around November 19. This would make it the third cyclone to affect the southern State within three weeks.

"Naidu directed officials to take precautionary measures in view of the cyclone expected to affect the Coastal Andhra region on November 20," an official press release said.

During a review meeting at the Real Time Governance Society (RTGS) Centre at the Secretariat, he instructed officials to continuously monitor the weather system.

The Chief Minister directed officials to consider the recommendations of the Central assessment team and ensure their implementation at the field level.

Officials informed the Chief Minister that the developing cyclone could bring moderate to heavy rainfall along the Coastal Andhra coast on November 19 and 20, the press release said.

They said the cyclone was likely to affect several areas, including Konaseema, Kakinada, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, NTR and Guntur districts.

In view of the impending threat, the Chief Minister directed officials to deploy National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams in advance and keep electricity department personnel ready to restore power supply on a war footing in the event of disruptions.

He also instructed officials to take necessary steps to divert floodwaters resulting from heavy rainfall into reservoirs to ensure effective water management, the press release added.

Man murdered over alleged extramarital affair in nizamabad

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed Nizamabad:

A man was allegedly murdered by his wife and her paramour in Khoja Colony under the limits of Nizamabad One Town Police Station, reportedly because he was obstructing their alleged illicit relationship. The police have arrested the deceased's wife, Farhana Begum, and her alleged lover, Sheikh Mansoor, and sent them to judicial remand.

According to One Town Station House Officer (SHO), the incident took place on the night of November 14. The victim, identified as Sajjad Khan, was found dead at his residence in Khoja Colony.

As marks were noticed on the deceased's neck and his relatives expressed suspicions over the circumstances surrounding his death, police initially registered a suspicious death case and launched an investigation. During the investigation, police took Farhana Begum and Sheikh Mansoor into custody for questioning. According to the police.

HYDRAA Commissioner & Shamshabad Tahsildar to appear before Court in contempt case

(NSS), Hyderabad:

HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath and Shamshabad Tahsildar Amaralingam appeared before the Telangana High Court in a contempt of court case.

Justice C V Bhaskar Reddy, after recording their presence, later dispensed with their personal appearance after the Government Pleader representing the officials informed the court that they were present.

Counsel for the petitioner sought time to file a reply in the contempt proceedings. Granting the request, the court directed that the matter be listed after two weeks for filing of the reply.

The contempt petition was filed by Mohammed Tajamaluddin alias Moinuddin Khan, alleging wilful disobedience of the High Court's order dated October 23, 2024. The petitioner alleged that the Shamshabad Tahsildar and HYDRAA Commissioner had forcibly taken possession of his property in Survey No. 626/2AA at Shamshabad village and mandal, demolished the existing structure and erected fencing with a nameplate declaring the land as government property.

He contended that the authorities had taken these steps without issuing any notice or following due process of law.

In its earlier order, the High Court had permitted the petitioner to approach the competent authorities under Section 22-A(4) of the Registration Act, 1908, seeking deletion of the property from the prohibitory list.

HYD TO HOST 85th INDIAN ROADS CONGRESS SESSION

(NSS), Hyderabad:

Preparations are in full swing for the 85th Annual session of the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) 2026, scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from November 19 to 22. More than 3,000 delegates, including road engineers, government officials and infrastructure experts from India and abroad, are expected to attend the four-day event.

Around 400 exhibition stalls will showcase the latest technologies, products and innovations in the road infrastructure sector.

Speaking about the arrangements with newsmen, Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said the state government was making elaborate arrangements for accommodation.

Girl takes KAS exam on iv drip in exam hall

Munsif Desk , Raichur:

In an unusual incident, a female candidate appeared for the KAS Probationary Examination while receiving intravenous (IV) fluids at the examination centre in Raichur city on Sunday.

The candidate reportedly fell seriously ill after entering the examination hall at KEB School Centre and was unable to write the examination due to her deteriorating health.

Noticing her condition, police personnel immediately arranged medical assistance. She was shifted to a separate room, where medical staff administered saline and provided necessary treatment.

After her condition improved slightly, she was permitted to continue writing the examination under the supervision of nursing staff, who closely monitored her health. She subsequently wrote the examination while receiving IV fluids.

Raichur Taluka Tahsildar Suresh Verma and Raichur Division



Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Shantaveer K. took special interest in ensuring that the candidate received immediate medical assistance while also supervising the examination arrangements.

Harish refutes Uttam's claims on Kaleshwaram site shift

(NSS), Hyderabad: Former Minister and BRS Deputy Floor Leader T. Harish Rao on Monday accused Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy of repeatedly making false statements regarding the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, alleging that the Minister had fallen into the habit of spreading misinformation "due to bad company." Addressing a press conference in Siddipet, Harish Rao responded to remarks made by Uttam Kumar Reddy in New Delhi on Sunday, wherein the Irrigation Minister alleged that the project site was shifted from Tummidihatti to Medigadda for political gains and commissions. "The Congress has adopted a strategy of repeating a lie 100 times in the hope that it will eventually be accepted as the truth.

Zakat centre india holds regional meet, distributes aid

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed
Nizamabad:

The regional meeting of Zakat Centre India was held at Knowledge Park International School in Nizamabad, with office-bearers and members representing 10 units from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka participating in the programme. The meeting focused on reviewing the organisation's activities and performance, assessing the functioning of various units, discussing challenges and preparing an effective action plan for future projects and priorities. Detailed discussions were held on strengthening and streamlining the collection and distribution of Zakat, identifying deserving beneficiaries, ensuring transparent and effective utilisation of Zakat funds, strengthening relations with existing donors, reaching out to new donors and improving coordination among different units. Members also discussed various practical measures to improve the organisation's administrative and organisational functioning and expand its activities to achieve future objectives. Zakat Distribution Programme On the occasion, Zakat Centre India, Nizamabad Unit, organised a special Zakat Distribution Programme under the supervision and presence of Abdul Jabbar Siddiqui.

Adilabad police coaching concludes for 300 aspirants

Munsif Desk,
Adilabad:

A two-month-long free coaching programme conducted by the police department for police job aspirants concluded in Adilabad on Saturday.

Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan attended the concluding programme. He said 300 candidates from several parts of the district were provided quality coaching under the programme, which commenced on September 7.

Aspirants for Sub-Inspector posts will appear for the preliminary examination on November 29, while candidates aspiring to become constables will take the test on December 20, Mahajan said.

The SP advised candidates not to waste time and prepare well for the preliminary examination.

He said experts from Hyderabad, Warangal, Nalgonda and Karimnagar guided the aspirants in reasoning, English, history and other subjects.

The candidates were also given study material as part of the initiative.

Two Town Inspector K. Nagaraju, Reserve Inspector D. Venkati, police staff and subject experts

Kavitha seeks full probe into harish rao's alleged corruption

CM criticised for not raising drought and farmers' issues during meeting with PM

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed
Nizamabad:

Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha has demanded a comprehensive investigation into the alleged corruption involving former Minister Harish Rao, asserting that all facts must be brought to light before the public.

She made it clear that her party would continue its campaign against the alleged corruption through public agitation as well as legal and judicial channels. Speaking to the media during her visit to Nizamabad district on Monday, Kavitha said that all evidence relating to the issue would also be submitted to the CBCID and the Central Vigilance Commission. She asserted that her party believes anyone found guilty must be punished in accordance with the law.

Criticising Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over the drought situation arising from the effects of El Niño in Telangana, Kavitha accused him of showing a lack of seriousness towards the issue.

