WAY TO NEWS

PRGI No: TGENG/26/A6521

ENGLISH DAILY



Telangana | Vol: 01 | Issue:89 | Sunday 8 November 2026 | Editor: Lingala Narender | Price:1/- | Pages: 8

Revanth unveils major Kodangal industrial hub, Promises thousands of New Jobs

Hyderabad, Nov 7 (Way to News) Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy stated that the development of the Kodangal Industrial Hub will create significant employment and job opportunities in the region. He announced that the construction of a radial road from Shamshabad to Kodangal will be completed by December 2027. He noted that areas located in proximity to airports offer excellent potential for industrial development. During an event held at Hakimpet for the launch of the Kodangal Industrial Hub, the Chief Minister met with nearly 100 industrialists.



The meeting was attended by representatives from industrial associations and various sectors—including aerospace, defense, green technology, renewable energy, steel, copper, textiles, and agro-based industries—hailing from the Kodangal region, the Hyderabad airport vicinity, and other industrial clusters.

Legislative Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Ministers Duddilla Sridhar Babu and Vakiti Srihari, along with other public representatives and officials, participated in the meeting. In addition to the Kodangal Industrial Hub, the Chief Minister virtually inaugurated the NARI (Network of Apparel Readiness & Infrastructure) Park, the THRIVE (Thogapur-Dudyal Hub for Regional Industries, Value Addition and Employment) Hub, and the RISE (Regional Industries & Small Enterprises) Park. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister remarked, "Transforming this region into a major industrial hub is not just my responsibility—it is my dream. My identity and self-respect are intrinsically linked to Kodangal."

Continued on Page 2



Members of the Madiga Employees Coordination Committee, led by Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar, paid a courtesy call on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at his Jubilee Hills residence. During the meeting, they expressed their gratitude to the Chief Minister for the government's issuance of orders to implement the categorization of SC reservations in the promotion of employees.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Vice President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan at his residence and exchanges warm Diwali greetings, in New Delhi.

PM Modi extends Diwali greetings to citizens

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News) : Ahead of joining defence personnel to celebrate Diwali, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday extended greetings to all countrymen on the occasion of the festival of lights.

In a social media video titled "Have a great Diwali", the Prime Minister greeted citizens and informed them that he celebrates the festival enthusiastically every year and will do so this year as well. "On the occasion of Diwali, the entire country is illuminated. The festival of lights symbolises our pledge against darkness," he said.

"May this festival bring happiness, wellbeing and prosperity for all. Just like you all, I also celebrate this festival with enthusiasm. Like every year, I will again be celebrating Diwali with our brave defence personnel. Once again, greetings to all of you on the occasion of Diwali," said PM Modi.

Earlier, PM Modi met Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan and extended greetings on the eve of Diwali. The Vice President's office took to X to share information about the meeting. "Vice-President Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan warmly received Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Uprashtrapati Bhawan today and exchanged Deepawali greetings," said the Vice President's office. The Vice President later reached Ayodhya on Saturday to participate in Deepotsav 2026, said an official.

During his visit, the Vice President's schedule includes offering prayers at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple and participating in the symbolic coronation ceremony of Prabhu Shri Ram in Ayodhya. He will also felicitate revered saints on the occasion, the official said in a statement.

Ayodhya Deepotsav 2026 on Saturday will mark the 10th anniversary of the grand festival of lights ahead of Diwali on Sunday.

Organisers are aiming to light over 30 to 33 lakh earthen diyas across 56 ghats, including the primary centre at Ram Ki Paidi and the Saryu river banks, said a statement.

Emergency was a mistake

Indira Gandhi too came to realise it: Sonia

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News) Weighing in on the Emergency, Congress leader Sonia Gandhi has called the decision to impose it a mistake and said that she believes that her mother-in-law and then prime minister Indira Gandhi also came to feel the same. The Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson in her upcoming book "Belonging: A Journey of Love" also writes that keeping Sanjay Gandhi "in check" could have prevented much of the damage that followed the imposition of the Emergency, according to The Guardian.

In an interview with the British daily ahead of the launch of her memoir, Sonia Gandhi said, "I always feel that Mrs (Indira) Gandhi was a democrat at heart." "I know that many would laugh at this, but I believe she was never comfortable in the course of the emergency. I think it was sitting heavy on her," she added.

Sonia Gandhi, who also holds the distinction of being the longest serving president of the Congress, was quoted by the British daily as saying that it was a mistake for Indira Gandhi to call the Emergency, and that she believes her mother-in-law came to feel the same.

According to Gandhi, the family was split on the decision of Emergency. Sonia Gandhi's husband Rajiv was against the move, telling his mother to wait for the next election, but her younger son Sanjay pushed for it, arguing at one family dinner that the opposition would destroy his mother and telling her, "They must be stopped", the Guardian reported.



Sonia Gandhi was quoted as saying that it inflamed tensions within the family, too, as Rajiv attempted to confront his mother, but she refused to listen. "Keeping Sanjay in check could have prevented much of the damage that followed," Gandhi writes in her book, according to The Guardian.

In another interview published in The Hindu on Saturday ahead of the launch of her book, Gandhi has also spoken about the turbulent times of the Emergency. She said that hindsight allows people to put things better in perspective and pointed out that Indira Gandhi herself later publicly expressed regret and apologised for excesses during the Emergency.

Asked about Sanjay Gandhi's name becoming synonymous with the Emergency, and whether the excesses of that time could have been avoided had Indira Gandhi listened to her elder son Rajiv and to others.

Defence Minister Singh to Celebrate Diwali with soldiers at Nathu La Frontier

New Delhi, Nov 6 (Way to News): The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed former Tehelka Editor Tarun Tejpal's plea seeking suspension of the 10-year sentence awarded to him in a 2013 rape case. After a prima facie consideration of the evidence in the case — his emails and messages and arguments of senior counsel Kapil Sibal and Siddharth Agarwal for Tejpal and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta for the State of Goa, a Bench of Justice MM Sundresh and Justice PB Varale said that no case was made out for suspension of sentence.



Tejpal has challenged the Bombay High Court's judgment that reversed the trial court's 2021 judgment acquitting him in the case while the State of Goa has sought life imprisonment for him. Dismissing Tejpal's plea for exemption from surrender, the Supreme Court had on August 25 ordered him to surrender within two weeks.

"During that 2 minutes 9 seconds, the lift door opened two times at the ground floor. Her case was that it did not open; and had it opened, she would have run out," Sibal said,

CJP will continue anti-SIR fight: Dipke

Kochi, Nov 7 (Way to News) Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Saturday claimed that the fight against the voter list revision would continue. Speaking at the 'Jantar Mantar at Kochi' protest against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, Dipke said that the government's handling of the agitation showed how cowardly the Centre is.

Earlier, speaking to reporters at Kochi airport, Dipke said the campaign against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar would continue until an independent and impartial electoral system was established. He alleged that elections under the present CEC could not be trusted and were being manipulated to benefit one political party.



He also claimed that voter deletions were taking place across the country and that no state was untouched by the SIR exercise. Questioning the appointment of a former Kerala Chief Electoral Officer as secretary to the Chief Minister, he said such appointments raised questions about the impartiality of the electoral system.

Actor Prakash Raj also joined the protest, which saw hundreds of activists, civil rights campaigners and citizens taking part.

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Dipke said he could never stand alongside Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi and would never become greater than Nehru, irrespective of the number of years he remained in power.

E20 TURNED INTO 420

Rahul accuses govt of fuel theft from public

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News) Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday attacked the Modi government over the rollout of E20 petrol, citing test results of samples collected by the Karnataka government, and asked the Centre to come clean on the actual ethanol content in fuel being sold across the country.



In a post in Hindi on X, Gandhi said, "E20 turned into 420 – stealing petrol from the public's cars!" The reference was to Section 420 of the erstwhile Indian Penal Code, which dealt with cheating. Gandhi said the government claims that petrol contains 20 per cent ethanol but tests conducted on samples collected from seven districts in Karnataka had revealed higher levels.

"The Karnataka government collected petrol samples from 7 districts and had them tested at an accredited lab. Look at the results – 11 out of 14 samples contained more than 20 per cent ethanol; 31.2 per cent at IOCL, 30.5 per cent at HPCL; IOCL, HPCL, BPCL, Nayara, Shell – whether government-owned or private – all exceeded the limit," he claimed.

He also alleged that the companies' own laboratories had not reported the ethanol content.

Gandhi claimed that excessive ethanol blending could affect vehicle performance, resulting in lower mileage and higher maintenance costs. He also questioned the absence of labels at fuel stations disclosing the ethanol content of petrol. "Modi ji, tell us – what's being put in the country's tank? How much ethanol is actually in the petrol? When will action be taken against companies mixing more than 20 per cent ethanol?" he said.

Gandhi also reiterated his challenge to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for an open debate, saying the issue of ethanol blending could be included in the discussion.

His remarks came a day after the Karnataka government alleged that major oil marketing companies (OMCs) were supplying petrol with ethanol content exceeding the prescribed 20 per cent limit, with tests recording levels as high as 31.2 per cent. It had sought action against the companies.

POLLUTION LEVELS CONTINUE TO RISE

Delhi's AQI Remains 'Very Poor' At 365

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News) Delhi's air quality continued to remain in the 'very poor' category on Saturday, with the 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 365, according to the Delhi government's air quality monitoring data. The national Capital has been witnessing deteriorating air quality over the past few days, with pollution levels remaining consistently high. On Friday evening, Delhi's AQI stood at 382, also falling in the 'Very Poor' category, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Amid the worsening pollution situation, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Friday invoked Stage III of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) across Delhi-NCR as a precautionary measure, days ahead of Diwali. The decision was taken by the CAQM's Sub-Committee on GRAP and announced through the commission's official account on X.



Under the existing Stage III framework, a nine-point action plan will be implemented across the National Capital Region (NCR) to contain rising pollution levels. The measures include restrictions on construction and demolition activities, vehicle movement and industrial operations, along with steps concerning schools and offices. The restrictions are aimed at reducing emissions and preventing further deterioration in air quality across the region. Delhi Environment Minister Manjinder Sirsa urged residents to cooperate with the authorities and follow the restrictions, warning that weather conditions could further aggravate the pollution situation.

Sonam Wangchuk seeks President's intervention

ALLEGES LG-LED LADAKH ADMINISTRATION ANTI-PEOPLE, PRO-CORPORATE

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News) Climate activist Sonam Wangchuk on Saturday sought the intervention of President Droupadi Murmu, alleging that the Lieutenant Governor-led administration in Ladakh was pursuing "anti-people and pro-corporate" policies and targeting him through a smear campaign.



In a video message posted on X, Wangchuk said he was being "continuously witch-hunted and defamed" for raising his voice for the youth and the well-being of border areas such as Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. "Our schools are being harassed in every possible way by the LG administration in Ladakh," he alleged. Wangchuk claimed that his lawyers had conducted a "sting operation" which, he said, established the alleged involvement of the LG administration in "illegal smear campaigns and much more".

The Ladakh administration is yet to issue a statement on the allegations.

In his message addressed to the President, Wangchuk alleged that Ladakh had become a "police state" over the past six years.

"We don't have rights like in the rest of the country, nor democracy," he said, adding that even "small comments and likes on social media are a big issue".

"There are FIRs and even arrests. And yet, we found through this sting operation that the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh himself is directly involved in a targeted smear and defamation campaign against people like me and other leaders of Ladakh," he alleged. He further accused the administration of promoting the LG's activities in Ladakh despite what he described as widespread public dissatisfaction with them.

Revanth unveils major Kodangal industrial hub, Promises thousands of New Jobs

FROM PAGE 1

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy noted that this region is highly conducive to development, and efforts are underway to provide essential infrastructure, including roads. He expressed his satisfaction that several companies have already begun construction within this industrial hub, with many others coming forward to invest.

He highlighted that, in addition to creating job and employment opportunities for future generations through industries, a 'Kodangal Education Hub' is taking shape across 250 acres to house various educational institutions. He mentioned that the construction of a radial road will make Kodangal accessible within just 70 minutes.



He pointed out that foreign companies, before making investments, typically assess the distance between an industrial park and an international airport. He added that areas like Chandanvelli, Sitarampur, Parigi, and Kodangal are set to emerge as significant industrial hubs in the near future.

Describing Kodangal as a strategic location ideal for comprehensive development, he noted its advantageous proximity to the states of Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh. He affirmed that the government is fully prepared to provide all necessary resources for establishing industries, and that officials will remain available to offer continuous support.

CS reviews invest TG summit preparations

Hyderabad, Nov 6 (Way to News): Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju reviewed the progress of invitation outreach and the confirmation status of eminent global and national personalities for the upcoming Invest Telangana Global Summit, underscoring the importance of ensuring wide participation and high-level representation at the prestigious event, to be held from the 7th to 9th of December.



During the review, the Chief Secretary emphasised that the Summit would be one of the biggest multi-sector expos in the country, offering a significant platform to showcase Telangana's diverse investment opportunities, industrial strengths, infrastructure capabilities and emerging growth sectors.

