

JEE Main 2026 to Be Held in Two Phases

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 19: The Nta (National Testing Agency) Has Provided A Key Update For The Lakhs Of Students Preparing For The Jee Main 2026 Examination, Releasing The Schedule For The Computer-Based Test (Cbt) Which Is Set To Be Held In Two Sessions. Session 1 Of The Exam Is Tentatively Scheduled Between January 21 And 30, While Session 2 Will Take Place Between April 1 And 10. However, The Nta Announced That The Exact Dates For These Examinations Will Be Revealed Later. Online Applications For Session 1 Are Expected To Be Available On The Official Website Start-



ing This Month (October), With Applications For Session 2 Beginning From The Last Week Of January. The Nta Also Stated Its Commitment To Increasing The Number Of Exam Cities Nationwide To Accommodate The Large Number Of Applicants And Highlighted That Special Attention Is Being Paid To Address The Needs Of Divyang (Differently-Abled) Candidates. To Ensure A Smooth Application Process And Prevent Rejections, The Nta Urged All Eligible Candidates To Update Necessary Documents



Beforehand. Critically, Candidates Must Ensure Their Aadhaar Card Details (Name, Date Of Birth, Latest Photograph, Address, And Father's Name) Match Their 10th Class Certificate. Divyang Candidates Must Have A Valid And Renewed Udid Card, And All Applicants Must Possess A Valid And Updated Category Certificate (Ews/Sc/St/Obc-Ncl). The Nta Director (Examinations) Requested Students To Consistently Check The Official Websites, www.nta.ac.in And <https://jeemain.nta.nic.in>, For The Latest Information.

Uttam Reddy Vows to Defend Secularism, Slams Governor Over BC Bill

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 19: Irrigation And Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N. Uttam Kumar Reddy Reiterated The Congress Party's Unwavering Commitment To Secularism, Social Justice, And Inclusive Governance At The 35th Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Yatra Commemoration At Charminar, Hyderabad. The Minister Recalled That Both Indira Gandhi And Rajiv Gandhi Chose Hyderabad To Launch Messages Of Peace And National Unity, Emphasizing That The Congress Continues To Uphold That Vision. He Praised Senior Congress Leader T. Niranjan (Now Chairman Of The Bc Commission) For His Decades-Long Persistence In Organiz-

ing The Commemoration Despite The Previous Brs Government's Efforts To Deny Permission. The Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award Was Presented To Senior Congress Leader And Former Union Minister Salman Khurshid, Whom Reddy Lauded For His Distinguished Political Legacy And A Life That Embodies The Values Of Peace And Unity. Reddy Also Highlighted The Congress-Led Government's Landmark Decision To Introduce 42% Reservations For Backward Classes (Bcs) Across Telangana, Asserting It As A Scientifically Grounded Initiative Based On A Massive Household Survey, With The Law Covering Local Bodies, Education, And Employment. However, He Sharply Criticized The Governor For With-

holding The Bc Reservation Bill, Passed Unanimously By The Telangana Assembly, Calling The Delay Unjustified And Urging The Public To Question Those Obstructing Its Implementation. Finally, He Issued A Strong Critique Of The Bjp-Led Central Government For Allegedly Attempting To Divide India Along Religious Lines, Declaring That The Congress Party Will Continue To Resist These Divisive Forces And Uphold Secularism As Essential For National Unity And Progress. The Minister Concluded By Paying Tribute To The Sacrifices Of Indira Gandhi And Rajiv Gandhi And Stating That The Annual Commemoration Serves To Keep Their Ideals Alive, Urging People To Stay United And Reject Hatred.

Is It An End Or A Break For The Reds?

CONTINUED FROM >>P1

Insurgency, after all, never rises in a vacuum. It feeds on unaddressed injustices-land dispossession, denied rights, absent services, and a sense of state neglect. Unless these roots are tackled with sincerity, the cycle of conflict can easily be reborn under new flags. The question, then, is not just whether the red banners have fallen, but whether the conditions that once raised them have truly changed. India's response must blend firmness with empathy. Security operations may dismantle armed groups, but development, inclusion, and justice alone can prevent the next generation from picking up arms. Fair access to land, transparent



policing, swift justice, and political space for dissent are essential to lasting peace.

Ultimately, the Maoist story is a mirror held up to Indian democracy—it asks whether the republic can deliver justice to its remotest citizens. If it can, the red fight will fade into history as a painful but transformative chapter. If not, its embers may yet smoulder under new names, waiting for the wind to rise again.

Land Is Our Birth Mother: CM Urges Surveyors to Guard Farmers' Rights

CONTINUED FROM >>P1

coming to power. According to that promise, he affirmed that immediately after forming the government, they provided Liberation From The Dharani Ghost.

The CM also touched upon the broader governance record, noting that the Previous Rulers Neglected Employment Recruitment for ten years. He contrasted this with the current "People's Government," which has undertaken the Employment Recruitment Process and is now

witnessing the Joy In The Eyes Of The Unemployed Youth.

Reiterating the government's long-term vision, Revanth Reddy stated that the primary objective is to transform Telangana into a 3 Trillion Dollar Economy by 2047. He called for the cooperation of the surveyors to move in this direction. He concluded his address by affirming that the "Farmer Is The Backbone Of The Nation" and urged the surveyors to Stand By The Farmers and be Partners In The Development Of Telangana.

Naxal-Free India by March 2026, Vows Kishan Reddy

CONTINUED FROM >>P1

Reddy emphasized the success of government initiatives, which have reduced the number of Naxal-Affected Districts from 125 A Decade Ago to just 11 Today. He expressed hope that these remaining districts would soon be classified as Naxal-Free. Reiterating the government's stance against armed

rebellion, he stated, "The Constitution Authored By Ambedkar Has No Place For Violence. Citizens Can Freely Express Their Opinions Through Peaceful Means." He underscored that the message has been made clear once again: "Nothing Can Be Achieved Through Violence Or Bloodshed."

Telangana to Observe 10-Day Tribute for Police Martyrs

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 19: Director General Of Police (Dgp) Shri B. Shivdhar Reddy, Ips, Announced In A Press Statement On Sunday That The Police Martyrs' Commemoration Day Will Be Observed On October 21 At The Goshamahal Police Stadium In Hyderabad. The Program Will Commence At 9:30 Am, With Chief Minister Shri A. Revanth Reddy Set To Attend And Address The Event At 10:00 Am, Following A Police Parade. The Dgp Also Detailed A Ten-Day Series Of Commemoration Programs To Be Held Across The Entire Telangana State From October 21 Until October 31 (National Unity Day). This Year, The Programs Will Honor 191 Police Personnel Across India Who Sacrificed Their Lives In The Line Of Duty, Including Five From The Telangana Police. The Historical Significance Of The Day, Which Marks The Martyrdom Of Crpf Personnel During A Chinese Attack At Hot Springs, Ladakh, On October 21, 1959, Was Also Highlighted. The 10-Day Activities Include The Publication



Of A Booklet By Telangana Suraksha Detailing The Bravery Of The State's Martyrs And The Display Of Hoardings/ Banners In Prominent Areas. The Police Will Hold "Open Houses" (Both Physical And Virtual) To Educate The Public, Students, And Youth Groups On Modern Policing Initiatives Such As She Teams And Cctv Systems. Awareness Competitions Include Online Essay Writing For Students In Telugu, Urdu, And English On The Theme Of The "Drugs Menace" And The Role Of Police And Students In Prevention, As Well As Short Film And Photography Contests On Police Work. Essay Competitions Will Also Be Held For All Ranks Of Police Personnel On Internal Matters Like "Gender Discrimination At The Work-

place" And "Strengthening Of Ground-Level Policing." Between October 22 And 24, Officials Will Visit The Families Of The Deceased Personnel To Address Their Welfare Issues And Pending Matters, And Tributes Will Be Offered At The Martyrs' Statues And Photos In Their Native Villages. Other Public Engagement Activities Include Voluntary Blood Donation Camps Across The State, Cycle Rallies From October 25 To 27 Symbolizing Peace And Unity, And Police Band Performances In Public Spaces Like Tank Bund Every Weekend. The Dgp Requested The Public And Media To Participate In These Programs To Honor The Profound Sacrifices Made By The Police Force For Peace And Security In The State.

Revanth Slams BRS-BJP Nexus, Seeks Lower Age Limit for Poll Contest

CONTINUED FROM >>P1

the state. He warned that the BRS is now employing the same political strategy to Split Votes in the upcoming Jubilee Hills By-Election, and suggested that the next Assembly Elections will also be marked by BRS And Bjp Collusion Politics. The Chief Minister Appealed To Voters To Foil the BRS's attempt to split votes in the by-election.

Reiterating the crucial role of youth in the country's politics, Revanth Reddy emphasized the Need Of The Hour to Amend The Indian Constitution to Reduce The

Age Limit to 21 Years for contesting in Assembly Elections. He praised Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for strengthening the parliamentary democratic spirit by Providing Adult Franchise At 18 Years, which made youth active participants in Indian Politics.

Commemorating the event, CM Revanth Reddy recalled the Sadbhavana Yatra undertaken by Rajiv Gandhi to safeguard National Integrity. He stated that the program is being organized to Continue The Spirit of Rajiv Gandhi and congratulated the organizers for presenting

the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award to Senior Congress Leader Salman Khurshid. The CM also spoke highly of the Gandhi Family, noting that the word 'Gandhi' is synonymous with India and has inspired the entire country. He paid tribute to the sacrifices of Iron Lady Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi for the sake of the country's integrity, and commended Rahul Gandhi for continuing their legacy through the Bharat Jodo Yatra. The CM concluded by calling the Three Generations Of The Gandhi Family a Big Inspiration to the country.

Drunk Drivers Fined Over ₹6 Lakh in Hyderabad Crackdown

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 19: A Total Of 212 Individuals Who Were Booked For Drunk Driving In Hyderabad Were Produced Before The Metropolitan Magistrate Court In Nampally On Sunday, October 19. These Offenders Were Caught During Checks Conducted On October 18 Under The Jurisdictions Of The Abids, Chikkadpally, Saifabad, And Gandhinagar Traffic Police Stations. The Court Imposed A Total Fine Of Rs 6,79,600 In These Cases. Of The Offenders, Twen-



ty-Five (25) Were Sentenced To Imprisonment Along With A Collective Fine Of Rs 99,900, While The Remaining 187 Were Fined Rs 3,100 Each. The Report Also Noted An In-

cident Where An Auto Driver, Mouzam, Created A Commotion Near The Chandrayangutta Flyover When Stopped For A Check The Previous Night.

BRS NRIs Protest in London Against Congress Rule in Telangana

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 19: Telangana Nris, Led By The Brs Nri Wing In The United Kingdom, Staged A Peaceful Protest Titled "Raise Your Voice" At The Gandhi Statue Near

Tavistock Square In London. The Demonstration, Led By Brs Nri-Uk President Naveen Reddy, Denounced The Congress Government's Rule In Telangana Over The Last 22 Months As "Undemocratic And Anarchic." The Protestors Demand-

ed The Fulfilment Of Poll Promises And Pledged To Launch A Global Campaign To Highlight The Alleged Governance Failures In The State. The Protest Saw The Participation Of Brs Supporters From Across The Uk.

Unity & Welfare Take Center Stage at Rajiv Gandhi Remembrance



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Tpsc President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud delivered a speech at the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Yatra Commemoration Day event held at Charminar, Hyderabad. The event marked the remembrance of the Sadbhavana Yatra undertaken by Rajiv Gandhi from Charminar to Secunderabad on October 9, 1990, dedicated to the cause of National Unity.