She expressed surprise that the Chief Minister, during his meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday, had not raised the drought situation, farmers' hardships and the condition of crops



in the state. She said the Chief Minister should have sought financial assistance from the Centre to support distressed farmers.



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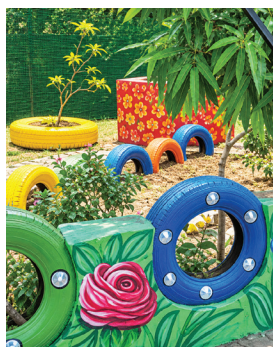
At a Glance

Five killed in Punjab highway crash

(IANS) Fazilka, Five people, including three children, were killed and 11 injured when a Tavera carrying wedding guests collided with a pickup truck on the Ferozepur-Fazilka highway on Sunday.

The Tavera was returning from a marriage ceremony at Karni Khera village. The party had travelled from Tiwana.

Five occupants died on the spot. The deceased included a man, a woman and three children, the youngest reportedly three. Fazilka Civil Hospital doctor Amit Raj Lamba said 11 injured people were brought in. Four critically injured were referred to Faridkot Medical College; others are treated in Fazilka.



Swachh Bharat Mission: Garbage dump in Delhi University is now a selfie point

(IANS) Mumbai, A garbage dump in Delhi University's Patel Chest area has been turned into an RRR (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Centre and selfie point by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0.

The MCD's Civil Lines Zone and Delhi MSW Solutions Ltd carried out the project, using 45 discarded tyres and over 3,000 used bricks.

The centre accepts unused clothes, books, toys and e-waste for reuse, refurbishment and recycling. Officials said the makeover promotes sustainability and shows how discarded materials can be put to productive use locally.

PM Modi congratulates top 10 Mann Ki Baat Quiz winners, announces next edition for Nov 29

(IANS) New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday congratulated the winners of the Mann Ki Baat Quiz organised for the 139th episode of his monthly radio programme and announced that the next edition of the quiz will go live on November 29.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister's official website, narendramodi_in, announced the names of the top 10 lucky winners of the quiz conducted for the October 2026 episode.

"Hearty congratulations to our top performers! We are pleased to share the Top 10 Lucky Winners of the Mann Ki Baat Quiz for the 139th Episode (October 2026) on the NaMo App," the post said.

It also informed participants about the upcoming edition, adding, "Mark your calendars. The next edition of the quiz will go live on 29 November 2026, following PM Narendra Modi's next address. Stay tuned."



The Mann Ki Baat Quiz is an interactive online trivia competition organised by the Government of India through platforms such as the MyGov Quiz portal and the NaMo App.

It is designed to test participants' understanding of the subjects, inspiring community initiatives, policy-related highlights and stories discussed by Prime Minister Modi during his monthly radio broadcast, Mann Ki Baat.

The quiz is also organised around significant milestones associated with the programme. Special editions have previously been launched to mark important occasions, including the 100th episode of Mann Ki Baat in April 2023 and the completion of 10 years of the programme during October-November 2024.

The competition generally features multiple-choice questions (MCQs), which participants are required to answer within a specified time limit. In a typical format, contestants may be asked to attempt 10 questions within 300 seconds.

The quiz is also made available in several regional languages to encourage wider participation, and generally carries no negative marking for incorrect answers.

Participants stand a chance to receive cash prizes, certificates and recognition for their performance. Special milestone editions have offered substantial rewards, including grand prizes of up to Rs 1,00,000 for top performers, along with consolation prizes for runners-up.

Apart from the online quiz, youth organisations such as the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan have also conducted parallel competitions and organised interaction programmes involving dignitaries for the winners.

These initiatives aim to encourage young people to engage with the themes and messages highlighted during Mann Ki Baat and provide them with opportunities for wider participation.

Rahul, Kharge hold meeting with UP Cong leaders to discuss 2027 poll preparations

(IANS) New Delhi, LLok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday held a meeting with senior Uttar Pradesh Congress leaders in New Delhi to review the party's preparations and discuss its strategy for the 2027 Assembly elections.

The meeting, held at 10, Rajaji Marg, was attended by Congress General Secretary (Organisation) K.C. Venugopal, General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi, Uttar Pradesh Congress in-charge Rajendra Pal Gautam, state Congress president Aradhana Misra, Working President Imran Masood and Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Virendra Chaudhary.

After the meeting, Kharge said the discussions centred on the prevailing political situation in Uttar Pradesh and the forthcoming Assembly elections. He expressed confidence that the polls would play a significant role in shaping a new direction for the country's politics.



In a post on X, Kharge said: "Today, I had an in-depth discussion with senior leaders of the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee about the state's political situation and the upcoming assembly elections."

He added: "The upcoming elections in Uttar Pradesh will give a new direction to the country's politics. The people of the state are looking for change and want to see social justice, equal opportunities and the rights of marginalised communities strengthened."

Expressing confidence in the party's electoral prospects, Kharge said, "I am fully confident that the Congress party, together with the INDIA bloc, will present a strong alternative to the people of Uttar Pradesh," Kharge said on X.

Meanwhile, formal seat-sharing negotiations between the Congress and the Samajwadi Party (SP) for the UP elections are scheduled to begin on November 17. The Congress has submitted a list seeking 181 seats out of the state's total 403 Assembly constituencies. SP president Akhilesh Yadav, meanwhile, has maintained that seats would be allocated to whichever party is in a stronger position to win the respective constituencies.

NIA arrests another accused in Rs 30.72-crore drug seizure case in Mizoram

(IANS) New Delhi/ Aizawl, The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested another accused, Nurul Islam, from Silchar in Assam in connection with the seizure of 236.33 kg of methamphetamine tablets worth about Rs 30.72 crore in Mizoram's Champhai district in May last year, the agency said on Monday.

Digital devices, including mobile phones and memory cards, were seized from Islam during the arrest.

According to an NIA statement, the banned psychotropic substance was seized in Champhai district, which shares a largely unfenced international border with Myanmar. The arrest is part of the agency's ongoing investigation.

The NIA said its investigation had identified Islam as the alleged mastermind behind the cross-border trafficking of the seized methamphetamine tablets from Myanmar to mainland India through an interstate drug trafficking network.



The case was registered as an FIR at Dungtlang Police Station last year. Five accused, including two from Mizoram, two from Tripura and one from Assam, had earlier been chargesheeted, the statement said.

Further investigation is underway to identify others involved in the alleged conspiracy and uncover the wider network.

Mizoram and Manipur have emerged as major drug-trafficking corridors in the Northeast because of their long, porous borders with Myanmar and proximity to the Golden Triangle, a major illicit narcotics-producing region.

Six districts of Mizoram and five districts of Manipur share a combined 910-km border with Myanmar, making the states vulnerable to smuggling. The Golden Triangle, comprising areas of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand, is a major hub for illicit narcotics, including synthetic drugs.

SC suspends sentence, grants bail to two convicts in Bilkis Bano gang-rape case

(IANS) New Delhi, The Supreme Court has suspended the sentences and granted bail to two convicts in the Bilkis Bano gang-rape case linked to the 2002 post-Godhra riots. The relief came during the hearing of their appeals against the Bombay High Court verdict upholding their conviction and life imprisonment.

A Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Prasanna B. Varale granted relief to Bipinchandra Kanaiyalal Joshi alias Lala Doctor and Pradip Ramanlal Modhiya. It noted that they had been in prison for more than 17 years and that one was severely handicapped.

