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Cyclone Akvan: Red Alert for Andhra, and Odisha

Severe storm expected to cross eastern coast on November 20; authorities prepare evacuations as heavy rain and coastal flooding threaten vulnerable areas.

New Delhi, (Munsif Desk):

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday issued a red cyclone warning for northern Andhra Pradesh, Yanam and southern Odisha, urging urgent safety measures as Severe Cyclonic Storm Akvan approached the eastern coast.

In its 9 PM bulletin, the IMD placed the storm about 500 km southeast of Narsapur at 5.30 PM, moving north-northwest at 9 kmph. It forecast landfall between Narsapur and Puri around noon on Friday, November 20, with sustained winds of 90–100 kmph, gusting to 110 kmph.

Extremely heavy rainfall could cause flooding, while a storm surge of 0.5–1 metre threatens low-lying coastal settlements. The IMD warned of damage to homes, crops, roads, electricity networks and communications. Fishermen have been advised not to venture into the sea. Eastern Telangana may receive isolated heavy rainfall on November 20.

Odisha has identified more than two lakh people for possible evacuation and directed officials to prepare cyclone shelters. Schools in six districts will remain closed from November 19 to 21. Andhra Pradesh has positioned rescue teams and electricity restoration crews.

Ensuring timely evacuation, functional shelters, hospital power backup and warnings reaching isolated fishing communities remains critical before landfall.



Hyderabad Residents Asked to Cut Water Use by 20 Percent

Hyderabad, (Munsif Desk): The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) has urged households and institutions to reduce water consumption by at least 20 per cent until August 2027, citing deficient rainfall and declining water levels in the Singur and Manjeera reservoirs.

In a fresh communication to the School Education Department, Managing Director K. Ashok Reddy requested daily one-minute conservation messages during school assemblies, student pledges and awareness campaigns. District education officers have been instructed to involve government and private schools.

The advisory is a conservation appeal, not an announced reduction in household water supply.

HMWSSB anticipates a potential shortfall of 100 million gallons daily from Singur and Manjeera between January and August 2027. The Board plans additional supplies from the Godavari, Krishna and Osman Sagar reservoirs.

However, ensuring equitable distribution, controlling pipeline leakages and protecting vulnerable neighbourhoods will be crucial to preventing serious shortages.

IN BRIEF

Chip Curbs Shadow Trump-Xi Talks

US restrictions on AI chips and critical mineral supplies are expected to dominate Thursday's Trump-Xi meeting in Shenzhen. P5

PM Modi to Inaugurate FICCI Convention

Prime Minister Modi will inaugurate FICCI's 'Bharat 2047' convention in Delhi on November 19, with 2,500 delegates expected. P4

642 New Pensions Sanctioned in Saidapur

Minister Ponnam Prabhakar distributed Cheyutha pension sanction letters to 642 beneficiaries in Saidapur mandal of Karimnagar. P8

Sridhar Babu Invites Mumbai Investors

Telangana's Industries Minister Sridhar Babu urged Mumbai businesses to expand operations in Telangana. P8

India Face Crucial New Zealand Test

India begin their Test series in Wellington, aiming to strengthen their World Test Championship qualification chances. P7



IndiGo Extends Saudi Flight Cancellations Until November 30

Hyd: IndiGo on Wednesday extended the suspension of all flights to and from Jeddah, Madinah, Riyadh and Dammam until November 30, citing the prevailing security situation in Saudi Arabia.

The latest decision extends the earlier November 21 deadline for Jeddah and Madinah services. Flights to Riyadh and Dammam were already suspended until November 30.

The disruption affects Umrah pilgrims, expatriate workers and families travelling between India and Saudi Arabia, particularly those with onward connections or urgent commitments.

IndiGo said affected passengers are being informed through their registered contact details. The airline continues to monitor security developments.

Passengers have been advised to check flight status before leaving for airports. Under IndiGo's Plan B policy, travellers whose flights are cancelled by the airline can request refunds or alternative bookings without additional charges, subject to availability.

Travel agents should help affected passengers secure timely refunds and avoid unnecessary charges.

Saudi Arabia Intercepts Two Houthi Missiles Near Riyadh

Airstrikes in Yemen intensify tensions as Saudi authorities issue security alerts;

Riyadh: Saudi Arabia's air defences intercepted and destroyed two cruise missiles fired by Yemen's Houthi movement towards Riyadh on Wednesday, the Saudi-led coalition confirmed.



Coalition spokesman Major General Turki al-Malki said the interceptions followed military strikes launched on Tuesday against Houthi missile warehouses and drone facilities in Yemen. The coalition claimed to have destroyed 60 military targets across four Yemeni governorates. Houthi health authorities reported at least 17 deaths in the strikes.

Saudi authorities also issued aerial-threat warnings for Jazan, Najran and Khamis Mushait before announcing that the danger had passed.

The renewed escalation has raised concerns about civilian safety, international travel and possible retaliatory attacks.

Indian nationals living in Saudi Arabia are advised to follow official emergency alerts and check embassy advisories and airline updates before travelling.

Bandla Ganesh Gets One-Year Jail Term in Cheque Bounce Case

Ongole court imposes Rs 95-lakh fine and legal expenses; producer granted one month to appeal.

Amaravati: An Ongole court on Wednesday sentenced Telugu film producer Bandla Ganesh to one year of simple imprisonment in a cheque bounce case.

The dispute arose from a Rs 95-lakh loan taken in 2018 from Janaki Ramaiah of Maddiralapadu village in Prakasam district.

Following Ramaiah's death, Ganesh issued a repayment cheque to his father, Jetti Venkateswara Rao, through his production company, Parameswara Arts.

The cheque was dishonoured due to insufficient funds, prompting Venkateswara Rao to approach the court.

The court found Ganesh guilty and granted him one month to challenge the verdict before a higher court.

Reacting on X, Ganesh expressed respect for the Constitution and judiciary, affirming his faith in legal remedies.

He has previously faced similar cheque bounce cases, including proceedings in Hyderabad and Kadapa.



Four Eateries' Food Licences Suspended

Hyderabad: Telangana's TG SAFE suspended food safety licences of four eateries on Wednesday after inspections uncovered serious hygiene violations.

Two more establishments ordered shut as inspections uncover pest infestations, unhygienic kitchens and improper food storage.

The establishments are Alpha Hotel and Stores & Lodge, Pandem Kodi Restaurant, Laham House and Spice Kitchen.

Five teams inspected 10 establishments, detecting insect infestations, clogged drains and improper food storage. Officials collected eight food samples for testing and seized or discarded approximately 300 kg of food articles.

New Blue Star Restaurant and Srinivasa Boys Hostel were also ordered closed for operating without licences under unhygienic conditions.

Officials said suspended outlets would be delisted from food-delivery platforms until compliance was verified through re-inspections.

Three Held in Hyderabad Snapchat Drug Racket

Hyderabad: Telangana's EAGLE Force has uncovered an alleged drug trafficking network operating through Snapchat and cryptocurrency transactions, arresting three suspects.

The accused, Mohammed Idres Kaleem, Syed Abbas Husaini and Mohammed Sheikh, were arrested on November 15, with details disclosed on Wednesday.

Police seized 1.24 kg of marijuana, 16.59 grams of OG Kush, three mobile phones and a car during the operation.

According to investigators, preliminary examination of digital records revealed approximately 150 cryptocurrency transactions allegedly involving around 60 suspected consumers.

Police suspect that Snapchat was used to communicate with buyers, while cryptocurrency facilitated payments and concealed financial activities.

Efforts are also underway to identify additional suspects and trace a Mumbai-based supplier allegedly linked to the network.

Hyderabad Biker Found With 107 Pending Traffic Challans

Hyd: A motorcycle rider in Hyderabad came under police scrutiny on Wednesday after traffic officials discovered 107 pending challans against his vehicle, carrying unpaid fines of Rs 24,645. The violations came to light during vehicle inspections conducted by Vanasthalipuram Traffic Police near the Panama Godown area. Police stopped a rider identified as Azhar, a resident of Chanchalguda, for allegedly violating traffic regulations. Upon checking his Hero Splendor motorcycle, bearing registration number AP 28 S 6114, officials discovered that 107 traffic challans had accumulated against the vehicle. The outstanding penalties, amounting to Rs 24,645, had remained unpaid, raising concerns over repeated traffic violations and non-payment of fines. The Vanasthalipuram Traffic Inspector urged motorists to strictly follow traffic regulations and clear their pending challans without delay. Police also emphasised the importance of responsible driving and timely payment of penalties to ensure road safety and compliance with traffic laws.

STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Moves.

Governance, development, welfare and districts shaping the State.

Andhra Pradesh plans 5,000-acre semiconductor hub in Tirupati

Munsif Desk, Chennai:

Amaravati: The Andhra Pradesh government has amended its Semiconductor and Display Fab Policy 4.0 to align it with the second phase of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM Semicon 2.0), the Centre's chip incentive programme.

Under the amendment, the State will match 100 per cent of the Centre's capital support for silicon fabs, display fabs and chip packaging projects. The amendment was notified through a Government Order. According to an official release on Wednesday, with the State's additional support, a silicon fab approved under Semicon 2.0 can receive combined assistance of 80 per cent of its eligible capital cost: 40 per cent from the Government of India and 40 per cent from Andhra Pradesh. Compound semiconductor, photonics, sensor, discrete and display fabs, as well as advanced packaging units, can receive 70 per cent. Legacy packaging units can receive 50 per cent.

The State's comparison with other states shows that the 80 per cent support for silicon fabs is higher than the incentives offered by Odisha (65 per cent), Tamil Nadu (65 per cent), Uttar Pradesh (60 per cent), Madhya Pradesh (60 per cent) and Gujarat (56 per cent).

"Andhra Pradesh wants to be the place where India builds its chips, from design to fab to packaging. By matching the Centre's support rupee for rupee, giving investors one window and building the talent they need, we are making it simpler and cheaper to build a fab here than anywhere else in the country," said Nara Lokesh, Minister for HRD, IT and Electronics, Andhra Pradesh.

The amended policy covers all 10 Semicon 2.0 categories under six pillars: design, machines and materials, fabs, packaging, research and development, and talent.

Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) and Outsourced Assembly and Test (OSAT) units will receive State support matching 100 per cent of the Centre's capital assistance. For research and development and talent projects, the State will provide 25 per cent of the eligible project cost, with combined Centre and State support capped at 75 per cent.

Another Opportunity for Voters to Enrol Names in Electoral Rolls



Mohd Fayaz Ahmed Medak: District Collector Rajarshi Shah said the Election Commission has provided another opportunity to voters whose names are missing from the draft electoral rolls under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process to get their names enrolled in the voters' list.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the Collector said the distribution and collection of enumeration forms for ASD (Absent, Shifted and Dead) voters would be carried out from November 18 to 30. The scrutiny of forms would be completed by December 10.

He further stated that the deadline for receiving and disposing of claims and objections had been extended until December 15. The final electoral rolls would be published on December 22.

The District Collector advised eligible voters to verify whether their names were included in the electoral rolls. Those whose names were missing should approach their respective Booth Level Officers (BLOs) along with the required documents and apply for enrolment.

For further information and clarification of doubts, voters can contact the Election Commission's toll-free helpline number 1950.

Students Must Be Made Aware of Democracy: Chahat Bajpai

Munsif Desk, Hanamkonda:



Hanamkonda District Election Officer and Collector Chahat Bajpai emphasised the need to create greater awareness among students about the democratic system and electoral process, enabling them to understand the importance of democracy and become familiar with their rights and responsibilities.

As per the directions of the Election Commission, quiz and essay-writing competitions on the democratic system and electoral process were organised for students of various schools through Electoral Literacy Clubs under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) programme at the Conference Hall of the Hanamkonda District Collectorate on Wednesday. District Collector Chahat Bajpai personally presented prizes to the students who excelled in these competitions. Speaking on the occasion, the Collector said various programmes were being organised at the school level itself to create awareness among students about the democratic system.

Through these initiatives, students are being educated about voters' rights, responsibilities and their importance in the democratic process.

1,087 Beneficiaries Receive New Pension Sanctions in Utnoor

Munsif Desk, Utnoor:

Khanapur MLA and Nirmal District Congress Committee President Vedma Bojju Patel distributed new pension sanction orders to 1,087 eligible beneficiaries at a programme held at Utnoor on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said public welfare was the primary objective of the people's government and that efforts were being made to ensure that the benefits of welfare schemes reached every eligible individual.

He said financial security was being provided to senior citizens, widows, persons with disabilities and other eligible sections through pension schemes.

2,698 Beneficiaries Receive Pension Sanctions in Warangal West

Munsif Desk, Warangal:

Warangal West MLA Naini Rajender Reddy has asserted that the Congress government is committed to extending welfare schemes to every eligible beneficiary without discrimination based on caste, religion or political affiliation. He said the government's primary objective is to ensure that the benefits of all welfare programmes reach every deserving person. At a programme held at Kaloji Kala Kshetram in Warangal, pension sanction orders under the Cheyutha Aasara scheme were distributed to 2,698 newly identified eligible beneficiaries from Warangal West Assembly constituency. MLA Naini Rajender Reddy and Warangal MP Kadiyam Kavya attended the programme as chief guests and personally handed over the sanction orders to the beneficiaries. District Library Corporation Chairman Aziz Khan, KUDA Chairperson Gundu Sudharani, Enumamula Market Chairperson Puli Priyanka, District Collector Chahat Bajpai, GWMC Commissioner T. Venkanna Naik, Deputy Commissioner Birru Srinivas, other officials and public representatives participated in the programme. Addressing the gathering, Naini Rajender Reddy recalled that in the past, people had to make repeated visits to public representatives and government offices to secure welfare benefits, causing considerable hardship to eligible beneficiaries.

He recalled that during the tenure of former Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, a system was introduced to identify eligible beneficiaries and ensure that government officials reached their homes to sanction pensions.

Winter Travel Risks: Motorists Urged to Stay Alert

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed, Kagaznagar:

With winter setting in and dense fog reducing visibility on roads, motorists must remain extremely cautious, as the risk of road accidents increases significantly during foggy conditions, Nizamabad Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, has cautioned.

He advised motorists to avoid travelling during foggy conditions unless absolutely necessary and postpone their journeys, particularly during emergencies or when visibility is poor.

If travel cannot be avoided, they must strictly follow necessary safety precautions.

The Commissioner said that falling temperatures during winter would result in dense fog covering roads, particularly during early morning hours, making it difficult to spot approaching vehicles and obstacles on the road. This could significantly increase the possibility of accidents.

He urged motorists to exercise extra caution, especially from early morning until 8 a.m., when fog is likely to be at its thickest.

He pointed out that even with vehicle lights switched on, approaching vehicles may not be clearly visible during dense fog.

Driving at high speeds under such conditions could lead to serious accidents. Sudden braking may cause vehicles to skid, lose control, overturn or collide with vehicles moving ahead.

He advised motorists to reduce their speed and maintain a safe distance from vehicles travelling in front of them.

Safety Precautions Motorists Must Follow:

Avoid travelling during dense fog unless absolutely necessary.

If travel is unavoidable, considerably reduce vehicle speed and drive slowly.

Use low-beam headlights during foggy conditions and switch on fog lamps whenever necessary.

Bear Spotted Near Satavahana University in Karimnagar, Sparks Panic



Munsif Desk, Karimnagar:

Panic gripped students and local residents after a bear was spotted in the vicinity of Satavahana University in Karimnagar.

The wild animal's appearance on the road triggered concern among people in the area.

Social media users criticised the alleged destruction of forest areas within the university premises, claiming that it was forcing wild animals to venture into human habitations. They also blamed the negligence of concerned authorities for the situation.

Meanwhile, Forest Department officials rushed to the spot and initiated necessary measures to capture the bear.

₹40.95 Crore Development Works Launched in Parkal

Munsif Desk, Warangal:

Telangana Minister for Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Rural Water Supply, Women and Child Welfare, Dr. Danasari Anasuya (Seethakka), laid foundation stones for road development works to be undertaken under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) scheme. She also distributed Cheyutha pension sanction orders to eligible beneficiaries.

The Minister further laid the foundation stone for the construction of an Indira Mahila Dairy milk collection centre at Parakala, along with related infrastructure facilities.



Several other development works were also inaugurated as part of the programmes aimed at strengthening infrastructure and improving public amenities across the constituency.

Officials from various departments, public representatives, local leaders and a large number of people attended the programmes.

Drones Deployed for Mosquito Control in Greater Warangal

Munsif Desk, Warangal:

In a major initiative to curb mosquito breeding and protect public health, the Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) has introduced modern technology for mosquito control.

As part of the initiative, GWMC Commissioner T. Venkanna on Wednesday launched drone-based insecticide spraying in canals and sewage channels, identified as major mosquito breeding hotspots, at Rajaji Canal in Naimnagar.

The Commissioner inspected the drone-based spraying operations and said the technology would be particularly effective in reaching deep and inaccessible sections of drains, stagnant water bodies and other hazardous locations that are difficult for sanitation workers to access.

He said drones would enable insecticides to be sprayed across larger areas within a shorter period, thereby helping to effectively control mosquito breeding.

T. Venkanna announced that the special mosquito-control campaign would be extended in a phased and systematic manner across all 66 divisions of the city.

He directed officials to take preventive measures against mosquito-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue, identify mosquito breeding hotspots and ensure regular monitoring of vulnerable areas.

Emphasising that public health protection was the top priority, the Commissioner instructed officials to strengthen sanitation management and mosquito-control activities through coordinated and sustained efforts.

CMHO Dr. Raja Reddy, Urban Malaria Officer Rajini, Supervisor Anil, health assistants and staff of the Malaria Control Wing.



STATEWATCH | Where Telangana Speaks.

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

Asifabad Urdu Journalists Win State-Level Awards

Mohd Fayaz Ahmed
Kagaznagar:

Bringing recognition to Komaram Bheem Asifabad district, Urdu journalists Mirza Saleem Baig and Hafiz Sajid Khan were conferred with State-Level Best Journalist Awards at the 10th Annual General Body Meeting and Awards Ceremony of the Telangana Urdu Working Journalists Union (TUWJU), held in Hyderabad.

The awards were presented in recognition of their valuable contributions and dedicated services to the field of journalism.

Their achievement has brought pride to the Urdu journalism fraternity of the district and is expected to inspire fellow journalists to pursue their profession with dedication, integrity and a strong sense of responsibility.

YSRCP workers protest as police stop nomination rally in Andhra Pradesh

Munsif Desk Amaravati:

Tension prevailed in a village in Andhra Pradesh's YSR Kadapa district on Wednesday during the filing of nominations for Gram Panchayat elections.

Police stopped a rally of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP), which had started from the residence of its state general secretary Satish Reddy to file a nomination in Vempalli village in Pulivendula, the home constituency of YSRCP president and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Citing prohibitory orders in force, police stopped the rally of YSRCP functionaries. Police officials told them that they could not go in a group to file a nomination.

YSRCP workers sat on the road in protest against the police action. They made it clear that they would not leave without filing the nomination.

Satish Reddy's brother, Vishnuvardhan, staged a dharna against the police action.

Amid tension in Pulivendula and in view of the violent incidents reported during the nomination process for municipal and Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituency (MPTC) and Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC) elections, the police issued a notice to Kadapa MP Y.S. Avinash Reddy. The YSRCP MP was directed not to venture out, citing the possibility of clashes during the filing of nominations for Gram Panchayat elections.

A police officer visited the MP's residence to serve the notice.

The police said the measure was taken as a precaution to prevent any untoward incidents and maintain law and order. Avinash Reddy, a cousin of Jagan Mohan Reddy, questioned the police action. He asked a police officer whether they had received orders from above to stall the nomination process.

The MP also questioned the alleged illegal arrests of Sarpanch candidates in Pulivendula mandal. According to the YSRCP, in Simhadripuram mandal, police took into custody Ramanaiah, a candidate for the post of Sarpanch, along with his proposer, Shiva Pratap, and another person, Babu, from Devatapuram.

Contract assistant professors protest across 12 Telangana universities

(NSS), Hyderabad:

Demanding that the State government regularise their jobs or absorb them into the university system before undertaking any fresh faculty recruitment, contract assistant professors staged protests across 12 universities, including Osmania University, on Wednesday.