Kumar Goud highlighted the significance of the event, noting that an Award is presented annually by the Sadbhavana Committee to commemorate this journey. He expressed his pleasure that this year, the award was conferred upon the “Great Personality,” Salman Khurshid, whom he described as a “Spotless Person” and a “Guide (Margadarshi).”

Referring to the current political landscape, Mahesh Kumar Goud asserted that Rahul Gandhi is tirelessly working to realize the Ideals and Vision of Rajiv Gandhi. He then contrasted the current governance in Telangana with other states, emphasizing the unprecedented focus on Development and Welfare under the “Jana Palana (People’s Rule)” over the Last Ten Years. He made a direct comparison to Bihar, stating that there is No Welfare in that state apart from the distribution of Ten Kilograms of Coarse Rice. Conversely, he proudly stated that in Telangana, Welfare Schemes are reaching Every Family. He affirmed that the People’s Rule is solely aimed at the Welfare of the Poor. He concluded his address by asserting that Development and Welfare Schemes are being implemented in Telangana at a scale that is Unmatched Anywhere Else In The Country.

KTR: Kakatiya Mega Textile Park Symbolizes Telangana’s Rise

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19

Warangal: Brs Working President KT Rama Rao asserted that the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park in Warangal stands as a True Example of Telangana’s Rapid Progress achieved under the leadership of Former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhhar Rao. Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Rama Rao highlighted the park’s immense contribution as a Major Job Creator and Economic Contributor, particularly since the closure of the Azam Jahi Mill during the era of Erstwhile Andhra Pradesh.

He recalled that Warangal once flourished as an Industrial Hub, providing Employment to Thousands and even supplying Electricity to Warangal and Hanamkonda when the Azam Jahi Mills was operational. Rama Rao attributed the mill’s eventual closure to the Negligence of the rulers of Erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. The establishment of the Kakatiya Mega Textile Park on the same site, transforming it from a symbol of neglect into a beacon of industrial resurgence, represents the current government’s commitment to regional development.

KTR emphasized that the park has successfully created numerous Local Jobs and attracted significant investment, with prominent national and international companies like Ganesha and Kitex setting up their units within the mega park. He termed the park a Symbol of Telangana’s Industrial Progress and a testament to the effectiveness of K Chandrashekhhar Rao’s industrial policies aimed at balanced regional growth and job creation for local youth. The statement underscores the BRS party’s strategy of using large-scale projects as proof points for their governance record and to critique the past administrative failures of united Andhra Pradesh governments.

KTR Blasts Govt: Poor Homes Demolished, Rich Untouchable

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Hyderabad: Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) President KT Rama Rao (KTR) strongly criticized the government, alleging that they are Demolishing The Homes Of The Poor in the name of Encroachments. He fiercely questioned whether the Hydra enforcement agency has Demolished Even A Single House belonging to a Big Or Influential Person so far. KTR made these remarks on Sunday as several leaders from Rajendra Nagar and Jubilee Hills joined the BRS Party.

KTR commented that Hydra cannot find the path to demolish the homes of Big Leaders, while the residences of the poor are being torn down overnight, even when they possess Residential Documents. He cited specific examples, pointing out that CM Revanth Reddy’s Brother,



Tirupati Reddy’s house is situated in a Lake (Cheruvu), but the enforcement agencies will Not Touch It. He named several ruling party leaders, including Patnam Mahender Reddy’s Guest House, Ministers Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy’s and Vivek’s houses, and KVP Ramachandra Rao’s residence, all allegedly located in Lakes, stating that they are also being Ignored. He alleged that Hydra is unaware of the addresses of the rich, and that the poor are being targeted because the government believes they have No One To Question on their behalf. KTR further accused the government of Extorting Money from influential people through Intimidation. He attributed the collapse of the Real Estate Business to the government’s policies. He criticized the CM for first targeting the Rajendra Nagar Constituency after coming to power. He recalled that the BRS Cabinet had sanctioned 400 Kilometers of Metro in the 2023 Cabinet Meeting, and tenders for the Airport Metro were completed, but Revanth Reddy cancelled them after taking office. He claimed the cancellation was

driven by the suspicion that he (KTR) owned lands, an allegation also leveled against former minister Sabitha Indra Reddy regarding lands in Rajendra Nagar. KTR offered a “Bumper Offer” to Revanth Reddy: he will Write Over The Lands if the CM can Prove their existence. He said that for two years, the government has been searching for his alleged Companies and Buildings. He sarcastically referred to Minister Ponguleti as “Bombuleti,” recalling the minister’s past warning that Bombs Would Explode last Diwali. He contrasted the BRS Rule, where Industrialists were treated with respect, with the current Congress Rule, where they are being threatened. He concluded by alleging that the government is engaging in Illegal Extortion (Dhandas) instead of focusing on its mandated duties.

Congress Campaign Kicks Off: Naveen Yadav’s Wife Hits Jubilee Hills Streets

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
The campaign for the highly anticipated Jubilee Hills By-Election has officially commenced, with all major political parties taking to the streets to rally support. As part of the Congress Campaign, party candidate Naveen Yadav has actively forayed into election activities. His wife, Varsha, is spearheading a rigorous Door-to-Door Campaign in the Yousufguda Area, personally engaging with residents and seeking votes for her husband and the party. This ground-level effort highlights the party’s focus on intimate constituent outreach to secure a victory in the crucial by-poll.

Meanwhile, Film Actor Suman has also lent his support to the Congress Campaign, joining the Door-to-Door Efforts in the Yousufguda Area to endorse Naveen Yadav. Suman expressed his gratitude to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for nominating Yadav as the party candidate. He highlighted Naveen Yadav’s deep and long-standing connection with the community, emphasizing his reliability and accessibility. Suman stated that “Naveen Yadav Is Like The Son Of Every Family, A Companion In Times Of Hardship And Joy,” positioning the candidate as a grassroots leader with genuine ties to the electorate. The involvement of both the candidate’s family and a celebrity endorser signals the high stakes of the Jubilee Hills Bypoll for the Congress Party and its concerted effort to mobilize support across all demographics in the constituency.



Sabitha Indra Reddy Targets Konda Surekha Over Accused Shelter



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Hyderabad: Former Minister and Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Leader Sabitha Indra Reddy questioned Minister Konda Surekha regarding the presence of Former OSD Sumanth, an Accused in an alleged Cement Company Extortion Case, at her residence. Sabitha Indra Reddy directly asked why Sumanth was staying in Minister Surekha’s House, and whether it is Appropriate for a minister to Shelter An Accused Person.

The BRS Leader also raised several pointed questions concerning the police and the minister’s conduct during the investigation. She questioned: “Who Gave The Orders To The Police To Go To The Minister’s House?” and whether Action would not be taken if Minister Konda Surekha drove the Accused away in her Car. Sabitha Indra Reddy also demanded a full disclosure from the government, asking, “What Exactly Happened In This Matter, And Where Was The Settlement Done?”

Further escalating the issue, she referenced the internal controversy within the ruling party, asking why No Explanation was given when the Minister’s Daughter made Allegations Directly Against The Chief Minister. These comments underscore the BRS party’s attempt to highlight what they perceive as a lack of transparency and integrity in the Congress Government, specifically targeting Minister Surekha over her alleged association with an accused person in a high-profile case.

480 Drunk Drivers Nabbed in Cyberabad Night Raids

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Hyderabad: The Cyberabad Police, during rigorous Drunken Driving Checks conducted on Saturday Night, apprehended 480 Persons for driving under the influence of alcohol. The enforcement drive targeted various types of vehicles, resulting in the capture of 371 Two-Wheelers, 19 Three-Wheelers, 85 Four-Wheelers, and Five Heavy Vehicle Drivers. This high number of arrests highlights the persistent issue of drunk driving across the metropolitan area, necessitating continuous and stricter road safety enforcement.

A detailed breakdown of the locations shows that the highest number of offenders, 82, were caught by the Miyapur Police. This was closely followed by the Jeedimetla Police with 54 arrests, Shamshabad with 44, Rajendranagar with 40, and both Shadnagar and Gachibowli recording 38 cases each. The statistics indicate a widespread problem, not confined to specific zones but prevalent across different sectors under the Cyberabad Commissionerate.

Age-wise analysis reveals that the majority of the offenders belong to the younger and mid-age groups, considered the most productive segment of the workforce. The highest figure, 180 individuals, fell within the 21 to 30 Years age bracket, while 177 persons were aged between 31 and 40 Years. Troublingly, the severity of intoxication was particularly high for a small group: 19 Individuals were recorded with a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) Level Above 301 mg/100 ml, which is significantly higher than the legally permissible limit, highlighting instances of extreme reckless driving. The ongoing crackdowns are intended to serve as a strong deterrent and enforce road safety regulations strictly.

HYDRAA Swaps Flood Gear for Cricket Gear

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Hyderabad: HYDRAA (Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Protection Authority), the agency known for its rigorous crackdown on the Encroachment of Government Lands in the city, took a moment to Relax today. Hydra staff, who constantly strive to provide a better quality of life for the city's residents, took a break to enjoy a game of Cricket. The staff, who were tirelessly dealing with the Rainy Season Flood Troubles, enjoyed a lively time playing cricket as the rains subsided.

The Hydra Staff, who have been busy protecting Government Lands, Parks, Lakes, Drains (Nalas), and Roads, along with other spaces intended for Public Use, hit Sixes with their bats during the cricket match. The game was held under the Floodlights at the Hydra Sports Ground in Fathullaguda, creating a lively atmosphere. The Assets Protection and Disaster Management wings within Hydra formed Two Teams and competed fiercely in the cricket match, making it an intense and entertaining contest. This recreational activity provided a much-needed respite for the personnel, allowing them to de-stress after continuous work in flood management and the crucial task of asset protection across the Hyderabad metropolitan area.

Revanth Pledges Full Govt Support to Yadav Community



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Chief Minister Shri A Revanth Reddy assured the Yadav Community of All Kinds of Support from the Government, stating that the community is being given prominence in providing both Political Opportunities and extending the benefits of All Welfare Schemes. The Chief Minister participated in the "Sadar Sammelan" organized by the Sri Krishna Sadar Sammelan Utsav Committee in Hyderabad today.

The Chief Minister expressed his readiness to address All the Grievances of the Yadav Community and assured them that he is Always Available to meet whenever the community wishes to do so. He further stated that even if Delayed, the Government will provide Every Political Opportunity and give Due Respect to the community. The CM appealed to the Yadavs to extend their Cooperation for the Development of Hyderabad.

Cm Revanth Reddy highlighted the trust and reliability associated with the community, referencing the popular proverb: "Yadavonka Khadar," meaning the Yadav Community is synonymous with Trust and Reliance. He recalled the Pivotal Role played by the community in the Formation and Development of Telangana State. He also proudly mentioned that the People's Government has declared Sadar Utsav as a State Festival and has provided Funds for its celebration, thereby recognizing its cultural and social significance. This participation and assurance underline the Congress Government's strategic outreach to the important Yadav and broader BC Communities in the state.

Liquor License Deadline Extended After BC Bandh Disruption

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 19th
Hyderabad: The Prohibition and Excise Department has extended the last date for filing applications for Liquor Shop Licenses to October 23rd, following an appeal from officials due to the BC Bandh. Accordingly, the subsequent Draw of Lots for the licenses would now be held on October 27th.

As per the initial schedule issued by the department, Saturday (October 18th) was set as the final day for submitting applications. However, Deputy Commissioners from key districts, including Rangareddy, Warangal, Nizamabad, Mahabubnagar, and Medak, informed the department that the BC Bandh on Saturday significantly

ly disrupted Public Transport and Banking Services across the state. They urged the department to grant an Extension for filing applications to ensure a Fair Opportunity is provided to all prospective applicants who may have been prevented from completing the process due to the widespread disruption. The Excise Department accepted this appeal, acknowledging the impact of the Bandh on public services. It is noted that while the number of applications received for the licenses this term has Dropped Sharply compared to the previous term, the Higher Application Fees levied by the government have resulted in a notable Increase in Overall Revenue generated through the application process.