The Bench observed: "The appellants have been under incarceration for a period of more than seventeen years, and also the fact remains that one of the appellants has a severe handicap. Certainly, there are issues to be decided in the appeal, both on fact and law."

The court directed their release on bail on terms set by the trial court.

Senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, appearing for the appellants, said they had spent over 17 years in prison. He submitted that one appellant had not been named in the FIR and was implicated nearly three years after the incident.

Additional Solicitor General Raja Thakre, appearing for the Gujarat government, opposed the pleas, arguing that the trial court and High Court had considered the relevant material in view of the seriousness of the offences.

Bilkis Bano was five months pregnant when she was gang-raped during the communal violence in Gujarat after the Godhra train burning in February 2002. Several family members, including her three-year-old daughter, were killed.



The appellants were convicted under provisions of the Indian Penal Code relating to rioting, murder and gang-rape. On May 4, 2017, the Bombay High Court upheld their conviction and life sentences.

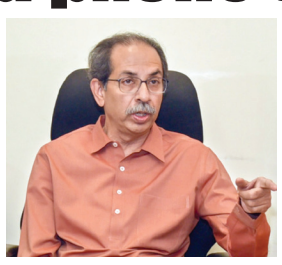
In January 2024, the Supreme Court set aside the Gujarat government's remission to 11 convicts, ruling that the state lacked jurisdiction, and directed them to surrender.

The trial was shifted to Mumbai in 2004. In 2008, a Special CBI court there convicted 11 accused and sentenced them to life imprisonment for gang-rape and murder.

Shiv Sena (UBT) questions legality of alleged phone tapping

(IANS) Mumbai, The Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) questioned the legality of alleged phone tapping, citing the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, and the Telecommunication Act, 2023, in an editorial in its mouthpiece, 'Saamana'.

The editorial criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah over surveillance allegations, referring to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's claim that incriminating material against the Prime Minister was stored on his phone and that authorities were trying to erase and monitor it.



It argued that intercepting opposition leaders' communications on political directions would be a criminal offence and an invasion of privacy. Citing Section 5(2) of the Telegraph Act and Section 20 of the Telecommunication Act, it said interception was permitted only under specified circumstances involving national security, sovereignty and public emergencies.

The editorial alleged that surveillance could extend beyond Rahul Gandhi, naming Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and senior military officers as possible targets.

It recalled the Pegasus spyware controversy and compared it with former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, predicting political consequences for the central leadership.

The editorial accused Fadnavis of using Maharashtra's police machinery to monitor political rivals and journalists. It alleged senior police officers had been sent to Israel for phone-tapping training.

The Shiv Sena (UBT) warned that alleged misuse of surveillance would undermine constitutional safeguards, erode public trust and could provoke protests against the government.

Journalist must shape society with truth, courage: Stalin on National Press Day

(IANS) Chennai, DMK president and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday greeted journalists on National Press Day, saying the media must shape public thought through truth, integrity and commitment to society.

In a message on X, Stalin said journalism should not involve blindly forming opinions based on personal likes and dislikes or assumptions presented as common sense. He stressed that journalists had a responsibility towards society and public discourse.

Describing the media as democracy's fourth pillar, Stalin said its central task was to guide and reform social thinking, particularly when society appeared to face intellectual or moral decline. He said this responsibility made the media's role significant.

Stalin greeted journalists who discharged their duties with honesty, courage, a passion for uncovering the truth, hard work and patience.

National Press Day is observed on November 16.

Stalin's message comes against the backdrop of his family's association with journalism and the Dravidian movement's publishing tradition. His father, Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi, founded 'Murasoli' in 1942. The publication became the DMK's mouthpiece and a platform for communicating the party's ideology and positions.



Karunanidhi combined his political career with work as a journalist, editor and writer. His writings addressed political developments and social issues. Stalin's message underlined that establishing facts must remain central to journalism and its responsibility towards society too.

Australia: Four teenagers hospitalised after stolen car crash in Queensland



(IANS) Queensland, Four teenagers were hospitalised after a stolen car crashed into another vehicle in Brisbane's eastern suburbs in Queensland, police said on Monday.

The car was reported stolen Sunday. The collision occurred about 9 km east of central Brisbane at 3.45 pm.

The 14-year-old driver and three passengers — two girls aged 15 and a 16-year-old boy — were taken to hospital. One girl was in a critical condition, Xinhua News Agency reported. The other vehicle's occupants were uninjured.

Police charged the teenage driver with three counts of dangerous operation of a vehicle causing death or grievous bodily harm, and driving without a licence.

In a separate incident south of Brisbane shortly before 9 pm on Sunday, a 50-year-old man riding a stolen motorbike was critically injured after failing to stop at a red light and colliding with a car. He was taken to hospital with leg injuries.

Earlier this month, a car crashed into a medical centre in Bundaberg, about 300 km north of Brisbane, striking several people.

A 63-year-old man in the waiting room suffered critical injuries and later died. His 63-year-old partner was taken to hospital with life-threatening injuries, Xinhua reported.

Queensland Police Chief Inspector Grant Marcus said investigators were examining whether speed or a mechanical fault contributed. He said it did not appear deliberate.

The 71-year-old woman driving the car was hospitalised with injuries not considered serious, police added.

PRINCE WILLIAM, PRINCESS CATHERINE TO ARRIVE IN MUMBAI TODAY



(IANS) New Delhi, Britain's Prince William and Princess Catherine will arrive in Mumbai on Monday for the 2026 Earthshot Prize awards ceremony as part of their three-day visit to India, the British government announced on Sunday.

The royal couple will attend the awards ceremony on Tuesday before travelling to New Delhi, where they are scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday.

This will be their second official visit to India, following their first trip in April 2016.

According to the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Prince and Princess of Wales will interact with people from different walks of life in Mumbai and gain insights into the innovation, optimism and creativity shaping India's future.

Their programme will focus on key areas such as sustainable urban transport, responsible manufacturing, youth-led environmental initiatives and India's globally influential creative industries.

The visit will also highlight innovative efforts to address environmental challenges and promote sustainable development.

Founded by Prince William, the Earthshot Prize aims to identify, recognise and support innovative solutions to some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges, including climate change, waste management, air pollution, ocean conservation and biodiversity loss.

Five winners are selected every year, with each recipient receiving £1 million, approximately $1.3 million, to support and expand their initiatives.

Meanwhile, the Mumbai Traffic Police have announced temporary traffic diversions, road closures and parking restrictions across several parts of South Mumbai from Monday until November 19 in view of the royal visit.

A notification issued by Hemrajsingh Rajput, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South), Traffic, Mumbai, details restrictions and changes to vehicle movement around Hutatma Rajguru Chowk, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Marg, Ballard Pier and roads in the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) area.

The restrictions are part of security and traffic arrangements for the royal couple's visit. Commuters are likely to face changes in vehicle movement along the affected stretches during the specified period.

The Mumbai Traffic Police have advised motorists and other road users to take note of the restrictions and plan their journeys accordingly to avoid inconvenience.

UN climate chief urges shift to renewable energy



(IANS) Antalya,(Turkey), The artificial intelligence (AI) industry must address rising energy use and carbon emissions, invest in renewable power and ensure developing countries benefit, the UN climate chief said on Monday.

Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of the UN climate change agency, warned that electricity demand from data centres was pressuring power systems, raising costs for households and businesses and threatening climate goals.

"AI and other frontier technologies are a double-edged sword," Stiell said at a Green Digital Action Roundtable on AI at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP31), which entered its final week in Antalya, Turkey.

