



Indian Students
Seek Refund
After Visa
Rejection:
Peppercorn Ltd
Faces Legal
Action in Malta

TRUE
POINT



POINT

‘Priority To
Safeguard
National
Interest’: India On
Trump’s Russia
Oil Claim



High Drama at Konda Surekha’s Residence: Will She Lose Ministry Over The Clash?

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 16:

The high drama at Forest and Endowments Minister Konda Surekha’s residence in Hyderabad on Wednesday night laid bare the growing infighting among Congress ministers, exposing how intense competition for lucrative government contracts and associated commissions has become a key trigger for clashes within the ruling party. While allegations of rampant corruption in the Congress government had surfaced earlier, the latest episode adds fresh weight to such charges. The incident clearly underscores a significant governance challenge for Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, as internal disputes are now spilling into the public domain, primarily driven by the battle for control over resources and tender processes. Minister Surekha may even face the risk of losing her ministry if the matter escalates.

When police reached

Surekha’s residence to reportedly arrest her Officer On Special Duty (OSD), her daughter Konda Sushmitha made a series of startling public revelations. She alleged that the entire controversy was linked to tenders worth Rs.71 crore floated for the upcoming Medaram Jathara, a massive tribal festival. Sushmitha said that despite the Medaram Jathara being under the Endowments Department’s purview, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy had improperly interfered in the tender process. She claimed that after their associates had filed bids, which were subsequently bagged by "our people," Ponguleti called her mother over the phone and insisted that their people withdraw the bids—a request they naturally refused. Sushmitha further alleged that following this dispute, the tenders were later transferred from the Endowments Department to the Revenue Department and re-



called, significantly deepening tensions between the two cabinet colleagues.

Minister Surekha is said to have taken serious objection to Ponguleti’s interference, alleging that key decisions and discussions were being held with officials of her department without her knowledge or consent. She lodged a complaint with the party leadership, pointing out that the Medaram Jathara was entirely an Endowments Department affair and that allotting works without

her consent was "un-called for" and a breach of protocol. Ponguleti, however, publicly dismissed the allegations, remarking that he had no reason to concern himself with what he termed "petty tenders" worth a mere Rs.71 crore. This dismissal, in itself, drew more attention to the matter.

Further illustrating the rift, when he convened a review meeting on the Jathara, Panchayat Raj Minister D Anasuya attended, but Surekha pointedly skipped the session.

This highly publicized spat between cabinet colleagues has once again put the spotlight on the growing allegations of corruption in the government, with previous complaints from contractors about commission demands now gaining renewed attention amid the internal conflict. The public exchange over state contracts signifies an urgent need for the Congress high command to enforce internal discipline and address the root causes of the infighting.

Konda
Sushmitha
Accuses
Revanth
Reddy,
Ponguleti of
Conspiracy
to Arrest OSD



TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 16:

The Congress government in Telangana has landed in a major controversy after police attempted to arrest N Sumanth, Officer On Special Duty (OSD) to Endowments Minister Konda Surekha, late on Wednesday night. The incident followed the state government’s order terminating Sumanth’s services earlier in the week over alleged corruption charges. The attempted arrest, seen as an act of administrative consequence, swiftly transformed into a full-blown political crisis due to the dramatic intervention and counter-allegations from the minister’s family.

The issue spiraled after Surekha’s daughter, Konda Sushmitha, physically stopped the police at the residence. In a move

that sent shockwaves through the ruling Congress party, Sushmitha launched a severe political attack, alleging that the entire episode was a vendetta orchestrated by the highest figures in the state leadership. She directly accused Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, and Chief Minister’s advisor Vem Narendar Reddy of being behind the entire episode and conspiring to have her mother’s OSD arrested. This sensational public statement, recorded and circulated widely, brought the simmering internal power struggle within the Congress cabinet to an unprecedented level of public exposure.

Sushmitha’s public confrontation and her allegations against the state’s

top executive leaders have fueled the existing narrative of internal corruption and groupism that has been challenging the stability of the Congress government since it assumed office. The involvement of the police in a midnight operation against a minister’s aide, immediately followed by the daughter’s accusations against the Chief Minister and other ministers, signifies a deepening crisis of trust and authority. The entire episode suggests a failure by the party high command to effectively manage conflicts arising from the allocation of power and resources, particularly the highly lucrative government contracts, as highlighted by Sushmitha’s subsequent revelations about the Medaram Jathara tenders.

The Konda family’s defiant stance has forced the party leadership into a difficult position, where administrative action has been framed as a political conspiracy, thereby challenging the Chief Minister’s authority in the public sphere and demanding immediate intervention from the AICC.

been created against his family in the past, using the opportunity to assert his family’s integrity and reject earlier allegations of administrative misuse. "I never use Konda Surekha’s vehicle or misuse her ministry," Murali as-

serted. He issued a veiled warning to those targeting his family, stating that any such attempt would ultimately be a "loss to them." Murali’s statement appears to be a calculated political move to contain the fallout, protect his fam-

ily’s image, and reassure the Chief Minister that the public drama was not an orchestrated act of rebellion, thereby trying to ensure the promised MLC post is not jeopardized by the ongoing controversy.

Konda Murali Denies Rift With Revanth, Supports Daughter’s Stand

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 16:

Warangal: Amid the high drama at Forest Minister Konda Surekha’s residence and her daughter Konda Sushmitha’s allegations against the Congress government on Wednesday night, the minister’s husband and former MLC Konda Murali on Thursday attempted to distance himself from the controversy

while engaging in crucial damage control. Speaking to media persons in Warangal, Murali said, "I have no idea about what happened in Hyderabad last night. I also do not know about Konda Surekha’s former OSD Sumanth’s episode." This statement of ignorance, however, was quickly followed by a supportive endorsement of his daughter’s actions.

He stated that his daughter Sushmitha was subjected to inconvenience and had "every right to express her opinion" as a concerned citizen, stressing, "She does not hold any position in the Congress Party." This clarification aims to insulate the Congress party from the consequences of Sushmitha’s direct, politically damaging accusations against the

Chief Minister and senior ministers, while simultaneously supporting her right to defend the family.

Murali also took a crucial step towards de-escalating the crisis with the Chief Minister and the party high command. He categorically denied any rift with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. "I have no feuds with Revanth Anna," he declared, and

expressed confidence that the Chief Minister would fulfill his earlier promise to allot him an MLC post. This is a clear signal that the Konda family is seeking reconciliation with the CM’s camp to protect their political future, suggesting that the public spat may have been a reaction to perceived threats.

He recalled that several controversies had

SC Refuses Telangana SLP on BC Quota; HC to Decide

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 16:

The Supreme Court has refused to hear the Special Leave Petition (SLP) filed by the Telangana government concerning the issue of BC reservations for local body elections. The apex court made it clear that since the matter is currently pending before the High Court, it could not entertain the petition, thereby declining to admit the SLP for a hearing. The Supreme Court, however, advised the High Court to proceed with the next hearing and adjudicate the matter "on merits," irrespective of the Supreme Court’s decision not to intervene at this stage. Critically, the apex court also stated that if the state government so desires, it is free to proceed with the local body elections based on the old reservation system, providing a legal pathway for the election schedule to move forward, albeit not with the enhanced 42% quota desired by the ruling party.

The SLP was filed by



the Telangana government challenging the High Court’s stay order on GO 9, which was issued to provide 42% reservation for backward classes in local body elections. The state government had filed the petition on October 13, challenging the High Court’s interim orders issued on October 9. Citing the urgency of the matter, the Telangana government had specially requested the Supreme Court registry to list the case for hearing on either October 16 or 17. Despite the registry including the case in today’s list, the Supreme Court ultimately declined to grant an urgent hearing or an immediate stay on the High Court’s order.

This refusal is a signif-

icant setback for the Telangana Congress government, which had been aggressively pushing for the implementation of the enhanced 42% quota to secure crucial political support from BC communities ahead of the elections. The Supreme Court’s instruction to the High Court to hear the case on merits now puts the focus back on the High Court to deliver a final verdict. The legal complexity and the apex court’s non-intervention have empowered the opposition to accuse the Congress government of a lack of sincerity and flawed legal strategy in handling this sensitive reservation issue, further intensifying the political rhetoric surrounding BC quotas in the state.

BC JAC Leaders Demand Constitutional Protection, Call For Bandh

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 16: Hyderabad, October 16: In a media conference organized by the BC Journalists’ Association at Soma-jiguda Press Club, BC JAC leaders intensified their call for a state-wide bandh. BC JAC chairman R. Krishniah gave a passionate appeal, stating that the momentum of the October 18 state bandh must "reach Delhi," emphasizing the need for national attention on the BC reservation issue. He vowed that the fight would not cease until the 42% reservation is achieved and urged all BC communities to unite and make the bandh a resounding success. The meeting, presided over by senior journalist Ramana Kumar, was attended by key BC JAC leaders.

Working Chairman Jajula Srinivas Goud clarified that the state bandh is "not an end, but merely a beginning" of a prolonged



struggle for BC rights. Vice Chairman VGR Naragoni accused the systems of working against the BC community, citing the Supreme Court’s refusal to stay the High Court’s judgment on the reservation quota as evidence of systemic bias. BC JAC Co-Chairman D. Rajaram Yadav placed full responsibility for the Supreme Court’s decision squarely on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, accusing him and the Congress government of a complete lack of sincerity

toward the 42% BC reservations.

Rajaram Yadav meticulously listed the alleged failures of the Revanth Reddy government—from the flawed comprehensive caste survey to the processes of sending the bill to the President, issuing an ordinance while the bill was pending, and finally bringing in GO 9 while the ordinance was pending with the Governor. He argued that "these mistakes" by Revanth Reddy are the sole reason why the courts have struck

down the BC reservations, thereby directly impacting the community’s access to political power.

Yadav strongly demanded that, similar to the constitutional protection afforded to SC and ST communities based on population, a constitutional amendment must be enacted to safeguard BC reservations, terming it the only "true protection (Srirama Raksha)" for the community. He also supported former Chief Minister KCR’s suggestion that the

power to implement reservations be devolved back to the states to ensure justice for BCs. He concluded by urging all castes, associations, and political parties to set aside differences and join the future long-term struggle. Other BC Journalists’ Association leaders like Mekala Krishna, Kotha Lakshman Patel, Neelakantham Mudiraj, Bomma Amarender, and various caste and BC association leaders participated in the meeting.

AICC Steps In to Cool Konda Surekha Row

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

AICC State Affairs In-Charge Meenakshi Natarajan contacted Telangana Minister Konda Surekha over the Phone amidst the Political Storm at her Residence. Natarajan reportedly Advised Konda Surekha Not To Speak To The Media about the ongoing Controversy, indicating a move by the Party High Command to contain the escalating Internal Crisis. It is understood that Meenakshi Natarajan suggested they should resolve the matter through a Face-To-Face Discussion.

The Controversy began following the recent Termination of Konda Surekha's OSD, Sumanth, from his Responsibilities. The Government decided to act strongly after Reports surfaced that Sumanth had allegedly Threatened The Management of Cement Companies in the undivided Nalgonda District. These Developments led to Police reaching Konda

Surekha's Hyderabad Residence. Police, reportedly in Plain Clothes, arrived at the Minister's Home based on Information that the former OSD Sumanth was present there. Minister Surekha's Daughter, Sushmitha, confronted the Police and subsequently spoke to the Media, alleging that Senior Congress Party Leaders were Orchestrating A Conspiracy to Target Her Parents and Smear Their Reputation.

In the wake of Sushmitha's Sensational Accusations, Meenakshi Natarajan's Intervention is seen as a Crucial Step to De-Escalate The Conflict. She reportedly assured Konda Surekha that they would work to Settle The Matter Amicably and Completely at this juncture. The Party Leadership is attempting to Enforce Internal Discipline and prevent the highly Public Dispute from further damaging the Image and Stability of the Congress Government in Telangana.



Sajjanar Warns Content Creators Over Child Exploitation

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

Hyderabad CP V.C. Sajjanar questioned the Ethics of chasing Views and Likes while compromising Values, expressing strong dismay over some YouTube Channels conducting interviews with Minors. He questioned the Morality of jeopardizing the Future of Children to gain Social Media Fame, calling such Practices highly objectionable. In a post on X (formerly Twitter) aimed at Channels using Children for Content, Sajjanar asked what Message they were sending to Society by creating "Obscene Content" with Minors.

He urged Creators to contribute to Social Development by interviewing Individuals who are Inspiring and serve as Role Models for Children and Youth, rather than making Videos that could Mislead Children. Sajjanar issued a Stern Warning, reminding Creators that such actions are not only a Violation of Children's Rights but also a Criminal Of-

fense under Law, specifically violating the POCSO and Juvenile Justice (JJ) Acts. He clarified that involving Children in such Content constitutes Harassment.

The CP announced that the Police Department will deal Strictly with those who create this type of Content involving Minors and will take Legal Action against the Responsible Individuals. He warned that Cases would be filed under Law for both existing Videos not removed immediately and for any similar Content uploaded in the Future. He appealed to the Public to Report Such Videos Immediately if they come across them, either by informing Local Police, calling the Helpline Number 1930, or filing a Complaint on the National Cyber Crime Portal (Cybercrime.Gov.In). He also issued a Critical Reminder to Parents, stating that their Responsibility extends beyond raising Children to protecting their Childhood, Mental Health, and Future.

Cyber Cops Alert Citizens to WhatsApp Scam Links

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

The Telangana Police Department has issued a crucial Public Statement warning Citizens to be Vigilant against Cyber Criminals who are exploiting the Names of Central Government Schemes to perpetrate Fraud. The Police alerted the Public that Fraudsters are actively circulating Fake Links within WhatsApp Groups, falsely promoting them as Official Central Government Schemes. The Cyber Criminals are using these Fake Messages to bait Unsuspecting Individuals into clicking the Links under the pretense of checking their Eligibility for the advertised Schemes.

The Police strictly advised People not to click on any such Links in Haste. The Core Safety Message is to use Only Official Government Websites for all Scheme-Related Information and Applications. The Police explicitly stated that the Public should Not Respond to any Links or Messages sent by Un-

known Individuals, as these are the primary Vectors for Phishing and Malicious Attacks.