Kavitha Launches 'Jagruthi Janam Baata' After Tirumala Visit



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Telangana Jagruthi President Kalvakuntla Kavitha announced that she is launching the "Jagruthi Janam Baata" program from October 25th, following her visit to the Tirumala Srivari Temple. Kavitha stated that she and her husband, Anil, prayed to Lord Srivaru for the Success of this program, which is scheduled to run for Four Months.

Kavitha and her husband Anil visited Tirumala on Sunday and had a Darshan of the Lord during the VIP Break Darshan time. They were welcomed by Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) officials, who made arrangements for their darshan. After the darshan, the couple was

Blessed by the priests in the Ranganayakula Mandapam and presented with Swami's Teertha Prasadam. The timing of this temple visit and the announcement of a four-month-long public outreach program is significant, coming shortly after Kavitha's Suspension from the BRS Party and her subsequent resignation from her MLC Post and Primary Party Membership.

The "Jagruthi Janam Baata" program is widely seen as a major step in her political re-engagement, aiming to connect directly with the people and build a new platform, potentially leveraging the Telangana Jagruthi organization outside the traditional party structure.

Bullet Found at Moosapet Metro; Cops Probe Source

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
Hyderabad: A 9 mm Bullet was recovered over to the Police. A Case was registered at the Kukatpally Police Station based on a complaint by Metro Security Officials, and the police have launched an Investigation to determine how the Bullet came into the passenger's possession. A Police Officer stated they are questioning the youth, who resides in Pragathinagar.

The incident came to light when Mohammed, a native of Bihar who works in a Fabrication Unit in Hyderabad, placed his bag for screening before boarding the metro. Security personnel at the station noticed the Bullet during the luggage screening and immediately alerted higher officials. The passenger was Detained and handed over to the Police. A Case was registered at the Kukatpally Police Station based on a complaint by Metro Security Officials, and the police have launched an Investigation to determine how the Bullet came into the passenger's possession. A Police Officer stated they are questioning the youth, who resides in Pragathinagar.

The Moosapet Metro Station had witnessed a security breach just last month when a 19-Year-Old Girl was injured in a Stabbing Incident allegedly perpetrated by her 20-Year-Old Boyfriend. The accused, reportedly upset because the victim was avoiding him due to his Alcohol Addiction, allegedly stabbed the woman in the stomach with a Blade in a fit of rage. Police investigations revealed that the two had studied together at a Government School in Moosapet until Class

10 and maintained a relationship, which turned sour due to the Alcohol Addiction. Meanwhile, in Nizamabad Town of Telangana, the police continued their Hunt for the accused who allegedly Killed a Police Constable. Constable E Pramod (42), along with his nephew, went to arrest Riyaz, a Habitual Offender, in connection with a Bike Theft Case on the night of October 17th. The accused was made to sit between Pramod and his nephew

while they were riding the bike. The 24-Year-Old Accused suddenly attacked Pramod with a Knife. When Pramod's Nephew tried to intervene, the accused stabbed him as well. Two Aides of Riyaz arrived on a bike and took him away, attacking a Sub-Inspector who tried to stop them. Pramod was pronounced Dead at the hospital, while his Nephew is undergoing treatment.

Congress Will Fulfil Rahul's BC Quota Dream': Mahesh Kumar Goud

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th
TPcc President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, along with Government Advisor Shabir Ali, Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, and Former MP Hanumantha Rao, participated in the Sadar Sammelan Program organized by the Sri Krishna Sadar Sammelan Utsav Committee at NTR Grounds in Hyderabad.



During the event, the TPCC Chief extended his Greetings to all the Yadav Brothers who attended the Sadar Festival. He remarked that the Sadar Festival is a Symbol of Unity and Pride for the Yadav Community. Mahesh Kumar Goud emphasized the crucial importance of Livestock and Cattle

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Bhatti Vows World-Class Education, Inspects Young India School



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka conducted an inspection of the Young India Integrated Residential School, which is currently under construction in Lakshmipuram Village of Bonakal Mandal in the Madhira Constituency. The Deputy Chief Minister issued clear directives to the officials, stating that there should be No Compromise at any stage of the construction process.

Bhatti Vikramarka engaged in a detailed discussion with the officials regarding the plans for laying Roads to ensure proper connectivity to the Young India School. He stressed the importance of strictly adhering to the Approved Plan for the construction and ensuring that All Necessary Facilities and Amenities are comprehensively provided as per the initial design. Furthermore, he gave explicit instructions that the Quality of Materials being used for the construction should not be compromised under any circumstances, emphasizing the government's commitment to building a Durable and High-Quality institution.

To expedite the project, the Deputy Chief Minister suggested that the contractors should Speed Up The Construction Work and immediately arrange for the required Workforce to be deployed at the site. He personally examined the Foundations of the school and reviewed the Construction Plan in detail. He also toured the construction site along with the officials to inspect the ongoing progress and ensure compliance with the quality standards.

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka remarked that "Education Is The Greatest Wealth We Can Offer To Future Generations." He highlighted that the "People's Government" has initiated the establishment of these integrated schools with the vision of providing World-Class Education to the children of Telangana. He firmly asserted that the government will Not Compromise On Education under any circumstances, underscoring the priority placed on delivering Quality Education With International Standards.

Justice Chelameswar Presents Trophies at All India Sub-Junior Badminton Finale



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

The Yonex Sunrise All India Sub Junior Under-13 Ranking Badminton Tournament, which saw fierce competition over six days, concluded on Sunday at the Chetan Anand Badminton Academy in Ameenpur, Sangareddy District. Badminton players from Across The Country participated in the prestigious tournament.

The Academy successfully managed a total of 1029 Events, including 511 Matches in Boys' Singles, 143 in Boys' Doubles, 287 in Girls' Singles, and 79 Matches in Girls' Doubles.

The successful completion of such a large number of events highlights the organizational capability of the academy and the keen interest in badminton across the sub-junior category in India. Former Supreme Court Justice Jasti Chelameswar participated as the Chief Guest in the concluding ceremony. He, along with former international badminton player Chetan Anand, presented the Trophies to the winners. On this occasion, Justice Chelameswar reminisced about the past, recalling, "We Did Not Have Such Facilities For Sports During Our Student Days." He expressed his opinion that modern, state-of-the-art centers like the Chetan Anand Badminton Academy are immensely beneficial, helping athletes advance to the National and International Levels. He praised the academy's facilities, asserting that they will undoubtedly contribute significantly to the Development of Athletes in the country. The presence of a distinguished figure like Justice Chelameswar highlights the importance of integrating sports and education for holistic development.

Karimnagar Liquor License Applications See Dip



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

Karimnagar: A total of 7,079 Applications have been filed for Liquor Shops across the Erstwhile Karimnagar District in the current licensing round. This figure marks a Decline of 3,630 Applications compared to the number received during the previous licensing term. The drop in applications comes despite the state government's decision to Hike The Application Fee from Rs 2 Lakh to Rs 3 Lakh this time around.

Despite the fall in the number of applications received, the Revenue Collected by the government from the application fees has shown Not Much Change. During the last licensing term, the State Government had earned Rs 214.18 Crore from the application fees. In the current term, despite the substantial increase in the application fee per individual, the government collected only a slightly lower amount, totaling Rs 212 Crore. This indicates that the higher fee structure compensated significantly for the drop in participation, keeping the overall revenue figure close to the previous term's earnings. To provide a fair opportunity to all applicants, especially following disruptions caused by the BC Bandh, the Deadline for filing applications has been Extended to October 23rd. The overall trend suggests that while fewer individuals or groups are opting to participate in the lucrative liquor license bidding process, the increased cost ensures a consistent stream of revenue for the state exchequer.

Sudden Rain Drenches Maize Crops, Farmers Face Loss in Narsampet

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

Narsampet: A heavy Downpour that struck Narsampet in Warangal District during the afternoon severely damaged the Maize Crops that farmers had spread out for drying at the Local Agricultural Market. The unexpected and continuous rain soaked the maize, causing significant distress to the farmers. The farmers were caught off guard as they were in the process of Piling Up the maize, which they had been drying in the market yard, when the Rain Started Suddenly. This untimely rain led to the maize being completely drenched, turning the market into a scene of hurried activity as farmers frantically tried to Salvage their crops from the Floodwater that began to accumulate and carry the maize away. The damage to the dried maize has caused Great Anxiety among the farmers, as the crops losing their quality and value will result in substantial Financial Losses. The incident underscores the vulnerability of farmers to unseasonal weather events, even when crops are brought to market for sale.



Cops Nab Rowdy Sheeter in Constable Pramod Murder Case



TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

Hyderabad: The Telangana Police, on Sunday, October 19th, successfully arrested the Rowdy Sheeter Riyaz, who had been on the run since the brutal stabbing and murder of Constable Pramod (48). Riyaz was traced to the outskirts of Sarampur Village, where he was found Hiding In A Lorry Cabin for two days. Based on a crucial Tip-Off, Nine Police Teams were immediately deployed, setting up a Picket Line For 25 Kilometers in the vicinity and conducting a thorough search, which made it impossible for the accused to escape.

On Sunday, when Riyaz attempted to flee, the police resorted to firing, and he was subsequently Shot And Arrested. The arrest brings to an end the manhunt for Riyaz, a notorious offender who has a Bounty of Rs 50,000 on his head and has More Than 30 Cases registered against him across Seven Police Stations in Telangana. The incident that shocked the state occurred on October 17th. Constable Pramod, attached to the Central Crime Station (CCS), had caught Riyaz in connection with a Bike Theft Case in Nizamabad City. Pramod was riding the bike with his nephew as a pillion, with Riyaz seated between them. As they approached Vinayaka Nagar, the Rowdy Sheeter suddenly attacked Pramod with a Knife on his chest. Pramod's Nephew was also stabbed while attempting to save his uncle. Circle Inspector Srinivas Raj, along with Nizamabad 4 Town SI Srikanth, immediately rushed Constable Pramod to the Government General Hospital, but doctors unfortunately pronounced him Dead On Arrival. The Gruesome Murder had sent shockwaves through the Telangana Police Force, prompting Director General of Police (DGP) Shivdhar Reddy to order the Nizamabad Commissioner to deploy special teams for the immediate arrest of Riyaz.



Water Tank Collapse in Chityal Claims Mother and Son

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

Chityal: A tragic incident occurred in Peddakaparthi Village of Chityal Mandal, Nalgonda District, where a Mother and Son lost their lives after a Water Tank Collapsed on Saturday Night. The water tank had been installed on the roof of a Sheet Metal Shed being used as a Hotel. The family had made arrangements to Inaugurate The Hotel on Sunday and decided to stay there on Saturday Night.

However, due to the Excessive Weight placed on the sheet metal roof, the Water Tank Suddenly Collapsed. The collapse resulted in the death of the mother, P. Nagamani (32), and her son, Vamsi Krishna (6). Two other individuals sustained Injuries in the tragic incident. The local community was deeply saddened by the loss of life just before the planned opening of the new business. The incident serves as a stark reminder of the potential dangers associated with makeshift or inadequately supported constructions. Local authorities have initiated an inquiry into the matter.

Tragic NH Crash in Asifabad Kills Three Ahead of Diwali

TPN BUREAU, HYD, oct 19th

Asifabad: A horrific Road Accident occurred on Sunday Afternoon in Komaram Bheem Asifabad District. The tragedy took place on the National Highway near Mothuguda in Asifabad Mandal when a Car Collided with a Bike, resulting in the Instant Death of Three Individuals at the scene.