They attended their regular duties wearing black badges and raising slogans to highlight their demands. Participating in the protest at OU, Dr A Parshuram, president of the University Teachers Association – Contract – Telangana State (UTA-C-TG), and Dr D Dharmateja, working president, said contract assistant professors possessed all the qualifications prescribed by the UGC. Contract teachers highlighted that they had secured patents besides publishing research articles in reputed academic journals and earning numerous national and international citations.

Two Notorious House Burglars Arrested; Stolen Property Worth Rs. 46 Lakh Recovered

Munsif Desk,Raichur:

Raichur District Police have arrested two notorious burglars involved in a series of house break-ins across different areas and recovered gold and silver ornaments worth approximately Rs. 46 lakh from their possession. The motorcycle allegedly used in committing the offences was also seized. According to a press release issued by the District Superintendent of Police, special teams were constituted to investigate house burglaries reported within the limits of Raichur City West, Raichur Rural and Shakti Nagar police stations.

Under the guidance of SP Arunash Giri, Additional SP G. Harish and DSP E. Shantaveera, special teams comprising personnel from Raichur Rural Circle, West Circle and Shakti Nagar Police Station conducted the investigation. Milan Gowda from the SP's office provided technical assistance. During the investigation, police identified the accused as Amar Singh (29), son of Jaggar Taluk, and Dhan Raj Singh (24), son of Dhaniya, both residents of Chandrabanda Road, Raichur. They were arrested on the morning of November 17.

According to police, during interrogation, the accused confessed to breaking the locks and doors of five locked houses in different parts of the district and committing burglaries.

Raichur Rural Police Station: Crime No. 134/2026, registered under Sections 331(4) and 305 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, in connection with a burglary reported at Yaramaras village on July 7, 2026.

Adita Congratulates New District Mahila Congress President Anitha

Munsif Desk,
Kagaznagar:

All India Mahila Congress National Secretary Adita congratulated Surpam Anitha on her appointment as the President of the Kumuram Bheem Asifabad District Mahila Congress.

Expressing happiness over the appointment, Adita said that entrusting an important responsibility to a tribal woman from the remote tribal village of Malini was a matter of great pride and satisfaction.

She stated that the Congress Party had always recognised the dedication and commitment of its leaders and grassroots workers and provided them with due opportunities.

District Level Essay Writing, Quiz Competitions Conducted

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

District level essay writing and quiz competitions were conducted on Wednesday at the Integrated District Offices Complex Conference Hall as part of Electoral Literacy Club Competitions-2026, to create extensive awareness on the importance of the right to vote in democracy. 120 girl and boy students from various schools and colleges, who showed talent in competitions conducted at Assembly Constituency level and were selected for district level, participated enthusiastically in these competitions. Collector Ila Tripathi visited the Conference Hall and examined the manner of conduct of the competitions.

On this occasion, the Collector said that Electoral Literacy Club Competitions-2026 are being conducted with the intention of creating awareness among students on the election process, democratic system, right to vote, importance of elections, as well as moulding them as responsible voters. She suggested to officials to conduct the competitions impartially and transparently.

Election Section Supervisor Balaraju and concerned officials were with the Collector.

Free Group-II & III Coaching for Minority

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed , Nizamabad:

The Telangana Minorities Study Circle and Career Counselling Centre (TGMSC & CCC), Hyderabad, under the aegis of the Telangana Government's Minority Welfare Department, is offering free basic foundation coaching for minority candidates preparing for the TGPSC Group-II and Group-III examinations.

According to a press release issued by District Minority Welfare Officer K. Krishnadini, applications have been invited from eligible candidates belonging to minority communities, including Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Parsis and Buddhists, residing in Telangana.

Eligibility: Applicants must have completed graduation in any discipline.

Important Dates:

Commencement of application receipt: November 17, 2026 Last date for submission of applications: November 26, 2026 Commencement of coaching classes: November 27, 2026 Number of Seats: TGPSC Group-II: 100 candidates TGPSC Group-III: 100 candidates Candidates must bring the following documents at the time of registration:

Original certificates relating to educational qualifications.



MLAs, Collector Review Land Acquisition Issues

Munsif Desk,Hanumkonda: Station Ghanpur MLA Kadiyam Srihari, Wardhannapet MLA K.R. Nagaraju and Hanumakonda District Collector Chahat Bajpai held a review meeting with officials to discuss land acquisition for the Gauravelli project, new railway lines and a water treatment plant proposed for the Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC). The meeting was held on Wednesday at the Mini Conference Hall of the Hanumakonda District Collectorate. GWMC Commissioner T. Venkanna and officials from various departments participated in the discussions. The meeting reviewed land acquisition requirements and issues related to securing land for the proposed projects.

TRSMA opposes Intermediate colleges adding Classes IX, X

Munsif Desk, Hyderabad:

With the State government proposing the merger of Intermediate Education with the School Education department, the Telangana Recognised School Managements Association (TRSMA) on Wednesday urged the government not to permit existing intermediate colleges to add Classes IX and X under the new system.

The TRSMA expressed concern that if such permission were granted, intermediate colleges, with their strong financial resources and infrastructure, would directly affect established economical private schools. This could result in a loss of student strength and eventually lead to the closure of many budget schools.In a representation submitted to School Education Director Dr E Naveen Nicolas, TRSMA president SN Reddy and general secretary K Anil Kumar urged the government to allow existing recognised schools to upgrade by adding Classes XI and XII, subject to prescribed norms. They also sought permission to establish institutions under the nursery-to-Class-XII pattern, subject to government regulations.

The TRSMA sought continuation of the existing school permission categories.

Collector Calls for Improved Ekalavya Model Schools



Mohd Baleegh Ahmed
Nizamabad:

Nizamabad District Collector Ila Tripathi has directed officials to take steps to further improve the management of the Ekalavya Model Residential School at Indalwai Mandal headquarters, ensuring quality education, nutritious food and better facilities for students. On Wednesday, the Collector held a review meeting with officials concerned at the Integrated District Offices Complex to discuss the school's management, facilities available to students, infrastructure and educational standards.

During the meeting, she enquired about the problems prevailing at the school and reviewed the arrangements relating to hostel management, drinking water, electricity, sanitation, toilets and food facilities.



Foolproof Arrangements for Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme Enrolment

Mohd Baleegh Ahmed
Nizamabad:

With the enrolment process for the Telangana Government's prestigious Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme set to commence on November 19, District Collector Ila Tripathi on Wednesday evening inspected the arrangements at the enrolment centre established at the Gram Panchayat Office in Makloor Mandal headquarters.

During her visit, the Collector inspected the help desk, computers, online facilities, staff availability and other arrangements at the centre. She interacted with the computer operator and enquired about the enrolment procedure, documents required and the process for entering beneficiary details online.

The Collector directed officials to ensure that the enrolment process was conducted meticulously without any lapses. She stressed the need for coordination among officials and staff and instructed them to take utmost care while entering beneficiary details.

She said the online process should be completed only after thoroughly verifying the information entered.

Speaking to local media representatives, Ila Tripathi said all necessary arrangements had been completed across the district for the implementation of the scheme. She announced that special enrolment camps would commence from November 19 at the Nizamabad Municipal Corporation, Bodhan, Armoor and Bheemgal municipal offices, as well as at Gram Panchayats in all mandal headquarters. The facility would subsequently be extended to all Gram Panchayats and wards across the district.

Assuring the public, the Collector said there was no need for anyone to worry.

NATION | India's Politics, Policies & People.

Politics, economy, society and developments shaping the nation.

At a Glance

Thieves Cut Showroom Shutter, Flee With Gold

(IANS) Patna, Thieves broke into Shagun Jewellers near the bus stand in Bihar's Araria district and escaped with ornaments estimated to be worth around Rs 1 crore, police said. The burglars allegedly cut through the showroom shutter with a gas cutter and left the equipment inside before fleeing.

The theft came to light on Wednesday morning, after the family found the locks cut and jewellery missing. The exact loss is being assessed.

Sadar SDPO Sushil Kumar and other police personnel inspected the showroom. Police have launched an investigation. Local traders have sought arrests and stronger night patrolling by police.

Three Killed in Katihar Road Accident

(IANS) Patna, Three men were killed and another seriously injured when a truck, a tempo and a tractor collided near Bakhri Mor on NH-31 in Bihar's Katihar district on Wednesday.

The accident occurred near a Bajrangbali shrine under Pothia police station limits. All four victims were from Vishnuchak village in Sameli block.

The deceased were identified as Jitendra Kumar Sah alias Jeetu (22), Bhim Kumar Sah (35) and Baju Kumar Sah (32). The injured, Manish Kumar Sah (24), was taken to Katihar Medical College Hospital.

Dense morning fog is suspected to have contributed to the collision, though the exact cause is yet to be established.

Pothia SHO Naveen Kumar said police sent the bodies for post-mortem examinations and informed the families. An investigation is under way.

PM Modi to inaugurate FICCI Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention on Nov 19



(IANS) New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Annual General Meeting and Annual Convention of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on November 19 at Bharat Mandapam here, an official statement said on Wednesday.

The convention, themed "Bharat 2047", will bring together over 2,500 delegates, including industry leaders, CEOs, ambassadors, diplomats and policymakers.

The year 2026-27 marks FICCI's centenary year, as the organisation completes 100 years of its establishment on 7 April 2027.

The event is being organised as India emerged as the most resilient major economy in the world for the 2026-30 period and outperformed countries including China, Japan, Germany and the United States.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has said that the domestic economy remains anchored by strong macroeconomic fundamentals and policy interventions that have helped cushion downside risks amid a challenging global environment.

The central bank said high-frequency indicators across industry and services pointed to continued economic strength with sustained domestic demand and a resilient services sector supporting growth despite India's status as a net energy importer.

According to the RBI Bulletin, double-digit growth in merchandise exports during the first half of 2026-27 helped narrow the country's trade deficit, while foreign direct investment (FDI), external commercial borrowings (ECB) and remittance inflows strengthened in August.

Separately, the International Monetary Fund has raised India's growth forecast for 2026-27 by 60 basis points to 7 per cent from its July projection.

