WAY TO NEWS

PRGI No: TGENG/26/A6521

ENGLISH DAILY



Telangana | Vol: 01 | Issue:85 | Tuesday 3 November 2026 | Editor: Lingala Narender | Price:1/- | Pages: 8

Amit Shah targets Congress over SIR, vows action on infiltrators

HE ACCUSED THE CONGRESS OF INDULGING IN VOTE-BANK POLITICS, OPPOSING THE SIR OF ELECTORAL ROLLS AND MAKING ALLEGATIONS ABOUT EVMS WHENEVER IT LOST ELECTIONS



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday claimed that three crore 'Bangladeshi infiltrators' are among 'absent' voters sought to be deleted in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and accused the Congress party of trying to protect them. He declared that the BJP will ensure that every infiltrator is removed from the electoral rolls and driven out of the country.

Amit Shah was addressing the 'Save Democracy Remove Anarchy' march organised by the BJP here as part of its nationwide campaign to counter the anti-SIR campaign of the INDIA bloc. Alleging that by stopping SIR, 'Congress and company' was trying to save Bangladesh infiltrators, he termed the rally organised by the INDIA bloc in Delhi on Sunday as a "Save the infiltrators" rally.

"Congress and company are trying to stop SIR because infiltrators are their vote bank. BJP workers stand firmly with SIR. Only citizens of this country will be allowed to vote here," said HM Shah, who led the foot march from Basheerbagh to Moazzam Jahi Market. Amit Shah said Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi was lying that 13 crore votes were deleted in SIR.

The Home Minister stated that 6.25 crore voters had shifted while about 3 crore voters were dead. He said another one crore voters had double entries. "The Congress party wants to capture elections through bogus voting. If one person has two votes, should one of them be cancelled or not? Now we come to the source of 'Rahul Baba's' stomach ache. Three crore votes are such that the people they belong to do not even exist. These are Bangladeshi infiltrators," he said. He alleged that by opposing the SIR, the Congress party wants to protect Bangladeshi infiltrators in the country's electoral rolls.

"But I have come here today to say that Rahul ji and Revanth Reddy ji can put in as much effort as they want. The BJP will ensure that every single infiltrator is removed from the voter list and driven out of the country."

Dismissing the allegation of Rahul Gandhi that the BJP won only because of the SIR, he reminded the Congress leader that there was no SIR when Narendra Modi won in 2014, 2019 and 2024.

Revanth Reddy Orders Clean-Up Drive, Traffic-Free Hyderabad Plan



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Chief Minister Mr. A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to transform Hyderabad into a clean and traffic-free city. He emphasized that no garbage should be visible anywhere in the city and called for continuous monitoring of waste collection processes.

The Chief Minister held a review meeting with municipal officials at his Jubilee Hills residence. He instructed them to ensure that door-to-door waste collection takes place daily across the city and stated that strict action must be taken against those who show negligence.

He suggested making special arrangements for the removal of construction and demolition (C&D) waste. Furthermore, he advised officials to coordinate with the Industrial Local Authority to manage waste collection in the various industrial areas falling under the municipal jurisdiction. The Chief Minister directed officials to raise awareness about the effective use of 'green tankers'—an initiative launched to supply treated water from Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for purposes such as construction activities, park maintenance, landscaping, and gardening. He noted that, currently, potable (drinking) water is being used for construction, greenery maintenance, and park development; by switching to treated water from STPs for these needs, the city's drinking water resources can be conserved. It was noted that the Water Board, in the first phase, introduced services using 28 'green water' (treated wastewater) tankers, sourced from 19 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). It was suggested that the supply of this green water be further expanded to cover areas under the GHMC, CMC, and MMC.

The Chief Minister directed officials to take necessary measures to address traffic issues in the city and transform it into a 'traffic-free' city. He instructed them to prepare plans for the construction of underpasses and elevated corridors wherever required to establish a signal-free traffic system. He emphasized ensuring that vehicle movement remains uninterrupted, preventing traffic congestion at signal points as much as possible. The review meeting was attended by MP Vem Narender Reddy, along with senior officials from the HMDA and various municipal corporations.

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SC allows sale of green crackers in Delhi-NCR ahead of Diwali, restores ban from Nov 9



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Supreme Court has permitted the sale and use of certified green crackers in Delhi-NCR for a limited period ahead of and on Diwali, while issuing a series of directions to regulate their manufacture, storage, sale and bursting, and directing that the complete ban on firecrackers be restored from November 9.

A Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and Prasanna B. Varale allowed the sale of CSIR-NEERI-approved green crackers from November 2 to November 6, subject to stringent safeguards to prevent conventional firecrackers from being sold under their guise. The Justice Sundresh-led Bench permitted the bursting of firecrackers only between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on November 7 and 8.

The apex court directed that there will be no bursting of fireworks within a 300-metre radius of hospitals, nursing homes, primary and district health centres, old-age homes , educational institutions, and notified silence zones.

These areas will be declared 'No-Cracker Zones' and appropriately marked and publicised.

Laying down detailed safeguards for manufacturers and traders, the Supreme Court directed that only manufacturers possessing valid certifications from CSIR-NEERI and PESO would be permitted to manufacture approved green crackers during the specified period.

The top court also prohibited the manufacture and sale of firecrackers joined in series, commonly known as 'ladis', and garlands, reiterating that crackers containing barium or those not approved by CSIR-NEERI would not be permitted.

Modi Says 44,000 Government Buildings Powered by Solar Energy, Saving Rs 700 Crore Annually



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): More than 44,000 government buildings across India have been connected to solar energy, generating annual savings of around Rs 700 crore, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday, highlighting the country's progress in renewable energy and its commitment to strengthening energy security through clean power.

Addressing the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit at the Bharat Mandapam here, the Prime Minister said India has made significant strides in the renewable energy sector over the past 12 years, connecting industries, farms and households with solar power.

"Over the last 12 years, we have worked to connect industries and farms with solar power. More than 44,000 government buildings across India are now connected to solar energy, generating annual savings of around Rs 700 crore," he said "Farmers across the country are also benefiting from the PM-KUSUM scheme . Through this initiative, more than 30 lakh farmers have been provided with solar-powered irrigation facilities. Estimates suggest that each farmer can save around Rs 1 lakh annually by using solar pumps," the Prime Minister added.

PM Modi said the government aims to bring every government building, school, college, hospital and street-lighting system under solar energy to further expand the country's clean energy infrastructure. The Prime Minister also highlighted the progress made under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, launched in February 2024 with the target of installing rooftop solar panels in one crore households. "More than 65 lakh households have joined the initiative in the past 24-25 months," he said.

Emphasising India's commitment to global climate goals, PM Modi said the country had achieved its target of meeting 50 per cent of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources in 2025, five years ahead of the schedule set under the Paris Agreement.

"Under the Paris Agreement, India also pledged to meet 50 per cent of its installed power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources. We achieved this target in 2025, five years ahead of schedule. Today, more than 50 per cent of India's installed power capacity comes from non-fossil fuel sources," the Prime Minister stated.

UK Retains Five-Year Settlement Route for Care Workers

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood on Monday backtracked on a tougher retrospective stance of tripling the time overseas care workers must wait for settlement in the UK, a move set to benefit several Indians who used the Health and Social Care visa route. Following conclusion of a year-long public consultation, Mahmood told Parliament she had arrived at a "fair deal" of allowing 5-year settlement for care workers who answered country's call after the covid pandemic. Indians lead the tally of workers under the Health and Social Care category who were granted 104,555 visa extensions in the year ending December 2025. Most of them will now be eligible for their Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) within the originally stipulated timeframe of five years.

HC Rebukes Imran Khan Over Protest Participation



Mumbai,, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Bombay High Court on Monday criticised actor Imran Khan, a US citizen, for taking part in a protest over the CEC-SIR issue, saying the fundamental right to protest is available only to Indian citizens. Khan's counsel tendered an unconditional apology and an undertaking that he would not join any protest in the future.

A bench of Chief Justice Mahesh Chandra Tripathi and Justice Advait Sethna said India's magnanimity is such that a US citizen holding an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card is first issued a notice asking him to leave the country, instead of being deported at once.

Khan's counsel Venkatesh Dhond immediately gave the undertaking, along with the apology.

The bench then posted Khan's plea against the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) notice, which asked him to leave the country by October 28 for taking part in last month's protest against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) issue in Mumbai, for further hearing on December 7. The court extended its earlier order keeping the notice in abeyance until then.

Piyush Goyal Discusses Growth Challenges with Biotech Startups



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday held a discussion with India's biopharma and biotechnology startups on key challenges and ways to unlock new opportunities for growth in the sector.

The minister indicated that the government is looking at the need for coordinated action to simplify regulatory processes, improve access to funding, expedite patent approvals, and strengthen indigenous procurement and research infrastructure to boost startups. "Stronger collaboration between government, industry and research institutions will help innovative startups scale and contribute to India's growing bioeconomy," he said. India's bioeconomy has expanded from about $10 billion in 2014 to over $195 billion in 2025, reflecting a massive growth trajectory over the past decade. The sector has recorded an annual growth of around 17–18 per cent in the last year alone, rising from approximately $165 billion to $195 billion, marking India's emergence as a major global biotechnology hub, according to the India BioEconomy Report (IBER 2026). India is steadily moving towards its target of a $300 billion bioeconomy by 2030, supported by a strong base of scientists, entrepreneurs, and startups. The IBER 2026 report has highlighted that India's bioeconomy contributes around 4.8 per cent to the national GDP, with a strong CAGR of nearly 18 per cent. The sector has more than doubled in size since 2020 and is supported by over 11,800 biotech startups across the country.

The Centre's BioE3 Policy (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment, and Employment) is a major step towards strengthening biobased industries and sustainable biomanufacturing.

Manipur Protests Erupt After Bodies of Two Missing Youths Found mutilated



Imphal, Nov 2 (Way to News): Protests broke out in Manipur's Kangpokpi district after the mutilated bodies of two missing youths were recovered in neighbouring Senapati district, leading to clashes between agitators and security forces, police said on Monday (November 02). Security personnel fired tear gas shells and resorted to baton charges to disperse protesters who pelted them with stones during demonstrations on Sunday night. A protester sustained a head injury after allegedly being hit by a tear gas shell. His condition is stable, officials said.

Agitators also burnt tyres and blocked several roads using wooden logs and boulders. Police have managed to clear some of the blocked stretches. Additional security forces were deployed in the district on Monday morning as tension continued to remain high, a district official said.

The protests followed the recovery of the bodies of T Chongloi (21) and Paogin-lal Hangsing (20), who had gone missing from Taphou Kuki village on October 29. Their mutilated bodies were found stuffed inside gunny bags at a banana farm in a hilly area of Senapati district on Sunday morning during a search operation. Deputy Chief Ministers Nemcha Kipgen and Losii Dikho condemned the killings and called for an investigation.

In a statement, Kipgen said, "What began with hopes of safe return ended in tragedy." She demanded that the "heinous crimes be thoroughly investigated" and those responsible be brought to justice. Dikho also condemned the killings, saying, "Such senseless acts of violence and killing must be condemned unequivocally. The ongoing violence in our state is unacceptable.

Revanth Reddy Reviews Preparations for Khelo India Youth Games

CM directs officials to ensure world-class sports facilities, smooth arrangements and explore inclusion of traditional Karrasamu event.

Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Chief Minister Shri A. Revanth Reddy has directed officials to take robust measures to ensure the prestigious 'Khelo India Youth Games'—scheduled to be held in Telangana from December 11 to 22—are conducted flawlessly.

He emphasized that the arrangements for these Youth Games should be established on a permanent basis, with the goal of uncovering the latent sporting talent among the youth and grooming them into international-standard athletes. He further stressed that the sports venues must be developed to the highest quality standards.

The Chief Minister reviewed the preparations for the 8th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games (2026), to be hosted by Telangana, at the Bodhi Pavilion in the MCR HRD Institute.

He also suggested taking immediate action to include 'Karrasamu' (a traditional Telangana stick-fighting martial art) in the Khelo India Games under the host state's quota.

The Chief Minister clarified that the government's objective is to leverage these games as a significant opportunity to provide young athletes in Telangana with international-standard infrastructure and world-class training, with the ultimate aim of winning medals at the Olympics in the future.

He directed that responsibilities for overseeing the event be assigned to Group-1 level officers to ensure seamless execution. Given that various sporting events will be held across different districts, he instructed that local officials be appointed to supervise the proceedings in those respective areas. It was advised to ensure that athletes face no difficulties regarding accommodation facilities. Instructions were given to provide weekly updates on the organization and progress of the Youth Games. In light of 'El Niño' conditions, it was emphasized that the opening and closing ceremonies of the sporting events should be kept simple, avoiding unnecessary extravagance.



Representatives from the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust have invited Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to participate in the centenary celebrations marking the birth anniversary of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, which will take place on the 23rd of this month. The Trust's Managing Trustee, R.J. Ratnakar, Chief Administrative Officer S.G. Chalam, and other members met with the Chief Minister to extend this invitation.

It was suggested that resources prepared for the 'Invest Telangana Global Summit' should also be utilized for the 'Khelo India' games. Since attracting investments into the sports and sports-development sectors is an integral part of the Global Summit, officials were urged to work in coordination.

Thousands of young athletes from across the country are set to participate in the 'Khelo India' games, accompanied by approximately 2,000 coaching staff and officials. A total of 27 sporting disciplines—plus one demonstration event—will be held across 20 venues in six cities in the state, including Hyderabad.

Officials explained during the meeting that steps are being taken to ensure that athletes representing Telangana perform exceptionally well. They also provided an update on the progress of infrastructure development works currently underway at the 20 venues designated for the various sports.

The state government views these games as a highly prestigious event, especially as it takes rapid strides toward transforming Telangana into a national sports hub—a vision supported by the state's sports policy and the establishment of the 'Young India Physical Education and Sports University.'