The incident involved a young man from Bendaram Village in Vankidi Mandal who was traveling with his Sister and her Children to their village for the upcoming Diwali Festival. The high-speed collision instantly claimed the lives of Jagan (27), his sister Anasuya (32), and her son Pragmasheel (4). Another young child sustained Severe Injuries and was immediately rushed to the Kagaznagar Hospital for urgent medical treatment. The local police swiftly took the Car Driver, who was deemed responsible for the accident due to Over-Speeding, into Custody and are currently conducting an Investigation. The tragedy cast a pall of gloom over the village and the region as a family preparing for festive celebrations was shattered by the fatal crash. The police are urging the public to exercise caution and strictly adhere to Traffic Rules to prevent such devastating accidents.

Swadeshi Movement 2.0: The Strategic Path to India's Self-Reliance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has reignited the call for a modern Swadeshi movement, emphasizing that today's version is not about rejecting globalization, but about strategic self-reliance. Amid rising US tariffs on Indian goods and H-1B visa fee hikes, the government is urging citizens and industries to focus on building domestic capabilities under initiatives like 'Make in India 2.0' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

The Swadeshi movement historically fostered nationalist unity; in its modern form, it aims to instill economic confidence. With the US tariffs creating both short-term challenges and long-term opportunities, India must pivot from overdependence on a single market to building resilient, diversified trade networks. The crisis provides a chance to restructure trade, upgrade domestic industries, and position India as a reliable alternative manufacturing hub for global companies.



Instead of merely relying on slogans, leaders are encouraged to take tangible steps by promoting the consumption of Indian-made goods and incentivizing domestic production. Strengthening local demand reduces vulnerability to tariffs while enhancing bargaining power in international trade negotiations. Sectors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, textiles, auto components, and green technology present opportunities for India to attract foreign direct investment and co-manufacturing partner-

ships with allies of the US, creating new value-chain alliances. Domestic innovation is central to this vision. Investments in semiconductors, EV batteries, aerospace, defense, and high-end manufacturing are crucial, allowing India to move up the value chain beyond low-cost labor competition. Digital Swadeshi initiatives, including homegrown fintech, social media, AI, and quantum platforms, can reduce reliance on foreign technology while fostering a robust tech ecosystem. Green Swadeshi efforts in solar, hydrogen, and EV technologies further strengthen self-reliance. Agriculture and food security also form key pillars, as India can reduce imports of items like edible oil and simultaneously emerge as a global food exporter. MSMEs and start-ups will be critical drivers, generating employment and fostering innovation, leveraging India's demographic advantage of a youthful workforce.

IT Giants Prioritising Short-Term Gains Over Long-Term Innovation?

The Indian IT services sector faces a critical crossroads. Just days ago, US President Donald Trump signed a decree imposing a \$1,00,000 fee for each H-1B visa used for onshore work, raising costs and threatening the traditional labour arbitrage model that has long powered India's IT giants. Meanwhile, Infosys announced an unprecedented Rs 18,000 crore share buyback, signalling a preference for rewarding shareholders rather than investing in long-term innovation. Buybacks and high dividends can indicate a lack of profitable growth opportunities, undervaluation of shares, or a strategy to boost earnings per share. For promoter-led companies like TCS, Wipro, and HCL Technologies, dividends largely benefit promoters rather than minority shareholders, underscoring the short-term orientation.



The competitive landscape is shifting. Global capability centres (GCCs) are expanding rapidly, growing at 40 percent in FY24, compared with just 5 percent growth among India's top five IT firms. These GCCs retain intellectual property rights in-house, compete for talent, and threaten margins of traditional IT services. TCS's recent announcement to cut

12,000 jobs illustrates the sector's need to manage costs while sustaining investor confidence. This raises a crucial question: Are India's IT services companies over-reliant on labour arbitrage, at the expense of products, platforms, and intellectual property (IPR)? While buybacks, dividends, and cost-cutting satisfy shareholders in the short term, they do little to future-proof businesses in the age of AI. Surplus cash could be better deployed in developing

platforms, investing in AI-driven language models, or making strategic acquisitions—areas that generate sustainable revenues without a proportional increase in labour costs. India's IT giants must also confront five key challenges: geographic concentration risk, overemphasis on margins over volume, dependency on software services, risk-aversion in cash deployment, and short-term shareholder focus. Companies like Berkshire Hathaway demonstrate that long-

Free Speech: The Lifeblood of Public Reason and Democracy



One of the most vulnerable domains of public life today is free speech. As US Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis famously stated, public discussion is a political duty: the remedy to falsehood and harm is more speech, not enforced silence. Free speech is essential because it makes the Public, enabling citizens to participate in shaping ideas, policies, and societal norms. Yet, both totalitarian and democratic regimes increasingly curtail this freedom, revealing a worrying convergence in practice. The principle of Public Reason asserts that laws harming communities, driven by prejudice, sectarianism, or ideological motives, are illegitimate. Restrictions are justified only when speech produces actual

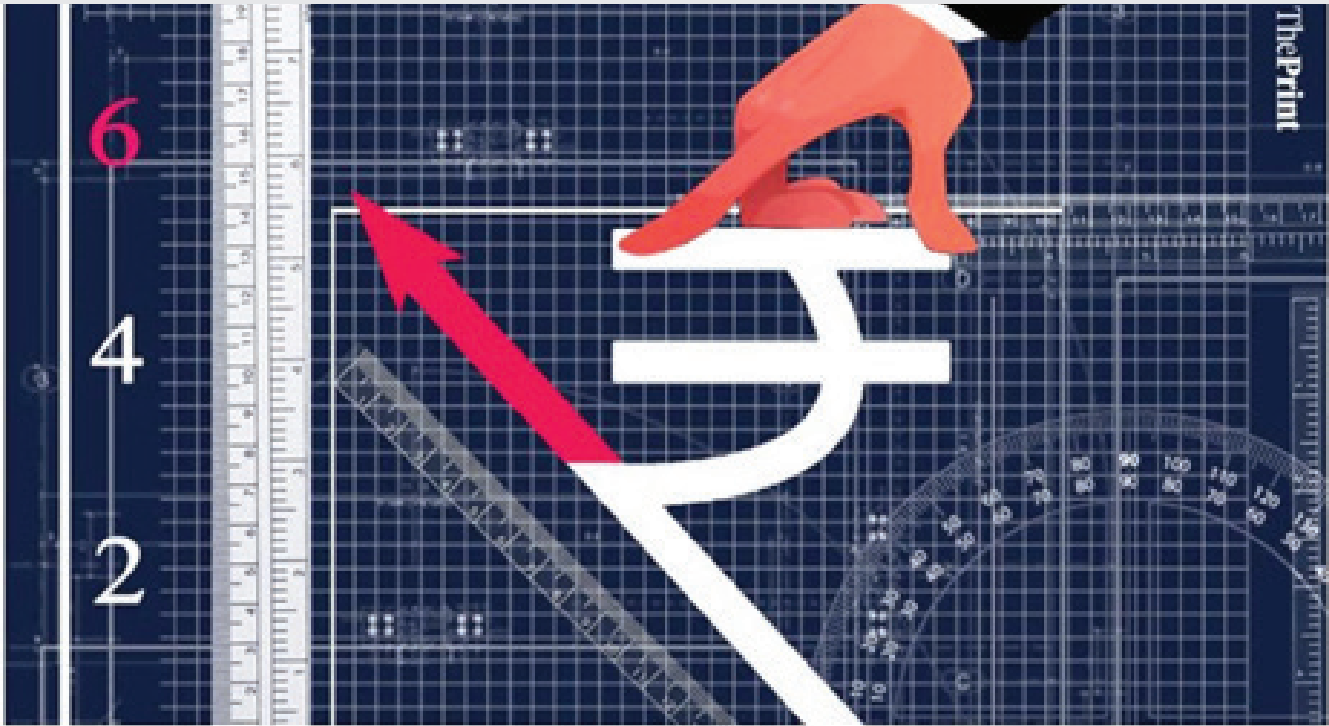
harm, such as hate speech inciting violence. What is unacceptable is viewpoint-based suppression—proscribing speech simply because it challenges the state's official stance. Legal scholar Geoffrey Stone emphasized: "The government may not restrict expression simply because it disagrees with the speaker's views." Similarly, Justice Thurgood Marshall insisted that governments cannot limit speech based on its content or ideas, for doing so undermines democratic debate. Yet, governments often justify curbs on speech citing "national interest" or "national good," ironically undermining the very public whose participation defines these concepts. Paternalistic regulation privileges certain majority interests

over the broader public, skewing discourse and shaping citizens to conform to ideological lines. Historical examples are stark: Nazi Germany's propaganda machinery and Rwanda's radio-fueled ethnic mobilization show how viewpoint suppression and orchestrated hate speech paved the way for genocide. Countering harmful speech is central to preserving Public Reason. As political scientist Katherine Gelber observes, citizens must respond to disagreeable or harmful speech, engaging in reasoned rebuttal to prevent the public from being manipulated. In Habermasian terms, the Public emerges not only through debate but through active counters to misinformation, bias, and hate speech. Silence, or non-engagement, enables manipulation and diminishes democratic life. Nobel laureate Toni Morrison reminded us: "There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal." Speaking back—continually, logically, and purposefully—is not just a civic duty; it is what sustains Public Reason and qualifies our life within a democracy. Free speech, therefore, is not merely a right—it is the lifeblood of an informed, resilient, and participatory society.

India Attracts Record Foreign Investment Despite Rupee Weakness

Global central banks are no longer moving in unison, creating a fragmented monetary landscape. The United States Federal Reserve recently cut its policy rate by 25 basis points, bringing it to a range of 4-4.25 per cent. In contrast, the European Central Bank (ECB) remains cautious, holding rates steady as it balances inflation concerns with sluggish growth. Japan continues its ultra-loose monetary policy with near-zero rates and extensive bond purchases, while China is aggressively easing policy rates to support its slowing economy. This divergence marks a clear departure from the post-pandemic trend when most central banks tightened policies collectively to combat inflation. Liquidity is now being injected in some regions while withdrawn in others, creating yield differentials that scatter capi-

tal flows rather than channeling them uniformly. Amid this global monetary complexity, the Indian rupee is under pressure, recently slipping past Rs 88 to the dollar, marking a historic low. Conventional wisdom would suggest that a weakening currency deters foreign investors, yet paradoxically, inflows into India continue unabated. Foreign portfolio investments (FPIs) surged, crossing \$14.6 billion in equities and nearly \$9-10 billion in debt in FY25. Momentum is expected to accelerate with India's inclusion in JPMorgan's Emerging Market Bond Index, which began in June 2024 and will reach full weight by March 2025, potentially attracting \$20-25 billion in debt inflows. Why do investors remain bullish despite the rupee depreciation? Three key factors stand out. First, India's relative growth advan-



Unmatched, with projected GDP growth of 6.5 per cent in FY2025, compared with 0.7 per cent in the eurozone and 0.9 per cent in the United States. Second, macroeconomic credibility matters: August

2025 inflation moderated to 4.9 per cent, within the Reserve Bank of India's target range, reflecting steady and credible policy management. Third, index-driven and structural flows provide stability, as pension funds and sovereign wealth funds allocate resources to India due to benchmark mandates rather than speculative motives. Combined, these factors explain the paradox: despite the rupee's weakness, India remains a magnet for capital. It offers relative safety compared with emerging peers like Turkey, South Africa, or Brazil and delivers higher returns than developed markets such as the US or Europe. In a world of fragmented global liquidity, India stands out as a preferred investment destination, underpinned by growth, stability, and structural inflows.