He said AI's benefits must outweigh its environmental and economic costs and reach all countries.

Stiell criticised companies turning to fossil fuels to meet rising demand, including developers building gas-fired power plants at their own sites to bypass grid constraints.

"Taking fossil fuels off the grid does not take their emissions out of the atmosphere," he said, warning that unchecked warming could threaten the economies on which technology companies depend.

Stiell urged company leaders to align business strategies with international climate goals, including the 2015 Paris Agreement. He called for climate targets, greater efficiency, disclosure of energy and water consumption and community participation.

Data centres should use renewable energy, with clean power matching rising demand without shifting costs to households and other sectors, he said.

He warned that developing countries risked being left behind because of limited access to finance, computing capacity and reliable data. AI could provide early flood warnings, help farmers prepare for droughts and improve grids integrating wind and solar power.

Stiell highlighted Tanzania's CLIMAID, developed by Upendo Ernest Lyimo, which combines AI, satellite information and local data for climate risk assessments and adaptation planning.

"The energy transition already risks moving at two speeds. AI must help to close that divide," he said.

Two 'violating' tankers hit mines, explode in Hormuz: Iran's IRGC



(IANS) Tehran, Two oil tankers that attempted to transit the Strait of Hormuz along an "unauthorised" route exploded and caught fire after hitting mines on Monday, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said.

The "violating" tankers tried to pass through the waterway with the support of US fighter aircraft, the IRGC Navy said in a statement on the IRGC's official news outlet Sepah News.

It said six tankers had similar experiences in the strait on Sunday and Monday, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The IRGC Navy further warned oil companies against taking the "unauthorised" southern route in the Strait, "which has been mined."

On Sunday, the IRGC said two "violating" oil tankers exploded hours after hitting naval mines along the "unauthorised" route.

One of them -- a supertanker carrying over 2 million barrels of oil -- caught a huge fire following the blast and sank in the Persian Gulf's southern waters.

Separately, the navy of Iran's military said that two "violating" tankers caught fire Sunday and early Monday after hitting mines east of the Strait of Hormuz.

IRGC also said that its aerospace force had targeted a US air defence radar station in Bahrain in a drone attack in the preceding hours.

The attack, carried out with six drones against the radar system at the Al-Riffa helicopter base, marked the second phase of the "decisive and crushing" retaliatory response to the US Army's "flagrant aggression" against Iran, the IRGC said in a statement posted on its official news outlet Sepah News.

It added that the United States, "which has faced complete failure in its plan to smuggle oil in the Strait of Hormuz under the guise of escorting ships," is now attempting to divert global public attention through "small and misguided" actions from the reality that the strait is closed.

"Any aggression by the US enemy will be met with a harsher and more crushing response," the IRGC added.

'GIVE ME JUSTICE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE': IMRAN KHAN URGES TOP PAKISTANI JUDGES



(IANS) Islamabad, Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has appealed to the country's top three judges to ensure the implementation of Supreme Court orders and provide proper medical treatment to him and his wife, Bushra Bibi, warning that his health could deteriorate further without urgent intervention.

In a letter to the Chief Justice of Pakistan, the Chief Justice of the Federal Constitutional Court and the Chief Justice of the Islamabad High Court, Khan sought justice "before it is too late". His lawyer, Salman Safdar, shared the letter on X.

Khan alleged that his constitutional rights, prison rules and provisions of the jail manual were being violated. He said he had faced political victimisation through numerous cases but had continued to pursue legal remedies.

He claimed that he had been kept in isolation and denied regular access to his family, lawyers, books and television following the judgment in the Toshakhana case in 2025.

According to the letter, Khan's lawyer met him on February 10, 2026, after months without access to legal counsel, and found that he had lost 85 per cent of the vision in his right eye. Khan alleged that neither his family nor his lawyers had been informed about the condition.

He said he had been allowed to meet his lawyers only four times during the year, while his wife had received just one meeting with her counsel. He also alleged that his sisters were in custody and his two sons were not allowed to speak to him over the phone despite court orders.

Khan further expressed concern over Bushra Bibi's eyesight, claiming that she required further treatment following complicated eye surgery in April 2026. He alleged that her medical records were being withheld and that she remained in solitary confinement.

Referring to a Supreme Court order dated August 18, Khan said the court had directed that he be shifted to Shifa International Hospital within two days for examination by a medical board, including a cardiologist and an eye specialist. The order also provided for weekly family meetings and telephone calls with his sons twice a week.

He claimed that the directions had not been implemented. Citing blood pressure readings of 192 and 193 on November 10, he said doctors had warned him of the risk of a brain haemorrhage and cardiac arrest.

"I do not ask Your Lordships for any favour. All I request as justice is the implementation of the orders of the Honourable Supreme Court and proper treatment for our medical conditions," he wrote.

Khan has remained in prison since August 2023 following convictions that his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party has described as politically motivated. He has faced several cases since his removal from office in 2022 through a no-confidence vote.

Another Italian Senator condemns Filibeck's remarks on Indian democracy



(IANS) Rome, Italian Senator Giulio Terzi has backed Deborah Bergamini's criticism of Giacomo Filibeck over his remarks on Indian democracy, saying they were inconsistent with the mutual respect in parliamentary diplomacy.

Terzi, chair of the Italy-India parliamentary friendship group, endorsed Bergamini's comments in a post on X. He said Filibeck's intervention was not conducive to constructive dialogue.

The controversy stems from Filibeck's address at the Bharat Summit 2026 in Hyderabad on November 14, where he shared the stage with Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi. Filibeck, secretary-general of the Party of European Socialists, described Indian democracy as "under attack" and "hijacked". He also echoed the Congress slogan, "Vote Chor, Gaddi Chhod".

Bergamini, a Forza Italia leader, said it was inappropriate for Europeans to lecture India, with its 970 million voters, on democracy. She said the country had political institutions and an independent judiciary to address disputes.

She added that political parties could raise allegations, but should substantiate them with evidence. She opposed intervention in the domestic debate of a friendly nation, citing Italy's "special strategic partnership" with India.

Her comments referred to opposition criticism of the government's revision of electoral rolls, aimed at removing duplicate entries, deceased voters and people who had moved.

Bangladesh: Rights body raises alarm over assaults, arbitrary detention of lawyers

(IANS) Paris, A human rights organisation has raised concern over alleged assaults and detention of four lawyers in Bangladesh, warning of threats to personal liberty and the independence of the legal profession.

Justice Makers Bangladesh in France (JMBF) said the incidents occurred in Dhaka, Chattogram and Cox's Bazar between November 10 and 14 and allegedly involved Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) activists.

JMBF said senior Supreme Court lawyer Mohiuddin Ahmed Rudra was detained in Dhaka on November 13 by Jubo Dal leader Rabiul Islam Nayan and allegedly harassed in front of his young son before being handed to Paltan police. A court sent Rudra to prison the next day in an alleged attempted murder case linked to a BNP rally in 2023.

JMBF alleged that BNP activists confined and harassed M. Kamal Uddin, a Chattogram District Bar Association member and former Additional Public Prosecutor, at his residence on November 14 before handing him to police.

Two lawyers, Tanvir Mohammad Tamim and Zulfikar Zillu, were allegedly beaten on court premises on November 10 by members of BNP's student wing, Chhatra Dal, the organisation said.

JMBF founder-president Shahanur Islam sought Rudra's release, withdrawal of the charge and independent investigations into all three incidents. The group urged the authorities to hold those responsible accountable and called on the Bangladesh Bar Council, international legal organisations and UN human rights mechanisms to monitor the cases.