The Statement, released as a Public Safety Measure, aims to combat the Rising Tide of Cyber Fraud, which often targets Vulnerable Sections of the Population with promises of Financial Benefits through Government Schemes. Clicking on these Fraudulent Links can lead to the Theft of Sensitive Personal and Financial Data, resulting in Significant Monetary Losses. The Police are emphasizing that Official Communications from the Government will rarely, if ever, be conducted through Unofficial WhatsApp Links. By adhering to the instruction of using Only Official Websites and exercising Caution with Unsolicited Messages, Citizens can protect themselves from falling victim to these pervasive and Sophisticated Cyber Scams, thereby safeguarding their Finances and Personal Security.



Revanth, Bhatti Visit Ailing MLA Prem Sagar Rao

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka visited MLA Prem Sagar Rao who is currently undergoing treatment at AIG Hospital in Gachibow-

li, Hyderabad. The High-Profile Visit by the State's Top Two Executive Leaders underscores the Solidarity within the ruling Congress Party during a time of Health Concern for one of its Elected Representatives. The Chief Minister and his

Deputy took time to speak directly with the Doctors attending to MLA Prem Sagar Rao. They made specific inquiries about his Health Status and current Medical Condition, receiving a Detailed Briefing on the progress of his Treat-

ment and Care Plan. This action is a Gesture of Support and Concern from the Head of the Government and the Leader of the House towards their Colleague. While the exact nature of the MLA's Illness was not disclosed in the

Press Release, the visit by the CM and Dy CM is a Public Demonstration of the importance the Party places on its Members' Well-Being. The visit also serves to reassure Party Cadres and the Public of the Leadership's Attention and Care

towards MLA Prem Sagar Rao, who holds an Important Position within the Party and the State Legislature. The visit concluded with the Leaders offering their wishes for his Speedy Recovery and Return to Public Duties.

Ministers Call on OU Students to Drive Telangana Tourism

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

Ministers Vakiti Srihari and Jupally Krishna Rao attended the International Conference on "global tourism: new avenues for sustainable development," organized by Osmania University's Department of Commerce at the Tagore Auditorium, as chief guests. The event saw the participation of MLC Addanki Dayakar, OU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kumar, Professors Srinivas, Chennappa, Shekhar, and over 1,000 Other Attendees, highlighting the significance of the Tourism Sector.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Vakiti Sri-

hari expressed his long-cherished dream of visiting Osmania University and addressing a gathering there, noting that the Conference provided the opportunity to fulfill that aspiration. He fondly recalled the Pivotal Role played by Osmania University and its Students in spearheading the Telangana Statehood Movement. Srihari passionately called upon Students to become active participants in Telangana's Overall Development, with a special emphasis on boosting the Tourism Sector.

He pointed out that many Countries rely heavily on the Tourism Industry for their Economic

Growth. Telangana is naturally blessed with an Abundance of Scenic Tourist Spots along the banks of the Krishna and Godavari Rivers, making it an Ideal Location for Tourism Development. Srihari set an ambitious target, urging the Students to strive to increase Tourism's Share in the State's Revenue to 25%. He affirmed that the State Government has formulated a Clear Policy for the comprehensive development of the Tourism Sector, as Telangana offers a highly Conducive Environment for Tourism Growth.

The Minister specifically appealed to the Youth to channel their Creative Energies into promoting the

State. He advised them to stop creating "any and all kinds of reels" and instead focus on producing Videos showcasing the Natural Beauty, Ancient Structures, and Diverse Tourist Destinations within the State. He expressed confidence in the Students' Ability to achieve great things if they put their minds to it, urging them to be proactive Partners in taking Telangana's Tourism Industry forward. His Call was a blend of Historical Context, Policy Vision, and a Direct Appeal to the Youth's Potential for State-Building and Economic Contribution through the medium of Tourism Promotion.





Balmoor Venkat Slams BRS Over Revanth Posters

TPN Bureau | Oct 16
Hyderabad: MLC Dr. Balmoor Venkat issued a stern warning to BRS leaders over derogatory posters and social media content targeting Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, stressing that such campaigns are not acceptable in a democratic setup. Alongside district Congress leaders, Venkat lodged a formal complaint with the Nizamabad Police Commissioner, demanding immediate action.

Congress cadres in Nizamabad City staged protests, raising slogans condemning the BRS leadership and demanding registration of a criminal case against BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) for orchestrating the defamatory social media campaign. Venkat expressed deep outrage at the malicious propaganda and called for restraint from Congress workers, emphasizing that the party seeks to maintain law and order while holding the opposition accountable.

He cautioned police authorities that failure to act decisively could provoke wider street protests and law and order problems, reflecting the growing frustration of grassroots Congress cadres. The episode highlights the increasing use of social media as a political battlefield, with both parties leveraging online platforms to influence public opinion. Venkat stressed that the Congress is committed to protecting the image of the Chief Minister while demonstrating its organizational strength at the grassroots level, indicating a strategy to confront the BRS leadership directly through legal and public pressure channels.



Mahesh Goud Pledges Legal Fight for BC Reservation

TPN Bureau | Oct 16
Hyderabad: TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud convened a detailed meeting with BC community leaders at Gandhi Bhavan, Hyderabad, reinforcing the Congress Party's unwavering commitment to social justice and the long-standing BC reservation issue. During the meeting, Goud highlighted that Rahul Gandhi was the original proponent of the caste survey and praised the Congress government for delivering the first scientifically conducted and official caste survey document since India's independence—a landmark achievement in social equity.

Goud emphasized that the party is fully committed to implementing the Kamaraj Declaration and will never retreat on this crucial matter. He vowed that the Congress would pursue BC reservations in every possible manner, including through legal challenges if necessary, ensuring that the rights of backward communities are protected at all costs. He expressed full support for the Telangana BC JAC Bandh scheduled on October 18, calling on all stakeholders to ensure its complete success to create awareness and pressure for real reforms.

Criticizing opposition parties for creating legal hurdles outside the Assembly despite voting in favor of the resolution, Goud praised Rahul Gandhi's slogan "Everyone's Share For Everyone (Evaru Vata Variki)," noting its rise as a mass movement inspiring communities across Telangana.

Goud also urged all political parties to rise above petty politics on issues of social justice and questioned why BJP leaders have been hesitant to request Prime Minister Modi to include BC reservations in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution, which would provide constitutional protection to these communities. Accusing the BJP and BRS of a "secret understanding" aimed at obstructing BC reservations, he underlined the unparalleled rapport he shares with CM Revanth Reddy, who he said is working tirelessly to achieve Rahul Gandhi's vision of social justice. He concluded by appealing to all BC leaders and community members to actively support the Bandh on the 18th.



BRS Leaders Slam Congress on BC Reservations

TPN Bureau | Oct 16
Hyderabad: In a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, BRS BC leaders, including former ministers Talasani Srinivas Yadav and V. Srinivas Goud, voiced sharp criticism against the Congress government for its handling of BC reservations and overall governance. Talasani accused Congress of engaging in "political drama" on the issue, pointing to flaws in the caste census, such as the unusual inclusion of the Chief Minister's and Deputy Chief Minister's photographs in the survey document—a move he said undermines the credibility of the process.

He warned that elections should only proceed after implementing the 42% reservation for BCs in accordance with legal principles and Schedule 9 of the Constitution, emphasizing the severe consequences of arbitrary action by the government. Talasani also highlighted that there is widespread anti-government sentiment among BC communities and criticized the Congress's Delhi Dharna, pointing out that top leaders like Rahul Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge, and Priyanka Gandhi did not attend, suggesting the protest was more symbolic than substantive.

V. Srinivas Goud pledged that the BRS would relentlessly pursue Congress until all promises are fulfilled, accusing the party of "sleeping" for the past 17 months and betraying BC communities for electoral gain. Both leaders urged full participation in the upcoming BC Bandh, emphasizing that political promises must translate into tangible action, not just rhetoric. Their statements reflect growing frustration among BC leaders over governance and social justice implementation.

RS Praveen Kumar Alleges Mafia Rule and Gun Culture In Telangana

TPN Bureau | Oct 16
Hyderabad: BRS General Secretary Dr. R.S. Praveen Kumar launched a blistering attack on Telangana's governance during a press meet at Telangana Bhavan, describing the administration as "chaotic" and the state as a "torn blanket" (Kukkulu Chimpin Vistari). He cited recent high-drama incidents in Hyderabad, including the inability of task force police to retrieve an accused from a minister's residence, as evidence of systemic lawlessness.



Praveen Kumar alleged that mafia dons have assumed ministerial positions, putting citizens' lives at risk. He highlighted glaring legal double standards, citing multiple cases against opposition leaders while noting inaction against those linked to ruling ministers. He pointed out the prolonged detention of social media critics, mistreatment of farmers, and failure to register FIRs against officials accused of intimidation, highlighting a growing "gang and gun culture" in the state. He accused the administration of allowing crucial government business to occur in private guest houses rather than the Secretariat, further eroding public trust. Praveen Kumar also referenced the case of Banoth Ravi, who attempted suicide following alleged threats from political figures, underscoring the administration's apathy. He demanded a thorough investigation of call data records of key political leaders and called on the Governor to dismiss the Revanth Reddy government to restore law and order. His comments warned that Mafia influence would grow further if BRS loses key urban constituencies like Jubilee Hills.

Minister Tummala Calls for Congress Win in Jubilee Hills

TPN Bureau | Oct 16
Hyderabad: Agriculture Minister Tummala Nagewara Rao issued a strong call for Congress victory in Jubilee Hills, asserting that the constituency's "golden age" can only arrive under CM Revanth Reddy's leadership. Speaking at a booth-level meeting in Shaliwahana Community Hall, Srinagar Colony, he warned voters that placing trust in BRS or BJP would be akin to "sinking in a whirlpool" and urged them to elect Congress in the upcoming by-election.

Tummala emphasized that Jubilee Hills witnessed little meaningful development over the past decade, while several development programs have already begun under the current government. He appealed to voters to deliver a "historic verdict," calling for strong support for Congress candidate Naveen Yadav and highlighting CM Revanth Reddy's leadership as essential for sustained progress. He called upon Congress workers to mobilize with determination, ensuring a decisive victory that sets a benchmark for party cadres nationwide. Tummala praised Rahul Gandhi and CM Revanth Reddy's leadership, noting that initiatives like the caste census and welfare schemes have become models for other states. The event also witnessed a large-scale joining of leaders and workers from BRS into the Congress fold, reflecting growing confidence and momentum for the party ahead of the by-election.



No Deadline Extension for Liquor Shop Bids

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th:

The Excise Department Officials have categorically stated that there will be no extension of the deadline for applications for the 2,620 Liquor Shops as part of the 2025 Excise Policy. The Department urged the Public not to believe the circulating rumors that the Application Deadline would be extended, dismissing the speculation that the current Excise Policy would be modified to allow for more time. The Excise Department emphasized that there is no truth in these ongoing rumors. The current deadline for receiving applica-



tions for A4 Liquor Shops is set to expire on October 18th, a date the Depart-

ment is committed to maintaining.

With this firm stance,

Excise Staff are making necessary preparations, anticipating a huge surge in applications during the final two days. This anticipation is heavily based on the trend observed during the 2023 Liquor Shop Application Process, where approximately 75% of the total applications were received in the last two days alone. The Department is confident that a similar response will be seen this time, ensuring that the number of applications meets the Excise Department's Set Targets and Revenue Objectives for the New Policy. The Excise Department confirmed that the Deepavali Festival will

take place on the 19th and 20th. Arrangements for the Draw of the A4 Liquor Shops will be undertaken by the Excise Staff on the 21st and 22nd, minimizing disruption from the Festival. Excise Officials further confirmed that the Draw for the A4 Liquor Shops will proceed as planned on the 23rd of this month in the presence of the respective district Collectors. This clear announcement aims to eliminate Market Uncertainty, maintain the Integrity and Schedule of the Application Process, and finalize all Logistical Preparations for the Draw Promptly and Transparently.

GHMC Steps Up Road Repairs, Tightens Poll Code Checks

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

GHMC Commissioner and District Election Officer R.V. Karnan conducted a comprehensive inspection of the arrangements at Polling Centers within the Jubilee Hills Assembly Constituency in preparation for the impending By-Election. His visit was aimed at ensuring all Logistical and Structural Arrangements are fully Compliant and Voter-Friendly. He issued clear and stringent Directives to Officials, mandating that the Facilities at the Polling Centers must be meticulously arranged to allow Voters to comfortably and conveniently exercise their Franchise, strictly adhering to the Guidelines issued by the Central Election Commission (CEC). This focus on Voter Convenience includes ensuring adequate Shading, Water Facilities, Seating Arrangements, and clear Signage, especially for Elderly and Disabled Voters.

Karnan's Inspection extended to the critical Logistical Hubs for the Election. He personally

reviewed the arrangements for the DRC (Distribution, Reception, Counting) Center and the secure Strong Room located at the Kotla Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy Stadium in the city. He issued explicit Instructions to the concerned Officials to make meticulous, robust, and foolproof arrangements for all these essential Election-Related Facilities, emphasizing the need for high-level Security Protocols for the Strong Room where Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) will be stored. The primary objective of the Commissioner's Direct Oversight is to guarantee a Smooth, Transparent, and completely Hassle-Free Electoral Process, encompassing everything from the secure distribution of Polling Materials to the safe custody and transparent counting of the votes. The Commissioner's Proactive Involvement signifies the high priority being accorded to upholding Electoral Integrity and ensuring the Convenience and Trust of all Stakeholders during this crucial By-Election.

Excise Team Busts Ganja Sale Network in Dhoolpet

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

The Excise Department's Enforcement Drive led to a significant Seizure of Illicit Drugs in the Lower Dhoolpet Area of Purna Pool. Based on actionable Intelligence Reports regarding the persistent sale of Ganja (Marijuana) in the region, the STF A-Team led by Anji Reddy, in collaboration with Staff from the Dhoolpet Excise Station, jointly conducted a comprehensive Route Watch Operation targeting known Trafficking Routes.