He stated that the Summit would play a crucial role in projecting Telangana as a preferred global investment destination and strengthening its position on the international investment landscape. The participation of eminent personalities, leading industry representatives, global investors and national-level stakeholders would further enhance the stature and outreach of the event. The Chief Secretary stressed the need for focused and coordinated efforts to ensure the participation of prominent national and international dignitaries. He also reviewed the status of invitations extended and confirmations received, highlighting the importance of sustained follow-up and effective coordination with invitees.

Telangana HC questions CBSE over costly books in private schools

Hyderabad, Nov 6 (Way to News): The Telangana High Court has sought to know from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) what steps it has taken to address allegations that private schools affiliated with the board were pushing students towards exorbitantly priced books rather than the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks.



Justice NV Shravan Kumar was hearing a writ petition filed by a parent from Borabanda. The petitioner's counsel, Vijay Gopal, also sought the court's intervention on the implementation of mandatory institutional mechanisms like school management committees, school governing bodies and parent-teacher associations in private schools, The reported. Referring to CBSE affiliation bylaws and the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, the petitioner's counsel argued that CBSE-affiliated schools should be directed to teach from NCERT books. Alleging the board's inaction over earlier complaints, the petitioner sought a penalty of Rs 10 lakh. The matter has been posted for further hearing on November 12.

The petitioner contended that prescribing expensive private publications placed an unnecessary financial burden on parents and undermined the objective of providing affordable and quality education.

Telangana SIR: 91 lakh voter records cleared for final list

Hyderabad, Nov 6 (Way to News): Nearly 91 lakh voter records have been cleared for inclusion in the final electoral roll under the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in Telangana, said the Election Commission. Around 1.3 lakh cases are still pending, and 54,418 voters have been found ineligible.

According to the data released by Chief Electoral Officer C Sudarshan Reddy on Friday, November 6, of the 92.8 lakh voters to whom notices were issued during the revision process, nearly 98 per cent have been cleared. Among these, 59.7 lakh were under the logical discrepancy category, and 31 lakh were marked as no-mapping.

All of them have been cleared for inclusion in the final electoral roll.



The Election Commission data states Telangana had 3.38 crore registered voters before the SIR exercise began this year. During the revision, 73.3 lakh names were removed from the list under four categories: Absent, Shifted, Dead and Duplicate (ASDD).

Now the registered number stands at 2.65 crore voters. The data reveals that under the Greater Hyderabad region, 38.9 lakh notices were issued, which is nearly 42 per cent of the total notices issued across the state. Of these, 37.9 lakh (97.4 per cent) cases have already been cleared for final publication. CEO Sudarshan Reddy said the final number of voters in Telangana would depend on the pending cases, new applications, and the publication of the final electoral roll.

The previous day, the Election Commission of India (ECI) announced it would provide another opportunity to electors in seven states, including Telangana, marked as ASDD, whose enumeration forms were issued but not received back. It said that electors should submit their duly filled forms to the concerned Electoral Registration Officer and Assistant ERO corresponding to their current residence. The forms will be generated afresh in the ERO dashboard in ECINET.

Those who were marked as ASDD and have relocated to a new address within the same state need not fill out Form 8 and instead submit a fresh enumeration form, a signed statement clearly listing their new address and Assembly Constituency, along with proof of address.

Electors who missed submitting an enumeration form during SIR and whose residence remains the same should submit a completed and signed enumeration form.

US consulate explores critical minerals, data centre partnerships with Singareni

Hyderabad, Nov 7 (Way to News): A high-level delegation from the US Consulate in Hyderabad, led by Meredith Metzler, Chief of the Political and Economic Section, met with Singareni CMD Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti at Singareni Bhavan in Hyderabad on Friday evening. The discussion focused on technical collaboration and joint partnerships within the critical minerals sector.



During the meeting, both sides held extensive discussions regarding various business-related matters and potential opportunities. The CMD explained that Singareni, with its vast experience in the mining sector, has ventured into the critical minerals domain and is already in talks with several countries regarding joint partnerships and technical cooperation. In response, the American delegation explained that there are opportunities to collaborate with various organizations in their country operating within the critical minerals sector. They also expressed interest in the facilities available at the Geo-Science Laboratory recently established by Singareni in Kothagudem, as well as in the potential for recovering rare earth elements—which may be present within the overburden (waste material) of open-cast mines.

The CMD noted that, with the encouragement and support of both the state and central governments, Singareni is advancing in the critical minerals sector. He stated that the company is seeking foreign investment, as well as partnerships with technical and research organizations, in this field. The consulate members indicated that several American organizations share this interest and invited Singareni to participate in a conference on critical minerals to be held in the United States this April.

The American representatives mentioned that, given the rapid growth in the use of artificial intelligence in today's modern era, they are scouting for suitable locations to establish data centers; they expressed openness to considering sites within the Singareni region in Telangana for this purpose. Singareni officials explained that the company has decided to set up pumped-storage power plants at various locations by repurposing closed open-cast mines.

Telangana Muslim Dudekula Noorbasha Backward Classes Welfare J.A.C

Hyderabad, Nov 7 (Way to News): A "Dudekula Cultural Seminar" was successfully conducted today under the aegis of the Telangana Muslim Dudekula Noorbasha Backward Classes Welfare J.A.C. About 100 people attended the seminar.



The seminar was attended by J.A.C. Chairman Mohammad Rafi; Hon'ble President Shaik Sattar Saheb guests Ruqia Begum and Sogura Begum; Vice Chairman Raj Mohammad; General Secretary Samdani; Additional General Secretary Sajid Ahmed; Cashier Mohammad Mohammad; Districts Co-ordination Secretary Naseeruddin; Co-option Member Khayyum (Korutla); Legal Advisor Afrina; Executive Members Khaleel, Azhar (Vedira), Aslam (Kummaripelli), Ameer (Metpally), Shajahan (Hyderabad) and Shaik Imam (Sirikonda Mandal, Adilabad); Raj Mohammad (Allipur); Mohammad Ibrahim (Rechapally); Badesaab from Hyderabad; and others.

The seminar was held with the aim of strengthening the Muslim Dudekula community in Telangana.

The speakers expressed heartfelt thanks to the State Government for sanctioning an estimated cost of Rs. 3 crore, through G.O.Ms. No. 51, for the construction of the "Dudekula Atma Gourava Bhavan" on 2 acres of land at Kokapet, Hyderabad.

They also demanded that the Government implement G.O.Ms. No. 125 dated 03.05.2010 at the earliest, including the establishment of the "Dudekula Financial Corporation" mentioned therein. They further demanded that, in the upcoming MLC elections, one of the three MLC posts to be nominated under the Governor's quota be allocated to the Dudekula community.

Mediation must be given top priority in resolving consumer disputes: Justice P. Sam Koshy

- Mediation is Key to Ensuring Speedy, Accessible and Cost-Effective Justice
- Justice P. Sam Koshy, Acting Chief Justice of Telangana High Court,
- Calls for Strengthening Mediation in Consumer Dispute Resolution

Hyderabad, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Acting Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court and Executive Chairman of the Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Justice P. Sam Koshy, emphasised that mediation should be developed as an integral part of the consumer justice system to resolve disputes expeditiously through mutual discussions, understanding and amicable settlements, without subjecting consumers to prolonged legal battles.



He was speaking as the Chief Guest at an awareness programme on "Awareness on Mediation in Practical and Functional Perspective in Consumer Disputes", organised jointly by the Telangana State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (TSCDRC), Hyderabad, and the Bar Association, TSCDRC, on Saturday at Eruvaka Bhavan, Khairatabad.

Addressing the gathering, Justice P. Sam Koshy observed that the nature of consumer transactions had undergone significant changes with the expansion of e-commerce, digital platforms, online subscriptions, financial transactions and technology-based services, while the possibilities of disputes had also increased. He explained that the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, strengthened the consumer protection framework in line with emerging business practices by introducing provisions relating to product liability, establishing the

Central Consumer Protection Authority and providing a statutory framework for consumer mediation.

He explained that mediation was not merely an alternative mechanism for resolving cases but a collaborative process in which both parties to a dispute explore mutually acceptable solutions with the assistance of a neutral mediator. He identified lack of awareness about the process, unequal understanding between parties during discussions, the nature of disputes, preparedness of mediators and coordination among institutions as major challenges. He emphasised that mediation must be conducted with complete understanding, impartiality and voluntary consent, ensuring that the interests of vulnerable sections are not compromised, while recognising that disputes involving fraud, forgery, coercion, serious medical negligence, criminal elements and wider public interest warrant formal judicial adjudication.

He stated that effective implementation of the mediation system required continuous training, dedicated panels of mediators, mediation centres equipped with necessary facilities, an efficient case referral mechanism and continuous monitoring. He observed that online mediation could extend access to justice to people in remote areas, while cautioning that adequate safeguards must be in place to ensure that those without access to technology and digital facilities were not excluded from the process.

Justice P. Sam Koshy said that advocates had a crucial role in creating awareness among their clients about amicable settlements while ensuring that the statutory rights of consumers were protected. He called upon the legal fraternity to adopt an institutional approach of "Let us first try mediation, and only then proceed to litigation." He clarified that mediation did not mean withdrawing from judicial

adjudication, but would help reserve formal judicial proceedings for cases where an authoritative judicial decision was necessary.

Speaking at the programme, Telangana High Court Judge Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya stated that specific procedural reforms were necessary to ensure the effective implementation of mediation in practice. She suggested that settlements reached through mediation should have legal validity and finality. She proposed making mediation available as an alternative at the complaint filing stage, promoting pre-litigation mediation through district-level mediation centres and establishing dedicated consumer helplines.

She also suggested that business organisations and e-commerce platforms appoint dedicated officers to handle consumer disputes and establish mechanisms to respond to and resolve complaints at the mediation stage itself. Emphasising the need to protect consumers in vulnerable situations, she said that legal advice and free legal aid should be made available to those who required them. She advocated promoting online mediation to extend access to justice to people in remote areas and called for data-driven monitoring of cases referred for mediation.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

Quad advances shared priorities, expands regional engagement in 2026

Washington, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Quad's engagements in 2026 reflected a more substantive approach and a greater clarity on its role in the Indo-Pacific. Through three separate foreign ministers' meetings in New Delhi, Manila and Atlanta, the grouping has sharpened its common priorities, translated commitments into concrete action and expanded its engagement, a report has stated.

It noted that the Quad foreign ministers held their third meeting of the year last week on the margins of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Atlanta, following their earlier engagements in New Delhi in May and Manila in July.

Despite these regular interactions, attention has largely remained focused on the long-delayed Quad Leaders' Summit, which is expected to be held in Manila later this month, a report in online magazine 'The Diplomat' highlighted.

"The summit has been the focus of much debate since the 2025 Quad Leaders' summit, which was scheduled to be hosted by New Delhi, fell through.

The leaders' convening is understandably much awaited since it would be the first since U.S. President Donald Trump's return to the White House. Moreover, it could put to rest some of the ever-growing speculation on the Quad's future amid cascading geopolitical conflicts, energy and tech supply constraints, and conjecture over an emergent G3 model (China, Russia, and the U.S.) of managing "spheres of influence," the report



mentioned. "However, even without a leaders' summit, 2026 has been significant for the Quad.

Three foreign minister-level convenings resulted in the finalization of joint priorities, announcements being put into action, and the broadening of engagement touch-points," it added. The report noted that the year 2026 has brought greater clarity to the Quad's role in the Indo-Pacific. Alongside its clearer position against "economic coercion", the grouping's decision to describe its members as "ASEAN Comprehensive Strategic Partners" marks an important development.

"In July 2026, at their meeting in Manila, the Quad nations declared their support for the "practical implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)" through shared priorities of maritime and transnational security, economic prosperity and security, critical and emerging technologies, and humanitarian assistance and emergency response," it stated.

The joint statement issued after the Quad meeting in Atlanta also provided updates on several emerging initiatives discussed during the May 2026 meeting in New Delhi.

These included the second "Quad-at-Sea" Ship Observer mission, held in September 2026, and the second Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN) Tabletop Exercise (TTX), hosted by Japan's Ministry of Defence during the same month, The Diplomat mentioned.

Mamata threatens to move SC over clashes outside Abhishek home; alleges BJP-Police conspiracy

Kolkata, Nov 7 (Way to News): Former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday threatened to approach the Supreme Court over clashes allegedly involving Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Mamata All India Trinamool Congress (MAITC) supporters outside the residence of her nephew, Abhishek Banerjee, in south Kolkata.

She accused the BJP and the police of conspiring to create tension in the area. Mamata visited Abhishek's residence in Kalighat, close to her own home, and spoke to reporters. Abhishek is the Trinamool Congress's Lok Sabha member from Diamond Harbour. Mamata said she would pursue the matter at the highest judicial level if required, alleging that the police had failed to act during the incident. The two residences are located in the same south Kolkata neighbourhood.



"A group of lumpen elements backed by the BJP orchestrated the attack on Abhishek's house after 2 a.m. The police remained silent spectators," she alleged.

She singled out Bolai Bag, officer-in-charge of Kalighat police station, which has jurisdiction over both residences. She cautioned the officer that his actions could trigger public anger.