The allegations have not been independently verified.

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

TN steps up bird flu surveillance; 40,000 chickens culled in Cuddalore



Tamil Nadu has intensified surveillance against bird flu following the confirmation of H5N1 infection in poultry farms in Cuddalore district, with authorities culling around 40,000 chickens and temporarily restricting broiler farming in the affected area.

Director of Public Health Dr Somasundaram has instructed officials across the state to strengthen monitoring and preventive measures. He said no human cases of bird flu had been detected in Tamil Nadu so far and urged residents to remain vigilant without panicking.

The latest containment measures followed the deaths of chickens at farms near Kurinjipadi in Cuddalore district. Samples sent to the national laboratory in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, tested positive for the H5N1 avian influenza virus.

Following confirmation, approximately 40,000 farm chickens in the Kurinjipadi area were culled as part of containment operations. A temporary ban on broiler chicken rearing has also been imposed in the affected area for three months.

The outbreak comes weeks after Chennai's Vandalur zoo was closed following the detection of infection among some birds housed there, adding to concerns over the spread of the disease among captive birds and poultry.

Surveillance has also been strengthened in Namakkal, a major egg production centre, as authorities step up precautions across Tamil Nadu's poultry sector.

The health department is implementing preventive measures statewide to limit exposure and identify possible infections promptly.

Somasundaram advised people against handling dead birds with bare hands and urged anyone developing symptoms to seek medical attention without delay.

He stressed that the absence of detected human cases should not lead to complacency. Bird flu primarily affects birds, but infection can occasionally spread to humans through close, unprotected contact with infected birds, their secretions or droppings, or contaminated surroundings.

People handling sick or dead poultry, therefore, need particular caution. Doctors have advised people experiencing fever, headache, muscle pain, cough or breathing difficulties to consult a doctor promptly, particularly if they have recently come into contact with birds or poultry. On food safety, Somasundaram urged consumers to eat only thoroughly cooked chicken and avoid undercooked meat. Proper cooking destroys the avian influenza virus, while safe handling helps prevent contamination during food preparation.

Reiterating that preventive action was underway across the state, he said the public should follow health advisories, avoid direct contact with dead birds and take symptoms seriously.

PLI framework emerges as one of India's most significant industrial policy interventions



Production-linked incentive (PLI) framework has emerged as one of India's most significant industrial policy interventions and approved applications stood at 791 across 14 sectors, with cumulative actual investment exceeding Rs 2.58 lakh crore and cumulative production/sales crossing Rs 23.79 lakh crore (as on June 30, 2026), according to the government.

Exports were boosted by Rs 15.53 lakh crore, while over 14.57 lakh direct and indirect jobs were generated (comprising 8.81 lakh direct jobs and 5.75 lakh indirect jobs across IT Hardware, LSEM, and Solar PV Modules).

Cumulative incentive disbursement reached Rs 36,754 crore. The level of incentive disbursement reflects the performance-linked nature of the scheme, according to an official factsheet.

Sectoral outcomes show deeper localisation, with mobile imports declining nearly 77 per cent. PLI also enabled first-time domestic manufacturing of 191 bulk drugs, while telecom exports reached Rs 21,033 crore.

Across sectors, the PLI framework is translating policy into tangible outcomes. New factories, expanded production lines and emerging industrial clusters are reshaping India's manufacturing landscape.

Policy support is translating into tangible outcomes, creating new opportunities for industry, workers and entrepreneurs alike.

The manufacturing and export performance is gaining momentum across several PLI-supported sectors.

During 2021-2025, several PLI sectors recorded strong export growth, including IT Hardware (77.2 per cent), ACC Batteries (45.0 per cent), Electronics (38.8 per cent), Solar PV Modules (23.9 per cent), and Specialty Steel (22.5 per cent) on an average annual basis.

The electronics manufacturing and IT hardware sector has been the largest beneficiary of the PLI scheme. With the LSEM scheme tenure now completed, companies under the scheme achieved a cumulative investment of Rs 20,580.20 crore (nearly three times the initial target of Rs 7,000 crore), cumulative production of Rs 11,61,505 crore, direct employment of 1,69,249, and cumulative incentive disbursement of Rs 19,090.98 crore till June 2026.

Electronics production rose from Rs 11.32 lakh crore in 2024-25 to Rs 13.11 lakh crore in 2025-26, a 15.8 per cent year-on-year increase. India is the world's third largest pharmaceutical industry by volume and 11th largest by value. PLI scheme for pharmaceuticals has a financial outlay of Rs 15,000 crore for 2020-21 to 2028-29.

Centre orders strict vigil to ensure lower prices for 137 anti-cancer drugs

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, on Friday directed strict monitoring of the implementation of Trade Margin Rationalisation (TMR) on 137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs, for which the reduced prices have come into effect from November 9.

The latest revised price lists, based on submissions received from companies up to November 11, are available on the NPPA website and Pharma Sahi Daam app/portal.

All manufacturers, retailers, dealers, stockists, hospitals and medical institutions have been directed to comply with the revised prices and prominently display the updated price lists at their premises and websites, according to an official statement issued on Friday.

"State Drug Controllers (SDCs) have been directed to strictly monitor compliance by manufacturers, dealers, hospitals and medical institutions to ensure that the benefits of the lower MRPs are passed on to patients. Any violation may attract overcharging proceedings under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013," the statement said.

"Complaints regarding overcharging, shortage or non-availability of medicines can be reported through the Pharma Sahi Daam app/portal, NPPA helpline (1800-111-255) or email (monitoring-nppa[at]gov[dot]in.) State Drug Controllers have been asked to submit their Action Taken Reports to NPPA by November 16," the statement added.

The Centre has introduced a 30 per cent cap on trade margins for 137 non-scheduled anti-cancer medicines, aiming to reduce the prices patients pay for these drugs.

The NPPA, through an order issued on October 17, brought the medicines under the TMR mechanism which caps the profits made on the sale of these drugs at 30 per cent.

By November 9, 85 pharmaceutical companies had reported revised maximum retail prices (MRPs) for 121 of the 137 medicines, covering 1,366 stock-keeping units.

The highest reported price reduction was 96.45 per cent, while more than 650 formulations recorded MRP reductions of more than 50 per cent.

The largest number of reductions fell in the 50–75 per cent range.

"The estimated savings for patients stand at Rs 3,541 crore. These savings have been calculated by comparing the original and revised prices and applying the difference to the sales volumes recorded between April 2025 and March 2026," according to an official statement.



The 30 per cent cap applies across the pharmaceutical supply chain, including retail and hospital pharmacies.

covers the listed medicines irrespective of their dosage or form, such as tablets and injections, and whether they are sold individually or in combinations.

Bangladesh measles outbreak claims eight more lives, death toll crosses 1,310



As Bangladesh grapples with an unprecedented measles outbreak, eight more children died from the symptoms of the disease in the 24 hours till 8 a.m. (local time) on Sunday, taking the total number of confirmed and suspected-linked fatalities in the country in 2026 to 1,314. The latest deaths have been classified as suspected measles deaths, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). Following the latest fatalities, the number of suspected measles deaths has risen to 1,209, while confirmed deaths from measles remain unchanged at 105, the United News of Bangladesh (UNB) reported.

During the 24-hour period, 1,414 new suspected measles cases were reported in Bangladesh, taking the total number of suspected cases in the country to 248,060. During the same period, 158 new cases were reported in Bangladesh, pushing the total number of laboratory-confirmed cases to 25,269.