During the operation, the Surveillance paid off when the Team successfully intercepted and apprehended two Individuals, identified as Bhadrinarayana Singh and Raja Singh, who were actively engaged in the sale of Ganja while using a Vehicle to distribute the Contraband. The dedicated Excise Team confiscated a total of 1.830 Kg of Ganja from the immediate possession of the arrested Accused. In addition to the Narcotics, they also seized crucial Evidence, includ-

ing two Mobile Phones suspected of being used for coordinating sales, and the Two-Wheeler utilized by the Suspects for the Illegal Distribution Activity. A total of Five Individuals have been formally booked in connection with the Case, reflecting the broader network involved in the Drug Trade. Apart from the two arrested, three other Accused, identified as Mukesh, Manju Devi, and Prateek Singh, have also been named in the First Information Report (FIR) but are currently Absconding. The two arrested Individuals, along with the seized Ganja and other Properties, were subsequently handed over to the Dhoolpet Excise Station for further detailed Investigation and the initiation of Legal Prosecution. The successful Operation highlights the continued efforts and proactive stance of the Excise Department to curb Drug Trafficking and Sales, particularly in vulnerable areas within the City Limits, ensuring Public Safety and Enforcement of Excise Laws.



VIVO V50

9-Year-Old Boy Drowns in Construction Pond

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

A Profoundly Tragic Incident occurred on Wednesday, October 15th, in the Pahadi Shareef Area located on the bustling outskirts of Hyderabad, where a Nine-Year-Old Boy, Ghouse Pasha, lost his life after accidentally drowning in a deep, water-filled Construction Pond. The Deceased Child, the son of Sheikh Majeed, a Salesman residing in the Wadi-E-Mustafa Locality, was out with his Eleven-Year-Old Elder Brother, Saylu Pasha, and a Neighbor, having gone to a nearby Grocery Store around 10 Am. The Children were on their way back home when

they passed a dangerous Water-Pull Construction Site situated directly opposite the Paradise Function Hall. Ghouse Pasha, unaware of the Peril, reportedly stepped into the Water Body with the innocent intention of taking a Swim. Tragically, he slipped into the deeper section and quickly drowned in the Pond. His older Brother, Saylu Pasha, was shocked and immediately rushed back home in a panic to inform the Family of the horrifying incident. Upon hearing the news, the frantic Family Members, alongside local Residents, quickly formed an emergency Search Party. Their Search Efforts focused on the Site,

and they eventually recovered the Child's Lifeless Body from the Water. Sub-Inspector (SI) Mohammed Faisal of Pahadi Shareef Police Station confirmed the details, stating that the Boy entered the water with the intention to swim, slipped, and subsequently drowned. The Body has since been shifted to Osmania Hospital for the mandatory Postmortem Examination. An Official Case has been registered regarding the incident, which serves as a grim reminder of the extreme dangers posed by open, unfenced Water Bodies and Construction Sites to Children in the area, prompting concerns about Site Safety Regulations.



GHMC Chief Reviews Poll Readiness in Jubilee Hills

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan has initiated a strong focus on the Road Safety Drive across the Greater Hyderabad Area, capitalising on the complete recession of the Monsoon Rains. The latest data shows that the Civic Body has successfully filled over 16,000 Potholes across the city's Road Network so far, which significantly addresses a major Public Concern and improves Commuter Safety. Simultaneously, the GHMC's Special Sanitation Drive is being executed aggressively City-Wide, resulting in the impressive removal of 4,100 Metric Tons of Solid Waste in the last 10 Days alone. These coordinated efforts showcase the Civic Body's Swift Action to restore City Infrastructure and Cleanliness Post-Monsoon.

In a parallel effort, Election Officials have significantly ramped up checks to ensure the stringent enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) across the Jubilee Hills Assembly Constituency. These intensified measures are aimed at

preventing any Illegal Activities that could influence the By-Election Outcome. Since the official announcement of the Election Schedule until today, the Election Authorities have seized over 1 Crore In Cash that was being illegally transported in violation of the MCC Regulations, underscoring the scale of Illegal Money in circulation. Today's specific inspections proved fruitful, with the Flying Squad Team successfully confiscating 10 Lakh In Unauthorized Cash at a checkpoint near Tolichowki. In addition to these Enforcement Activities, the process of receiving Nominations for the Jubilee Hills Assembly By-Election is proceeding as scheduled, marking the Fourth Consecutive Day of application submissions. These multi-faceted actions by the GHMC and Election Authorities demonstrate a firm commitment to both Civic Maintenance and the Integrity of the Electoral Process, aiming to ensure a Fair and Clean By-Election, free from Financial Influence.



Cops Trace Over 1K Lost Phones Worth Rs 3.2 Cr

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

In a significant and commendable Achievement, the Cyberabad Central Crime Station (CCS), operating under the decisive leadership of DCP Crimes A. Muthyam Reddy, successfully recovered a total of 1,061 Stolen and Lost Mobile Phones in the 9th Phase of Recovery Operations over the last 45 Days. The recovered devices, valued at approximately 3.20 Crore, were formally handed over to their rightful Owners at a dedicated Ceremony held today (October 16, 2025) at

the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate Office Lawn. DCP Muthyam Reddy detailed the extensive Recovery Efforts across the five CCS Zones: Madhapur CCS recovered 240, Balanagar CCS 188, Medchal CCS 195, Rajendranagar CCS 233, and Shamshabad CCS 205 Phones. He strongly emphasized the importance of immediately reporting Lost or Stolen Phones to the nearest Police Station or utilizing the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) Portal, noting its Instrumental Role in facilitating

this Large-Scale Recovery. He underscored the critical value of Mobile Phones, which often contain sensitive Personal Data and Sentimental Value, and the CEIR Portal's Essential Function in preventing misuse. ADCP K. Ram Kumar added that CEIR's Ability to remotely Block Phones using the IMEI Number is paramount for preventing unauthorized use, allowing the phone to be Unlocked upon recovery. Since 2023, Cyberabad Police have recovered an impressive 13,423 Phones, with the latest 1,061 recovered via

the CEIR Portal, a figure that solidifies the Telangana Police's National Leadership in Mobile Recoveries. Beneficiaries shared impactful Testimonials, including an IT Employee from Gachibowli who recounted how Police swiftly froze his accounts to prevent a Cybercrime Withdrawal of 2 Lakh after his phone was stolen, and then successfully traced and recovered the device. Another Victim thanked the Police for the prompt tracing and recovery of his phone, which He had forgotten at a Tem-

ple. DCP Muthyam Reddy concluded by commending the entire CCS Team, including ADCP Ram Kumar, CCS ACP K. Nageshwar Rao, and all Inspectors and Constables across the Zones, for their dedicated and outstanding efforts, underscoring the Success achieved through a combination of modern Technology, such as the IT Cell's Support (CAT), and Committed Policing. The Public was once again advised to remain Vigilant against Cyber Frauds and use the Helpline 1930 or Cybercrime.Gov.In for reporting.

Congress Sounds Poll Bugle in Jubilee Hills, Vows Win

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

A Congress Party Booth-Level Meeting was convened in Sonajiguda, within the critical Jubilee Hills Constituency, drawing senior National and State Leadership, including AICC In-Charge Meenakshi Natarajan, PCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, and cabinet Ministers Ponnamp Prabhakar and Tummala Nageswara Rao. The strong attendance underscores the high Political Stakes of the By-Election for the ruling Party. Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar gave a stirring Call To Action, declaring emphatically that the Congress Flag must fly high in the Jubilee Hills Constituency and passionately urged all Voters to elect Candidate Naveen Yadav. He confidently asserted that the People of Jubilee Hills are wise and will choose to prioritize Development and Welfare by electing the Congress Government. Prabhakar highlighted the immediate and ongoing Success of the Welfare and Development Initiatives launched under the 'Praja Palana' (People's Governance) Administration, listing key benefits being delivered directly to the Citizens. These Schemes include the provision of New Ration Cards, the sustained distribution of Fine Rice (Sanna Biyyam), the delivery of 200 Units Of Free Electricity, subsidized LPG Cylinders For 500, and the successful implementation of Free Bus Travel For Women In RTC Buses. Furthermore, he stressed the Government's Ambitious Long-Term Goal of empowering Women, aiming to make One Crore Women Millionaires by consistently distributing Interest-Free Loans To Women's Self-Help Groups.

Police Case Against Bigg Boss 9 for Indecent Content

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

The popular reality show Bigg Boss 9 Telugu has once again found itself in the middle of controversy after a Police Complaint was filed against the Makers and Broadcasters of the show. The complaint, lodged at the Banjara Hills Police Station in Hyderabad, accuses the program of promoting Indecent Behavior and Vulgar Content under the guise of Entertainment.

According to reports, two Individuals, B. Ravinder Reddy and K. Srinivas, have filed the complaint alleging that the Show encourages Unethical Conduct and displays Content that is against Indian Family Values and Cultural Ethics. They claim that Bigg Boss 9 Telugu, which airs on Star Maa and streams on Disney+ Hotstar, has been crossing Moral Boundaries in the name of Publicity and

Viewership. The Complainants stated that the Show is "encouraging Indecent Behavior and Unethical Exposure only for the sake of Popularity." They further added that the kind of Content being telecast neither holds any Social Relevance nor serves any Educational Purpose, but rather influences Young Viewers in a Negative Way. According to them, the Show's Portrayal of Conflicts, Romantic Relationships, and Sensational Arguments creates an Atmosphere that could harm the Mental Well-Being of Impres-sionable Audiences.

The complaint also highlights how repeated exposure to such Content can lead to Desensitization and Normalization of Vulgar-ity among the Youth. The Complainants have requested the Police to take necessary action against the Makers and Broadcasters of the Show and to ensure that such

Programs adhere to Ethical Standards that respect Indian Culture. While the Police are yet to issue an Official Statement regarding the matter, Sources suggest that the Complaint will be reviewed and forwarded to Appropriate Authorities for further examination. If found valid, the matter could potentially be taken up by the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce or the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for further review. Bigg Boss 9 Telugu, hosted by Nagarjuna Akkineni, has been known for its mix of Drama, Entertainment, and Emotional Conflict. However, over the years, the Show has also drawn Criticism for its Sensational Content, Verbal Spats, and Controversies involving Contestants. This latest complaint adds to the growing list of concerns over the influence of Reality Television on Indian Audiences.



Laborer Beaten by Cops for Urinating at Bus Stand

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

In Karimnagar, on October 16th, a person was allegedly subjected to a Lathi-Charge by Police for urinating in the Bus Stand Premises, resulting in him sustaining severe injuries. He was immediately rushed to a local hospital, where Doctors determined that his Hand was broken and required Surgery, prompting the Police to transfer the victim to a Government Hospital.

The victim, identified as Parshuram, works as a Laborer and is reportedly addicted to Alcohol. He came to the Karimnagar Bus Stand while intoxicated. In his inebriated state, He urinated within the bus stand premises. Police who were present at the scene immediately confronted Parshuram, expressing anger over his actions in the bus stand area. Instead of a simple reprimand or fine, the Police allegedly began assaulting Parshuram with Lathis (batons). The victim claims that Four Police Officers attacked him indiscriminately, causing severe injuries. Parshuram, who earns his living through Labor Work and often lives on the streets,



was severely wounded. When He was taken to a Local Hospital, Doctors confirmed that his Hand was fractured due to the Police Assault and required immediate Surgical Intervention. Consequently, the One Town Police shifted the victim to the Government Hospital. Parshuram is currently receiving treatment at the Karimnagar Civil Hospital. The incident has raised questions about Police Excess and the appropriate use of force in handling minor public offenses. The local authorities are expected to review the incident and address the allegations of disproportionate force used by the Police Officers against the Laborer.

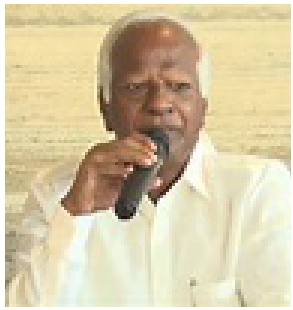


Farmer First: MLA Srihari Cautions Procurement Staff

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

Shan Ghanpur MLA Kadiyam Srihari issued a stern warning to Procurement Center Operators, stating that he would not tolerate the harassment of Farmers who bring their hard-earned paddy to the centers for sale. He made these remarks on Thursday while inaugurating the Paddy Procurement Center set up under IKP (Indira Kranti Patham) at Namaligonda.

Speaking at the inauguration, He urged Farmers to bring any issues they face at the Procurement Centers directly to his notice for swift resolution. He strongly asserted that the Congress Government



is a "Farmer's Government," committed to implementing welfare schemes for Farmers that are unprecedented anywhere else in the Country. He praised the Government's remarkable decision to provide a Bonus in addition to the Paddy Payment starting this year. This decision is expected to offer significant finan-

cial relief and incentive to the farming community. The MLA's direct engagement and warning underscore the Government's focus on ensuring a hassle-free selling process for Farmers and maintaining accountability among the Procurement Center Staff. He stressed that every measure will be taken to safeguard the Farmers' Interests and ensure they receive fair prices and timely payments for their produce. The message was clear: Harassment or Exploitation of Farmers by the Center Operators will face severe action. He encouraged Farmers to take full advantage of the Procurement Centers and the added Bonus Scheme.

Manohar Reddy Promises Fixes After Surprise Hospital Visit

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

Tandur MLA Buyyani Manohar Reddy advised Doctors to interact with Patients compassionately while providing medical treatment. On Thursday, He conducted a surprise inspection of the Tandur District Hospital and the Nursing Students' Hostel. He toured all the Wards and personally spoke to the Patients to understand their experiences and the quality of care being provided. He specifically requested that Doctors strictly adhere to Time Management and be punctual in their duties.

During the inspection, the Medical Staff brought several pressing issues to his attention, notably the existing Water Problem within the hospital premises and the poor condition of the Drainage System. These infrastructural deficiencies were flagged as major challenges affecting the hospital's operations and hygiene. Responding to the concerns, the MLA assured the Medical Staff and Hospital Administration that he would take prompt action to resolve the identified problems within Two Weeks. His promise to ensure the hospital has ade-

quate Water Supply and a functional Drainage System is a significant commitment to improving the Healthcare Infrastructure in Tandur. The inspection was also attended by Vinay Kumar and RMO Anand Gopal Reddy, among others. The visit highlights the MLA's proactive approach to monitoring Public Health Facilities and ensuring that Patients receive care in a clean and efficient environment. The MLA's emphasis on Compassion is a key directive aimed at improving the overall patient experience.

