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Avoid Past Mistakes In Kaleshwaram Works: Revanth

Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday directed officials to make a strong and effective presentation before the Supreme Court to secure Telangana's rightful share of Krishna river waters and submit all necessary evidence relating to disputes with Andhra Pradesh. With the case expected to come up for hearing in the Supreme Court after November 18, the Chief Minister discussed the legal strategy with legal experts and senior officials.



Revanth Reddy directed officials to present a strong case before the Supreme Court for Telangana's rightful Krishna water share ahead of the hearing after November 18. He also ordered faster Dindi and Achampet project works and cautioned against hasty decisions on additional Kaleshwaram works.

Revanth Reddy held a review meeting on the irrigation department at MCRHRDI, attended by irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, irrigation adviser Adityanath Das, CMO secretary K Manicka Raj, irrigation Secretary E. Sridhar, Joint Secretary K. Srinivas, Advocate General A. Sudarshan Reddy, senior Supreme Court counsel C.S. Vaidyanathan and senior irrigation officials. The Chief Minister directed engineers to expedite the works on the Dindi and Achampet lift irrigation schemes and ensure supply of water from Edula to the two schemes as already decided. He asked officials to ensure there were no bottlenecks in conveying 0.6 TMC of water required for the two schemes from Narlapur to Edula. He directed officials to identify the stretches where tunnels and canals would be required and prepare a comprehensive Detailed Project Report (DPR), followed by commencement of works accordingly.

On the proposed additional one TMC ft works under the Kaleshwaram project, Revanth Reddy cautioned officials against taking hasty decisions and asked them to ensure that mistakes committed by the previous BRS government were not repeated. He said the authorities should act responsibly as the state was currently unable to utilise even the existing two TMC capacity for water conveyance.

Sonia's Memoir Revisits Dark Chapter Of 1984 Riots

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Open Fram): More than four decades after the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi has acknowledged that justice has largely eluded the victims despite four commissions, nine committees and two special investigation teams being constituted to probe the violence. She also admitted that Congress workers were among those accused of instigating or directing the violence that folllowed the assassination of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.



In her memoir, Belonging: A Journey of Love, released on Tuesday, Sonia also refers to criminal cases against RSS members, questions the administration's failure to stop the massacre and recounts the delay in deploying the Army as mobs killed more than 2,000 Sikhs in Delhi alone. The memoir also reveals an alleged plot to kill the entire Gandhi family during Diwali celebrations a week before Indira's assassination on October 31, 1984, and Sonia's desperate attempt to prevent Rajiv Gandhi from becoming Prime Minister, fearing that he would be the next target.

Revisiting one of the darkest chapters in independent India's history, Sonia writes that several individuals, many of them Congress members, faced criminal proceedings for allegedly instigating or directing the 1984 violence. Cases were also registered against RSS members who participated in the killings, she says. Of the hundreds of FIRs registered, four or five led to the arrest of Congress workers, according to her account. Even after successive inquiries, several cases continued to drag on in courts. Sonia acknowledges that the failure to punish those responsible for communal violence has been a systemic problem that successive governments have been unable to resolve.

She also maintains that the massacre did not reflect any deep-rooted hostility between the Congress and the Sikh community, pointing to the party's subsequent electoral victories in Punjab.

UP Revises SSR Schedule, Draft Voter List On Nov 17

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): The Election Commission of India (ECI) has revised the schedule for the Special Summary Revision (SSR) 2027 of electoral rolls in Uttar Pradesh in view of preparations for the upcoming Assembly elections, with the draft electoral roll for all 403 Assembly constituencies in the state now scheduled to be published on November 17. Voters will be able to submit claims and objections for inclusion of names, deletion of ineligible names, and correction of details in the electoral rolls until December 16.



However, there has been no change in the date for the publication of the final electoral roll, which will be released as scheduled on January 4, 2027. Uttar Pradesh Chief Electoral Officer Navdeep Rinwa said on Tuesday that the ECI has revised the schedule for the Special Summary Revision 2027 of electoral rolls for all 403 Assembly constituencies in the state, based on January 1, 2027 as the qualifying date. Under the Commission's new instructions, the publication of the draft electoral roll has been rescheduled to November 17.

According to the revised programme, claims and objections regarding the inclusion of names, deletion of ineligible voters, or correction of any details in the electoral rolls will be accepted from November 17 to December 16, 2026. All such claims and objections will be disposed of by December 28. The final electoral roll will then be published on January 4, 2027.

The Chief Electoral Officer has directed all District Election Officers to widely publicise the revised schedule through newspapers, electronic media, and other communication channels. He has also instructed that all recognised national and state-level political parties be informed of the revised timetable. The Electoral Registration Officers and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers have been directed to complete all revision-related processes effectively within the stipulated timeframe. Navdeep Rinwa appealed to all eligible citizens in the state to verify the entries related to themselves and their family members in the electoral rolls during the revision period. If the name of any eligible citizen is missing from the voter list, they should apply within the prescribed period to have it included.

He emphasised that it is essential to ensure that no eligible citizen is deprived of getting their name entered in the electoral roll.

Delhi's AQI Improves Marginally, But Pollution Remains In 'Very Poor' Category

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): A slight improvement in air quality was witnessed in Delhi on Tuesday morning, but pollution levels continued to remain in the 'very poor' category, with the city's Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 304 around 8.10 a.m., according to data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). The reading marked a decline from Monday's peak level, recorded a day after Diwali celebrations. However, several monitoring stations across the national capital continued to report high pollution levels. Pusa and Chandni Chowk recorded the highest AQI readings of 395 each, followed by NSUT Jaffarpur at 382 and Commonwealth Sports Complex at 380.



Other monitoring stations also reported elevated pollution levels. The AQI stood at 303 in Burari, 236 in Karala, 272 in Ghoga, 266 in Nangloi, 293 in Tikri Kalan, 303 in Jharoda Kalan, 339 in NIH Narela, 327 at Lodhi Road and 370 at Talkatora Garden. Similarly, Aya Nagar recorded an AQI of 349, Punjabi Bagh 348, Shadipur 312, Sirifort 365, R.K. Puram 329, Delhi Technological University (DTU) 323, Rohini 301 and Bawana 314.

Meanwhile, Delhi-NCR is unlikely to receive any immediate respite from pollution, as weather conditions are expected to remain largely unfavourable for the dispersion of pollutants. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted no rainfall in Delhi between November 10 and 15. An approaching Western Disturbance is expected to influence the western Himalayan region from Tuesday night, but its impact is unlikely to bring rain to the national capital.

Wind speeds are also forecast to remain relatively low, ranging between 5 and 15 kmph, limiting the possibility of significant improvement in air quality.

Meanwhile, Stage III restrictions under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) remain in force following the Commission for Air Quality Management's (CAQM) decision. Authorities have been directed to intensify pollution-control measures, strengthen enforcement and ensure compliance to prevent further deterioration.

India in touch with UK over captain's arrest

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): India is in touch with the UK High Commission in New Delhi as well as the UK Foreign Office regarding the arrest of Indian merchant navy master Captain Ajay Pant in the United Kingdom, and is doing its best for his safety and well-being, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Tuesday.

"We have been in touch with the lawyers of Captain Pant as well as his family. The High Commission has paid several visits to Captain Pant to check on his well-being. We have also facilitated the visit of his family members, his wife in particular," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said during the bi-weekly media briefing.

The Indian High Commission in London has been extending consular assistance to Captain Pant, who is in judicial custody in the UK.

"The last such visit by his wife took place on 9th of November. We have been in touch with the UK High Commission here as well as the UK Foreign Office in this particular matter. We are trying to do our best for his safety and well-being," Jaiswal said. Pant, a resident of Uttarakhand, was reportedly arrested in June after British forces and the UK's National Crime Agency intercepted the oil tanker Smyrtos, which he was captaining, in the English Channel.

He has been charged with offences related to sanctions on Russian oil, which carry a maximum prison term of 10 years. Pant was the only one of the 24 crew members on board to be charged, and he has denied any wrongdoing.

He is being held at HMP Winchester, and his trial is expected to begin on December 15. His wife, Ritu Pant, has maintained that her husband was made a scapegoat and was at the wrong place at the wrong time.

President Murmu Shares Mantra Of Smart, Sensitive Policing With IPS Probationers

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Highlighting the need for smart policing, President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday called upon young police officers to cultivate a sense of commitment to serving citizens with sensitivity rather than a sense of superiority over them. Addressing probationers of the Indian Police Service 78 RR (2025 batch) at Rashtrapati Bhavan, the President said that for the citizens, police officers and constables are symbols of governance. "People perceive the governance to be good when the police system functions well," she said. "People feel immensely supported when a police officer listens to their grievances with sensitivity and attentiveness," said the President.



She urged the IPS officers to prioritise alleviating the fears of socially or economically weaker individuals who generally lack access to senior officials, and addressing their grievances. The President stated that some of the employees in the system may be more proficient in the use of technology than the senior officers, said an official statement. She advised the officer trainees not to hesitate to learn even from the most junior members of their team.

President Murmu urged them to encourage public participation and teamwork in their working style and prioritise the welfare of their team members to boost capabilities and enthusiasm.

The President stated that the police officers would derive a high level of authority from the laws and rules related to policing. However, they will earn real respect from the people, based on their performance and value system. She said that they should have a sense of commitment to serving citizens rather than a sense of superiority over them.

Death sentence continues to hang over Sheikh Hasina on return to Bangladesh

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): A request to the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi for travel and identity documents for former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to return home from a self-imposed exile since August 2024 has reportedly invited severe reactions in Dhaka, where her safety and that of her colleagues appear to be under question.



A day after the application, Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) Chief Prosecutor Md Shahriar Alam has said that there is no alternative to executing the death sentence if Sheikh Hasina returns home, reported Dhaka's Bengali newspaper 'Prothom Alo' on Tuesday.

The same day (Tuesday), Law Minister Md Asaduzzaman told the Parliament that 1,883 cases have been filed across Bangladesh since the July 2024 protests, of which 805 are murder cases, according to a report by 'The Daily Star'.

It said that the minister added that 79 cases had so far been filed or registered with the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) against "those accused of attacking participants" in the July 2024 student movement, the report said.

Of these, eight cases have been finally disposed of through full verdicts, with 73 defendants sentenced, it said further, adding that among these, 24, including Hasina, have been sentenced to death, while 49 others have received various prison terms, including life imprisonment.

The ICT is a court established in Bangladesh to prosecute serious crimes including genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. In recent years, the tribunal has gained renewed prominence through proceedings against Sheikh Hasina and several former officials over allegations linked to the 2024 crackdown on anti-government protests.

The tribunal's actions have become a central element in Bangladesh's political transition and have attracted close international attention because of their implications for justice, accountability, and democratic stability.

Meanwhile, Dhaka appears to be intent only on an extradition process, dismissing the deposed premier's request for travel documents to facilitate her voluntary return.

Quoting Prime Minister Tariq Rahman's Information and Broadcasting Adviser Zahed Ur Rahman, Bangladesh's 'The Business Standard' reported that the government will bring Sheikh Hasina back from India through the extradition process, as it sees "no legal complications in securing her return under the existing treaty between the two countries".

Army Chief Reviews Trishakti Corps Operational Readiness And Combat Capabilities

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Indian Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth reviewed the operational preparedness of Trishakti Corps, headquartered in Siliguri, and took stock of the prevailing security environment and initiatives to enhance combat effectiveness, an official said on Tuesday. An Indian Army official in a statement on social media platform X said, "#GeneralDhirajSeth, #COAS, visited forward areas of #TrishaktiCorps and reviewed operational preparedness and capability enhancement initiatives of the formation."



"During the visit, the #COAS was briefed on all aspects being undertaken by the formation to enhance operational effectiveness and combat capabilities focusing on innovation and technology absorption aligning with the vision of #JAIseVIJAY," the Additional Directorate General of Public Information's Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Army) said.

"Commending all ranks for their professionalism and unwavering commitment, the #COAS exhorted them to remain vigilant, agile, mission-focused and continue striving for excellence while maintaining the highest standards of operational preparedness," the Indian Army said on X. Last week, the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) visited Kripan Division of Trishakti Corps in North Bengal where he reviewed the security environment.

Revanth urges new DSPs yo uphold integrity, never forget their roots



Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): CM Revanth's message to new DSPs: Chief Minister Revanth Reddy attended an interactive session with newly trained DSPs. He advised them never to forget their past, no matter what rank or position they reach in their careers. CM Revanth Reddy noted that, in the past, the recruitment process for Group-1 posts was severely delayed. He expressed his concern, stating that the decisions and negligence of the previous government caused irreparable loss to many candidates. He recalled that upon assuming office, he initiated an overhaul of the Public Service Commission and streamlined the recruitment process.

He criticized the previous administration for turning the Public Service Commission into a center for "political rehabilitation," adding that they erred by appointing individuals with no relevant expertise to the board. Addressing the new DSPs, CM Revanth Reddy reiterated that they should never forget their roots, regardless of the positions they attain.

The Chief Minister attended as the chief guest at an interactive session held at the MCRHRD (Marri Channa Reddy Human Resource Development Institute) for the DSPs who have completed their training. DGP CV Anand, Principal Secretary (Home) Shikha Goel, Security Advisor Shivadhar Reddy, and several other senior officials were present.

: The Chief Minister stated that if one forgets their roots, they cannot do justice to their position. He remarked that the future of the state for the next 30 years lies in the hands of the newly appointed DSPs. He noted that the decisions made by these officers would serve as a benchmark for the government's performance. He cautioned that if even ten DSPs were to act in an unruly or high-handed manner, it would lead to allegations that the state lacks proper governance. He added that such conduct could also invite accusations of deteriorating law and order and rising corruption. Conversely, he emphasized that if police officers perform their duties diligently, the government's reputation will be enhanced.

He clarified that the government does not expect monetary gains from its officers, nor does it issue directives to rig elections. The government merely expects them to recognize their responsibilities and perform their duties with integrity. Noting that their predecessors had upheld law and order and elevated the prestige of the police force through immense dedication, the Chief Minister urged the new officers to ensure that the police department continues to be a trusted institution.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy lashed out, stating that in the past, errors were made during the government recruitment process—either intentionally or due to a lack of proper understanding. It was decided to restructure the Telangana Public Service Commission (TSPSC) along the lines of the UPSC, and individuals with experience and integrity were appointed to the board. He noted that out of the 563 Group-1 posts for which notifications were issued, 562 candidates have joined.