"Established in 1927, FICCI was founded at a time when Indian enterprises had limited representation in economic policymaking. Since Independence, FICCI has been associated with India's economic transformation and its growing integration with the global economy," according to an official statement.

Today, FICCI represents over 2.5 lakh companies across the public, private, and multinational sectors, directly and through more than 300 affiliated regional and state-level industry associations. It has partnership agreements with 250 national business associations in over 100 countries.

Patient Dies After Alleged Blood Group Mix-up at Jalpaiguri Hospital



(IANS) Kolkata, A patient died at a government hospital in West Bengal's Jalpaiguri district on Wednesday, two days after he was allegedly given blood of the wrong group. The incident has prompted an inquiry into suspected medical negligence.

The incident occurred at the Super Specialty Hospital under Jalpaiguri Medical College. Hospital authorities formed a three-member committee to investigate the alleged transfusion errors and issued show-cause notices to four employees, including a doctor, nurses and a health worker.

According to sources, two patients, Balin Roy of Raninagar and Birendranath Sharma of Kachua Boalmari village, were admitted to the same ward. Their blood groups were different: one had group A and the other AB positive.

Roy's family alleged that a nurse on duty gave him AB positive blood instead of the required A group. His health reportedly deteriorated after the transfusion. Sharma's family also alleged that he was given A positive blood instead of AB positive. Both families lodged complaints with the medical college authorities after the patients developed complications.

Sharma, who had kidney problems, had been admitted eight days earlier and was undergoing regular dialysis. His condition reportedly worsened after the alleged transfusion on Monday. Doctors kept him under observation, but he died on Wednesday

The incident came to the notice of State Health Minister Sharadwat Mukherjee, who directed the authorities to take action. Following his intervention, the hospital issued notices to the four personnel.

The committee has begun its inquiry to determine how the alleged errors occurred and fix responsibility. Roy is reportedly stable and recovering.

The inquiry is under way. The committee is examining the complaints and records.

Bhopal Scientists Develop India's First Indigenous H5N1 Vaccine for Poultry

(IANS) New Delhi, Bhopal-based ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (ICAR-NIHSAD) has developed an indigenous vaccine against bird flu, or highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), officials said on Wednesday. Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will dedicate the country's first inactivated H5N1 HPAI vaccine for poultry to the nation on November 20.

The vaccine will be unveiled at the institute, marking a step towards strengthening disease control in the poultry sector. Bird flu threatens chickens and other birds, with outbreaks capable of causing up to 100 per cent mortality in infected flocks. It can also lead to mass culling, trade restrictions and heavy losses for farmers.

Since the disease was first detected in India in 2006, the country has recorded more than 500 outbreaks involving H5N1 and H5N8 subtypes. Official estimates suggest a major outbreak could reduce India's GDP growth by 1.5 per cent and put more than 20 per cent of its poultry population at risk.

Bird flu also has public health implications. The World Health Organization has reported 1,003 human H5N1 cases, including 479 deaths, across 25 countries, including India, since 2003.

Studies cited in the report identify H5N1 Clade 2.3.2.1a as responsible for most chicken outbreaks. Recent infections have also been detected in mammals, alongside three reported human cases.

No specific commercial vaccine was available to protect poultry against the circulating Clade 2.3.2.1a strain. ICAR-NIHSAD's vaccine is intended to address this gap, reduce farmers' losses and help prevent the virus spreading from chickens to other animals and humans in India.

SC issues contempt notice to advocate over remarks against CJI Surya Kant



(IANS) New Delhi, The Supreme Court on Wednesday issued notice to advocate Pravin Singhal on a plea filed by the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) seeking initiation of criminal contempt proceedings against him for allegedly making insulting remarks against Chief Justice of India (CJI), Surya Kant, in open court.

A special three-judge Bench of Justices Dipankar Datta, Joymalya Bagchi and V. Mohana said that it was prima facie satisfied that the SCBA's motion for initiation of contempt proceedings, along with the alleged attempt to scandalise the judiciary, required to be taken forward.

"Issue notice, returnable on January 20, 2027," ordered the Justice Datta-led Bench.

The apex court directed Singhal to file his reply by January 8, 2027, and any rejoinder by January 13.

It further directed advocate Singhal to remain personally present before the top court on the next date of hearing.

During the hearing, SCBA President and senior advocate Pradeep Rai submitted that the incident, which took place on November 16, involved deeply disrespectful conduct and could not be allowed to go unchecked.

"We have to deal with this with an iron hand. This cannot be allowed," Rai submitted.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who was present in the courtroom, also supported the plea, saying that the majesty of the Supreme Court could not be compromised.

"I would fully support the petitioner. The majesty of this court cannot be compromised," SG Mehta submitted.

The Justice Datta-led Bench said it would require the assistance of the Solicitor General, the Centre's second highest law officer, when the matter is taken up next.

The SCBA approached the Supreme Court after obtaining the consent of the Attorney General of India under Section 15(1)(b) of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, for initiating criminal contempt proceedings.

According to the petition, Singhal allegedly made insulting remarks against CJI Surya Kant during court proceedings on November 16, questioning his right to occupy the Chief Justice's chair.

"You can't sit in that chair, you don't deserve. You don't have the integrity for that!" the advocate had reportedly told the CJI.

The incident took place during proceedings before the CJI Kant-led Bench, following which security personnel removed the advocate from the courtroom.

Naidu Thanks Karnataka for Power Restoration Support After Twin Cyclones



(IANS) Bengaluru, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has thanked Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar for providing personnel to help restore electricity supply in areas affected by twin cyclones Arnab and Murasu.

According to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office on Wednesday, Naidu wrote to Shivakumar expressing gratitude for Karnataka's prompt response and deployment of teams after the cyclones damaged power infrastructure across Andhra Pradesh.

The cyclones disrupted electricity supply in several areas, damaging or uprooting 1,852 poles during Cyclone Arnab and 7,850 poles during Cyclone Murasu. Within the jurisdiction of the Andhra Pradesh Central Power Distribution Corporation Limited (APCPDCL), power supply had to be restored in 1,333 villages affected by Arnab and 1,825 villages hit by Murasu.

Karnataka deployed 592 personnel in 68 teams to support the restoration work. Naidu said the teams worked alongside local staff under challenging conditions and helped speed up the restoration process.

The APCPDCL deployed 1,580 personnel in 165 teams after Cyclone Arnab and 3,292 personnel in 390 teams following Cyclone Murasu. The additional support from Karnataka strengthened the operations and helped intensify efforts to restore power in affected areas, Naidu said.

He said Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka shared close geographical, economic and cultural ties, adding that cooperation during natural disasters would further strengthen relations between the neighbouring States.

Naidu assured Shivakumar that Andhra Pradesh would extend all possible assistance to Karnataka in the event of a natural disaster or emergency. Such support, he said, would include personnel, equipment and machinery.

Naidu said Karnataka's teams supplemented the State's own restoration workforce and helped accelerate work in cyclone-hit areas. He thanked the personnel for their contribution and said the two States would continue to support each other during

High-level committee on banking sector reforms starts consultations



(IANS) New Delhi, The Centre's high-level committee on 'Banking for Viksit Bharat' has begun consultations on banking reforms, identifying key areas for review, according to a Finance Ministry statement on Wednesday.

At its first two sittings, the committee discussed subjects to be examined under its terms of reference. It identified banks, non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), development financial institutions, regulators, industry associations and fintech organisations, among others, for consultations.

The committee has circulated questionnaires to these stakeholders, seeking views and suggestions on banking sector reforms. It will also hold meetings to gather inputs for its recommendations on 'Banking for Viksit Bharat 2047', the statement said.

It aims to make Indian banking more competitive, resilient, inclusive and future-ready.

The committee will assess existing banking practices and prudential norms, examine global best practices and consider how they can be adapted to the Indian system. It will also prepare a roadmap for developing globally competitive banks.

The panel will review regulatory and legal frameworks governing banks, including Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks, and suggest changes to improve efficiency and ease of banking.

It will assess the long-term capital needs of banks, development financial institutions and NBFCs, and recommend funding sources and mechanisms to support credit growth. It will also examine differences in the cost of capital for businesses and suggest policy measures to encourage private investment and sustainable growth.

Other areas include a roadmap for artificial intelligence and digital innovation in banks, safeguards against cyber risks, and strategies for talent acquisition and capacity building.

The committee will also examine the priority sector lending framework and the Lead Bank Scheme, assessing their relevance, effectiveness and coordination in ensuring inclusive, balanced and data-driven credit delivery in line with changing economic priorities and financial inclusion goals.

It may also make recommendations on any other matter referred to it by the Government of India.

HORIZONS | World Affairs & Their Impact.

Global events & Geopolitics

At a Glance



Fiji declares national state of disaster over El Nino-driven drought

(IANS) Suva, Fiji has declared a national state of disaster over prolonged dry weather and worsening water shortages linked to El Nino conditions, Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka said on Wednesday.

The Cabinet approved the declaration following advice from the National Disaster Risk Management Council after assessments confirmed that crisis thresholds under the National El Nino Preparedness and Response Plan had been reached.

The government has allocated 20 million Fijian dollars (about $8.9 million) for emergency assistance and support to affected communities, Xinhua News Agency reported.

Rabuka said priorities included ensuring safe drinking water, strengthening emergency supplies, protecting public health and sanitation, and supporting farmers. More than two million litres of emergency water have been delivered to affected maritime communities over the past month.

The Ministry of Agriculture has also launched six initiatives covering emergency irrigation, livestock feed, drought-resistant seeds and household food security.

Meanwhile, water rationing has begun in parts of the Western Division from 9 pm to 4 am daily until further notice. The Water Authority of Fiji said the region had experienced more than three months of below-average rainfall, affecting reservoirs and treatment plants.

According to Fiji's October 2026 Climate Summary, 26 of the country's 27 weather monitoring stations recorded well-below-normal rainfall.

Chip curbs, mineral supplies test Trump's China diplomacy ahead of Xi talks



(IANS) Washington, Differences within the Trump administration over restrictions on China's access to advanced technology, coupled with concerns over critical-mineral supplies, are set to test US-China relations ahead of President Donald Trump's talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Shenzhen on Thursday.