Congress Putting People First: MLA Satyanarayana

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

Manakondur MLA Dr. Kavvampalli Satyanarayana asserted that the Congress Government is working with the sole aim of Public Welfare. On Thursday, he distributed checks worth 19.51 Lakh under the CMRF (chief minister's relief fund) to 72 Beneficiaries from Timmapur Mandal at the Prajabhavan in LMD Colony.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Dr. Kavvampalli Satyanarayana stated that the State Government

has introduced numerous schemes focused on the welfare of the poor. He criticized the previous BRS regime, alleging that the poor were neglected over the last Ten Years, and that the BRS government had cheated the Public by failing to issue new Ration Cards or provide Double Bedroom Houses. He highlighted that the Congress Party, since coming to power, has swiftly begun distributing New Ration Cards, sanctioned Indiramma Houses, provided Free Electricity, and

is running the Free Bus Travel scheme, which he noted significantly benefits average Women. He estimated that working Women who travel to Towns daily to work in Shops are saving at least 1,000 Per Month on bus fares. The MLA also pointed out that the Public is widely welcoming the distribution of Fine Rice (Sanna Biyyam) through Ration Shops. He emphasized the Government's Special Focus on Public Health, ensuring that Medicines are available and In-

frastructure is developed in Government Hospitals and Health Centers. He encouraged People to seek treatment at Government Hospitals instead of private ones. He explained that the CMRF assistance is provided to offer financial support to the poor who seek treatment at Private Hospitals. He specifically mentioned providing LOCs (letters of credit) for expensive treatments, such as those at NIMS, which offers substantial financial relief to the poor. So far, 3,50,32,900 has been

sanctioned to 1,364 People in 20 Installments for Timmapur Mandal alone, which he distributed in the form of Checks. The event was attended by Timmapur Mandal Congress President Bandari Ramesh, Block Congress President Sudhagani Laxminarayanagoud, Former Mandal Party President Morapalli Ramareddy, and other Party Leaders including Gopu Mallareddy, Tumanapalli Srinivasarao, and Kunta Rajender Reddy.

Maize Fraud Busted: Farmers Catch Brokers Red-Handed

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 16th

An incident of fraud was exposed on Thursday in Gurjakunta village, Bhikkanoor Mandal, Kamareddy District, when Farmers apprehended Brokers (dalari) involved in cheating during Maize (Corn) Procurement. Some Brokers who arrived to purchase Maize from the Farmers of Gurjakunta were caught engaging in fraudulent practices related to Weighing and Bag Counting.

The Farmers complained vehemently that the Brokers were registering only 60 Kg when the

actual weight of the maize was 70 Kg, effectively stealing 10 Kg per measurement. Realizing the deception, the Farmers caught and detained the Brokers on the spot, subsequently alerting the Police. The Farmers expressed intense anger, alleging that the Brokers had been committing similar frauds for quite some time, systematically exploiting them through manipulative weighing tactics. This collective action by the Farmers brought the illicit activities to a head, demonstrating their desperation and unity against exploitation. The incident

underscores the vulnerability of Farmers to Brokerage Fraud during the crucial selling process, highlighting the need for stricter enforcement and supervision at Procurement Points. The Police are now investigating the incident based on the Farmers' Complaint to uncover the full extent of the fraudulent network and take action against the dishonest Brokers for the systematic manipulation of weights and counts to cheat the farming community. This confrontation serves as a warning against similar unscrupulous trade practices in the region.

Nitish and Tejashwi: 11 Key Forces That Will Decide Bihar’s 2025 Election



As Bihar heads into a high-stakes assembly election, the battle is far from straightforward. While the spotlight often falls on Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and opposition leader Tejashwi Yadav, this election is being shaped by a far more complex web of political forces. Shifting alliances, social welfare dynamics, caste arithmetic, and the emergence of a third front have all made this one of the most unpredictable elections in Bihar’s recent history.

Here are the 11 major factors that will ultimately decide who forms the next government in the state.

1. Alliance Chemistry and Internal Friction

The NDA and the Mahagathbandhan (MGB) are both grappling with internal tensions. The NDA, led by BJP and JD(U), has brought in smaller players like the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) and Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM), but these additions haven’t come without complications. In 2020, a lack of effective vote transfer between BJP and JD(U) damaged their prospects. This time, the Jan Suraj Party (JSP) may disrupt intra-alliance vote transfers further.

Vote Transfer between Partners in Bihar & Leakages		
Leakage between BJP and JDU highest		
Vote transfer between NDA partners	Voted NDA	Leakages
JDU-HAM contested seats		
Traditional JDU-HAM Supporters	75%	25%
Traditional BJP supporters	55%	45%
BJP contested seats		
Traditional JDU-HAM Supporters	70%	30%
Traditional BJP supporters	75%	25%
Vote transfer between MGB partners	Voted MGB	Leakages
INC contested seats		
Traditional INC Supporters	84%	16%
Traditional RJD Supporters	83%	17%
RJD contested seats		
Traditional INC Supporters	82%	18%
Traditional RJD Supporters	90%	10%

The MGB faces its own coordination hurdles with new allies like the Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), alongside a faction of the LJP. Seat-sharing remains unresolved, and friction is growing with the Congress asserting itself post its Voter Adhikar Yatra success.

Maintaining internal unity and ensuring seamless vote transfers across alliance partners will be key for both sides.

2. Leadership Preferences: Fragmented Loyalties

Tejashwi Yadav leads in Chief Ministerial preference polls, but only marginally. His appeal is mostly limited to the MY (Muslim-Yadav) vote and some segments of youth. Nitish Kumar, though still respected, is facing

voter fatigue after nearly two decades in power. Prashant Kishor, once a strategist, now poses a fresh political challenge. Leaders like Chirag Paswan and Samrat Choudhary appeal to specific caste groups.

However, only 15% of voters base their decision on CM faces. A larger share is driven by development, caste, religion, and local issues. This diffused focus makes cohesive leadership appeal even more critical.

3. Pro- and Anti-Incumbency: A Split Verdict

VoteVibe surveys indicate that 48% of voters are anti-incumbent, while 32% are pro-incumbent and 14% remain neutral. This near-even split creates a volatile environment where coalition cohesion and voter mobilisation matter more than overarching popularity.

Although discontent exists with Nitish Kumar’s government, the opposition is fragmented. If MGB consolidates anti-incumbent sentiment effectively, it has a strong shot. But NDA’s last-minute welfare schemes have boosted pro-incumbency sentiment from 18% in July to 34% in September, complicating the narrative.

4. The Welfare Push: Last-Minute Lifeline or Election Gimmick?

The NDA has launched a sop spree, targeting women, youth, farmers, senior citizens, and labourers. Key schemes include:

₹10,000 business grant for women

Unemployment allowance for youth

125 units of free electricity

₹5,000 for daily labourers

Increased pensions for elderly and widows

Despite these efforts, Bihar’s per capita income remains one-third of India’s average, the same as in 2005. Opposition parties argue that short-term welfare measures can’t mask long-term underdevelopment. Whether voters buy into the immediate relief or punish the lack of structural change remains to be seen.

5. Modi vs Rahul: National Leaders in a State Battle

Unlike previous elections, national leaders are playing a significant role. The election is increasingly becoming Modi vs Rahul, rather than Nitish vs Tejashwi.

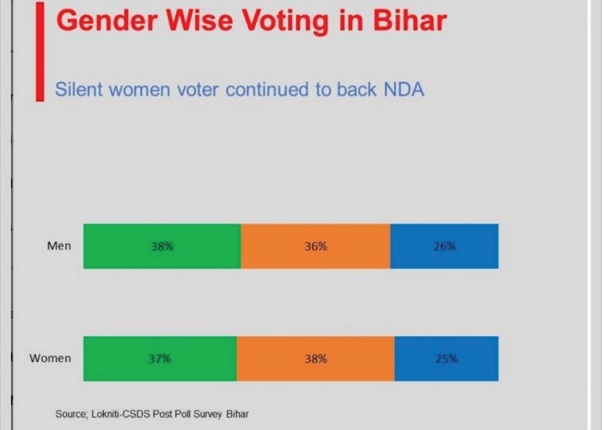
PM Modi holds a 52% approval rating in Bihar compared to Rahul Gandhi’s 41%, per C-Voter. However, Gandhi is gaining ground through his Bharat Jodo Yatra and outreach among Dalits, minorities, and youth. His appeal complements Tejashwi’s, creating a potentially powerful combination for the MGB.

Meanwhile, NDA banks heavily on Modi’s charisma and welfare narrative, hoping it offsets any local dissatisfaction with Nitish.

6. Women Voters: Bihar’s Silent Game Changers



Women account for nearly 50% of Bihar’s voters, and in 2020, their turnout exceeded men’s in 167 seats. The NDA won 99 of those.

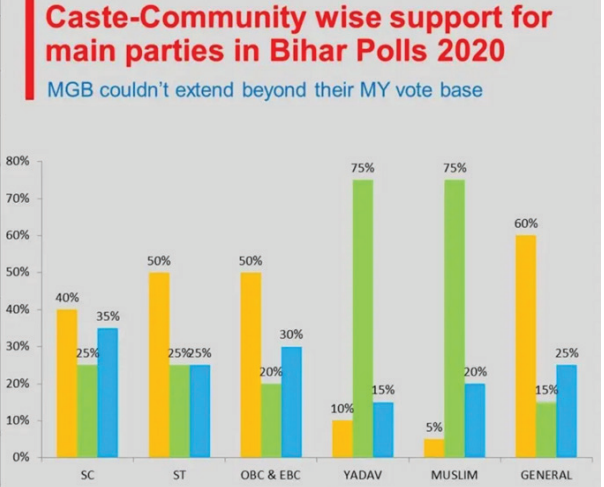


Nitish Kumar has historically focused on female welfare — from bicycle schemes to police quotas and self-help groups. The new ₹10,000 Mahila Rozgar Yojana aims to expand this base.

The MGB, meanwhile, is attempting to woo women with a monthly ₹2,500 direct benefit promise. The question is: Will women choose trusted continuity or tempting alternatives?

7. Youth: Angry, Unemployed, and Politically Crucial

With 35% of voters under 35, young voters are a decisive force. They’re less swayed by past governance vs. “jungle raj” narratives. Their focus is on jobs, education, and migration.



Tejashwi’s promise of “a government job in every home” may sound utopian, but it resonates emotionally. Prashant Kishor appeals to educated and urban youth, especially via digital platforms.

The youth are angry, and their vote is split. Who wins this group could tip dozens of tight races.

8. Caste Dynamics: Still the Heart of Bihar Politics

Caste remains the strongest voting determinant in Bihar. The traditional NDA support base (Upper Castes, Non-Yadav OBCs, EBCs, Mahadalits, and Paswans) adds up to 68%. But their actual 2020 vote share was only 37%, showing leakages and cross-voting.

EBCs (26%) and SCs (20%) are the real swing voters. MGB is trying to counter with Mukesh Sahni (EBC) and Rajesh Ram (SC) as potential Deputy CMs.

The NDA’s edge lies in its multi-caste leadership—

from Nitish (Kurmi) to Choudhary (Kushwaha) and Paswan (Dalit). How much caste leaders can pull their community votes remains to be tested.



9. The Dalit Vote: Diverse, Divided, and Decisive

Dalits, especially Paswans and Ravidas, make up 20% of the electorate. The NDA traditionally dominated these votes through Chirag Paswan and Jitan Ram Manjhi. But the Ravidas vote is showing signs of shifting to MGB and Congress, who are highlighting representation gaps and promising social justice.

Prashant Kishor is also trying to attract young, educated Dalits through development-focused messaging rather than caste identity. These shifts could influence up to 40 reserved seats, where 2020 saw NDA win 22 and MGB 18.

10. Muslim Voters: Reliable Yet Restless

Muslims, at 18% of the population, have long been a pillar of MGB support. But this bloc is no longer monolithic. AIMIM’s emergence and JSP’s appeal among young Muslims threaten to fragment it.

While traditional loyalty to RJD and Congress remains, underrepresentation (only 8% MLAs) has sparked community discontent. AIMIM offers assertive Muslim representation but risks acting as a vote-splitter in tight seats—especially in Seemanchal.

If Muslims consolidate behind MGB, it could sweep Muslim-heavy constituencies. If not, the NDA could benefit again, as it did in 2020.

11. The PK Wildcard: Spoiler or Kingmaker?

Prashant Kishor’s Jan Suraj Party is the biggest wildcard in this election. He has created buzz, especially among urban, youth, and upper-caste voters. His 10% vote share in recent bypolls reduced the MGB’s tally from 3 to 0 and handed the NDA key wins.

In over 83 seats with thin victory margins, even a small JSP vote could tilt the balance. Kishor’s strategy may be to force a hung assembly, where he can play kingmaker.

The biggest test for JSP is turning social media support into actual votes.

Conclusion: A Battle of Margins, Not Waves

With no clear wave in sight, Bihar 2025 will be an election of wafer-thin margins. A mere 2-3% shift in women’s votes, youth mobilisation, caste realignment, or minor party interference could decide the outcome.

More than Nitish or Tejashwi, it is the interplay of these 11 powerful factors—from alliance mechanics to demographic shifts—that will shape Bihar’s political destiny in this high-stakes election.

India Needs a Trade Exposure Inflation Index to Tackle Global Price Shocks

India’s inflation story is no longer confined to domestic monsoons or policy rate hikes. It now has a global dimension—from Indonesia’s palm oil exports to freight costs on Red Sea routes. And yet, India lacks a dedicated tool to measure how much of its inflation is imported.

Despite recent moderation in headline inflation—retail inflation dropped to 3.16% in April 2025 and 1.55% in July—external factors like global commodity prices, rupee depreciation, and shipping disruptions continue to impact household costs. For example, over 85% of India’s crude oil is imported, and a 1.2% rupee fall in FY24 raised input costs across sectors.

To address this, experts propose a Trade Exposure Inflation Index (TEII)—a new tool to quantify imported inflation. It would break down consumer prices into three trade-exposed components: imported goods (like electronics), imported inputs (like fertilisers), and exchange rate effects. Initial estimates suggest 40% of India’s recent inflation may have come from external sources.