He emphasized that such a large number of Group-1 posts had never been offered before, and that these opportunities arose precisely because of the transparent decisions made by his government. He recalled that the recruitment process for Group-1 posts spanning from 2011 to 2025 had previously been marred by confusion regarding notifications and entrance examinations.

Lakdikapul to Witness One-Way Traffic Trial Run on November 22



Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): To ease traffic congestion in the busy Lakdikapul area, Hyderabad Traffic Police and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) have decided to conduct a one-day trial run of a proposed one-way traffic system on November 22.Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar and GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan personally inspected the proposed routes on motorcycles to assess the ground-level arrangements and road engineering requirements. They were accompanied by officials from TGSPLDC, Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB), RTC and other departments. The officials inspected several key junctions, including Lakdikapul, Iqbal Minar, Ravindra Bharathi, Old Control Room, HDFC Junction and the old Saifabad Police Station. They decided to undertake major road engineering changes and redesign junctions to ensure smooth vehicle movement.

Under the proposed traffic plan, vehicles travelling from the Old Control Room towards Iqbal Minar via Ravindra Bharathi will not be allowed to proceed directly. Instead, they will be diverted at Ravindra Bharathi and routed through HDFC Junction, the old Saifabad Police Station, Iqbal Minar and Secretariat Junction towards Secunderabad and other destinations.

Similarly, vehicles coming from Nirankari Junction towards Old Control Room via HDFC and Ravindra Bharathi will be diverted through the old Saifabad Police Station towards Iqbal Minar. They will have to take a right turn at Iqbal Minar and proceed via Ravindra Bharathi towards Old Control Room. Before implementing the trial, officials will hold meetings with local traders, residents and regular commuters to collect their suggestions and address any concerns regarding the proposed changes.

During the November 22 trial run, experts will collect and analyse detailed data on traffic volume, travel time, junction performance and road safety. The final decision on continuing the one-way system will be taken based on the findings and public feedback. Speaking during the inspection, Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar said the proposed system had been designed following a detailed study to find a long-term solution to persistent traffic congestion in Lakdikapul. He said the objective was to ensure uninterrupted vehicle movement, reduce waiting time at junctions, save travel time and fuel, and improve road safety.

GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan said the civic body would undertake the required road engineering works in accordance with the traffic police plan. He added that arrangements would include pothole-free roads, improved street lighting, prominent signboards and necessary changes to electricity and water supply utilities. The officials appealed to motorists and the public to cooperate during the November 22 trial run and strictly follow the traffic instructions issued by the police.

Telangana aims to set national benchmark with Khelo India Games



Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): State Minister for Sports and Youth Services, Vakiti Srihari, has called upon officials to ensure the successful hosting of the 'Khelo India Youth Games 2026'—an event that should make the entire nation proud and elevate the prestige of Telangana State at the national level. He emphasized that the opportunity to host the Khelo India Games is a result of the determination and dedicated efforts of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. *The Minister spoke during a special meeting held at the Tourist Plaza in Begumpet, attended by Deputy Collectors from various districts and officials from the Sports Department.*

The Minister noted that selecting Telangana to host the Khelo India Games—despite the BJP being in power at the Centre—is a significant honor for the state. He recalled his previous meeting with Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya in Srinagar, where he had requested that the responsibility of hosting the Khelo India Games be entrusted to Telangana. He credited Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's persistent efforts with the Central government for successfully securing the hosting rights for the state.

He cautioned that any failure to organize these prestigious sporting competitions effectively would reflect poorly on the state government; therefore, every official must perform their duties with a strong sense of responsibility. He added that fully leveraging this opportunity would pave the way for securing further prospects in the future. He further advised the officials to first gain a clear understanding of the current challenges and limitations, and to remain steadfast in pursuing the goal, regardless of any obstacles that may arise. Just as a well-laid plan, coordination, and precise execution are crucial for victory in war, the same spirit must be applied to the organization of the 'Khelo India' games, he stated. • He suggested improving the necessary infrastructure for sports competitions in a way that ensures it remains useful for future generations. He noted that the government is granting all required authority to Deputy Collectors to enable them to carry out these responsibilities effectively. He emphasized the need to devise plans that yield maximum results at a minimal cost, and explicitly warned against wasting government funds on unnecessary expenditures.

The Minister directed everyone to work in coordination to ensure the 'Khelo India' event is conducted flawlessly, without any lapses that could bring disrepute to the government.

Foster a Sports Culture Among the Youth – Minister Vakiti Srihari

BC Students' Association Leaders Pay Courtesy Visit to Chevella ACP Bantu Kishan



Chevella, November 10 (Way To News): National President Vikram Goud, along with leaders of the BC Students' Association, paid a courtesy visit to Chevella ACP Sri Bantu Kishan and extended their congratulations and best wishes.

Speaking on the occasion, ACP Bantu Kishan emphasized that children belonging to weaker and underprivileged sections of society should give the highest priority to education. He stated that education is the key to bringing positive changes in their lives and creating a bright future.

Appreciating the efforts being made by BC organisations for the educational development of students, he encouraged them to expand their activities and work towards providing educational opportunities and awareness to a larger number of students. He expressed his desire to take the message "Knowledge through Education, Progress through Knowledge" to every student.

During the meeting, various issues concerning the educational development of BC students, social awareness and future opportunities were discussed. Those who extended their greetings along with Vikram Goud included BC Youth Association National President Shyam Kurma, National Vice-President Ravulakol Naresh Prajapathi, State General Secretary Panuganti Vijay Goud, and BC Students' Association State General Secretary Indram Rajak.

Restructure Loans Of Drought-Hit Farmers: Bhatti



Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News):Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka has urged banks to stand by farmers, taking into account the drought conditions in the state caused by the El Niño effect and the financial hardships faced by the farming community. He advised banks to restructure and reschedule the crop loans of eligible farmers in accordance with RBI guidelines, and to ensure the timely disbursement of fresh credit required for the Rabi season. He emphasized that bankers at the field level should take the initiative to avoid any delays in sanctioning loans to farmers.

Speaking as the chief guest at the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting held on Tuesday at Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad, the Deputy Chief Minister requested banks to adopt a positive approach toward granting educational loans and to provide maximum financial support to eligible students. He suggested that the SLBC Convener should personally oversee the sanctioning of educational loans. Furthermore, he urged banks to take a proactive stance in providing individual home loans; rather than limiting their lending solely to housing development organizations, they should prioritize individual home loans to help ordinary citizens realize their dream of owning a home. He also called upon banks to take necessary measures to meet the credit targets set for the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector and infrastructure development. It was noted that the MSME sector provides employment to a larger number of people compared to large-scale industries, and that increasing credit flow to this sector would help expand economic activities. It was also suggested that infrastructure development is crucial for the growth of the service sector, and that adequate credit should be extended to this area as well.

Regarding the impact of El Niño, it was pointed out that its effects are not limited to Telangana alone but are impacting the agricultural sector nationwide and globally. In the state, 365 mandals across 31 districts have been declared drought-affected, with 111 of these mandals being severely impacted. Due to a lack of rainfall, farmers' investments and incomes have suffered; under these circumstances, they require immediate support from the banking system. It was emphasized that the failure of the monsoon should not disrupt the relationship between farmers and banks.

India Must Strengthen Critical Mineral Security: Kishan Reddy



Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy called for modernising the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and strengthening its global presence through advanced technology, scientific research and international cooperation.

Speaking at the inauguration of three major facilities at the GSI Training Institute (GSI-TI) in Hyderabad, the Minister congratulated the GSI team on the launch of the International Hostel Complex, Advanced Geophysical Data Processing Laboratory and Karmayogi Digital Studio. Highlighting GSI's 176 years of service and the GSI Training Institute's 50-year journey, Kishan Reddy said the organisation must begin a new chapter with renewed energy, vision and reforms to meet future requirements.

He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's mining sector was expanding its capabilities and reaching international standards. GSI must also strengthen its global recognition and operational capacity. The Minister revealed that *4,373 mineral exploration projects have been completed across the country since 2014*, including 1,724 projects related to critical minerals and 656 involving rare earth elements.

He said the National Critical Minerals Mission had given fresh momentum to mineral exploration, with GSI undertaking 300 critical mineral projects during the financial year 2026–27. Calling for faster exploration, he urged GSI to identify new areas, prioritise mineral-rich regions and prepare clear action plans for international agreements signed with geological and exploration agencies of various countries. He emphasised the need for technology exchange, joint research, scientific training and sharing of international best practices. Kishan Reddy also stressed the importance of adopting modern technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Remote Sensing and Advanced Data Analytics in mineral exploration. He called for continuous training of scientists and technical staff in these emerging technologies.

He proposed developing GSI-TI into a *Centre of Excellence for Geological Training and Capacity Building*, with special focus on critical minerals such as lithium, graphite, rare earth elements and cobalt. The institute should also provide specialised training to personnel from State Geological Departments, Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs) and other organisations, he said. Referring to discussions with state governments at the recent Mining Ministers' Conference in Goa, the Minister said every state had different mineral potential and priorities. He urged GSI to prepare state-specific action plans in coordination with respective governments, identifying priority minerals, exploration areas and time-bound targets. He further called for a comprehensive roadmap for GSI, covering immediate priorities, short-term targets and long-term objectives, with regular reviews to ensure effective implementation.

Congratulating the GSI team once again, Kishan Reddy expressed confidence that the newly inaugurated facilities and proposed reforms would give the organisation a new direction and accelerate India's mineral exploration capabilities.

Cross-border terror by Pak rendered IWT unworkable: Kwatra

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): India's Ambassador to the US Vinay Mohan Kwatra has laid out New Delhi's most detailed public justification for keeping the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in abeyance, saying Pakistan had rendered the 1960 agreement unworkable through decades of cross-border terrorism, procedural obstruction and refusal to adapt the treaty to present-day realities.



In his article 'A Treaty Pakistan Destroyed Long Before India Set It Aside' published in American magazine Newsweek, Kwatra argued that India's decision to place the World Bank-brokered treaty in abeyance following the April 22, 2025, Pahalgam terror attack was not a sudden political reaction but the culmination of years of Pakistan undermining both the letter and the spirit of the agreement.

"They murdered 26 persons, resulting in the highest number of civilian casualties in a terrorist attack in India since the November 26, 2008, Mumbai attacks. Over 40,000 civilians in India have been killed as a result of Pakistan's persistent terror campaign," Kwatra wrote. Referring to the treaty's preamble, which says it was concluded in a spirit of "goodwill and friendship", Kwatra wrote that Pakistan had systematically dismantled that foundation through repeated wars and sustained cross-border terrorism, making continued implementation of the pact untenable.

Beyond the security dimension, the envoy argued that Pakistan had consistently prevented India from fully exercising even the limited rights available to it under the treaty by challenging Indian hydropower projects through prolonged dispute-resolution processes and resisting every attempt to update the six-decade-old agreement despite advances in engineering, changing climatic conditions and rising developmental needs.

He added that terrorist attacks on project sites, including the 2012 attack on Tulbul Navigation Project, had further constrained India's ability to utilise the waters allocated to it under the treaty. Rejecting Pakistan's allegation that India was using water as a weapon, Kwatra argued that Pakistan's water stress stemmed.

Girls felt safe at Jantar Mantar, doxxed on social media: Gaurav Gogoi

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): The Congress on Sunday accused the BJP's IT cell of fostering "toxic masculinity", alleging that women associated with the recent Jantar Mantar protest were being subjected to rape threats, abusive remarks and doxxing on social media. Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi contrasted the atmosphere at the protest site with what he described as the hostility faced by women online.



"The beauty of Jantar Mantar was that many girls and young women said that they felt safe in the crowd. Many said they were supported and even protected to an extent by the boys and young men," Gogoi said. He said the conduct of young men at the protest reflected "positive masculinity", adding that the real threat emerged in the digital space.

"Where the girls are feeling unsafe is in the digital space. Boys and men supporting the ruling party are indulging in rape threats, prostitution jibes and doxxing. This is the IT cell, the pit of toxic masculinity. The perpetrators of this filth should be identified, named and shamed," he said. Gogoi also questioned whether action would be taken against those allegedly posting abusive content online. "How many young boys and men will have FIRs registered for verbal abuse?" he asked.

His remarks come amid controversy over a viral video of a young woman from Noida allegedly using abusive language during the Jantar Mantar protest over the alleged NEET paper leak. The episode gained further attention after Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared a video on Instagram urging people to refrain from using abusive language and saying that he "forgives" those who had done so. The incident subsequently led to the young woman's identity being revealed on social media, triggering a wave of online harassment. Earlier, the Noida police had registered an FIR against a woman over alleged objectionable remarks directed at the Prime Minister during the CJP's protest over the NEET paper leak.

J&K govt sanctions Rs 10.95 crore for preservation, upgradation of religious sites in Anantnag

Srinagar, Nov 10 (Way to News): The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday approved two projects worth Rs 10.95 crore for the preservation and upgradation of important religious sites in Anantnag district. The Office of the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said on X that Rs 5.03 crore has been sanctioned for the restoration and renovation of Ziyarat Sharief Khiram, while Rs 5.92 crore has been approved for the repair and renovation of Shiv Mandir at Thajiwara, Bijbehara.

"These projects will preserve the sanctity and heritage of both religious places while improving facilities for devotees," the Chief Minister's Office said.



While Muslim religious sites continue to receive periodic upgrades, the preservation of Hindu religious sites in the Kashmir Valley has remained a major challenge following the forced exodus of the Kashmiri Pandit community due to terrorism more than three decades ago.

Efforts to preserve Hindu religious and cultural heritage include temple restoration, legal safeguards against land encroachment, government-funded renovation projects, and the reopening of historic places of worship. The Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has directed the administration to protect unattended Hindu temples and shrines from encroachments. There have also been discussions on introducing dedicated legislation to safeguard the properties and religious sites of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community. Several long-closed temples, including the 300-year-old Anandishar Temple in Srinagar and the Shiral Nath Temple, have resumed regular rituals and prayers. During the decades following the migration of Kashmiri Pandits in the 1990s, many local Muslim residents voluntarily cared for and maintained temple structures.