This meeting was attended by Ministers Jupally Krishna Rao and Vakiti Srihari, Sports Authority Chairman Shivsena Reddy, Advisor K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Secretary to the Government Sanjay Jaju, Special Chief Secretary (Sports) A. Vani Prasad, Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of the Sports Authority of Telangana A. Sonibala Devi, and other officials.

Komatireddy Directs Officials to Showcase Telangana at 85th IRC Conference



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Telangana Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has directed officials to organise the 85th Indian Roads Congress (IRC) conference as a major global platform to showcase Telangana's development, culture and investment opportunities. The Minister conducted an extensive review meeting with senior Roads and Buildings Department officials at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat on Monday, reviewing departmental development works and preparations for the IRC conference for nearly three-and-a-half hours.

The 85th Indian Roads Congress global conference will be held at HITEX, Hyderabad, from November 19 to 22. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will jointly inaugurate the event on the morning of November 19. Several Union Ministers, Ministers from different states, senior officials, international delegates and experts from the engineering and infrastructure sectors are expected to attend. Komatireddy said the prestigious conference should not be restricted to technical discussions but should also serve as an international platform to highlight Telangana's infrastructure development and attract investments.

The Minister directed officials to establish a special Telangana Pavilion at the HITEX premises, alongside around 400 exhibition stalls. The pavilion should showcase Telangana's history, culture, traditions, arts, tourism destinations, major infrastructure projects and investment opportunities. He also instructed officials to organise cultural performances by Telangana artists for at least one hour every day during the four-day conference. Special souvenirs reflecting the state's cultural identity should be presented to delegates.

Arrangements should also be made for live streaming of important conference events. In coordination with the Tourism Department, special tour programmes should be organised to enable delegates to visit prominent temples, historical monuments and tourist destinations across Telangana. The Minister called for extensive publicity campaigns in Hyderabad, Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru. He instructed officials to install attractive hoardings and visual advertisements at airports, metro stations, railway stations, bus terminals and other major public transport locations.

He also stressed the effective use of print, electronic, digital and social media platforms to give the conference national and international visibility. Komatireddy said the 85th IRC conference should serve as a pre-summit event for the prestigious 'Invest Telangana Global Summit', scheduled to be organised in December at Bharat Future City under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He asked officials to prepare a special action plan to introduce Telangana's investment potential, industrial-friendly environment, transport infrastructure and future development projects to Union Ministers, representatives of various states, international delegates, industrialists and investors attending the IRC conference.

The objective should be to attract more investments, industries and employment opportunities to the state through the conference. During the meeting, the Minister reviewed the progress of various road construction works across Telangana and directed officials to complete all projects within the stipulated deadlines while maintaining quality standards.

Telangana to launch AI-Powered digital market yard system for farmers



Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Telangana is preparing to introduce an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered digital market yard system for the first time in the country, aiming to bring greater transparency to agricultural trade and ensure fair prices for farmers.

State Agriculture, Marketing and Cooperation Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao directed officials to develop a comprehensive digital platform covering every stage of the agricultural marketing process, from a farmer's arrival at the market yard to the sale of produce and final payment.

The Minister made these directions during a review meeting with senior Marketing Department officials at the Secretariat on Monday, along with Minister D. Sridhar Babu. Under the proposed system, farmers' details will be registered digitally, and a unique identification number will be assigned to every produce lot. The platform will integrate crop quality testing (assaying), digital bidding, online auctions, price determination, farmers' approval, weighing, sales billing, market fee calculations and payments. After the auction or tender process, the final price will be displayed on the system. An OTP will be sent to the farmer through the commission agent to obtain confirmation of the agreed price before proceeding with the sale.

Once the produce is weighed, the sales bill will be generated based on the recorded weight and agreed price. Market charges and payment details will also be recorded digitally. After completion of all formalities, e-receipts and e-permits will be issued through the gate-exit system.

AI Technology to Prevent Irregularities The Minister instructed officials to develop a Management Information System (MIS) to provide real-time information on agricultural arrivals, price trends, traders, commission agents and auction activities. Historical auction and transaction records should also be preserved for future analysis, inspections and verification. All stages of the process must be interconnected to ensure automatic data integration and accountability. He directed officials to study digital market systems operating in different states and introduce a more advanced model in Telangana. The attendance and biometric records of Marketing Department employees should also be integrated into the platform.

Tummala instructed officials to coordinate with the IT Department and complete the tender invitation process within one week.

He further directed the installation of CCTV cameras across market yards to monitor warehouses and daily activities.

KTR Calls for Wider AI Adoption Across Key Sectors in Telangana

Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): BRS Working President K.T. Rama Rao (KTR) said Artificial Intelligence (AI) would play a crucial role in shaping the future and stressed the need to expand its use across education, agriculture, industry and governance.



Speaking at the launch of the CampusHub AI product at the Sheraton Hotel in Nanakramguda, Hyderabad, KTR expressed happiness over the initiative launched by four young entrepreneurs from rural backgrounds. He described them as role models for society and urged youngsters to think big and achieve greater heights.

KTR said Telangana had given significant importance to the IT sector in the past, but the world was now entering the era of Artificial Intelligence. He stressed that society must adapt to changing technologies, particularly in the education sector. Describing AI as a tool that could benefit humanity rather than something to fear, he said technology should be used wherever necessary and should not be misused.

Recalling earlier initiatives, KTR said efforts had been made to bring AI-based innovations into agriculture. An AI-driven agricultural project was launched in a village in Sircilla district to help farmers gain better knowledge about crop cultivation. He also referred to the initiative titled Artificial Intelligence for Agriculture Innovation.

He pointed out that technology had evolved from landline telephones to smartphones and said AI would have a major role in the coming years, with driverless vehicles already becoming a reality. He added that Hyderabad need not be the only destination for IT companies, as rural areas could also attract technology businesses. He appreciated a young entrepreneur named Rakesh for establishing an IT company in Parkal. KTR urged the government to encourage AI technology and said Telangana needed to expand the IT sector across the state.

Ponguleti Orders Joint Surveys to Resolve Land Disputes

Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Telangana State Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information & Public Relations, Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, has emphasized the urgent need for a permanent resolution to boundary disputes between Revenue and Forest department lands.

On Monday, a review meeting was held at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Secretariat with officials from the Revenue and Forest departments, as well as the Survey and Settlement department. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister stressed that ordinary citizens and farmers should not suffer due to boundary disputes between the two departments. He directed both departments to conduct joint surveys in complete coordination. The Minister suggested that the Revenue and Forest departments should jointly carry out field-level surveys, utilizing modern technology and scientific methods to clearly demarcate land boundaries.

He noted that by establishing boundaries scientifically, such disputes can be resolved permanently, ensuring that no further conflicts arise in the future. He further stated that the government is implementing comprehensive reforms through the Survey, Settlement, and Land Records department as part of efforts to further strengthen land administration in the state. Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy emphasized that the primary objective of his government is to ensure complete transparency and accuracy in land records.

Seethakka thanks TG Cong Workers for Delhi Rally

Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Telangana Minister Seethakka thanked thousands of Congress leaders and workers from Telangana who travelled to Delhi and participated in the rally at Ramlila Maidan, following the call given by Rahul Gandhi and directions from Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge. She expressed happiness over the large-scale participation, stating that people had come together to protect democracy. She emphasised that the right to vote is a constitutional right guaranteed to every citizen and that safeguarding it is everyone's responsibility.



Seethakka demanded transparency from the Central Government regarding Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and urged it to stop protecting him. She questioned why the BJP-led government was not supporting an impartial inquiry into the allegations against him if it had nothing to hide. She also criticised the amendments to the law that provide protection to Election Commissioners from legal proceedings even after their retirement, describing the move as unjust. The Minister said the issue was not limited to the Congress party but concerned the voting rights of every citizen in the country.

Cyberabad Police Invoke PD Act Against Interstate Ganja Peddler

Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Cyberabad Police Commissioner Dr. M. Ramesh has invoked the Preventive Detention (PD) Act against a habitual interstate drug peddler, Sachin Gangaram Maruti Chavan (36), to prevent him from continuing illegal drug-related activities.

According to police, Chavan, a native of Solapur district in Maharashtra, was involved in procuring large quantities of ganja from Andhra Pradesh and Odisha and supplying the contraband to his associates and drug consumers at exorbitant prices for illegal financial gains. Police said he was involved in five drug-peddling cases between 2020 and 2026, including three cases in Telangana and one each in Maharashtra and Karnataka. His activities indicated an interstate network involved in the procurement, transportation and distribution of ganja.



Considering his repeated involvement in drug-related offences and the threat posed by his activities to public health and public order, the Cyberabad Police Commissioner ordered his preventive detention under the PD Act. Following the order, Chavan was detained through Patancheru Police Station and lodged at the Central Prison, Cherlapally, in Medchal district. Cyberabad Police reiterated their commitment to curbing drug trafficking and taking stringent action against habitual offenders involved in narcotics-related activities.

Police officials stated that the accused had developed a network of associates across Telangana and neighbouring states to facilitate the illegal procurement, transportation and distribution of ganja. His repeated involvement in such activities despite previous criminal cases prompted the police to invoke preventive detention to stop him from engaging in further offences. The Cyberabad Police Commissionerate reiterated its commitment to making the region drug-free and warned that strict legal action, including preventive detention, would be taken against habitual drug offenders.

Kavitha Seeks Extension of Graduate MLC Voter Registration Deadline

Hyderabad, Nov 2 (Way to News): Telangana Rakshana Sena chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha met Telangana Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) C. Sudarshan Reddy at BRK Bhavan in Hyderabad and requested an extension of the deadline for voter registration for the upcoming Graduate MLC elections. Speaking to the media after the meeting, Kavitha said the voter registration deadline is currently scheduled for November 6 and urged the Election Commission to extend it until the filing of nominations.



She pointed out that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process is scheduled to continue until November 21 and requested that graduate voter registration also be extended accordingly. She said the CEO had responded positively to their request. Kavitha stated that the Graduate MLC elections are being held across the state's six erstwhile districts and that graduates, including members of Generation Z, should take the elections seriously and register as voters. She said graduates would consider the performance of the government and the conduct of opposition parties before casting their votes. She added that the elections provide an opportunity for new political parties like Telangana Rakshana Sena to present their agendas to the public.

Kavitha also raised the issue of Telangana Rakshana Sena's party registration, which is pending in Delhi. She requested the Telangana CEO to submit a report to the concerned authorities in Delhi highlighting the party's activities, organisational committees and efforts to compete with mainstream political parties. She further expressed concern over the requirement for graduates to re-register before every MLC election, stating that the process creates difficulties and increases expenses for candidates. Kavitha also alleged that large educational institutions were influencing the elections through their students.

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Nitin Nabin Launches NDA's 'Save Democracy, End Anarchy' Campaign in Bihar

Patna, Nov 2 (Way to News): BJP National President Nitin Nabin on Monday launched the NDA's nationwide campaign, titled 'Save Democracy, End Anarchy', with a padyatra (foot march) from the historic Lajpat Park in Bihar's Bhagalpur city.

Visiting the Silk City for the first time after assuming charge as BJP National President, Nabin addressed a large public gathering ahead of the march and launched a scathing attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and the opposition alliance. He said Rahul Gandhi was concerned only about the political survival of his family, whereas Prime Minister Narendra Modi considered the country's 1.4 billion people his family and was committed to their development, security and prosperity. Describing PM Modi as the country's 'mukhya sevak' (chief servant) and 'chowkidar' (watchman), Nabin said the Prime Minister had consistently worked to fulfil the trust placed in him by the people.

Recalling the political situation before 2014, he alleged that the Congress-led UPA government had been plagued by corruption, major scams and serious internal and external security challenges. Farmers, women, young people and other sections of society were seeking a change, he said, adding that the people had entrusted Narendra Modi with the responsibility of governing the country in response to these aspirations.

Nabin said the NDA government's transparent policies and development initiatives had brought visible changes across the country.

He added that the BJP had made Antyodaya, or the upliftment of the poorest sections, and development its central political agenda, which had helped the NDA secure public support in the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Targeting the opposition, the BJP president accused its leaders of adopting double standards on democratic institutions and the electoral process.



He said opposition parties accepted the democratic system when they won elections in states such as Tamil Nadu and Kerala, but questioned constitutional institutions and electoral processes when they faced defeat. Referring to the Election Commission's challenge to Rahul Gandhi to substantiate his allegations with evidence, Nabin claimed that the Congress leader had failed to respond adequately to the Commission's invitation for an open discussion. He further accused Rahul Gandhi of attempting to damage India's democratic image internationally in collusion with foreign entities.

However, he asserted that India's democracy was mature and resilient enough to withstand such attempts.

Nabin warned that voters were the ultimate authority in a democracy and would deliver their verdict through elections. He said the opposition would lose public support if it continued with what he described as negative politics instead of adopting a responsible approach. He added that the campaign, launched from the historic Anga region, would expose forces allegedly spreading confusion and disorder in Bihar and across the country. Following his address, Nabin formally flagged off the 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' (Save Democracy, Eliminate Anarchy) padyatra.

According to event coordinator Nitesh Singh, the march covered a distance of approximately 1,300 metres.

Starting from Lajpat Park, the procession passed through Kharmanchak and Bhamashah Chowk before reaching the historic Ghantaghar Chowk, where it was scheduled to conclude.

Earlier, NDA leaders and supporters accorded him a grand reception upon his arrival at Bhagalpur airport.

His convoy subsequently passed through Tilka Manjhi, Adampur and Manik Sarkar Chowk before reaching Lajpat Park.

Bihar Urban Development Minister and Bhagalpur district in-charge Nitish Mishra also addressed the gathering, explaining the objectives of the padyatra and targeting the opposition over its allegations against the Election Commission. Mishra said the Election Commission was an independent constitutional body and accused certain political parties of misleading the public.