As many as 21,539 patients with suspected measles have been admitted to hospitals in Bangladesh since March 15. Among them, 212,402 people have recovered from measles, according to DGHS data, UNB reported. Last month, former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said that the measles "epidemic" was the result of "state negligence" and the collapse of the decades-old immunisation system.

Speaking to The Sunday Guardian, Hasina accused the former Muhammad Yunus-led interim administration of disrupting vaccine procurement through its political and administrative decisions, leading to a considerable immunisation gap.

She alleged that Bangladesh's measles-rubella vaccine stocks were exhausted in March 2026, followed by a sharp decline in vaccination coverage. She also claimed that the authorities failed to launch a supplementary vaccination campaign at the scheduled time.Hasina further criticised Prime Minister Tarique Rahman-led BNP government, alleging that the authorities failed to take adequate action after the severity of the outbreak became evident"More than one thousand children dying from a preventable disease is not an ordinary administrative failure," she added. The former Prime Minister called for uninterrupted vaccine supplies, targeted immunisation campaigns for vulnerable communities, real-time disease monitoring, expanded paediatric healthcare facilities and an independent probe into the alleged procurement and vaccination failures.

BIMSTEC initiative will promote traditional medicine, strengthen preventive healthcare across region: India

India on Wednesday congratulated Sri Lanka for successfully hosting the inaugural BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting in Colombo, stressing that the meeting marks an "important milestone" in strengthening regional cooperation in the health sector.

Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that the approval of the Revised Plan of Action (2026-2030) further reinforces collective commitment to regional health cooperation.

"Congratulations to Sri Lanka for successfully hosting the First BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting in Colombo on 11 November 2026. The meeting marks an important milestone in strengthening regional cooperation in the health sector. India is pleased that all Member States have agreed to establish the BIMSTEC Centre for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar, India," the MEA stated on X.

"This initiative will promote traditional medicine and strengthen preventive healthcare across the region. The approval of the Revised Plan of Action (2026–2030) further reinforces our collective commitment to regional health cooperation," the statement added.

Earlier in the day, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister J P Nadda addressed the inaugural BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting and reaffirmed India's readiness to share its expertise and best practices in healthcare with BIMSTEC member nations.

Nadda highlighted India's progress towards Universal Health Coverage through Ayushman Bharat, strengthened public health infrastructure, and digital healthcare initiatives.

"Union Health Minister Shri JP Nadda addressed the inaugural BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka, highlighting India's progress towards Universal Health Coverage through Ayushman Bharat, strengthened public health infrastructure and digital healthcare initiatives," the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said in a post on X. "Emphasising regional solidarity, the Minister called for enhanced cooperation in health security, pandemic preparedness, One Health and traditional medicine, while reaffirming India's readiness to share its expertise and best practices with BIMSTEC member nations," it added.

During the meeting, Nadda highlighted India's commitment to hosting the BIMSTEC Centre of Excellence in Traditional Medicine in Gujarat's Jamnagar to promote joint research, capacity building and knowledge exchange.

"Guided by PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji's vision of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', India remains committed to building a healthier, more inclusive and resilient BIMSTEC region," he said, as per the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Nadda arrived in Colombo on Tuesday to participate in the first BIMSTEC Health Ministers' Meeting and was received by Indian High Commissioner Santosh Jha.

Jay Shah reappointed unopposed as ICC Chair for second term



(IANS) Dubai, Jay Shah has been reappointed unopposed as Chair of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for a second term, with the Board confirming the decision during its meetings in Bali on Monday.

Shah was unanimously elected in August 2024 at 35, becoming the youngest person to head the global governing body. He began his tenure on December 1, 2024, after then-chair Greg Barclay decided not to seek a third term. Shah is the fifth Indian to lead the ICC, after Jagmohan Dalmiya, Sharad Pawar, N. Srinivasan and Shashank Manohar.

The ICC said the reappointment followed a proposal by the Board's directors and reflected their confidence in his leadership.

The decision provides continuity as cricket prepares to return to the Olympic Games at Los Angeles 2028. Priorities include global expansion, women's cricket, opportunities for Associate Members and commercial sustainability.

Shah thanked the Board for its support and pledged to work with member nations to advance cricket worldwide.

"I am deeply honoured by the confidence the ICC Board has placed in me and sincerely grateful to every Director for their continued trust and support," he said.

He described cricket's Olympic return as an opportunity to reach new audiences and inspire future generations. He said the sport must build a sustainable future for fans, athletes and commercial partners.

England and Wales Cricket Board Chair Richard Thompson said international cricket must strengthen its calendar and protect bilateral cricket's relevance and competitiveness.

ICC Independent Director Ros Rivaz said the reappointment offered an opportunity to build on women's cricket's growth and create pathways for women players.

ICC Deputy Chair Tavengwa Mukuhlani highlighted the 2027 Men's Cricket World Cup as an opportunity to bring the game to new audiences across Africa.

New Zealand Cricket Director Roger Twose called for collective efforts to strengthen international cricket. ICC Associate Member Chair Gurumurthy Palani said expansion must bring Associate Members greater access to competition, development pathways and investment.

The ICC said its agenda would focus on strengthening the sport's foundations, supporting women's cricket, protecting its integrity and developing sustainable commercial opportunities globally.

Sachin plays gully cricket with UK's Prince William and Princess Kate



(IANS) Mumbai, India cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar enjoyed a special session of gully cricket with the Prince and Princess of Wales, William and Kate, respectively, in Mumbai on Monday morning.

Tendulkar had an eye-catching time with the Prince and Princess of Wales at the Ballard Estate as school children present at the site enjoyed their time and cheered for the trio.

Tendulkar batted and also bowled on the street as he showed his skills with the willow and the ball. He faced William and later also bowled to Kate.

The three had their time with the bat as they enjoyed a light-hearted activity in Mumbai. The children present at the site also got their chances to bat and bowl as they looked to impress the dignitaries.

Before his light cricket session, Tendulkar also had a khulad tea time with William and Kate. They were also seen having tea in kulhads from a nearby shop.

The royal couple is in India for a three-day visit, as they have arrived for the sixth annual Earthshot Prize Awards in Mumbai. They will attend the awards ceremony on Tuesday before travelling to New Delhi, where they are scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday.

This is their second official visit to India, as they had also come here in April 2016.

Sachin was recently present at the Indian Street Premier League (ISPL) 2026 Auction, where he advised the youngsters of using technology as an "enabler" and not something as a "distraction."

"Technology should be an enabler, not a distraction. Use it while practising, but when you step onto the field to compete, trust your natural instincts and allow your subconscious mind to take over," Tendulkar said on the sidelines of the auction.

November 16 marks the date of retirement for the Master Blaster, as he bid adieu to the sport on this very day in 2013. He is hailed as one of the best batters to have ever played the game of cricket.

During his over two-decade-long career, Tendulkar hit 34,357 runs in 664 international matches with 100 centuries and 164 half-centuries.

His final game in the Indian jersey was against the West Indies at Wankhede, where he signed off with a strong 74 to mark an end to a legendary career.

Auqib Nabi receives Impact Player of the Series medal in India's 3-1 ODI series win



(IANS) New Delhi, Right-arm fast bowler Auqib Nabi was named the winner of the Impact Player of the Series after India secured a 3-1 ODI series win over New Zealand at Bay Oval. Nabi was handed the medal inside the Indian team dressing room by team physiotherapist Thulasi Ram Yuvaraj.