The newly reconstructed Sharda Temple in Kupwara has also emerged as a symbol of ongoing efforts to preserve Kashmir's shared religious and cultural heritage. The twin projects reflect the government's efforts to protect Kashmir's diverse religious heritage and improve facilities at places of worship.

Govt Introduces Bankers' Books Evidence, Indian Statistical Institute Bills In LS

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman introduced Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026 in Lok Sabha on Monday while the Indian Statistical Institute Bill, 2026 was tabled by the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Rao Inderjit Singh.

The government is replacing a colonial-era law with one that seeks to preserve access to banking evidence while protecting banks from unnecessary legal proceedings, shifting the emphasis to better-targeted judicial oversight rather than unrestricted access to banking records.

With the Bankers' Books Evidence Bill, 2026, the government seeks to replace the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891, which has governed the production of banking records in courts for over 125 years.

The proposed legislation aims to provide "for law relating to evidence with respect to bankers' books and to align it with contemporary digital banking practices." The Indian Statistical Institute Bill, 2026, seeks the institute's incorporation as a 'body corporate' to strengthen its governance, promote academic excellence and research and allow it to serve the emerging needs in the field.

The Bill states that the President of India will be the Visitor of the institute and provisions for a Board of Governors that will be its principal policy executive body. The board will be headed by the chairperson, who will be an eminent person from the field of academia, industry, education, public policy, and statistical sciences. The agenda also includes a statement by Finance Minister Sitharaman showing Demands for Excess Grants for 2022-23.

Meanwhile, the Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned after disruptions by Opposition members over the police action against students protesting NEET paper leak and the alleged theft of Ram Temple donations prevented the House from taking up the Question Hour.

The Parliament resumed its proceedings for the third week, as the Centre prepares to introduce several pending Bills for consideration and passage even as disruptions from the Opposition are expected to continue over a range of contentious issues.

The Monsoon Session has witnessed repeated protests and interruptions over the past several days, as Opposition parties raise issues including examination paper leaks, police action against protesters during the Jantar Mantar demonstration, and the Ram Mandir donation theft case.

In the Rajya Sabha, Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi is slated to introduce the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2026 for consideration and passage.

Avoid raising slogans, strengthen the Congress: Ashok Gehlot

Jaipur, Nov 10 (Way to News): Against the backdrop of remarks by Rajasthan Congress president Govind Singh Dotasra that were seen as reflecting discontent within the party, former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Saturday advised party workers not to raise slogans seeking a fourth term for him and instead focus on strengthening the Congress. The three-time former Chief Minister was addressing a gathering of party workers in his hometown of Jodhpur. As Gehlot arrived at the venue, supporters raised slogans of "Ashok Gehlot Chauthi Baar", expressing their desire to see him lead the Congress government again after the 2028 Assembly elections.

Gehlot immediately intervened and urged them to refrain from raising personalised slogans. "Ashok Gehlot Chauthi Baar ke naare mat lagaiye. Iske bajay party ko mazboot karne ka kaam kijiye," he said. "Please don't cross the limits (Laxman Rekha paar mat karo). The Congress can serve society better and fulfil its responsibility towards the poor and downtrodden only if all party leaders remain united and work together." He further said, "Therefore, don't raise slogans projecting me as the chief ministerial face. That decision will be taken by the party high command.

It is the prerogative of the Congress high command, and only it can decide the issue at the appropriate time."

Gehlot reiterated his stand while responding to a question from a reporter on whether he still saw the possibility.

Justice Manmohan Singh Liberhan, who headed Babri Masjid inquiry

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News):There are judges whose names remain confined to law reports. Then there are those whose lives become intertwined with the nation's history. Former Chief Justice of the Madras and Andhra Pradesh High Courts, and a former judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Justice Manmohan Singh Liberhan belonged to the latter category. Best known for heading the Liberhan Commission that inquired into the demolition of the Babri Masjid, he came to occupy a unique place in India's judicial and constitutional history.



Justice Liberhan passed away on Sunday, bringing to a close a distinguished legal career spanning more than four decades and leaving an enduring imprint on the country's legal and public life. His cremation will take place on Monday, August 3, at 11 am at the Sector 25 Cremation Ground in Chandigarh.

When the Babri Masjid was demolished on December 6, 1992, the country was searching for answers. Barely a week later, the Union Government entrusted Justice Liberhan with heading the Commission of Inquiry into one of independent India's most defining and divisive events. What was expected to be a relatively brief exercise stretched over nearly 17 years, making the Liberhan Commission perhaps the longest-running commission of inquiry in the country's history. By the time its report was submitted in 2009, the Commission had become inseparable from the man who led it.

It was a distinction Justice Liberhan never appeared to seek. Those who knew him beyond the headlines would readily say he was much more than the Commission that came to bear his name. With his passing, the legal fraternity has lost one of its most respected elder statesmen—a judge whose journey took him from the Bar in Punjab and Haryana to the Bench, and eventually .

Amid slipping passport ranking, govt says efforts on to expand travel access

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Amid renewed focus on India's position in global passport mobility rankings, the government has said that it was pursuing sustained diplomatic efforts to expand travel access for Indian citizens. It claimed that 140 countries offer easier travel to Indian citizens. According to the MEA, Indian passport holders currently have access to visa-free entry in 27 countries, visa-on-arrival facilities in 47 countries and e-Visa facilities in 66 countries. At the same time, the government also questioned the methodology used by private organisations to rank passports.



The response comes days after recent global passport indices highlighted fluctuations in India's ranking, with the latest edition of the Henley Passport Index placing the Indian passport at the 81st position, compared with the 75th spot earlier this year. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) pointed out that there was no universally accepted global system for ranking passports and that such indices were based on parameters independently decided by private institutions. It stressed that India was engaged with foreign govts through bilateral mechanisms, including consular dialogues and official-level engagements, to improve ease of travel, address visa-related issues and expand mobility arrangements for Indian citizens.

However, it added that visa policies remain sovereign decisions of individual countries and depend on several factors, including bilateral relations and reciprocity.

Jitendra Singh reviews ujh multipurpose project, calls for expedited implementation

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News):Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh reviewed the status and phased implementation roadmap of the Ujh Multipurpose Project (MPP) in Kathua district of Jammu & Kashmir.

The Minister held a detailed meeting with the officials of WAPCOS Ltd., a Government of India undertaking under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, which has been entrusted with the implementation of the project.

Dr Jitendra Singh emphasised the need for expeditious implementation so that the benefits of this strategically important project reach the people at the earliest. He advised WAPCOS to explore innovative solutions and implementation strategies while maintaining the highest standards of quality, safety and efficiency.

The Minister was informed that the project is being taken up in a phased manner. Work will commence while acquisition of the remaining land is pursued simultaneously, without waiting for completion of the entire land acquisition process. The implementing agency is also working out the project site and related requirements.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Dr Jitendra Singh said, long-pending national projects are being taken forward with renewed urgency. He noted that the Ujh



Multipurpose Project, conceived nearly a century ago, had remained in limbo for decades, while the Shahpurkandi project had remained pending for about four decades. The delay in implementation of these projects, he said, resulted in the waters of the Ravi River and its tributaries continuing to flow into Pakistan.

The Minister said that even when the Indus Waters Treaty was in force, Ravi, Satluj and Beas were India's three rivers under the Treaty, with Ravi being the major river among them. He noted that the Treaty is now in abeyance. Dr Jitendra Singh said that the revival of the Shahpurkandi project in 2019, which is now almost complete, and the revival of the Ujh Multipurpose Project in 2026 reflect the Government's resolve under Prime Minister Narendra Modi to realise long-delayed projects, optimise the use of India's water resources and deliver tangible benefits to the people.

The Ujh Multipurpose Project, located on the Ujh River, a main tributary of the Ravi River, is designed to generate around 186 MW to 212 MW of electricity. It is expected to provide irrigation to nearly 90,000 hectares of agricultural land in Kathua and Samba districts of Jammu & Kashmir and Pathankot and Gurdaspur districts of Punjab. The project will also supply drinking water to Kathua district and provide industrial water availability.

The project is expected to strengthen agricultural productivity, improve water security, create new opportunities for economic development and contribute to the overall socio-economic progress of the Union Territory. It also has an important security and border-management dimension and is backed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to restrict unregulated water flows and plug vulnerable cross-border infiltration routes along the riverbed.

Dr Jitendra Singh reviewed the implementation milestones in detail and stressed the need for close coordination among all stakeholders and effective monitoring for timely execution.

Will fight against 'politics of vendetta', Jagan tells CM Naidu

Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): YSR Congress Party president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Sunday accused Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu of pursuing "politics of vendetta" and "authoritarian governance", vowing to fight against the alleged practice of filing criminal cases against political rivals. He also reiterated the demand for resignation of Education Minister Nara Lokesh over the alleged irregularities in the District Selection Committee-2025 teacher recruitment process. In a message on X, Jagan Mohan Reddy said, "Mr Chandrababu, remember this: Political Power is not permanent. Neither is the power of the police. False cases are not permanent. No matter how many cases you file, how many midnight arrests you carry out, how many doors you break open, or how many police personnel you deploy, the YSR Congress Party will not retreat. We will continue to stand by the victims, challenge injustice, and fight against authoritarian governance."

He said, "You may be able to arrest individuals, but you cannot break the courage that resides in the hearts of the people, nor can you silence the questions they continue to ask."

The YSR Congress Party chief also claimed that Gen Z is raising its voice and questioning the government across the state.

Editorial

A colonial strategy that still haunts us

Sarsanghchalak (PP) Mohan Bhagwat recently reminded us that "living in harmony is our culture"-asserting that despite centuries of diversity, the people of undivided India have shared the same DNA for over 40,000 years. In his address, he reminded the nation that India's strength has always been in its unity, when Indians stand together, no power can defeat us; when divided, even small challenges overwhelm us. This timeless truth was well understood by those who sought to rule India. Ever since the British set foot on Indian soil, they discovered one truth that helped them govern a vast and diverse land with a small foreign elite. India could not be conquered by force alone, but it could be controlled by division. What started as a commercial enterprise of the East India Company soon became an empire built on fracturing Indian society along caste, religion, language and region. The Revolt of 1857 shook the foundations of British rule in India. What unnerved the colonial masters most was not just the scale of the uprising but the unity it revealed. Hindus, Muslims and different jatis fighting shoulder to shoulder against a common oppressor. Bahadur Shah Zafar, a Muslim emperor, became the symbolic head, while leaders like Rani Lakshmi Bai, Nana Saheb and Tantia Tope rallied Hindu forces. For the British, this was a nightmare: a united India rising in defiance.Determined never to face such unity again, the colonial state perfected its strategy of divide and rule, using censuses to harden caste lines, introducing separate electorates to pit communities against each other and playing language and region as tools of division. The lesson they drew from 1857 was clear: Indians together were unbreakable, but divided, they could be ruled.

The Partition of Bengal in 1905 was one of the first deliberate attempts, splitting a thriving province along religious lines to weaken nationalist unity. The Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909 institutionalized communal politics by granting separate electorates to Muslims and others, ensuring that Indians no longer voted as one people but as fragmented communities. The 1932 Communal Award, which extended separate electorates even to depressed class, almost cemented divisions within Hindu society until the Poona Pact tried to salvage unity. Even the colonial census, starting in 1871, turned India's fluid and overlapping caste identities into rigid, politicized categories-laying the seeds of caste-based mobilization that continue to this day.

The British actively encouraged communal divisions by supporting the formation of the All India Muslim League in 1906, presenting it as the sole representative body of Muslims, even though the Indian National Congress already included leaders from all communities. By promoting the League and granting it separate political weight, the British deepened Hindu-Muslim divides and institutionalized communal politics, which later became a major factor in the partition of India. The British perfected the art of "divide and rule" after 1857, kept Indians fighting amongst themselves so they would never unite against the empire. And it worked, for nearly two centuries. Let me share another striking example of Sylhet, a Hindu-equal majority district in Assam before Partition. In the crucial 1947 Sylhet referendum, where people had to decide whether to remain with Assam or join East Bengal (Pakistan), Dalit votes became decisive. Jogendra Nath Mandal, a prominent Dalit leader during Partition, believed that Dalits might have a better future in Pakistan since, unlike caste Hindus, Muslims did not practice untouchability.

Dissanayake's Katchatheevu Visit Sends Message To India

Nirupama Subramanian

WHILE India focused its eyes northwards, watching Prime Minister Narendra Modi demonstrate brotherly affection towards Presidents Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin for the cameras at Tianjin in China, India's southern neighbour sent a quiet message to both New Delhi and Tamil Nadu.

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, on his fourth visit to Jaffna in the Northern Province within a year — a record of sorts in itself — made an unannounced trip in a naval speed boat to Katchatheevu, becoming the island-nation's first head of government to set foot on the barren island. By doing so, President Dissanayake was clearly marking Sri Lankan territory. Katchatheevu is part of Sri Lanka. India accepted its neighbour's claim over this speck of land in the Palk Strait in 1974 with the "Agreement between Sri Lanka and India on the Boundary in Historic Waters between the two Countries and Related Matters" (this agreement then led to another in 1976, settling the maritime boundary between the two countries).

Nonetheless, Katchatheevu, located between Rameswaram and Jaffna, has been a recurring point of friction in India-Sri Lanka relations. Though it was never demarcated on any map of India, either in the colonial era or in the post-Independence period, Tamil Nadu politicians frequently speak about "taking back" the uninhabited island to soothe frayed tempers and nerves in the fishing jetties in Rameswaram. At the heart of the problem is the conflict over scarce resources between the Tamil fishers on either side of the waters.

Simply put, unsustainable practices by Tamil Nadu fishers such as bottom trawling, purse seine and double net fishing have scraped up all but the dregs of marine resources on the Indian side of the Palk Strait. The Sri Lankan side, with more resources because Jaffna fishermen could not put out to sea due to the tough security restrictions during the 30-year civil war, seems more attractive. Near daily incursions by Indian fishermen into Sri Lankan waters sometimes end with their arrests by the Sri Lankan Navy, seizure of their boats and nets, and sometimes, even fatalities.