He remarked that opposition parties accepted the electoral system when they won elections, but raised allegations of vote theft when voters rejected them.

Centre, Assam Sign MoU for Skill India International Centre under PM-SETU

Guwahati, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Centre and the Assam Government on Monday exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up a Skill India International Centre as part of the strategic partnership under the PM-SETU initiative. The announcement was made at a programme organised here by the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 'Skilling for International Mobility & PM-SETU', with a special focus on the tourism and hospitality sector. Letters of Intent (LoIs) were also signed for two ITI clusters in Jorhat and Tinsukhia, supported by Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) and Oil India Limited (OIL), respectively, under the PM-SETU scheme. This marks a significant milestone in strengthening industry participation and fostering



industry-led transformation of the vocational education and training ecosystem in the region.

The programme also deliberated on international mobility and WorldSkills as avenues for expanding opportunities for young people from the North-Eastern Region. Delivering the keynote address, Jayant Chaudhary, Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, highlighted the importance of aligning India's skilling architecture with the changing requirements of industry and the global economy.

He emphasised that initiatives such as PM-SETU are aimed at bringing industry closer to skill development and training, ensuring that ITIs evolve into modern, demand-driven institutions capable of preparing young people for emerging opportunities. The programme highlighted the immense potential of the North-Eastern Region in tourism and hospitality, particularly in the context of the growing demand for skilled professionals in domestic and international markets. Discussions focused on aligning skill development programmes with emerging industry requirements.

Defence Ministry Signs 53,866 Crore Contracts for Eight Next-Gen Navy Corvettes

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Defence Ministry has signed contracts worth Rs 53,866.50 crore with Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) and Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) for acquisition of eight Next Generation Corvettes (NGCs) for the Indian Navy, according to an official statement on Monday. According to the Defence Ministry, the contracts were inked in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh here. Under the contracts, GRSE will construct five corvettes while GSL will build three, the ministry said.



The project is the first in which ships will be indigenously designed by the Indian Navy and constructed by Defence Public Sector Undertakings selected through a competitive process, marking a major milestone in indigenous warship design and construction. The NGCs will be equipped with advanced missiles, weapons and sensor suites, enabling them to undertake missions across air, surface and sub-surface domains.

"The induction of these ships will significantly enhance the Indian Navy's operational capabilities in safeguarding maritime trade routes, conducting anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare operations, strengthening coastal defence, undertaking littoral combat operations, and carrying out maritime presence and surveillance missions," according to the Defence Ministry. Moreover, the project is expected to generate about 72 lakh person-days of employment in shipyards and 460 lakh person-days in ancillary industries and MSMEs over the next ten years.

The ministry said the project will boost the indigenous shipbuilding ecosystem and is a major step towards Aatmanirbharta in defence manufacturing.

Earlier in October, the government cleared capital acquisition proposals worth Rs 2.12 lakh crore for defence forces out of which nearly 82 per cent of the procurements will be made from Indian Industry.

Nationwide Khet Bachaao Campaign Launched



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Central government has launched Khet Bachaao Abhiyaan (KBA)-Rabi 2026, a nationwide campaign running from October 22 to November 30 aimed at promoting soil health, balanced fertiliser uses and sustainable agriculture, with a target outreach of around 50 lakh farmers across 700 districts and 50,000 villages, an official factsheet said on Monday. The campaign seeks to address concerns including imbalanced nutrient application, declining soil organic matter, rising cultivation costs and degradation of natural resources while encouraging natural farming, water conservation and efficient resource use.

Its integrated approach combines farmer awareness, capacity building, field demonstrations and digital outreach to promote improved farming practices. The campaign envisages 4,150 teams involving KVKs and ATMA, supported by over 12,000 scientists and ATMA functionaries. The initiative seeks to conduct 50,000 field demonstrations and 11,750 structured training sessions. With an intended participation of 20 farmers per demonstration, the initiative targets an estimated outreach of 10 lakh farmers. The campaign also projects a social media outreach of 1.5 crore farmers, with an envisaged expansion of overall digital outreach to 2.5 crore.

States and Union Territories have been instructed to prioritise 100 high fertiliser-consuming districts to strengthen outreach and promote balanced nutrient management. With over 46 per cent of India's workforce engaged in agriculture and allied activities, soil health influences food systems and economic stability. Healthy soils support higher crop yields and reduce dependence on external inputs.

Each of the 950 ICAR institute teams is assigned three village visits per week, while the 700 KVK teams are expected to undertake four visits per week and each visit targets the participation of 100 farmers. Over a five-week period, the campaign envisages 5,650 awareness programmes, with an estimated outreach of 28.25 lakh farmers.

The campaign will also focus on educating farmers about soil testing and the appropriate use of fertilisers based on soil health requirements. Experts will encourage the adoption of integrated nutrient management practices, including the use of organic manure, biofertilisers and crop residues, to improve soil fertility and reduce excessive dependence on chemical inputs.

Arunachal CM Khandu Assures Dialogue on Proposed Siang Dam Amid Protests

Itanagar, Nov 2 (Way to News): Amid continuing protests against the proposed Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP), Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Monday assured the people that his government was ready to address their concerns through open dialogue, transparency and meaningful public consultations. In an open letter to the Adi community, Khandu acknowledged the concerns and apprehensions surrounding the proposed 11,200-MW project, assuring the people that their voices, land, homes and the Siang River, revered as Aane Siang, would remain central to every consideration.



The CM said he understood the growing anxiety among residents, particularly mothers, elders, youth and families, over the possible impact of the project on their land, homes and livelihoods.

Emphasising the need to clear misconceptions, the Chief Minister said the immediate step under consideration was the preparation of a Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR), which would assess the project's basic feasibility, possible implications and alternative options. He clarified that the preparation of the PFR did not mean approval for construction of the dam and that neither the Centre nor the state government had taken any decision to build the project.

Khandu said no decision on construction would be taken without detailed public consultations and the consent of the affected people, in accordance with the relevant legal provisions. Explaining the strategic importance of examining the project, he referred to reports that China had started constructing a dam on the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Medog County, around 40 km from the international border, on July 19, 2025.

He said that since around 65 per cent of the water in the Siang originates in China, developments upstream could pose potential water-related risks, including sudden high flows and water scarcity during the dry winter months. "We cannot control what happens upstream, but we can control what we do on our side.

Delhi High Court Issues Notice on Vehicle Entry Ban, Denies Interim Stay

New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Delhi High Court on Monday issued notice on a petition challenging the city government's notification restricting the entry of vehicles registered outside the national capital that do not comply with BS-VI emission standards from November 1, but declined to grant any interim stay on its implementation.



A division bench of Acting Chief Justice Nitin Wasudeo Sambre and Justice Sanjay Sharma issued notice on the plea and directed that it be tagged with another pending matter.The High Court listed the matter for further hearing on November 27.The petition challenges the city government's decision to prohibit non-BS-VI compliant vehicles registered outside Delhi from entering the national capital during the winter pollution-control period, contending that the restriction is arbitrary and discriminatory.

Seeking interim relief, the petitioner argued that vehicles registered in Delhi that do not meet BS-VI emission standards would continue to be permitted to ply in the capital, while similarly placed vehicles registered in neighbouring states would be barred from entering the city.

It contended that such differential treatment violates Article 14 of the Constitution, as the classification is based on the place of registration rather than the emission characteristics of the vehicles. The plea argued that vehicles with identical emission standards cannot be subjected to different treatment merely because they are registered in different states.

The restriction, which came into effect on November 1, will remain in force until January 31, 2027, as part of the Delhi government's measures to tackle rising pollution levels during the winter season. Under the restrictions, vehicles registered outside Delhi that do not comply with BS-VI emission norms will not be permitted to enter the national capital. However, BS-VI compliant vehicles, along with those powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and electricity, have been exempted. Ambulances, fire tenders and certain vehicles engaged in specified essential services have also been kept outside the ambit of the restrictions.

According to estimates from the Transport Department, more than 10 lakh vehicles across Delhi-NCR, including Noida, Greater Noida, Gurugram, Faridabad, and Ghaziabad, do not meet BS-VI emission standards.

INDIA Bloc to Decide PM Face After Polls: SP MP



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News):Samajwadi Party MP Awadhesh Prasad on Monday asserted that the INDIA bloc would form the next government at the Centre, saying either Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, of the Congress or his own party's chief Akhilesh Yadav could become Prime Minister, with the final decision to be taken by the Opposition alliance after winning the election. Reacting to Union Minister Pralhad Joshi's remark that the Opposition would continue holding mock Parliament sessions for the next 30 years and that Gandhi would remain a "mock Prime Minister", Prasad said political change was inevitable.

Prasad said: "Look, when the winds of change begin to blow, and change is the law of nature, transformation is inevitable. There will certainly be a change, and the INDIA bloc will have a Prime Minister. Whoever the INDIA bloc chooses as its leader will become the Prime Minister. It could be Rahul Gandhi or our leader Akhilesh Yadav. However, the final decision on this will be taken by the INDIA bloc after winning the election." The veteran leader also rejected suggestions of differences within the Opposition alliance, asserting that its constituents remained united despite the Bharatiya Janata Party's criticism. "There is no rift among the members of the INDIA bloc. There is unity among the INDIA bloc. The purpose for which the members have come together is a major one; there is unity and harmony among the people of the INDIA bloc, which baffles the Bharatiya Janata Party," he said.

Referring to the INDIA bloc's rally held at Ramlila Maidan on Sunday, the SP MP described the gathering as historic and said it reflected public support for political change.

"A historic crowd gathered at Ramlila Maidan. This crowd did not belong to any one party, individual or section of society; it represented the voice of the entire nation and its people," Prasad said.

"It was the voice of change. The rally was not organised against anyone or with the intention of causing harm to anyone; rather, it turned into a mega rally. There was not even room to stand on the ground, which was completely packed. There was a huge crowd on the roads as well," he added.

Prasad said the rally was also aimed at protecting the voting rights of Dalits and safeguarding reservation. "The rally was for the Dalits for whose voting rights Baba Saheb Ambedkar fought. The rally was to fight for protecting reservation. If the BJP thinks that there was no heavy crowd, then why is the BJP concerned?" he asked.

Editorial

High-Altitude Warfare

Ladakh is no ordinary frontier. It is a high-altitude desert of bare ridgelines, thin air and punishing extremes, where winter temperatures plunge far below freezing, and the oxygen at the passes leaves even acclimatised soldiers breathless. The Line of Actual Control with China and the Line of Control with Pakistan, together with the Siachen Glacier, make up some of the most difficult terrain anywhere in the world to man, let alone defend. Therefore, the Army's 14 Corps has stepped up training for its mechanised forces in this setting, which is both prudent and necessary. The latest exercises focus on acclimatisation, crew proficiency, equipment management and coordination between arms. These are not routine details. A tank engine behaves differently at 15,000 feet, lubricants thicken in the cold, and crews who have not spent weeks adjusting to the altitude are prone to fatigue and error. Readiness in such conditions builds slowly, through repetition and hard experience, and must be sustained long before any crisis arrives.

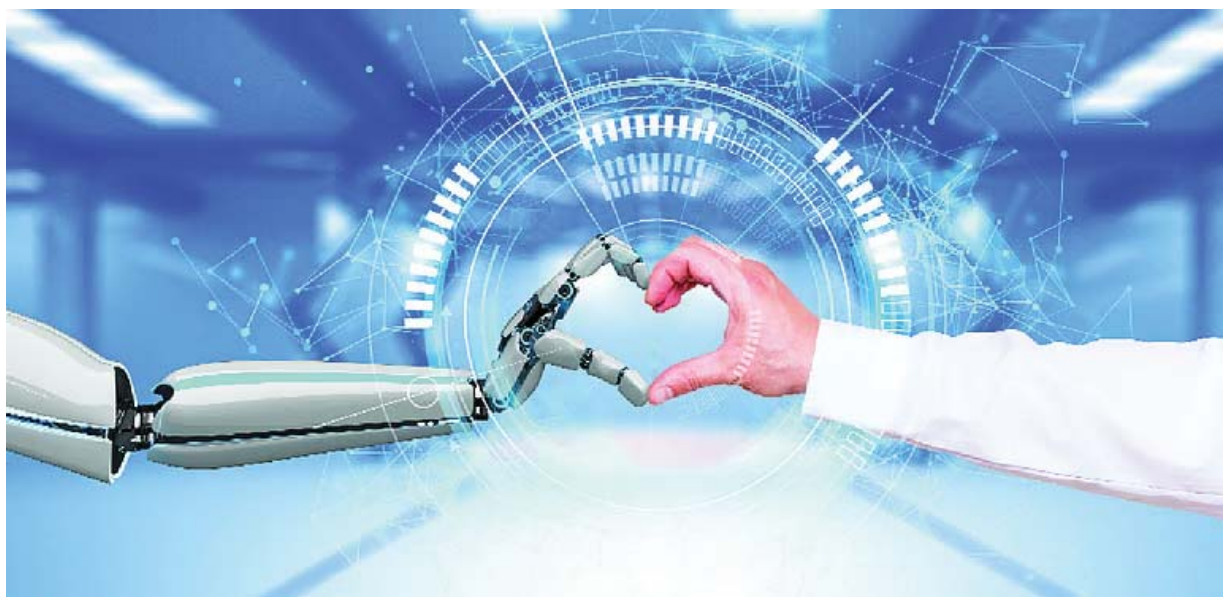
The timing carries its own message. Reports of face-offs between Indian and Chinese troops at several places in Arunachal Pradesh are a reminder that friction along the border has not ended with the disengagement in Ladakh. They also fit a familiar pattern. Beijing's approach has long been one of incremental advance: a patrol extended here, a structure raised there, a claim pressed a little further each season. No single step looks decisive, yet over time the cumulative effect changes facts on the ground. Meeting that strategy calls for constant vigilance rather than episodic alarm.