The TEII would not replace the Consumer Price Index (CPI) but act as a complementary lens, much like “core inflation.” It could guide smarter policymaking—combining monetary tools with trade, tariff, or stockpile strategies. For instance, during 2022–24, when RBI raised rates by 250 basis points, a TEII might have revealed that much of the inflation was beyond the central bank’s control.

India already has the data infrastructure



needed for TEII—CPI weights (MoSPI), import exposure (DGCIS), and exchange rate studies (RBI). A joint working group could

launch it within a year.

In a globalised economy, ignoring imported inflation risks misdiagnosing the problem—and us-

ing the wrong tools to fight it. With TEII, India could lead the way in building inflation transparency and smarter economic coordination.

PM Modi Launches Projects Worth ₹13,430 Crore in Andhra Pradesh

TPN Bureau | Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for multiple development projects worth ₹13,430 crore in Andhra Pradesh, covering a range of sectors including industry, power transmission, roads, railways, defence manufacturing, and petroleum & natural gas.

A key highlight was the foundation stone for the Transmission System Strengthening at Kurnool-III Pooling Station, a ₹2,880 crore project aimed at enhancing renewable energy transmission with an additional capacity of 6,000 MVA.

The PM also launched industrial area developments at Orvakal (Kurnool) and Kopparthi (Kadapa), with combined investments of over ₹4,920 crore. These industrial hubs, developed jointly by NICDIT and APIIC, are expected to draw investments of ₹21,000 crore and create nearly one lakh jobs, boosting Rayalaseema's industrial growth.

In the roads sector, PM Modi laid the foundation for a six-lane greenfield highway from Sabbavaram to Sheelanagar at a cost of ₹960 crore, aiming to decongest Visakhapatnam and enhance trade flow. He also inaugurated the four-laning of the Pileru-Kalur section, upgrades on NH-544DD and NH-165, and the Kanigiri Bypass.

The Prime Minister also launched railway projects worth



over ₹1,200 crore, including the Kothavalasa-Vizianagaram Fourth Railway Line, Rail Flyover between Pendurthi and Simhachalam North, and doubling of key sections like Kottavalasa-Bodavara and Shimiliguda-Gorapur.

In the energy sector, PM Modi

inaugurated the Srikakulam-Angul Natural Gas Pipeline by GAIL India (₹1,730 crore), and Indian Oil's LPG bottling plant in Chittoor (₹200 crore).

He also launched Bharat Electronics Ltd's Advanced Night Vision Products Factory in Krishna

district, built at ₹360 crore, enhancing India's defence manufacturing capabilities.

The PM visited Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna temple in Srisailem earlier in the day before returning to Kurnool for the ceremonies.

All Gujarat Ministers Resign As CM Bhupendra Patel Set To Rejig Cabinet

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a major political development, all ministers in the Gujarat government, except Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, have submitted their resignations ahead of a major cabinet reshuffle. The resignations have been accepted by the Chief Minister, who is expected to meet Governor Acharya Devvrat later today to formally stake a claim to form a new cabinet.

The move is being seen as part of a broader administrative and political overhaul in the state, likely in preparation for upcoming political events and elections.

According to senior BJP leaders, the new cabinet is expected to be announced and sworn in on Friday at 11:30 AM. Sources indicate that nearly 10 new ministers may be inducted, while about half of the existing ministers could be replaced. The reshuffle aims to bring in fresh faces and revamp the state leadership.

Currently, the Gujarat cabinet comprises 17 ministers, including the Chief Minister, with eight holding cabinet rank and eight others serving as Ministers of State (MoS). As per constitutional provisions, Gujarat is permitted to have up to 27 ministers, which is 15% of the total 182-member Assembly.

Notably, this reshuffle follows the recent appointment of Jagdish Vishwakarma as the new president of the Gujarat BJP unit, replacing Union Minister C.R. Paatil.

Bhupendra Patel first assumed office as Chief Minister in 2021 and began his second



term on December 12, 2022. The upcoming cabinet expansion is expected to reflect strategic adjustments by the BJP as it strengthens its position in the state.

The reshuffle is being closely watched both within Gujarat and at the national level, as it may signal the party's broader game plan ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections.

Gauhati HC Quashes Lower Court Order Against Rahul Gandhi in Defamation Case

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

In a significant relief to Congress leader and Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, the Gauhati High Court has set aside a lower court's order allowing additional witnesses in a long-pending defamation case against him.

The case, filed by an RSS worker in 2016, alleged defamatory remarks made by Gandhi during a speech. The matter was being heard in a trial court in Kamrup Metropolitan district.

On Monday, October 13, Justice Arun Dev Choudhury of the Gauhati High Court issued the order in a criminal revision petition, quashing the decision by the additional sessions judge that had permitted more prosecution witnesses to be summoned. The High Court ruled that the lower court's move to expand the scope of the trial by adding further witnesses was not justified at this stage of the proceedings.

The trial court's order had been challenged by Gandhi's legal team, who argued that the inclusion of new witnesses after such a long duration would delay justice and was procedurally flawed.

With this decision, the High Court has effectively streamlined the trial, which had been ongoing for nine years, offering Gandhi a legal breather amid several other litigations he faces across the country.

The defamation case stemmed from Gandhi's remarks allegedly linking the RSS to the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi — a claim that has repeatedly landed him in legal



trouble.

The court's decision is seen as a temporary but important legal win for the Congress MP, who remains a key figure in national politics

ahead of crucial state and general elections.

The trial is now expected to proceed without the additional witnesses, as per the original framework.

JD(U) Releases Full List of Candidates for Bihar Assembly Polls



TPN Correspondent | Patna

The Janata Dal (United), led by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, on Thursday announced its second list of 44 candidates for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections, completing its lineup of 101 nominees. The party is contesting as part of the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Several key ministers have found a place in the second list, including Sheila Mandal, Vijendra Prasad Yadav, Leshi Singh, Jayant Raj, and Mohd Zama Khan. Their inclusion signals the party's intent to retain experienced faces and consolidate its governance record.

The JD(U) has also fielded a few political turncoats in this round. Chetan Anand, formerly with the RJD, will contest from Nabinagar, while Vibha Devi, also previously associated with the RJD, has been nominated from Nawada. Kaladhar Mandal has been fielded from the Rupauli

constituency.

The first list, released earlier, featured 57 candidates. With Thursday's announcement, the party has now declared all its 101 candidates for the 243-member Bihar Assembly.

Elections will be held in two phases — on November 6 and November 11 — and results will be declared on November 14.

The announcement comes at a crucial time as the NDA looks to maintain its grip on power in Bihar amidst a growing challenge from the opposition INDIA bloc, led by the RJD and Congress.

The JD(U)'s candidate list reflects a mix of senior leaders, loyalists, and strategic new entrants, aimed at balancing caste dynamics and regional representation across the state.

All eyes are now on how the final phase of campaigning unfolds, with Bihar once again set to play a key role in the national political narrative.

Execution of Indian Nurse in Yemen Stayed, SC Told



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

The Supreme Court was informed on Thursday that the execution of Indian nurse Nimisha Priya, who is on death row in Yemen for murder, has been stayed, and there are no adverse developments in her case at present.

A bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta heard the update during the proceedings on a petition filed by the 'Save Nimisha Priya International Action Council'. The organisation has been providing legal assistance to Priya, a 38-year-old nurse convicted in 2017 for the murder of her Yemeni business partner.

Attorney General R Venkataramani, appearing for the Centre, told the court that a new mediator has intervened in the matter. "The only good thing is, nothing adverse is happening," Venkataramani said, confirming that efforts are ongoing to resolve the issue diplomatically.

The bench inquired about the sta-

tus of the execution, to which the petitioner's counsel confirmed it is currently stayed. The lawyer also requested that the matter be adjourned in view of the recent developments.

"List in January 2026. It will be open for the parties to apply for early listing in case the situation so demands," the bench directed.

Earlier in August, the court was told there was "no immediate threat" to Priya, whose execution had initially been scheduled for July 16, 2025, but was subsequently stayed.

The petition had sought a directive to the central government to intensify diplomatic efforts to save Priya's life. The case has drawn significant attention from human rights groups and the Indian diaspora, particularly in the Middle East.

With the involvement of a new mediator and diplomatic efforts underway, Priya's case remains in a delicate but stable phase.

'Priority To Safeguard National Interest': India On Trump's Russia Oil Claim



TPN Bureau | Washington

New Delhi has firmly rebutted U.S. President Donald Trump's claim that Prime Minister Narendra Modi assured him India would stop purchasing oil from Russia. In a statement issued on Wednesday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) emphasized that India's energy policy is guided solely by its national interest and the welfare of Indian consumers.

"India is a significant importer of oil and gas. It has been our consistent

priority to safeguard the interests of the Indian consumer in a volatile energy scenario," said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal. He added that ensuring stable prices and secure energy supplies remains central to India's approach.

Trump had recently claimed, "He [Modi] has assured me there will be no oil purchases from Russia. He can't do it immediately, but the process is going to be over soon." His remarks have triggered a political row in India, with the opposition accusing the Prime

Minister of compromising national interest.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi criticized Modi, saying the PM is "frightened of Trump" and accused him of allowing a foreign leader to dictate India's energy choices. Gandhi also listed a series of alleged diplomatic missteps, including cancelling the finance minister's U.S. visit and not challenging Trump's public assertions.

In response, Union Minister Piyush Goyal hit back at the Congress, calling it a "rudderless, leaderless, and direction-

less" party. "They must make up their mind — one day they ask why there's no trade deal, and the next day they attack us for diplomacy," Goyal said.

India has faced Western criticism over its continued purchase of Russian oil since the Ukraine conflict began. However, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar has defended India's stand, asserting it acts in its citizens' best interests and highlighting Western double standards on global issues.

TPN Correspondent | Hyderabad

In a troubling incident that has raised concerns about student safety and financial accountability, eighteen Indian students who had applied for admission to the prestigious University of Malta are facing serious financial distress after a Malta-based accommodation company, Peppercorn Ltd, allegedly failed to refund their advance payments following visa rejections.

Malta, a reputed European nation located near Italy, has become a growing destination for international education, particularly among Indian students. Every year, dozens of students choose the University of Malta for its globally recognized programs. As part of the visa application process, students are required to furnish proof of accommodation before approval is granted.

According to reports, these eighteen Indian students had each paid ₹1,00,000 as an advance to Peppercorn Ltd to secure their stay during their academic program. The total payment, amounting to ₹18,00,000, or nearly ₹14 lakh, was made in good faith to facilitate the visa process. However, when their visa applications were unexpectedly rejected, the students requested a refund of the advance amount, as is customary practice in such cases.

To their dismay, the students claim that Peppercorn Ltd has not refunded the money, despite repeated requests



Indian Students Seek Refund After Visa Rejection: Peppercorn Ltd Faces Legal Action in Malta

and assurances. Sources say that the company has been unresponsive to several communications, forcing the affected students to explore legal options. Legal notices have reportedly been served to the company, demanding repayment of the full amount.

"The students followed all legal procedures and paid the advance amount to fulfill the visa requirements. When the visas were denied, it was expected that the accommodation provider would return the money, as the service was never availed. But Peppercorn Ltd has not taken any action so far," said a source familiar with the issue.

The incident has sparked outrage among

parents and education consultants, who argue that such practices could damage Malta's reputation as a safe and reliable destination for international education. They fear that future students may hesitate to apply to Maltese universities if financial disputes of this nature are not resolved promptly and fairly.

Education experts have urged the High Commission of Malta to intervene and ensure that the affected students receive justice. "This is not just about one company. It is about protecting Malta's credibility and ensuring that international students are treated fairly," said an education consultant

based in Hyderabad.

The students have appealed to both Indian authorities and the Maltese government for assistance in recovering their funds. They have also expressed hope that the University of Malta and other educational institutions will take note of the situation and introduce safeguards to prevent such incidents in the future.

If the issue remains unresolved, observers warn that it could create a chilling effect on student mobility and harm Malta's growing education sector. As of now, the victims continue to await a fair resolution and the return of their hard-earned money.

"India's Proxy War": Khawaja Asif's Bizarre Claim On Pak-Afghan Clashes



TPN Correspondent | Islamabad

In a controversial claim, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has accused India of backing the Taliban-led Afghan government in an alleged "proxy war" against Pakistan. His remarks come amid a fragile 48-hour ceasefire between the two neighbours, following deadly cross-border clashes.

Speaking to Geo News, Asif claimed, "I have my doubts that the ceasefire will hold, because the decisions of the [Afghan] Taliban are being sponsored by Delhi. Right now, Kabul is fighting a proxy war for Delhi." He further suggested that Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttapi's recent six-day visit to India may have in-

volved more than trade and bilateral discussions, implying "ulterior plans."

The Indian government has yet to respond officially to the comments. India has long maintained a firm stance against terrorism and has reiterated its commitment to peaceful regional cooperation, particularly in areas of trade and development with Afghanistan.

The ceasefire between Pakistan and Afghanistan began at 6:00 PM IST on Wednesday after both sides reported escalating violence over the past week. Dozens of troops and civilians were reportedly killed in the clashes, prompting urgent diplomatic engagement. Both countries claimed the other had requested the ceasefire to halt

the escalation.

Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that during the ceasefire, "both sides will sincerely strive to find a positive solution through constructive dialogue." The Taliban's government in Kabul echoed the sentiment, stating it had instructed Afghan forces to respect the truce "unless it is violated" by Pakistan.

The border tension stems from Islamabad's accusations that Kabul is harbouring members of the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a charge the Taliban denies. The conflict underscores the fragile relationship between the two neighbours, even as wider regional tensions threaten to complicate diplomacy further.

Taiwan Detects 23 chinese Aircraft , 8 naval vessels near its territory

TPN Correspondent | Taiwan

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense (MND) reported on Thursday (October 16) that it detected 23 Chinese military aircraft, 8 Chinese naval vessels, and 2 official ships operating near its airspace and territorial waters as of 6 a.m. local time.

According to the MND, 21 out of the 23 aircraft crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait, entering Taiwan's northern, southwestern, and eastern Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) — a significant escalation in Chinese

military activity in the region.

"We have monitored the situation and responded accordingly," Taiwan's Defense Ministry said in a statement posted on X (formerly Twitter). The incursions were part of a continuing pattern of aggressive maneuvers by China around Taiwan's borders. The latest development comes just a day after a similar display of military pressure, when Taiwan recorded 16 Chinese aircraft and 13 naval vessels, with 14 aircraft violating the median line and entering Taiwan's ADIZ.