But instead of addressing the main challenge of creating alternative livelihoods or diversifying fisheries, leaders in the state have propped up the illusion that Katchatheevu is the answer to all their problems.

Most recently, Tamil film actor Vijay, who has plunged into politics with a new party called the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam, has done his bit to perpetuate this myth. At a public rally in Madurai, by all accounts his biggest so far, he asked the government to "do just one small thing" for the state's fishermen: "reclaim this island so that our fishermen can be safe". Over the years, the Tamil Nadu government has adopted four resolutions demanding the 'return' of Katchatheevu. There are also cases before the Supreme Court asking the agreement to be struck down as "unconstitutional". Prime Minister Modi and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar added fuel to the fire during the 2024 Lok Sabha campaign with remarks that the Congress "callously" gave away Katchatheevu to Sri Lanka.

But if taking back Katchatheevu could solve the problems of Tamil Nadu fishers, why do fishing boats from the state venture as far as the shores of peninsular Sri Lanka, and are spotted even farther away, on Sri Lanka's eastern coast?

For the record, Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath, responding to Vijay's remarks, has categorically ruled out any change in the status of Katchatheevu. For good measure, he also flagged the election in Tamil Nadu — Assembly polls are due next year — and asked Sri Lankans not to pay attention to "speeches made from election platforms".

At home, Dissanayake's touchdown at Katchatheevu is sure to help his National People's Power (NPP) in its continuing public outreach in the predominantly Tamil Jaffna. A large section of Jaffna's people depend on the sea for their livelihood. Among them a perception has taken hold that their Tamil brethren across the sea, who generously helped Tamil militant groups during the war, are now pitted against them. Visiting the island was certainly imaginative of Dissanayake to send home the message that he stands with Sri Lanka's Tamil fishermen. It could also reverse a perceptible sag in Dissanayake's image over the last few months. The NPP government, which came to power promising sweeping economic changes, and more immediately, changes to the punishing terms of the IMF agreement, has so far managed only a holding operation. The loss of political ground was evident in the local elections earlier this year.

The government has, however, been acting on its other promise, of going after corrupt politicians and officials in previous governments. Former President Ranil Wickremesinghe, was the most high-profile politician to be arrested. He has been accused of misusing public funds to attend a ceremony in honour of his wife, an academic, at a British university. As the head of the nearly non-existent United National Party, Wickremesinghe was an easy target. The arrest (he has been released on bail) could raise expectations among the JVP-NPP base of more high-profile arrests. But it would be tougher for the government to go after, say, a member of the Rajapaksa family.

Against such power play, Dissanayake's territorial assertion would certainly appeal to the government's core constituency of Sinhala nationalists, who believe fervently that every inch of the island from north to south is ordained for the preservation and protection of the Buddhist faith. Plus, Dissanayake has also sent a message to critics at home who accuse him of being too soft on India — he faced flak for a defence cooperation agreement, and a pact on 'digital transformation' has been challenged in court by a rival politician — that he can stand up for Sri Lanka's interests. Back in Katchatheevu, a small shrine to St Antony, the patron saint of seafarers, has stood on the island for over a century. Historically, fishers from both Rameswaram and Jaffna have gathered at Katchatheevu to celebrate the saint's feast day in March. After the end of the civil war, as Katchatheevu began to attract more pilgrims, the shrine was given a makeover.

Gaming Ban May Fuel Offshore Betting

Vedika Pandey



The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill 2025, passed by Parliament on Thursday, seeks to protect people from addiction, financial loss, and fraud, according to its preamble. It aims to do so by prohibiting online money games, also known as real money games or RMGs, where users deposit funds in the hope of winnings. A ban is offered as a silver bullet.

However, plenty of evidence suggests that bans do not stop people from accessing harmful products or activities. Instead, they tend to push consumers into informal, unregulated, and unsafe markets. Consumers are likely to be redirected to offshore betting and gambling services. There, they will encounter heightened risks of financial fraud and cybersecurity threats, and will lack access to any meaningful grievance redressal mechanisms. The gaming law also has significant economic consequences. Gaming businesses have created over 200,000 jobs and helped sustain the build-out of digital infrastructure. A blanket ban threatens to erode such gains.

The bill identifies real concerns such as the risk of addiction and financial loss, the prevalence of manipulative and fraudulent practices in the RMG market, and the use of digital networks for enabling financial crimes such as money laundering and terror financing. Let us consider the efficacy of an outright ban against each of these issues, in turn.

Prohibition has repeatedly proven ineffective against addictive consumer behaviours. The nature of activities that lead to addiction is such that demand for them does not disappear when legal supply is cut off. Bihar's alcohol ban, much like the online gaming ban, was introduced in 2016 to curb behavioural issues such as addiction and domestic violence. Since then, at least 190 people have died from consuming illicit liquor in the state—and studies suggest that between 2013 and 2019, the plight of women suffering domestic violence, the supposed reason for enacting the ban, did not change.

The new law also states that the economically disadvantaged are most vulnerable to online gaming-related harms. Yet blanket bans have consistently hurt these groups the most. Wealthier households continue to access banned products such as e-cigarettes and vapes through private networks, while poorer households rarely find safe substitutes and are instead exposed to dangerous, unregulated alternatives. This same dynamic, where the poor and disadvantaged suffer the consequences of well-meaning legislative action, will likely apply to RMGs. These users also tend to have lower levels of digital literacy and, as seen in Telangana, are more likely to be driven toward fraudulent sites with no safeguards—where the risks of fraud, data theft, predatory lending, and unchecked gambling losses are far higher. South Korea's "Cinderella Law" banned under-16s from online games after midnight. The measure was rolled back a decade later, when policymakers realised that young users had simply migrated to unregulated platforms. The revised approach was to require greater parental controls, awareness campaigns, and moderation requirements.

The new law also cites the use of manipulative design features (like bots) which undermine platform fairness, and can even enable money laundering. But prohibition hands the entire market to offshore operators on a platter. The United States offers a cautionary tale. After the 2006 Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act barred payment providers from servicing gambling sites, legitimate operators exited the market. Americans turned to foreign banks and offshore platforms, heightening risks around fraud and money laundering.

By contrast, domestic gaming services, in a quest to seek legitimacy from the state, have voluntarily adopted industry codes of conduct, mandating measures such as platform integrity and anti-money laundering practices like robust Know Your Customer protocols. While such standards are not adopted uniformly in all segments of the RMG industry, they are a starting point for meaningful self-regulation and standard-setting, which can ensure greater accountability and transparency in any industry. Pushing consumers away from entities that were voluntarily walking this path makes little sense.

Gaming is also a driver of Digital India. In FY 2022-23, UPI transactions worth Rs 8,370 crore were processed via gaming platforms, with some handling over four billion micro-transactions a month—accounting for one in 300 transactions in the country. For one in five users, their first digital payment is inside a game.

None of this happened in a vacuum. Participants invested in the sector because the government signalled its intent to regulate RMGs. It amended the Information Technology Rules in 2023 to create a regulatory framework centred on self-regulation and a regulatory veto. A Goods and Services Tax regime amendment was also applied to RMGs in 2023. Pulling the rug now will dismantle an industry the state itself helped seed, which runs counter to the principle of legitimate expectations, requiring the state to act in a manner consistent with established practice. Ideally, India should build on the regulatory architecture already in place by licensing operators, enforcing transparent grievance redressal, mandating responsible gaming standards, and enabling financial oversight through existing anti-money laundering laws. Such concrete steps can protect consumers without driving them into the shadows.

Changing Face of Civil Services in India

Col Satish Singh Lalotra



Famous American 'Self -help author' and a world renowned therapist 'Wayne Walter Dyer' in one of his famous quotes has stated the obvious which very few emulate; quote-'When we change the way we look at things , the things we look at change'. The words of Dyer's sayings have never beenso truly reflected in their meanings as has been by the actions of GOI in its latest moves to beef up 'National security apparatus' all along the country's frontiers from J&K to Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh. The standing committee of the 'National board for wildlife (NBWL) headed by union environment minister Bhupinder Yadav has recommended 32 defence infra projects involving diversion of land from 'Protected areas & eco sensitive zones' across Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Ladakh and Sikkim. Never ever in Indian history after independence such a massive heft has been afforded to the 'National security apparatus' overriding sundry concerns of ecology and environment. In fact this singular act by the NBWL has epitomized the above quote of Wayne Dyer -'When we change the way welook at things, the things we look at change' in its totality. Since when was national security infra given an overriding preference over other concerns of the country? Not in my recent memory at least. In fact it was the other way , as an example– many of the 'Field firing ranges' of the armed forces were deliberately closed that were spread out from J&K to Arunachal Pradesh forcing the units of army as well as the air force to divert themselves to twin ranges of 'Pokhran & Mahajan' located in the extremes of Rajasthan , thus extending both their logistics and time frame for carrying out simple tasks of field firing. This closure or rather denial of field firing ranges was many times at the behest of misplaced priorities of the political dispensation. But not now.May be certain actions inimical to national interests by both our adversaries in not too recent past(OP Sindoor & standoff in eastern Ladakh) have forced the hands of country's planners to place national defence and security concerns over other routine matters that didn't muster a second look.

In an era marked by rising geo-political tensions and accelerating environmental crises, the dual imperatives of national security and ecological sustainability are often viewed in conflict. Balancing ecology with national defence is a strategic imperative that can no longer be brushed aside with impunity. Modern nations face twin challenges-ensuring territorial integrity and preserving ecological balance. Defence activities often involve infrastructure, training and deployment in ecological sensitive zones that overlap environmental considerations (mountains, deserts, forests , coastal zones etc). To set into motion a synergetic approach combining the two facets of national defence alongside ecological concerns often becomes a waterloo for most of our policy planners. Military infrastructure often cuts across swathes of pristine ecosystems that are required for roads, airfields, bases and such like issues which boils down to deforestation and land degradation of the region. On top of it regular use of explosives and firing of newer varieties of ammunition with longer version of guns from the artillery affects soil, water and wild life. Fragile eco zones like the Himalayas, NE of India, and Andaman & Nicobar islands face added strain due to troop movement and logistic chains. At the highest battlefield of the world -'Siachen glacier' non-biodegradable waste accumulated over decades became an environmental concern until proactive campaigns were initiated by the Indian army.

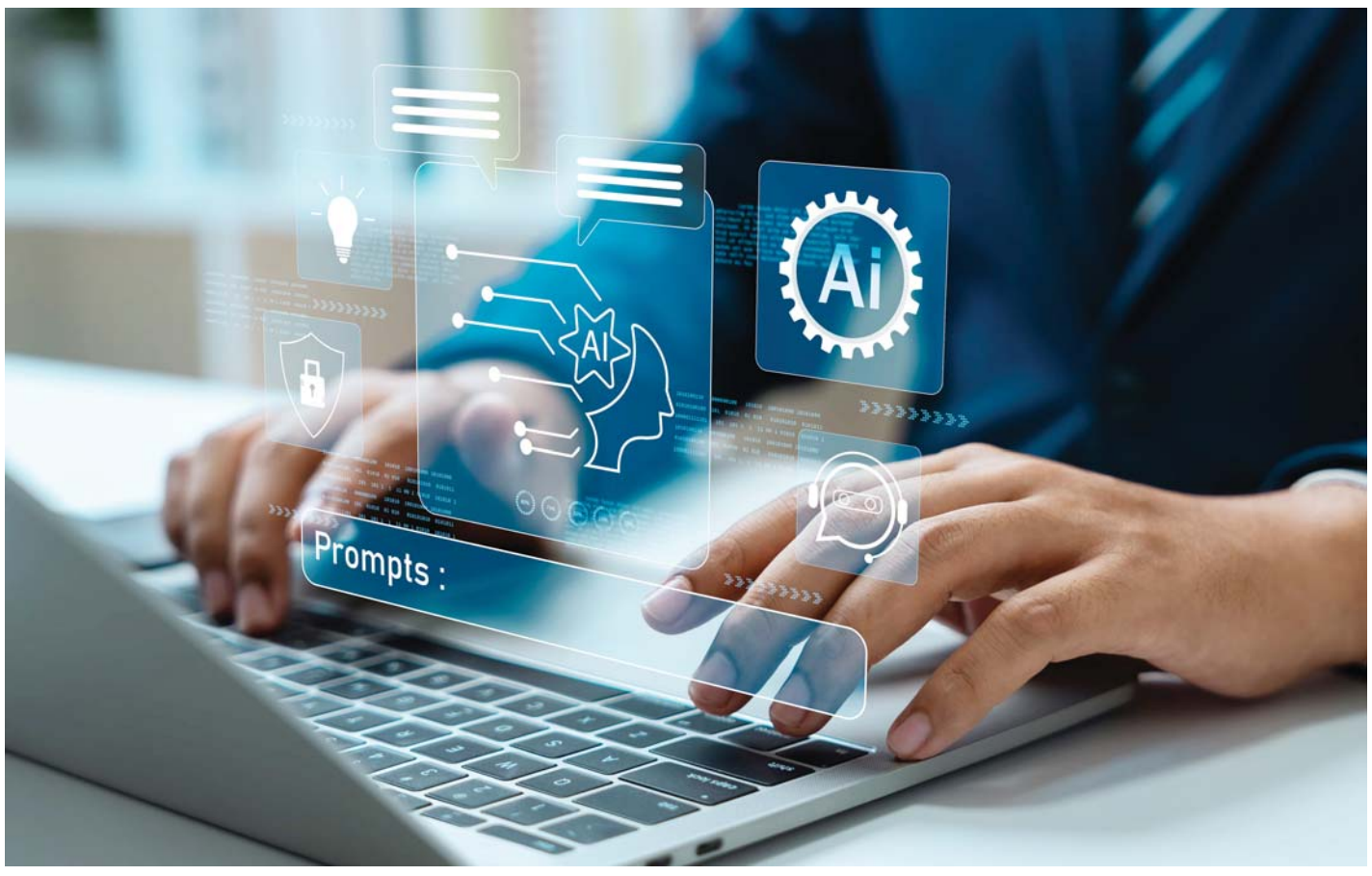
Can anybody forget the massive snow avalanche of 2012 that occurred at a place known as 'Gyari' and hit Pakistani army base near Siachen glacier resulting in deaths of 140 Pakistani soldiers and civilians? No wonder the late PM Man Mohan Singh way back in 2005 while on a visit to Siachen glacier advocated the highest battlefield to be converted into a mountain of peace. It is a different matter that the move was devoid of realpolitik and was accordingly scuppered. Similarly large scale troop movements in Rajasthan affect sand dune ecology. The latest in the series of ecological upheavals was recorded in Jaisalmer Rajasthan when in the aftermath of 'OP SINDOOR' due to a continuous barrage of Pakistani drones , UAVs & UACVs the nearly extinct 'Great Indian Bustard (GIB) chicks numbering nine (9) were temporarily relocated to Ajmer in May 2025 that had started showing signs of distress due to large noises and explosions. The same were shifted back again to Jaisalmer in June 2025. Recently an ecological cum humanitarian disaster (landslide) struck the 'Mangan' district resulting in the death of many Indian army personnel including a senior army officer and his family. This landslide triggered by heavy rainfall , occurred at a military camp in 'Chaten' near Lachen. In the northernmost part of Chamoli Garhwal of Uttrakhand, regular movement of forward troops and deployment of heavy equipment often disturbs hosts of fossils that lie embedded in the soil at places like Rimkhim, Lapthal and GirthiDobala. Globally, militaries are among the largest institutional consumers of fossil fuels. According to 'Stockholm international peace research institute (SIPRI), armed forces account for about 5% of global greenhouse gas emissions-a figure too large to be ignored in any of the discussions of this nature.