Technology is transforming surveillance. Drones, sensors and radars now watch ridgelines that once went unobserved, and the Army is rightly looking to lighter mechanised platforms and unmanned systems. Yet no machine can hold ground. The volatility of Indo-Chinese confrontations is such that neither side seeks a full-scale armed conflict, and that very restraint is what makes a physical presence indispensable. Boots on the ground signal resolve, deny space to creeping encroachment and allow commanders to respond proportionately without crossing the threshold into war. Electronic eyes can detect an intrusion; only soldiers can stop one. The 1962 war taught India that neglecting mountain warfare has serious consequences. The Kargil conflict of 1999 reinforced the lesson, as infantrymen scaled near-vertical heights under fire to dislodge intruders from positions they had occupied in the Army's absence. The creation of dedicated mountain battalions and of 14 Corps itself in the aftermath of Kargil reflects an institutional determination never to be caught unprepared again. Extensive exercises since then have sought to make soldiers fit, acclimatised and battle-ready for exactly this kind of terrain.

Armour and mobility have become decisive in this picture. The Army first used tanks at altitude in 1947-48, when Stuarts reached Zoji La, and again in 1962, when AMX-13s were flown to Chushul. Today, the flatter stretches of Depsang, Chushul and Demchok allow tanks and infantry combat vehicles to be deployed, and China has fielded its mix of light and heavy armour opposite them. Mechanised forces, alongside multi-utility vehicles that carry troops, supplies and equipment, can decide an engagement in these conditions. But roads such as the Manali-Leh axis are too narrow and winding for heavy tanks, while the Jammu-Srinagar-Leh route takes days. Airlift is the answer, and the arrival of the C-17 Globemaster, able to carry the 48-tonne T-90, made it possible to station India's most powerful tank on the frontier. Since the 2020 stand-off, thousands of troops, tanks, infantry combat vehicles, artillery and radar systems have been moved up, and the inventory grows with every passing month.

India must turn disruption into opportunity

SANTHOSH MATHEW



Every technological revolution has sparked fears of job losses, yet many have created new industries and livelihoods. As artificial intelligence reshapes the world of work, India must invest in skills, innovation and infrastructure to turn disruption into an engine of growth and shared prosperity "Technology cannot be stopped, even if God wills it" is a popular saying that captures the dilemma of our times. Every technological revolution generates anxiety about its consequences, particularly among those who fear losing their livelihoods or traditional ways of life. History offers a powerful lesson: technologies once viewed with suspicion often become indispensable instruments of progress. Artificial intelligence (AI), the latest stage of this transformation, should be seen not merely as a threat to employment but as an opportunity for India to create new industries, livelihoods and prosperity.

Resistance to technological change is not new. Around 2,500 years ago, the Greek philosopher Socrates reportedly expressed concern that writing would weaken human memory and encourage people to depend on written records rather than their own minds. Centuries later, when the printing press transformed the circulation of knowledge, some religious authorities feared that printing sacred texts would diminish their sanctity and undermine established authority. The spread of printed books, instead, expanded literacy, encouraged debate and made knowledge accessible to millions. What was once considered a threat eventually became one of humanity's greatest instruments of intellectual progress. The Industrial Revolution produced similar apprehensions. When machines began transforming production, fears grew that human labour would become redundant. In the late sixteenth century, Queen Elizabeth I of England reportedly opposed a patent for a knitting machine because it could threaten the livelihoods of hand-knitters. The concern reflected the tension between technological innovation and the protection of existing occupations. Industrialisation eventually transformed economies, created new industries and changed the nature of work, although its benefits were unevenly distributed and many workers experienced hardship during the transition.

Economists and social commentators also warned that mechanisation and computerisation could eliminate employment on a massive scale. During the twentieth century, the arrival of computers revived fears that machines would replace office workers and make many conventional occupations unnecessary. Automation intensified these concerns by enabling machines to perform tasks previously carried out by people. Nevertheless, computerisation also created new professions in software development, information technology, telecommunications, digital services and systems management. India's IT industry is a striking example of how a technology initially associated with disruption can become a source of economic growth and employment. Kerala provides an especially interesting illustration. In the 1980s, the Communist Party of India (Marxist)-led Left Democratic Front organised a statewide bandh against computerisation. Computers were seen as instruments that could destroy jobs and undermine workers' security. Trade unions feared that machines would make employees redundant, while many people were uncertain about the future of work. These concerns reflected genuine anxieties in a society where employment was central to economic security.

Today, computers are indispensable across political parties, government offices and educational institutions. Even Communist parties that once opposed computerisation now rely on it. Yesterday's symbol of job destruction has become an everyday tool, showing that permanent resistance to technological change is rarely effective. AI has revived these anxieties. Its ability to perform language, data analysis and decision-making tasks threatens jobs in customer service, programming and data entry, putting entry-level employment under pressure. These risks must be acknowledged rather than dismissed.

At the same time, focusing exclusively on job losses means overlooking the new opportunities emerging around AI. Data centres require engineers, electricians, cooling-system specialists, cybersecurity professionals and network technicians. The manufacture of microchips, robots, drones and advanced machinery will generate demand for hardware engineers and skilled technicians. AI development also creates opportunities in data management, algorithm design, energy infrastructure, ethical oversight and specialised technical services. The benefits extend beyond software companies to construction, manufacturing, logistics and maintenance. India has an opportunity to build on its established strengths in information and communication technology. The growth of the IT industry has supported millions of livelihoods and strengthened the country's position in the global services economy. AI could open another chapter in this journey. Global investment in computing infrastructure, digital services and advanced manufacturing can create employment.

Stent not for every blocked artery

CHANDRAKANT LAHARIYA



Keralam Chief Minister VD Satheesan stirred a controversy recently when he called for a campaign against unnecessary angioplasty. He alleged that financial incentives, including commissions, could influence decisions to perform the procedure. The Indian Medical Association's state chapter objected that such generalisations could undermine public trust in doctors. A Kozhikode Medical College cardiologist supported his concern.

Both sides have a point. Emergency angioplasty during a heart attack saves lives and public distrust must never delay treatment. Anyone experiencing possible heart attack symptoms should seek emergency hospital care immediately. But what about angioplasty performed and stents inserted on patients whose heart disease is stable? The concern about unnecessary procedures is neither imaginary nor confined to India. A landmark study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association in 2011 examined 5,00,154 angioplasties across US hospitals. A proportion of non-emergency procedures were classified as inappropriate under established clinical criteria. Emergency interventions, by contrast, were overwhelmingly appropriate. The distinction matters.

Reliable data measuring the appropriateness of angioplasty in India is scarce. That absence should worry policymakers. However, India has its own warning signs on excess procedures and surgeries. When the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority capped coronary stent prices in 2017, dramatic price reductions exposed troubling distortions in medical device pricing. Controversies involving unnecessary hysterectomies and the striking difference between caesarean rates in public and private hospitals raise similar questions about incentives without proving wrongdoing in cardiac care.

Science already offers answers about when angioplasty helps. Consider a patient undergoing a routine examination who is told: "You have 70 per cent blockage in a coronary artery. We must insert a stent immediately." The patient, understandably frightened, agrees. But does the narrowing itself justify intervention? Not necessarily. The COURAGE trial, published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2007, studied 2,287 patients with stable coronary artery disease in the US and Canada. It compared angioplasty plus optimal medical treatment against medical treatment alone. Adding angioplasty did not reduce deaths or heart attacks over a median follow-up of several years. Medicines formed the foundation of both approaches.

The larger ISCHEMIA trial, published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2020, enrolled 5,179 patients from 320 sites in 37 countries, with stable disease and moderate or severe evidence of reduced blood supply to the heart. An initial invasive strategy, involving angiography and possible angioplasty or bypass surgery, did not significantly improve its main combined cardiovascular outcome compared with beginning with medicines and reserving intervention for clinical need.

Extended follow-up, reported in Circulation in 2023, examined survival over a median of 5.7 years. Estimated seven-year all-cause mortality was 12.7% with the invasive strategy and 13.4% with conservative management, a difference that was not statistically significant. Cardiovascular mortality was lower with initial intervention, but higher non-cardiovascular mortality offset that advantage. These findings resist simplistic conclusions. The implications are profound. Opening a narrowed artery can improve blood flow, but it does not automatically prevent a future heart attack or extend life. There is, however, an essential qualification. These trials concern stable coronary disease, not heart attacks or unstable angina. Important exclusions included significant left-main disease, severely impaired pumping function and unacceptable chest pain. These exceptions matter.

Angioplasty, however, has some role in relieving persistent angina. The placebo-controlled ORBITA trial, published in The Lancet in 2018, randomly assigned 200 patients with stable single-vessel disease to angioplasty or a sham procedure after medicines were optimised. It found no significant additional improvement in exercise time. Yet ORBITA-2, published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 2023, studied 301 patients receiving little or no anti-anginal medication and demonstrated meaningful symptom relief from angioplasty.

The angioplasty should be recognised as distinct process of bypass surgery, which offers survival benefits for selected patients, including some with complex multivessel disease, diabetes or markedly impaired heart function.

Myth of migrants and politics in Punjab

SHIWANI AND HARINDER S HAPPY



MIGRATION is a human urge driven by the pursuit of opportunities and ambitions. It has always been part of human history, and it is difficult for anyone to claim that their ancestors have lived in the exact place where they live today. Yet migration is also marked by paradoxes, as migrants' positionalities —regional, religious, caste-based and, of course, class-based — are frequently questioned. Anti-migrant sentiment is widespread across the world, often arising from the misgovernance of particular regions, yet the blame for the resulting problems is frequently placed on migrants.

Over the past few years, migrants in Punjab have faced various forms of sanctions from sections of the native Punjabi population. While there have been instances of discrimination against them, there are also positive stories of migrants being welcomed and living peacefully while maintaining community relations in parts of cities and villages. Some of Punjab's 'urban villages' have substantial migrant populations, while the industrial focal points of most major cities are home to large numbers of migrants. While some migrants live in rented accommodation, many have become voters after living in the state for the past 30-40 years.

In these areas, there are instances of migrants serving as sarpanches (or councilors whose areas are under municipalities). These urban villages are located on the outskirts of municipalities, mainly in industrial areas with little or no agricultural land. In other words, these are urban colonies but administratively are outside municipal boundaries. Since many of these settlements have large migrant populations, some have migrant sarpanches as well.

A popular perception in Punjab is that migrants — often referred to as 'bhaiyas' — are becoming excessively numerous and changing the state's demographic composition. Several political leaders have spoken against migrants, while others are reluctant to do so. It is claimed that 'bhaiyas' will rule Punjab in the near future, with the growing presence of migrant sarpanches in village politics cited as evidence. To examine these claims, we investigated 15 villages and 30 urban wards across three districts of Punjab, selected because of their substantial migrant populations and the prevalence of such cases.

However, accounts from two villages reveal a more disturbing reality. At Dagana Khurd village in Hoshiarpur district, where a migrant woman serves as the sarpanch, she is reportedly the only migrant in the entire village. Upon inquiry, we found that her own house is in the city and that her Aadhaar card was issued using a 'care of' address in the village. She is the de jure sarpanch as the seat was reserved for Scheduled Caste (SC) women. However, the village's dominant Jat leaders fielded their housemaid as the candidate, sidelining a local Dalit woman who was also a candidate. This is her second term, yet she has not been given any real authority. Instead, a Jat panchayat member acts as the de facto sarpanch and keeps the bank passbook, muster rolls and official stamp in her possession. The elected sarpanch is neither involved in village development programmes nor informed about meetings; she is reportedly misinformed deliberately.

A similar story emerges from Raowali village in Jalandhar district, where the sarpanch's seat was reserved for an SC candidate. A Jat landowner allegedly fielded his siri (bonded labourer) as a dummy candidate. Here, too, this Jat family has long dominated village politics, holding the sarpanch's position across multiple terms and exercising considerable influence over the selection of successive sarpanches.

The local SC candidate who contested against the migrant sarpanch filed a complaint with the Deputy Commissioner and the matter is subjudice before the Punjab and Haryana High Court. The local Dalit candidate has alleged that the Jat family arranged a fake SC certificate for the migrant sarpanch and he made a certificate of 'Adh-Dharmi' — a caste which is not there in the SC list of Chhattishgarh, her native state.

These two cases reveal that the issue is not simply about migrants. Rather, it concerns caste hegemony, which has enabled migrants to become sarpanches under circumstances that undermine the representation of local Dalits. These cases also explain how the Jat dominant caste (Jats) perceive Dalits as difficult to control and view migrants as potential new subordinates.

This dynamic is also evident in agricultural labour relations and wage negotiations in villages, where village Dalits are choosing not to work for local landowners and migrant labourers are replacing the traditional siri-pali system of farm labour, associated with relations of dependence and, in some cases, bonded labour.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

India And UAE Discuss Ways To Strengthen Investment Ties, Cultural Exchanges



Abu Dhabi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri held a meeting with the Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Department of Finance and Managing Director and Group CEO of L'IMAD Holding Company, Jassem Mohamed Bu Ataba Al Zaabi, on Monday, holding discussions on prospects of scaling up economic engagement with a view to enhance investment flows and building long-term commercial partnerships that benefits both nations.

Additional Secretary (Gulf) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Aseem Mahajan, India's Ambassador to UAE Deepak Mittal and other officials were also present during the meeting. "Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met with HE Jassem Al Zaabi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Department of Finance and CEO, L'imad. They exchanged views on avenues for enhanced cooperation and explored potential areas to strengthen investment ties," the Indian Embassy in the UAE stated on X. According to the MEA, Misri also met Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of the Department of Culture and Tourism, Abu Dhabi, and discussed fresh avenues for cooperation in cultural and creative exchanges, including 'House of India', as well as tourism.