The former Chief Minister also accused the police of trying to disrupt the annual Kali Puja organised at her residence and prevent people from visiting her home for the festival. She alleged that restrictions and police deployment had created tension in the neighbourhood ahead of the celebrations. "An atmosphere of unrest has been deliberately created in this area before the Kali Puja. The pujas of old clubs are being prevented. However, new pujas are starting overnight. The entrance to my house has been practically blocked, and new pujas have been organised. The police vehicles have deliberately been kept blocking the entrance to my house. The police have also issued prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the BNSS, 2023," she said.

Mamata claimed that surveillance had been stepped up to prevent people from gathering outside her residence. "As a result, the police have intensified surveillance to ensure that no gathering takes place in front of my house. All this is done to prevent people from coming to my house on the occasion of the Kali Puja," she said.

She accused the BJP of engineering the tension outside Abhishek's residence during the early hours of Saturday.

TN CM Sanctions Rs 2,000 cr for free student laptops

Chennai, Nov 7 (Way to News): Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay has sanctioned Rs 2,000 crore for the implementation of the Vetri Laptop Scheme, aimed at providing free laptops to students pursuing higher education in government and government-aided institutions across the state. The government has issued an order granting administrative approval and outlining detailed guidelines for the implementation of the scheme, which was announced in the 2026–27 state budget.

The initiative is intended to strengthen digital literacy, improve technical skills and provide students from economically disadvantaged families with better access to modern educational resources. According to the government, laptops have become essential learning tools in an increasingly digital educational environment, enabling students to participate in online classes, acquire specialised skills and prepare for employment opportunities. Under the scheme, first- and second-year undergraduate and diploma students enrolled in government and government-aided colleges during the 2026–27 academic year will be eligible to receive free laptops. The beneficiaries will include students pursuing arts and science, engineering, polytechnic, industrial training, medicine, veterinary science, fisheries, agriculture and law courses.

'As much pressure as possible must be put on EC'

Opposition welcomes CJP's Kochi protest against SIR



New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Congress and the NCP(SP) on Saturday welcomed the Cockroach Janta Party's (CJP) protest in Kochi against the alleged irregularities in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, saying that pressure should be mounted on the Election Commission of India to ensure accountability.

Speaking to Congress leader Udit Raj, commenting on the CJP protest in Kochi, said the demonstration was welcome and that every possible effort should be made to put pressure on the Election Commission. "It is welcome. As much pressure as possible needs to be put on the Election Commission. It is not as if there is a Congress government there, so nothing can go wrong. Preparing the electoral rolls is the Election Commission's responsibility. This is the work of the Election Commission of India," he said.

NCP(SP) National Spokesperson Clyde Crasto also defended the protest, questioning the removal of names from electoral rolls and demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

"The 13 crore names removed from the voter lists belong to people across the country, from different states and regions. Therefore, if CJP is protesting against this, it is a legitimate protest, and they can hold it anywhere. Why were 13 crore names removed? Gyanesh Kumar should resign," Crasto said.

However, Shiv Sena leader Shaina NC criticised the protest, accusing the CJP of engaging in political theatrics instead of presenting a concrete vision and plan for the country's youth.

Speaking in Maharashtra, she said, "CJP is once again staging a drama. Earlier, they were at Jantar Mantar in Delhi, and now they have reached Kochi. They are welcome, but it would be better if they explained their vision and plan. The youth of this country do not like this kind of political drama or performative activism. They want a vision and a concrete plan for jobs so that they can become self-reliant."

The CJP is scheduled to hold a protest march in Kerala's Kochi on Saturday, demanding the withdrawal of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Titled 'Jantar Mantar at Kochi', the demonstration will be held at Rajendra Maidan from 4 p.m., the group said in a post on X. CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke and actor-activist Prakash Raj are among those scheduled to attend the protest.

Punjab Govt approves 40% DA hike for Computer Teachers

Chandigarh, Nov 7 (Way to News): In another major employee-friendly initiative, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Punjab on Saturday announced a Diwali bonanza to its employees by approving a historic 40 per cent hike in dearness allowance (DA) for 6,507 computer teachers (PICTES) and regularising the services of 1,007 non-teaching employees working under Samagra Shiksha.

"On the auspicious occasion of Diwali, the Punjab government has announced a major benefit for its employees. The state government has approved a historic 40 per cent increase in dearness allowance (DA) for 6,507 Computer Teachers (PICTES), taking it from 181 to 221 per cent," an official statement quoting Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann said. "This decision will provide greater stability and security to these employees." The Chief Minister said that the state government has now also decided to extend salary-related benefits to these employees.

"The (Punjab) government is committed to the welfare of its employees and ensuring their secure future." Earlier this week, CM Mann announced the release of a three per cent DA for state government employees and pensioners, providing financial relief to nearly eight lakh beneficiaries. He had described the decision as a Diwali gift for government employees and pensioners.

The Chief Minister had announced that the DA instalment release would be added to the December instalment.

Kerala Government orders petrol checks after reports of excess ethanol blending

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 7 (Way to News): Kerala government has ordered inspections at petrol outlets across four districts following reports that fuel is being sold with ethanol blended in excess of the prescribed limit. Food and Civil Supplies Minister Anoop Jacob on Saturday directed the Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs to collect petrol samples from various locations and send them for testing.

The move follows the detection of alleged excess ethanol blending in neighbouring Karnataka. The minister said no such instance had so far come to the notice of authorities in Kerala. However, the government has decided to conduct inspections to ensure that similar malpractices do not take



place in the state. The directive was issued after discussions with Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan. Samples will be collected from different locations in Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Kozhikode and Kannur districts. The exercise is intended to ascertain whether petrol sold at retail outlets conforms to the prescribed standards and whether the permitted ethanol blending limit is being exceeded.

The inspections will be carried out under the provisions of the Central Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply and Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005. Based on this central regulation, the state government issued a notification in 2014 authorising officials of the Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department to inspect fuel outlets and initiate legal action in cases of violations. The powers have been vested in officials ranging from the Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs to Taluk Supply Officers. This enables inspections to be conducted at different levels across the state.

The minister said stringent action would be taken if excess ethanol blending or any other form of adulteration was detected. The inspections assume significance in the wake of reports from Karnataka, where excess ethanol blending has reportedly been detected. The government wants to ensure that consumers in Kerala are not exposed to similar malpractices and that fuel sold in the state meets the prescribed quality standards.

Bengal Govt issues notification directing ISKCON to provide Mid-Day meals in state

Kolkata, Nov 7 (Way to News): The West Bengal School Education Department on Saturday issued a notification authorising the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) to provide mid-day meals in all state-run and state-aided schools in the state. Till now, ISKCON had been providing mid-day meals in state-run and state-aided schools within the jurisdiction of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC).

However, as per the notification issued on Saturday evening, ISKCON had been, henceforth, authorised to provide mid-day meals in all state-run and state-aided schools throughout the state.

As per the notification, a copy of which is available with IANS, all schools in the state are being brought under the Union government's



scheme of Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman or PM Poshan scheme, and under this arrangement ISKCON had been authorised to provide mid-day meals in all state-run and state-aided schools in the state.

After the new Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government came to power in the state, new rules were introduced for the provision of midday meals. ISKCON was given the responsibility of providing mid-day meals to provide nutrition to school children. It was started in government schools in Kolkata in August. However, Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari had announced at that time that although it was being started on an experimental basis, the responsibility of mid-day meals to ISKCON would be given to all districts of the state in a phased manner.

A notification was recently issued saying that mid-day meals would be provided to government schools in Howrah and Purba Medinipur. However, it was withdrawn later. On Saturday, a fresh notification has been issued authorising ISKCON to provide mid-day meals to all government schools throughout the state. However, this system will be implemented in all districts in a phase-wise manner. As per the notification, to prepare this mid-day meal, a suitable place for the central kitchen will have to be identified. For this, the concerned district administration will cooperate with ISKCON authorities.

Centre draws up special contingency plan to speed up rabi sowing in 225 dry districts

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): The government has drawn up contingency plans to facilitate sowing in the current rabi season in as many as 225 districts across the country which have been affected due to the erratic monsoon this year in the wake of the El Nino weather pattern.

"We are taking contingency planning to a new level with the development of a dynamic dashboard that will integrate the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) weekly forecasts, data on water bodies and other relevant information to help officials make decisions based on local conditions," Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Director General ML Jat told journalists. The proposed dashboard would allow users to



access information at the district level, he added.

The ICAR chief said a district initially identified as vulnerable to drought could move out of that category if it received adequate rainfall in the coming days. The assessment should therefore be revised using updated IMD forecasts and rainfall data, including projections for the following 15 days.

Rabi crops, including wheat, have been sown in around 3.8 million hectares as of October 30, which is around 46 per cent less than the same period last year. However, this is also due to untimely rains in the wheat belt, due to which sowing has been delayed and is expected to accelerate now, a senior official explained.

The ICAR chief said that the new dashboard would cover the entire country, rather than just the 225 districts identified for contingency planning. He said the platform would not be restricted to contingency planning. It would also provide advisories for normal agricultural conditions, helping farmers and officials decide what action to take in different circumstances. He said ICAR ultimately intended to integrate the dashboard with the AgriStack initiative so that information from different agricultural sources could be brought together.

Editorial

BJP manifesto targets Congress performance

The Congress announced five guarantees to Assam voters on Sunday March 29, and two days later on March 31, BJP has released its manifesto and gave 31 promises. A special feature of the BJP's manifesto is its comparison of achievement of NDA and UPA rule in the state trying to outshine the Congress. The social and economic promises given by both are attractive and may catch the imagination of voters, who will cast their vote on April 9, 2026.

The first guarantee the congress gave was to transfer Rs 50000 to every woman's bank account to start or grow business. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge alleged, "The money that the BJP is today giving to women is conditional. They see that you are a BJP member. But after my government comes, we will not give any conditions. We will give it to all women."

The second Congress guarantee is Rs25 lakh cashless health cover for families, as such cover was given in Congress led governments in Karnataka, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. The third Congress guarantee was delivering justice in the matter of death of singer Zubeen Garn within 100 days. The fourth guarantee was to increase old age pension from Rs250 to Rs1250 per month, and the fifth guarantee was to give permanent pattas (document) replacing 10 lakh annual land pattas to "Bhoomi Putras".

Congress campaign seems to rest on criticising BJP leader and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. Congress president Kharge said that he had snatched the CM's seat from BJP CM Sarbananda Sonowal through deception. He tried to attract voters' imagination by asking them, "Will you vote for such person? Will you vote for someone who deceives? Who lies? Who eats others' money? Who steals land? Who helps the sand mafia. All the people in their house are drowning in corruption." Congress leaders are campaigning but their campaigns seem to be weak in substance.

On the other hand, BJP has come out with a manifesto, and tried to corner the Congress on achievements. It gave comparison of the performances of the UPA government during 2006-2026 and NDA government during 2016-2026. The indicators included central assistance, GSDP, Central Tax Devolution, Per Capita Income, Poverty Rate, Road infrastructure, Bridges over Brahmaputra, Colleges and Universities both government and private, Medical Colleges, Cancer Institutes, Medical seats, Maternal Mortality Ratio, and Wildlife. The data it provided clearly outshines the Congress.

After giving the comparison, it gives details of its performance in the last 10 years of BJP led NDA rule. Congress will thus have to counter the development narrative of the government effectively, if it wants to push its own narrative of development in the state.

BJP does not rely only on the economic content it gave in the manifesto, but also have given 31 politically attractive promises. The first two promises are social promises that have been agitating the mind of the people of Assam for a long time. "We will protect the land, heritage and dignity of the indigenous people of Assam, the first Sankalpa says, "By Implementing the Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950, to expedite the process of detection and pushback of illegal immigrants; Freeing every inch of land from encroachment by illegal immigrants; Providing land rights to all genuine citizens of Assam under Mission Basundhara; Freeing the remaining encroached lands of Satras, Namghars, Devalayas and other places of worship and cultural heritage and providing financial assistance under the Asom Darshan Scheme; Strengthening the Satra Aayog to free Satralands from encroachment and provide assistance for Satra restoration and preservation; Redeveloping the Sri Sri Madhupur Satra in line with the Batadrava Than Cultural Project (Srimanta Sankardeva Abirbhav Kshetra); and Redeveloping and restoring Talatal Ghar and freeing it from encroachment in line with the Rang Ghar Beautification Project.

India's ESI Safety Net Fails to Protect Millions of Vulnerable Workers

Dinesh C Sharma



THE tariff war triggered by the aggressive trade policies of US President Trump has again brought into focus the semiconductor industry. Semiconductor chips are the backbone of products ranging from automobiles to missiles, and their supplies are mired in complicated global chains. While China and other East Asian countries like South Korea, Japan and Taiwan are key players in the semiconductor supply chains, the inclusion of Canada and Mexico as well in Trump's protectionist mission has surprised many.

Several semiconductor products from destinations like China and Taiwan are routed through Mexico and Canada for manufacturing or packaging and end products meant for American and other markets. Besides semiconductor manufacturing, China also controls the milling and refining of rare earth metals that are critical for high-tech products like mobile phones and electric vehicle batteries.