A narrow definition of national security i.e. focusing only on the military threats no longer suffices . The 21st century has shown that environmental degradation can destabilize nations. The Syrian civil war was partly preceded by prolonged droughts and resource conflicts. In India,glacial retreats in the Himalayan region threaten.

WAY TO NEWS
English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

Five AI Lessons for Teachers Under NEP

Biju Dharmapalan



On September 5th, each year, we commemorate Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and contemplate the enduring influence of educators on society. On this day, we take a moment to contemplate the influence of educators on the development of young minds, the direction of society, and the cultivation of future citizens. Historically, it has been a day of celebration, reminiscence, and gratitude. However, Teachers' Day necessitates introspection in 2025, as Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionising the very foundation of education. The teacher's function has always been critical; however, it is currently at a juncture. On the one hand, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 aims to prepare students for an interconnected world by establishing a holistic, multidisciplinary, transdisciplinary learning system. Conversely, AI-platforms and systems currently provide the transdisciplinary, adaptive, and personalised learning NEP 2020 envisioned. And in the middle, we have educators—many of whom are still bound by antiquated methods, rigid curricula, and exam-centric teaching.

This paradox raises the question: Why are teachers falling behind if AI can seamlessly incorporate transdisciplinary learning? Additionally, what lessons can educators extract from AI to develop into authentic mentors for Gen Alpha, the generation that was born into a digital-first world? AI and the Lost Promise of Transdisciplinary Learning

The NEP 2020 aimed to dismantle the compartmentalisation of subjects. It underscored critical thinking, creativity, ethical reasoning, and problem-solving, frequently necessitating interdisciplinary connections. A student ought not to perceive mathematics as isolated from music, nor literature as inconsequential to science. Education ought to mirror the reality of existence: interrelated, dynamic, and ever evolving.

Ironically, AI systems are currently implementing this goal. Request an AI tool to elucidate climate change, and it may promptly integrate atmospheric science with economics, politics, history, and literature. Request assistance for a youngster in learning music, and it can include physics (sound waves), mathematics (rhythms), and cultural studies (origins of instruments). This exemplifies transdisciplinary learning in practice, facilitated not by educational institutions but by machines. Educators frequently adhere to disjointed subject boundaries, curriculum-based lectures, and memorisation-based evaluations. The chance to evoke amazement by connecting ideas across several fields is commonly overlooked. In this regard, educators have not met the NEP's mandate for transdisciplinary education. This failure is not irreversible. It is, in reality, an opportunity. Educators may restore their position as inspirational mentors by embracing AI rather than fearing it. Five Lessons Teachers Must Acquire from AI

1. Individualisation Takes Priority Over Standardisation: AI thrives on customisation. Adaptive platforms are capable of monitoring the strengths, weaknesses, pace, and manner of each learner, thereby providing personalised content. This personalised approach is intuitive for Gen Alpha, who are accustomed to immediate responses, curated feeds, and on-demand entertainment. Teachers may take advantage of this information.The model of instruction that is universally applicable is no longer viable. A teacher's arsenal must include differentiated instruction, flexible lesson plans, and personalised mentoring. An exceptional teacher is not one who completes the curriculum; rather, they ignite the individual potential of each student.

2. Fostering Curiosity, Not Conformity: AI never grows weary of responding to enquiries. AI responds without judgement to a "why" from a five-year-old or a "how" from an aspiring scientist. Conversely, classrooms frequently discourage curiosity in the interest of exam preparation, discipline, or the completion of the syllabus. The joy of inquiry must be rediscovered by instructors in order to inspire Gen Alpha. They must embrace inquiry, regardless of whether it presents a challenge. Albert Einstein once stated, "The main thing is to continue to question." Lifelong learners are fostered by educators who foster curiosity, while those who discourage it cultivate mechanical rote learners. 3. Thinking Beyond Subject Silos: AI illustrates how literature can elucidate psychology, how art can enlighten physics, and how coding can intersect with music. Teachers must also adopt collaborative, transdisciplinary teaching. The mandate and the authority to do so are provided by NEP 2020. A literature teacher and a biology teacher could collaborate to investigate environmental poetry, while a history teacher and a maths teacher could investigate ancient Indian mathematics. This is the process by which learning is brought to life. 4. Feedback as a Continuous Dialogue : AI tools are exceptional at providing immediate feedback, whether through assessments, practice tests, or writing evaluations. This continuous feedback spiral is both instructive and motivating for students. In contrast, educators frequently restrict feedback to annual reports or quarterly assessments. Teachers can acquire the ability to provide feedback that is more immediate, constructive, and supportive. A brief reflective dialogue, a quick note on improvement, or a tender word of encouragement can impact a child's development more than pages of red ink on an exam paper. 5. The Essence of Lifelong Learning: AI algorithms are perpetually updated. They adapt, evolve, and acquire knowledge. It is incumbent upon educators to emulate this behaviour. In a world where knowledge doubles every few years, a teacher who ceases to learn after acquiring a degree is unable to motivate Gen Alpha. Teachers must adopt continuous learning—reskilling, upskilling, and maintaining intellectual agility—in order to remain pertinent. More importantly, they must serve as examples of this learning mentality, demonstrating to students that learning is an ongoing process. What AI Can't Teach—and Where Teachers Need to Shine AI can give you ideas, but it can't take the position of professors. Three things that no AI can copy are: 1. Empathy: A machine can give information, but it can't feel the sorrow of a pupil who is having trouble or hear the unspoken scream for help behind a preoccupied glance. Teachers can. 2. Ethics: AI can come up with answers, but it can't teach people how to have values, make decisions, and think morally. Teachers are the ones who make sure that students learn about ethics. things look creative but can't spark the human spirit. A great teacher can get kids to believe in themselves, dream big, and work for a better society.

These are not small distinctions; they are essential. They remind us that teachers don't have to be afraid of AI. They must instead add to it. If AI is the encyclopaedia, the teacher must be the wise person. If AI is the guide, the instructor must be the compass. Transitioning from Providers of Information to Custodians of Wisdom On this Teachers' Day, we must enquire: What type of educators does Generation Alpha require? They do not require information providers—Google and ChatGPT provide that role. Disciplinarians demanding conformity are unnecessary—algorithms already standardise efficiency. Gen Alpha need sagacious mentors: educators who can personalise learning, integrate disciplines, cultivate curiosity, and motivate ethical behaviour. To serve as effective mentors, educators must acquire knowledge from AI while transcending its limitations. They must incorporate transdisciplinary knowledge akin to AI and infuse empathy, ethics, and inspiration. Only then will they exemplify the authentic essence of Dr. Radhakrishnan's vision: education as the craft of rendering life significant.

As we commemorate Teachers' Day in 2025, let us refrain from only offering perfunctory congratulations and floral offerings. Let us regard it as a summons for transformation.

To educators nationwide: perceive AI not as a menace but as a mentor. Understand its strengths—personalization, curiosity, feedback, integration—and incorporate them into your teaching. Simultaneously, reinforce the qualities that render you indispensable: empathy, ethics, and inspiration.

Trump Claims, Rahul Attack Put Modi in Diplomatic Dilemma

K B Jandial



Never in his political career, PM Narendra Modi has wrestled with two serious challenges at the same time. He is grappling with geopolitical headwinds-punitive U.S. tariffs to safeguarding India's global image and economic resilience; and fast catching up narrative of electoral irregularities which Rahul Gandhi calls "Vote Chori," hitting the credibility of Election Commission of India (ECI).

Trump's Ceasefire Claim

The much-publicised 'chemistry' between Modi and Trump during the "Howdy Modi" era took a sharp nosedive after May 10, 2025, when Trump prematurely announced a ceasefire between India and Pakistan, projecting himself as the peacemaker who prevented a nuclear war. Trump even warned that India and Pakistan would face trade consequences if they defied his call. Despite Modi's clarification in Lok Sabha and his personal denial in the June 18 phone call, Trump repeated the claim in public, undermining Modi's stature and fuelling domestic criticism. Government denials seemed only to bruise Trump's ego, as he expected all leaders to genuflect to his version of events.

Rahul Gandhi seized on Trump's assertions, accusing Modi of "surrender," and failure to retrieve POJK during "Operation Sindhoor." Interestingly, a video has surfaced of Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar confirming that the ceasefire was negotiated by the DGMOs, not Washington. Analysts say that diplomacy requires understanding the sensitivities of leaders like obsessed Trump, and finding out formulations to assuage their ego, when required. Modi and Jaishankar appeared to have avoided giving Trump even symbolic credit for ceasefire, aware of the domestic political risk. Jaishankar, a seasoned hand on Indo-U.S. relations, surely foresaw the complications but political compulsions – especially the "Narendra Surrender" campaign – left little space to indulge Trump's vanity. Despite Rahul Gandhi's repeated demand that Modi call Trump a liar, Modi avoided the trap, suspecting it as bait. India, after all, has never publicly named world leaders like this, not even the adversaries like Pakistan and China. For Modi, the dilemma was stark: should he swallow Trump's ego and let him take credit, or should he push back to avoid appearing weak before his people and simultaneously nip the Opposition's taunt of "Narendra Surrender"? He chose the latter. Through his speeches, Modi sent an unmistakable message that he would never compromise the interests of Indian farmers, livestock rearers, and fishermen, even at a personal heavy price. This was a double-edged strategy: nailed the "Narinder surrender" propaganda while politically reconnecting with those sections of farmers estranged by the farm laws. Trump, who has weaponised tariffs and undermined WTO principles, assumed India would eventually bend under pressure like others. He calculated that Modi, needing U.S. goodwill, would persuade Russia to accept a peace deal in Ukraine, bolstering Trump's Nobel Peace Prize ambitions. When this did not appear coming, Trump lost his cool and blasted Indian economy as "doomed"-a remark Rahul Gandhi quickly echoed, bolstering his own critique of Modi's economic management, some calling that of late, they are targeting Modi in tandem.

Modi, however, stood firm without provoking Trump by matching outbursts. Unlike other countries that signed unequal agreements to appease Washington, Modi refused to capitulate, and instead joined a small group of Russia, China, and Brazil to defy Trump's tantrums, hurting his ego further. He consciously rejected U.S. entry into India's agriculture and related sectors.

Trump's actions may ultimately hurt U.S. strategic interests. His tantrum has already pushed India to reset ties with China-the USA made anti-China four-nation QUAD with India notwithstanding; and strengthen relations with all-time friend Russia. Frustrated at India's strategic manoeuvring, Washington is sending contradictory signals: Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent voiced optimism about reconciliation at the end of the day, while Trump aide Peter Navarro slammed India for buying Russian oil and even dubbed the Russia-Ukraine conflict as "Modi's war." The choice of Sergio Gor, a Trump loyalist with no diplomatic background, as U.S. Ambassador to India after an eight-month vacancy, raised further concerns. Elon Musk once called Gor "a snake," and many experts describe his appointment as "bad" for India, perhaps thinking of USA's larger plans in India including regime change exploiting domestic political unease, like in Bangladesh. However, none could succeed, given to India's inherent strength and committed and apolitical defence forces.

Meanwhile, reports in German and Japanese media claimed that Modi declined four telephonic calls from Trump in recent weeks. It demonstrated not also Modi's anger, but also his caution, implying that Modi feared Trump might misrepresent their conversation for his political gain, as he did with Vietnamese General Secretary ToLam .

Whatever diplomatic formulation the astute Indian Foreign Minister may make, it is going to be tough. To navigate this storm, India may be relying on what veteran diplomat Vivek Katju called three "brahmastra": bipartisan support in the U.S. Congress, backing from American industry, and the Indian diaspora. How Modi deploys these remains to be seen. Trump's 'surgical' tariff strike on India, especially the 25% punitive tariff, is akin to sanctions but while India may suffer short-term macro-economic impact, assessed by economists around 0,51% of GDP, the USA too will face higher inflation. The long-term effect depends on this situation and global trade shifts and India's own policy responses.

While Modi manoeuvres on the global chessboard, another battle rages at home-one that strikes at the very heart of India's democracy. Modi's serious worry is the loss of jobs, rural distress and resultant politics due to tariff strike just months before key state elections in Bihar later this year and six other states in next year.

Modi's second fight at home is more serious, given its wider political consequences with a fast catching up Rahul Gandhi's 'Vote Chori' campaign. Gandhi has packaged them into a narrative of systematic electoral fraud by the "compromised" ECI. At rallies and through initiatives like his "Voter Adhikar Yatra" on ongoing Special Intensive Revision of the Electoral Rolls in Bihar, and in media, he is transforming these electoral rolls' lapses into evidence of deliberate theft. He has managed to catch the imagination of gullible people to accuse the electoral system as rigged.