During his two-day visit, Misri held a meeting with UAE's Minister of State for International Cooperation and Special Envoy for India, Reem Al Hashimy, where they reviewed the strategic bilateral partnership across various sectors and discussed new avenues of cooperation. They also exchanged views on regional and global developments.

"Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri met UAE Minister of State and Special Envoy to India, HE Reem Al Hashimy. They reviewed the entire gamut of India-UAE bilateral relations and discussed ways to further deepen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. They also exchanged views on the situation in West Asia and global issues of mutual interest," the Indian Embassy in the UAE posted on X. The Foreign Secretary was on a two-day official visit to the UAE that took place in the context of the regular, high-level engagement that characterises India-UAE relations and provided an occasion to take stock of the progress of the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

"The visit underscored the mutual trust and strategic convergence that underpin India-UAE ties, and the shared resolve of both sides to impart further momentum to the partnership in the period ahead," the MEA mentioned in a statement.

Iran Says Strait Of Hormuz Can Be Reopened In Two Days If US Meets Its Demands



Tehran, Nov 2 (Way to News): Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said on Monday that if the United States meets Iran's "legitimate" demands, it will be possible to reopen the Strait of Hormuz within two days.

At a weekly press conference in Tehran, Baghaei said the basis for any indirect interaction between Iran and the United States through mediators remains the seven-day plan proposed by Tehran in September, adding Iran has reduced the period for implementing the plan to two days based on its good faith.

He noted, "We have announced that if Iran's demands are met, the possibility will exist to restore security to the Strait of Hormuz and start the negotiation process in a short period of time," stressing that all these depend on the American side's decision on how to proceed regarding the future of the process, Xinhua News Agency reported.

Baghaei said Iran has articulated its demands "clearly, reasonably, and logically," underlining that unless the United States ends its anti-Iran naval blockade and addresses Tehran's "legitimate" demands, no agreement will be reached and the Strait of Hormuz will not be reopened or secured.

Iran conveyed the seven-day plan containing its conditions for ending the war and reopening the Strait of Hormuz to the United States through mediators on the sidelines of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly in New York on September 22, following which Tehran and Washington have reportedly continued exchanging messages on the proposal.

On February 28, Israel and the United States launched joint attacks on Tehran and other Iranian cities. Iran responded with waves of missile and drone attacks targeting Israel and US bases and assets in the region, and tightened its grip on the Strait of Hormuz. The Strait of Hormuz links the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea. It is one of the world's most important energy corridors, carrying oil and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports from major Gulf producers to international markets.

All Nine On Board Killed In Florida Learjet Crash



West Palm Beach (Florida), Nov 2 (Way to News): All nine people aboard a Learjet 60 died when the business jet crashed into a residential area in Florida's Palm Beach County on Sunday, US Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said, confirming the toll from an accident that left a crater beside a road and forced authorities to arrange shelter for hundreds of residents.

The aircraft crashed near Cresthaven at about 12:50 p.m. local time, according to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). It had departed Austin-Bergstrom International Airport in Texas and was bound for North Eleuthera Airport in the Bahamas. "All 9 people on board were killed," Duffy wrote on X. He called the crash a "horrific tragedy" and said the FAA was sending personnel to support the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which will lead the investigation.

Duffy asked the public to remember the victims' families and said the two federal agencies were monitoring developments. The FAA's initial account confirmed nine people were aboard but did not disclose their condition. Duffy's subsequent statement established that none had survived. Officials had not publicly identified those killed, said how many were passengers and crew or released a confirmed cause of the crash by Sunday evening. The Learjet came down near Military Trail, between Cresthaven Boulevard and 10th Avenue North. Images from local television coverage showed a large fire, heavy smoke and debris scattered around the road and adjacent residential community.

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis visited the scene and described the impact as "cataclysmic." "It looked like a missile going down. It left a big crater on the side of the road," DeSantis told reporters. The governor said authorities had received no reports of people on the ground being killed or injured as of his briefing. He noted that debris had spread across a substantial area and thanked emergency personnel for their rapid response.

Palm Beach County officials said about 600 people living near the crash site could require temporary accommodation while investigators and emergency crews worked in the area.

County Commissioner Joel Flores said two shelters were on standby. County transit vehicles were being readied to move residents, while the American Red Cross was available to provide support. Officials said the closure of the area could last beyond Sunday. The NTSB said it was dispatching an investigative team to Florida, with members expected to arrive on Sunday and Monday. The board also announced plans for a media briefing in West Palm Beach on Monday.

Houthis Report Airstrikes On Red Sea Oil Port, Telecom Facility In Yemen



Sanaa, Nov 2 (Way to News): Yemen's Houthi group has said that a series of airstrikes hit Ras Isa port, a key oil terminal on the Red Sea coast in the western province of Hodeidah, including a port berth and a commercial vessel docked there. Houthi-run al-Masirah TV Sunday evening (local time) attributed the strikes on Ras Isa port to what the group described as "Saudi aggression." The channel gave no immediate information on casualties or the extent of damage to the port or vessel.

The channel later reported another airstrike on a telecommunications facility southeast of Saada city, the capital of the Houthis' northern stronghold of Saada province, and attributed the attack to Saudi warplanes. No casualties were immediately reported. Separately, Houthi military spokesman Yahya Sarea said in a statement posted on social media platform X on Sunday that 75 air and missile strikes had hit the provinces of Saada, Taiz, Amran, Ibb, Dhamar, Lahj, Hodeidah and Al-Jawf over the past 24 hours.

He claimed the attacks caused civilian casualties and brought the total number of air and missile strikes since the latest escalation began to 3,830. The figures could not be independently verified, reports Xinhua news agency. Also on Sunday, the Saudi-led coalition announced that it had intercepted and destroyed a drone and a ballistic missile launched by the Houthis towards the kingdom's southern region. Recent weeks have seen escalating cross-border hostilities between the Houthis and Saudi Arabia, with Saudi strikes hitting Houthi-held areas in Yemen and the Houthis launching missiles and drones toward Saudi Arabia.

Yemen has been mired in conflict since late 2014, when the Houthis seized the capital Sanaa and much of northern Yemen, prompting the Saudi-led coalition to intervene in 2015 in support of the Yemeni government.

Michael Mann Accidentally Shoots Himself In Leg, Rushed To Hospital

Los Angeles, Nov 2 (Way to News): Hollywood filmmaker Michael Mann accidentally shot himself in the foot, and was hospitalized. The filmmaker was at a Los Angeles gun range, when he accidentally shot the firearm.The news was shared by the Los Angeles Police Department. Mann, who has been an experienced target shooter for decades, is reported to be in stable condition, reports 'Variety'.

The wound was described as "subcutaneous and minor". His representatives said in a statement, "On Saturday, at a gun range, a weapon accidentally discharged while holstered resulting in a superficial injury to film director Michael Mann. He was treated and is being released". The director was injured while trying to holster a firearm during a target practice at a sanctioned gun range when the weapon accidentally went off. The incident occurred around 4:00 pm PST at the Range Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Police Department confirmed he was in stable condition at the time of the call.

As per 'Variety', Mann is best known for directing such movies as 'Heat', 'Thief', 'Manhunter', 'Collateral' and 'The Insider'. He last directed 'Ferrari', a sports biopic starring Adam Driver as Enzo Ferrari and Penelope Cruz as his wife Laura.

The 83-year-old filmmaker is currently working on 'Heat 2', the long-awaited sequel to his 1995 crime drama starring Al Pacino and Robert De Niro.

US strategy links Myanmar peace talks to rare-earth access



WASHINGTON, Nov 2 (Way to News): Washington aims to use peace diplomacy in Myanmar as a way to expand US influence and potentially gain access to the country's rare-earth deposits, according to a recently published State Department strategy document.

Reuters reported last month that US officials have quietly held talks with Myanmar's nominally civilian government, run by the former general who led a 2021 coup, triggering a civil war that the United Nations estimates has killed 100,000 people and displaced more than 3.5 million.

The re-engagement, involving the State Department's top intelligence official Michael Vance, marks a departure from years of US policy aimed at isolating the military. The talks have included discussions of how to gain access to rare-earth minerals mainly located in conflict-affected areas and currently exported to China.

But an integrated country strategy for the US mission in Myanmar, previously known as Burma, is unusually explicit about how Washington envisions US companies gaining a foothold in the country through involvement in negotiations involving the country's myriad armed groups, which include pro-democracy groups and ethnic insurgents who have in some cases fought the military for decades seeking autonomy.

US SEEKS PEACE BY 2030

The US mission to Myanmar will work toward a ceasefire that "presents a pathway to a lasting peace agreement by 2030," it says. It says the work includes facilitating "at least three multistakeholder forums that produce concrete agreements or policy proposals advancing fiscal federalism and territorial demarcation in Burma, which will create opportunities to access Burma's bountiful rare earth resources and combat scam centers."

The strategy document does not spell out whether the US intends to lift sanctions or address other compliance concerns that deter investment in Myanmar.

The State Department did not respond to a request for comment on the document, which says it was approved on August 31 but was posted on the department's website more recently. The US maintains financial sanctions on coup leader-turned-president Min Aung Hlaing, others in the military-backed government and businesses connected to them, but has long stressed it wants to see legitimate, responsible business in the country. The Trump administration has removed several Myanmar nationals and companies from its sanctions list.

Lebanon caught between Israeli threats and Hezbollah's hard-line stance



BEIRUT, Nov 2 (Way to News): Direct Israeli threats have once again placed the Lebanese capital in the crosshairs, amid Israeli media reports that Israel could use Iran-backed Hezbollah's acknowledgment of an explosives shipment bound for Beirut's southern suburbs to justify further military action.

The shipment was allegedly intended to help rebuild the group's military capabilities and support attacks on Israeli targets.

Israeli airstrikes hit towns in southern Lebanon on Monday, while military drones flew at low altitude over Beirut. Ali Al-Amin, editor-in-chief of the Janoubia news website, told Arab News: "The region is only hours, days or a few weeks away from a major military confrontation." He warned that any renewed use of Hezbollah's weapons against Israel would give the enemy "a free gift by providing a pretext to destroy what remains of the villages and towns and displace the people of the south."

Al-Amin said the military option had failed to establish a balance of deterrence.

He said: "The only remaining solution for Lebanon and its Shiite community is an immediate return to the protection of the state and the Lebanese army, and adherence to the Taif Agreement and international resolutions." The Lebanese Health Ministry said at the weekend that Israeli military action in Lebanon between March 2 and Oct. 30, 2026, had killed 4,389 people and wounded 12,428.

The combined toll from the two rounds of conflict since Oct. 8, 2023, stood at 8,956 dead and 30,664 wounded. Lebanon says Israel continues to occupy about 700 sq. km of Lebanese territory and controls other villages through military force. Israeli officials have threatened to expand the incursion as far as Nabatiyeh and Tyre and drive residents north toward the Awali River. Al-Amin said Hezbollah's decision to drag Lebanon into another support front would amount to "a suicidal operation." He added that the group was unlikely to intervene if any US-Iran confrontation remained limited.

An official Lebanese source told Arab News that there had been no progress in direct negotiations between Lebanon and Israel and that no diplomatic contacts were currently underway. "Lebanon has entered an election-related diplomatic freeze because elections are approaching in both the United States, the sole sponsor of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, and Israel," the source said.

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun said several days ago that the necessary progress in negotiations with Israel had yet to be achieved.

"We remain committed to diplomatic solutions for resolving disputes," he said.

Israeli newspaper Maariv reported on Monday that the Israeli military was preparing for the possibility that Hezbollah could enter a conflict in support of Iran. Preparations reportedly include a large-scale mobilization of reservists and strikes against Hezbollah targets across Lebanon.

Hezbollah's Secretary-General Naim Qassem said last week that the resistance would continue and refused to discuss the group's weapons while Israeli occupation and attacks persisted. He demanded the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon in accordance with the Nov. 27, 2024, agreement and UN Security Council Resolution 1701.

Although Qassem acknowledged that the cost of resistance was high, he said that "surrender and concessions would leave nothing."

Meanwhile, the investigation into the explosives shipment that two Hezbollah members were transporting from the Bekaa Valley to Beirut's southern suburbs has seen a new judicial development.

Lebanese army Intelligence has identified a suspect referred to in the military judiciary's preliminary investigation.

Hebron Residents Return as Israeli Troops Withdraw

HEBRON, Nov 2 (Way to News): Displaced families began returning to their homes in Hebron on Monday and schools, universities and businesses reopened following the withdrawal of Israeli forces from parts of the occupied West Bank city.

Hebron's Mayor Yousef Al-Jaabari said some residents returned to damaged homes in Al-Jaladah and Ein Deir Baha neighborhoods, where Israeli troops had imposed sweeping closures and forced families to evacuate their homes before turning them into military posts. Other homes were demolished.

"Life returned to normal. This morning, we saw students going back to their classrooms and universities, and factories starting resuming operations," Al-Jaabari told Arab News.

Movement restrictions, however, remained at the entrances of the city, he said, despite the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the two neighborhoods and other parts of Hebron.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu launched the operation after Palestinian gunmen killed two Israeli soldiers and injured three others at a Hebron checkpoint on Oct. 23. Both assailants were killed in the attack.

The following morning, Israeli troops closed all entrances to Hebron, sealed off the densely populated Al-Jaladah and Ein Deir Baha neighborhoods, near the military checkpoint at the entrance of Hebron where the attack took place.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

Hardeep Singh Puri Urges Youth to Build World-Class Indian Enterprises



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, delivered the Valedictory Address at the two day National Conference titled 'Pathways to Viksit Bharat: A Centenary Conclave', organized by Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), University of Delhi, at the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi today. Addressing distinguished faculty members, economic experts, policymakers and students, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri reflected on the critical interplay between continuity and change in India's developmental journey. Commemorating SRCC's centenary year, the Minister emphasized how the institution founded during colonial rule, now prepares young Indians to lead global enterprises and shape public policy in a nation of vastly expanded possibilities.