Air India to Operate Special Milan Flight to Repatriate Stranded Passengers

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

Air India announced on Sunday that it will operate a special flight from Milan to Delhi to bring back over 250 passengers stranded in Milan following the cancellation of flight AI138 on October 17 due to a technical issue with the Dreamliner aircraft.

The flight, designated AI138D, is scheduled to depart Milan at 7:00 PM local time and arrive in Delhi on the morning of October 20. The airline expedited the aircraft's repair and secured necessary approvals to operate the additional commercial flight to ensure passengers could return home in time for the Diwali festival.

The cancelled flight had left many passengers stranded in Milan, sparking complaints on social media about inadequate facilities and concerns over missing the Diwali celebrations in India. Air India responded by rebooking affected passengers on alternative flights, both with Air India and other airlines, though many faced

post-Diwali arrival dates.

In a proactive move, the airline reached out to all affected passengers, offering them the choice to either keep their current bookings or switch to the special Milan flight. One notable case involved a passenger with a Schengen visa expiring on October 20, who was re-booked on a different airline's flight on October 19 to avoid visa issues.

The original flight AI138 was operated using a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, which faced technical problems, prompting the cancellation. Air India assured passengers that the rectification process was expedited to minimize disruptions.

This special flight highlights Air India's commitment to addressing passenger concerns and ensuring safe and timely travel during the festive season. The airline continues to monitor the situation closely and aims to provide smooth travel experiences amid ongoing operational challenges.

AIMIM Announces 25 Candidates for Bihar Assembly Elections



TPN Correspondent | Chhattisgarh

The All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) has announced its list of 25 candidates for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections scheduled for November 6 and 11, with counting set for November 14.

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi's party aims to become the voice of the most oppressed communities in Bihar, according to a post shared on social media platform X. The candidate list was prepared by the AIMIM Bihar unit in consultation with the party's national leadership.

Among the candidates are Mohammed Kaif contesting from Siwan, Anas Salam from Gopalganj, Advocate Shams Agaz from Kishanganj, Rashid Khalil Ansari from Madhubani, and Mohammad Manzoor Alam from Araria, reflecting the party's focus on key constituencies.

Meanwhile, the Congress party has released its second list of candidates for the Bihar polls. The party has announced nominees for seats including Narkatiaganj, Kishanganj, Kasba, Purnia, and Gaya Town. Shaswat Kedar Pandey will contest from Narkatiaganj, and Qamrul Hoda from Kishanganj. Irfan Alam, Jitender Yadav, and Mohan Shrivasta will represent Kasba, Purnia, and Gaya Town respectively.

Earlier this month, Congress had released

its first list of 48 candidates for the elections. The party stated the remaining candidates will be declared soon.

The Bihar elections will witness a tough contest with the NDA facing the INDIA alliance led by Tejashwi Yadav's RJD, the Congress, CPI (ML), CPI, CPM, and Mukesh Sahani's Vikasheel Insaan Party. Additionally, political strategist Prashant Kishor has entered the fray with his new party Jan Suraj, adding fresh dynamics to the race.

The Mahagathbandhan coalition continues to face challenges over seat-sharing, leading to "friendly fights" in some constituencies. The battle for Bihar's 243 assembly seats promises to be intense and closely watched.

Bihar polls: PM Modi to launch campaign on Oct 24 with back-to-back rallies



TPN Bureau | Patna

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to kick off his campaign for the Bihar Assembly elections with a series of rallies starting October 24, BJP state president Dilip Jaiswal announced on Sunday.

Modi will begin his campaign by paying tribute to former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur at his birthplace, Karpoori Gram in Sa-

mastipur. Following this, the Prime Minister will address his first rally in Samastipur. Later the same day, he will hold a second rally in Begusarai.

Jaiswal highlighted Modi's stature as one of the world's leading leaders and emphasized the significance of the tribute to Karpoori Thakur, a respected figure in Bihar politics.

The Prime Minister is

scheduled to return to Bihar on October 30 for two more rallies in Muzaffarpur and Chhapra, which is the administrative headquarters of Saran district. Additional rallies are planned for November 2, 3, 6, and 7, with details to be announced soon.

The Bihar Assembly elections will be held in two phases, with voting for 121 seats on November 6 and the remaining

122 constituencies going to polls on November 11. Counting of votes will take place on November 14.

Modi's rallies come as the BJP intensifies efforts to consolidate support ahead of the crucial state elections. Bihar remains a key battleground, with the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) facing strong competition from the INDIA alliance and

other regional parties.

The election campaign is expected to be closely fought, with parties deploying their top leaders and strategists to win over voters in the 243-seat Assembly.

Prime Minister Modi's active participation signals the importance the BJP places on Bihar as it aims to retain power and expand its influence in the state's political landscape.

Amit Shah Approves 1,950 Crore Advance Flood Relief to Karnataka, Maharashtra

TPN Correspondent | Patna

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has approved the advance release of 1,950.80 crore as the second instalment of the central share of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for Karnataka and Maharashtra for the fiscal year 2025-26. This significant financial aid aims to support the two states in providing immediate relief to those affected by the heavy rains and floods during the southwest monsoon season.

Of the total amount, Karnataka will receive 384.40 crore, while Maharashtra is allocated 1,566.40 crore, according to an official statement issued on October 19. The funds are expected to be utilized for rescue operations, rehabilita-



tion, and restoration of infrastructure damaged by the floods.

This year, the central government has already released 13,603.20 crore to 27 states under the SDRF to bolster their disaster management capabilities. Additionally, 2,189.28 crore has been disbursed under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to 15 states, reflecting the government's proactive approach in addressing natural calamities across the country.

The release of these funds comes amid efforts to strengthen preparedness and resilience against recurring natural disasters. The SDRF is a key component of India's disaster management framework, enabling states to access

financial resources quickly during emergencies.

Home Minister Shah's approval underscores the Centre's commitment to supporting states in crisis and ensuring timely relief and rehabilitation for affected populations. As Karnataka and Maharashtra grapple with the aftermath of this year's monsoon, the funds are expected to expedite recovery efforts and aid in restoring normalcy for the impacted communities.

The advance release marks a vital step in disaster response coordination between the central and state governments, reinforcing the collaborative effort to mitigate the effects of extreme weather events.

Friendly Fire Likely on Bihar Seats as Congress Holds Back on Tejashwi Yadav

TPN Correspondent | Delhi

With the Bihar Assembly elections drawing near, the Opposition Grand Alliance is facing internal conflicts, setting the stage for "friendly fire" — multiple candidates from alliance parties contesting the same seats. The Congress party, in particular, is digging in its heels, withholding support for Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav as the alliance's Chief Ministerial candidate. Senior Congress leader Pawan Khara acknowledged that overlapping nominations are already occurring and suggested that while one candidate may withdraw eventually, such clashes could become the norm rather than an exception this election. "In constit-

uencies where more than one Grand Alliance candidate has filed nominations, one will be withdrawn within a day or two," he said, adding that the Chief Ministerial candidate announcement will come "at an appropriate time."

The friction is palpable in the reserved Kutumba constituency in Aurangabad district, a stronghold of Congress state president Rajesh Ram. Both Congress and RJD have fielded candidates there, with Ram contesting for Congress and former minister Suresh Paswan standing for the RJD. Both plan to file nominations on October 20, highlighting the brewing dispute.

Congress has been demanding over 70 seats in Bihar, aiming for constit-



uencies where they believe they can win, contributing to the deadlock over the seat-sharing arrangement. The party's reluctance to back Tejashwi Yadav as the alliance's face reflects deeper tensions within the Grand Alliance.

Despite assurances from Congress that a Grand Alliance government will be formed in Bihar, these internal conflicts risk undermining the opposition's chances by splitting votes in key constituencies, potentially benefit-

ing the ruling coalition.

As election day approaches, the opposition's ability to resolve these disputes and present a united front will be crucial to challenging the ruling NDA in the politically crucial state of Bihar.

Pakistan Slams ICC for 'Biased' Statement on Afghan Cricketers' Deaths



TPN Correspondent | ANTANANARIVO

Pakistan has strongly criticized the International Cricket Council (ICC) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for issuing what it calls "selective and biased" condolence statements following the deaths of three Afghan cricketers in an aerial attack in Afghanistan's Paktika province.

On October 19, 2025, the ICC and BCCI both released statements expressing sorrow over the tragic deaths but failed to mention Pakistan, which has been accused in regional media reports of being linked to the airstrike. This omission sparked outrage in Islamabad.

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Information, Ata Tarar, condemned the ICC's message, calling it "politically motivated and deeply irresponsible." Speaking in Lahore, Tarar said, "The ICC's silence on the broader context and failure to acknowledge Pakistan's perspective is not only unjustified but harmful to the spirit of international sports diplomacy."

The minister further accused the ICC of bow-

ing to pressure from the BCCI and Indian authorities, saying that cricket's global governing body should maintain neutrality, especially when commenting on sensitive geopolitical issues. "The ICC should be a platform of unity, not division. Its current posture appears to be aligned with a specific narrative," he added.

While the ICC had described the loss as a "tragedy for the cricketing world," and BCCI extended support to Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) and fans, neither body addressed the cause of the airstrike or the rising tensions in the region.

Pakistan's Foreign Office also weighed in, urging global sporting bodies to avoid making statements that could worsen diplomatic relations, particularly amid an already fragile security environment in South Asia.

The attack, which killed three domestic-level cricketers in Afghanistan, has fueled tensions between Islamabad and Kabul, with both governments trading accusations over airspace violations and cross-border militancy.

LDP, Japan Innovation Party Agree to Form Coalition Government



TPN Correspondent | Japan

In a major political shift, Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the opposition Japan Innovation Party (Ishin) have agreed to form a coalition government, according to Kyodo News. The alliance marks a significant development as it could lead to Japan appointing its first-ever female prime minister — LDP leader Sanae Takaichi.

The deal was reportedly finalized following intense negotiations after the LDP failed to secure an outright majority in recent parliamentary elections. The agreement sets the groundwork for a new coalition cabinet, replacing the previous long-standing partnership with the Komeito party.

While the coalition ensures parliamentary stability, analysts suggest the alliance may be less stable than the earlier LDP-Komeito partnership. Policy differences, particularly on fiscal and social reforms, could test the unity of the new government.

Takaichi, a conservative lawmaker and staunch supporter of

constitutional revision, is expected to face pressure balancing Ishin's reformist agenda with the LDP's traditional policies. Nevertheless, both parties have signaled a shared commitment to revitalizing Japan's economy and addressing pressing issues such as national security and demographic challenges.

This political realignment could reshape Japan's domestic and foreign policy landscape. The Japan Innovation Party, known for its populist stances and calls for deregulation, brings a fresh dynamic to the national leadership.

The potential swearing-in of Sanae Takaichi as Japan's first female prime minister would mark a historic moment in a country where women have long been underrepresented in top political roles.

Formal announcement of the cabinet lineup and policy agenda is expected in the coming days. The coalition will now seek to win public confidence amid economic pressures and regional security concerns.

US strike on drug-laden submarine: 'Saved at least 25,000 Americans,' says Trump

TPN Bureau | United States

US President Donald Trump announced a successful military strike on a drug-laden submarine headed toward the United States, claiming the operation "saved at least 25,000 American lives." The vessel, reportedly carrying large amounts of fentanyl and other illegal narcotics, was intercepted along a known drug trafficking route in the Caribbean.

Trump made the announcement on his social media platform Truth Social, stating that two "narcoterrorists" aboard were killed during the strike, while two others — from Ecuador and Colombia — survived and will be returned to their countries for prosecution. "It was my great honor to destroy a very large drug-carrying submarine," Trump wrote. "Under my watch, the United States of America will not tolerate narcoterrorists trafficking illegal drugs, by land or by sea."