The shortage of semiconductor chips during the Covid-19 pandemic five years ago was a wake-up call. The disruption in the global supply chains resulting from the stoppage of production for a few weeks led to a drop in manufacturing of consumer products like cars, mobile phones and washing machines in several countries as the supply of chips went down. Now, the production lines are not threatened with closure, but higher tariffs are bound to increase the prices of products with embedded chips. The scenario about the supply of rare earth materials and the Chinese threat to restrict the supplies is still emerging and fuller impacts may become clear over the next few months.

In response to the pandemic situation, several steps were initiated in India in this strategic sector. It was realised that India's share in the global electronics design and manufacturing industry worth $2 trillion was minuscule at $100 billion. Moreover, just a fraction of it was value addition since India lacked local semiconductor manufacturing and the Indian industry is merely engaged in system integration and assembly. This is despite the country possessing good strength in silicon design with several design groups working for global chip companies.

To promote local manufacturing and reduce reliance on global supply chains, the government initiated the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) in 2021. Since semiconductor manufacturing of any kind is highly capital-intensive, the mission envisaged capital subsidies of up to 50 per cent to attract private companies. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme covered semiconductor foundries, Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) or Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facilities and display fabrication facilities. In the past four years, the Central Government has sanctioned subsidies worth Rs 76,000 crore under this PLI and the first chip is supposed to roll out this year.

However, silicon fabrication activities like OSAT are not at the high end or cutting edge of semiconductor manufacturing, but low-hanging fruit which, at best, allow a toehold in the global chip business. With these technologies, India will not be able to catch the semiconductor bus it had missed decades ago. India entered this field much ahead of Taiwan, with investments in Bharat Electronics Limited in the 1960s and Semiconductor Limited (SCL) in the 1980s. It could not keep pace with fast-changing technology because requisite investment was not made in research and development (R&D) and SCL took a long time recovering from the devastating fire it suffered in 1989.

With ISM, a new beginning has been made, but India could lag the second time around by repeating the mistake — neglecting R&D. Deliberations of the scientific community since the pandemic have repeatedly pointed this out. India stands at the fifth position globally in producing scientific knowledge relevant to electronics and semiconductors with a smaller number of scientists working in this field compared to America. "This needs to be leveraged and funnelled towards industrial R&D with appropriate engagements with commercial semiconductor fabs. A serious and sustained R&D investment is a must to ensure that India doesn't repeat the mistakes of the past, while also ensuring that India becomes self-reliant in the R&D feed for semiconductor manufacturing entities," said the group of scientists in their recommendations to the government in 2022.

Specifically, scientists suggested the creation of an R&D fab to develop and test emerging technologies like using two-dimensional materials like graphene and Transition Metal Dichalcogenides (TMDCs) instead of silicon. A group led by Mayank Shrivastava, a professor in the Department of Electronics Systems Engineering at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, proposed a blueprint for a national R&D centre dedicated to 2-D materials. He envisaged that it should be developed on the lines of 'early day Intel or Bell Labs' when silicon technologies were at a nascent stage. The centre should be headed by a technocrat and work with other academic groups as well as industry partners.

The precedent to establish such mission-oriented R&D centres already exists. The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) was established in 1984 to develop a digital telephone exchange. It was given a budget of Rs 36 crore and a timeframe of 36 months, and it delivered. The centre was headed by a technocrat, Sam Pitroda, and not an officer of the telecom department. Then came the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing to develop a supercomputer.

It is time to take a similar mission approach for the R&D fab. This is the only way India can jump the silicon roadmap and ensure a place for itself when post-silicon technologies mature. Shrivastava's proposal was backed by the officer of the Principal Scientific Advisor, but is yet to get the final go-ahead. Since the proposal was made three years ago, the global semiconductor industry has already made good progress with 2-D material-based technologies.

Mediterranean Water, Energy Cooperation

Hafed Al-Ghwell



From Algiers to Madrid, and Cairo to Marseille, the Mediterranean region finds itself adrift in an increasingly fragmented world order testing the resilience of nations on both sides of this sea. Great power rivalries, trade wars, and proxy conflicts are buffeting countries that once relied on global institutions and distant allies to keep the peace and fuel their economies. Instead of stability, they face a future of uncertainty — unless they choose a different path. The Mediterranean has always been more than just a body of water; it is the cradle of interconnected civilizations. For millennia, its shores boasted trade routes, cultural exchanges, and safeguarded economic interdependence. From the Roman concept of Mare Nostrum ("Our Sea") to the era of European empires and colonization in North Africa, history has repeatedly woven the fates of southern Europe and North Africa together. In the 20th century, as colonialism gave way to independence, the ties persisted through migration, language, and commerce.

Today, tens of millions of people of North African descent live in France, Spain, and Italy, and southern European companies are deeply invested in North African markets. Yet despite this profound intermingling, political and economic integration across the Mediterranean has lagged behind its historical and human reality. Efforts like the 1995 Barcelona Process and the 2008 Union for the Mediterranean set out grand visions of a Euro-Mediterranean community, but delivered only modest results. As old rivalries and new crises intervened, it has become increasingly clear that the region's integration remains an unfinished business.

And now, as global fractures widen, the cost of that fragmentation is rising sharply, which carries immediate risks for the countries around the Mediterranean. Each government, acting alone, faces the prospect of being a pawn in larger games — from energy shocks, debt-laden port deals, or being drawn into sprawling proxy "forever wars." Continuing on the current path of disunity promises more of the same instabilities: sporadic disruptions, external meddling, and deepening distrust between neighbors.

The clearest antidote is for the Mediterranean's own players to close ranks and build collective strength. If Europe and North Africa can form a cohesive "axis" of cooperation, they create a shield against outside shocks — one forged by turning mutual vulnerabilities into mutual advantages. Nowhere is the need for cooperation more literally vital than in water. Water is life, but around the Mediterranean it is increasingly a source of crisis. Climate change has made this region a global hotspot, with the Mediterranean warming and drying about 20 percent faster than the world average. Southern Europe has been scorched by record summer temperatures that desiccated its farmland, while North African cities from Casablanca to Cairo know the fear of reservoirs running low. The southern Mediterranean is home to 15 of the world's 20 most water-scarce countries, and some communities are already at levels far below what is defined as water poverty. Moreover, population growth and irrigation needs push usage up, even as rainfall becomes erratic and aquifers are depleted. If current trends persist, experts warn that about 250 million people around the Mediterranean could face water poverty by 2040.

Such a future spells disaster: failing crops, thirsty cities, and the specter of conflicts over rivers and reservoirs, making water scarcity yet another stress multiplier, fueling social discontent, migration, and potential clashes.

No single country can mitigate this challenge or remain insulated from its spillovers. After all, the nature of water is inherently transboundary: Rivers cross borders, aquifers span continents, and weather does not respect political lines. The only effective answer is cooperation — sharing technology, strategies, and even water itself when possible. If water is one pillar of a Mediterranean axis, energy is the other great opportunity to unite the region. On one shore, Europe is hungry for reliable, affordable energy as it accelerates away from fossil fuels; on the other, North African nations possess an abundance of untapped solar, wind, and natural gas resources. In the past, energy often meant oil and gas flowing northward: Algeria's pipelines have warmed Spanish and Italian homes for decades, and Libya's oil fueled European cars. However, the 21st century is rapidly redefining energy needs and possibilities, making the real promise of an energy-based Mediterranean axis lie not in yesterday's hydrocarbons, but in tomorrow's green power. This is not pie-in-the-sky theorizing — it is already starting. Morocco and Spain have exchanged electricity through undersea cables for years, and are now studying ways of transporting green hydrogen from North Africa to European markets. Tunisia and Italy, despite being separated by 900 km of sea, are planning a new power interconnector that will allow Tunisian solar farms to feed the European grid.

Ocean Biomass Burial Faces Scale, Cost Challenges

James Kerry and Lisa Levin



Puro.earth, a self-appointed "carbon removal certifier," is seeking to establish a new accredited means of carbon sequestration: dumping bundled biomass (wood or crop waste) into the ocean. At least two companies are already selling carbon credits based on plans to dump biomass in the Black Sea. But "ocean storage of biomass," known as OSB, lacks scientific verification and highlights the risks of commercializing unproven climate interventions.

The idea is that "degradation-resistant biomass" would be dumped into the Black Sea basin, where anoxic (oxygen-free) conditions would further slow, or even halt, degradation. As a result, the approach's proponents claim, the carbon would effectively be removed from the biological cycle for more than 1,000 years, with minimal environmental impact. But there is no scientific evidence that this is true. While anoxic zones might appear barren, they are by no means devoid of life. And the tiny organisms found there — such as the Synechococcus bacteria, which was recently discovered in the Black Sea's anoxic basin — break down organic matter and release trapped carbon. They simply use chemosynthesis, rather than photosynthesis, to do it. Since carbon can migrate across the "chemocline" (chemical transition zone) that separates anoxic zones from oxygen-rich waters, whatever is released within the Black Sea's anoxic basin can return to the ocean's carbon cycle and, ultimately, the atmosphere.

Two more processes could accelerate the release of carbon: dumping large quantities of baled biomass could — and likely would — induce turbulent chemical mixing in the chemocline, while the heat generated by decomposing biomass could further weaken the Black Sea's stratification. Moreover, as the ballast makes contact with the seafloor, it will likely resuspend sediment that currently acts as a reservoir not only of carbon, but also hydrogen sulfide (which is toxic) and methane (a highly potent greenhouse gas). The seabed disturbance, together with the erosion of the chemocline, could cause these gases, in addition to carbon dioxide, to penetrate the oxygen-rich areas of the Black Sea, which support a diverse array of marine life, including dolphins, porpoises and many species of fish, some of which can be found nowhere else. Any expansion of the anoxic zone or intrusion of toxic gases into this habitat could severely harm its ecosystem, which is already under intensifying pressure from overfishing, pollution (including chemical, plastic and noise pollution), habitat destruction and rising temperatures.

But that is not all. The gases released as a result of OSB could ultimately make their way into the atmosphere, with potentially catastrophic consequences. This is not without precedent. When the stratification of Lake Nyos in Cameroon collapsed in 1986, large clouds of carbon dioxide gas were released, killing an estimated 1,700 people.

Puro.earth insists that OSB is safe. But these claims are based on modeling and short-term laboratory experiments, which cannot possibly replicate the unique and complex conditions of the Black Sea's anoxic basin. For one thing, these experiments tend to underestimate rates of organic degradation by failing to account for the possibility that they will increase over time — for example, as microbial communities adapt or due to a breakdown in the structural integrity of the biomass.

Moreover, while Puro.earth promises strict requirements for monitoring and environmental and social safeguards, it plans to observe the effects of its activities for only 15 years after the last biomass bundle is dumped — a far cry from the 1,000 years of carbon sequestration being claimed. Without long-term observational data, it cannot credibly claim that OSB is a legitimate — let alone benign — means of carbon removal, especially because the carbon permanency and ecological consequences of such activities are difficult to predict and even harder to monitor in such remote and poorly studied environments.

Land considerations further challenge the logic of OSB. Terrestrial biomass has value in itself, both in terms of the nutrients it contains and because there may be better uses for it, such as in the synthesis of biofuels. A complete life-cycle analysis of the OSB process suggests it involves significant energy consumption in the harvesting, processing, transportation and monitoring of the biomass. Puro.earth rightly asserts that any biomass used in the process "must be free from harmful impurities and compounds," such as toxins and pesticides. Yet that requirement would necessitate chemical testing of entire batches, which would likely impose significant costs. Even if OSB were safe and efficient, with dumped biomass remaining durably sequestered in anoxic waters, its promise as a climate intervention would be dubious. The problem is one of scale. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, we should be removing 6 to 10 gigatons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere each year until 2050. Even assuming that only crop waste was used, locking up just one gigaton of carbon dioxide would require about 500 million tonnes of dry biomass, an amount comparable to the entire annual US corn harvest.

Israeli president picks Gadi Eisenkot, Netanyahu rival, to form government





JERUSALEM, Nov 7 (Way to News): Israel's president on Saturday chose Gadi Eisenkot, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's strongest rival, to try to form a new government following a deadlocked election that left neither man with a clear path to power. Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving leader, is fighting to stay in office after his religious-nationalist coalition lost its majority in an October 27 election but still emerged as the largest bloc in parliament.

Eisenkot, a former military chief, has declined to join forces with Arab parties, with whose support he would have a majority of seats in parliament. But Arab leaders, incensed by what they view as the racist policies of Netanyahu and his far-right allies, still nominated Eisenkot to try to form a government first — giving him the most endorsements. "President Herzog has invited Gadi Eisenkot to the President's Residence, where he will be tasked with forming the government tomorrow," said the spokesperson of President Isaac Herzog, whose largely ceremonial role involves nominating a candidate to form a coalition after elections. Weeks of protracted negotiations are expected to follow Eisenkot's nomination. He has 28 days to try to forge a government, with a possible 14-day extension. His potential pathways to power include trying to form a minority government with Arab support from the outside; forming a coalition with ultra-Orthodox parties that he and his allies have shunned in the past; or forging a unity government with Netanyahu.