Calling his revelations as "atom bomb," Gandhi highlighted examples such as 80 voters listed at the same address, 70-year-old Shakun Rani allegedly registered twice. These cases, he argued, showed the system was rigged to allow impersonation and bogus voting.

ECI's rebuttal but no probe

The ECI made a strong rebuttal to the allegations, calling these "baseless" and "deplorable," and asking Rahul to submit a sworn declaration as prescribed under electoral rules or retract his claims. But the political campaign against ECI and "vote Chori' did not recede. For the first time, Rahul Gandhi and INDIA leaders have been able to generate public interest in these charges.

While the ECI unanimously decided to cling to procedural responses to the charges, it did not, even for its own satisfaction, ask the concerned Chief Electoral Officers to look into these allegations and fix accountability. This gave Rahul the punch he needed to aggressively pursue his charges and succeeded in projecting ECI as "compromised." The opposition is slamming ECI for its inability to initiate legal action against the ruling party when their leaders grossly violated Moral Code of Conduct (MCC) in the past. With lack of transparency, such inactions lead to "trust deficit."

The ECI lost the plot by sticking to the 'letter of the rules' and refrained from ordering probe into errors in the electoral rolls and fix the responsibility. This would have taken the punch out of the "Atom Boom." But ECI, in its wisdom, did not do so, allowing Opposition leaders to project its involvement. More than anyone, ECI knows that these electoral rolls are made by election staff of the concerned State Govt under the supervision of Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) and not by ECI.

Irregularities in rolls are not new – wrong addresses, outdated records, or dead voters' names have always been present. These are administrative errors, presumably occurring due to gross inefficiency of the Govt staff deployed for the purpose. The CEOs, drawn from the IAS cadre of the concerned state, regularly update rolls, yet errors persist. Parties and candidates receive copies of rolls in advance and have both the data and duty to flag mistakes. On polling day, election agents of candidates are present inside booths to challenge impersonators, and official vote accounts (Form 17C) are given at close of polling. Counting is conducted in their presence. If irregularities remain, election petitions can be filed in High Courts.

Still, Gandhi's campaign has struck a chord. By equating administrative errors with deliberate "Vote Chori," he has tapped into a wider climate of distrust in ECI. In an era of political polarisation, and 'trust deficit' of ECI by its past conduct, the leap from clerical errors to conspiracy theory, in a climate of distrust, has become politically irresistible.

It is not to dismiss the importance of cleaning up rolls. Errors undermine voter confidence and provide ammunition for conspiracy theories. The ECI must invest more in transparent audits and better communication. But to claim that every wrong address or outdated entry equals Vote Chori is to confuse negligence with theft. Democracy is safeguarded not just by the referee (ECI) but by all players (contesting political parties and contesting candidates). Political parties have both the data and the duty to ensure rolls are accurate, and their polling agents exist precisely to stop impersonation. If these mechanisms are not used effectively, crying "Vote Chori" afterwards, sounds less like evidence and more like an excuse for defeat. Promoting loss of faith in constitutional bodies, especially the ECI is a dangerous strategy as it has the potential to create anarchy in the country. The Bangladesh example is before us.

Handling twin battles

Together, these challenges expose Modi to risks, rarely seen before: international humiliation, and domestically, attempts to discredit electoral process. Modi's ability to withstand Trump's tariff assault without appearing weak, and neutralising"Vote Chori" narrative without dismissing citizens' concerns, will shape the next chapter of his political journey. Modi fights these battles not in isolation but as reflections of India's own larger test: can India remain both a resilient economy and a credible democracy despite this pressure? The answer will define its path forward.

Bhupender Yadav Says India Leading Global Sustainable Growth, Climate Action

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): India has emerged as the fastest-growing major economy, and is also leading global efforts on climate action, said Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Speaking at the 20th Global Sustainability Summit, organised by the CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, Yadav described India's journey towards resilient, regenerative, and responsible growth.



"India has emerged as the fastest-growing major economy while also leading global efforts on climate action," Yadav said. "India is the only country that has successfully adapted sustainable growth across the policy landscape through targeted scheme implementation, infrastructure investment, local commitment, and tangible achievements on multilateral commitments," he added.

Addressing global delegates in New Delhi, Yadav underlined that India's model of development is deeply rooted in balancing economic progress with ecological stewardship. "By embracing Resilience, Regeneration and Responsibility, let us chart a course towards a more sustainable world," he said. The Minister highlighted that the prevailing global trade tensions, policy uncertainties, geopolitical conflicts, and barriers to global financial investments by major economies collectively create a fragile environment. "Make sustainability foundational to growth by embracing economy-wide solutions that encompass circular economy models, nature positive actions, green manufacturing, and advancing behaviour change for responsible practices," he said. The Minister urged the world to embrace India's values for 'sustainable growth', and to focus on a collective global strategy to tackle climate change. "India's policy roadmap and growth model exemplify how nations can harmonise economic growth with sustainability to cultivate resilient, low-carbon development pathways. This integrated approach provides valuable lessons for countries in the Global South seeking sustainable, inclusive, and realistic growth models. Developed economies experiencing growth stagnation can undergo a transformative recalibration of their development paradigms and shift focus to sustainability, social equity, and enduring resilience," said Yadav.

The Minister concluded with a call to industry and global stakeholders to join hands in this transformative journey. "Industry must transcend conventional goals and weave sustainability seamlessly into its corporate policy by aligning with national aspirations for resilience and inclusion," he said. Yadav highlighted that the recently issued critical notifications with the aim of building a sustainable future, such as the Environment Audit Rules, 2025; a revised methodology for the Green Credit Programme; and amending the Forest (Conservation and Augmentation) Rules, 2023.

A clear testament of India's sustainable development commitment, Shri Yadav stated, is the significant progress it has made towards fulfilling NDCs under the Paris Agreement. He also pointed to India's progress in expanding forest cover, launching innovative campaigns like 'Mission LiFE', 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam', enhancing carbon sinks, and advancing circular economy practices, among others. The Minister said India's transition towards a green economy is being supported through clean energy expansion, sustainable infrastructure, and environmentally responsible industrial policies. He noted that coordinated efforts by the government, industry, and citizens are accelerating the country's progress towards long-term climate and development goals.

Yadav emphasized that achieving sustainability requires greater international cooperation, increased climate finance, and wider access to affordable green technologies for developing nations. He reiterated that global partnerships would be crucial for ensuring an equitable and effective response to climate change.

He also highlighted the importance of encouraging innovation, research, and

India Targets 15% Gas Share by 2030



New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): India aims to raise the share of gas in its energy mix to 15 per cent by 2030 from about six per cent at present to cut its carbon footprint, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, said on Tuesday. In a post on social media platform X, the minister said India will have 49 more LNG dispensing stations by December, in addition to 13 running currently. India is currently the world's fourth-largest gas importer with eight LNG terminals comprising a combined capacity of 52.7 million tonnes a year. "By 2030, 10 terminals, 66.7 MMTPA; 13 LNG dispensing stations now, 49 more coming up," Puri posted. "Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, LNG is India's bridge to a greener, secure future," he added.

Meanwhile, at the 9th brainstorming session in Goa on 'Challenges of the Indian Oil and Gas Sector' with ministry officials and captains of India's energy sector, the minister discussed seismic data acquisition and processing efficiency with a detailed analysis on the capability of manpower, availability of latest technology, equipment and workstations, etc. He also deliberated upon the status of stratigraphic well drilling, along with deliberations on offshore drilling cost and drilling well location release process, learning from global energy majors and, more importantly, continuing to boost the 'Make in India' component in India's rapidly expanding energy sector by discussing ways to develop India as the manufacturing hub for E&P machinery and components.

"We also discussed ways to take forward the shipbuilding potential of our Indian shipyards for developing LNG and LPG carriers, and crude carriers, including VLCCs," Puri said. Last month, India sourced more liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the United Arab Emirates with public sector oil giant Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), signing a 10-year supply agreement with state-owned ADNOC Gas as part of the deepening energy partnership between the two countries. The government is also expanding the city gas distribution network to increase access to natural gas for households, industries and transport. The planned expansion of LNG infrastructure and dispensing stations is expected to support cleaner fuel adoption, strengthen energy security and reduce dependence on conventional fuels. Puri said India is also focusing on strengthening domestic manufacturing of oil and gas equipment under the Make in India initiative, while exploring opportunities to develop shipbuilding capabilities for LNG, LPG and crude carriers.

India, UAE Target $100 Bn Non-Oil Trade by 2030



New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have agreed to strengthen their Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with a target of $100 billion for non-oil bilateral trade amid changing dynamics in world trade triggered by the sharp hike in US tariffs announced by US President Donald Trump.

The issue was discussed at a meeting held by Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal, with the UAE's Minister of Foreign Trade, Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, last week on further deepening the India–UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), according to an official statement issued on Monday. The ministers reviewed the progress made under the CEPA and reaffirmed the shared vision of expanding bilateral trade towards the target of $100 billion non-oil, non-precious metals trade by 2030. Discussions included collaboration in emerging sectors such as renewable energy, digital infrastructure, supply chain resilience, and healthcare.

Both ministers emphasised the importance of working closely in the current global scenario to strengthen the bilateral economic partnership. Goyal highlighted the resilience and inherent strengths of the Indian economy, which have enabled it to surge ahead during challenging times. The ministers agreed on the importance of working with diverse partners for mutual benefit.

Both sides underlined the need for timely trade data sharing for better monitoring under the CEPA and agreed that the Sub-Committee on Services will convene within two months. The Indian side welcomed the formation of the Emirates Drug Establishment and its role in addressing concerns of Indian pharmaceutical companies. On market access and regulatory issues, both ministers agreed to take up matters for early resolution in the CEPA Joint Committee.

Goyal welcomed the UAE's growing investments in India's infrastructure, logistics, and food processing sectors, and appreciated Dr Thani's leadership in advancing multilateral trade cooperation. The ministers noted the importance of initiatives such as the Local Currency Settlement System (INR–AED) and Bharat Mart in the UAE as enablers of trade facilitation. The meeting underscored the India–UAE partnership as a defining alliance of the 21st century, rooted in innovation, sustainability, and shared prosperity.

The two ministers also co-chaired stakeholder meetings with representatives of the pharmaceutical and food sectors. In the pharma sector, key issues were discussed in light of evolving geopolitical challenges. Both sides exchanged views on ways to further facilitate trade in pharmaceuticals and healthcare products. The UAE side conveyed a positive outlook on expediting registration processes and regulatory facilitation, while the Indian side highlighted its openness and readiness for inspections and audits by UAE authorities. Discussions also focused on emerging opportunities in traditional medicine, with special emphasis on ayurvedic products under the India–UAE partnership.

In the food sector, the APEDA launched the Bharati Scheme to incubate food and agritech start-ups, under which more than 100 companies will be supported to build and scale brands and forge business-to-business tie-ups. The APEDA also signed an MoU with DWTC to have India as the partner country in the 2026 edition of Gulf Food, Dubai. Over 1200 sqm of exhibition space will be allocated to Indian companies in the food, marine, tea, coffee and spices segments.

Scindia Showcases India's Digital Regulatory Model at ITU Global Symposium

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Union Minister of Communications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia on Monday positioned India as a global model of regulatory transformation, urging regulators across the world to evolve from being mere gatekeepers to becoming builders of inclusive digital ecosystems.



He was delivering a virtual address at the International Telecommunication Union's Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) 2025, being hosted in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Speaking at the high-level Executive Roundtable on the theme "What does it take for regulators to become digital ecosystem builders?", Scindia said regulation in the digital era must go beyond issuing licenses or penalties. "Instead, it should focus on vision, trust, and inclusive innovation to shape future-ready societies," he noted. He explained that the role of regulators should now rest on three key dimensions -- proactive ecosystem design, fostering innovation through regulatory sandboxes, and embedding trust through citizen-centric policies and strong data protection standards. "If we succeed, we will not merely connect people -- we will empower them. We will not just build networks -- we will build nations," he remarked. Highlighting India's own journey, the Minister said the country's rapid 5G rollout has connected 99.9 per cent of districts, covering 776 districts and reaching over 300 million users -- making India the world's largest data-consuming nation per capita. Policy reforms such as the Telecommunications Act, 2023 and the Telecom Cybersecurity Rules, 2024, he noted, have replaced outdated colonial-era frameworks with a legal structure suited for the AI and quantum age. Scindia also pointed to flagship Indian initiatives such as Aadhaar, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM-WANI, BharatNet and India Post as examples of how regulation can seed and scale digital public infrastructure. He described them as "living arteries of empowerment," connecting citizens with dignity and opportunity. He further called for global cooperation to harmonize spectrum bands, reduce costs, and ensure disaster-resilient green networks. Proposing a Digital Consumer Charter, Scindia said it could serve as a global benchmark to guarantee fairness, transparency and trust in the digital domain.

The Minister also underlined India's balanced approach to Artificial Intelligence. He said the IndiaAI Mission, launched in 2024 with a budget of Rs 10,371.92 crore. Describ ng GSR as a "beacon of international cooperation," Scindia said India is not only the world's largest digital society but also an emerging thought leader in regulatory innovation. He concluded that regulation in the 21st century must be about shaping inclusive digital futures for societies across the globe.

Scindia stressed that digital growth must benefit every section of society, including rural communities and underserved populations. He called for affordable connectivity, digital literacy and secure online services to ensure that technological progress translates into better opportunities for citizens.

He also emphasised the need for international cooperation in addressing emerging challenges such as cyber threats.

Coal production from commercial mines jumps 11.9 pc in April-August

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Coal production from India's captive and commercial mines during April to August of the financial year 2025-26 has recorded a robust 11.88 per cent growth over the same period of the previous year, while dispatches of coal from mines have risen by 9.12 per cent during these five months. These positive trends indicate enhanced operational efficiency and more effective utilisation of mining capacity across the sector, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Coal.