According to The New York Times, senior officials, including Secretary of State Marco Rubio, US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer and National Security Council staff, favour tighter curbs on China's access to advanced AI chips. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has reportedly advocated a softer approach.

The administration announced fresh restrictions on Monday to prevent Chinese companies from remotely accessing advanced American computing technology through overseas data centres.

At the same time, Washington and Beijing are exploring cooperation to manage artificial intelligence risks. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said both sides were discussing ways to evaluate advanced AI models before release and establish a direct channel to report serious incidents.

"Our objective is to de-risk, not to decouple," Bessent said.

Critical minerals remain another major concern. A CSIS analysis found that US imports of covered rare-earth materials from China averaged 19.3 metric tonnes a month between November 2025 and September 2026, down about 75 per cent from pre-restriction levels.

India, too, remains heavily dependent on China for permanent magnets, which are essential for electric vehicles, renewable energy, electronics and defence. New Delhi has approved a Rs 7,280-crore scheme to develop domestic manufacturing capacity of 6,000 metric tonnes annually.

The Quad leaders, who met in Manila on Tuesday, also discussed critical-mineral supply chains, energy security and safe navigation.

The Shenzhen meeting will test whether Washington and Beijing can balance strategic competition with economic cooperation.

Israeli parliament elects new speaker opposed to Netanyahu



(IANS) Jerusalem, Israel's parliament elected a new speaker opposed to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, giving Netanyahu's opponents control over the legislative agenda as talks to form a new government continued.

Matan Kahana, a lawmaker with Gadi Eisenkot's Yashar party, defeated Ofir Katz of Netanyahu's Likud party by 66 votes to 52, replacing Netanyahu ally Amir Ohana on Tuesday night (local time).

Live broadcast from the chamber showed lawmakers from the anti-Netanyahu bloc breaking into applause, hugging and shaking hands after the vote, reports Xinhua news agency.

Kahana's election, backed by Arab parties, opens the way for Netanyahu's opponents to advance plans to repeal legislation passed as part of his government's judicial overhaul before a new government takes office.

Eisenkot, a former military chief, has until December 6 to form a government, with a possible extension of up to two weeks granted by the president.

Netanyahu's opponents won 67 of parliament's 120 seats in the Oct. 27 election, but that majority includes 19 seats held by Arab parties, whose support some of Eisenkot's prospective coalition partners reject.

Earlier on November 10, Israel's newly elected parliament was sworn in, as opposition parties moved to use their parliamentary majority to replace key allies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

President Isaac Herzog opened the inaugural session of the 120-seat parliament, or Knesset, following which the newly elected lawmakers took their oath of office.

The ceremony followed an October 27 election in which Netanyahu's right-wing bloc lost its majority, securing 53 seats against 67 for parties opposed to him.

Ahead of the ceremony, opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot's Yashar party said more than 61 lawmakers had signed a request to replace parliament Speaker Amir Ohana, a lawmaker from Netanyahu's Likud party, and nominated Matan Kahana, a Yashar lawmaker, as his successor.

Eisenkot's allies also agreed on candidates to head key parliamentary committees, including Avigdor Lieberman, a right-wing ally whose opposition to forming a government with Arab parties has complicated coalition talks, as chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Liran Avisar Ben Horin, a lawmaker from former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's party, will head the Finance Committee, making her the first woman to hold the post.

Singapore to strengthen regional climate cooperation during 2027 ASEAN chairmanship

(IANS) Singapore, Ningapore will strengthen regional climate cooperation during its 2027 ASEAN chairmanship, focusing on cross-border electricity trade, climate resilience and food security, Sustainability and Environment Minister Grace Fu said.

Addressing the 31st Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Turkey, Fu said Singapore would work with regional partners to advance the ASEAN Power Grid and address financing and implementation challenges.

She also highlighted SPIRE Asia, which includes a blended finance fund of up to $500 million to support investment in climate adaptation projects. Singapore will also promote cooperation on agricultural climate risks and tackling transboundary haze.

Prime Minister Lawrence Wong said Singapore was honoured to assume the ASEAN chairmanship in 2027, when the regional grouping marks its 60th anniversary.

Under the theme 'Deeper Integration, Wider Partnerships', Singapore will seek stronger regional ties in finance, digital technology and energy, while promoting unity and wider international cooperation, he said.

Democrats notch another win in midterm Senate race, bag Alaska seat

(IANS) New York, Democrat Mary Peltola has defeated incumbent Republican Senator Dan S. Sullivan to win Alaska's closely contested Senate race, taking the Democratic Party's tally to 56 seats in the 100-member Senate.

Peltola secured just over 50 per cent of the vote, crossing the threshold by 0.12 percentage points and avoiding a runoff. The result marked the Democrats' ninth Republican seat gain.

After her victory was announced, Peltola wrote on X that she would work to tackle corporate greed, lower costs and put Alaska first.

Her victory came despite President Donald Trump carrying Alaska by 13 percentage points. Peltola, a former commercial fisher and ex-member of the House of Representatives, will become the first Alaska Native to serve in the Senate.

The counting process was delayed because of the state's vast geographical area.

Iranian FM, Omani Sultan discuss regional tensions, diplomatic initiative



(IANS) Tehran, Iran's Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi and Oman's Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik Al Said met Tuesday in the Omani capital Muscat to exchange views on the state of insecurity and tension in West Asia.

During the meeting, Araghchi briefed the Omani sultan on Iran's latest diplomatic initiative to end the war with the United States, according to a statement by the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

He said Iran has always been serious about employing diplomacy, just as it has acted with "decisiveness and determination" to defend its territorial integrity and national interests.

Araghchi also pointed to the "bright and longstanding" history of Iran-Oman relations, expressing Tehran's determination to further strengthen ties with Muscat in all areas of common interest, Xinhua News Agency reported.

The Omani sultan, for his part, underscored the significance of the "historical and friendly" relations between the two countries, appreciating Iran's "responsible approach" to ensuring regional peace and stability.

He also stressed the necessity for continued consultations among regional countries to manage the current critical situation and prevent escalation.

Separately, Araghchi held trilateral talks in Muscat with his Omani and Uzbekistani counterparts, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi and Bakhtiyor Saidov, where they stressed the need to restore freedom of navigation and secure safe passage for international trade to support market stability and regional economic cooperation, Oman's Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Also on Tuesday, Qatari Foreign Ministry spokesperson Majed Al Ansari said that Doha would meet Iranian officials later in the day as part of its continuing mediation to narrow U.S.-Iran differences over proposals to end the regional crisis.

Araghchi arrived in Muscat Monday night following a visit to Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, where he attended the 30th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organisation.

US Navy Chief says Iran war straining maritime forces



(IANS) Washington, The US war with Iran is straining naval resources and raising concerns over America's ability to maintain military readiness in the Indo-Pacific, Acting Navy Secretary Hung Cao told senators during his confirmation hearing on Tuesday.

"Senator, it is stressing our naval resources," Cao told Senator Mazie Hirono during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on his nomination to become the Navy's permanent secretary.

Hirono, a Democrat from Hawaii, questioned whether the deployment of naval forces to the Middle East was weakening America's ability to counter China and North Korea in the Indo-Pacific. She said the conflict had cost tens of billions of dollars, depleted critical munitions, delayed maintenance and forced sailors and their families to endure prolonged deployments.

Cao defended the military campaign, arguing that the combined capabilities of US naval, ground, air and cyber forces had demonstrated American strength and given China reason for concern.

He also acknowledged shipyard workforce shortages and said workers in Hawaii had been temporarily assigned to other facilities to support maintenance operations.

Senator Mark Kelly, a former naval aviator, raised concerns about the welfare of sailors and Marines deployed in the Middle East. He cited eight suicide attempts aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group during a deployment lasting 321 days.

Kelly also relayed complaints from military families about inadequate food, weight loss and shortages of basic hygiene supplies.

Cao said he reviewed food supplies and shipboard conditions daily, adding that no vessel had run out of food. He identified the destroyer USS Gonzalez as a particular concern, saying it had about one week's supplies remaining, against his preferred minimum of two weeks.

Kelly questioned Cao's response to reports of severe weight loss among personnel, arguing that prolonged deployments and difficult conditions required greater attention.

Cao said chaplains, mental health specialists and resilience counsellors were available aboard ships to support personnel.

The hearing highlighted growing concerns over the impact of the Iran conflict on US military readiness and the Navy's ability to meet its commitments in the Indo-Pacific.

RIGHTS GROUPS CONDEMN PAKISTAN OVER IMRAN KHAN AND HIS WIFE'S TREATMENT

(IANS) Islamabad, Amnesty International and the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) have condemned the alleged mistreatment of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, raising concerns over their health and detention conditions.

Amnesty alleged that authorities had denied them adequate medical care, family visits and regular access to lawyers. It said Khan had faced prolonged solitary confinement, while his wife was suffering from an eye condition requiring treatment.

The HRCP called for an independent investigation into the allegations, stressing that all prisoners are entitled to humane treatment, healthcare and legal access. Amnesty also demanded the release of Khan's detained sister, Aleema Khan.

PERSPECTIVE | Beyond the Headlines.

Context. Clarity. Consequence.

COMMENTARY | ELECTORAL RIGHTS

A TRIUMPH OF THE PEOPLE: Safeguarding Every Eligible Vote

Telangana's voter roll revision highlights the need for transparency, accountability and public vigilance to safeguard voting rights.



By: Dr. Shujath Ali Sufi
Consulting Editor Munsif Daily

Columnist, Author, Former Head
RNU Doordarshan Chennai, PhD.

The clearing of large numbers of voters during Telangana's electoral roll revision is an important moment for democracy. Every eligible citizen deserves a fair opportunity to vote. Uncertainty over inclusion can undermine public confidence and democratic participation.

A Significant Moment

During the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), millions of electors received notices over discrepancies or difficulties linking their records with earlier rolls. By November 17, approximately 91.77 lakh electors who received notices had been cleared for inclusion, while other cases remained under examination. Claims and objections have been extended until December 15, with final rolls scheduled for December 22.

Every Eligible Vote Matters

Voting is fundamental to representative democracy. Even one eligible voter wrongly excluded is a serious concern. Citizens should not face needless paperwork or prolonged uncertainty to prove eligibility.