Analysts say that all three options are unlikely to take shape. If Eisenkot fails, another candidate can try to form a government and if that candidate fails, parliament can nominate another. There is a deadline for the process of around 100 days. If no one succeeds, another election is held.

Likud won the most seats of any single party with 27 in the 120-seat Knesset, but Netanyahu's wider religious-nationalist coalition garnered only 53 in total, short of a 61-seat majority.

Eisenkot's Yashar party emerged as the second-largest party with 21 seats, while his coalition, spanning four center-left to right-wing Jewish-led parties, won just 48 seats. Two parties representing Israel's Arab minority won an unprecedented 19 seats. A son of Moroccan immigrants, Eisenkot, 66, would be the country's first prime minister from Israel's Mizrahi community, Jews who trace their roots to the Middle East and North Africa. Reserved and mediashy, Eisenkot only entered politics in 2022. He briefly served in Netanyahu's wartime cabinet following Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel before returning to the opposition.

Zelensky says Russia ramping up strikes to 'pressure' Ukraine at talks



KYIV, Nov 7 (Way to News): Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Saturday accused Russia of ramping up strikes across his country in order to pressure Ukraine and its allies at US-brokered talks scheduled for next week.

Zelensky said the latest barrage came "ahead of another joint effort with our partners to reinvigorate negotiations" and charged that "by intensifying its attacks on Ukraine and our infrastructure at this very moment, Russia is trying to additionally lay the groundwork for putting pressure on Ukraine's position and that of its partners." Meanwhile, the Russian strikes on Ukraine's energy infrastructure overnight caused power cuts in five regions, the Ukrainian energy ministry said Saturday as the country braces for another harsh winter of war. Russia has continued to attack Ukraine's energy infrastructure despite renewed diplomatic efforts to end the war, which will see US, Russian and Ukrainian officials hold trilateral meetings in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Zelensky had warned on Friday that more attacks on the country's energy sector and civilian infrastructure were imminent.

"Overnight, the enemy launched a massive attack on a number of energy facilities in Ukraine," the energy ministry said in a statement. Consumers in the Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Kyiv, Zhytomyr and Kharkiv regions were left without power, and electricity transmission in the capital and surrounding region was "significantly hampered," it added. It did not say how many homes were affected. Zelensky said on social media that Russia had launched 36 ballistic missiles and 172 drones in a "combined attack." "Russia is preparing for the trilateral talks by launching ballistic missiles at Ukraine's critical infrastructure," he said.

He urged the United States — where President Donald Trump's Republican party just suffered heavy midterm election losses — to increase its flagging aid to Ukraine.

Zelensky urged the United States to step up its military and diplomatic support for Ukraine, warning that Russia's continued attacks on critical infrastructure were undermining efforts to achieve peace. He stressed that Moscow's actions ahead of the Abu Dhabi talks demonstrated its intention to strengthen its position through military pressure rather than genuine diplomatic engagement.

Canary island calls for help with migrant influx

Barcelona, Nov 7 (Way to News): Spanish authorities on one of the Canary Islands declared an emergency on Saturday after a surge in migrant boat arrivals, demanding government assistance to cope with the influx. "We are very concerned... by this sharp increase in arrivals," Alpidio Armas, head of the governing council for the island of El Hierro, told Spanish television. "This is precisely what has led us to declare an emergency in order to ensure a framework of cooperation with higher-level institutions."

Several thousand migrants have reached the Atlantic archipelago in recent weeks, many of them landing on El Hierro.

Since the start of November, more than 3,300 people have arrived on the island aboard around 30 boats, according to local authorities.

Officials are seeking temporary accommodation for the new arrivals, while conditions at the island's hospital have become "undesirable," Armas said.

This period of the year is usually marked by an increase in arrivals to the Canary Islands because of favorable sailing conditions. However, local authorities warned that an approaching storm expected overnight could make the crossing more dangerous for migrants currently at sea.

Two dead migrants were found on a boat attempting to reach the Canaries earlier this week, while another five are believed to have died during the voyage, according to survivor accounts.

Rubio seeks to impose order at State Deptarment as Republicans look ahead to 2028



Washington, Nov 7 (Way to News): US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has moved to tighten control over the State Department, telling senior officials in a recent meeting that staff must stay in their lanes and avoid efforts that present conflicts of interest, four people familiar with the matter said.

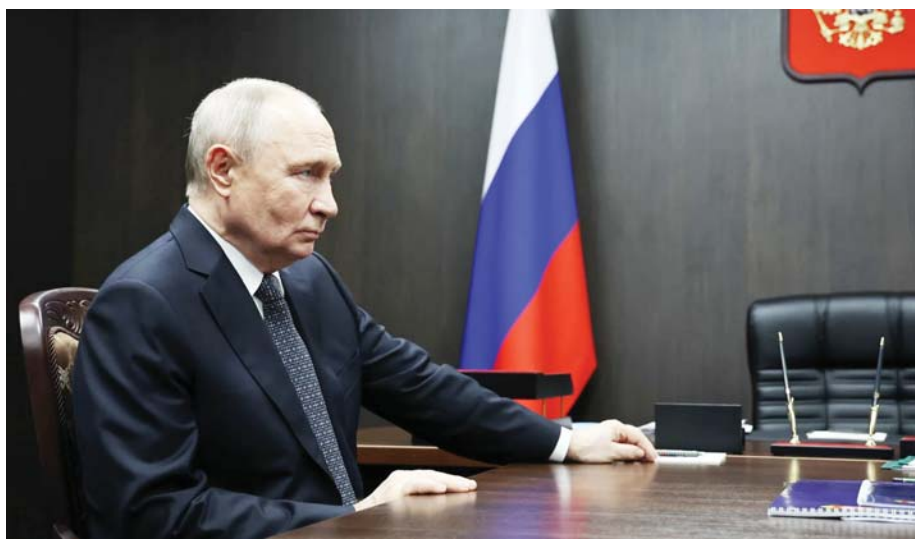
Rubio's message, delivered last week before the Republican Party's electoral losses this Tuesday, comes as the party's leading figures attempt to put distance between themselves and an increasingly unpopular Trump administration.

The meeting followed the high-profile resignation of US Ambassador to Greece Kimberly Guilfoyle in mid-October after news reports raised concerns that she sold access to Trump administration officials in exchange for money, gifts and favors. Guilfoyle has called the reports false and in a post on social media said she would defend her reputation. Rubio told the meeting, which included many of the roughly two dozen assistant secretaries of state, that unethical behavior would result in a firing, regardless of how well-connected an official might be, said one of the people.

He added that too many officials were making decisions or pushing policy agendas without coordinating and that significant decisions required his signoff or that of Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau, according to the people, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. Details of the meeting have not previously been reported. The State Department declined to comment on the meeting.

Soon after the meeting, three of the people said, the State Department's policy chief, Jeremy Lewin, was forced out of his job in part due to concerns that he was working on matters outside his area without proper coordination. The exact details of those concerns remain unclear. None of the people who spoke to Reuters suggested Lewin's departure was linked to any incidents of ethical misconduct. Lewin joined the government as part of Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency and helped dismantle the US Agency for International Development, which oversaw US foreign assistance.

Putin extends control over Japan tobacco assets in Russia



MOSCOW, Nov 7 (Way to News): Russian President Vladimir Putin has expanded the list of Japan Tobacco International (JTI) businesses placed under temporary administration in Russia, adding three more companies to those included in the original order issued on Thursday.

On Thursday, Putin signed a decree transferring the Russian assets of JTI, part of Japan Tobacco Inc. and Russia's largest tobacco manufacturer, to temporary management, making the tobacco group the latest foreign company to lose control of local operations as Moscow tightens its grip on overseas-owned assets.

According to the original decree, the stakes in four JTI businesses were placed under the administration of Russian company Industrial Assets. A separate decree, published overnight, extended the measure to three additional companies, all owned by JTI Investments Sarl According to Interfax news agency, the three firms acted as import, management and holding companies. Separately, Russian media outlet RBC on Saturday quoted Anton Pivovarov, head of Industrial Assets, as saying the company would seek to maintain production, preserve existing teams and fulfil obligations to employees and business partners without disruption. Putin's decrees gave no reason for the move, but the Kremlin has previously linked similar asset seizures to actions taken by countries it considers hostile to Russia. In an emailed statement issued after the first decree, JTI said it was aware of the decision and was "assessing the situation and our options, prioritising our stakeholders, most notably our employees." The Japanese government owns around 37 percent of shares in Japan Tobacco Inc., whose brands include Winston and Camel cigarettes. The Russian business accounts for about 10 percent of Japan Tobacco Group's revenue and roughly 25 percent of its operating profit.

The move reflects Moscow's continued efforts to tighten state oversight of foreign-owned businesses amid ongoing tensions with Western nations and their allies. Since the Ukraine conflict began in 2022, Russia has placed several overseas-owned companies under temporary administration, raising concerns among international investors about the security of their assets and the future of foreign investment in the country.

Internal feuds and political violence fuel deadly clashes in Bangladesh



Dhaka, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Bangladesh Nationalist Party's (BNP) return to power has been accompanied by internal disputes, even as the party takes charge of maintaining law and order, a report has stated.

Despite sweeping political changes in recent years, Bangladesh continues to witness deadly clashes over local control. The 2024 uprising that ousted former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the subsequent interim administration led largely by Muhammad Yunus, and the eventual return to power of BNP following the national elections this year have failed to change one persistent reality: people continue to lose their lives in power struggles at the grassroots level, according to a report in the online magazine 'The Diplomat'. Amid escalating political violence in Bangladesh, the report highlighted that on the night of October 18 this year, Ripon Mia, a local leader of Jubo Dal, the youth wing of BNP, was chased through Paiska in Narayanganj district by a group of men and attacked with sharp weapons. He was rushed to a hospital by his family, but doctors declared him dead.

Local BNP activists said the attack followed a worsening rivalry between two factions over the inclusion of names on the guest list for a religious event.

"Several men chased my father and hacked him," Ripon's daughter Shila told the media.

French presidential hopeful Melenchon pledges minimum wage rise, retirement at 60



PARIS, Nov 7 (Way to News): Jean-Luc Melenchon, the hard-left French presidential hopeful, will pledge to raise the minimum wage and restore the country's retirement age to 60 when he launches his 2027 election program on Saturday.

Melenchon, 75, is viewed as the strongest contender on the left and recent opinion polls have shown him reaching the presidential runoff next April against Marine Le Pen on the far-right, but also indicate he would lose in the second round.

His manifesto, titled "L'Avenir en commun" ("A Shared Future"), is the fifth edition of the platform of his party, France Unbowed (LFI), and largely reaffirms policies that have formed the backbone of Melenchon's previous presidential bids. Among its flagship pledges is the repeal of President Emmanuel Macron's pension reform, which gradually raised France's minimum retirement age from 62 to 64 in an effort to shore up public finances.

LFI says it would restore retirement at 60 for people who have contributed to the system for 40 years. The program also calls for increasing the net monthly minimum wage to 1,700 from around 1,480 and includes plans to abolish the flat tax on capital income, raise taxes on the wealthiest households and cap prices for essential foods.

LFI also reiterates its support for a gradual phase-out of nuclear power in favor of a fully renewable electricity system, including scrapping the planned EPR2 reactor program and not extending the lifespan of nuclear plants beyond 60 years.

On foreign policy, Melenchon's program reiterates his long-standing criticism of NATO and calls for France's gradual withdrawal from the alliance, starting with an exit from its integrated military command. It also criticizes German influence on European Union economic policy, describing Berlin as Europe's chief defender of "ordoliberalism," an economic philosophy centered on strict budget rules, price stability and independent monetary policy. The program calls for greater protection of domestic industry, including measures to encourage the relocation of production to France.

US Justice Department drops bid to force California to set aside disputed ballots



LOS ANGELES, Nov 7 (Way to News): The US Department of Justice on Friday requested to dismiss its own lawsuit that sought to stop California from counting roughly 20,000 ballots it alleged went to noncitizens until their immigration statuses could be verified.

The move comes days after Republicans' significant losses in the midterm elections and about a week before a scheduled hearing where a special master was slated to evaluate the accuracy of the list of alleged noncitizens. California officials have previously said the list is out of date and includes legitimate voters — a sentiment that the federal judge presiding over the case echoed in his blistering order denying the federal government's request.

The case was at the forefront of President Donald Trump's administration's effort to assert control over state-run elections across the country, which Trump has said are rife with noncitizen voting without providing evidence. Available data indicates occurrences are exceedingly rare.

The Justice Department remains enmeshed in litigation with multiple immigrant and voting rights groups seeking to limit its use of the list of what it says are suspected noncitizens. It said in a statement Friday evening that it would continue to prosecute and litigate suspected violations of election law through other legal cases.

The department also filed a motion in support of a separate lawsuit filed in May that alleges that California violates national voting laws by failing to sufficiently remove ineligible voters from its rolls. The intervention is part of a broader effort to continue to "pursue every available civil and criminal remedy to ensure that only eligible American citizens vote in American elections," top Los Angeles prosecutor Bill Essayli said.