Beijing does not recognize the median line, an unofficial boundary in the Taiwan Strait long respected by both sides to avoid conflict. Chinese military activities near Taiwan have sharply in-

creased over the past year, raising regional tensions.

Adding to the geopolitical strain, recent reports highlight China's growing nuclear capabilities, with analysts

warning of possible "nuclear blackmail" scenarios in case of conflict over Taiwan. During a recent military parade in Beijing, China showcased nuclear-capable missiles — including the JL-1, JL-3, and DF-61 — demonstrating its progress toward a nuclear triad, the ability to launch nuclear weapons from air, land, and sea.

The United States and other democracies have expressed concern over Beijing's escalating military assertiveness and rapid weapons development, particularly in relation to Taiwan's security.

With Gaza Ceasefire Holding, Trump Shifts Focus to Ending Russia-Ukraine War

TPN Correspondent | Washington

With a fragile ceasefire currently holding between Israel and Hamas, U.S. President Donald Trump is now turning his attention to another major global conflict — Russia's war in Ukraine. Trump, who made ending foreign wars a key part of his 2024 re-election campaign, is reportedly exploring new strategies to bring Moscow to the negotiating table.

"Now that Gaza is calming down, it's time to get Russia done," Trump was quoted as saying in private conversations with senior aides, according to U.S. officials. The President is considering the option

of supplying Ukraine with long-range weapons — a move he hopes will pressure Moscow into serious negotiations while strengthening Kyiv's leverage.

The latest diplomatic push comes amid growing pressure on Trump to deliver on his campaign promises of restoring global stability. Throughout the 2024 race, Trump repeatedly criticized former President Joe Biden's handling of both the Ukraine and Gaza conflicts, vowing that he would end both swiftly if elected.

With the Israel-Hamas ceasefire and hostage exchange currently in place, Trump's administration sees a narrow

window to make progress in Eastern Europe. Officials say Trump's team is engaging both NATO allies and neutral parties in a bid to facilitate a framework for negotiations.

Meanwhile, concerns remain high over whether the Gaza truce will hold, as previous ceasefires have often collapsed within days. However, with a degree of stability returning to the region, Trump appears determined to pivot toward resolving the Ukraine conflict — a war that has dragged on since Russia's invasion in February 2022.

While critics remain skeptical of Trump's approach, supporters ar-



gue that his unconventional diplomacy could yield breakthroughs where traditional efforts have stalled. Whether Trump's focus shift will

bring real results in Ukraine remains to be seen, but the renewed push signals a high-stakes phase in global diplomacy.

Sensex Surges 575 Points, Nifty Closes Above 25,300 on Global Market Rally

The benchmark Sensex jumped sharply by 575 points on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, as positive cues from Asian and European markets boosted investor sentiment. The Nifty also closed above the 25,300 mark, led by strong buying in banking and financial shares amid growing expectations of an upcoming rate cut by the U.S. Federal Reserve later this month.

The 30-stock BSE Sensex soared 575.45 points, or 0.70%, to settle at 82,605.43. During the trading session, it hit a high of 82,727.02, gaining 697.04 points, reflecting robust investor confidence. Meanwhile, the NSE Nifty 50 index also mirrored the bullish trend, ending above the key psychological level of 25,300.

Among the Sensex constituents, Bajaj Finance and Bajaj Finserv emerged as the top gainers, benefiting from renewed investor interest in the financial services sector. Banking stocks, in general, witnessed healthy buying, supported by expectations that a potential rate cut by the U.S. Federal Reserve could ease global borrowing costs and stimulate economic growth.

The rally in Asian markets provided a strong impetus for Indian equities, with investors hopeful that central banks will adopt accommodative monetary policies amid concerns about slowing economic growth. European markets also contributed to the positive momentum, further bolstering global risk appetite.

Market analysts noted that the combination of do-



mestic factors, including steady corporate earnings and improving economic indicators, along with favorable global cues, helped sustain the buying momentum in Indian markets.

Investors will now closely watch the upcoming Federal Reserve meeting for clues on interest rate policy,

which is expected to influence market direction in the near term.

Overall, Wednesday's session underscored the resilience of Indian markets amid global uncertainties, with key indices registering solid gains driven by financial stocks and positive sentiment abroad.

SEBI Bans Eight for ₹173 Crore Insider Trading in India Energy Exchange



The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned eight individuals for alleged insider trading in the shares of India Energy Exchange (IEX), involving transactions worth ₹173.14 crore. The regulator's interim order, released on October 15, revealed that the accused had access to confidential regulatory information before its public announcement, enabling them to trade and gain unfair advantage.

SEBI's investigation found that several of the noticees were privy to a regulatory notification from the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) regarding market coupling, a mechanism involving the centralized matching of bids across power exchanges to establish a uniform market clearing price. This information had significant market-moving potential but was accessed prior to official disclosure.

The individuals banned by SEBI include Bhoovan Singh, Amar Jit Singh Soran, Amita Soran, Anita Narender Kumar, Virender Singh, Bindu Sharma, and Sanjeev Kumar. The regulator's action underscores its continued crackdown on unfair trading practices that undermine market

integrity. Insider trading involves trading based on material non-public information, which gives an unfair edge and harms the interests of ordinary investors. SEBI's swift intervention aims to maintain investor confidence and ensure a level playing field in the securities market.

The order highlights SEBI's enhanced surveillance and enforcement mechanisms to detect and act against insider trading activities. Market experts say such regulatory actions are critical for fostering transparency and safeguarding the integrity of India's capital markets.

SEBI's ban on the eight individuals comes amid increasing scrutiny of corporate disclosures and market conduct, especially in sectors like energy where regulatory developments can significantly impact stock prices.

The regulator has barred the accused from participating in securities markets and dealing in securities, pending further investigation and final adjudication. This move sends a strong message to market participants about the consequences of insider trading.

Rupee Recovers 75 Paise to Close at 88.06 Against US Dollar



The Indian rupee bounced back sharply on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, recovering 75 paise from its all-time low to close at 88.06 (provisional) against the U.S. dollar. This marked the currency's biggest intraday gain in nearly four months, driven by a combination of likely intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and a strong rally in domestic equity markets.

Forex traders attributed the rupee's recovery to positive sentiment sparked by optimism over ongoing trade talks between India and the United States. The improvement in bilateral trade relations boosted investor confidence, which was reflected in the surge of domestic markets. The benchmark indices rose by nearly 0.70%, supporting the rupee's rebound against the greenback.

Market participants also pointed to the RBI's probable intervention in the foreign exchange market to curb excessive volatility and stabilize the currency, helping the rupee recover

from previous sharp losses. The central bank's efforts are aimed at maintaining orderly market conditions amid global uncertainties.

Despite the recovery, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) continued to show caution, selling equities worth 1,508.53 crore on October 14, according to exchange data. This indicates ongoing concerns among foreign investors, even as domestic market sentiment improved.

The rupee had recently hit record lows against the dollar due to a stronger greenback and global economic pressures. However, Wednesday's sharp bounce suggests that the worst may be over, at least for now, as trade optimism and RBI support provide relief.

Analysts will closely monitor upcoming developments in trade negotiations and global market trends to assess the rupee's direction in the near term. For now, the currency's 75 paise intraday gain offers some respite for importers and market participants concerned about currency volatility.

Nestle India's Q2 Profit Drops 17.4% to ₹743 Crore, Revenue Rises 11%



Nestle India Ltd reported a 17.37% decline in consolidated net profit for the September quarter of 2025, posting ₹743.17 crore compared to ₹899.5 crore in the same

period last year. The FMCG major attributed the profit dip to rising input costs and inflationary pressures, despite steady revenue growth.

The company's revenue for the quarter grew 11% year-on-year to ₹5,630.23 crore, supported by healthy demand across key product segments including beverages, culinary products, and packaged foods. The increase in sales reflected Nestle's continued focus on innovation, premiumisation, and expanding its distribution reach amid challenging market conditions.

Nestle India's results highlight the broader trend in the FMCG sector, where companies are balancing rising raw material costs with efforts to maintain consumer affordability and market share. While revenue growth indicates robust consumer demand, margins came under pressure due to inflation and higher input prices.

In its regulatory filing, Nestle India noted that ongoing investments in brand building and product portfolio expansion remain central to its long-term growth strategy. The company also highlighted efforts to improve operational efficiencies and supply chain resilience to navigate a volatile economic environment.

Market analysts suggest that despite the profit decline, Nestle India's strong revenue performance signals resilience amid a competitive FMCG landscape. The company's premium brands and focus on health and wellness products continue to drive consumer interest.

Investors will be watching closely how Nestle India manages cost pressures in the coming quarters and whether it can sustain revenue growth while improving profitability. Overall, the September quarter results reflect the mixed impact of inflation and consumer demand dynamics on India's leading FMCG players.

Price of gold skyrocketing; why is this, will it continue?

The price of gold surged above USD 4,100 an ounce on Wednesday, marking an extraordinary rally of over 50% this year and nearly 100% since the run began in early 2024. The rapid rise has far outpaced analysts' expectations, driven by several key factors reshaping the global gold market.

While economic uncertainties such as ballooning government debt and the US government shutdown add to gold's appeal as a safe haven, the main driver of this meteoric price surge is growing demand for gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs). These financial products have made gold more accessible to everyday investors by allowing it to be traded easily on stock exchanges, shifting gold's role from just a physical safe haven to a mainstream financial asset.

In addition to retail demand, emerging market economies like China and Russia are increasingly moving their official reserves from major currencies such as the US dollar into gold. According to the International Monetary Fund, central bank gold holdings in emerging markets have soared 161% since 2006. This shift is largely due to concerns over geopolitical tensions, financial sanctions, and efforts to reduce reliance on Western currencies.

Russia, a major gold buyer since 2006, accelerated purchases after its 2014 Crimea annexation, while China has been actively "de-dollarising" by reducing US government bond holdings in favor of gold. These moves signal a broader trend toward gold as a shield against financial sanctions and currency risks.

With sustained demand from both investors and central banks, analysts at Goldman Sachs have revised gold's price target to USD 4,900 an ounce by the end



of 2026. The World Gold Council also reported record ETF inflows, highlighting strong market appetite.

For Australia, the world's third-largest gold producer, rising gold prices are a boon. Gold export values are expected to

surpass liquefied natural gas exports next year, making gold Australia's second-most important export commodity.

Rs 70K Salary, Zero Savings: Gurugram Techie’s Story Sparks Online Debate



A 25-year-old techie from Gurugram has unintentionally sparked a financial reality check for an entire generation. Sharing his story anonymously on Reddit, the young professional revealed how, despite earning a monthly salary of Rs 70,000, he has no savings to show for it — a post that quickly went viral across social media.

The techie began his career four years ago with a salary of Rs 24,000. Since then, his income has nearly tripled, yet financial security remains elusive. He broke down his monthly expenses: Rs 20,000 goes to support his family, Rs 10,000 for rent, and the rest is absorbed by EMIs, SIPs, and credit card bills. “The salary comes and goes like a breeze,” he wrote, reflecting a feeling of fatigue and stagnation that resonated with many young urban professionals.

His post highlighted a growing concern in Indian cities — rising incomes that are offset by high living costs, family responsibilities,

and debt. The added social pressure to marry by 28 only deepens the anxiety for many in similar situations.

Despite the financial stress, the techie has outlined clear goals: paying off family debt, creating an emergency fund of Rs 10 lakh, getting health insurance, and starting disciplined investments. Currently employed at a startup, he’s also looking to switch jobs for a better paycheck.

Reddit users offered overwhelming support and practical advice — from adopting a strict “Monk Mode” lifestyle for six months to prioritizing health insurance and budgeting aggressively. Some recommended halting SIPs temporarily to focus on debt repayment, while others stressed the importance of upskilling for long-term growth.

The story has become a mirror for thousands navigating similar struggles, reminding us that earning well isn’t enough — financial planning is key to real stability in today’s economic landscape.

Google AI Aids Breakthrough Cancer Therapy Discovery with Yale



In a major development at the intersection of technology and medicine, Google Inc. has partnered with Yale University to uncover a promising new cancer therapy — with the help of artificial intelligence. The breakthrough came using one of Google’s cutting-edge AI systems built on its Gemma family of models, showcasing the transformative potential of AI in biomedical research.

According to reports, Google’s AI played a crucial role in analysing complex biological data to identify novel drug targets and predict treatment outcomes. These advanced models enabled researchers to accelerate what would typically take years of lab work into weeks, helping them focus on molecules and proteins most likely to offer effective therapeutic results.

While exact details of the therapy are yet to be publicly disclosed, early findings suggest that the AI-assisted approach could lead to treatments targeting certain hard-to-treat or drug-resistant cancers.

The collaboration with Yale’s team of oncologists and biomedical scientists marks a significant step forward in AI-driven drug discovery, a field gaining momentum across the globe. The AI was trained on vast datasets of genomic, molecular, and clinical information, learning patterns that even seasoned researchers may miss.

Google’s Gemma AI models, designed for both scientific and general-purpose reasoning, were fine-tuned for biomedical applications in this study. The success has opened new doors for applying AI in other areas of disease research, potentially revolutionising how treatments are developed for conditions like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, and autoimmune disorders.

This is not the first time tech giants have entered the medical field, but the pace and scale of this development signal a new era of collaboration between AI and healthcare.

With further validation and trials ahead, the partnership’s findings could soon translate into life-saving cancer therapies for millions worldwide.