Election authorities must maintain accurate rolls while protecting genuine voters from wrongful exclusion.

Transparency Must Guide Revision

The scale of verification demands answers. Were notices properly delivered? Were voters given sufficient time? Were reasons for decisions explained? Could elderly, poor and disadvantaged citizens use the correction process?

The Election Commission's constitutional responsibility requires impartiality, transparency and accessible grievance procedures.

"Democracy is strengthened not merely by conducting elections, but by protecting every eligible citizen's right to participate."

Accountability Beyond Corrections

Clearing eligible voters' records cannot end the process of accountability. Where errors or unjustified exclusions are established, their causes should be examined and safeguards strengthened.

At the same time, issuing a notice does not itself prove wrongdoing. Authorities must also identify deceased voters, duplicate entries and people no longer ordinarily resident at registered addresses. Every decision must rest on evidence and remain open to appropriate review.

Public Vigilance Matters

Civil society, political parties, lawyers and citizens can help voters check their status and submit corrections before the final rolls are published. Such efforts should defend lawful voting rights without unnecessary political confrontation.

The People's Confidence Comes First

Democracy depends not only on elections but on the public's trust that institutions will act fairly. The ability to challenge discrepancies reflects citizens' determination to participate. No eligible citizen should lose a democratic voice because of avoidable administrative failure. Every legitimate concern deserves attention, every eligible vote matters and electoral institutions must remain accountable to the people.

LIFESTYLE | FOOD | FITNESS | WELL-BEING

Black Clothing: The Timeless Elegance of a Classic Colour

From traditional attire to modern fashion, black remains a symbol of sophistication, confidence and effortless beauty across seasons.

By: Raheel Mughal

Black has long held a distinctive place in the world of fashion. Once associated with darkness, sorrow and mystery, it has evolved into a timeless expression of elegance, confidence and sophistication. Today, black clothing remains a favourite among women of different ages and fashion preferences.

In earlier times, black was often viewed as a symbol of darkness and uncertainty. However, changing fashion trends gradually transformed its image. Designers embraced its versatility, introducing elegant garments that established black as one of the most admired colours in contemporary wardrobes.

Black is often called the king of colours because of its remarkable ability to complement different styles, occasions and personalities.

Whether worn as a traditional abaya, shalwar kameez, embroidered dress or contemporary outfit, black creates an impression of refinement and understated luxury.

Fashion enthusiasts particularly appreciate its ability to highlight delicate embroidery, intricate patterns and decorative embellishments.

Gold and silver embroidery on black fabric creates a striking appearance, making such outfits popular for weddings, celebrations and formal gatherings.

Unlike colours associated with particular seasons, black maintains its appeal throughout the year.

During winter, black velvet, wool and richly embroidered garments create a luxurious appearance. In summer, lightweight black fabrics offer a graceful look, although lighter shades may be more comfortable under intense sunlight.

Pairing black with golden, maroon, grey or soft pink accessories adds contrast and sophistication.

A black outfit complemented by an elegant shawl, delicate jewellery or carefully selected footwear can transform a simple appearance into a memorable fashion statement.

Why Women Prefer Black

Black is admired not only for its versatility but also for its flattering visual effect.

A fashion designer observes:

> **"In my view, women favour black because it creates a slimmer, smarter and more graceful appearance."**

Black also offers considerable freedom in styling. From modest everyday clothing to elaborate festive outfits, it accommodates different tastes without losing its distinctive charm.

Fashion trends change constantly, but black continues to retain its place in women's wardrobes.

Its beauty lies in simplicity, versatility and the confidence it inspires.

Whether enhanced through traditional embroidery or presented in minimalist contemporary designs, black remains a favourite choice for those seeking timeless elegance.

Ultimately, black is more than a colour in fashion. It represents individuality, refinement and an enduring sense of style.

HEALTH & WELLNESS | MODERN LIFESTYLE | SLEEP, STRESS & METABOLIC HEALTH

The Midnight Lifestyle: How Late Nights Affect Our Health

Late dinners, inadequate sleep and chronic stress can disrupt the body's biological clock, increasing the risk of obesity, diabetes and other metabolic disorders. Understanding these hidden risks is essential for healthier living.





By: Dr. Md. Mubasheer Ali
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In a city that remains active long after sunset, midnight has quietly become part of everyday life. For many professionals in Hyderabad, dinner arrives at 10 or 11 pm, work messages continue until bedtime, and sleep is delayed by deadlines, entertainment or endless scrolling through social media.

While this lifestyle may appear convenient, its long-term consequences can extend beyond fatigue, affecting blood sugar regulation, body weight, hormonal balance and overall metabolic health.

Modern lifestyles have increasingly disrupted the body's natural biological rhythm, making it important to understand how everyday habits influence long-term well-being.

The Body's Biological Clock

The human body follows an internal 24-hour cycle known as the circadian rhythm. This biological clock helps regulate sleep, hunger, digestion, hormone secretion and blood glucose metabolism.

When sleeping, eating and physical activity follow reasonably consistent patterns, the body functions more efficiently.

However, irregular routines, frequent late-night meals and insufficient sleep can disrupt this natural rhythm.

Over time, such disturbances may contribute to metabolic problems, particularly among individuals already vulnerable to obesity, diabetes or hypertension.

Late Dinners and Blood Sugar Control

Eating late at night has become increasingly common among working professionals, students and families managing demanding schedules.

A heavy meal shortly before bedtime may cause acidity, digestive discomfort and disturbed sleep.

Research also suggests that eating identical meals late in the evening can produce higher post-meal blood glucose levels than eating earlier, particularly among individuals with impaired glucose regulation.

This does not mean an occasional late dinner will cause diabetes.

The greater concern is the repeated combination of late, calorie-dense meals, inadequate physical activity and insufficient sleep.

Individuals with diabetes or prediabetes should pay particular attention to meal timing, portion sizes and dietary quality.

POOR SLEEP: A Hidden Metabolic Risk

Sleep is not merely a period of rest. It is an essential biological process that supports hormonal regulation, metabolic recovery and overall health.

Most adults require approximately seven to nine hours of good-quality sleep every night.

Repeated sleep deprivation can reduce insulin sensitivity, making it more difficult for the body to regulate blood glucose effectively.

Inadequate sleep may also influence appetite, increasing cravings for sugary snacks and calorie-rich foods.

Over time, persistent sleep disturbances are associated with an increased risk of weight gain, type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure.

Maintaining regular sleep and waking schedules is therefore an important component of preventive healthcare.

Chronic Stress and Hormonal Imbalance

Stress represents another significant challenge in modern urban life.

Professional deadlines, financial responsibilities, long commutes and continuous digital connectivity can keep the body in a prolonged state of alertness.

During stressful situations, hormones such as cortisol are released, temporarily increasing blood glucose levels.

When stress becomes persistent, it may also encourage emotional eating, reduce motivation for exercise and interfere with restful sleep.

These factors can reinforce one another, creating a difficult cycle of fatigue, unhealthy eating and metabolic imbalance.

Managing stress is therefore not merely about emotional comfort; it is also important for physical and metabolic health.

Why Urban Lifestyles Need Attention

In cities such as Hyderabad, desk-based employment, irregular working hours, lengthy commutes and family responsibilities often make healthy routines difficult to maintain.

Shift workers and professionals working late hours may face particular challenges because their schedules do not always align with conventional sleeping and eating patterns.

However, the purpose of preventive healthcare is not to blame individuals for circumstances beyond their control.

Instead, the objective should be to encourage practical, sustainable changes that accommodate everyday responsibilities.

Benefits with Small Lifestyle Changes

Improving metabolic health does not necessarily require dramatic changes.

Where possible, completing dinner two to three hours before bedtime may improve comfort and support healthier routines.

Choosing balanced meals, avoiding frequent heavy late-night snacks and taking a short walk after eating can also be beneficial.

Consistent sleep schedules, reduced evening caffeine intake and limiting screen exposure before bedtime may support better sleep quality.

Regular physical activity, short breaks during working hours and relaxation techniques can help manage stress.

Individuals with abdominal obesity, a family history of diabetes or high blood pressure should also discuss appropriate health screening with their doctors.

> "Good metabolic health depends not only on what we eat, but also on when we eat, sleep and recover."

Protecting Health in a 24-Hour World

Modern life may demand constant productivity, but the human body continues to depend upon regular biological rhythms.

Healthy living requires attention not only to nutrition and exercise, but also to meal timing, sleep quality and stress management.

Even modest, consistent improvements can contribute to better long-term health.

The goal is not to abandon modern lifestyles, but to develop healthier routines within them.

Ultimately, protecting our biological clock may be one of the most valuable investments we make in preventing metabolic disorders and preserving lifelong well-being.

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1st Test: India look to rewrite New Zealand script as WTC ambitions face stern Wellington test



Wellington, (IANS): Wellington, Nov 18 (IANS) India will look to overcome their poor Test record in New Zealand when they face the hosts in the opening match of the two-Test series, beginning Thursday. The contest is crucial for Shubman Gill's side as they aim to strengthen their chances of reaching the World Test Championship (WTC) final.

India currently occupy fourth place in the WTC standings and need a strong series result to improve their qualification prospects ahead of the home series against Australia.

History, however, is against India. Their last Test victory in New Zealand came in Hamilton in 2009, when MS Dhoni led the team to a 10-wicket win. They have managed only one Test victory in the country in the last five decades.

New Zealand enter the series with confidence after securing a 2-1 Test series victory in England. Their strong pace attack, led by Matt Henry, could pose a major challenge for India's batting line-up in Wellington's conditions.

India will rely on senior players, including Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja and KL Rahul, while Rishabh Pant's return to the Test side adds an attacking option. Gill will also be hoping for valuable contributions from the younger members of the squad.

India's pace combination will be another key selection issue, with Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Gurnoor Brar and Anshul Kamboj among the options. After a successful limited-overs leg, India face a tougher test in the longer format. They will need disciplined batting and consistent bowling to overcome the hosts and keep their WTC final hopes on track.