Invoking philosopher Alfred North Whitehead, Shri Puri remarked, "The task of a university is to weld together imagination and experience. An institution that sustains this exchange keeps renewing its intellectual life. That is how knowledge advances and how societies acquire the capacity to change." He urged students to leverage their academic training in commerce and economics to exercise critical judgment, question assumptions and transform practical challenges into productive enterprises.

The Governme t of India has approved the Samudra Manthan Scheme (National Offshore Exploration Scheme) with an outlay of 84,084 crore. This scheme aims to unlock India's vast offshore hydrocarbon potential and strengthen energy security. It focuses on accelerating exploration, deploying modern technology, creating shared infrastructure, and strengthening domestic manufacturing.

Focusing on the energy sector and sustainable economic development, Shri Puri cited the GOBARdhan scheme launched on 1 October, underscoring Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Waste to Wealth' and 'Annadata to Urjadata'. He stated that converting agricultural residue and organic waste into domestic energy is a practical commercial opportunity that serves farmers.

, generates economic returns and strengthens national energy security.

Highlighting India's resilience amidst global economic turbulence and geopolitical disruptions, the Minister noted that India successfully maintained the continuity of essential fuel supplies during recent West Asian crises by diversifying energy sources and bolstering domestic capacities.

Reiterating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call during his recent visit to SRCC, Shri Puri asked the young audience why Indian enterprises should not lead the world when Indian talent already leads major global corporations. He challenged the youth to build world-class Indian institutions and enterprises rooted in reliability, innovation, and international trust.

PM-AJAY Covers 47,200 Villages, Benefits 47.79 Lakh People Across India



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Under the Adarsh Gram component of Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, over 47,200 villages benefiting more than 47.79 lakh citizens across the country, have been covered. In addition, a total of 46,944 development works have been completed, while 27,032 Village Development Plans (VDPs) have been prepared, under the PM AJAY.

A Senior Official in the Ministry said as on September 8, 2026, 18,093 villages had been declared Adarsh Grams which reflects continued efforts of the Ministry to improve infrastructure, basic services and the quality of life in Scheduled Caste-majority villages.

He said the Scheduled Caste-dominated villages are being developed as model villages by addressing critical gaps in infrastructure and essential services and an 'Adarsh Gram' is envisioned as a village where people have access to basic services, the minimum needs of all sections of society are met and disparities are reduced to a minimum. The Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY) implemented by the Ministry, is advancing the socio-economic and educational empowerment of Scheduled Caste communities through infrastructure development, livelihood promotion, education and improved access to basic services.

The Official informed that the Scheme has three components including development of Scheduled Caste-dominated villages into 'Adarsh Grams', Grants-in-Aid for socio-economic projects at the State and District levels, and construction and repair of hostels. He stated that the Grants-in-Aid component provides financial assistance for district and State-level projects aimed at the socio-economic advancement of Scheduled Castes.

It focuses on increasing the income of the target population through comprehensive livelihood projects, skill development and related infrastructure, he added.

Ministry of Mines Collects 3,020 Kg of E-Waste Under Special



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Ministry of Mines and its field offices have undertaken several initiatives during the first fortnight of Special Campaign 6, launched on 2 October 2026, to promote sustainability, cleanliness and responsible resource management. With a focus on the effective collection, segregation and disposal of e-waste, the Ministry and its field organisations are making concerted efforts to adopt environmentally sustainable practices and innovative approaches to resource conservation.

During the first fortnight, organisations under the Ministry implemented several noteworthy best practices to advance environmental sustainability and workplace excellence. Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) inaugurated a rainwater harvesting initiative at Khetri Copper Complex (KCC), Rajasthan, to promote water conservation and sustainable water management. A plantation drive was also undertaken at Indian Copper Complex (ICC), Jharkhand, under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative to enhance green cover and promote environmental protection. The Geological Survey of India (GSI), Central Headquarters, Kolkata, has discontinued the use of single-use plastic water bottles in all official meetings, conferences and videoconferencing halls, replacing them with reusable stainless-steel or metal water bottles and glass jugs. National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) introduced a Clean Desk & Workplace Excellence Competition among employees to promote workplace.

cleanliness and organised workspaces, along with the One Employee, One Green Initiative to encourage individual participation in environmental conservation. The Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) undertook various Waste-to-Wealth/ art initiatives including transforming barren and unutilised space near hospital into attractive green spaces and gardens and promoting the productive use of available resources.

As part of the e-waste management drive, the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC), in association with the Materials Recycling Association of India (MRAI), is facilitating e-waste collection drive across various locations. So far, 3,020 kg of e-waste has been collected, and 3,07,855 has been disbursed by recyclers.

Two-Day Workshop Held on Reservation Policy in Financial Institutions



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, convened a two-day workshop on the implementation of the Government of India's Reservation Policy in Public Sector Banks (PSBs), Public Sector Insurance Companies (PSICs), Sectoral Regulators and Public Financial Institutions (PFIs) on 15–16 October 2026 at the Punjab National Bank Staff Training College, Panchkula.

The workshop was organised in association with Punjab National Bank with the objective of strengthening institutional capacity to ensure the uniform and effective implementation of reservation policies and promote welfare measures across public financial institutions. The workshop was attended by over 100 participants, including senior Human Resource functionaries and CLOs/LOs from various organisations under DFS, including all Public Sector Banks, Public Sector Insurance Companies and Public Sector Financial Institutions, as well as representatives from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Functional experts on reservation matters addressed the workshop, and the deliberations included practical aspects and issues faced in the implementation of the reservation policy. The workshop concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, allowing participants. to deliberate on actionable measures for the uniform implementation of reservation policies across the financial services ecosystem.

BHASHINI Develops Text-to-Speech Models for Sourashtra Language



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): In a significant step towards strengthening language technology for low-resource Indian languages, the Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD), under Digital India Corporation (DIC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, has developed Text-to-Speech (TTS) models for Sourashtra, a minority Indo-Aryan language spoken predominantly by the Sourashtra community in Tamil Nadu.

The initiative aims to expand the availability of speech technology for languages that have limited digital resources and support their use in digital applications, language learning, accessibility solutions, documentation and research. The newly developed models use the VITS (Variational Inference with adversarial learning for end-to-end Text-to-Speech) architecture and are capable of generating Sourashtra speech directly from text. The models include male and female voices, with each voice available for text written in both Tamil script and Sourashtra script. This enables users to work with Sourashtra in the scripts used for the language.

The models have been trained using a dedicated Sourashtra speech corpus developed at the SPIRE Lab, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. The corpus contains more than 28 hours of gender-balanced speech recordings, including recordings from one male and one female voice artist. The corpus includes composed sentences as well as sentences drawn from literature, with transcriptions available in both Sourashtra and Tamil scripts. AIKOSH: BHASHINI's AIKOSH platform provides access to language datasets and resources that support the development of Indian language technologies. The SPICOR TTS 3.0 Sourashtra Corpus is now available on AIKOSH, offering 28+ hours of gender-balanced Sourashtra speech data developed at IISc Bengaluru. The corpus includes diverse and literary content in both Sourashtra and Tamil scripts, supporting the development of Sourashtra language technologies.

The male voice model was trained on approximately 10,000 utterances, while the female voice model was trained on approximately 11,400 utterances. The speech corpus and associated text data were carefully prepared and cleaned to support the development of the TTS models.

The models generate audio at 22,050 Hz and operate directly on character-level text, eliminating the need for a separate phonemizer. The four models comprise two speaker voices, each available in Tamil-script and Sourashtra-script versions.

Sourashtra, spoken by around 2.48 lakh people according to the 2011 Census, has a relatively limited digital presence and fewer available speech technology resources. The development of these models goes beyond language preservation by helping bring Sourashtra into the digital ecosystem. The technology can benefit the Sourashtra-speaking community by enabling access to digital content in their language, support students and language learners through speech-enabled learning tools, and improve accessibility for users who rely on spoken digital content. At the same time, the availability of the models and underlying speech resources provides researchers, developers and institutions with a foundation to build further Sourashtra language technologies and applications across education, accessibility and other public-facing digital services.

Study Reveals 4,600-Year Monsoon Impact on Climate and Early Farming in Ganga Plain



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): A new study has found that Indian Summer Monsoon fluctuations have, through the years, controlled lake hydrology, sediment transport, vegetation, sedimentary organic matter, microbial activity, and early farming adaptation in the Central Ganga Plain.

This could help strengthen climate and agricultural adaptation, guide water security and wetland conservation, enhance disaster risk reduction and advance understanding of human-climate interactions.

Scientists have been trying to address the long-standing question of how past climatic extremes influenced the evolution of human societies in the Indian subcontinent. The rise and decline of the Indus Valley Civilization have been widely linked to changes in the Indian Summer Monsoon. However, much less is known about how later communities in the Central Ganga Plain responded to similar climatic fluctuations. As one of the major centres of agricultural expansion and cultural development after the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization, the Ganga Plain provides an ideal natural laboratory to investigate long-term climate–human interactions, as multiple migrations have been recorded during 4500-1000 cal yr BP in this region.

Scientists from Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), reconstructed 4600 years of climate and environmental history by tracing palaeo-environmental conditions using proxies such as stable isotopes, vegetation changes as well as archaeological and sedimentary records from Karela Lake, an oxbow lake in Hulas Khera near Lucknow in the Central Ganga Plain. Sediments of the lake preserve a record of Late Holocene environmental changes. Besides, the lake's proximity to the Hulas Khera archaeological site provided opportunity to investigate how ancient agricultural communities responded to changing cli-

PMAY-U 2.0 Approves 1.93 Lakh More Houses, Total Reaches 20.80 Lakh



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Over 1.93 lakh additional houses were approved under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0) during the 10th meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC), held in New Delhi on 16th October 2026 under the chairmanship of Shri Satendra Singh, Secretary, Department of Urban Development (DoUD), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). Shri Kumar Ravikant Singh, Joint Secretary and Mission Director (JS&MD), Housing for All (HFA); Shri Sanjeet, Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor (JS&FA); Shri Vaibhav Rundwal, Director, HFA, officials from the Ministry; and Mission Directors, representatives from the participating 11 States were among those present in the meeting.

With the approval of 1.93 lakh additional houses, the cumulative number of houses sanctioned under the Mission is now at 20.80 lakh. In today's meeting, houses have been sanctioned under Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC) and Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) verticals of PMAY-U 2.0 in Andhra Pradesh (6,560 houses), Bihar (52,866 houses), Chhattigarh (4,670 houses), Gujarat (14,290 houses), Karnataka (3,116 houses), Mizoram (1,003 houses), Odisha (3,126 houses), Sikkim (29 houses), Telangana (18,120 houses), Uttar Pradesh (73,182 houses) and West Bengal (16,559 houses) for eligible urban families belonging to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS).

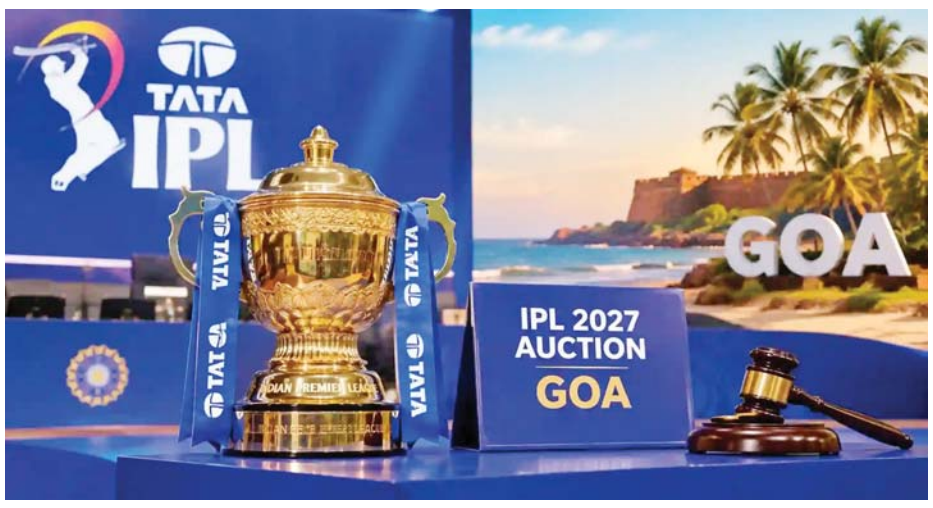
During the meeting, the Committee discussed measures to accelerate the implementation of PMAY-U 2.0, with emphasis on timely approvals, effective monitoring and delivery of housing benefits to eligible beneficiaries.

Launched in September 2024, PMAY-U 2.0 aims to provide financial assistance of up to 2.50 lakh each to 1 crore additional urban poor and middle-class families to construct or purchase a pucca house.

The scheme extends support to eligible EWS, LIG and MIG families with an annual household income

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

BCCI Extends IPL 2027 Retention Deadline To November 17 Due To India-NZ Fifth ODI Clash



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): The BCCI has given all ten IPL franchises two more days to submit their retention lists, as they moved the deadline to November 17. The 2027 IPL player auction will go ahead as planned on December 16 in Goa. understands that the BCCI informed all ten franchises of the two-day extension in an official communication on Monday. The original retention deadline of November 15 clashed with the fifth and final ODI between India and New Zealand at Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui.

It is understood that the clash with the men's ODI match would have affected the retention announcement and its subsequent coverage, and that prompted the board to move the deadline to November 17. The player registration for the IPL 2027 auction opened on Monday and will end on November 23.

It gives players worldwide three weeks to put their names forward for the auction. The entire process, from the opening of registration to the auction, will run for a little over six weeks. Interestingly, the auction day also clashes with an international fixture – India will host Sri Lanka in the second men's ODI at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. As of now, there's no sign of moving the auction date, or changing the date on which the ODI game in Bengaluru will happen. The remaining steps follow in quick succession – once registration closes, the auction register will be finalised on November 24.