Bengaluru Zepto Agent Earns ₹21K in a Week, Internet Applauds His Hustle

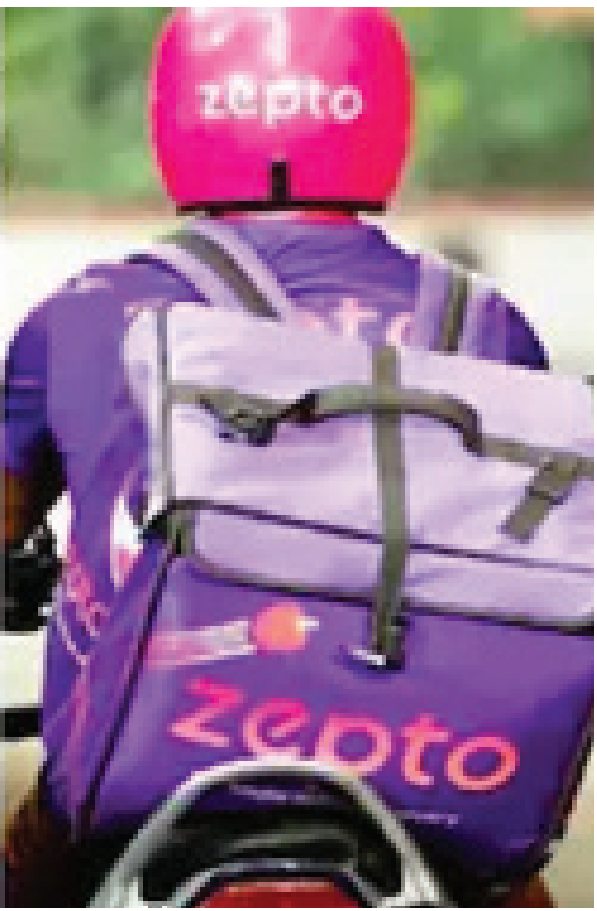
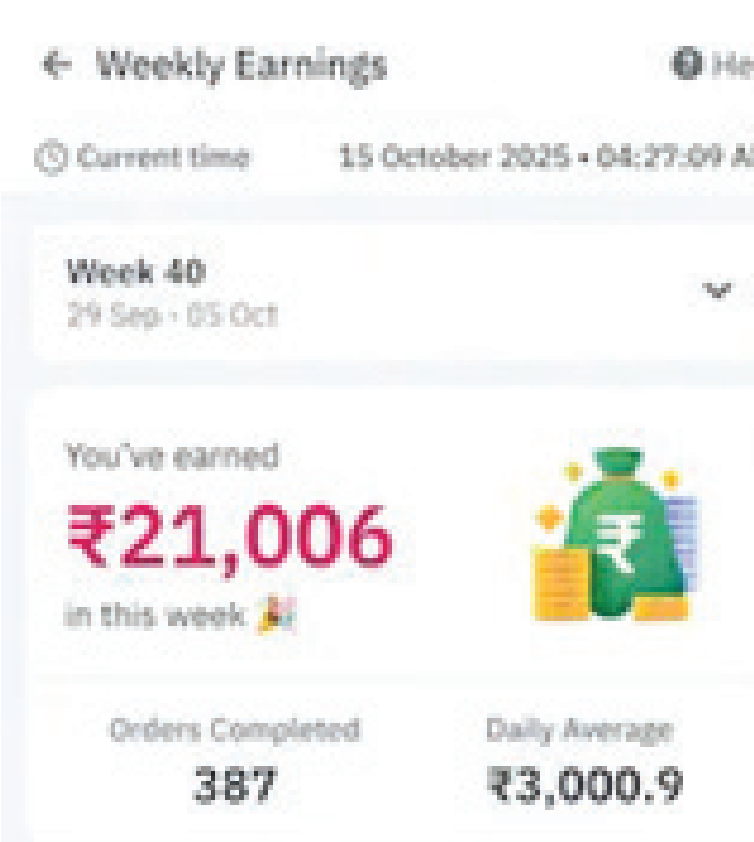
A Bengaluru-based Zepto delivery agent has gone viral for showcasing his impressive weekly earnings on Reddit, earning both praise and curiosity from netizens. According to a screenshot he shared, the agent made ₹21,000 in a single week by completing 387 deliveries, averaging about ₹3,000 per day.

This marked his 40th week with Zepto, covering the period from September 20 to October 5. His caption read, “What I earned in a week (working morning 10 am to night 10 pm) as Zepto delivery.” The breakdown showed standout days like October 2, when he earned ₹3,749 from 62 deliveries, and October 5 (a Sunday), when he made ₹4,020 from 50 deliveries.

In response to questions about expenses, the agent revealed that his daily fuel cost is around ₹300, amounting to ₹2,100 per week. This leaves him with a net weekly income of approximately ₹18,900.

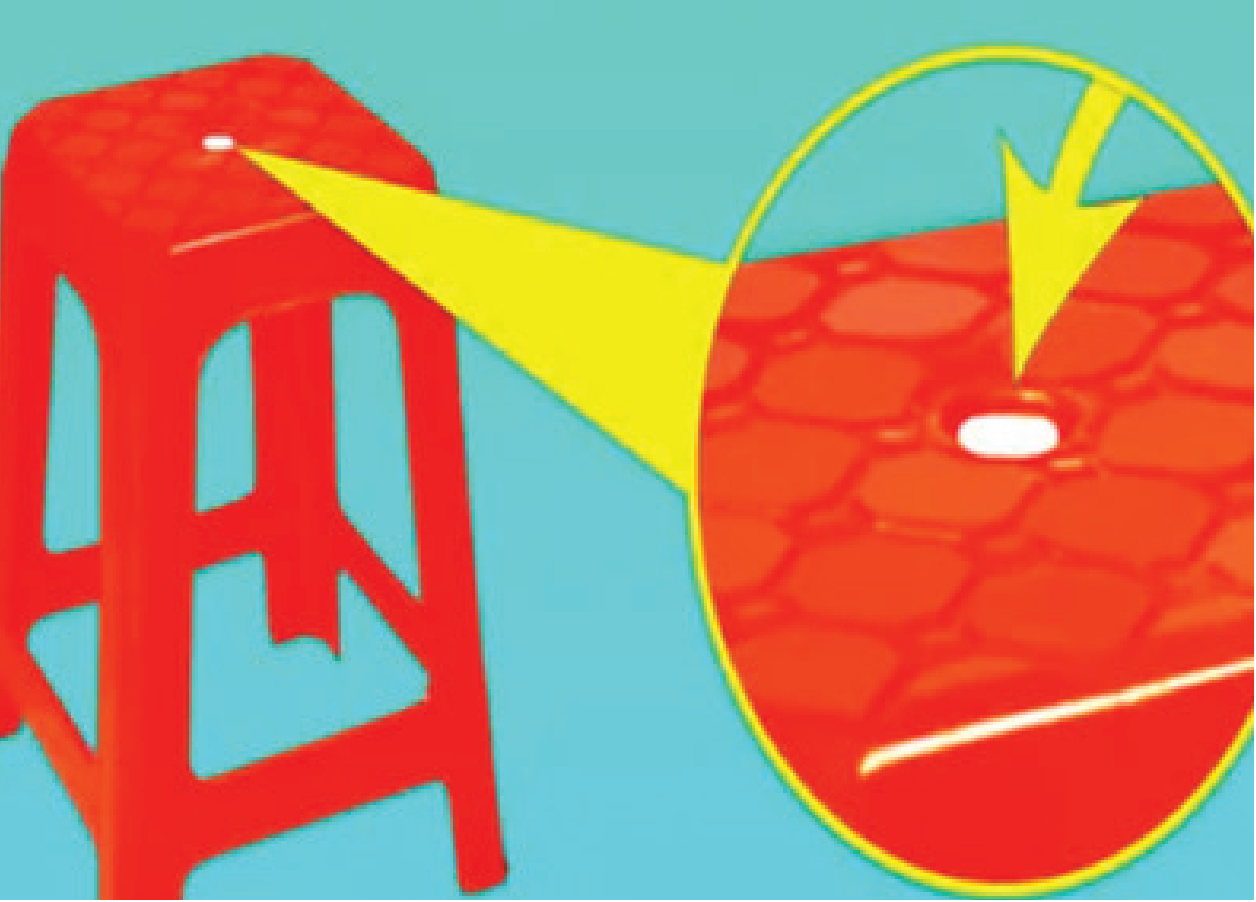
He also shared insights into delivery patterns. Most deliveries were within 2-3 km, and knowing the local roads helped him complete orders efficiently. He noted that rainy days, especially with light drizzle, often result in surge bonuses and fewer competing riders, allowing him to earn more in less time.

While many Reddit users saluted his dedication — one comment read, “Most of us don’t earn itna. Keep hustling!” — others raised questions about sustainability and whether



such earnings were feasible for all. Despite the long hours and physical demands, the agent’s story resonated with many as a powerful example of hard work, smart timing, and street knowledge. Whether viewed as inspiring or cautionary, his story adds a new dimension to the gig economy in urban India.

Why Plastic Stools Have a Hole in the Middle: The Practical Science Explained



If you’ve ever wondered why most plastic stools have a hole in the center, you’re not alone. While internet jokes claim it’s for releasing “fart air,” the real reason is far more practical — and scientifically sound.

This hole isn’t just a design choice or for aesthetic appeal. According to manufacturing experts, the primary purpose of the hole is to prevent vacuum formation during stacking. When plastic stools are stacked one on top of another, air can get trapped between them, creating suction. This makes the stools stick together and difficult to separate.

The hole allows air to flow freely, making stacking and unstacking easy — especially important in places like schools, factories, event venues, and homes where multiple stools are stored together.

From a production standpoint, plastic stools are manufactured using injection moulding, where melted plastic is poured into a mould. The hole not only helps in the de-moulding process but also reduces the amount of plastic used, leading to 10-15% material savings, which is significant for manufacturers.

There are other added benefits too:

- **Ease of Lifting:** The hole can serve as a grip or handle, making it easier to lift and move the stool.
- **Stable Stacking:** In some stool designs, the legs of the top stool fit into the hole of the one below, ensuring a tighter and more stable stack.

While memes have added humor to the mystery of the plastic stool hole, the real answer lies in engineering efficiency and functionality.

So, the next time you sit on a plastic stool or stack one away, remember — that simple hole is a clever solution to multiple practical challenges.

Apple Launches Vision Pro with M5 Chip and Dual Knit Band

Apple has officially unveiled the new Apple Vision Pro, now powered by the advanced M5 chip and featuring a redesigned Dual Knit Band for improved comfort and usability. The announcement was made on October 16, 2025, with the device promising a significant performance upgrade and an immersive next-gen experience.

Running on the latest visionOS 26, the updated Vision Pro offers enhanced spatial computing capabilities, smoother multitasking, and better power efficiency. The M5 chip brings superior processing power and AI integration, aimed at delivering more fluid mixed-reality experiences, from productivity to entertainment and gaming.

The new Dual Knit Band offers better weight distribution and comfort for longer usage. Apple claims it has been designed based on user feedback from the previous model, focusing on both aesthetics and ergonomics.

Key Features:

- **M5 Chip:** Improved CPU and GPU performance with built-in neural engine for AI-driven tasks.
- **visionOS 26:** Advanced software features for spatial interactions and enhanced compatibility with Apple ecosystem devices.
- **Micro-OLED Display:** High-resolution visuals with vivid color accuracy



and wide field of view.

- **Eye and Hand Tracking:** Enhanced precision for gesture control and navigation.
- **Dual Knit Band:** Comfortable, adjustable fit aimed at reducing fatigue during extended use.

Price and Availability:

The new Apple Vision Pro starts at \$3,499 and will be available in select global markets beginning November 10, 2025, with pre-orders opening on October 25 via the Apple Store and authorized resellers.

With this release, Apple aims to strengthen its position in the high-end spatial computing market, taking on rivals like Meta and Samsung in the premium AR/VR space.

Early responses suggest strong interest, especially from developers, tech enthusiasts, and enterprise users exploring immersive computing solutions.

Ahmedabad Recommended to Host 2030 Commonwealth Games

Ahmedabad is on track to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games after receiving a strong recommendation from the Executive Board (EB) of Commonwealth Sport. The announcement came on October 15, 2025, signaling a major sporting milestone for the city and India.

The EB's recommendation is a significant step in the bidding process, positioning Ahmedabad as the preferred host for the prestigious multi-sport event, which will mark the centenary edition of the Commonwealth Games. While the final decision will be formally made at the Commonwealth Sport General Assembly scheduled in Glasgow on November 26, 2025, this is widely expected to be a procedural formality given the board's endorsement.

Ahmedabad's bid has been bolstered by extensive preparations and infrastructure development, including the construction of the state-of-the-art Veer Savarkar Sports Complex. The complex is expected to serve as one of the main venues for the Games, showcasing the city's readiness to host a large-scale international sporting event.

The Commonwealth Games, held every four years, bring together athletes from countries across the Commonwealth to compete in vari-



ous sports, promoting camaraderie, unity, and sporting excellence. Hosting the 2030 Games will not only enhance Ahmedabad's global sporting profile but also drive infrastructure growth, tourism, and economic activity in the region.

This will be a landmark event for India, marking the country's increasing prominence in the global sports arena. Ahmedabad's successful bid follows India's hosting of the 2010 Commonwealth Games in New Delhi and reflects the coun-

try's ambition to continue playing a significant role in international sports.

Local officials and sports authorities have expressed confidence that Ahmedabad's facilities and organizational capabilities will meet the high standards expected for the Games. The city's rich cultural heritage and modern amenities are also seen as an advantage in welcoming athletes and visitors from across the Commonwealth.

Once officially confirmed at the

November General Assembly, Ahmedabad will join the ranks of elite host cities that have staged the Commonwealth Games, benefiting from years of planning, investment, and international attention.

In summary, Ahmedabad's recommendation by the Commonwealth Sport Executive Board marks a promising future for the 2030 Commonwealth Games, with the final approval expected soon, signaling India's continued rise as a global sports host.

Lakshya Sen and Satwik Advance to Denmark Open 2025



Indian badminton stars Lakshya Sen and the men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty made a strong start at the Denmark Open 2025, progressing into the tournament's pre-quarterfinals with impressive wins in their opening matches.

Competing at the Jyske Bank Arena, world

No. 21 Lakshya Sen faced Ireland's Nhat Nguyen, ranked 28th in men's singles. Sen recovered from a slow start to clinch a thrilling three-game victory with scores of 10-21, 21-8, 21-18 in a match lasting one hour and 19 minutes. Sen lost the first game decisively but bounced back strongly in the second, conceding only eight

points to force a decider. The final game was tightly contested, with both players exchanging points before Sen held his nerve to secure the win. This victory marked Sen's third triumph in four matches against Nguyen. Notably, Lakshya Sen was a semi-finalist at the Paris 2024 Olympics, and this win bolsters his confidence moving forward in the tournament.