Match Details When: Thursday, November 19, 3:30 AM IST Where: Basin Reserve, Wellington Live Broadcast: Sony Sports Network Live Streaming: Sony LIV

Squads

India: Shubman Gill (c), Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul (vc), Devdutt Padikkal, Rishabh Pant (wk), Dhruv Jurel (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Anshul Kamboj, Jasprit Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Sai Sudharsan, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Washington Sundar, Mohammed Siraj, Gurnoor Brar. New Zealand: Tom Latham (c), Tom Blundell (wk), Devon Conway, Jacob Duffy, Dean Foxcroft, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Daryl Mitchell, Henry Nicholls, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Nathan Smith, Blair Tickner, Will Young.

'Player availability was a huge part of it': Vettori explains SRH's decision to release Travis Head

New Delhi, (IANS): Sunrisers Hyderabad head coach Daniel Vettori has revealed that Travis Head's decision to sit out the IPL 2027 season to prioritise Australia's commitments was a significant factor behind the franchise releasing the Australian opener, as SRH look to retain their core group while addressing gaps in the squad at the upcoming auction.

Head, who has been an integral part of Hyderabad's batting line-up over the last three seasons, will not feature in the franchise's plans for the next IPL campaign. Vettori said the decision came after the team assessed player availability alongside its retention strategy for the final year of the existing cycle.

"The reason behind retentions, it being the final year of the cycle was obviously a big focus this time. But we also wanted to understand that we had a good season last year and wanted to retain the core of the squad, while also understanding that we were after some improvements and had some issues with player availability. "Player availability was a huge part of it. Travis Head, who's been an integral part of the side for the last three years, has decided that he wants to sit out the season. He's got a massive year coming up for Australia, and he's going to prioritise that. So it's sad that he's not going to be with us, but we are very grateful for his contributions over the last three years," Vettori told JioStar.

With Head's departure creating an opening in the batting department, SRH will look to identify players who can fit into their existing combination and expand the team's options. Vettori said the franchise would assess released players from other teams, particularly batters who could benefit from playing their home matches in Hyderabad. "I think every team looks at the gaps in their squad or their team, and it's just about trying to find improvements. We may find a player from a team that's been released and feel like he can really suit our squad and playing style. Particularly from a batting perspective, it's a great place to bat.

"So if there is someone released who maybe hasn't been successful at a certain venue, they can come to Hyderabad and really blossom. So,



those are the sorts of players we'll be looking for to complement our squad. We're fortunate that we have such a strong team and a strong playing XI, and hopefully we get one or two players who can really contribute to that," he added.

The SRH coach indicated that the franchise would approach the auction with an emphasis on finding suitable additions rather than making sweeping changes, having already identified the core it wants to carry forward.

Latham Confirms Three Fast Bowlers for New Zealand Against India

Wellington, (IANS): Wellington, Nov 18 (IANS) New Zealand captain Tom Latham has confirmed that the team will field three specialist fast bowlers and one bowling all-rounder in the opening Test against India, beginning Thursday.

Latham said New Zealand have several pace options nearing full fitness and will manage their workloads throughout the six-to-seven-week assignment. However, their immediate focus remains on the first Test.

He also said the World Test Championship standings would not influence the team's approach, stressing that New Zealand would focus on playing their natural brand of cricket. Latham praised Bumrah and backed Matt Henry's experience and consistency.

Warner calls for 'open and independent inquiry' into 2018 Sandpapergate scandal

New Delhi, (IANS): Former Australia vice-captain David Warner has called for an open and independent inquiry into the 2018 ball-tampering scandal, saying the public deserves to know the truth.

The controversy resurfaced after Usman Khawaja, in his autobiography Sabr, claimed that the entire Australian team knew about the use of sandpaper to tamper with the ball during the Cape Town Test in 2018. He also alleged that similar incidents occurred in the previous Test in Port Elizabeth.

Warner, who was banned alongside Steve Smith and Cameron Bancroft, backed Khawaja's claims. Cricket Australia has announced an independent forum for players and support staff involved in the 2018 South Africa tour to revisit their testimonies but ruled out reopening the investigation.

Warner said he was not seeking further



punishment, but wanted transparency and accountability, adding that everyone involved should be allowed to speak freely.

'Mentor's role could be frustrating for Dhoni if team faces difficulties': Madan Lal

New Delhi, (IANS): Former India all-rounder Madan Lal believes Mahendra Singh Dhoni's transition from an on-field leader to a mentor at Chennai Super Kings (CSK) could be a challenging experience, as the former captain will have to guide the team from the sidelines rather than directly controlling proceedings on the field.

Dhoni, who has retired from playing in the Indian Premier League (IPL), will take up the role of CSK's team mentor from the 2027 season. While Madan Lal considers the move appropriate for the veteran cricketer, he feels adjusting to the new responsibilities could sometimes test Dhoni's patience, particularly when the team is struggling.

"I think it is the right move for Dhoni to take up a mentorship role. However, it will be challenging and frustrating at the same time. Earlier, he was on the field, managing the team and making decisions himself. Now, he will have to sit outside and guide the players," Madan Lal told IANS. "If things go smoothly, it will be fine, but if the team faces difficulties, it could become frustrating for him. It is a completely different experience from being actively involved on the field," he added.

Dhoni's influence as a mentor has already been acknowledged by several former teammates and current players. Former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan recently said mentorship was never unfamiliar to Dhoni, as he had guided



several players even during his captaincy days.

"Mentorship is nothing new for MS Dhoni. Even when he was captain, he used to mentor several players. I am sure his journey of playing cricket has come to an end, but his journey of contributing to the game will continue," Pathan told IANS.

Dhoni finished his IPL playing career with 278 appearances and 5,439 runs. He captained CSK to five titles in 2010, 2011, 2018, 2021 and 2023, besides recording 205 wicketkeeping dismissals in the tournament.

Although his playing days have come to an end, his association with Chennai will continue as he prepares to guide the franchise in a new capacity from IPL 2027.

Arshdeep, Banton make huge gains in ODI rankings

Dubai, (IANS): India pacer Arshdeep Singh made big gains in the latest update to the ICC Men's ODI Player Rankings, climbing 12 places to reach joint 19th among bowlers following the completion of the three-match series against New Zealand.

Arshdeep was one of the biggest movers in the bowling rankings this week, which continue to be led by Afghanistan spinner Rashid Khan. New Zealand bowler Matt Henry also rose significantly, up 15 places to share 12th spot, with team-mate Kyle Jamieson jumping 15 places to 45th.

Meanwhile, England batter Tom Banton was another big beneficiary of the latest update after his match-winning century against Australia in the second ODI in Adelaide. Banton smashed 121 off 99 deliveries, his second ODI hundred, to help England register a series-equalling victory and surge 34 places to a career-high 13th in the batting rankings.

His England teammate Joe Root also returned to the top 10, moving up two places to ninth after scoring a half-century in the same match. India's Shubman Gill continues to lead the ODI batting rankings.

England pacer Jofra Archer made his way back into the top 10 among ODI bowlers, gaining four places to seventh after taking a wicket in each of the first two ODIs against Australia.

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe and



Afghanistan players made notable progress in the latest Test rankings following their closely fought series in Sharjah, which Zimbabwe won 2-0.

Zimbabwe pacer Blessing Muzarabani was the biggest gainer among Test bowlers, jumping five places to a tie for 16th after taking six wickets in the decisive second Test to earn the Player of the Match award. Spinner Graeme Cremer also jumped six spots to 65th.

In the batter's chart, Zimbabwe opener Innocent Kaia jumped 20 places to 50th, while veteran Brendan Taylor climbed 40 places to 62nd.

Afghanistan all-rounder Naseer Maroofkhil made his mark on his Test debut with a century and seven wickets in the first innings of the match. He became only the fourth player to do so in men's Test cricket and joined the Test batting rankings in 93rd place and joint 78th among bowlers.

Heinrich Klaasen appointed Gulf Giants captain for ILT20 Season 5



New Delhi, (IANS): South African batter Heinrich Klaasen has been appointed captain of Gulf Giants for the fifth season of the DP World International League T20 (ILT20), scheduled from November 21 to December 20, 2026.

The upcoming edition will mark Klaasen's debut in the ILT20. The experienced middle-order batter has scored over 7,000 runs in more than 300 T20 matches, including 1,000 runs in 58 T20 Internationals for South Africa.

Klaasen said he was honoured by the appointment and looked forward to leading a talented squad. He also expressed confidence in working with head coach Simon Helmot.

Helmot welcomed the decision, describing Klaasen as an experienced player capable of handling pressure and making valuable contributions to the team's leadership.

The Gulf Giants, owned by Adani Sportsline, will look to mount a strong title challenge under Klaasen's leadership.

Morkel Backs India's Bowling Options, Leaves Siraj Selection to Gill

Wellington, (IANS): India bowling coach Morne Morkel has expressed confidence in the team's pace bowling options to take 20 wickets against New Zealand, while leaving the final decision on Mohammed Siraj's selection to captain Shubman Gill.

Morkel described Siraj as a world-class performer and said he had conveyed to head coach Gautam Gambhir that India had enough bowling resources to deliver the required wickets.

He said the final combination would depend on the conditions and the roles required from individual bowlers, adding that players who had performed well for India also deserved opportunities.

Morkel urged the bowlers to ignore outside discussions about pitch and weather conditions and focus on maintaining discipline, bowling in the right areas and building partnerships.

He stressed the need for consistent bowling throughout the match, including on the final two days.

Rishabh Pant should back his instincts, not overthink in New Zealand: WV Raman

New Delhi, (IANS): Former India cricketer WV Raman has advised wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant to stick to his natural attacking style and avoid overthinking ahead of the two-Test series against New Zealand, beginning Thursday in Wellington.

Pant has had limited match practice following a side strain injury and has played only one competitive match since India's series win in Sri Lanka in August. However, his overseas Test record, which includes five centuries in Australia, England and South Africa, remains impressive.

Raman said hesitation and indecision could create problems for Pant against New Zealand's pace attack and urged him to trust his instincts and play his natural game.

Raman also praised captain Shubman Gill for arriving early in New Zealand to prepare for the challenging conditions. He said Gill had handled the responsibility of captaincy well without allowing it to affect his batting.

India need a 2-0 series victory to strengthen their chances of reaching the World Test Championship final, followed by a strong performance against Australia at home next year.

The first Test begins at 3:30 AM IST on



Thursday, with live coverage on Sony Sports Network and Sony LIV.