California had processed roughly 9 million ballots as of early Friday, with nearly 5 million still left to be counted, according to state election officials.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

Digital Initiatives Launched at KAUMARACON-2026 to Advance Research, Innovation and Clinical Practice

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, today inaugurated KAUMARACON-2026 at the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Ayush. The event is the third international conference on Kaumarabhritya (Ayurvedic paediatrics). It is being held from 15 to 17 October 2026 under the theme "Shaping the Future of Child Health: Global Perspectives, Research Innovations, and Clinical Frontiers in Kaumarabhritya." The occasion also marked the Institute's Foundation Day. It celebrated a decade of progress in



Ayurvedic education, clinical services, scientific research and innovation.

The Vice-President called for greater scientific research to establish the efficacy of traditional healthcare practices, strengthen patient confidence and enhance the global acceptance of India's traditional systems of medicine. He noted that India's traditional systems of medicine represent a valuable legacy rooted in its civilisational wisdom and centuries-old knowledge traditions. He also highlighted the international recognition of Yoga and the establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in Jamnagar as important milestones in sharing India's traditional knowledge with the world.

Referring to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of developing AIIA at par with AIIMS, the Vice President said the Institute was progressing towards realising this vision. Congratulating AIIA on its 10th Foundation Day, he emphasised the importance of sustained efforts in research, innovation and academic excellence to further strengthen the Institute's standing. He called upon researchers and practitioners to preserve traditional wisdom, strengthen it through scientific validation and place child health at the centre of their efforts.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush and Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Prataprao Jadhav, highlighted the transformative journey of India's traditional systems of medicine over the past decade under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.



Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Ramdas Athawale visits Shilp Samagam Mela 2026 at Dilli Haat, INA, in New Delhi.

NSTCC Aims to Strengthen Data-Driven Monitoring, Trade Intelligence and Evidence-Based Decision-Making

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, launched the National Strategic Trade Command Centre (NSTCC) at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, in the presence of Commerce Secretary, Shri Rajesh Agrawal, and Director General, Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Shri Lav Agarwal.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Piyush Goyal lauded NSTCC for enabling data-driven, evidence-based trade decisions. While reviewing the SCOMET (Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies) dashboard, in particular, he called for regular meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee, weekly if required, to clear the backlog of pending applications and ensure that all applications are cleared expeditiously. De-



veloped by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, NSTCC is a strategic initiative aimed at strengthening the monitoring, analysis and governance of India's international trade ecosystem through integrated data analytics and evidence-based decision-making.

The Command Centre has been conceptualised to provide senior policymakers and government officials with a consolidated view of India's trade performance, export promotion schemes, regulatory approvals, application processing and operational indicators. By bringing together information from multiple trade-related systems, NSTCC seeks to facilitate timely identification of emerging trends, operational bottlenecks and areas requiring policy or administrative intervention. At the core of NSTCC is an integrated analytics and visualisation platform developed to transform trade-related data into actionable insights. NSTCC provides interactive dashboards covering key trade indicators, scheme performance, application pendency, processing timelines, regional trends and compliance-related parameters. The platform enables users to analyse information across multiple levels, including national trade performance, Regional Authorities, schemes, products, destination markets and individual applications, subject to role-based access permissions.

In its initial phase, the Command Centre brings together dashboards covering key DGFT functions and trade-related domains, including Importer Exporter Code (IEC).

Exhibition celebrates India's rich sculptural heritage and contemporary practices

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Union Minister of Culture and Tourism Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurated TAKSHANAM, a major exhibition featuring over 250 sculptures by 150 participating artists representing diverse generations, artistic backgrounds and approaches to sculptural expression, at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi. Shri Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, was also present on the occasion. Conceived as a shared platform for artistic encounter and exchange, the exhibition explores the continuities, transitions and new possibilities shaping the evolving landscape of Indian sculpture.

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, said, "Art is an important expression of India's cul-



tural identity and creative spirit. Initiatives such as TAKSHANAM bring artists and audiences closer while encouraging greater appreciation of our artistic traditions and contemporary expressions. By creating space for both established and emerging talent, the exhibition reinforces the importance of nurturing creativity and expanding public engagement with art."

Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, said, "The Ministry of Culture remains committed to encouraging artistic excellence and creating meaningful opportunities for artists across the country. TAKSHANAM brings together diverse artistic voices and provides a platform for their work to reach wider audiences. The initiative to offer artworks for sale is also a noteworthy step towards strengthening engagement between artists, collectors and art enthusiasts." Speaking about the exhibition, Dr. Sanjeev Kishor Goutam, Director General, National Gallery of Modern Art, highlighted India's longstanding sculptural tradition and the need to recognise and support contemporary practitioners. He said, "India has an extraordinary sculptural heritage that reflects its history, cultural achievements and artistic vision. From the Harappan and Mohenjodaro civilisations, with their terracotta and metal objects and iconic works such as the Dancing Girl and the Priest-King sculpture, to the magnificent sculptural traditions associated with temple architecture and sites such as Ajanta, Ellora and Khajuraho, sculpture has played a significant role in expressing India's cultural identity.

Gold logs strongest weekly gain since August as crude oil plunges pver 12 Pc



New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Gold recorded its strongest weekly gain since August with nearly 4.5 per cent surge as crude oil suffered its steepest weekly decline since April 2020 over hopes of policy shifts following the US midterm elections. Concerns surrounding the global artificial intelligence sector drove sharp flows from equity markets to commodity markets, while a changing Federal Reserve outlook also improved positive sentiment for precious metals.

On Friday, MCX gold futures expiring December declined 1.20 per cent while MCX silver futures for December advanced 0.10 per cent. Gold futures stood at Rs 1,42,364, while silver futures stood at Rs 1,84,977 per kg. WTI crude retreated from above $104-$105 a barrel to around $90, while Brent eased to the $97-$98 range, with both benchmarks posting weekly declines of over 12 per cent.

After 4.5 per cent gains, prices retreated from their intraday highs after the stronger employment report lifted the dollar and Treasury yields.

The price of 10 grams of 24-carat gold was at Rs 1,41,452 on Friday, up from Rs 1,40,054 seen last week's close, according to data published by the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA). Though the Fed had left interest rates unchanged at its October meeting, subsequent remarks by two officials favouring further gradual rate increase to contain persistent inflation added to expectations of additional monetary tightening.

The October US employment report, released on Friday, reinforced this hawkish outlook, with nonfarm payrolls rising by 165,000 against market expectations of 65,000, while the unemployment rate edged down to 4.1 per cent from 4.2 per cent. The stronger-than-expected labour-market data pushed the implied probability of a December rate hike to around 81 per cent.

US Treasury yields moved higher in response, with the 10-year yield approaching 4.88 per cent, while the dollar strengthened, renewing downward pressure on precious metals towards the close of the week.

Lower international gold prices also attracted physical buying in India ahead of Diwali, analysts said. Nevertheless, expectations of further Fed tightening and higher borrowing costs continued to limit the sustainability of bullion's recovery, they added. Immediate resistance of MCX Gold is placed at Rs 1,43,000–Rs 1,43,700. On the downside, Rs 1,41,000–Rs 1,40,000 remains the immediate support zone.

Division and Government of Manipur Sign MoU to Advance Multilingual AI and Language Technology at BHASHINI Rajyam Workshop

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Digital India BHASHINI Division (DIBD), under Digital India Corporation (DIC), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, in collaboration with the Department of Information Technology, Government of Manipur, organised the BHASHINI Rajyam Workshop, Manipur Chapter, in Imphal on 14 October 2026. The workshop explored opportunities to advance multilingual artificial intelligence, strengthen language technology and integrate Indian language solutions into government and citizen-facing digital services.

The programme was graced by Shri Yumnam Khemchand Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur,



and brought together government representatives and other stakeholders to discuss the role of language technology in making digital services more accessible and inclusive. A key outcome of the workshop was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DIBD and the Government of Manipur, represented by Shri Amitabh Nag, CEO, DIBD, and Shri Somorjit Salam, IAS, Secretary, Information Technology, Government of Manipur. The MoU aims to strengthen cooperation in language technology, improve language resources and explore solutions for multilingual digital services across the state.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Yumnam Khemchand Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur, highlighted the potential of artificial intelligence and language technology to promote India's linguistic diversity and expand opportunities for the state's communities. "Through artificial intelligence and language technology, we are promoting India's diverse languages and exploring opportunities to bring more of Manipur's languages into the digital space. Our linguistic diversity is a valuable strength as we move forward," he said.

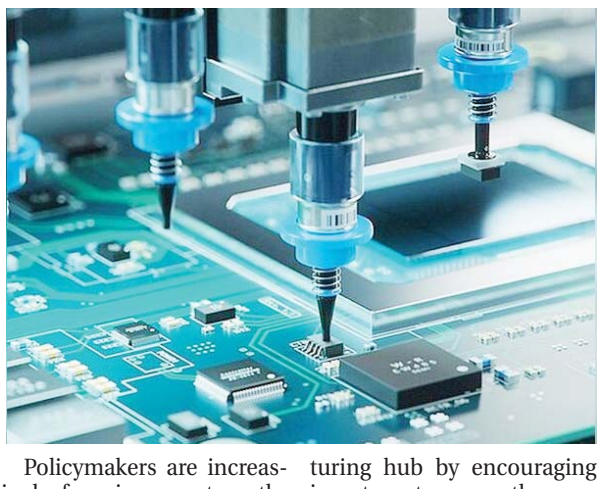
Shri Somorjit Salam, IAS, Secretary, Information Technology, Government of Manipur, emphasised that digital services must be accessible and meaningful to the people they are intended to serve. "Digital services are effective only when people can understand and use them confidently. Through BHASHINI, we can address language barriers with carefully tested solutions that respond to Manipur's needs and deliver lasting public benefit," he said. The workshop provided an overview of BHASHINI's Language-First Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) and its multilingual AI ecosystem, highlighting the role of language datasets, AI models, APIs and applications in enabling digital services across languages. Discussions explored how these capabilities could be integrated into government platforms and citizen-facing applications to support more accessible service delivery.

A live demonstration of real-time English-to-Manipuri translation showcased the potential of language technology to bridge communication gaps.

Govt approves 12 new electronics manufacturing projects worth over Rs 7,500 crore under ECMS

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Centre has approved 12 new applications with proposed investments exceeding Rs 7,500 crore under the Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), expanding support for domestic electronics manufacturing and enhancing India's component ecosystem, IT Secretary S Krishnan said.

The latest approvals include projects related not only to electronic components but also to materials and capital goods, broadening the scope of the scheme across key segments of the electronics value chain. The fresh round of clearances adds momentum to the government's efforts to build a robust domestic ecosystem for electronics manufacturing and reduce reliance on imported components.



Policymakers are increasingly focusing on strengthening upstream segments, including raw materials and manufacturing equipment, alongside component production, to deepen local value addition. The ECMS forms part of India's wider push to establish itself as a global electronics manufacturing hub by encouraging investments across the supply chain and improving self-reliance in critical inputs.

Separately, the government on Friday launched the Semicon 2.0 web application portal under the Semicon India Programme.

Meanwhile, earlier this year, an official factsheet said India is targeting a $500 billion domestic electronics manufacturing ecosystem and $150 billion in electronics exports by 2030.

India's electronics production rose from Rs 1.9 lakh crore in 2014–15 to Rs 13.11 lakh crore in 2025–26 and exports climbed from about Rs 38,000 crore to Rs 4.24 lakh crore over the same period, factsheet said on September 17.

"This sustained growth has established a strong foundation for India's electronics manufacturing ambitions. The next priority is to deepen this ecosystem through domestic component manufacturing, higher value addition and stronger supply-chain resilience," the statement noted.

Electronics have become integral to modern economies and everyday life.

PSU OMCs reject claims of 31% Ethanol blending in Karnataka

New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) — Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) — have rejected claims of excessive ethanol blending in petrol at certain retail outlets in Karnataka, saying tests conducted across 27 states and Union Territories found ethanol content within the prescribed 19-21 per cent range. Taking to the social media platform X, IOCL said all 893 samples tested across the country, including 56 from Karnataka, were found to comply with the prescribed ethanol blending limits.

"Recent claims of excessive ethanol blending at certain retail outlets in Karnataka are not supported by testing conducted through prescribed procedures," the company said.

IOCL said it, along with BPCL and HPCL, has sought joint and transparent testing with the Karnataka government to establish the facts. The company also reiterated its commitment to fuel quality, transparency and customer trust and urged consumers to rely on verified information from official sources.

The clarification comes amid allegations that ethanol blending at some petrol pumps in Karnataka was in the range of 26-31 per cent, higher than the prescribed limit for E20 fuel.