In men's doubles, the Indian duo Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, seeded sixth, overcame the Scottish pair Christopher Grimley and Matthew Grimley 17-21, 21-11, 21-17. The match lasted one hour and four minutes and saw the Indian pair recover after losing the first game 17-21. Satwik and Chirag responded emphatically in the second, dominating 21-11 to level the contest. The final game was fiercely competitive, with the Scottish duo holding a narrow 11-10 lead at the interval. However, the Indians surged ahead in the second half, winning 11 of the next 17 points to seal their place in the next round. Satwik and Chirag are looking to improve on their recent performances, where they finished runners-up at the Hong Kong Open and China Masters last month.

On the other hand, Indian mixed doubles pair Mohit Jaglan and Lakshita Jaglan faced an early exit after losing 21-14, 21-11 to Indonesia's Adnan Maulana and Indah Cahya Sari Jamil.

As the Denmark Open progresses, Indian shuttlers will be hoping to carry this momentum deeper into the competition.

India Junior Hockey Team Falls 2-4 to Australia at Sultan of Johor Cup 2025

The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team faced a 2-4 defeat against Australia in their fourth pool-stage match of the Sultan of Johor Cup 2025 held in Johor, Malaysia. The Blue Colts' goals came from Captain Rohit (22') and Arshdeep Singh (60'), while Australia's goals were scored by Oscar Sproule (39', 42'), Andrew Patrick (40'), and their Captain Dylan Downey (51').

The first quarter was closely contested, with India dominating possession and controlling the tempo. Australia had an early chance, but Indian goalkeeper Prince Deep Singh made a crucial save. India's attacking pressure continued, and despite a missed penalty corner flick by Anmol Ekka in the 17th minute, Rohit successfully converted a penalty corner in the 22nd minute to give India the lead.

In the third quarter, Australia staged a strong comeback, scoring three consecutive goals. Oscar Sproule equalized in the 39th minute with a well-placed strike from the right flank. A minute later, Andrew Patrick put Australia ahead with a deflection during a penalty corner. Sproule then scored his second goal in the 42nd minute with a powerful backhand shot, turning the tide firmly in Australia's favor.

India tried to respond, winning a penalty corner in the 49th minute, but Rohit's flick missed the target. Australia extended their lead when Captain Dylan Downey scored from their fifth penalty corner in the 51st minute. In the final minute, Arshdeep Singh scored a skillful deflection to close the gap to 2-4, but India couldn't find another goal before the final whistle.

This loss puts India's hopes in the tournament under pressure as they prepare for their remaining matches in the pool stage. The Blue Colts will need to regroup and focus on



their upcoming fixtures to stay in contention at the Sultan of Johor Cup.

Tearful Naomi Osaka Battles Injury to Reach Japan Open Quarter-Finals



Naomi Osaka fought through pain and emotion to secure a hard-fought victory and reach the quarter-finals of the Japan Open on Wednesday, marking a poignant moment for the home favorite playing on Japanese soil for the first time in three years.

The top-seeded Osaka faced defending champion Suzan Lamens in a gripping three-set match, eventually winning 7-6 (8/6), 3-6, 6-2 in a contest lasting two hours and 20 minutes. Osaka's victory was marked by resilience as she battled an injury that forced a medical timeout when she was leading 5-0 in the deciding set.

During the medical break, Osaka received treatment for a left leg injury and returned to the court with heavy strapping on her thigh. Despite the discomfort, she managed to close out the match after dropping two games post-treatment. The four-time Grand Slam champion was visibly emotional, wiping away tears after hitting the winning backhand shot and later describing the match as a mentally tough battle.

"Emotionally I was going through a lot in this match,"

Osaka said. "And then in the third set I tried my best to have no regrets."

Osaka admitted she had taken painkillers to manage the pain but acknowledged the injury "doesn't feel good." She explained her limited mobility, saying, "I couldn't really move that well." However, she remains optimistic about her recovery, adding, "It's not good, but I think I'm a fast healer so it should be OK for my next match."

The 27-year-old Osaka is returning to competitive tennis after a strong showing at the US Open, where she reached the semi-finals before losing to Amanda Anisimova. This marks her first major tournament progress beyond the second week since she won her second Australian Open title in 2021.

Osaka will next face Romania's Jaqueline Cristian in the quarter-finals, hoping to continue her comeback despite the injury setback. Fans and analysts alike are keenly watching the Japanese star's performance, inspired by her grit and determination to play through adversity in front of her home crowd.

Virat Kohli Quashes ODI Retirement Rumors Ahead of Australia Series



Virat Kohli has put to rest all speculation about his One Day International (ODI) future ahead of India's upcoming series against Australia. The former captain, who has retired from Test and T20I cricket, remains active only in the ODI format. Kohli's recent cryptic social media post on X (formerly Twitter) — "The only time you truly fail, is when you decide to give up" — was widely interpreted as a response to rumors about his potential retirement.

With the 2027 ODI World Cup approaching, fans and cricket experts have been debating whether Kohli will continue representing India in the limited-overs format. Some Australian players speculated that this tour Down Under could be his last. However, sources close to the team clarified that Kohli's post was meant to silence doubts about his commitment.

During the squad announcement, chief selector Ajit Agarkar confirmed that Kohli, along with

Rohit Sharma, has been selected with the 2027 World Cup in mind. "Not as far as I know. They have met the required fitness standards and are part of our plans for the World Cup," Agarkar said. He dismissed rumors of retirement, emphasizing that the selection was based on current fitness and form.

India's head coach Gautam Gambhir also addressed the issue following India's 2-0 series win over the West Indies. He stressed the importance of focusing on the present and expressed hope that the experienced duo of Kohli and Rohit would perform well in Australia's challenging conditions. "The 50-over World Cup is still two and a half years away. Their experience will be crucial," Gambhir added.

With Kohli and Rohit both cleared for selection and committed to the team, the cricket fraternity can expect the veterans to continue their contributions in the ODI format for at least the next couple of years.

Final Destination: Bloodlines Now Streaming on Jio Hotstar



The chilling sixth installment in the popular Final Destination franchise, Final Destination: Bloodlines, has officially made its digital debut in India. The supernatural horror thriller is now streaming on JioCinema (Jio Hotstar) in multiple languages, including English, Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi, giving horror fans a wide array of options to experience the film.

Directed by Zach Lipovsky and Adam Stein, Bloodlines stars Kaitlyn Santa Juana in the lead role and has already made a strong impression at the box office, emerging as the highest-grossing film in the long-running franchise. The movie's theatrical run was especially successful in India, where horror cinema has seen a growing fanbase in recent years.

The film carries an A (Adults Only) rating due to its intense horror sequences and mature themes, staying true to the franchise's

signature mix of suspense, supernatural elements, and unexpected twists of fate.

For viewers who prefer alternate platforms, Final Destination: Bloodlines is also available on Amazon Prime Video as a pay-per-view option, allowing users to rent the film for a fee.

With its OTT launch, the film is expected to draw in a fresh wave of viewers who missed it in theatres or are eager to rewatch it from the comfort of their homes. Given its success and critical praise for delivering tense, unpredictable scares, Bloodlines may find a strong second life in the digital space.

More updates on upcoming OTT releases and streaming debuts are expected in the coming days as platforms gear up for the festive season lineup. For now, horror fans can buckle up for a terrifying ride with Final Destination: Bloodlines, now streaming on Jio Hotstar.

Mithra Mandali: Patchy Comedy That Misses the Mark



The much-hyped small-budget comedy drama Mithra Mandali, starring Priyadarshi and Niharika NM, hit the screens today (October 16, 2025). Directed by Vijayendar S, the film attempts to blend friendship, love, and chaos into a quirky narrative but ends up being a largely underwhelming ride.

The story revolves around four aimless friends — Chaitanya (Priyadarshi), Satvik (Vishnu Oi), Abhi (Rag Mayur), and Rajeev (Prasad Behara) — whose lives take a chaotic turn when Abhi and Satvik fall for the same girl, Swecha (Niharika NM), a politician's daughter. Chaitanya decides to help them, but things spiral into unexpected trouble.

While the film does deliver a few laughs, thanks mostly to Satya's hilarious cameo and Priyadarshi's comic timing, the humor is inconsistent. Satya, with his unique characterization, stands out and injects much-needed en-

ergy whenever he's on screen.

The first half offers some light-hearted fun, but the second half loses steam quickly. A self-aware opening that jokes about the absence of a solid story doesn't do enough to excuse the lack of engaging content. The plot meanders, with scattered comic moments that fail to connect due to weak writing and poor editing.

Technically, RR Dhruvan's music and Siddharth SJ's cinematography are decent, but they can't compensate for the lack of narrative grip. The editing by Peekay feels sluggish, especially in the second half.

In summary, Mithra Mandali is a mixed bag that tries to emulate successful comedies like Jathi Ratnalu but falls short. Despite a few enjoyable scenes and a committed cast, the film fails to maintain interest, making it a forgettable experience.

Rating: 2.5/5 – A few laughs, but not enough to save the film.

Khalifa Glimpses Unveiled on Prithviraj's Birthday

Malayalam superstar Prithviraj Sukumaran turned a year older today, and his fans were in for a special treat. To mark the occasion, the makers of his upcoming film Khalifa unveiled the first glimpse of the highly anticipated gangster drama.

Titled "The Bloodline," the teaser introduces Prithviraj in a fierce and intense avatar as Aamir Ali, a powerful gangster operating in the world of the gold mafia. The visuals are gripping, hinting at a dark and gritty narrative packed with action, betrayal, and power struggles.

Directed by Vaishakh, Khalifa promises to be a stylish action entertainer with a fresh backdrop rarely explored in Malayalam cinema. The film is set in the murky underworld of gold smuggling and mafia networks, and Prithviraj's character seems to be at the heart of it all.

The film is being jointly produced by Jinu V. Abraham and Suraj Kumar, with music by Jakes Bejoy, whose pulsating background score in the teaser has already caught the attention of fans. The technical team and production values showcased in the glimpse suggest a high-budget venture with pan-Indian appeal.

Khalifa is slated for a grand release in 2026 during the Onam festival season, making it one of the most awaited Malayalam films of the coming year. With Prithviraj playing a never-before-seen gangster role, expectations are sky-high.

The teaser has already gone viral across social media, with fans and



film buffs lauding the slick visuals, intense tone, and Prithviraj's commanding screen presence.

As anticipation builds, Khalifa looks set to be a landmark film in Prithviraj Sukumaran's career and a major highlight of Malayalam cinema in 2026. The teaser has already caught the attention of fans. The technical team and production val-

ues showcased in the glimpse suggest a high-budget venture with pan-Indian appeal.

Khalifa is slated for a grand release in 2026 during the Onam festival season making it one of the most awaited Malayalam films of the coming year. With Prithviraj playing a never-before-seen gangster role, expectations are sky-high.

The teaser has already gone viral across social media, with fans and film buffs lauding the slick visuals, intense tone, and Prithviraj's commanding screen presence.

As anticipation builds, Khalifa looks set to be a landmark film in Prithviraj Sukumaran's career and a major highlight of Malayalam cinema in 2026.

Mahesh Babu to Launch Trailer of 'Jatadhara'



Superstar Mahesh Babu is all set to launch the theatrical trailer of the much-anticipated socio-mythological film Jatadhara, adding significant momentum to the movie's already growing buzz. Known for supporting promising content, Mahesh's involvement is expected to give the film a wider reach and elevate its visibility among audiences.

Jatadhara features Sudheer Babu in the lead, portraying a fierce devotee of Lord Shiva who takes on the forces of evil. Making her Telugu cinema debut, Bollywood actress Sonakshi Sinha plays the antagonist, adding an intriguing twist to the film's narrative. The unusual casting and powerful character arcs have already captured the attention of moviegoers.

Directed by Venkat Kalyan and Abhishek Jaiswal, the film promises a visually rich and spiritually engaging experience. The story reportedly delves into the mystical secrets and hidden treasures of

ancient Indian temples, a concept rarely explored at this scale in Indian cinema.

Produced by Umesh Kumar Bansal and Prerna Arora, Jatadhara is being made on a grand scale, with elaborate sets, VFX, and a multi-language release plan. The promotional material released so far — including the teaser and posters — has struck a chord with fans, who are now eagerly awaiting the trailer drop.

The film is slated for a theatrical release on 7th November 2025, and will be released in multiple languages, aiming for a pan-India audience. With Mahesh Babu backing the trailer release, expectations are sky-high for this epic.

As the countdown begins, all eyes are now on the trailer launch, which is expected to showcase the film's grandeur, intense performances, and its spiritual-meets-action theme that could set new benchmarks in Indian mythological storytelling.



STR's Arasan Becomes Saamrajyam in Telugu; Jr NTR Lends Voice for Promo Salman Khan in?

Silambarasan TR (STR) and acclaimed director Vetri Maaran have teamed up for the much-anticipated Tamil film Arasan, which now officially has a Telugu title — Saamrajyam. The makers revealed the update today, along with an exciting surprise for Telugu fans.

Adding star power to the project, none other than Jr NTR has lent his voice for the Telugu promo of Saamrajyam, which is set to be unveiled tomorrow (October 17, 2025) at 10:07 AM. The Tamil version of the promo will also be released simultaneously.

Saamrajyam marks STR's 49th film and brings together some of the most talented names in the industry. Though the full cast is yet to be officially confirmed, reports suggest that Samantha Ruth Prabhu is in talks to play the female lead, raising expectations even further.

The film is being bankrolled by noted producer Kalaipuli S. Thanu

under the prestigious banner V Creations. Known for delivering intense, hard-hitting cinema, director Vetri Maaran is reportedly helming Saamrajyam as a two-part epic, promising a grand cinematic experience.

With Jr NTR lending his voice to the promo, the Telugu version is expected to gain massive traction. The collaboration between STR and Vetri Maaran, combined with NTR's involvement, has sparked a wave of excitement among fans across both Telugu and Tamil industries.

More details about the storyline, cast, and release plans are expected soon. For now, all eyes are on tomorrow's promo release, which will offer the first glimpse into this high-profile project.

Stay tuned for the Saamrajyam promo launch at 10:07 AM on October 17 — a moment set to kick off the reign of STR's next cinematic chapter.