"Congrats everyone. It was an exciting match and what an amazing series we have witnessed. I am very sure it is very difficult for whoever has made this decision because each and everyone in the team has outperformed in various aspects of this game."

"This person whom I am going to give this medal, I know him for some time. He is a hard-working, committed, very meticulous in his preparations. He speaks very less. He makes sure his ball speaks in the field. So, it is none other than Auqib," said Thulasi in a video posted on bcci.tv on Monday.

Across the series, Nabi claimed five wickets in 31 overs at an average of 32 and an economy rate of 5.16. His best returns with the ball were 2-31 at Hnry Stadium in Wellington. "Thank you for this. I am very grateful for this. I am very happy that we have won the series and I have made a contribution in it. Thank you," said Nabi.

Nabi will be staying back in New Zealand alongside fellow fast bowler Arshdeep Singh to help India prepare for the two-match Test series starting at Basin Reserve in Wellington on November 19. It is followed by the second Test starting at Hagley Oval in Christchurch on November 27.

Both India and New Zealand are firmly in contention for next year's World Test Championship (WTC) summit clash to be played at The Oval. While New Zealand, the inaugural champions in 2021, occupy the second spot on the WTC table behind table-toppers and current champions South Africa, two-time runners-up India are currently ranked fourth.

IPL 2027: Shami likely to move from LSG to RR in swap with Curran ahead of retention deadline



(IANS) New Delhi, Mohammed Shami is likely to move from Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) to Rajasthan Royals (RR) in a swap deal involving England all-rounder Sam Curran before IPL 2027 retention deadline on November 17, according to an ESPNcricinfo report.

LSG have agreed to release Tamil Nadu spinner M. Siddharth to RR. Shami took 12 wickets in 13 IPL 2026 matches, when LSG finished last.

The move would give RR an option alongside Jofra Archer. Curran, who missed IPL 2026 due to a groin injury, would join his third franchise and reunite with LSG director of cricket Tom Moody.

Curran was Player of the Tournament and Player of the Final when England won the 2022 T20 World Cup. His batting flexibility and ability to bowl at different stages could strengthen LSG. He may be considered for captaincy after Rishabh Pant's departure.

Siddharth has taken nine wickets in nine IPL matches and won the Tamil Nadu Premier League.

Telugu star Teja Sajja gets engaged to Mourya in a star-studded ceremony!



(IANS) Hyderabad, Telugu actor Teja Sajja, known for pan-Indian hits 'HanuMan' and 'Mirai', got engaged to Mourya at Taj Krishna in Hyderabad on Monday. Family, friends, political leaders and Telugu film personalities attended.

Guests included Megastar Chiranjeevi, Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, Telangana Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Minister Seethakka, Harish Rao and Ganta Srinivasa Rao, sources said.

Film personalities included director K. Raghavendra Rao, producers Allu Aravind, Suresh Babu, Dil Raju, TG Vishwa Prasad, Sushmita Konidela, Sahu Garapati and Venkat Boyenpalli. Actors Srikanth, Ravi Teja, Nani, Rana Daggubati, Adivi Sesh, Sudheer Babu, Varu Sarath Kumar, Nidhi Agerwal, Niharika Konidela, Ritika Nayak and Imanvi also attended.

Filmmakers B. Gopal, Anil Ravipudi, Prasanth Varma, Shiva Nirvana, Nandini Reddy, Karthik Gattamneni, Maruthi, Chandoo Mondeti, Sailesh Kolanu and BVS Ravi were among the guests.

Sources said the engagement remained a personal celebration despite the celebrities and dignitaries. The wedding is scheduled at a destination in December.

Teja will next headline Suparn S Varma's 'Zombie Reddy 2: NXT LVL – Dead Or Alive', due for release next year in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Hindi, Nepali and Japanese.

Prasanth Varma, who introduced the zombie genre to Telugu cinema with 'Zombie Reddy', is the sequel's creator. TG Vishwa Prasad and Krithi Prasad are producing it under the People Media Factory banner. It marks Teja's second collaboration with the banner after 'Mirai'.

Real Star Upendra is expected to play a prominent role, while Shanaya Kapoor will make her Telugu debut. Gowra Hari will compose the music, Abhinandan Ramanujam will handle cinematography, Banglam is production designer and Vijay Velukutty editor.

Hussain Dalal, Abbas Dalal, Prasanth Varma and Suparn S Varma wrote the screenplay; Subbu K penned the dialogues.

SRK CONGRATULATES JAY SHAH ON REAPPOINTMENT AS ICC CHAIRMAN



(IANS) Mumbai, Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film 'King', has congratulated Jay Shah after he was reappointed for a second consecutive term as ICC Chairman.

On Monday, the megastar took to his Instagram, and penned a long note as he congratulated Jay Shah on his unanimous election.

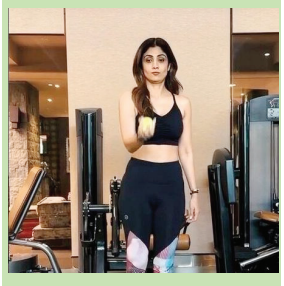
He wrote, "Congratulations @JayShah bhai on being reappointed as @ICC Chairman for a second term! Your leadership in administering world cricket and taking the game we love to newer heights is greatly appreciated".

"The 2028 Olympics will mark a significant milestone for cricket and its continued growth, especially in the USA. Big hugs, and all the best for your next endeavours", he added.

Jay Shah's reappointment follows the proposal by ICC directors at the governing body's board meetings in Bali, Indonesia. In his 1st term, the 38-year-old took charge in December 2024, and became the youngest person to head cricket's global governing body at the age of 35. He succeeded New Zealand's Greg Barclay and previously served as the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) honorary secretary from 2019 to 2024.

His 2nd term comes at a crucial juncture for international cricket, with the sport preparing for its return to the Olympic Games at Los Angeles 2028, 128 years after its last appearance. The ICC has identified global expansion, strengthening women's cricket,

Shilpa Shetty shares Monday Motivation with a fun ball exercise challenge



(IANS) Mumbai, Actress Shilpa Shetty shared a ball exercise challenge as part of her Monday Motivation series. In an Instagram video, she said the activity can improve concentration, coordination and mental alertness.

She highlighted benefits for focus, memory, motor control and body awareness, and urged followers to try it and share videos too.

Hyderabad Faces 100 MGD Water Shortfall Next Summer

Water Board plans additional Godavari, Krishna supplies; over three lakh connections could face pressure

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) is preparing emergency measures to prevent drinking water shortages, with a projected deficit of 100 million gallons per day (MGD) between January and August 2027.

Managing Director K. Ashok Reddy said the Board plans to secure an additional 40 MGD from Godavari within ten days, 10–15 MGD from Krishna and 5 MGD from Osman Sagar. However, nearly 40 MGD could remain uncovered.

Serilingampally, Patancheru, Kukatpally and Qutbullapur are among the vulnerable areas, with over three lakh connections dependent on Singur-Manjeera supplies.

Despite reports of rapidly declining reservoir levels, Reddy clarified that existing supplies remain unchanged and water would continue to be drawn from Singur and Manjeera until December.

The Board is accelerating pipeline connectivity works at Ghanpur and promoting treated wastewater use to conserve drinking water.