The submarine was targeted on Thursday, and the surviving suspects were rescued by US forces via helicopter and taken

to a nearby Navy warship. No US personnel were harmed in the operation.

According to reports by Al Jazeera, this marks at least the sixth such strike since September on suspected smuggling vessels in the region, many believed to be originating from Venezuela. While US officials claim the campaign has dealt a significant blow to drug trafficking networks, critics have raised concerns over the lack of transparent evidence linking the casualties to actual smuggling activities.

Trump's remarks emphasized the deadly threat posed by fentanyl, a synthetic opioid that has been a major contributor to the US drug overdose crisis. "If I allowed this submarine to come ashore, at least 25,000 Americans would die," he said.

With this strike, the number of people killed in similar US-led operations has reportedly risen to 29. The administration continues to signal a hardline stance on narco-trafficking as a key pillar of national security.



'We Love America, Not Trump': Millions Rally In US 'No Kings' Protests

TPN Correspondent | US

Millions of Americans took to the streets on Saturday in a massive wave of "No Kings" protests aimed at President Donald Trump's hardline policies and increasingly authoritarian stance. From New York to Los Angeles, over 2,700 demonstrations were held nationwide, with organizers estimating participation in the millions.

The protests, branded "No Kings," are a sharp rebuke to what critics call Trump's growing disregard for democratic norms. The movement unites over 300 advocacy groups opposing recent federal actions, including the deployment of National Guard troops in cities like Washington and Memphis, attacks on the media, prosecutions of political opponents, and the ongoing government shutdown — now in its third week.

In New York, hundreds gathered early in Queens, holding signs that read "Queens Say No Kings" and "We Protest Because We Love America." Demonstrators chanted, "We love our coun-



try, we can't stand Trump!"

In Los Angeles, where 100,000 people were expected, a giant "Trump Baby" balloon floated above the crowd. Protests also took place in major cities including Chicago, Boston, Atlanta, and Washington, as well as in small towns across all 50 states and even internationally in Canada, Spain, and Sweden.

Despite the scale of the protests, Trump's response remained restrained. "They're saying they're referring to me as a king. I'm not a king," he told Fox News. However, his allies struck a combative tone, labeling the rallies as "Hate America" events and branding participants as radicals.

Activists stressed the protests were about defending democracy. "We are a country of laws that apply to everyone," said Deirdre Schifeling of the ACLU. Senator Chuck Schumer urged Americans to "speak out" and resist intimidation.

The protest marked a pivotal moment in what many are calling a battle over America's democratic soul.

Napoleonic Jewels Stolen From Louvre In Paris In Daring Sunday Heist

TPN Correspondent | Tehran

In a brazen daylight robbery, priceless Napoleonic-era jewels were stolen from Paris's iconic Louvre Museum on Sunday, prompting an emergency closure and a full-scale investigation.

The heist occurred around 9:30 am, with thieves using a hydraulic ladder to gain access through the under-construction Seine-facing side of the building. Once inside, they targeted the Apollo Gallery — home to a selection of the French Crown Jewels — and executed the theft in just seven minutes, according to France's Interior Minister Laurent Nunez.

The robbers reportedly used a disc cutter to slice through the gallery's windowpanes, suggesting thorough prior planning and possible surveillance of the museum's layout and security systems. Nine pieces from the "Napoleon and the Empress" collection were stolen, though one jewel was later discovered abandoned just outside the museum.

The Louvre, the world's most visited museum and home to over 33,000 historical artefacts including the Mona Lisa, Venus de Milo, and Winged Victory of Samothrace, cited "exceptional



reasons" for its sudden closure on Sunday. Crowds gathered outside were met with barricades and heavy police presence, while traffic in the area was regulated.

France's Culture Minister Ra-

chida Dati confirmed the robbery and said no injuries were reported. She visited the scene alongside museum officials and police. The Paris prosecutor's office has launched an investigation to assess the damage and

identify the culprits.

The Louvre has a long history of thefts, most famously the 1911 theft of the Mona Lisa by Vincenzo Peruggia, a former worker who smuggled it out under his coat. It was recovered two years

later in Florence.

As authorities work to track down the missing jewels, the daring heist has once again raised questions about the security of the world's most treasured artefacts.



SEBI Introduces Joint Inspection Framework For Brokers, DPs



In a significant regulatory move aimed at improving efficiency and strengthening market supervision, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced a Joint Inspection Framework for stock brokers and depository participants (DPs). This new framework will replace the existing practice where stock exchanges, depositories, and clearing corporations conduct separate annual inspections.

Currently, these market infrastructure institutions inspect brokers and DPs independently, often leading to overlapping efforts, duplication of resources, and a fragmented view of compliance. The introduction of a joint inspection system is expected to streamline the process, minimize redundancy, and ensure more comprehensive monitoring.

Under this framework, SEBI will coordinate a unified inspection of brokers and depository participants, with representa-

tives from the stock exchanges, depositories, and clearing corporations conducting joint visits. This collaborative approach will allow for a consolidated assessment of regulatory adherence, operational risk management,

and the financial health of these market intermediaries.

SEBI's move aims to enhance transparency, reduce compliance burden on entities, and provide regulators with a holistic understanding of brokers' and

DPs' functioning. By pooling resources and expertise, the joint inspection framework is expected to identify gaps more effectively and enforce regulatory standards consistently across the board.

Market experts believe that this framework will also speed up the inspection process, reduce costs, and improve the overall governance of market participants. Brokers and depository participants will benefit from clearer communication and consistent regulatory guidance, helping them maintain better compliance.

The framework is part of SEBI's broader efforts to modernize the capital markets infrastructure and reinforce investor protection. It aligns with global best practices where regulatory bodies increasingly favor coordinated supervision to enhance market integrity.

SEBI has yet to announce the exact implementation timeline for the joint inspection framework but assures stakeholders of a smooth transition to the new system. This initiative marks a progressive step toward a more efficient and effective regulatory ecosystem in India's financial markets.

Supreme Court to Hear Vodafone Idea AGR Plea on September 26



The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear on September 26 a fresh plea filed by telecom major Vodafone Idea Ltd seeking to quash additional adjusted gross revenue (AGR) demands for the period up to 2016-17. A bench comprising Chief Justice B.R. Gavai and Justices K. Vinod Chandran and N.V. Anjaria scheduled the hearing after taking note of submissions by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi for Vodafone Idea and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta representing the Centre.

Vodafone Idea has requested the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to "comprehensively reassess and reconcile all AGR dues for the period up to FY 2016-17" in accordance with the Deduction Verification Guidelines issued in February 2020. The company argues that there were arithmetical errors and duplicate entries in the earlier calculation of AGR dues, which, if corrected, could significantly reduce the liability.

This plea comes after the Supreme Court earlier this year refused to

review its 2021 order, which had rejected similar requests from telecom majors including Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea. The top court had held that the DoT's demand regarding AGR dues was final and barred any re-assessment or dispute by telecom operators.

The AGR issue dates back to the Supreme Court's October 2019 verdict, which held telecom companies liable for ₹93,520 crore of dues. To ease the financial burden, the court allowed a staggered payment over ten years, starting with 10% of the total dues by March 31, 2021, and annual installments from April 2021 to March 2031.

Vodafone Idea's latest plea indicates that the company is seeking a recalculation based on perceived errors, reflecting ongoing challenges for the telco sector in clearing AGR dues. The Supreme Court will consider the arguments on September 26, potentially providing clarity on the contentious issue that has affected India's telecom industry for years.

India's Electronics Exports Jump Over 47% To \$12.4 Billion



India's electronics exports witnessed a remarkable jump of over 47% year-on-year, reaching

\$12.4 billion in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2025-26, according to the India Cellular and

Electronics Association (ICEA). This strong performance highlights the country's growing

prominence in the global electronics market and reflects the robust demand for Indian-made products worldwide.

The standout segment in this export boom was mobile phones, which saw a significant 55% increase in exports. Mobile phone shipments soared from \$4.9 billion in Q1 FY25 to an estimated \$7.6 billion in Q1 FY26. This surge underscores India's emergence as a major hub for mobile phone manufacturing and exports, supported by initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme that has boosted domestic production capacity.

Other electronic products also contributed to the overall export growth, showcasing India's expanding capabilities beyond just mobile devices. The increase in electronics exports is a positive indicator of India's strides in becoming a global manufacturing and export destination for technology products.

Industry experts attribute

this growth to several factors, including improved supply chain resilience, enhanced manufacturing infrastructure, and government policies promoting local manufacturing and exports. Additionally, the rising global demand for electronics, driven by digital transformation and increasing consumer tech adoption, has created new opportunities for Indian exporters.

The electronics export surge is expected to continue in the coming quarters, further solidifying India's position in the global electronics market. The country's focus on innovation, quality manufacturing, and export promotion is likely to attract more investment and expand its share in global trade.

With the electronics sector playing a vital role in India's economic growth and job creation, this export performance marks a significant milestone and boosts optimism for sustained expansion in the years ahead.

GST 2.0 to Benefit Rural, Urban Households with Lower Rates

From September 22, over 75% of items purchased by rural Indians and 66% of items bought by urban households will attract either a nil Goods and Services Tax (GST) or a 5% rate, according to a new analysis by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI). The report, prepared by the Thought Arbitrage Research Institute (TARI) for FICCI's Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE), highlights a significant simplification and relief in the GST structure.

Currently, 56% of rural household expenditure and 50% of urban household expenditure is taxed at either nil or 5%. Under GST 2.0, the nil-rate slab will cover 29.9% of total items, accounting for 36.5% of rural expenditure and 32.9% of urban expenditure. The 5% slab will see a major expansion, comprising 40.5% of items and representing 38.8% of rural and 33.3% of urban household spending.

The 12% slab will be completely removed, while the 18% rate will reduce slightly, covering 23.1% of items and accounting for 12.3% of rural and 14.1% of urban spending. High-tax items, including those in the 28% and 40% slabs under GST 2.0, will account for a minimal share—0.5% of items and just 0.2% of rural and urban expenditure.

The study compared current GST rates with monthly per capita expenditure data, showing that the new structure ben-



efits consumers by reducing the tax burden on frequently purchased essentials. Analysts suggest that the GST 2.0 reforms will likely boost consumption,

particularly in rural areas, and support overall economic growth.

With more items moving into lower GST slabs and the elimi-

nation of the 12% rate, households across India can expect savings on daily essentials, while simplifying compliance for businesses. The new GST

structure marks a step toward making taxation more equitable and consumer-friendly, with rural consumers gaining the maximum advantage.

Rupee Dips to 88.27 Amid Dollar Strength, Equity Decline



The Indian rupee slipped 7 paise to 88.27 against the US dollar in early Friday trade, reflecting broad dollar strength and a weak trend in domestic equities. The rupee opened at 88.22 in the interbank market before hitting the day's low of 88.27, continuing the modest decline seen on Thursday when it fell 35 paise to 88.20.

Forex traders attributed the depreciation to a recovery in the US dollar and concerns over potential US tariffs on Indian goods, which weighed on investor sentiment. CR Forex Advisors MD Amit Pabari noted that while the rupee has stumbled after recent gains, supportive trade developments and firm domestic confidence could provide room for appreciation. Key support is placed at 87.70, with further levels at 87.50 and 87.20 if the downtrend continues, while resistance is seen around 88.40.

Globally, weekly US jobless claims fell sharply by 33,000, surpassing market estimates and boosting the dollar index toward the 97 mark after briefly dipping below 96. The dollar index, which

measures the greenback against a basket of six currencies, stood at 97.34, down 0.01%. Brent crude futures edged lower by 0.09% to USD 67.38 per barrel.