Coal production during August this year was recorded at 14.43 million tonnes (MT), while dispatches reached 15.07 million tonnes (MT). The increase in coal production ensures a reliable supply of coal to key industries such as power generation, steel manufacturing, and cement production, thereby reinforcing the backbone of India's industrial infrastructure. The Ministry attributes the sector's improved performance to a series of strategic policy measures, rigorous monitoring, and consistent support to stakeholders. These efforts have played a crucial role in accelerating operational approvals and expanding production capabilities, thereby driving overall growth in coal output and dispatches, the statement said.

The Ministry of Coal has achieved a historic milestone, as part of the economic reforms to introduce commercial mining, with the allocation of over 200 coal mines, underscoring the drive to transform India's coal sector. Over the past several years, the Ministry has ushered in a suite of transformative reforms, from the advent of commercial coal mining and the rollout of a single-window clearance system, to the adoption of digital monitoring and governance tools. These measures have collectively redefined the operational landscape of the coal sector, unlocking new opportunities for private enterprise and ensuring a more transparent, accountable, and future-ready framework for resource development, according to the Coal Ministry. This milestone reflects the Ministry's visionary approach - one that seeks not only to enhance domestic coal production.

US-India VC Firms Launch $1 Billion Alliance for Deep Tech Startups



New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Eight leading US and Indian venture capital and private equity firms came together on Tuesday to create $1 billion alliance over the next decade to support Indian deep tech startups.

The group 'India Deep Tech Investment Alliance', includes Accel, Blume Ventures, Celesta Capital, Gaja Capital, Ideaspring Capital, Premji Invest, Tenacity Ventures, and Venture Catalysts, according to TechCrunch report.

Announcing the launch of the alliance, they said that their goal is to channel long-term private capital into advanced technology ventures while strengthening US-India technology ties. Deep tech startups in India have long struggled to raise capital, with most investors focusing instead on consumer internet and delivery businesses. The new alliance aims to address that funding gap. What makes the move unusual is that investors, who normally compete for deals, are formally joining forces under one umbrella with a shared commitment. Each firm will invest private capital over a five- to ten-year period, focusing on Indian-domiciled deep tech startups to align with the government's new Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) scheme, which offers incentives only to locally incorporated companies, as per the report. Alongside funding, the alliance members will also provide mentorship, networking, and support to help startups expand globally and into the Indian market.

Celesta Capital managing partner Arun Kumar will serve as the inaugural chair of the alliance.

"This is in line with the strategic interests of both India and the US, focusing on critical and emerging technologies," Kumar was quoted by TechCrunch.

The alliance comes at a time when geopolitical tensions between India and the US are running high. Despite the launch of the TRUST (Transforming the Relationship Utilising Strategic Technology) initiative earlier this year, relations have been strained by President Donald Trump's decision to impose a 50 per cent tariff on Indian goods.

I-T Raids 18 Locations Linked to Jaipur, Kota Realty and Pan Masala Firms



New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): The Income Tax Department launched a major raid on Tuesday, conducting simultaneous searches at 18 locations linked to real estate and pan masala businesses in Jaipur and Kota. Nearly 150 officers and staff were deployed in this large-scale operation. According to officials, the action was triggered by complaints of tax evasion, large cash transactions, undeclared income, and use of fake documents.

Investigators suspect that the raids could uncover huge amounts of cash, benami properties, and hidden assets, said sources.

Groups under the scanner of the I-T include High Fly Real Estate Group (Jaipur), whose eight locations were being raided. The group is suspected of large-scale cash dealings in property transactions and black money use. More details about the raid were awaited. Besides the real estate group, the Income Tax officers were raiding three locations linked to the Siddheshwar Gums (Signature Pan Masala, Kota). The company reportedly faces charges of irregular financial records and tax evasion. The raid was also being carried out at six locations of the Gokul Kripa Group (BRB Developers, Jaipur). Allegations include undeclared income and suspicious property transactions. Raids began in the morning and are likely to continue till late at night, sources said. Teams were scanning documents, computer systems, and digital records at all locations, the sources added.

Sources hinted at the possibility of large recoveries of cash and incriminating documents. Officials revealed that these groups had been under the department's radar for months. In particular, the real estate sector was flagged for benami deals, black money transactions, and complex financial layering to conceal undeclared wealth. The Income Tax Department has not released an official statement so far. Details of seizures and findings are expected once the searches conclude.

Meanwhile, the raids have created panic among business circles in Jaipur and Kota, especially those linked to the targeted groups. The searches are part of the Income Tax Department's efforts to curb tax evasion and identify undisclosed wealth through suspicious financial transactions. Officials are examining property records, financial statements .

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English Daily Hyderabad, Telangana

World Athletics Announces Two-Way Qualification System For LA28 Olympics

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): World Athletics has released the qualification system for the athletics events at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games, outlining the entry standards, qualification periods and quota places for athletes competing at the global sporting event.

The athletics competitions at the LA28 Olympics will be held from July 15 to 30, 2028. The qualification framework, approved by the World Athletics Council, will follow a two-way system, with 40 per cent of the available places expected to be filled through entry standards and the remaining 60 per cent through world rankings.

The athletics programme will feature 48 events, including 23 men's and 23 women's competitions, along with two mixed events. The mixed 4x100m relay will make its debut at the Olympic Games, joining the mixed 4x400m relay.

World Athletics has clarified that achieving the entry standard will not automatically guarantee an Olympic place. If the number of athletes meeting the required mark exceeds the available quota in an event, only those with the best performances during the qualification period will secure places. In such cases, no additional athletes will qualify through world rankings. The qualification windows will vary according to the events. For the marathon, the period will run from November 1, 2026, to April 30, 2028. The 10,000m, combined events, race walks, and relays will have a qualification window from December 19, 2026, to June 18, 2028. For all other track and field events, the period will begin on June 19, 2027, and end on June 18, 2028.



The entry standards include 9.93 seconds in the men's 100m and 10.96 seconds in the women's event. In the men's and women's 200m, the qualifying marks have been set at 19.95 and 22.25 seconds, respectively. For the men's marathon, the standard is 2:05:00, while women will need to achieve 2:22:20.

Special qualification rules have also been introduced for road races and relays. The top 56 athletes on the filtered marathon qualification list as of March 19, 2028, will be considered qualified. The first 12 finishers in the half marathon race walk events at the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships in China on April 9, 2028, will also earn automatic qualification.

In the relay events, the first 14 national Olympic committees at the World Athletics Relays in The Bahamas on April 22 and 23, 2028, will secure Olympic places. Teams will have two opportunities to qualify at the World Relays – if unsuccessful on day one, another chance will be provided on day two of the competition.

Aaryavir Sehwag's 160 Carnage Powers India U19 To 70-Run Win Over UAE And Into Asia Cup SF

Al Amerat, Nov 10 (Way to News): Aaryavir Sehwag, son of India icon Virender Sehwag, scored a masterful 160 from 168 balls to help India U19 beat UAE U19 by 70 runs in the U19 Asia Cup at the Al Amerat Cricket Ground (Ministry Turf 2) here on Tuesday.

victory also helped India U19 confirm their place in the U19 Asia Cup semifinal as they have finished their Group A in second place behind Pakistan U19, who had edged past the Indian side earlier in the league stage. India have two wins in three matches as they had earlier defeated the Nepal U19 side too. In the semifinal, the eight-time U19 champions India will be up against 2017 winner Afghanistan U19 on Thursday. Coming to the match, the Indian U19 side made a strong total of 309/7 in 50 overs. Opener Aaryavir scored 160 with



17 fours and seven sixes to hold the team's innings together. No.3 VK Vineeth was the only other player with a notable score as he made 67 from 69 balls. The junior Sehwag and Vineeth put up a 193-run partnership for the third wicket and put India U19 on the door of a strong total. The Indian side lost its way a bit in the death overs as, from 255/1 in 44.1 overs, they slipped to 299/7 in 49.1 overs and ended up making 309/7. For UAE, medium-pace bowler Naseem Khan was the pick of the bowler for having taken 4-48 in his 10 overs. Coming into the chase, India kept a lid on the UAE side with regular wickets. Right-arm fast bowler Ishan Sood stood out with 4-37 in his seven overs, while all of the other six bowlers also took a wicket each to bowl UAE for 239. No.4 Ahmed Khudadad was the only saving grace for the UAE side as he made a run-a-ball 74 and did the damage control. Captain and opener Ayaan Misbah (27) and other opener Zainullah Rehmani (16) got starts but could not capitalise, as did Yayin Rai, who scored 29 but fell to Yashbardhan Chauhan.

While the wickets were falling, Khudadad held one end up to put up a lone fight, and despite Noorullah Ayobi coming with a 25-ball 39-run cameo, UAE were considerably short in the end.

Salima Tete To Lead As Hockey India Names Squad For Women's Asian Champions Trophy

New Delhi, Nov 10 (Way to News): Hockey India on Tuesday announced the Indian squad for the upcoming Madhya Pradesh Women's Asian Champions Trophy Bhopal 2026, scheduled to be held from November 19 to 28 at the newly built International Sports Complex, Nathu Barkheda, Bhopal.

Midfielder Salima Tete will continue to lead the Indian team playing its first international tournament after the historic gold medal triumph at the Asian Games in Japan last month. Veteran goalkeeper Savita Punia, who captained and anchored India to a historic gold medal at the 2026 Asian Games, where she made a crucial penalty-stroke save against China to secure direct qualification for the LA 2028 Olympics, is not part of the squad, with Bansari



Solanki and Bichu Devi Kharibam shouldering goalkeeping duties.

The hosts will enter the tournament as defending champions and three-time winners, having secured the title in 2016, 2023 and 2024. India will be aiming to continue their impressive run and complete a hat-trick of titles while building on the confidence gained from their Asian Games success.

The six-team competition will feature India, China, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand and South Korea. Like India, South Korea too have won the Women's Asian Champions Trophy three times.

The tournament will follow a round-robin format, with each team playing the other five once. The top four teams at the end of the league stage will qualify for the semi-finals. "This is the moment I want to give other players the chance to showcase their talent on the international stage. Some players will be playing in different positions than they normally do, so that I can see how they perform in a different role," said Chief Coach Sjoerd Marijne. "We are excited to play in front of the home crowd and finish the year well." The opening day will see Asia's top-ranked team China take on Thailand in the tournament opener, while India will begin their campaign against Malaysia following the opening ceremony on the same day.

The Indian women will then face South Korea on November 21, Thailand on November 22, China on November 24 and Japan on November 25.

The semi-finals will be played on November 27 and the medal matches on November 28.

As he gears up for SMAT 2026, Surya rediscovers the passion and insights from 15-16 years ago

Mumbai, Nov 10 (Way to News): After enduring some difficult months after losing out on a spot in the squad for the shortest format of international game, India's 2026 Men's T20 World Cup-winning captain Suryakumar Yadav is looking forward to leading Mumbai in the upcoming Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. Surya is eager to lead Mumbai T20 side once again and wants to make up for missing out on being part of the Ranji Trophy side and is looking forward to interacting with young players in the side, exchanging ideas and dispensing the wisdom he has gained in the last 16 years as a player for Mumbai and India.

"I would be very happy and privileged to spend time with them and play for this association. I have always been around; I have been here for the last 16 years, and that energy and passion are still there. I would be very happy to take this forward, lead the team this time and win the tournament," said Suryakumar Yadav at an event organised by Mumbai Cricket Association to honour the men's and women's sections of the T20 Mumbai League.

"I have seen so many cricketers who have played alongside each other on the maidans of Mumbai cricket and learnt a lot of tricks from one another — how to handle situations, how to clear the sport. These are the things we discuss. Most importantly, we talk about how we can grow together.

"That's what I have seen over the last few months and years, whenever I have been part of the Mumbai dressing room and had the opportunity to spend time with the boys. Though I didn't get that opportunity during this Ranji Trophy



season, going forward, in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, there will definitely be good times ahead," said SKY at the 'Celebrating with Champions' event at which the MCA honoured the Maratha Royals team, the champions of T20 Mumbai League Season 4, and Mumbai Falcons, who won the first season of Women's T20 Mumbai League, earlier this year.

Though he has been playing cricket at various levels, the 35-year-old Suryakumar Yadav has learnt from all opportunities and is looking forward to doing the same in the future too. "There is still a lot to learn, and I continue to learn from all the players. There are a lot of young cricketers in the team right now. These boys are getting a platform to play domestic cricket, get recognised by IPL franchises and eventually get picked by them. I think this is a very important time for them," said Surya, who also talked about his experiences when he made his Mumbai debut, around 16 years back.

"When I first walked into the dressing room in 2010-11, I had seniors like Sachin (Tendulkar) sir, Amol Muzumdar and Ajit Agarkar. There were so many players whom I used to look up to. Whenever they went out for practice, I would spend a lot of time with them, talking. Sachin sir even gave me his space in the Mumbai dressing room, where he used to sit in the right corner. So, it was quite a special moment, a very memorable one. Surya also talked about how things have changed since then and how today's youngsters have a different kind of passion and ambition for the game. "Obviously, as I gradually started taking over, things began to change. I don't want to talk about when I first became the captain of Mumbai in the Ranji Trophy, because things were very different at that time. I was a completely different person then. I have changed a lot since.

"But now, when I look at all the boys and spend time with them, I see a completely different kind of passion and hunger. They want to achieve something, build a brand, represent Mumbai at the franchise level, play for the Mumbai Cricket Association and, ultimately, represent India," he said.

Pragg, Erigaisi, Carlsen among 24 chess superstars in Budapest for Total Chess World Championship Tour Pilot

Budapest, Nov 10 (Way to News): India's World No.7 R Praggnanandhaa, No. 12-ranked Arjun Erigaisi and top woman player Vaishali Rameshbabu are among the chess world's biggest stars descending on the Hungarian capital for the pilot event of Total Chess World Championship, an ambitious new tournament which tests an innovative format and explores a new direction for professional chess.

Among the biggest attractions is the arrival of Magnus Carlsen, widely regarded as the Greatest of All Time (GOAT), who arrived in Budapest late on Monday evening. Having held the world No. 1 position for 15 consecutive years, Carlsen's participation adds enormous star power to an already exceptional field and puts the spotlight firmly on the Hungarian capital. The 24-player world-class field also includes elite stars like Fabiano Caruana, Anish Giri, Levon Aronian, Ian Nepomniachtchi, Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and young talents like Abhimanyu



Mishra of the United States. This makes up an extraordinary gathering of international chess talent, featuring some of the biggest names in the game, multiple elite grandmasters and two of the world's leading female players. From established champions and former world championship challengers to the next generation of chess superstars, the Budapest Pilot promises a fascinating contest across the board.