Keep HQ in Mumbai, expand business in Telangana: Sridhar Babu



Hyderabad (NSS) : Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu has invited Mumbai's business and industrial community to explore investment opportunities in Telangana, positioning the State as a preferred destination for manufacturing, technology, innovation and business expansion while retaining their corporate headquarters in Mumbai.

"Keep your head office in Mumbai; make, scale and grow in Telangana," the Minister said, describing Telangana as a complementary investment destination for Mumbai-based businesses seeking to expand their manufacturing and operational capacities.

Addressing industry leaders at the roadshow for the Invest Telangana Global Summit 2026 (ITGS 2026), organised by the State Government in association with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) at the Four Seasons Hotel in Worli on Wednesday, Sridhar Babu said Telangana wanted to forge stronger economic partnerships with Mumbai's business community rather than compete with the city for existing investments.

Recalling the longstanding historical and economic ties between Telangana and Mumbai, the Minister said generations of workers, artisans and entrepreneurs from Telangana had contributed to Mumbai's growth, while trade and business had connected the two regions for decades.

"A century ago, the people of Telangana came to Mumbai to help build its future. Today, Telangana invites Mumbai to come and build ours," he said.

The Minister highlighted the State's growing investment opportunities in technology, Global Capability Centres (GCCs), data centres, pharmaceuticals, textiles and apparel, and media and entertainment.

He urged Mumbai-based industrialists and entrepreneurs to capitalise on Telangana's industrial infrastructure, skilled workforce, robust business ecosystem and investor-friendly policies to expand their operations.

Ponnam Prabhakar Distributes New Cheyutha Pension Sanction Letters to 642 Beneficiaries in Saidapur

Huzurabad to Host Special ALIMCO Camp on November 25 and 26; Indiramma Life Family Insurance Scheme to Be Launched on November 19



Hyderabad (Munsif Desk) : State Transport and BC Welfare Minister and Huzurabad MLA Ponnam Prabhakar distributed sanction letters for newly approved Cheyutha pensions to eligible beneficiaries at Saidapur mandal in Karimnagar district. He said 642 new pensions had been sanctioned in the mandal and congratulated the beneficiaries.

The Minister highlighted various welfare initiatives launched by the state government, including free bus travel for women, free electricity up to 200 units and interest-free loans to women's self-help groups. He said women's organisations across the state were being provided interest-free loans totalling Rs. 79,000 crore, while individual groups were eligible for loans ranging from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh. He also noted that the Aarogyasri health coverage had been increased from Rs. 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh. Stating that public health was a priority, he said special medical colleges had been entrusted with conducting free medical check-ups in every mandal. A special camp had also been organised to distribute assistive devices to senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Eligible beneficiaries who had not received the devices could attend a camp at Huzurabad on November 25 and 26, organised with the support of the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO). He said this special facility was being provided exclusively in the Huzurabad Assembly constituency.

Announcing measures for village development, Ponnam Prabhakar said Rs. 1 lakh would be sanctioned to smaller villages and Rs. 2 lakh to larger villages for developing kabaddi, kho-kho and volleyball grounds. Open gyms had already been established in all villages of Saidapur mandal. He directed officials to develop two grounds each for kabaddi, kho-kho and volleyball in every village before January 1.

Referring to water conservation, he called for the construction of recharge pits, farm ponds and village tanks under the Jal Siri programme. He said every village should have three to four tanks by January and assured full government support for the works. The Minister said the government was implementing the Indiramma Housing Scheme without political discrimination, giving priority to deserving poor families. He announced that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy would launch the Indiramma Life Family Insurance Scheme at Siddipet on November 19, describing it as a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country.

ECI Gives Another Opportunity to ASDD Voters to Get Names Included in Final Electoral Roll

Hyderabad (Munsif Desk) : Telangana Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy said the Election Commission of India (ECI) had provided another opportunity to voters whose names were not included in the draft electoral roll published on August 17, 2026, and were categorised as Absent, Shifted, Dead and Duplicate (ASDD), to get their names included in the final electoral roll.

He said the ECI had issued necessary guidelines and procedures for the enrolment of such voters. In a subsequent communication dated November 17, the Commission announced a special schedule for ASDD voters in Telangana.

As per the schedule, preparation and printing of enumeration forms will be completed by November 18. Distribution and collection of forms will take place from November 18 to November 30, while the processing of received forms will be completed by December 10.

The ECI has also announced a revised schedule for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Telangana. The notice phase and disposal of claims and objections will continue from August 17 to December 15, 2026, while the final electoral roll will be published on December 22.



Sudarshan Reddy advised voters to contact their respective Booth Level Officers (BLOs) for further information and assistance or call the toll-free helpline number 1950.

KISHAN REDDY TO PAY SSC EXAM FEES FOR 4,741 GOVT SCHOOL STUDENTS



Hyderabad (NSS) : Union Minister for Coal and Mines and Secunderabad MP G. Kishan Reddy will bear the Telangana SSC Board examination fees of 4,741 Class 10 students studying in 87 government schools across the Secunderabad Parliamentary Constituency.

Continuing his initiative from previous years, Kishan Reddy said the support was aimed at encouraging students from underprivileged backgrounds to pursue education in the spirit of Antyodaya. He wished all SSC candidates success and urged them to face the examinations with confidence and determination.

BJP vows to fight Miyapur land auction, launches one-lakh signature campaign



Hyderabad (NSS) : BJP Telangana President N. Ramchander Rao on Wednesday vowed to oppose any move by the Congress government to auction 550 acres of government land in Miyapur, demanding that the land be protected for public welfare and existing residents.

During his visit to M.A. Nagar, Prashanth Nagar, Stalin Nagar and Deepthisri Nagar colonies, Rao interacted with residents worried about losing their homes and assured them of the BJP's support.

He said nearly 150 acres of the disputed land were occupied by middle-class families who had built houses through registered transactions, HMDA-approved layouts and bank loans since 1983. Another 10,000 to 15,000 poor families were reportedly residing in slums and plots regularised under GO Nos. 58, 59 and 60. He demanded that their possession and residential rights be protected.

Questioning the government's reported plans to auction the remaining 400 acres, Rao said the land should instead be developed as parks, playgrounds, schools, colleges and hospitals. He stressed that Hyderabad needed more open spaces to tackle growing pollution and urbanisation rather than handing over valuable land to real estate interests. Warning of a legal battle if necessary, he announced a "One Lakh Signatures campaign", beginning in Serilingampally constituency, against the proposed land auction. Rao initiated the campaign by signing the first petition, which would be submitted to the government.

BJP leaders Ravi Kumar Yadav, Mahipal and several party workers participated in the programme.

New TGSRTC MD meets CS, discusses measures to strengthen corporation



Hyderabad (NSS) : Newly appointed Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) Vice-Chairman and Managing Director Dr Anil Kumar paid a courtesy call on Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju at the Secretariat here on Wednesday.

During the meeting, the two officials reviewed the corporation's current operational status and discussed key initiatives to enhance passenger amenities and strengthen the organisation. They also deliberated on measures to improve service efficiency and streamline public transport delivery across the state.

KTR accuses AP of plotting to divert 9 TMC of Nagarjuna Sagar water



Hyderabad (NSS) : Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K.T. Rama Rao on Wednesday accused the Andhra Pradesh government of constructing an unauthorised tunnel near Nagarjuna Sagar to divert nine TMC ft of Telangana's water share from the reservoir's dead storage level.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, KT Rama Rao alleged that the Congress-led Telangana government was acting as a "mute spectator" and indirectly facilitating the project. He claimed that construction near Vijayapuri South aimed at drawing water from the 510-feet level has been underway for the past year without required statutory permissions.

"How can a Chief Minister, who claims to work 18 hours a day, remain unaware of such a massive project that has been going on for a year? Did intelligence or Irrigation department officials fail to alert him?" KT Rama Rao asked, targeting Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. The BRS leader alleged that the State government was compromising Telangana's water rights to appease Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and the Union government. He further claimed that while Andhra Pradesh has projected the 1,650-km pipeline project as a drinking water scheme, it intends to use it to divert water for irrigation. KTR termed the alleged threat to Srisailam's dead storage a greater injustice to Telangana and questioned Uttam Kumar Reddy's silence.

Bajaj Electronics Announces Diwali Bumper Draw Winners



Hyderabad: Bajaj Electronics announced its Diwali bumper draw winners on Wednesday at Nexus Hyderabad Mall, Kukatpally.

Actress Nidhhi Agerwal selected coupon number 261252214 as the winner of the Rs 30-lakh cash prize.

The festive promotion offered Rs 1 crore in total cash prizes and 20 Alto K10 cars.

CEO Karan Bajaj congratulated the winners and thanked customers for their continued trust.

Adluri calls for nationwide movement to uphold rights of persons with disabilities

Hyderabad (NSS) : Minister for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Adluri Lakshman Kumar has urged the Centre to expand the Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan from an infrastructure initiative into a nationwide movement for the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities.

Addressing a two-day national summit in New Delhi on Wednesday organised by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Dr Virendra Kumar, Adluri Lakshman Kumar outlined Telangana's ground-level challenges and policy recommendations.

Speaking on the theme 'Sugamya Bharat for Viksit Bharat', he emphasised that inclusive empowerment is essential to realising the Viksit Bharat–2047 vision.

PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, PRIVATE PERSON HELD IN Rs.1.5 LAKH ACB TRAP



Hyderabad (NSS) : The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Karimnagar unit, arrested Donkena Ravinder, Public Prosecutor (Tenure), Principal District and Sessions Court, and a private individual, Reddyrajula Rajaiah, for allegedly demanding and accepting a Rs.1.5 lakh bribe.

According to the ACB, Ravinder initially demanded Rs.2 lakh and later reduced the amount to Rs.1.5 lakh. The bribe was allegedly collected through Rajaiah in return for facilitating the examination of witnesses in favour of the accused and securing an acquittal in a criminal case pending before a court.

The tainted cash was recovered from the left-side trouser pocket of Rajaiah. Both his hand-wash samples reportedly tested positive in the chemical examination.

The accused were arrested and are being produced before the Special Judge for SPE and ACB Cases, Karimnagar. Further investigation is underway. The complainant's identity has been withheld for security reasons.

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