Domestic equities mirrored the cautious sentiment, with the Sensex falling 264.36 points to 82,749.60 and the Nifty dropping 65 points to 25,358.60 in early trade. Foreign Institutional Investors bought equities worth Rs 366.69 crore on a net basis on Thursday.

Meanwhile, India-US trade talks are progressing, with Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal highlighting discussions with Assistant US Trade Representative Brendan Lynch in New Delhi on September 16. The talks are seen as crucial following the US decision to impose a 50% tariff on certain Indian goods, and positive outcomes could ease pressure on both trade and the currency.

The rupee's movement will remain sensitive to global dollar trends, oil prices, equity performance, and ongoing trade negotiations, with traders keeping a close watch on developments in these areas.

Fiery Orange iPhone 17 Pro



Apple may be shaking up its traditionally muted iPhone Pro colour palette with the bold introduction of a vibrant orange variant for the upcoming iPhone 17 Pro and iPhone 17 Pro Max. According to a recent leak, the eye-catching shade could debut alongside standard options like black, white, and dark blue when Apple unveils its iPhone 17 series next month.

A short video shared by reliable leaker Majin Bu shows what appears to be a dummy unit of the iPhone 17 Pro in a bright orange finish. Bu called the colour “so good,” but reactions from fans online were sharply divided. Some praised the bold move, calling it a “refreshing change,” while others dismissed it as “the worst colour in iPhone history” and “hideous.”

Whether or not the orange version is real remains uncertain. Apple’s colour leaks have

often proven unreliable in the past. Still, the possibility of a bright new option has stirred excitement and debate ahead of the official announcement.

The iPhone 17 line-up is expected to be unveiled in early September, with speculation pointing to a possible launch event on September 9. Apple typically announces its flagship devices in the second week of September, and multiple reports — including from Bloomberg’s Mark Gurman — support this timeline.

In terms of hardware, the iPhone 17 and 17 Air are likely to feature the new A19 chip, while the Pro models may be powered by the A19 Pro. Display sizes are expected to range from 6.3 inches (iPhone 17/17 Pro) to 6.9 inches (Pro Max). The Pro Max is also rumoured to retain a titanium frame, while the rest of the line-up may shift to aluminium.

Instagram Rolls Out Reposts, Friend Map & New Reels Feed



Meta-owned Instagram has unveiled three new features aimed at enhancing social connectivity on the platform. The additions—Reposts, Friend Map, and a ‘Friends’ feed in the Reels tab—are designed to make the app more interactive and community-focused.

In a video message, Instagram head Adam Mosseri said the platform wants to be “not just a lean-back experience that is just fun and entertaining, but also a participatory one.”

Reposts: Share What You Love

Instagram now lets users repost public Reels and feed posts. The reposted content appears in followers’ feeds as recommendations and is saved in a new “Reposts” tab on the user’s profile. Importantly, original creators are automatically credited, giving them exposure to a broader audience, including users who don’t follow them.

This move is expected to boost engagement for creators and simplify content sharing for regular users. To repost, simply tap the repost icon below a post

or Reel.

Friend Map: Location Sharing with Control

Borrowing from Snapchat’s Snap Map, Instagram’s Friend Map lets users share their last active location with friends. The feature, accessible through the DM inbox, can be toggled on or off at any time. Users can control who sees their location—be it Close Friends, selected users, or no one.

Instagram ensures privacy by allowing users to exclude specific people or places from seeing their activity. The location updates automatically when users open or return to the app.

‘Friends’ Reels Feed

A dedicated Reels feed for friends is also being added. This feed helps users view and interact with Reels shared by their closest connections, making the app feel more personalised.

Together, these features mark Instagram’s latest effort to blend entertainment with real-time social interactions, while offering better content discovery and privacy control.

New Curiosity Discovery Points to Mars’ Watery Past

In a groundbreaking discovery, NASA’s Curiosity Rover has uncovered new evidence suggesting that liquid water once existed on Mars, potentially supporting life in the planet’s distant past. The find was made using the rover’s Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI) — a camera located on the end of its robotic arm — which captured a striking image of a coral-shaped, wind-eroded rock in the Gale Crater.

NASA scientists believe the flower-like rock formation, roughly 1 inch (2.5 cm) wide, was created by minerals deposited by ancient water flows, later shaped by billions of years of wind erosion. This unique structure resembles ocean-bottom corals found on Earth, prompting further interest in Mars’ ancient, possibly habitable environment.

The rover recently entered a region on Mount Sharp, the towering 5-kilometer-high mountain within Gale Crater, filled with boxwork formations — hardened ridges formed by underground water activity billions of years ago. NASA says these formations



may offer vital clues about whether microbial life once thrived below Mars’ surface.

Curiosity, which landed on Mars on August 5, 2012, has spent over 13 years exploring the Martian landscape. Its

mission centers on answering the pivotal question: Could Mars have ever supported life? Despite the rover’s age, engineers are continually enhancing its capabilities to ensure it continues to deliver

valuable scientific data.

This latest discovery not only strengthens the hypothesis that Mars had liquid water, but also pushes the boundaries of how long the Red Planet might have remained habita-

ble as it slowly lost its atmosphere. With each finding, Curiosity brings humanity closer to understanding the mysterious history of Mars — and whether it once had the right conditions to support life.

OpenAI’s GPT-5 Nears Release, Smarter AI But Smaller Leap



OpenAI is preparing to launch its next-generation AI model, GPT-5, the successor to the powerful GPT-4 that helped make ChatGPT a global phenomenon in 2022. The model’s release is said to be imminent, raising anticipation across the tech world for what could be another step forward in generative AI capabilities.

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman

has hinted throughout the year that GPT-5 will bring together the strengths of large-scale models and test-time compute, a technique where more computing resources are allocated during inference for improved results. This combination could make GPT-5 more adaptive and accurate across a broader range of tasks.

According to two early testers

who spoke to Reuters on condition of anonymity due to non-disclosure agreements, GPT-5 has shown notable improvements in coding, mathematics, and scientific problem-solving. However, they noted that while it is more capable and refined than GPT-4, the leap in performance and intelligence may not be as dramatic as the jump from GPT-3 to GPT-4.

GPT-4, launched in 2023, was praised for its multimodal abilities and more accurate reasoning. It powered the premium versions of ChatGPT and was later integrated into Microsoft products and numerous enterprise tools. GPT-5 is expected to expand on these capabilities, potentially with enhanced memory, better real-world grounding, and in-

creased reliability.

While OpenAI has not announced an official release date, the testing phase suggests that a public launch could happen soon. With AI safety, alignment, and regulation becoming central concerns globally, GPT-5’s release will also likely reignite debates about responsible AI development and the pace of innovation in the space.

Who Rules Under Oceans? US vs Russia

As US-Russia tensions intensify in a new Cold War-style standoff, the two powers are ramping up their undersea military posturing. In response to former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev’s warning of Russia’s “dead hand” nuclear retaliation system, US President Donald Trump has ordered the repositioning of two nuclear submarines to strategic waters.

This high-stakes move follows Moscow’s dismissal of Trump’s threats over tariffs and sanctions. Medvedev invoked “dead hand,” a Cold War-era semi-automated nuclear strike system designed to launch a counterattack even if Russia’s leadership is destroyed.

Russian lawmaker Viktor Vodolatsky responded to Trump’s deployment, claiming that Russian nuclear submarine activity outmatches that of the US globally. “The submarines the US ordered to reposition are already tracked and surrounded,” he said.

US Submarine Strength:



Ballistic Missile Submarines (SSBNs):

The US Navy operates 14 Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines, also called “boomers.” Each can carry up to 20 Trident II D5 submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) and is designed for long-range, stealth nucle-



ar deterrence. These SSBNs can remain at sea for months and operate for 15 years between major overhauls.

Fast Attack Submarines (SSNs):

The US also deploys Virginia, Seawolf, and Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered attack submarines. These

submarines are armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, and MK-48 torpedoes. They conduct offensive operations, gather intelligence, and support special operations. The Virginia-class SSNs, including the USS Hawaii and USS North Carolina, are among the most advanced, with cutting-edge stealth and special forces capabilities.

As the US and Russia maneuver undersea, the contest for strategic dominance beneath the waves underscores the renewed risks of an arms race — this time, below the surface.

Australia Beat India in Rain-Hit 1st ODI as Rohit, Kohli Disappoint

India suffered a seven-wicket loss to Australia in the rain-affected first ODI in Perth on Sunday, as the much-anticipated returns of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli ended in disappointment. The match, reduced to 26 overs per side due to rain, saw India post a modest

136/9, with Australia chasing down the revised DLS target of 131 in just 21.1 overs.

Skipper Mitchell Marsh (46* off 52) led from the front with a powerful knock, supported by Josh Philippe's brisk 37. Their 55-run stand steadied Australia after early dismissals of Travis Head and Matthew Short. Indian pacers Arshdeep Singh, Mohammad Siraj, and debutant Harshit Rana lacked discipline, conceding extras and struggling to extract control or bounce.

Earlier, India's innings never gained momentum. Rohit, playing his 500th match, managed just 8 before being undone by Josh



Hazlewood's steep bounce. Kohli, cheered loudly on his return, fell for a duck — his first ever in Australia — edging Mitchell Starc to backward point.

Skipper Shubman Gill (12) and Shreyas Iyer (4) also fell cheaply, leaving

India at 45/4. KL Rahul (38) stood out with classy strokeplay, including two sixes off Matthew Short. He shared a 39-run stand with Axar Patel (31) and added 30 with Washington Sundar (13), but regular interruptions and

late-order collapses hurt India's final total.

Starc, Hazlewood, and Ellis bowled with discipline, exploiting the bounce and movement offered by the Optus Stadium pitch.

India will look to bounce

back in the second ODI in Adelaide, with veterans Rohit and Kohli under pressure to prove their form. Australia, meanwhile, take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series, buoyed by a clinical all-round performance.

Messi Hat-Trick Powers Inter Miami Past Nashville 5-2



Lionel Messi scored his second career MLS hat-trick to lead Inter Miami to a commanding 5-2 victory over Nashville SC at Geodis Park on Saturday. The Argentine legend now

leads the MLS Golden Boot race with 29 goals this season.

Messi opened the scoring in the 35th minute with a precise strike from outside the box. Nashville responded

ed with goals from Sam Surridge (43') and Jacob Shaffelburg (45+6') to take a 2-1 lead into halftime. Despite being outshot 11-4 in the first half, Miami regrouped with a dominant

second-half performance.

Messi converted a penalty in the 62nd minute after a handball by Andy Najar, bringing the match level at 2-2. Just four minutes later, Baltasar Rodríguez gave

Miami a 3-2 lead with a low shot from the center of the box. Messi completed his hat-trick in the 81st minute with a trademark left-footed finish to stretch the lead to 4-2. Telasco Segovia added the fifth goal in stoppage time to seal the win.

Inter Miami defender Ian Fray praised Messi's impact, saying, "It's so obvious that he gives us an advantage every night. We have some of the greatest players to ever play the game here."

Nashville coach B.J. Callaghan admitted his side struggled to contain Messi. "We didn't do a good enough job, especially in the final 25 yards. You can't give Messi those chances."

Inter Miami ends the regular season with a 19-7-8 record and enters the MLS Playoffs as the third seed in the Eastern Conference. They are set to face sixth-seeded Nashville (16-12-6) again in the first round.

With Messi in top form, Miami look like serious title contenders heading into the postseason.