Teams will have time until November 27, to put in requests for additional players, and allow them to ask for names not on the initial register to be added to the pool. Franchises must submit their player auction lists by December 1. The final auction list, along with the sets in which players will go under the hammer, is scheduled to be unveiled on December 3.

That leaves a gap of nearly two weeks between the release of the final player list and the auction itself on December 16 for teams to work out their respective strategies. Two trades have been completed so far ahead of the 2027 IPL mini auction. Delhi Capitals (DC) brought back their former captain, wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, from Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), with left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav moving to Lucknow. DC also sent left-arm fast bowler T Natarajan back to 2016 winners Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in exchange for leg-spinner Zeeshan Ansari.

The dates for the 2027 IPL season are yet to be confirmed. When the IPL announced the windows for three seasons in 2024, it earmarked March 14 to May 30 as the time to host the 2027 season. In September, after the BCCI's annual general meeting (AGM), board secretary Devajit Saikia indicated the tournament could get under way around the end of March.

BADMINTON

Lakshya Sen Clinches Hylo Open Title, Completes Memorable Indian Double



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Lakshya Sen clinched the men's singles title at the Hylo Open Super 500 badminton tournament after registering a commanding straight-game victory over Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the final in Saarbrücken, Germany, on Sunday, completing a memorable double for India.

The Indian shuttler, who was the runner-up at the All England Championships earlier this year, beat Christie 21-17, 21-10 in the final to claim the gold and complete the set with compatriot PV Sindhu, who had earlier bagged the women's singles title. Champion at the Commonwealth Games in 2022, Lakshya had lost three of his four previous meetings against Christie but was confident to beat the Indonesian – whom he had beaten at the Paris Olympics – in the main draw.

The Indian came out all guns blazing in the first game, building up an 8-4 lead early on. Christie narrowed the gap to 9-8, but Lakshya took the lead again in the rally by a generous net cord. The Indian soon found his rhythm, with his big smashes and deft strokes winning him the rallies as he led 16-10 and then moved to 18-12. Christie's service error then gave Lakshya three game points, and he took the first as the Indonesian netted. Lakshya maintained the streak in the second game, taking a healthy 6-3 lead and leading all along with a flat exchange to reach the interval, four points clear. Christie increased the ante once the players had changed sides, moving to 16-9 while Christie still looked to make an impression on the tie.

In an incorrect line call by the Indonesian, overturned by a video review, Lakshya was awarded 10 championship points. The Indian had to convert only a single match point as Christie's another net fault proved costly.

Lakshya, who had won the Australian Open and was a runner-up at the Hong Kong Open in 2025, added another major crown to his tally with an impressive display in Germany.

NIT Rourkela Hosts All India Inter-NIT Sports Meet; 1.1K Athletes Participate



Rourkela, Nov 2 (Way to News): A total of 1,198 student-athletes from 30 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and IIEST Shibpur participated in the three-day All India Inter-NIT Sports Meet 2026–27, hosted by NIT Rourkela from October 30 to November 1. The event featured five sporting categories — men's and women's volleyball, men's and women's handball, and men's hockey. Matches were conducted at P.T. Usha Stadium, the Indoor Stadium at NIT Rourkela and the Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium in Rourkela, officials said.

NIT Calicut emerged as one of the leading performers, winning the men's handball and men's hockey championships. NIT Jamshedpur clinched the men's volleyball title, while VNIT Nagpur and NIT Kurukshetra won the women's handball and women's volleyball championships, respectively.

In men's handball, NIT Calicut emerged victorious, with NIT Warangal and SVNIT Surat finishing as the first and second runners-up, respectively. Pavan Kalyan of NIT Calicut was named the Best Player.

In women's handball, VNIT Nagpur secured the championship, followed by NIT Warangal and NIT Calicut. Bhagya Santoshi of VNIT Nagpur received the Best Player award. NIT Jamshedpur won the men's volleyball title, while NIT Tiruchirappalli and SVNIT Surat finished as the runners-up. Himanshu Teotia of NIT Jamshedpur was adjudged the Best Player.

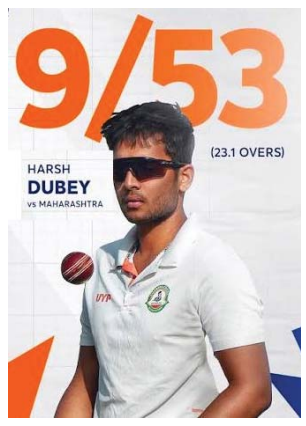
In women's volleyball, NIT Kurukshetra emerged as champions, followed by NIT Calicut and NIT Jamshedpur. Palak Chaudhary of NIT Kurukshetra received the Best Player award. In men's hockey, NIT Calicut won the championship, with host institute NIT Rourkela finishing as the first runner-up and NIT Tiruchirappalli as the second runner-up. Aman of NIT Rourkela was named the Best Player.

The valedictory ceremony was attended by NIT Rourkela Director Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao, Dean (Student Welfare) Prof. Rajeev Kumar Panda, Student Activity Centre (SAC) President Prof. Dillip Kumar Pradhan, Games and Sports Society Vice Presidents Prof. Mohd. Khalid Gul and Prof. Aditya Das, and Tournament Observer Dr. Manoj from NITK Surathkal. The Games and Sports Society of the Student Activity Centre, NIT Rourkela, organised the meet under the coordination of Prof. Mohd. Khalid Gul and Prof. Aditya Das, with support from Sports Officer C. Alagesan and Sports Assistant Preetam K. Mishra.

NIT Rourkela thanked the All India Inter-NIT Sports Board for assigning it the responsibility of hosting the event. It also acknowledged the Sports and Youth Services Department of the Odisha government for providing the facilities at the Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium for the men's hockey competition.

The institute also appreciated the contributions of its administration, sports officials, referees, coaches, volunteers and support staff in successfully conducting the event.

Harsh Dubey scripts history with 9-53 as Vidarbha dominate MP



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): Left-arm spinner Harsh Dubey created history on Monday by claiming a remarkable 9-53 to bowl out Madhya Pradesh for 209 on the opening day of their Ranji Trophy match at the VCA Stadium in Jamtha. Dubey became the first Vidarbha bowler to take nine wickets in a Ranji Trophy innings. The previous best figures for the side were Arun Ogiral's 8-39 in the 1967-68 season, which ironically came against Madhya Pradesh. Dubey is now the 30th bowler overall to claim nine or more wickets in a Ranji Trophy innings.

Vidarbha all-rounder Nachiket Bhute provided the first breakthrough by dismissing opener Yash Dubey. Thereafter, Harsh took charge, opening his account in the 17th over and continuing to chip away at the opposition batting line-up. Madhya Pradesh were reduced to 64/5 in the 29th over. Atharva Mahajan and Saransh Jain offered resistance with a 72-run partnership that lasted nearly 18 overs. However, Dubey returned to break the stand, and the lower order soon folded. The previous nine-wicket haul in the Ranji Trophy came from Gujarat's left-arm spinner Siddharth Desai, who claimed 9-36 against Uttarakhand in the 2024-25 season.

Monday's performance capped an impressive year for Dubey. He made his ODI debut against Afghanistan in June, taking four wickets in two matches. He subsequently toured Sri Lanka with India A, claiming three wickets and scoring 59 runs across two innings. Representing Central Zone in the Duleep Trophy, he took eight wickets and scored 27 and 24 against East Zone. He has continued his impressive form in the 2026-27 Ranji Trophy season, taking 23 wickets in seven innings so far.

Asian Champions Trophy: Harmanpreet's Hat-Trick Powers India To Victory Over Malaysia



Jalandhar, Nov 2 (Way to News): Captain Harmanpreet Singh scored a hat-trick as India defeated Malaysia 4-2, registering their fourth successive win in the Asian Champions Trophy 2026 at the Olympian Surjit Singh Hockey Stadium in Jalandhar on Sunday. The Indian skipper (3 , 33 , 58) scored twice from penalty corners before converting a penalty stroke, while Sukhjeet Singh (43) added the fourth goal. Akhimullah Anuar (25) and Shello Silverius (60) scored for Malaysia. Harmanpreet was named 'Player of the Match' for his match-winning show.

The contest was a repeat of the Asian Games 2026 gold-medal match, where India beat Malaysia 5-1 to successfully defend their title. Both teams had won their first three matches in Jalandhar and came into Sunday's fixture unbeaten.

India started quickly and won a penalty corner in the third minute, with Harmanpreet converting a variation involving Jugraj Singh to put the hosts in the lead. Malaysia responded with attacks of their own, but Aditya Arjun Lalage intercepted a dangerous pass intended for Anuar. Hardik Singh then produced a fine run past Shafiq Hassan, but Mandeep Singh and Sukhjeet could not convert the chance.

Malaysia put India under pressure in the second quarter and won their first penalty corner in the 18th minute after Fitri Saari was fouled by Harmanpreet. Rajinder blocked Azimuddin Kamaruddin's first attempt, while goalkeeper Krishan Bahadur Pathak saved the following shot. India won a penalty corner in the 21st minute after Aditya was brought down, but Aminul Azhar blocked it. Harmanpreet's attempt on the reaward struck the crossbar.

Malaysia then earned a series of penalty corners, with Amit Rohidas making two important blocks as the first rusher before Pathak saved the next attempt. The visitors equalised in the 25th minute when Anuar converted a penalty corner. The teams went into the break level at 1-1. India raised the tempo after the change of ends and regained the lead in the 33rd minute. Harmanpreet once again converted a penalty corner. One of the biggest turning points of the match also arrived in the same quarter when Faiz Jali received a 10-minute yellow card in the 38th minute for charging into Mandeep from behind.

Gambhir urges India players to stay fit during T20I break



New Delhi, Nov 2 (Way to News): India head coach Gautam Gambhir has urged his players to maintain their fitness and continue improving their game during a month-long break from T20 International cricket following India's 3-2 series victory over New Zealand.

India won the first three matches to seal the five-match series but New Zealand bounced back by claiming victories in the final two games on home soil. Addressing the players in the dressing room after the fifth T20I, Gambhir praised their performance, highlighting the limited preparation time and the challenge of playing against a quality opponent in unfamiliar conditions.

"You can be extremely proud of the effort that you guys have put in throughout the series. Winning the series, especially when you had just one day to prepare and were playing against a quality team like New Zealand in their own backyard, is a terrific achievement. You should be extremely proud," Gambhir told the players. India also faced a few setbacks during the series. Ishan Kishan missed two matches due to an injury concern, while relatively inexperienced pacers Mayank Yadav and Prince Yadav made their first appearances in New Zealand.

Gambhir said the T20I team had set the tone for the remainder of the tour and urged the ODI and Test squads to build on the team's performance.

"You can go back with your heads held high. We wanted to win the last two games as well, but sometimes these things happen. I thought you guys have set the tone for the rest of the tour. Before the start of the series, I said that you had the responsibility to set the tone. Now, it is up to the ODI and Test teams to continue from where you have left off," he said.

India's next T20I assignment will be a three-match home series against Sri Lanka in December. With approximately a month before their next international T20 commitment, Gambhir asked the players to use the break to remain physically fit and prepare for the upcoming series.

"We know that we don't play enough T20 cricket, and we've got a month off now. So, make sure we stay in shape and prepare well for Sri Lanka," he said.

The India coach also cautioned the players against becoming complacent after the series win, stressing the importance of continued improvement and collective responsibility.

"We can't take any opposition lightly. We have to continue growing as a team, thinking as a team and playing as a team," Gambhir added.

It's surprising that Kuldeep was left out of the series for the entire series: Venkatapathi Raju



Former Indian spinner and selector Venkatapathi Raju has expressed his dissatisfaction with the attitude of the Indian team management. He particularly criticized the lack of opportunities given to wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav in the final team. He said that he was surprised that Kuldeep was not given a single opportunity to play even after winning the series in the recently concluded five-match T20 series against New Zealand. Venkatapathi Raju suggested that Kuldeep should be given more opportunities keeping in mind the upcoming ODI World Cup next year.

Speaking to at a virtual conference organised by Sony Sports Network, Venkatapathi Raju said, "We all know how valuable wrist spinners are in limited-overs cricket. It is surprising that such a player is confined to the bench despite being included in the team in all three formats. If he is not given a chance in international matches, he should at least be allowed to play domestic cricket. Any spinner will gain control over bowling only if he plays more matches."

He said that the current Indian bowling lineup lacks variety, which is why the opposing batters are easily counter-attacking. "Kuldeep should be given more opportunities. It is okay to lose one or two matches. But, he will improve only if he can withstand the pressure and bowl in international matches. Currently, he is not playing international cricket and is staying away from domestic cricket. This is not the right approach," he opined. At the same time, Raju also reacted to the performance of all-rounder Axar Patel. "Axar has been in the team for a long time. A good all-rounder. But recently his bowling has become a bit less diverse. In the past, spin pairs like Chahal-Kuldeep or Ashwin-Jadeja used to win matches. Now Axar lacks the support of a bowler who can take wickets at the other end. He should realize his responsibility and perform better," he suggested.

Seeing Ravindra Jadeja being dropped from the ODI team, Raju commented that the team management seems to have made a decision regarding him. Keeping in mind the upcoming World Cup, he said that the experience of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma is very crucial for the team and as long as they are fit, they are a valuable asset for the team.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

'Ideal Family' proved its worth in its first weekend.. What are the collections?



Victory Venkatesh and wordsmith Trivikram Srinivas' 'Adarsha Kutumbak' (AK 47) has had a great start at the box office. The film, which hit the screens on October 30, has crossed the Rs 50 crore mark worldwide in its first weekend and has recorded excellent collections. The collections are being recorded heavily due to the positive response from the audience.