Similarly, BPCL and HPCL have also said that the claims were not supported by tests conducted under prescribed procedures.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

Mohammed Shami retires from Test cricket

36-year-old finishes as the sixth-most successful fast bowler for India



New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Shami, 36, began his Test career in November 2013 and, even on debut, it was clear how devastating he could be. With the ability to bowl wicket-to-wicket and an innate skill to keep an upright seam, he ripped through West Indies with a match haul of 9 for 118, It remains his best bowling performance that stands out even more for the reverse swing he was able to generate. Shami played 64 Tests for India and picked up 229 wickets. That puts him just outside the top five fast bowlers in the country's history.

"In this 13-year journey, this cap, this ball, made me Mohammed Shami. All the ups and downs, I did fall, I did get hurt, I did get injured. But I stood up again for this badge," Shami said in a video he posted on his socials on the anniversary of his Test debut. "So, this 13-year journey has been very good. And my coaches, trainers, physio and whoever has contributed a little, I would like to thank all of them.

"Especially the fans. The name that the cricket fans have made, the boost they give to this name, it will always be remembered. The biggest thanks to all of you, to all the fans who had so much love for cricket and made this name reach here. So, I got this [his Test cap] on 6th November, and today is 6th November. So, let's end this 13-year journey here today. I made my debut today, and today I am taking retirement.

"I am leaving this, but I will continue to play white-ball cricket, whether it is IPL or domestic. And if it is needed for fitness, I will continue to play days cricket, but with international Test cricket. So, this was the journey so far. I started it today, and I am ending it today."

Shami's last red-ball match for India was the World Test Championship final in 2023. There were several highlights and, strangely for a seamer, most of them took place at home where the pitches weren't supposed to suit his type of bowling. He had another quirk as well - looking far more dangerous in the second innings than the first. Both may be attributed to the way he preferred to work, targeting the stumps to the extent that he actually broke Alastair Cook's in half during India's 4-0 Test series win over England in 2016. Nearly 45% of his dismissals were either bowled or lbw. India won 31 of the 64 Tests he played in and drew 13. He never lost a match at home.

Shami wraps up with an average of 27.71 and a strike rate of 50.2. In India, he averaged 22.1 and struck once every 42.6 balls. In all, only three Indian bowlers have bettered his strike rate at home. Shami hasn't played any international cricket since the Champions Trophy final in March 2025. Fast bowlers often have to contend with their bodies breaking down and the team management started to look beyond him.

Born in Amroha, in the western part of Uttar Pradesh, Shami left his home in search of better cricketing opportunities.

Court rejects plea for FIR against BCCI President Mithun Manhas over age fraud charge



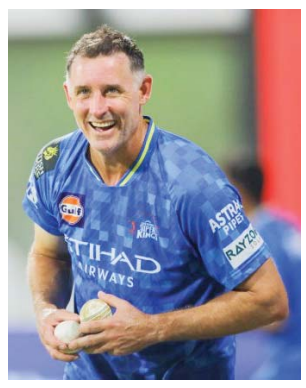
New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): The Special Railway Magistrate in Jammu has dismissed an application seeking registration of an FIR against Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) President Mithun Manhas over allegations that he forged his date of birth to gain an edge in age-group cricket. In August this year, a plea was filed by Sudershan Mehta, a retired senior Deputy Superintendent of Police and former joint honorary secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA), under Section 175(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023.

Mehta had accused Manhas of fraud, cheating and forgery, claiming the former Delhi batter had used two different dates of birth to secure selection in national sub-junior and junior tournaments under the JKCA and the Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA). Citing an email from the Maharaja Hari Singh Agriculture Collegiate (MHAC) School, Nagbani, the complainant said the school's records put Manhas's date of birth as December 9, 1977, while the DDCA website listed it as October 12, 1979. He said his earlier complaints to the Nowabad police station and SP City North, Jammu, had not been acted upon, prompting him to approach the court.

The court of Sub-Judge and Special Railway Magistrate, Jammu, Sandeep Singh Sen, then sought a factual report from the Station House Officer (SHO) of Nowabad police station. The police inquiry concluded that the allegations of forgery and fabrication could not be substantiated. It found that Manhas's date of birth was uniformly recorded as September 12, 1977, across his CBSE mark sheet, PAN card, Aadhaar card and the records of his employer, ONGC.

The report further stated that no undue advantage in junior cricket had been shown to have accrued to Manhas on account of the alleged discrepancy, and that he had not been granted any privilege or concession by cricket bodies on the basis of his date of birth. In its order, the court noted that the complainant had largely relied on a photocopy of information downloaded from the DDCA website, and had not produced any original or authenticated document from the association showing that Manhas had submitted a fabricated certificate or made a false declaration.

Mike Hussey to join Australian men's team coaching group ahead of key campaigns



Melbourne, Nov 7 (Way to News): Former Australia batter Mike Hussey will join Andrew McDonald's Australian coaching group as a consultant coach across key ICC tournaments and series over the next few years. Hussey brings a wealth of international experience having represented Australia in more than 300 matches across all formats. He has subsequently grown a coaching portfolio with Australia and England, including being part of their 2022 ICC Men's T20 World Cup victory, the IPL and The Hundred.

"Former Australian batter Mike Hussey will act as a consultant coach to the Australian men's team for the 2027 Ashes and ICC Men's Cricket World Cup, and as a T20 advisor for the 2028 LA Olympics and ICC T20 Men's World Cup cycle," Cricket Australia said in a statement. "This team has achieved so much in recent times, to which I hope I can add value to the coaching and playing groups ahead of what will be an exciting and challenging period." Hussey will also provide coaching assistance during the upcoming T20I series against England and preparation leading into the Test series against New Zealand, as he has done in recent Australian summers.

His T20 advisor role will see him provide T20 specific expertise and focus across a range of areas including campaign strategies, opposition insights, player scouting and performance.

Hussey's stint with Australia will commence with this month's white-ball ODI and T20I series against England at home and the 51-year-old is looking forward to getting started. "I am extremely excited about being a part of the team in a more formal and meaningful role in the coming years," Hussey said.

"With a heavy schedule of Test cricket over the coming 12 months Mike will work closely with team management, coaches and selectors to provide additional T20 support during this time," he added. Head Coach Andrew McDonald said, "Mike has been a highly valued part of our staff in the past and brings a considerable skill set which is complementary to the coaches and players.

DAKAR YOUTH OLYMPICS

Tanvi Patri becomes first Indian women's singles silver medallist



New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): Tanvi Patri's historic run in the 2026 Summer Youth Olympics culminated in her becoming the first Indian women's singles badminton player to clinch a silver medal after she went down against reigning World Junior Champion Zhang Yi Xin in a nail-biting summit clash in Dakar, Senegal, on Thursday.

Tanvi saved six match points and missed three of her own to go down 15-21, 21-13, 26-24 in an hour and 22 minutes in a gold medal clash that kept everyone watching live action on the edge of their seats. On Wednesday, Tanvi had become the first Indian female player to reach the final of the badminton discipline in the Youth Olympics.

Before Tanvi, HS Prannoy (2010) and Lakshya Sen (2018) had won individual silver medals in the Youth Olympic Games. Sen had also bagged the mixed team gold with Team Alpha, which included shuttlers from eight different countries. In the gold medal match on Thursday, Tanvi took her time to get going in the opening game before she claimed seven straight points to go from 3-5 to 10-5. The Indian created many openings with her punch tosses and controlled the net brilliantly to then bag the opening game in 25 minutes. She began the second game by taking a 4-0 lead before the drift coming from behind her started to affect Tanvi's control on the clears, and Zhang took control of the game after the mid-game interval to force a decider.

Zhang then took control of the decider early with her trademark cross-court drops to open up a 19-10 lead. Tanvi fought back to close the gap to four points at 19-15, but an error on a cross-court smash from the Indian handed her opponent five match points.

Tanvi saved those five match points and had three chances of wrapping the gold medal. But it was the experience of Zhang that ultimately made the difference. Applauding Tanvi's dream run in the Dakar Youth Olympics, Badminton Association of India General Secretary said, "Tanvi Patri has made the entire nation proud with a historic achievement at the Youth Olympic Games. Winning a silver medal at just 15 is an extraordinary accomplishment and a moment of immense pride for India.

"Her fighting spirit, composure, and performances throughout the competition reflect the immense potential of our young sporting generation.

Sensational trade in IPL.. Hardik to Punjab, Arshdeep to Mumbai!



New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): The stage is set for the transfer of key players before the IPL 2027 season. It seems that Team India all-rounder Hardik Pandya will join the Punjab Kings (Punjab Kings) team. As part of this trading, left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh will join Mumbai Indians. IPL sources said that the preliminary paperwork related to this transfer has been completed. However, official approval is yet to be received from the BCCI and the IPL Governing Council. Only then will the final amount related to the transaction along with the transfer of the players be announced.

There were earlier reports that Punjab Kings were interested in taking Pandya into the team as the player retention period is set to expire on November 17. It is reported that Punjab has taken a step towards this deal, beating teams like Rajasthan Royals and Kolkata Knight Riders. Although wicketkeeper-batter Vishnu Vinod was initially included in the trade, IPL sources have made it clear that he has no place in the latest deal.

With this transfer, Hardik Pandya's second stint with Mumbai Indians will come to an end. Mumbai bought him from Gujarat Titans in a cash deal before the 2024 season. He was given the captaincy of the team in place of Rohit Sharma. However, the expected results did not come. Mumbai, which finished at the bottom of the points table in 2024, reached the playoffs in 2025. It settled for ninth place in the 2026 season. In the 39 matches played under Hardik's captaincy, Mumbai recorded 15 wins and 24 losses.

On the other hand, Arshdeep Singh has been with Punjab Kings since 2019. He earned a place in the Indian team by performing consistently for that team. Arshdeep, who is currently playing in the ODI series against New Zealand, continues to be the bowler who has taken the most wickets for India in T20 international cricket. Both Hardik and Arshdeep were members of the Indian team that won the 2024 and 2026 T20 World Cups.

However, Hardik's fitness has become a concern for Punjab Kings. He has been away from competitive cricket due to a series of injuries after IPL 2026. He recently missed the India-A ODI series against Australia-A due to a shin injury. For the same reason, he could not make it to the Baroda team for the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.

Punjab were reportedly considering swapping Australian all-rounder Marcus Stoinis for Lucknow Supergiants pacer Mohsin Khan. However, there is a possibility that Stoinis will be retained for the 2027 season after that idea changed. On the other hand, Rajasthan Royals and Lucknow Supergiants are reportedly in talks over a big trade involving more than two players. Official announcements will be made only after these deals are approved by the IPL Governing Council.

The IPL 2027 mini auction will be held in Goa on December 16. The BCCI has extended the player retention deadline to November 17. The change was made as the initial deadline coincided with the fifth ODI between India and New Zealand on November 15.

Armwrestling: India ends first-ever home World Championship with 59 medals



New Delhi, Nov 7 (Way to News): India ended the first-ever home Armwrestling World Championship in style, finishing with 59 medals at the 47th World Armwrestling & 28th World Para Armwrestling Championship 2026 in New Delhi on Friday.

Hosted in India for the first time, the Championship brought more than 1,700 athletes, officials and supporters from over 60 countries to New Delhi.

Russia finished as overall champions, with Kazakhstan second and Turkey third. Six athletes won senior gold on both arms: Melek Celik and Esra Kiraz (Turkiye), Ulbossyn Elmurat and Yerdualet Nurmakhan (Kazakhstan), and Irina Driaeva and Tengizi Natsvlishvili (Georgia).

India finished with 59 medals (9 gold, 19 silver, 31 bronze), with the Para athletes contributing 26 medals (2 gold, 10 silver, 14 bronze) to the tally, which placed the country at fifth on the para medal table. Sub-junior, junior and youth athletes added 20 medals (3 gold, 8 silver, 9 bronze), and masters and grand masters won 12 (4 gold, 1 silver, 7 bronze). India won one bronze in the senior category.

Jincymol Sebastian won Grand Master Women 80 kg on both arms. Yogesh Choudhary and Shoukath VT each took Right-arm gold and Left-arm bronze. In the senior finals, Madhura K N won bronze in Women 70 kg Right.

Barry brace inspires Everton comeback win over Coventry amid VAR controversy



Liverpool, Nov 7 (Way to News): Everton produced a strong second-half response to overcome Coventry City 3-1, with Thierno Barry delivering a match-winning performance through two goals and an assist in a contest overshadowed by three contentious VAR decisions.

Coventry had plenty of reason to feel aggrieved after seeing multiple appeals go against them, but Everton capitalised on their opportunities after the break to secure all three points and move into fifth place in the Premier League standings. The visitors made a promising start to the second half when Yann Gboho opened the scoring with an impressive individual effort. The Coventry forward worked his way past several Everton challenges before finding the back of the net with a composed finish past Jordan Pickford. However, Everton needed just four minutes to restore parity, with Barry making his presence felt inside the penalty area. The striker connected with Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall's delivery and directed a header into the net at the far post to bring the hosts back into the contest.

Barry struck again soon after, once more finding space at the back post to convert a similar delivery. His second goal, however, sparked fresh controversy, with Coventry players questioning whether the Everton forward had used his hand during the build-up. Following a VAR review, the goal was allowed to stand as officials found no conclusive footage to establish a handball offence. The result came after Coventry had already been left frustrated by two other significant VAR interventions.