Deepti's Milestone Overshadowed as England Dominate India in World Cup Clash

Despite Deepti Sharma's historic feat, India lost control of their ICC Women's World Cup 2025 group-stage match against England in Indore on Saturday. England's middle-order, led by captain Heather Knight and Nat Sciver-Brunt, powered the visitors into a commanding position after early breakthroughs by India.

Deepti dismissed both England openers — Tammy Beaumont and Amy Jones — to give India a bright start. With Beaumont's wicket, Deepti became the first Indian woman to achieve the double of 2000 runs and 150 ODI wickets, marking a major personal milestone in her career.

Amy Jones, however, provided early momentum to England with a fluent 56 before falling to Deepti. Her dismissal brought in Knight, who anchored the innings with a composed half-century. Partnering with Sciver-Brunt, the pair steadied the innings and took the game away from India with an unbroken stand that blunted the Indian attack.

While India's bowlers started well, they gradually lost discipline and



momentum, allowing England to rebuild and accelerate. Fielding lapses and missed opportunities further compounded India's woes as the match progressed under lights.

Earlier in the day, India posted a below-par total (not detailed in the excerpt), putting pressure on the bowlers to deliver. Deepti's spell stood out, but the lack of support at

the other end allowed England to seize control.

With this performance, England strengthened their semifinal hopes, while India will now need to regroup quickly to stay

in contention for a top-four finish. Deepti's achievement will be a proud memory, but it came on a day when India's grip slipped after a promising start.

Tanvi Sharma Wins Silver At BWF World Junior Championships



Indian badminton starlet Tanvi Sharma's remarkable journey at the BWF World Junior Championships ended with a silver medal, after a straight-game defeat to Thailand's Anypat Pichitpreechusak in the women's singles final in Guwahati on Sunday. The 16-year-old lost 7-15, 12-15, becoming only the third Indian female shuttler to reach the final of this prestigious event.

The second-seeded Thai proved too strong in key moments, capitalizing on Tanvi's unforced errors, especially at the net. Despite a bright start in the second game, where Tanvi led 6-1, Pichitpreechusak's deceptive play and tactical control turned the match in her favour. The Thai clinched the gold with a sharp cross-court finish, ending India's long wait for a medal in the women's singles at the

World Juniors.

Tanvi's silver is India's first in women's singles at the tournament in 17 years. Saina Nehwal had won gold in 2008 and silver in 2006, while Aparna Popat bagged silver in 1996. With this performance, Tanvi joins that elite list.

The match began evenly with both players tied at 4-4, but a string of errors saw Tanvi trail 5-10. She fought hard in the second game, even leading 8-5 at the interval. But the Thai's precision and sharp attacking play proved decisive in closing out the match.

While Tanvi missed out on making history with a gold, her silver marks a significant achievement for Indian badminton. Her performance is a promising sign for the future as she follows in the footsteps of India's badminton greats.

Inter Milan Go Top Of Serie A After Win At Roma, Napoli Stumble



Inter Milan climbed to the top of the Serie A table on goal difference after a narrow 1-0 win over Roma at the Stadio Olimpico on Saturday. Ange-Yoan Bonny scored the decisive goal in the sixth minute, capitalizing on a defensive lapse to fire home and secure three vital points.

The result puts Inter level on 15 points with Roma and defending champions Napoli, who suffered a shock 1-0 defeat at Torino.

Inter, under coach Cristian Chivu, have now won six straight matches across competitions and are staking a strong claim for the Scudetto after losing out to Napoli last season. "I'm proud of how the team prepared and played after the international break," said Chivu. Henrikh Mkhitaryan nearly doubled the lead late on but was denied by the post.

Roma had their chances, notably when Zeki Celik's shot was deflected into the side netting and Artem Dovbyk headed over

from the resulting corner. "We're disappointed but some defeats teach you something," said Roma boss Gian Piero Gasperini.

Napoli's title defence took a hit in Turin, where Giovanni Simeone scored the only goal against his former club. The 30-year-old forward weaved past Giovanni Di Lorenzo and Vanja Milinkovic-Savic before calmly finishing in the 32nd minute. Napoli thought they had equalized through Noa Lang in stoppage time, but the goal was ruled out for offside.

Injuries continue to plague Napoli, with key players Rasmus Hojlund and Scott McTominay missing the match. Both are doubtful for Tuesday's Champions League clash against PSV. Meanwhile, AC Milan could leapfrog Inter with a win over Fiorentina on Sunday, though they too face fitness concerns with Adrien Rabiot and Christian Pulisic sidelined until mid-November.



Chiranjeevi’s Meesala Pilla Crosses 25 Million Views, Trends #1

Megastar Chiranjeevi continues to prove why he remains a force to reckon with in Indian cinema. The first single from his upcoming film Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, titled Meesala Pilla, has achieved a major milestone by crossing 25 million views on YouTube and is currently trending at No. 1 in the Music category on YouTube India.

Directed by Anil Ravipudi, the film promises to be a grand entertainer set for a 2026 release, and the promotional campaign is already creating massive buzz. The musical journey began with Meesala Pilla, a fun, romantic number that

blends playful charm with Chiranjeevi’s signature style.

The song has struck a chord with fans across the country. Its catchy tune, energetic visuals, and Chiranjeevi’s charismatic screen presence have contributed to its soaring popularity. Audiences were particularly thrilled to see the megastar showcase his trademark swag along with a lighthearted, mischievous side — a delightful throwback to his classic on-screen persona.

Music lovers and fans have flooded social media with dance covers, reels, and appreciation posts, making Meesala Pilla not just a song, but a celebration. The track

has been praised for its melody, choreography, and vibrant visuals, elevating excitement for the film’s release.

Director Anil Ravipudi’s strategic promotional rollout has paid off, and this musical hit sets the stage for more chartbusters to follow. With Mana Shankara Vara Prasad Garu, Chiranjeevi seems all set to deliver another crowd-pleasing blockbuster.

As Meesala Pilla continues to dominate playlists and charts, it reaffirms Chiranjeevi’s enduring popularity and ability to connect with audiences across generations. The countdown to the film’s release just got a whole lot more exciting.

Rakul Preet’s High-Slit Look Sets Diwali Fashion on Fire

Rakul Preet Singh lit up the festive season in her own dazzling way this Diwali, turning heads with a bold fashion statement that quickly became the talk of the internet. Ditching the traditional route, Rakul opted for a sleek black gown featuring a dramatic high slit that brought a perfect mix of glamour and edge.

The gown, tailored to perfection, featured crystal embellishments around the neckline that shimmered effortlessly under the lights — outshining even the brightest diyas of the evening. Styled with minimal accessories and flawless makeup, Rakul’s look was all about confidence, elegance, and high fashion.

The moment she shared photos of her outfit on social media, they instantly went viral, with fans and fashion enthusiasts alike praising her bold Diwali style. The high slit added a bold twist to the otherwise classic black silhouette, making it both festive and fashion-forward.

Rakul’s Diwali look stood out in a sea of lehengas and sarees, proving once again that festive fashion doesn’t have to follow the rulebook. With her sleek ensemble, she stole the spotlight — quite literally — and set a new benchmark for celebrity holiday dressing.

Known for her versatile fashion choices, Rakul continues to make statements that blend tradition with trend. This latest look might just go down as one of her most iconic festive appearances.

Whether on the red carpet or at a Diwali party, Rakul Preet Singh knows how to make an entrance — and this year, she did it in a high-slit gown that everyone’s still talking about.

Epic Throwback of Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu & Prabhas Takes Internet by Storm

A rare and nostalgic photo featuring three of Telugu cinema’s biggest stars — Megastar Chiranjeevi, Superstar Mahesh Babu, and Rebel Star Prabhas — has resurfaced and gone viral across social media platforms. The now-iconic throwback was shared by director Jayanth C. Paranjee, known for helming several star-studded films. The photo, taken on his birthday in 2004, captures a golden moment in Telugu film history. Alongside the big three, the picture also includes familiar faces like actors Tarun, Sumanth, Srikanth, and music composer Devi Sri Prasad, making it a full-

blown nostalgic treat for fans.

Posting the image on Instagram, Jayanth reminisced about the memorable day, recalling the camaraderie and warmth shared among the stars. The director’s caption was filled with emotion, highlighting the close-knit bond the industry once shared during that era.

The throwback has since gone viral, with fans flooding social media timelines with admiration, nostalgia, and excitement. Many dubbed it the “photo of the year,” while others praised the rare sight of Chiranjeevi, Mahesh Babu, and Prabhas together in one



frame — something almost unheard of in recent times given their respective superstar schedules and public appearances.

This candid moment from 2004 has sparked a wave of fond memories

among long-time Telugu cinema followers, who hailed the picture as a timeless treasure. It also reminded fans of the changing face of the industry, where such spontaneous get-togethers are now few and far

between.

As the image continues to trend online, fans are hopeful for more such glimpses from the archives — moments that celebrate the legacy and unity of Tollywood’s biggest icons.

Vishnu Vishal’s Aaryan Trailer Promises Gripping Action Thriller



Vishnu Vishal is back in action with Aaryan, an intense cop thriller set to release on October 31, 2025. Directed by Praveen K and produced by Vishnu Vishal Studios, the film’s gripping trailer, launched in both Tamil and Telugu, has already sparked strong buzz among fans and film enthusiasts. The trailer showcases Vishnu Vishal in a fierce avatar, playing a no-nonsense police officer on the trail of a chilling se-

rial killer. The antagonist, played by Selvaraghavan in a menacing negative role, appears to be a calculating murderer who announces his victims’ names before striking. This psychological edge adds a layer of intrigue to what appears to be a high-stakes cat-and-mouse chase. Set against a moody, intense backdrop, the trailer builds tension as Aaryan digs deeper into the case, hinting at layers of emotional and psychological

complexity. Is the killer driven by personal revenge, or is this a descent into pure madness? The answers are set to unfold in theatres soon. The film also stars Shraddha Srinath and Vaani Bhojan in significant roles, adding further depth to the storyline. Ghibran’s powerful background score heightens the suspense, while slick visuals and sharp editing promise a tightly crafted thriller.

Aaryan marks a notable

return for Vishnu Vishal, combining action, emotion, and mystery in a gripping narrative. With Selvaraghavan making a strong impression as the antagonist and a plot that teases more than it reveals, the stage is set for a tense theatrical experience.

Releasing just in time for Halloween weekend, Aaryan is poised to offer audiences a dark and thrilling ride through crime, justice, and psychological warfare.

Samyuktha’s Heroine-Centric Film Titled The Black Gold

Actor Samyuktha is set to headline her first heroine-centric film titled The Black Gold, a project jointly produced by Razesha Danda of Hasya Movies and Maganti Pictures. Directed by Yogesh KMC, the film is currently in production, with Samyuktha also serving as the presenter.

The film’s title was officially unveiled on October 19, accompanied by a striking poster that hints at the grit-

ty tone and backdrop of the story. The poster features a textured black background reminiscent of coal, with a dark grey and tarnished gold color scheme that adds depth and intensity. The title design itself emphasizes the “gold” element, suggesting a narrative rooted in high stakes and raw drama.

The Black Gold is expected to showcase Samyuktha in a powerful, commanding role

— a significant departure from her previous work. With the first look scheduled to be revealed on Diwali, anticipation is building around the kind of character she will portray in what promises to be a performance-driven film. The technical team backing the film includes A Vasanth as the cinematographer, Sam CS handling the music, and Chota K Prasad in charge of editing. To-

gether, they aim to bring a visually striking and emotionally gripping story to the screen. With a bold title, a compelling visual identity, and a strong creative team, The Black Gold is shaping up to be a notable entry in the genre of female-led Indian cinema. Samyuktha’s fans will be eagerly awaiting the Diwali release of the first look to get a glimpse of her intense new avatar.