Highlights:

- 100 MGD Supply Deficit Feared
- Over Three Lakh Connections Vulnerable
- Additional Water Sources Identified



Hyderabad Plans Driverless Rapid Transit on New Routes

Government studies automated electric pods to improve Metro connectivity and reduce traffic congestion

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:



The Telangana government is examining proposals to introduce a Personal Rapid Transit System (PRTS) across Hyderabad, using small driverless electric vehicles operating on dedicated elevated tracks.

A feasibility study covers the Raidurg–Kukatpally corridor, while three additional routes have been proposed: Secretariat–NTR Marg–Khairatabad, Lakdikapul Metro Station–Iqbal Minar Junction, and Indira Park–Ranigunj–Secunderabad West Metro Station.

The proposed vehicles would accommodate four to six passengers and provide direct connectivity between destinations without unnecessary stops.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to expedite plans for priority corridors, including KPHB–Durgam Cheruvu–Biodiversity, and complete tendering by December.

The project is being examined under a public-private partnership model.

Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited has undertaken feasibility assessments covering routes, passenger demand and infrastructure requirements.

However, final alignments, investment arrangements and construction approvals remain pending.

ACB Uncovers ₹6.76 Crore Assets Linked to Town Planning Officer

Eight locations searched; officer already in judicial custody in separate ₹75,000 bribery case

Hyderabad: Telangana's Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Monday identified assets worth approximately ₹6.76 crore during searches linked to Moinabad Municipality Town Planning Officer Gundu Vani in Rangareddy district.

The agency searched eight locations, including her residence, office and premises associated with relatives and suspected benamidars, after registering a disproportionate-assets case.

Officials identified properties worth ₹4.25 crore, including plots at Jadcherla and Palakurthy, residential buildings at Attapur and agricultural land at Koilkonda.

Cash, shares, bank deposits, gold, vehicles and other investments were also discovered.

Vani is already in judicial custody following a separate ₹75,000 bribery case registered in September. Investigators are verifying asset ownership and valuations. She is expected to be produced before a special ACB court as investigations continue.



Doctor Among Five Arrested in Dating-App Robberies

Hyderabad: Malkajgiri police on Monday arrested five persons, including a doctor, for allegedly targeting men through the Grindr dating application, administering intoxicants and stealing gold ornaments and valuables.

Police Commissioner B. Sumathi said the accused developed relationships with victims through online chats and video calls before arranging meetings. They allegedly gathered information about valuables, drinking habits and whether victims lived alone.

During meetings, the suspects reportedly mixed intoxicating substances into beer and stole valuables after victims became unconscious. Police also suspect that private videos were used to blackmail some victims.

The arrested include a doctor, two students and two private employees. Another suspect, identified as Chandu, remains absconding.

Police linked the gang to 14 cases across Hyderabad, Cyberabad, Malkajgiri and Visakhapatnam. Gold ornaments were recovered, while investigators are examining mobile phones, chats and digital evidence to identify additional victims.



Citizens have been advised to avoid sharing personal details with strangers online.

Hyderabad Auto Drivers Call One-Day Strike on Nov 30

Unions demand implementation of revised meter fares, ban on green cabs and bike taxis

Hyd: The Mahatma Gandhi Telangana Auto Drivers Joint Action Committee (JAC) has announced a proposed one-day autorickshaw strike on November 30, demanding immediate implementation of revised meter fares. JAC convenor Mohammed Amanullah Khan, addressing reporters on Sunday, gave the government 15 days to implement the revised charges. He also demanded a ban on green cabs and bike taxis, alleging that these services threaten drivers' livelihoods.

The committee sought payment of ₹36,000 in promised financial assistance and ₹10 lakh compensation for the family of deceased auto driver Mohammed Mukaram. Although the government revised fares in October, implementation remains disputed. The proposed strike could disrupt commuters, particularly those dependent on autorickshaws for daily travel. Participation levels remain uncertain.

Tolichowki Restaurant Fire Raises commercial building safety

Flames reached sixth floor; conflicting accounts emerge over origin of blaze

Hyd: A fire broke out at a restaurant complex in Tolichowki late Sunday night, affecting Mandi King and neighbouring Hotel Zunera and raising concerns over commercial building safety.

Customers were evacuated through emergency exits, while staff shifted gas cylinders to safer locations. Flames reportedly reached the sixth floor, but no casualties were reported.

Zunera's owner alleged that the blaze originated in Mandi King's kitchen chimney. However, a Fire Control Room official attributed the incident to a chimney malfunction at Zunera.

The conflicting accounts highlight the need for clarification of the fire's origin and verification of safety clearances, exhaust systems and emergency arrangements.

Telangana Extends SSC Exam Fee Deadline to November 26

Hyderabad: The Telangana School Education Department on Monday extended the deadline for paying March 2027 SSC examination fees without a late charge from November 16 to November 26.

Students can pay through their schools with a ₹50 late fee from November 28 to December 8, ₹200 from December 10 to 21, or ₱500 from December 23 to January 4, 2027.

The revised schedule covers regular and once-failed candidates appearing for SSC, OSSC and vocational examinations. The examination fee is ₹125 for more than three subjects and ₹110 for up to three subjects. Vocational candidates must pay an additional ₱60.

Eligible SC, ST and BC candidates are exempted. Headmasters must remit fees online through Cyber Treasury and submit candidate details within prescribed deadlines.

Uppuguda Residents Demand Closure of Polluting Industries

Over 30 families affected; residents allege hospitalisations and seek GHMC intervention

Hyderabad: Residents of Hanuman Nagar in Uppuguda have demanded action against a metal-processing unit allegedly releasing harmful fumes, metallic dust and persistent noise into their residential neighbourhood.

Residents claim that nearly 200–250 people belonging to 30–35 families have been affected for two months. They alleged that around 12 people required hospital treatment, although these claims remain independently unverified. Despite submitting complaints to GHMC and police, residents say operations continue. They have questioned the unit's permissions and pollution-control clearances.

GHMC Charminar Zonal Commissioner Satyanarayana assured action, adding that the Pollution Control Board and Labour Department must also examine the complaints.



200 Trees Affected by Krishna Kanth Park Lake Expansion

₹7.5-crore HYDRAA project raises concerns over loss of greenery and ecological impact

Tree removal during HYDRAA's ₹7.5-crore lake expansion project at Krishna Kanth Park in Yousufguda has sparked concern among walkers and environmentalists over the loss of mature trees and greenery.

According to GHMC Urban Biodiversity sources, 30 trees have been cut, while another 170 are marked for transplantation near Sunnam Cheruvu. The Tree Protection Committee reportedly approved the work.

The project, launched in October, proposes expanding the lake from three to 12 acres to improve floodwater storage and provide recreational facilities.

Environmentalists have questioned the ecological impact and sought clarity on measures to ensure the survival of relocated trees.

Residents have urged authorities to balance lake restoration with tree conservation and ensure proper monitoring of transplanted trees.

One-Way Traffic Restrictions Imposed in Tilak Nagar Until Dec 20

Hyderabad: Temporary traffic restrictions came into effect on Monday between 6 Number Junction and Tilak Nagar for infrastructure works undertaken by HYDRAA.

The arrangements will remain in force until December 20, police said.

Vehicles can travel from 6 Number Junction towards Tilak Nagar, but movement in the opposite direction is prohibited. Heavy vehicles and RTC buses heading towards Amberpet from NCC must travel through Fever Hospital, Barkatpura Chaman, Nimboliadda and Golnaka.

Other vehicles coming from Fever Hospital and NCC will be diverted through Bada Ganesh Lane and Bathukamma Kunta Road.

Commuters should plan their journeys accordingly and contact the traffic police helpline at 9010203626 for assistance.

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