In the first half, Everton captain James Tarkowski appeared to pull Caleb Yirenkyi's hair inside the penalty area. Despite a review by VAR official Tim Wood, no penalty was awarded and the defender escaped punishment.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

I Have Played a Youthful Character in 'Itlu Arjuna': Anaswara Rajan



I have played a youthful character in 'Itlu Arjuna'. Every girl will be able to connect with the character of Keerthi. The love story, suspense, emotional action in this will definitely appeal to the audience: Heroine Anaswara Rajan King Nagarjuna is presenting the film 'Itlu Arjuna'. While Anish is making his debut as the hero, Anaswara Rajan is playing the heroine. Mahesh Uppala is making his directorial debut with this film. Director Venky Kudumula is also making his debut as a producer with this film. He is producing this film under his newly launched What Next Entertainments banner. The promotional content has already raised expectations on the film. 'Itlu Arjuna' is set to release in theaters worldwide on November 13. On this occasion, heroine Anaswara Rajan shared the film's features at a press conference.

We heard that Itlu Arjun is your first Telugu film. What will Keerthy's character be like in it? -The first film I signed in Telugu was 'Itlu Arjuna'. Otherwise, the film 'Champion' was the first to release.

- The character Keerthy has played in Itlu Arjun is very youthful and innocent. Every girl can connect with Keerthy's character. Even when I heard the story, I connected with Keerthy's character a lot. I enjoyed playing this character a lot. This is a very different character from all the characters I have played so far. It gave me a lot of new experiences. The hero doesn't have any words in this one! What was it like when you acted together? -That was one of the things that attracted me to the story. Characters like this come up very rarely. Anish and I did workshops together for this film. We practiced the scenes a lot. Both our characters came out amazing. I heard that the love story in this will be very new? The main core of 'Itlu Arjuna' is a love story. In this, Arjun's character does not have any words. How he expresses his love is very interesting. Arjun and Keerthi's character will definitely be remembered.

Tell me about the director? One of the reasons for making this film is director Mahesh. I really liked his vision. Arjun and Keerthy have written the characters wonderfully. I really liked that. He has full clarity on how Keerthy's character should be. Whatever he says, I follow it. We worked very friendly.

How was it working with Anish? -This is Anish's first film as a hero. Playing the role of a mute in his first film is very daring and risky. I congratulate him on this. He worked very hard for the film. The audience will definitely like him. This is a very new story, a fresh character. Anish did full justice to the role. He also did an amazing job with his action and dance. How did it feel to have Nagarjuna present this film? -Nagarjuna garu presenting this film gave me a lot of joy. This is the first film I have signed in Telugu. Also, it is the first film that Anish is doing as a hero. Venky garu is the first film that he is producing. Nagarjuna garu presenting this film was very memorable for all of us. It gave us more confidence. What about Venky Kudumula? Venky garu is a director himself. He understands everything very well. A very good person. This is his first film that he is producing. He has supported us very well. What about Thaman Music? - Thaman garu is a very happy person. When you are with him, you are very happy. He was very supportive in the promotions as well. The three songs in this also received a very wonderful response. His music gave the film more boost. Working with him was a wonderful experience.

How does it feel to have big opportunities coming your way in Telugu? -I am very happy. I am acting in Chiranjeevi garu's 'Kaka', Ravi Teja garu's 'Tulabharam', as well as Sangeeth Shobhan's film. All of them are very wonderful stories and characters. I am happy to be a part of such good films. I focus on making good stories.

-I am very proud to share the screen with Chiranjeevi garu in Kaka. Chiranjeevi garu is a wonderful human being and a great actor. We can learn many things from him. What kind of feeling does 'Itlu Arjuna' give to the audience? -It has a lot of emotions. Action, love story, suspense thriller.. all these emotions are there in it. I am sure everyone will like this movie. I wish we celebrate Diwali with Arjun's success

'Swag of Arjun' from 'Vrushakarma' Out



Akkineni Naga Chaitanya is the lead actor in the prestigious film 'Vrushakarma' directed by Karthik Dandu. The film, which is a combination of mythological thriller and adventure, has already generated interest. As a Diwali gift, the film team has released the first lyrical song 'Swag of Arjun'. In this song, which was released on November 7, Naga Chaitanya impressed the audience with his new stylish look.

Chaitanya, who will be seen in the role of Arjun in the film, stood out with his attitude and screen presence in the song. Ajaneesh B. Loknath is providing music for the film. He impressed with his music in the films 'Kantara' and 'Virupaksha' and is composing the music for this film as well. Abhinavakavi has provided lyrics for the song.

Meenakshi Chowdhury is playing the female lead opposite Naga Chaitanya, while 'Lapatha Ladies' fame Sparsh Srivastava will be seen in the role of the antagonist. Ragul D. Herion is handling the cinematography, Naveen Nooli is handling the editing, and Sri Nagendra Thangala is handling the production design. The huge sets and visual episodes set in the backdrop of caves will be a special attraction in the film.

BVSN Prasad and Sukumar are jointly producing the film under the banners of Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra and Sukumar Writings, presented by Bapineedu. 'Vrishakarma', which is being made into one of the biggest projects in Naga Chaitanya's career, will be released worldwide in multiple languages on December 4.

Diljit Drops Four Songs from Indore Concert

Four songs of popular Punjabi singer Diljit Dosanjh have been barred from being performed at his November 15 concert in Indore over concerns that their alleged promotion of alcohol and violence could adversely impact children and others, officials said on Saturday.

The four songs are "Patiala Peg", "5 Tara Theke", "Jeb Vicho Feem", and "Jatt Fire Karda", they informed.

The District Child Protection Officer has issued directions to this effect to the manager of the concert venue following a complaint by Chandigarh-based Dr Punditrao Dharenavar, the officials added. The letter issued to the venue manager stated that children over the age of five would be allowed to attend the live concert, and these songs could have an adverse impact on them.

It also cited a July 22, 2019, order of Punjab and Haryana High Court directing police of Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh to ensure songs glorifying liquor, wine, drugs and violence were not played, including at live shows. The court had highlighted the impact of such songs on young children. In his complaint, Dharenavar cited the High Court order and urged the authorities not to allow Dosanjh to perform the four songs even with altered lyrics. He also sought a ban on the singer inviting children on stage during the concert and wearing two crossed silver bullet belts, also known as bandoliers, or dummy metallic silver cartridges on his chest during the live show.



Adivi Sesh: Diwali is no longer about lights and celebrations, but about being with loved ones



Actor Adivi Sesh says his understanding of Diwali has evolved over the years, with the festival now holding greater significance in terms of family, togetherness and mindful celebrations. The actor, who fondly remembers the excitement of sweets, new clothes, and festivities during childhood, told that he now prefers lighting diyas over bursting crackers, citing their impact on animals and the environment. Asked how his definition of Diwali has changed as he has grown older, Sesh told "Definitely. When you're younger, Diwali is about everything happening around you. The lights, the celebrations, the excitement. As you grow older, it becomes more about the people around you."

He's realised the "real luxury" of Diwali. "I've realised that the real luxury is having everyone you love under one roof, happy and healthy. I think that's what festivals are meant to remind us of. Life gets busy, people move to different places, and you don't always get to spend as much time together as you'd like. So when you do, those moments become really precious," he said.

How different was Diwali growing up compared to how you celebrate it today? Adivi said: "As kids, festivals were all about excitement. The holidays, the sweets, the new clothes, the whole atmosphere! You didn't really think about why everyone was celebrating. You just knew it was a happy time." He added: "As you grow older, I think you become more conscious of how your celebrations affect the world around you. I'm much more environmentally conscious now, and I'm particularly sensitive to how loud crackers affect animals." "Our pets get really disturbed by those sounds, and I know it's the same for so many animals outside. So today, I prefer lighting diyas and celebrating without all that noise. The excitement is still there, but I think the way I experience it has become a little more thoughtful."

Surekha Vani's Instagram account hacked.. Actress angry as private content goes viral!



Popular Telugu actress Surekha Vani's social media account has been hacked. The matter has created a stir after some miscreants hacked her Instagram account and circulated her personal content online. Surekha Vani reacted strongly to this unexpected development and issued a statement.

She expressed her concern that her social media account has been hacked and some people are misusing her private content using this as a prop. She advised media houses, YouTube channels and meme pages not to behave irresponsibly just for views and likes. She clarified that they should immediately stop sharing or reposting her personal content. Surekha Vani clarified that this is a sensitive matter related to her personal dignity and there is no point in ignoring it. She warned that strict legal action will be taken against anyone who ignores her warnings and propagates private content. To this extent, she appealed to everyone to immediately remove the said content and respect her privacy.

Nithiin's look as young Krishna from 'Alias Rukmini' released!



The makers of director Murali Kanth Devasoth's upcoming Telugu entertainer 'Alias Rukmini', on Saturday revealed actor Nithiin's look as the young Krishna in the film, much to the delight of his fans. Taking to his X timeline, Nithiin shared a video clip that showed him appearing as a youngster in the film. He wrote, "Every love story has a 'before'. Young Krishna. A dreamer. A whole new me. Reintroducing Krishna from #AliasRukmini. In cinemas worldwide December 4th." In the video released, Nithiin is introduced as Krishna in a new avatar. The video shows what Krishna's life was like before Rukmini came into his world.

The video begins with director Murali Kanth Devasoth talking to Aafiya Sayed, who plays Rukmini in the film, about the young Krishna. He explains to her that the place they are seated is the place that made Krishna who he was. The conversation ends, with the director asking Aafiya if given a chance, whether she would want to see how Krishna looked 10 years ago. She replies "yes" and actor Nithiin, looking several years younger, appears on the scene. It may be recalled that the unit of the film had wrapped up its first schedule of shooting in September this year.

Sources close to the unit of the film had said the first shooting schedule had a duration of 10 days. "The team shot some crucial scenes involving the lead cast," the sources had said and added that hero Nithiin had participated in the shoot along with Sai Kumar, Harsha Vardhan, and some other prominent actors. The film, which is being presented by well known Telugu actor Nani, is being produced by Deepthi Ganta. The film has triggered excitement among fans ever since the makers released its title teaser. The title teaser began with a voiceover. From the voices heard, it was evident that director Murali was having a conversation about the film with actor Nani. Director Murali tells Nani that this film is about Krishna. It is then that visuals begin to appear in the title teaser. Nithiin is seen sleeping, sitting on a chair while the visuals that follow give the impression that he is a writer of books on sensual topics.

Nani stops director Murali and says, "Wait a second. You said this was Krishna's story." He then reels out the titles of the books that were screened and highlights the fact that all the books have been written by Rukmini. "Who is this Rukmini?," we hear Nani ask the director. However, it is Nithiin, who is sleeping until now, who answers this question. He says, "Rukmini is my wife." Nani is heard saying,"I love this script. When do we start to shoot?" The film has a sound technical team backing it. Cinematography for the film is by Jomon T John while music is by Vijai Bulganin. Srujana Adusumilli is the editor of the film which has costumes by Rekha Boggarrapu. The film is being co-directed by Ramana Madhavaram. The film, which has triggered huge expectations among fans, is slated to hit screens worldwide on December 4 this year.

Alia, Ranbir's Daughter Raha Turns Four



Bollywood superstar Alia Bhatt on Saturday gave fans a glimpse into daughter Raha Kapoor's fourth birthday celebrations. Sharing a series of pictures from the intimate, cartoon-themed bash on her social media account, Alia revealed all the fun that took place at the event. The first picture featured Alia and Ranbir Kapoor with Raha as they appeared to celebrate her special day together. Alia captioned it, "she's 4" followed by a teary-eyed and a rainbow emoticon. Another picture showed Raha, dressed in a grey checked outfit with a floral skirt, walking barefoot across the lawn, with hair styled in multiple tiny sections decorated with colourful clips. Alia captioned the adorable frame, "our little unicorn". The actress also shared a close-up moment of herself planting a kiss on Raha's cheek. The picture was captioned simply, "obsessed". In another picture, Raha can be seen colouring a rainbow-themed sheet, and a birthday cake featuring hand-drawn cartoon characters was also captured in the carousel. Alia captioned the cake picture, "blessed."

The final picture showed Alia posing happily in front of a colourful birthday backdrop. The birthday event setting featured balloons, a cartoon-style bus and the words "Raha's 4th Birthday". Alia captioned the picture, "& ever". For the uninitiated, Raha was born on November 6, 2022, to Alia and Ranbir, who had tied the knot in an intimate ceremony at their Mumbai home on April 14, 2022. The couple announced that they were expecting their first child in June 2022, with Alia sharing a picture from her sonography session. Recently, Ranbir in a conversation around his film "Ramayana", described Raha as the "diya" of his life and said the coincidence of playing Lord Ram while becoming a father had been a turning point for him. He had also spoken about how fatherhood changed his priorities and his outlook towards life.

Alia, too, has previously spoken about Ranbir as a hands-on father. She described him as sensitive and said that his love for Raha is evident in the way he interacts with her. The couple had revealed Raha's face to media and fans on Christmas in 2023. A few months after that, they started to keep Raha away from the public eye.

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