The confirmed participants include beside Carlsen, Caruana, Erigiasi, Pragg and Vaishali, Wesley So (USA), Vincent Keymer (GER), Nodirbek Abdusattorov (UZB), Anish Giri (NED), Alireza Firouzja (FRA), Jan-Krzysztof Duda (POL), Liem Le (VIE) Richard Rapport (HUN), Levon Aronian (USA), Hans Moke Niemann (USA), Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (AZE), Ian Nepomniachtchi (FIDE), Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (FRA), Jorden van Foreest (NED), Haik M. Martirosyan (ARM), Vladislav Artemiev (FIDE), Abhimanyu Mishra (USA), and the world's youngest Grandmaster Andrew Hong (USA) along with Women's World No. 7 Bibisara Assaubayeva (KAZ). With a total prize fund of $650,000, the stakes could hardly be higher for a pilot event. The tournament brings together an exceptional collection of talent, with every player competing for the inaugural crown and the opportunity to be part of a defining moment in the evolution of professional chess. "But the Total Chess Pilot is about more than finding a champion. At its heart is the testing of a new competitive format designed to bring a fresh dimension to elite chess, creating a more dynamic, engaging and compelling experience for players, fans and audiences worldwide," the organisers said.

Alongside the on-board competition, the event will introduce an enhanced broadcast experience featuring world-class production, an expert commentary panel, live insights and in-depth post-match studio analysis, bringing viewers closer to the players, their strategies and the drama behind every game.

Sachin Baisoya looks to turn the tables on Bhullar as IGPL heads to Vooty

Hyderabad, Nov 10 (Way to News): Sachin Baisoya will have an immediate opportunity to get back at Gaganjeet Bhullar when the Phoenix Invitational 2026 gets under way at Vooty Golf County on Wednesday.

There is unfinished business between the two. Just last week, Baisoya took the early runaway leader Bhullar all the way to the playoff at the Green Fuels Maritime Invitational in Vizag.

If Bhullar's week, a very consistent one, was built around his shortened second round of 6-under, Baisoya's challenge on the final day, which was again shortened because of rain, came on the strength of a remarkable seven-under round.

That erased the six-shot advantage Bhullar and sent the clash into a play-off.

Bhullar eventually prevailed with a 40-foot putt on the extra hole, but Baisoya had made it clear that



the gap between the two was not as wide as the final result suggested. The 'Rematch at Vooty' gives Baisoya another chance to test himself against the most successful player on the Indian Golf Premier League circuit. The 11-time Asian Tour winner, Bhullar has now won six IGPL titles, including three this season, and his ability to find a way to win even when his game is not at its best remains a significant advantage.

For Baisoya and his Phoenix Hyderabad teammates, Ranjit Singh, Raghav Chugh and Arjun Bhati, it is a chance to showcase their team in the main event and the X-golf, a innovative new competition, events.

At a meeting with the media, Uttam Singh Mundy CEO of IGPL said, "It has been an exciting 2026 for AM Green IGPL, with 10 events completed, including six international stops, as we come together for our 11th event. Our league-integrated tour is building camaraderie and bringing men and women professionals together to compete for equal prize money. Through our partnerships with golf bodies and Special Olympics, we are committed to growing the sport, while discussions on two centres of excellence in India aim to create a pathway for young golfers. We hope to finalise these plans by year-end, and we thank Hyderabad Firebirds G.C. and Dream Valley Group for hosting us at Vooty, where players have praised the course's excellent condition."

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Chiranjeevi To Decide Next Film After Kaaka's Release

Megastar Chiranjeevi isn't wasting a minute when it comes to shooting for films. After the release of Mana Shankara Varaprasad Garu early this year, he has immediately moved to the shooting of Kaaka in a short time only, while giving director KS Bobby some room to develop the script better. Now that Kaaka is getting over, what's next for him?

Apparently, Chiranjeevi has taken up the Netflix talk show 'Megaverse ', where he will be hosting and talking about others, the guests, rather than talking about himself. And that's a first move, and the first time for Chiranjeevi as well. That said, after this, Megastar has no film locked for now. While the likes of Karthik Subbaraj and others narrated stories to him, none were finalised. At the same time, the likes of Srikanth Odela and Gopichand Malineni were supposed to work with him, but after 'The Paradise' result and the delays of 'Dada' movie, surely these two are most unlikely to get this combination moving.



At this juncture, it's coming out what Chiranjeevi's next plan is. Some say that the Megastar wants to look at the results, then introspect on things, and then proceed with how he is going to move ahead with his next creative choices. Well, if Kaaka works big time, then Chiranjeevi might go more with action-commercial films; otherwise, he may change his path. Industry sources suggest Chiranjeevi is keen to choose his next project carefully rather than rush into another commitment. The Megastar is reportedly weighing audience preferences and the performance of his recent films before deciding on the genre, director and script for his next outing.

Ramayana Success Fuels Growing Demand For Rajamouli's Epic Mahabharata Film

The much-awaited movie 'Ramayana' by Indian movie lovers has hit the screens on the occasion of Diwali. The VFX are good even though the story is familiar, and the twist around Ravana is new, according to reviews. The audience is waiting for the second part of the visual wonder Ramayana. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari, this movie is made on a huge budget and is amazing with Hollywood-range VFX elements, and critics are also praising it. Some are expressing the opinion that the director has captivated the audience with a compelling story. Every movie has some negatives. Reviewers are also pointing out some negative points about this movie. However, the audience is ignoring them and is running towards the theaters.

Ramayana movie collections... Taking advantage of the Diwali holiday, Ramayana has recorded the biggest opening ever. Box office sources say that Ramayana has grossed around Rs. 675 crore in five days. The film is gearing up for a worldwide tour. Released in English, the film is being released in many foreign languages around the world. The team is working hard to make the film accessible to movie



lovers around the world. Since the release of Ramayana, an interesting discussion has been going on among Telugu audiences. Many people are of the opinion that it would have been better if Tollywood superstar Rajamouli had directed the film, and if it had been directed by him, the film would have been in a different range, and the VFX would have been even better.

It is well known that Rajamouli is currently making the film Varanasi. His fans and average movie lovers want Rajamouli to make a Mahabharata film after the film Varanasi starring Mahesh Babu and Priyanka Chopra in the lead roles. The reason for this is the response to the film Ramayana. Generally, mythological films currently receive a positive response from the audience. It has been proven many times that if films are made in a way that is visually wonderful and emotionally engaging, the audience will definitely appreciate them. In the context of Ramayana getting collections in this range, his fans and all sections of the audience are expressing their opinion that it seems like the time has come to make Jakkanna Mahabharata. Even people from the industry are saying that the time has come for Jakkanna Ramayana. A few years ago, Rajamouli said in an interview that it was his dream to make Mahabharata as a film. However, he said that making a Mahabharata film would require more VFX technology and that it would take a long time to achieve the VFX he had envisioned. After those comments, many changes have taken place in technology. Miracles are being discovered in VFX with AI. Therefore, it is believed that the time has come for Rajamouli to make Mahabharata and that the technology is ready accordingly. Therefore, fans and audiences want Rajamouli to start making Mahabharata immediately after his Varanasi.

Rajamouli has to make a lot of preparations and think a lot before starting a film. So, to know if his thoughts on Mahabharata have changed, we have to wait until the promotions of Varanasi. Let's see if he says anything about Mahabharata during the promotions of that film. The audience is expecting Rajamouli to start Mahabharata by 2035 at least and release all the parts by 2040. Let's see what Rajamouli does.

The growing interest in mythological films has once again highlighted the potential of Indian epics as large-scale cinematic ventures. With audiences increasingly appreciating advanced visual effects and grand storytelling, filmmakers are exploring ways to present traditional narratives to younger generations while retaining their cultural and emotional appeal.

'Alfaaz' Tops Charts, Wins Ananya Panday's Praise

A song that has been winning hearts across borders has found a fan in Ananya Panday too. The Bollywood actress gave followers a peek into her music favourites through her latest Instagram story, and her pick is Pakistani track Alfaaz.

Sharing a photograph of herself, Ananya added the song by Hamza Malik and Zain Zohaib and wrote, "Favourite song in the world," followed by a red heart.

The actress reshared her own Instagram post on her story, pairing the photograph with the romantic number. Dressed in a red and gold embellished outfit, Ananya completed her look with statement earrings and an elaborate maang tikka.

While the photograph was all about festive glamour, her caption made her love for the track clear. She did not dedicate it to anyone, keeping the message focused on the song itself.

Released in July 2026, Alfaaz brings together Hamza Malik and the duo Zain Zohaib. The romantic track blends Urdu and Punjabi, expressing the feeling of being so captivated by someone that words fall short.

And Ananya is far from its only listener across the border. According to Dawn, Alfaaz reached No. 39 on Spotify's Top 50 Global chart on October 28. It also topped the platform's Top 50 charts in both India and Pakistan and reached No. 2 on the UK's Official Asian Music Chart.

With its growing audience and now a personal recommendation from Ananya, Alfaaz has another Bollywood connection to add to its musical journey.



Nagarjuna Presents Anish's Debut Film 'Itlu Arjuna'

Hero Anish and heroine Aneswara Rajan starrer 'Itlu Arjuna' is the latest romantic and action entertainer. Directed by Mahesh Uppala, the film has received clearance from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). The censor board has issued a 'U/A' certificate to the film without any problems. This was officially announced by the film's production company 'What Next Entertainments' on social media. In fact, the film was supposed to hit the screens on October 30, but the release was postponed due to unavoidable reasons. Now that all the arrangements including the censor have been completed, the makers have clarified that the film will be released in theaters worldwide on November 13.

The main reason for the good craze for this film in Tollywood is its production partnership. Popular director Venky Kudumula produced this film himself under the banner of 'What Next Entertainments', while star hero Akkineni Nagarjuna is presenting this film. While Anish is making his debut as a hero with this film, Mahesh Uppala is starting his journey as a director.

The trailer of this film, which was released recently, has aroused interest among the audience. According to the story, the protagonist Arjun (Anish) is a mute, but he is very skilled in theft. The police are looking for him in a big theft case in the city. On the other hand, Arjun falls in love with Keerthy (Anashwara Rajan), a disciplined girl who is considered a studious person. Believing that Arjun is a good person, Keerthy also likes him. However, unexpectedly, a dangerous gang comes after Arjun and Keerthy in a pen drive case worth about Rs. 1000 crores. The trailer shows that the film has been made with a thrilling story of what happened while both the police and the criminal gang were chasing them.

High-level technicians worked on this film. South's top music director Thaman composed the music for this film. Raja Mahadev provided the cinematography, while Ram Kumar A was the production designer. Koti K did the editing, and Dilip Subbarayan choreographed the action sequences. It remains to be seen how much this film, which is set to release on November 13, will impress the audience.



Arjun Rampal Unveils Thrilling Story Of 'The Blind Game'

Actor Arjun Rampal, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film 'The Blind Game', has shared what makes the film stand out. The film marks the late filmmaker Sangeeth Sivan's final film and promises a suspense-filled journey of deception, betrayal and unexpected twists. The actor said that the film builds intrigue through deception, shifting perspectives. It also stars Priyamani in the lead role along with Akash Makhija of 'Raakh' fame, Rohit Chandel and others.



Talking about the film, the actor said, "'The Blind Game' takes audiences on a gripping journey where nothing is quite as it seems. What appealed to me about the film is the way it builds intrigue through deception, shifting perspectives and the choices the characters make. I'm pleased that the film will now reach a wide audience, giving more viewers the opportunity to watch it". The film is set against the backdrop of a mysterious Christmas night, and follows a group of friends whose lives take an unexpected turn after they become entangled in a missing INR 5 crore and the dangerous world of a notorious crime boss. When an IPS officer begins investigating the case, conflicting accounts, hidden secrets and suspicious circumstances surrounding an alleged suicide gradually unfold. As the truth becomes increasingly difficult to distinguish from deception, the friends find themselves caught in a gripping game of survival, betrayal and unexpected twists.

Producer duo Kushagra Sharma and Srishti Sharma shared, "'The Blind Game' is one of our most ambitious projects, and we are extremely excited to bring this intriguing story to audiences. The film has a compelling narrative, layers of suspense and unexpected twists, brought to life by an exceptionally talented cast led by Arjun Rampal and Priyamani. We believe its engaging storytelling and thrilling elements will resonate with a wide spectrum of viewers, including Gen Z and audiences across the globe".

Niharika Konidela Stuns In Traditional Kanjeevaram Saree

Mega daughter Niharika Konidela, while being busy as a producer, is impressing her fans with her glamorous and traditional looks on social media. The latest photos she shared on Instagram with the caption "In my beautiful era" are now going viral. Standing amidst lush greenery, Niharika's simple and classy look in a traditional saree is captivating everyone.

Niharika's outfit in this latest photoshoot is very rich and traditional. A maroon red Kanjeevaram silk saree (Langa Oni style) with a gold border, combined with a royal purple blouse with heavy embroidery and zardosi work, looked amazing on her. She tied her hair in a bun and looked simple and elegant with classic gold jewellery.



Apart from being an actress, Niharika is proving her talent by producing web series and films under the banner of 'Pink Elephant Pictures'. Everyone knows how big a hit her film 'Committee Kurrollu' was at the box office. She gave a chance to 11 new actors in that film and achieved success. It is noteworthy that many people are now entering the production field after taking Niharika as an inspiration. Currently, a new movie called 'Pocket Rockets' is coming from Niharika banner. 'Committee Kurrollu' fame Trinadh Varma is playing the lead role in it. The recently released teaser of 'The First Hand' has connected well with the audience. Unlike regular crime movies.. this story revolving around the hopes of young people, dreams of going abroad, and gambling is going to be very interesting.

On the one hand, while promoting new stories and making a splash as a producer, Niharika is keeping in touch with her fans with such beautiful photoshoots.

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