According to the details revealed by the leading film collection analysis company SACNILK, the film has collected Rs 50.95 crore gross worldwide in the first three days. Of this, Rs 36.85 crore gross (Rs 31.40 crore net collection) was in India, while Rs 14.10 crore gross collections were received abroad. Theaters in Telugu states are bustling with audiences with positive talk. Produced by S. Radhakrishna under the banner of Haarika and Hassine Creations, the film has music by Thaman. Srinidhi Shetty played the female lead opposite Venkatesh, while Nara Rohit, Nivetha Pethuraj and Satya appeared in key roles. The film has an interesting storyline about how a middle-class family's life takes a turn after winning the Rs. 100 crore lottery. The film's strong opening weekend performance has added to the excitement among fans and trade circles, with its family-oriented storyline, entertaining performances and Venkatesh's screen presence contributing to the positive audience response.

Chiranjeevi Meets Amit Shah, Seeks Stronger Safeguards Against Ai Misuse And Deepfakes



Megastar Chiranjeevi, who recently voiced his concerns on X over degrading and morphed videos targeting artists, has taken the issue forward by meeting Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah Ji today in Hyderabad. Mega Powerstar Ram Charan accompanied Chiranjeevi Garu and also met the union Home minister. Chiranjeevi sought the appointment to personally explain the misuse of artificial intelligence and deepfake technologies, highlighting the serious threat they pose to artists' rights, dignity and creative content. Taking his concerns beyond social media, he sought stronger safeguards and strict action against such misuse on behalf of the film fraternity.

Shri Amit Shah heard the concerns with understanding and assured Chiranjeevi that the Government would examine the matter urgently and work towards stronger safeguards and strict penalties. He advised the submission of a written representation and entrusted Shri G. Kishan Reddy Garu with coordinating the matter.

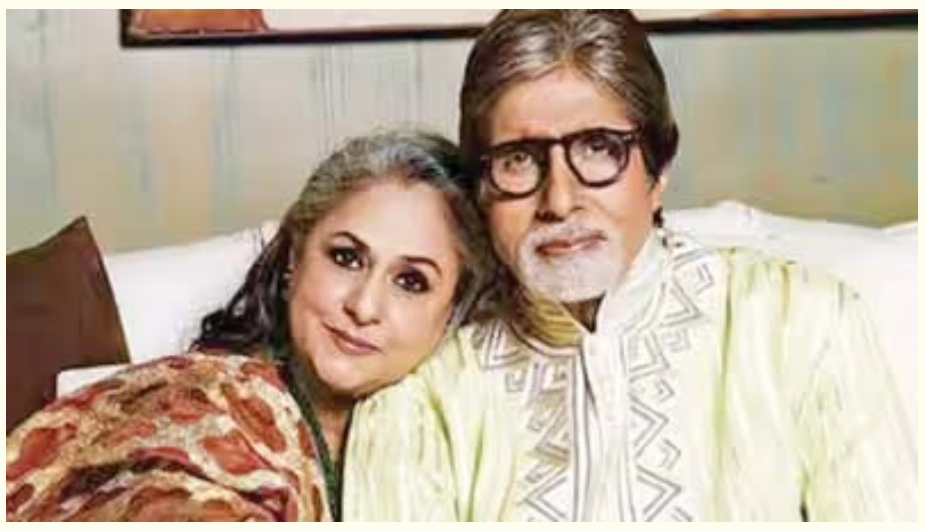
Expressing gratitude for the Union Home Minister's response, Chiranjeevi described the assurance as an encouraging step for the film fraternity and expressed hope that it would lead to meaningful protections soon. Megastar Chiranjeevi meets Union Home Minister Amit Shah and urges him to curb AI misuse and deepfakes Megastar Chiranjeevi, who recently expressed his concern on the creation of obscene and morphed videos targeting artists, has taken another key step on this issue. Today, he met the Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in Hyderabad and explained the issues of AI misuse and deepfakes. Along with Chiranjeevi, Ram Charan also participated in this meeting.

Chiranjeevi requested an appointment for this meeting to personally explain the misuse of artificial intelligence and deepfake technologies. He explained that the misuse of these technologies is becoming a threat to the rights, dignity and creative content of artists. He urged the film industry to implement stronger safeguards and stricter punishments to curb such misuse, rather than limiting this issue to social media platforms.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, who positively understood Chiranjeevi's concerns, assured that the government would look into this matter urgently and work towards implementing stronger protective measures and stricter punishments. He suggested that a written representation be submitted on this matter and entrusted the responsibility of coordinating this matter to Shri G. Kishan Reddy.

Chiranjeevi thanked the union Home minister for his response and described his assurance as a key step in encouraging the film industry. He expressed hope that this issue will be resolved soon and artists will be provided with adequate protection.

My father didn't like Jaya calling me that.. Amitabh reveals his secret from his wedding day



Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan has revealed a funny fact about his married life. He recalled an interesting incident that happened to him and Jaya Bachchan when they were newly married. He shared this with actor Ranbir Kapoor on the popular quiz reality show 'Kaun Banega Crorepati'.

Amitabh said that Jaya Bachchan used to affectionately call him 'Lambu ji' for many years. However, he revealed that his father Harivansh Rai Bachchan intervened one day and advised Jaya not to call him that. "For many years, she used to call me Lambu ji. But my father stopped her. He said, 'Don't call me that, call me by his name or whatever,' and from then on she started calling me by my name," Amitabh explained. The funny conversation started when there was a discussion about the height difference between members of the Bachchan and Kapoor families. On this occasion, Ranbir Kapoor also shared a funny thought in his mind. "I always thought that if Amit ji was as tall as me and Alia or Jaya aunty was as short as me, our couple would look good in photos and the height difference would be visible," Ranbir said. To this, Amitabh laughed and joked, "Oh, there is a lot of height difference between you two, sir." Immediately, Ranbir Kapoor asked, "And what is the height difference between you two, sir?" To this, Amitabh replied, "My height is 6 feet 2 inches, Jaya's height is probably 5 feet 3 or 4 inches." With that, Ranbir ended the conversation by saying, "But our height difference is also almost the same, sir." This funny clip is currently going viral on social media.

To please everyone, you have to sell ice cream.. Rahman's answer to critics!



Renowned music director AR Rahman has responded to the criticism coming from the songs in the movie 'Ramayana'. He commented that it is not possible to satisfy everyone. On this occasion, he recalled the words of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs. He said that he had said, "If you want to satisfy everyone, sell ice cream."

AR Rahman and Hollywood music director Hans Zimmer are composing music for the film 'Ramayana', which is being directed by Nitesh Tiwari. The song 'Mangal Rang' from the film was released recently. There were different opinions on this song sung by Arijit Singh and Shreya Ghoshal. Some people criticized the style of music in particular. In this context, Rahman expressed his views.

Rahman said that he is the first critic of the music he creates. He explained that he does not think that everything he creates is wonderful, and that months of thought and effort go into creating a song. He said that he cannot come to a decision in a day. He believes that some songs, like chutney, become more popular with time. He advised not to come to a decision based on just one aspect of the song. Rahman said that he is working on a huge scale for the music of this film. He said that he is composing music for the Indian version as well as the Hollywood version. He revealed that the project will be released in five languages. The film, which stars Ranbir Kapoor as Rama, Sai Pallavi as Sita, and Yash as Ravana, will be released in two parts. The film team has planned to release the first part on November 5, 2026, and the second part for Diwali 2027.

Anirudh laughs in embarrassment as he hears 'Kavya, Kavya' chants in public!



Popular music director and singer Anirudh Ravichander had a funny experience with his fans. He participated in the 'Chennai Runs 2026' event held yesterday. While Anirudh was talking to the fans there, they suddenly started chanting "Kavya, Kavya" in the name of his future wife Kavya Maran. Anirudh was seen laughing shyly. Videos of this incident are now going viral on social media. At the event, Anirudh sang his popular song 'Kalyana Vaasa' from the movie 'Kolamavu Kokila' starring Nayanthara. It became interesting to sing this song and have fans chanting slogans in the name of Kavya to it at a time when he is currently preparing for his wedding. Anirudh also laughed and cheered the fans on seeing the uproar. After the event ended, he also took a selfie with the attendees.

Kavya, the daughter of Sun Group Chairman Kalanidhi Maran, is the CEO of IPL franchise Sunrisers Hyderabad. Their wedding will be held in Greece on November 10 and 11 among the closest friends. Later, a grand reception will be organized in Chennai on November 21. Kavya's parents, Kalanidhi and Kaveri Maran, have personally invited Telangana CM Revanth Reddy to the reception. The wedding preparations are already underway at a fast pace. Their invitation card, designed in ivory and powder blue, has impressed everyone. It is reported that Prime Minister Modi and Tamil Nadu CM Joseph Vijay, along with many celebrities from the political, business, film and sports sectors, have been invited to this reception.

Kartik Aaryan reunites with Vidya Balan, Rajpal Yadav as 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' completes 2 years

Celebrating two years of the horror-comedy blockbuster 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3', actor Kartik Aaryan reunited with the original Manjulika, Vidya Balan, and Chota Pandit, Rajpal Yadav, in a fun-filled video shared on social media on Sunday.

Taking to his official Instagram handle, Kartik, who plays Rooh Baba in the franchise, shared a video featuring the trio at a gas station, bringing back memories of the popular film. The clip opens with Kartik, dressed in his Rooh Baba avatar, tapping his feet to a peppy number. Vidya Balan then joins him in her iconic Manjulika look, followed by Rajpal Yadav, who appears in his Chota Pandit avatar after stepping out of a car.

Sharing the video, Kartik wrote, "RoohBaba X Manjulika X ChotaPandit Reunion at the gas station. 2 years of #BhoolBhulaiyaa3 madness."

He also added a humorous comment in the comments section, revealing, "Chota pandit left the AC on."

The reunion quickly caught the attention of fans, who flooded the comments section with nostalgic messages and appreciation for the trio.

One user commented, "RoohBaba is not a character, it's an emotion! Two years and the madness is still alive!" Another wrote, "RoohBaba never fails to steal the spotlight!" Several fans also interpreted the reunion as a possible hint about the fourth instalment of the franchise, with one commenting, "This reunion deserves a whole movie of its own! Waiting for BB4."

Another fan speculated, "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 4 k shoot k liye meet up hogya guyzzz." Directed by Anees Bazmee and written by Aakash Kaushik, 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3' was jointly produced by T-Series Films and Cine1 Studios. The third instalment features Kartik Aaryan, Vidya Balan, Madhuri Dixit and Triptii Dimri in prominent roles. The film revolves around Ruhaan Randhawa, popularly known as Rooh Baba, a self-proclaimed ghostbuster who finds himself in a haunted palace where a decades-old legend surrounding the spirit of Manjulika resurfaces. The 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa' franchise began with Akshay Kumar's film in 2007, followed by 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2' in 2022, starring Kartik Aaryan. The third instalment was released in 2024.

Sonu Sood unveils the song 'O Naa Siddhayya'



The 'O Naa Siddhayya' team has created a new sensation with the innovative idea of providing the experience of watching a movie in a theater to the audience outdoors. For the first time in India, a 70mm giant screen and a Dolby Atmos sound system were installed on an outdoor stage and this private album song was released in a grand manner. More than 5 thousand people attended the event held on Friday evening, October 30, at the Shamshabad Government College and School grounds in Hyderabad. Despite the heavy rain, the enthusiasm of the audience did not diminish at all. The event was held in a grand manner with a large number of fans and spectators turning up, despite the rain.

Popular actor Sonu Sood attended this grand event as the chief guest and launched the song 'O Naa Siddhayya'. Speaking on the occasion, he said that he was very happy to release the song on a 70mm giant screen in an open place. He congratulated the Siddhayya team for such an innovative effort and wished the song a great success.

Rajendranagar MLA T. Prakash Goud, who was also present as the chief guest, said that he was very happy to participate in this program. He wished that the song 'O Naa Siddhayya' would be well received by the audience and would also become a big success.

Hero Indraram, singer Nalgonda Gaddar Narasanna, famous singer and music director Bole Shawali, actor Uttej and many film and political personalities attended the ceremony. All of them wished the 'O Naa Siddhayya' team. With a huge screen, Dolby Atmos sound, the noise of the audience and the ceremony that continued in the rain, this song launch in Shamshabad became a special attraction. between husband and wife. 'Oh Naa Siddhayya' is an 'emotional love story of husband and wife' that reveals the love, attachment, mutual understanding, and the philosophy of staying with each other throughout life. In this private album song set in the village setting, the natural emotions of married life are revealed through the characters of Siddhayya and Chittemma.

It is noteworthy that Siddhu Reddy, who not only played the role of Siddhayya but also produced this song, created this song inspired by the real-life experiences of Kandakatla. The song beautifully shows valuable aspects such as husband and wife standing by each other despite all the difficulties in life, sharing joys and sorrows together, and moving forward with mutual trust. Not only is it limited to the love between husband and wife, but the characters of Siddhayya and Chittemma, who understand the difficulties of those around them and also participate in social service by helping those in need, bring more specialness to this song. This song conveys the message to the audience about the greatness of family bonds and standing by each other even in difficult times. Along with entertainment, it also serves as a platform for social service.

The grand launch of 'O Naa Siddhayya' was not limited to just the release of the song. Siddhu Reddy Kandakatla, while also giving importance to social responsibility, has started another good program.



Printed by Published by Owned by Lingala Narender Published at H.No:10-1/-1-1/A, Thrimurthy Colony, Saroor Nagar, Ranga Reddy, Telangana and Printed at Rachakonda Publications H. NO. 5-2-396/P-21, VENKATESHWARA COLONY, SAHEBNAGAR KALAN, RANGA REDDY, TELANGANA- 500035 EDITOR: Lingala Narender, PRGI NO: TGENG/26/A6521, Ph:9010110808